

Bellefonte, Pa., August 22, 1913

The Woman. [Continued from page 6, Col. 3.]

living. In all these years I've felt that if a moment like this should ever come, I could rely on your honor. I've always believed you would at least-what is the old phrase?-- 'perjure yourself like a gentleman!' It's easy enough to save yourself and call it a duty to the people. A coward can al-ways find an excuse. Oh, I could carry it all through safely, even now, if only you were a man instead of a block of stone."

"It is too late now for reproaches," he answered. "For years I've been building up a fighting strength-waiting for the people's chance of victory. And that chance has come. If they lose, it shall not be because of their leader. I-"

"A woman's reputation is worth more than any mere political victory." "Then," he commanded, "tell your father and husband so. They are preparing to wreck a woman's life to save maelves. No code of honor stands

you forgive me? You see, I was fighting for my very life. I'm sorry."

"That's what I've been trying to tell you, Mrs. Robertson. You've paid

for all you did. And I don't want you to pay any more. You're a ten times

better woman this minute than a lot

who have the law on their side. So

forget all that and let's see what we

can do."

edness

There is no more reckless fighter than the American soldier. The American citizen in uniform. His recklessness is "I'm sorry I was cranky," said Wanda impulsively, "and I guess I understand all about it. I thought first that Fate had let me in on this so that I could show you up. But I think now it was so I could be of some use to you. You see, there's only we two women. And we've got to fight that whole crowd." "You'll help? You'll stand by me?" stand all about it. I thought first "You'll help? You'll stand by me?"

Taking Chances.



Grace, to Wanda's dismay, broke down and sobbed in hopeless wretch

"Don't! Don't!" pleaded the girl. "We'll-oh, dear!" a sob choking her. "Now you've got me going! We must brace up and do something. There's plenty of spare hours for crying. But this isn't one of them. We've a bunch of trouble ahead of us. But we're go ing to win out. So let's get busy."

"By this time, most likely, they've applied to central for all the num bers called up from this hotel since seven o'clock tonight. We have to

turn in our calls to central, you know. And one of those numbers will be the one they want. But it'll be hard for them to find which one. Yours would be the very one they wouldn't think of."

"Can't we stop them from getting the list?"

"No. Their pull is too strong. But it'll take time to run all the numbers down. And time's the one thing they haven't got. Time: That's our one card. They want to use this story tonight. If we can keep them from doing that-"

"If worst comes to worst," exclaim ed Grace, "I can go to my father and tell him. He loves me enough to keep it from every one. Even from Mark. It'll break his heart. But it

will stop the story." "No," decided Wanda, after a mo-ment's thought, "it's too late for that. The thing's gone too far. Van Dyke and your husband and the rest are as keen for the name as he is. If he pre tended to weaken or tried to stop them now, they'd push on in spite of him.'

"Then we've got to work alone We've got to keep them from finding out. We've got to! We've got to!'

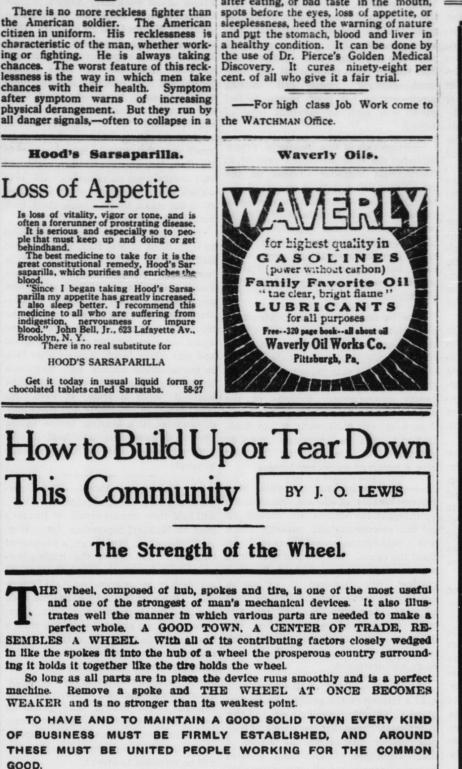
"I'd give seven dollars to know in their way. They are out to win. what they're doing now," mused Wan-To win at any price. And it is only "It's tough to work in the dark da. fair that the filthy methods they use like this.' should come back on their own heads.

"Suppose," suggested Grace, in sud If some one must be betrayed, why den dread, "suppose they try to force should it be the innocent? Why not you to tell? They're clever-and they're merciless. And-"

"Matt!" she wailed, her defanse all "They'll have a sweet time. I'd like swept away, in a breath, "if you let a colored photograph of the bunch of my husband know-do you realize men who can make me talk if I don't what it would mean? It would mean want to. No, no! Don't you worry a separation-a divorce-disgraceabout that, Mrs. Robertson." everlasting disgrace! Am I to pay

"It wouldn't be as easy as you think, I'm afraid. They are so determined "That is for you to decide. I simply

warn you not to let your husband and



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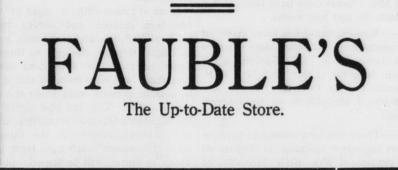
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father move against me on these lines. That is all. Good-by. I will come back later to see Mr. Blake."

ical Coward!"

the Woman who is-guilty?"

that price for your victory?"

"Wait!" she begged. "There is one thing you can do-one thing you must do. It won't endanger your success. My father and Mark and some other men are coming here for a conference. I want you to meet them and to urge them not to use this horrible story-'

"It would be useless." he objected. though moved in spite of himself, by her absolute brokenness. "But I'll try. I promise you. I'll try my best. And I will guard your secret as long as it can be guarded. Until there is no other possible chance. Then-well, this story must be stopped. That is all. It is a waste of words for me to say how sorry I am to have made you so unhappy tonight. Good-by."

He was entirely master of himself now: cold, impersonal, phlegmatic. No one seeing him take his leave at the door of the Robertson suite would

have guessed his brain contained a solitary thought beyond the possible winning of a move in his cherished political game.

The moment Standish was gone, Grace collapsed. She sank down beside the desk table, helpless to move or think. Everything was in a black whirl. The hour which for years she had dreaded; for which she had so long and so carefully prepared.

She moved convulsively. The motion. brought her hand in contact with the cold metal of the telephone on the table before her. And with the touch came inspiration. Catching up the instrument she unhooked the receiver.

"Miss Kelly," she called tremulously. "Is that you? You know my voice. I -I am alone here-Can you come, please? At once. I must see you-Oh, thank, you- At once, please."

She rose unsteadily to her feet, as might a half-senseless pugilist who will not yet give up a hopeless fight.

CHAPTER XIV.

An Odd Alliance.

began uncertainly, "because-be -oh, I'm hemmed in everywhere! I don't know which way to turn!"

"I see," said Wanda quietly. "Standish is going to throw you over to save himself? I was afraid so."

"I-I said some cruel-abominable things to you a little while ago, Miss Kelly," stammered Grace. Won't

Yes. I suppose it would be liable to spoil the evening for them and make them real peevish. But it would take up a lot of time they haven't got."

"You won't let them break you down? Oh, I've no right to allow you to endanger your welfare for me! When they find you won't tell, they may-

"Don't let that keep you awake Mrs. Robertson. I know I'm taking chances in bucking the machine. Lord knows what they'll do to me. But it's worth the risk. And I'm going to stand by you till the cows come home. We-

A rattling, as some one in the hall tried the outer door of the suite, brought both women to their feet in wordless fear. Then Mark Robertson's voice reached them. "Grace!" called Robertson from the

hall. "Are you asleep? The door's locked."

"This way," whispered Grace, pointing to the inner rooms of the suits.

"Go down the passage. There's another door at the end of it, leading out into the hall."

"All right," whispered Wanda in reply. "Good luck to you. Keep your nerve. That's the main thing. Just keep your nerve.

"Grace!" called Mark impatiently. Grace crossed to the locked door, paused a moment until she heard the door at the far end of the suite open and close, then unlocked the outer door.

"Did you fall asleep?" asked Mark, as he came in. "How did the door happen to be locked?"

[Continued next week.]

In the Tower of London are yet preserved some of the relics of the past when men used "the thumb-screw and the rack for the glory of the Lord." Some of these instruments of torture are dyed deep with the blood of the unfortunates who suffered from them, and many of der at the thought, and yet women today are undergoing a slow torture, incom-parably more severe than the torments An Odd Alliance. The sound of a step in the hall out-side brought Grace to the door. She opened it stealthily, as though bent on some mission of dire peril. And, as stealthily, Wanda slipped into the room, closing the door behind her. The two women faced each other in silence. It was Grace who spoke first. "I—I sent for you, Miss Kelly," she becam, uncertainty. "herause herause and other forms of nervous disease. It is a medicine remarkable for its direct action upon the delicate female organs, and its wonderful healing power. It heals ulceration and inflammation, cures female weakness, soothes pain and tones up the nervous system. It contains no alcohol, and is altogether free from opium, cocaine and other narcotics

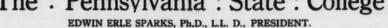
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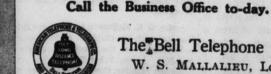
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