

CHAPTER V. The arrangements had been made with care and forethought-the sick man, from his bed in the New York hospital having been "explicit and masterful," as the bride had laughingly declared. And the good, kind people with whom Phyl-lis had made her home had sided him to the best of their ability, meeting his wishes half way, and grudging no trouble to which they might be put in further-ing them. Royal found, to his unspeakable comfort, that they were to be ac-companied as far as Alexandria by a relative of the young lady who had been down in the mountains of Virginia on a visit and had remained over for the wedding. She was introduced to Royal as his "cousin Mrs. Hart," and his liking went out to her at once. There was a largeness in her atmosphere, a sympathy in her fine, intelligent face and frank, cordial manner, to which his nature instantly responded, and he felt that her going with them would be like a crack of daylight along a dark horizon. Perhups the tide would turn at last and run for a while in poor John Royal's favor. For himself the arrangement would, at all events, bring divided responsibility. That Mrs. Hart was a widow he sur-

mised from her mourning gown and a certain unattached air about her. His prepossession seemed fully justified by the treatment accorded her on every hand; for young and old clustered around her and persistently ignored the dignity of her conjugal appellation. She seemed to be "Nina" to everybody. "It will be a comfort being with Nina

until you can get a suitable maid for Fhyllis," Mrs. Brandon remarked in a motherly way. "The dear child needs a good deal of attention, you know, and some help in dressing. She would never consent to have her pretty hair cut, because she heard you say once that short haired women were your abomination. You wrote about her mammy, but that wouldn't do at all. The old woman is hopelessly rheumatic, and would be miserable if taken away from home. You must have forgotten how old she is. Nina thinks it would be better to get Dr. Tasewell, the oculist, to recommend a woman-somebody you could rely on.



grand male creature who had just proved sion of manhood and puissance to an unprecedented degree. They hearkened to him graciously, and treated him with the subtle suggestion of trust and dependence which is spontaneous with all womanly women. After a little the talk, insensibly guided by Royal, drifted to serious things, and he told them, as of a strange and pitiful happening, of his meeting on the train the day before with a poor young fellow, ill unto death and in sore trouble. He told how he (Royal) had noticed him fainting in his seat, and, being a physician, had gone to him to do what he could, and then had discovered that the sick stranger had a claim on his care, being a brother Mason. He spoke of the interest which this discovery had aroused, and of how it had deepened in view of the other's courage and patience, and of how he had been obliged to leave him at last in the

strange hotel, without friend or kiusman near, fighting his battle with the grim destroyer alone. He made a little story of it, and gave it to them as simply as he could, hoping to arouse their interest and sympathy. And they asked ques-tions in hushed voices, and were sorry in a sweet impersonal way, as women will be over tales of sorrow.

"Did you find out his name?" Mrs. Hart inquired. Royal replied in the affirmative. That

was the reason he had troubled them with the story, he explained, thinkin; they might help him, perhaps, since they must spend the night in the very hotel where the sick man lay. The name was the same as theirs-Royal. He might be

a kinsman. Who should say? "Might?" repeated Mrs. Hart, her interest all aflame. "Why, of course he is a kinsman; he must be. All the Royals are related, and Virginia is full of them. How very strange, your meeting him that way! I wonder to which branch of the family he can possibly belong."

Phyllis also manifested interest and concern about this "stranger cousin," as she dubbed him. But her mind appeared to dwell most on Royal's own share in the business, and she whispered sweet words of commendation in a low voice which thrilled through Royal, who had not sought to produce this effect, and made him more bitterly conscious than ever

what a tangle the matter had become. Meanwhile Mrs. Hart appeared to b mustering all the Royals, dead and alive

tor or somebody, so t'wa'nt nobody wid ought to be kept from her, and yet how we are going to contrive to keep it I him 'ceptin' me an' Lucy, the 'ooman what waits on dis passage. I'lowed you mout be partic'lar 'bout de ti ne, bein' a doccan't see. Perhaps you may be able to uggest a way." In her anxiety she ignored the fact of tor yo'se'f, an' my mem'ry ain't good like the marriage by proxy having really taken place, or rather she unconsciously

Royal now learned that for more than

Meanwhile, the strictest care had been

peful, to surround her with cheerful

been necessary to tell her of it

it used to be, so I jus' stopped his watch arter breath had lef' him good." Royal opened the watch in his hand. allowed for it on a wrong premise. Dr It had been stopped at ten minutes to 12. Royal himself she accepted pretty much He replaced it on the bureau, and as his namesake had accepted him, as a signed to the negro to leave the room. man who inspired trust and might help her out of a difficulty. The fact that so Then he sat himself down beside the far he had proved himself more adroit at dead man and tried to think. complicating difficulties than at fur-



Nature must be induced to co-operate Mrs. Hart's tcars fell fast from very with science to effect a cure. Any sudden or overwhelming emotion, any vio-

lent change of conditions, either mental But thought in his then physical conor physical, was to be specially guarded dition was an impossibility. The more against. That was the reason why she had he endeavored to muster ideas into line, not been taken to the hospital to be marto pursue suggestions and to reach defiried after the accident. Royal had feared nite conclusions, the more elusive did contact with his own pain for her. For each and all become. The affair was at the same reason they had, with one cona deadlock which his wearied brain resent, made light of the accident; for it fused even to strive to break, busying ithad guardedly, because of a word or two she self perversely instead with the requirehad overheard, and also to account for ments of his wearied body. Nature had the fact of Royal's enforced delay. been pushed to the point of resistance It had not seemed worth while to postand doggedly demanded her rights.

pone the marriage. Immediate posses-Had the case been that of another sion of the money had been a matter of man Royal would have recognized the grave importance, and both parties were futility of his effort at once, but for fully aware that it could be a marriage himself he persisted fully half an hour only in form until the great question for in the totally useless experiment of try-Phyllis should be decided. After the accident, indeed, John Royal had been ing to force nerve and brain tissue to work of which for the time they were more than ever insistent that the arincapable, thereby proving that knowlrangements should stand. They had nd experi nit of more ready

thought or emotion John Royal's decision would be that it were better the

guerdon of tears should be withheld from his memory forever than that the falling of the drops should dim one chance of light for the eyes of his beloved.

CHAPTER VII.

Royal had about completed his arrangements for leaving the hotel in which so much of import had occurred, when a chance remark caused his own position in this affair of his namesake to assume proportions and a complexity which well nigh overwhelmed him. He was standing in the hotel office, near the clerk's desk, on which lay the open register. The young doctor stood at his elbow, the same to whose fledgling care John Royal had been committed. vision: that she had spent months at They had been speaking of the case and of its untoward ending, and had gone into details of interest and importance to no mortal soul save members of the profession. Suddenly the young fellow



put a question:

The young lady is his cousin and next of kin. She is my wife."

'Were you brothers? Excuse me for asking, but the name is the same for both on the register," laying his hand on the book. "They've put the same initials, too. But that's a mistake, I reck-

No, Royal explained, there was no mistake. The names were the same and they were kinsmen, but not brothers. He cast his eye on the register, as he spoke, and read beneath the name of

and I've talked to a man or two in Washington besides. Of course I've only gotten horseback opinions as yet. Nobody I've seen has ever gone into a thing like this. One fellow told me plainly that he didn't believe such a case had ever even been imagined before."

"But the general impression waswhat?"

Royal paused beside her chair, and stood looking thoughtfully down at her: "As far as John Royal is concerned the case has but one point of view. They all agree on that. The proxy marriage was no marriage. Under the circum-stances it couldn't be. A man in articulo mortis, as John Royal was at the time of the ceremony, cannot enter into contract; the law wouldn't recognize such an act as conscious and voluntary. Even if he had lived it is doubtful whether the proxy marriage would have stood. It would have given us what we wanted, though-a fighting chance for the money. Marriages by proxy are unusual that the law don't provide for differentiations of them."

"Then the marriage with John is null and void?"

"It's non-existent." "And with you?"

Mrs. Hart looked searchingly up at him: she put out her hand to prevent him from resuming his restless pacing backward and forward. "The marriage with me was genuine. Listen and I'll try to make it clear to

you.' With allowance made for inaccuracies of understanding and statement due to lack of legal knowledge and a, perforce prima facie reading of the case, the gist of that which Royal had gathered was this. Marriage was the special charge of the law, and by it regarded as the prime pillar of civilization, therefore every possible facility had been afforded people for entering the matrimonial state; the notion being, apparently, that the more marriages the more propsergo, the more civilization.

In the present case the names of the two men being identical and age and appearance sufficiently similar to cause the icense to fit either indifferently, and the woman having consented to marry the man she was with, the marriage ceremony, it was declared, had constituted them man and wife, and nothing short of a divorce could change the relation. The woman had designed and intended to marry her cousin John Hart Royal, e had married her cousin John

"It would make a pretty case," he observed impersonally. "The lawyers told me so. That ten minutes to 12time of the death and the ceremony --would admit of considerable argument. The 'shake-bag' fellows would flock to it like hogs to the call of corn. But I'm going to give them the go-by, divorce courts and all. I shall stand to my mar-

"And the money?"

Royal's thought consigned the money to the halls of Eblis with emphasis and dispatch; his speech was more circumspect:

legacy is of vastly more importance than his aunt's."

The expression of Mrs. Hart's face as she quitted the room was like spring weather, a conflict between sunshine and shower. She managed, however, to cast a jest back at him over her shoulder: 'In the division there'll perhaps be enough to buy a ring for Phyllis-by putting two parts together. My own share shall be devoted to defraying the expenses for making my will according to the Royal prerogative."

[TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.]

Miscellaneous Beading.

IN HIS NEW HOME.

Rev. G. S. Robinson Writes Interestingly of the Virginias.

prrespondence of the Yorkville Enquirer. The YORKVILLE ENQUIRER is a welcome visitor in this far off land. Its weekly appearance is no less appreciated than when a citizen of the county, and thinking that possibly some of your readers would like to hear from this section, I have concluded to jot down a few notes.

The time necessary to reach this place from Yorkville is about 34 hours, including a long stay at Rock Hill. There are two routes of travel, both via Charlotte, N. C., and the R. & D. railroad to Lynchburg, Va., where they diverge to come together again at Harper's Ferry, on the West Virginia side of the Potomac river and at the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers.

get out the Record. A new dress is From Lynchburg, one route follows tients, but not all. produced at the beginning of about up the James river and its tributaries The land in this section is said to be very fertile. On the edge of town, and every other congress-every four years, to Lexington, where is located the and sometimes every two years. A new just in rear of our manse, is a pas-Washington and Lee university, in the dress means over 100 tons of typeture in which is a very high hill. I chapel of which is the Lee mausoleum. was told that hill would yield 70 bush- many times more than there is in a It is a life-size figure of General R. E. dozen of the largest printing offices, Lee, cut out of pure white marble, and els of corn per acre without any fertilrepresents the general in a recumbent izing. I do not vouch for the truth of including type of all grades. About 12,000 copies are published this statement, but from the number position, as he was accustomed to take of the cornstalks which I saw on a Each member of the house gets about That Hart Royal by suppression of the his rest during the day. In the ceme-27 and each senator about 40 copies tery near by, may also be seen the given area, and the size of the stalks, daily. These they have mailed daily it is evidently very productive. Unbronze statute of General "Stonewall" from the goverment printing office to derneath the soil is a layer of coal Jackson, mounted on a high pedestal those that wish to have them. Some and facing the west. Both of these fignine feet thick, which is mined and of them are preserved and bound at ures are well executed, and at once delivered in the coal houses for \$1.12 the end of the session, all free of cost. suggest many sorrowful recollections G. S. ROBINSON. per ton. A new dress of type for The Record Clarksburg, W. VA., May, 1892. of the war cloud which so fearfully decosts in round figures \$73,000. It costs vastated this country from '61 to '65. probably \$3,000 to \$5,000 to give a From Lexington to Harper's Ferry, MILLIONAIRES WHO CANDO SOMETHING. first-class daily newspaper a new dress. the route is down the beautiful Shen-George, the son of Jay Gould, is an The type came from the foundry in andoah valley, whose beautiful scene-Chicago and filled 383 boxes, averagexpert telegraph operator, and capable ry, old camp grounds and hard fought of making twenty-five dollars a week ing a weight of 115 pounds. battle-fields are doubtless familiar to when he cares to secure employment The old type is sold at the best prices to many of your older readers. This as an ordinary telegraphist. He can the public printer can get. It is usually s indeed a beautiful and lovely valley. sit down to a fast press wire and receive about half worn when sold and ordi-The people are noted for their kindnewspaper copy for hours without a narily commands about five cents a ness and hospitality. The lands are break. His acquisition renders him a pound more than the metal is worth. fine for farming purposes, especially valuble companion to his father in the Many newspapers in the country have for the production of grain. It is also been given a new dress from the old long trips that the latter is accusfine for raising fruit and stock. tomed to take across the continent dresses of the Congressional Record. A But as there is less changing of cars two-year-old dress of the Record is orevery summer. and a faster schedule, we chose the On one occasion, the Goulds' special dinarily not worn more than that used other route via Washington, D. C. We train ran off the track to a desolate for twelve months in a country office. spent several hours in the capital city Dakota priarie. George Gould, fortuas there is so much in use here, and but the day was inauspicious for sighthad a telegraph instrument then everything is stereotyped. nately, seeing, as there was a continuous with him. He scrambled up a pole downpour of rain all the time. It was and cutting the wire, connected his ina great disappointment, as we hoped CARE OF THE FACE .--- It is said that strument with the circuit. He signallto visit a number of places of interest. good soap is a great beautifier and a ed a station fifteen miles away, where From Washington we travel directly great preventitive of the uncomely his calls were quickly responded to, and to Harper's Ferry, on the main line of looking "blackheads" which are such a soon afterwards a wrecking train arthe B. & O. railroad, where we entered West Virginia. Thence by Martinsdisfigurment and are so hard to get rived with men and provisions. rid of. The real cause of these un On another occasion he cut a wire burg to Cherry Run, where we again pleasant little specks is not, as a rule, on a prairie, and being without an instrike the Potomac and travel up its anything more serious than this strument, received an important mes-Some people have much larger skin limpid waters for many, many miles. sage tor his father by putting one end The railroad is double tracked and pores than others, and the dust col of the wire to his tongue. The letsay!" he growled. "I don't see the joke | runs very near the river's edge. On lects, settles and finally forms a hard, ters of the Morse alphabet were reeither side of the river, and extending black, little substance which probably produced in the pulsations upon his almost to the water's edge, the lofty would never have a chance of developongue, and the result was as satisfacchance of rejoicing over a man wrig- mountains rear their majestic peaks ment if the skin was thoroughly wash tory as if he had an ordinary receiver ed with soap twice a day and rubbed gling in a dilemma like a worm in a high up towards the clouds. In many George Vanderbilt, a young man vigorously with a coarse towel. Do not be afraid of a red nose, the redplaces there is not sufficient room for a railroad track between the river and ness will soon fade away and leave no the mountain, but the difficulty is building a castle in the wilds of North overcome by digging down the mountrace. Carolina, is an expert typewriter and We will add that the face should be tain side, and where this cannot be stenographer. greased well after the soap washing accomplished, they then resort to tun-Young Jack Astor, who married last has been gone through with. A good nels, of which there are quite a number summer, and who is destined to become one of the wealthiest men of America, plan to follow is : At bedtime on this road. One near Tunnelton, in Preston county, West Virginia, is sevwash the face with hot water and is a professional florist, and a connoisen-eighths of a mile in Lagth. For soap, rinse thoroughly; then "work seur on the subject of orchids. many miles up the Potomac the mounin" by rubbing slowly and firmly the Young Cyrus Field, the son of the tain scenery is grand beyond descripgrease-cold cream preferable. This man who laid the first Atlantic cable, loosens the blackheads which are so It must be seen to be appreciais a practical electrician, and has insnugly imbedded, and in the mornted. vented several clever electrical appli-The course of the river reminds us ing the soap and water will do better ances which are in commercial use. service upon a softened pliable skin. very much of a succession of S's. At ----Persons with rough skins will be amply Patterson's creek we cross the river IN CASE OF ACCIDENT.-Professor paid for their trouble. It is tedious again and go over into Maryland, going Wilder, of Cornell university, gives the to be sure-weeks and months it may by Cumberland, and traveling many following short rules for action in case be needful to persist in the greasing miles in that State. While in Maryland of accident, which it will be found use-Veils are undoubtedly a contributory we get up on the top of the mountain ful to preserve and remember : source of blackheads. The meshes range, where the scenery is grand. For dust in the eyes, avoid rubbing; Deer Park, Mountain Lake and Oakbecome saturated with dust and exhadash water in them; remove cinders, land, are beautiful towns, nicely laid lations most injurious to a delicate etc., with the round point of a lead penout on the top of the mountain. The skin. By constant friction they are houses are designed after the modern rubbed in and settle in the pores and Remove matter from the ear with are sealed there by a black speck. style of architecture and present quite tepid water; never put a hard instru-Street dust is unavoidable, but it is

ned with quite a number of fine iron | from which he soon returned with a small pill of asafætida, which he deftly

placed upon the sleeper's tongue. The warmth of the mouth dissolved the drug in a few seconds and the snorer awoke, stretching, gaping and yawning At any rate some of them are very like a Cherry grove darkey with a premonition of a Patoka creek chill. "Boys," said the victim, "darned if I ain't as billious as a goat! I never in my whole life had such an all-fired mean taste in my mouth." And the shout that went up drowned the whis-tle of the approaching train.

NO. 21.

We have an excellent system of ter-works, and the town is well lighted

The spiritual welfare of the people is THE DEVIL'S REAL ESTATE. well provided for. There are seven There is but one spot on the earth's white and two colored churches, and surface, as far as "Ye Curious Man" all the white churches have pastors ; knows, that has been really and truly but I am sorry to say that these priviwilled, deeded and bequeathed to his leges are not appreciated as they Santanic Majesty. This sometime-toshould be, for quite a large number of be sulphurous spot lies four and a half the people never go to church. It is, miles south of Helsingfors, Finland. indeed, missionary ground, and much A few years ago, Lars Huolarinen died in the little town of Pielisjarvi, in the

of the land is yet to be possessed. The people here are very kind and above named country, leaving considpleasant, much like the South Carolinerable property in the shape of real es-tate. How he had come into possesians. When we arrived at the parsonage, the pantry was well filled, and sion of so much land no one seemed quite a number of nice things, and valto know, but as he was a very bad citiuable, have been sent in since, and still zen it was generally admitted that he was in league with Wihtahausu (the devil) and that they had had many

"The money has done harm enough, they come. It has been the active agent in the im- the Northern element (especially broglio. We'll let that part of the busi-ness mellow for a while. John Royal's gether with a rapidity of enunciation which renders conversation a little dif-

ficult, and sometimes painful. I was a little surprised to meet here such familiar names as Brown, James, Davis, Robinson, Thompson, Harris, Phillips, Owens, Martin, Campbell, Wilson, Peck, Reed, Osborne, Morrison, Ferguson, Jackson, Miller, and of course Smith. In fact this is said to be the home of the original "John Smith." An instance of longevity deserves a passing notice. There is a colored woman who is said to be 101 years old. She remembers the war of 1812, and says she saddled her master's horse for him to go to that war, and was grown at the time.

not enter upon the possessions of Sa-tan & Co. for all the money that three General "Stonewall" Jackson, of war fame, was born here. The house of his birth stood just across the street from the site of the elegant court house. The propriety of Lecting a statue to his memory in the court house yard s now being agitated.

every night, and many curious stories As in South Carolina, so here, there s a good deal of politics in the air. Each party is rallying its forces around their respective standards. The politicial complexion of this town and counresemble the old lady's children. When questioned by the minister as to their sex, she replied, "They are fairly mixed-but mostly boys and gals." So

this people are "fairly mixed," but are mostly Democrats and Republicans. Recently, a branch of the Bedel gold cure institute has been established here for the cure of drunkenness, the opium and whisky habits. There are four practitioners in the institute and they guarantee a cure for their whisky and opium but not for tobacco. They | tavo book of 400 to 500 pages. It re-

are told of unearthly frolics the devils have on this their only known earthly lessions. UNCLE SAM'S DAILY .- The Congressional Record for the Fifty-second congress lately made its appearance. Some interesting facts are connected with this official gazetteer of the proceedings of congress, says the Cincin-nati Commercial-Gazette. Altogether, the publication makes more typesetting and presswork than half a dozen ordinary papers in the United States. It sometimes has from 100 to 125 pages of solid matter, which would make an oc-

buisiness deals with each other. This

somewhat startling opinion was varied when old Huolarinen died, for, upon

opening his will, the Magistrate found

a certificated warranty deed inclosed

therein which deeded to the devil

all of his (Huolarinen's) earthly pos-

essions. The will was to the same ef-

fect. The family have tried repeated-

ly to break the will, but so far have been

unsuccessful; thus the records plainly show that his Sulphuric Majesty has a

legal right and title to some excellent

rounds in the near vicinity of both

Helsingfors and Prielisjarvi. The sim-

ple people of the neighborhood have changed the course of a road which

formerly skirted the Huolarinen home-

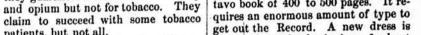
stead, and declared that they would

such estates would bring. Although

no living person has passed the thresh-

old since the old man died, the man-

sion is said to be brilliantly lighted



place this new Royal.

I suppose?" she observed, and then saved him from a dilemma by answering herself. "No. of course you wouldn't think to inquire at a time like that, and in such a hurry as you must have been, too. Still, I wish I knew it. A Christian name nearly always locates the branch. It's apt to give an intermarriage.' After a moment of reflection, during

meditatively: Royal crossed the room and folded back

the sheet from the dead man's face. "She is under treatment." Royal put

his query in the form of an assertion. "The very strictest. And she is so good and patient, so anxious for a cure for your sake as well as for her own. She would not wear anything over her eyes in church this morning. I couldn't blame her, although I scolded her for her vanity, and made her promise to keep the lids closed, and doubled the lace so that one could scarcely distinguish her features. A girl naturally wants to look well on her wedding day -particularly when her lover sees her for the first time in six years. We wrapped her up well, both going and returning, so I don't think she can have taken harm.' The squire, an energetic and impatient

old gentleman, speeded the parting in a manner which Boyal felt he could never sufficiently applau 1. He had fresh horses put to the carriage as it stood before the door, and bustical about and hurried the women with their preparations, laughing and joking with the utmost joviality This was not farewell at all, he cheerily declared, only that French thing the pronunciation of which he could never remember, and which meant just nothing worth mentioning. The schedule did not admit of extra kissing on the down grade, and the party would cer-tainly be left unless a limit was put to embraces. As for recommendation to take care of Phyllis and himself, he would scorn to name the thing to a man who could defeat death and the doctors, and come hundreds of miles to be married two months after he had been re ported broken all to pieces.

So the journey commenced amid men self was the son of Philip Royal and riment and kindliness, and overwrought Panline Hart. as he was, even Royal lost sight for a Royal hurried them to the hotel, secured moment or two of the grim fact that rooms and established them comfortathrough him darkness and death had bly. Then he left them to see after his joined hands.

patient, he said, and to attend to other When he had his charges safe in the matters. Mrs. Hart followed him into car and felt the train in motion he drew the corridor to say that if there should a long breath; he was another step be any service for the sick man which nearer the end, at all events. The strain she could perform, he must not fail to on him was beginning to tell. let her know, and both ladies bade him

Phyllis was in the gayest spirits, and langhed and chatted merrily. Her face was closely covered, the heavy veil doubled across her eyes, for which Royal knew there must be reason, but a step quickened by anxiety. He had forebore to inquire into it just yet. He had gathered that the young lady's case was far from hopeless, and the knowledge the servant. The hotel people were that it was so brought more relief and sware that he had gone for the sick thankfulness than his position toward | man's friends. He had himself informed her would seem to warrant. He could the proprietor of his intention, explainrealize the intense importance which im- ing the impossibility of immediate commediate possession of the money must munication with them by telegraph. have had for John Royal-importance so | The ladies under his charge would be great that he had been willing to risk received as appertaining to John Royal. his life to secure it. It might mean sight to the eyes as well as food and rai- to compose his countenance, and to shake ment for the body of the woman he loved. It made the conditions of the will more difficult of comprehension than ever, but he forebore to trouble his mind with that question. Other matters were more pressing than could be the solution side air entered freely, but it could not of an apparently impracticable woman's

about the place there was a look or neatvagaries. They would make better time on the ness that was unmistakable; every chair down trip, the conductor informed him; was in place, and the white covering of the grade would help instead of hinderthe bed hung straight and smooth over the sharp outlines of that which lay being them. Royal, cognizant of the inevitable pain to which each revolution of the wheels brought them more near, set himself to prepare the minds of the women, in a measure, as best he could. The girl's cheerfulness smote on him with a sense of discord, as though one should encounter mirth at a deathbed. And yet to sadden her seemed to him just then the hardest task he had ever been compelled to put his hand to. His pity pulled him both ways-he could not let the calamity fall on her like a thunderbolt from a clear sky, and still, even to turn her mind in the direction of the coming disaster, to his overwrought nerves appeared like drawing a child into the already wavering shadow of a rock which would presently fall and crush it. It took all the courage of which he was master to follow the lines laid down for himself. He was as adroit as it is in the nature of a straightforward man to be, and there had been nothing to arouse the suspicion of his companions or make

them doubt his sincerity. To them he

was the master of the situation, the

inhabited the commonwealth application to general than to particular in the past or were inhabiting it in the cases, and also the truth of the proposipresent, in her efforts to satisfactorily tion that a man has usually one rule for 'You don't know his Christian name,

Nor had Royal. He had wondered

why such stress had been put on the 28th

of December. He understood it now for

a woman's sentiment about the day

which was to have crowned her own

love story with fruition. As much trou-

ble as this sentiment had already caused

him, and was likely to cause him in the

future, he had no impulse to mock at it.

He was too real a man to be devoid of

When they plied him still with ques-

tions he said that he did not believe that

the sick man came from the west: he

was convinced that he must be a native

born Virginian. A whimsical thought

would obtrude itself relative to the

greatness of their bewilderment when

they should be confronted with the ne-

cessity for transposing his identity with

that of the other John Royal, He him-

When they reached their destination

send them news of the poor fellow's con-

Royal walked down the corridor with

hurried the ladies in, not daring to make

inquiries in the office nor to interrogate

dition.

tered.

reverence for romance.

his neighbor and another for himself. However, he gave it up at last, forced, like his betters, to admit that so long as spirit shall be incorporate in matter it must submit to the limitations of matter. He made such temporary explanations to the ladies under his charge and such arrangements for their comfort as would relieve him of anxiety on their account for the hours necessary to secure

needed rest for himself. which she fastened this scion to every When he awoke the light was strug-Virginia root of the Royal tree and gling through the shutters with the gray plucked it away again, she continued pallor peculiar to winter dawn. The

great hotel and the streets around it "There was a Royal who went west were as still as the heart of a desert. when I was a child. His name was Royal dressed himself and went to the Philip, which is a family name in both window. All along the street, in places, genders. He married Pauline Hart, a shadows lay, as sharply defined as silfirst cousin of my husband's, and a sishouettes by the electric glare, which ter of that very John Hart to whom deals little in the soft shading and witch-Anne Royal was engaged. I wonder if ery of the moonlight which it simulates. this young man could be Phil Royal's It was too early even for the rattling of son! You must find out, John, because milk carts or the matutinal billingsgate if he should be he is doubly related to of sparrows; but away in the distance, you two, and also a close connection of my own. How strange and romantic it would be! Just think of it, Phyllis! The nephew of your aunt's old lover, and for John to have met-nay, more, to have befriended-him on his way to be married to you on the fiftieth anni-

beyond the voiceless thoroughfares and expressionless houses, the sky was faintly coloring for joy in a coming good. Royal drew a chair to the window, and grappled anew with the situation, taking it externally, and as apart from himself, after the manner of a man of versary of that which was to have been Anne's own wedding day to John Hart! I never in my life heard anything like action whose intuitive position relative

to circumstances is that of an extraneous, coercive force, rather than one which is inherent and, insensibly, regulative.

It did not take him many moments t decide that a disclosure of the true state of the case was inevitable, and must be made as speedily as possible. In spite of the intimate connection with the affairs of the dead man which had been thrust upon him, he knew next to nothing of his family relations or circumstances. He might have brothers and sisters, even parents, living with whom it would be necessary to communicate at once by letter or telegram. There would be funeral arrangements to make, and explanations of some sort to give to the curious. A man dying amid a hotel full of people cannot be carried to a cemetery, and incontinently buried without further cognizance being taken of the mattter than such as would be involved in the settlement of hotel and undertaker's charges. None knew better than Royal the impossibility of avoidance or escape from the omnipresence of human curiosity.

The question in point was, to whom should the story first be told? Under ordinary circumstances it would have seemed to him most fitting that the person most nearly concerned in an affair should be the one earliest made intimato with its ramifications; but the present circumstances were anything but ordinary, and the communication he was called upon to make might easily be reckoned unprecedented. Royal's instincts revolted from the straightforward method; it seemed to him rough and brutal. He still hoped, in some as yet misty and mysterious manner, to be able to spare Phyllis a little, or at least to soften things for her. Knowledge of her affliction had aroused his interest in a way totally apart from, and yet strangely commingled with, the interest

awakened by the peculiarity of his own position toward her.

At the door of the sick room he paused To this last, indeed, he gave little thought, for in his mind she was still too off, if possible, the weariness which opclosely associated with John Royal to pressed him. Then he opened it and enadmit of identification in any way with himself. He was simply conscious as a The shutters had been closed and man of an infinite pity for her and as there was no fire in the grate. The outa physician of the fact that here was a case which would require delicate handispel the strange odors in the room; dling.

His thought hovered around Mrs. Hart with an ever increasing sense of relief and satisfaction. Here was a beacon amid the rough waters for them. He had been brought too frequently into juxtaposition with the creature feminine under various and trying circumstances not to recognize a sensible and helpful woman whenever he beheld one. If there should death." be worse breakers ahead she would indicate their presence and also show him how to shape his course so as to avoid more damage than would be imperative. Of his own unaided efforts in this matter he had come to feel profound distrust. The event proved that he had not reckoned without his host, for when the natural consternation and bewilderment incident to an upheaval of accepted conditions had passed away Mrs. Hart rallied to his assistance with all the gallantry of a large natured woman. Her acquaintance with John Royal had been so slight that her regret for his death was without the poignancy of personal bereavement, while her admiration, sympathy and comprehension of his motives and character rendered the process by which she set him aport and exalted him into a chevalier sans peur et sans

ided to him and had kept Phylli bright and interested about her plans, and so prevented her from thinking too

much or growing anxious. She had wonderful self control, poor child, and knew the paramount importance of absence of pronounced emotion; but what woman's self control would be equal to the strain which knowledge of her lover's death must put on hers? Then, too, she had been sustained in her efforts by consciousness that happiness for John, as well as for herself, was involved in her preservation of equanimity. And what will not a woman do and endure to make herself worthy in the eyes

of the man who loves her? If this incentive and restraint should be removed, who could tell what disastrous conse quences might ensue? Mrs. Hart well nigh wrung her hands in her sympathetic appreciation of the difficulty of the situation. To be so near

the goal and then have hope balked of fruition! And now when the loss of the money would make the recovery of sight more than ever a priceless boon! What could a blind woman without money be save a dependant all her days? And what a fate was that to contemplate from the standpoint of two-andtwenty! If only John Royal could have accomplished his purpose? If only the broken frame could have obeyed the heroic will! Mrs. Hart's tears fell fast

from very pity and a swift realization of human impotence. Royal's words surprised her:

"Was she much attached to her cous in?" He put the question in a low voice. For attachment in the sense of lovers Mrs. Hart could not answer, but thought it improbable that that sort of ardor could now be a factor in the engagement. The pair had been separated for six years, and during that time it was reasonable to suppose that the youthful emotion which had drawn them together should have evaporated. That there exdistinction therein; not a man of much been brought up in the knowledge and belief that her cousin would be her matrimonial destiny, and during her

most impressible years she had been held apart from forming any other attachment by the blight which had slowly and insidiously crept over her. "It was that which prevented Miss Royal from summoning John home before," Mrs. Hart explained. "She was so anxious that Phyllis' sight should be

tails. child's condition from him, and I believe it was only just before her last illness, when the possibility of cure was at hand, that she took him into true confidence. And, as ill luck would have it, that letter did not reach John for months after it was written."

here he also had cause of complaint.

stancy.

Walter Hart that of Mrs. John Hart Royal. It surprised him, for he had no recollection whatever of having placed it there. Then he remembered that in the excitement and hurry of the arrival he had neglected to register the ladies at all. It was probable that the clerk had supplied the omission from

information obtained at the fountain "His wife, I suppose," the young physician hazarded.

In the second which elapsed before he replied Hart Royal's mind seemed to work over the whole case, from start to finish, like an electric flash. He appeared suddenly confronted by a point view the instantaneous absorption of which by his consciousness made it seem something which he had known all along, only failed to give it due prominence. The pause ere he spoke was so slight that it passed unheeded by the bystanders, but during it Royal's whole mental position, and a good part of his external circumstances, had been shifted. "No," he made answer quietly. "The young lady is his cousin and next of She is my wife."

> CHAPTER VIII.

'Oh! it's tremendously funny, I dare say!" he growled. "Poor child! Poor Phyllis!"

Mrs. Hart's face wore a compassionate expression, and her voice had tender, commiserating inflections. She stood by the window, looking out into the street with eyes which conveyed to her mind no image of that on which they rested. Royal paused in his restless walk and silently gazed at her. Her tone made him wince like the touch of a nettle. He was too much oppressed by the result of his own precipitation not to be

"I am not a bad man, as men go," remonstrated. "A blundering fool, if you will, but no villain. Your tone implies that I have been both."

Mrs. Hunt turned toward him. As she did so she caught an expression on the young man's face which reminded her curiously of her husband. Her eyes softened and a smile came to her lips. She had seen the look before during the days that they had been together, and always with mute, wistful acknowledgment of the tie between them. After all, he was Phil Royal's son and of their

own people-which fact, in the lady's mind, considerably ameliorated the situation. What would have been her attitude toward Royal if, instead of being a member of the family with blood right fresh with them all, and the young peoof interference, he had turned out simply a blundering stranger, whose tender was to keep John true by making his nature had ruled his reason to such disastrous effect, it is difficult to imagine. Fortunately for Royal she was not put When a copy of the will was to the test. A kinsman, like the shape some indignation was expressed, John of a nose, can be accepted and endured with the pleasing consciousness that, externally, the worst is known of him, while the introduction of a stranger into some reason and justice into Anne Royal one's life may be attended with as grave if they had been. Like a great many risks as those incident to the French nowomen, she never talked about wills: she seemed to have a feeling that to Mrs. Hart loved romance with a make or even mention such a thing southern woman's love, and moreover she was gifted with a subtle sense of would be to prop the door open for humor. Interwoven with the tragic and pathetic elements of the affair there was No one more than Hart Royal could appreciate the importance of satisfactory comedy as well, for those sufficiently disengaged to appreciate it. And, for the adjustments between physical and menlife of her, Mrs. Hart could not forbear tal relations in cases like the present. imaginative pictures of the self com-placent soul of her kinswoman, assert-He talked the matter over with Mrs. Hart, and, out of pity for the girl and ively comporting itself in the infinite, an unconscious adaptation of their suddenly confronted with a view of the thought to the lines indicated by John situation as it now stood. Even a dis-Royal's conduct in regard to her, they decided that they would continue to embodied spirit, in such case, could not shield her from knowledge of her be- escape recognition of limitations and acknowledgment of the futility of all reavement until the operation should have been performed. It would be but arrangements for pulling stroke in the for a short time, they thought, and no lifeboat of other people after this mortal shall have put on immortality. The living being would be injured. Of the property there would be no oc- pithy old Scotch prover's recurred again casion to think for three months yet, as and again to Mrs. Hart's secretly divertthat time must clapse ere the executor | ed mind with a relishing sense of its apwould render his account. And of Roy- plicability. "What did the lawyers say?" she ques al's kindred there was none, accessible, tioned, coming toward him, and tacitly nearer than Phyllis. His parents had entered into rest many years before, Ignoring her own discourteous exclamaand of his two sisters one had died in tion and his impatient reception of it.

Hart Royal, and the fact that the man she had espoused was not the man to whom she had engaged herself could not militate against the stronger fact that she had considered the man with whom she had gone through the ceremony as the contracting party. This no subsequent declarations would change.

fact that he was acting as proxy should have invested himself with entire responsibility as principal appeared to follow as a logical sequence. And any expost facto effort to free himself from the onsequences of his blundering might justly be considered as treacherous evasion, and would certainly be accredited to a discovery on his part that his impersonation of the dead man would be parren of financial results-would place him, in short, in the position of a baffled and malignant impostor.

"You see how it is," the poor fellow fumed. "I'm caught in the trap by both legs. If I hold to my marriage, I'll be foisting on a woman a husband she don't love and don't want, and that, too, when she thinks she's married to somebody else. And if I get a divorce in order to free her, the muy think, and the world will say, that I do it because I can't get hold of the money. Nobody had a hint of the proxy business at the time, and nobody is going to believe in it now. I wouldn't myself if I were outside of it all. People will swear the whole thing was a plant from beginning to end, and that I'm shaking the bag because I've got found out. There never was such a confounded mess since the world began!" He actually stamped on the floor in his impotence and bewilderment. Mrs.

Hart's face was turned from him, but a suspicious gurgle and movement of her shoulders attracted his attention and changed the current of his thought.

"Oh, it's tremendously funny, I dare myself, but to aroutsider I suppose it's exquisite. 'Tisn't often one has the woodpecker's beak. I'd laugh outright, though, if I were you. It's more decent than sniggering in corners."

A handsome face, in which amusement struggled with contrition, was turned toward him, and two hands were cordially extended:

"Forgive me, John, and don't be cross! I'm going to help you, I am indeed, with wits and will both. Only I couldn't forbear a quiet chuckle. You looked so preternaturally concerned and solemn and-and caught."

Royal was mollified. Few people could resist the charm of Mrs. Hart's manner; it was invigorating and comforting, like sunshine. Catching her eye he experienced a sudden and delicious revulsion of feeling, like that produced by a bit of commonplace in an abstruse volume. He bit his lip to keep from smiling.

"Nina," he rebuked, "the way you are taking this affair is positively subversive of morals. Instead of howling at me with indignation, and hounding on the populace with tar and feathers, you are acting as though the situation wasn't past mending. And I believe in your soul you are enjoying-yes, actually enjoying it with the flippancy of a gamin. What do you suppose is going to become of you in the other country if you don't fetch his folly home to the fool in this? His words were light, but they overlay considerable emotion. He was grateful to her with a gratitude beyond expression for her sympathetic compreension.

"Something more satisfactory than endless psalmody or aerial progression, I road, 383 miles from Baltimore, and 81 hope," she smiled. "Mocking at those in sore straits and grievously tormented. In the incorporation there are 3,000 I hold to be my mission. Seriously, though, I am sorry for you-truly sorry. But after all, John, it isn't you that makters so much. The situation is and w.'l side of the corporate limits. you know. When there is a smash up In addition to a large graded school, of the affair." The mention of his cousin's name schools. Also the West Virginia Bussarily been, had awakened within him a of life. tender, chivalrous devotion, touched and materialized by admiration and a sense of personal possession. Her acceptance of and absolute trust in him, her sweetness, patience and courage, won on him day by day. His professional instinct prevented him from feeling any of that ntangible, egotistic shrinking from afdiction inherent in so many men, and the hopefulness of her case caused it to present no bar to her attractiveness. Then, too, it is probable that the consciousness that she was his wife-no matter how she had become so-stirred and influenced his emotions more deeply than he was himself aware.

an imposing appearance. The ground is literally covered with beautiful green ment into the ear.

If an artery is cut, compress above grass. It seems to be one solid turf. the wound ; if a vein is cut compress be-We enter West Virginia at Terra Alta, in Preston county-the highest OW.

point on the road in this locality, 2,700 cough. feet above tide water-thence across Taylor county to Clarksburg, the county seat of Harrison.

Clarksburg is an old town, situated on the main line of the B. & O. railfrom Parkersburg on the Ohio river. inhabitants and a number of contigususpected walk erect. ous hamlets, some of which are simply

an extension of the town, though outbe much harder on Phyllis. You did it, The educational facilities are good.

much less harmful taken straight to the skin than through a veil.

BIRDS DID HIS WORK .- An almond

If choked, get upon all fours and grower of this locality hit upon a neat device for gathering his crop last fall. For slight burns dip the part in cold His trees bore largely, and this early water; if the skin is destroyed cover became known to the yellowhammers, with varnish.

a species of the woodpecker tribe of Smother fire with carpets, etc., water birds, and they had regularly stored will often spread burning oil and increase danger. Before passing through away large quanities of ripe nuts, taken smoke take a full breath, and then from the orchard, in the limb of an oal stoop low; but if carbonic acid gas is tree near by.

The astute orchardist watched op rations and at last hit upon a novel nut Suck poisoned wounds unless your mouth is sore; enlarge the wound, or, and labor saving plan, and he lost no

better, cut out the part without delay ; time in putting it into execution. The limb was sawed from the tree hold the wounded part as long as can be borne to a hot coal or end of a cigar. and replaced by a square-shaped fun-In case of poisoning excite vomiting nel long enough to nearly reach the by tickling the throat or by warm wa- ground ; a bucket was then set underneath. A genuine robbing game then ter and mustard. went merily on.

sore and irritable. Involuntarily he resented the implied depreciation.

restored before he should see her, and the disease was obliged to run its course. Anne liked to arrange the procession for her people down to the most minute de-She kept full knowledge of the

"Why did she make that iniquitous will?" demanded Royal, who felt that "God knows! I think, however, that t was made just before John sailed for

Europe, and while the engagement was ple very much in love. Perhaps her idea cousin's future dependent on his consent him, after his aunt's death, and

wrote us that he had been aware of its contents for years. None of the other friends was. They might have coaxed

isted, however, strong love between the cousins their conduct toward each other had proved. John Royal had been a quiet man, she had always heard, absorbed in his profession and ambitions of worldly wisdom, nor much addicted to society. Phyllis had doubtless nursed her romance as much through force of circumstances as aught else; she had

Royal crossed the room and folded back the sheet from the dead man's face. It was very peaceful, with all the lines of care and pain smoothed out, and that strange reflection of a light that never was on land or sea touching and brightening the still features into a look of youth, a look of hope. Royal replaced the covering with a pain at his heart which his brief acquaintance with the dead man would hardly justify. It was as though a part of his own life had been suddenly swept into the infinite. That silent form would be a barrier forever separating his future from his past. He touched the bell. It was answered almost immediately by a colored man, one of the hotel waiters, whom he in the argency of the case had installed as nurse that very morning. How long ago it seemed looking backward through the full hoursthe hours so few in number, so plethoric with events, so pregnant with change which would affect his whole life! It almost seemed as though an ordinary reproche a simple evolution of sentilifetime must have intervened since he | ment.

the man who holds the reins and does Broadus college, under the auspices of the breaking gets the most comfort out the Baptist church, is located here, together with a number of private

caused Royal's face to soften, and he let iness college has recently been estabthe blood relation frankness of his com- lished here, and is now training about panion's speech pass. His intercourse 100 or more young men and ladies to with Phyllis, restricted as it had neces- battle with the great business problems

> There are three banks, all in successful operation, and a number of machine shops, foundries, roller flouring mills, carriage factory, organ factory, woolen mills and a number of other manufacturing industries.

Railroads are also well represented. ville & Nashville train to come in. One In addition to the B. & O., the Monon- of the gang had been out the night be- prise. gahela River road, and the Parkers- fore with his best girl and was exceedburg and West Virginia both centre ingly sleeply. Stretching himself in here, giving us about thirteen trains a chair he was soon in the land of Nod, and nine mails per day exclusive of the upper half of his head unhinged and thrown back and his mouth so freigh trains.

The town is well watered, having wide open that it resembled the enthe west fork of the Monongahela riv- trance to the Patton tunnel. The boys er on the western boundary, and a gazed on him a few moments; then his retired army officers a million and

with her, having always in mind that | large creek running through and span- | one of them slipped out to a drug store, | a half of good round dollars.

If in water, float on the back, with The birds gathered the nuts, which the nose and mouth projecting. they dropped into the funnel and down For apoplexy raise the head and into the bucket below, and as regularbody; for fainting lay the person flat. ly as night came the almond-grower .+. would in turn empty it of its contents

HAD A BILLIOUS FEELING .- In restaurant down at McLeansboro the and set it back for a new supply. This was kept up until the entire other night, says the Mount Carmel crop had been gathered, and the yel-(III.) Register, a party of young fellows lowhammers departed broken-hearted were sitting and standing around the stove waiting for the midnight Louis- at the heartless deception practiced upon them.-Sutter City (Cal.) Enter-

> BO" The officers and sailors of the navy get \$7,500,000 and the officers and soldiers of the army \$10,000,000. Uncle Sam spends \$150,000 for horses for his cavalry and artillery, and pays

. . . .