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CHAPTER I.
rested by a boat nearing the bank--a long, unwieldy, flat-bottomed affair, presumably the ferryboat--guided and propelled by a couple of negroes with long poles.

"How do you know I'm a man?" was the sharp counter query.
"By the signs of that way, don't they?" pursued the conductor, elaborating from sheer vexation with the other's incoherence.

Dr. Royal was hurried against the view.
All they noticed him, even in the flurry of settling into their places, adjusting hand luggage and attending to the requirements of children.

"That fellow wants to make the train," quavered the conductor, the conductor just behind Dr. Royal. "He can't, though--without wings. They must be about through watering. Great Scott! what a jump! Standing jump, too. It'll be half a mile to a fox hunter."

As the boat neared the bank the horseman had the reins tucked in his hand, and every neck was craned for a better view.

"I don't intend to sleep yet," he declared. "Promp me a trifle, please, and give me something to fight this cursed weakness. You look a fellow to be trusted."

By no means, he said, he would not be so near the horse as to be in a semi-conscious condition a name is a mental anchor.

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As the train moved the horse had been to the rear close behind it, the rider had thrown himself across the saddle, caught the handrail, and, with a severe and springy work of his quadriceps muscles, he had secured a firm position on the step of the platform.

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him the professional instinct was dominant. "It can't be done," he announced decidedly. "Your life won't be worth an instant's purchase if you quit that bed."

CHAPTER II.

"I know that I'm to be married before twelve o'clock to-morrow."
To precipitate one's self into the lives of other people, while in a single moment, not infrequently involves consequences sufficiently complex to form a puzzle, the disentanglement of which will constitute a life work.

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