A MYSTERY. When we take an observation of what's

When we take an observation of what's going on around

We often think that wonders never cease. For instance, there are people who apparently are crowned

To live a life of luxury and ease. If their accounts were balanced less than nothing would remain,

And prison fare they probably would chew.

chew,
And yet they set the fashions and we follow
in their train.
We don't see how they do it—but they do.

Their homes are simply palaces of elegance

Their costly entertainments are a dream;
They lead in gay society and are considered smart,
And pass for greater lions than they seem.
While better folks are fasting they are feasting night and day.
And pleasure is the object they pursue;
And yet if forced to settle what they owe they couldn't pay.
We don't see how they do it—but they do.

There are the politicians who an easy way have found
Of living without doing any work.
Arrayed in gaudy garments they are swaggering around
As lazy and as saucy as a Turk.
Aithough they are the enemies of everything that's right,
Although we know they rule and rob us, too,

They make themselves our bosses and we cheer them with delight.
We don't see how they do it—but they do.

There are the stock promoters, who are working night and day,
In laying gold on other people's shelves.
They kindly take your money and invest it in a way
To realize a fortune—for themselves.
Their schemes are most magnificent—the profits are so great,
They only grant their favors to a few.
A million dollar company from nothing they create.

create. We don't see how they do it—but they do. There are the busy merchants who are al-

ways-so they say-A selling things at less than what they

They all have bargain counters where they

give the goods away
To crowds of crazy shoppers they exhaust.
Although they're losing money on each article they sell,
According to their advertisements true,
They never look discouraged and are always very well.
We don't see how they do it—but they do.

There are the foolish people who compel themselves to bear A burden growing heavier each day, In keeping up appearances for those who never care

throw their peace and comfort all

away. Their awful strain and worry is, in spite of

Their awful strain and worry is, in spice of all their guile, Quite evident to everybody's view, And yet with all their troubles they in public wear a smile. We don't see how they do it—but they do. —H. C. Dodge, in Chicago Daily Sun.

A Knave of Conscience

By FRANCIS LYNDE.

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CHAPTER XIX.—CONTINUED. Griffin strolled listlessly with the crowd, and presently found himself in front of the new playhouse. It was early, but the "first-nighters" were already thronging the vestibule. He stood aside to look on, honestly wishing he could rid himself of the Payou bank mystery long.

self of the Bayou bank mystery long enough to go in and enjoy himself with the pleasurers. Now it chanced that in stepping

back out of the sidewalk throng he got in the way of the carriage contingent, and a moment later a voice at his elbow said:

Excuse me; will you let the ladies alight?'

man with a clean-cut, eager face hand two young women from the carriage. They were followed by an gentleman with eye-glasses; and on the sidewalk the group fell into pairs. Griffin could not well help hearing the colloquy.

"I think the others will be here in

"Just as you please. If ake Miss Raymer and let

er's companion as the parti carre a business affair than for any other

ham, and my last chance," he mused. turning back toward the hotel. Grierson had all but succeeded in "There is one grain of comfort in it for me; if her face doesn't belie her, she will tell me the truth. By Jove! Griswold's intervention. That was but that young lawyer, or whatever he is, has an eye for good looks. I've was this: That Jasper Grierson renever seen her equal in all my ups and downs, and that's saying a good

So he went his way to the St. James and presently to bed, without so much as suspecting that he had actually touched elbows with man whose identity he was vainly trying to establish.

CHAPTER XX.

It was the early morning of a flawless northern summer's day, and the lake sparkled like a sheet of hamsilver under the windows of Farnham sitting-room. shades had been drawn when Griffin entered, but he had taken the liberty to run them up before Miss Farnham came in. And since he was regret the precaution.

you, Miss Faruham, before the boat thing, Griswold was always sure of reached St. Louis?"

daughter of the house. For one thing, Griswold was always sure of his welcome at Mereside; and, for

'must' about it. I am an officer of the law, and I am anxious to find I am sure you will tell me don't ask to know more." She considered it for a moment.

"I was "Pardon me," he said. was thinking that no one but a woman would ever have thought of doing such a thing as that. I faney you surprised the admission out of him."

"No, I do not think I did. He aditted the fact very willingly, was wrong

might imagine. They have all been looking for a seasoned criminal, you

"He wasn't that," she said, with an air of conviction. "Apart from this one great wrong which he had done, he seemed to be a gentleman. It may seem incredible to you, but he fairly insisted upon my writing to Mr. Galbraith."

the robber was no criminal; that he was only a monomaniae on the social

"And when he did that he doubtless asssured you that he would conider himself bound in honor not to take advantage of your frankness?"
"He did just that. How did you know?" she asked.

"I merely inferred it. And his parole was to expire at St. Louis?" 'It was-it did.'

Griffin rose and found his hat. I am greatly obliged to you, Miss Farnham. I know you haven't found it easy to speak of this to a stran-

While the identity of the man is still a mystery, you have helped more than you know. Good morning."

Griffin left the house, but instead of taking the street, he turned aside to stroll aimlessly along the lake shore, giving a new theory time to grow a little more definite. As has een said, his trade of man-catcher had come to be a passion with him, and he had genius where others labored only with talent. When the new theory had taken shape, it slipped into musing speech.
"She can't account for his little

vagary, but I can. He simply fell in love with her at first sight, and because he was in love with her he made her do that which she knew to be right, at whatever cost to himself. That being the case, he is as sure to turn up here sooner or later as the sun is sure to rise to-morrow morning. Better than that, he may be here now. I'll camp down and study my environment for awhile. It's a

dence. He knew Jasper Grierson and his ambitions, and Jasper Grierson' daughter and hers. He knew all about the social teapot tempest, and could identify the adherents of each of the factions. He knew that Andrew Galbraith was a guest at the summer hotel on the point, and was soon able to draw his own concusions touching the growing intimacy Griffin gave place, and saw a young between Grierson and the New Orleans banker. The drawing of these conclusions cost the detective a trip to the pine-land region in the northern part of the state, and the information he sought and obtained had no bearing upon the bank robbery. Jasper Grierson held the reversion of some worthless pine a few minutes, doctor. Shall we wait which he was trying to sell Andrew and go in with them?"

Galbraith; that was all.

take Miss Raymer and let me take Miss Farnham, that will divide us equally. The seats are all near together, but I couldn't get them all Probing a bit deeper into this, more to execut, for the addity of a man me take mers, the iron works company, and Griffin stared hard at the speak- like Griswold interesting himself in to account for the oddity of a man "So that is Miss Charlotte Farn-thing which the prime movers in it pulsed was not Jasper Grierson defeated. Having failed to smash Raymer, he was now trying to obliterate both Raymer and the new partner. To this end he was fashioning two weapons. The railway and all other work controlled by Grierson and those to whom he dictated was withdrawn from the reorganized iron works company. That was the weapon legal; the other was more deadly. In the height of the Raymer-Griswold prosperity a deputation of workingmen had waited upon the partners with demands which could not be met. And the alternative was a strike.

CHAPTER XXI.

As Raymer had foretold Griswold's finding it necessary to read much be- initial visit to the Grierson mansion tween the lines of her guarded an-on the lake's edge was but the be-swers to his questions, he did not ginning of an acquaintance which precaution. soon ripened into intimacy with the he admitted his guilt to daughter of the house. For one another, he was beginning to find "May I ask how he came to do the atmosphere of Margery's sitting-room the one environment where the "I-must I answer that?" she falremaking of the book could go on, she laughed. "How impossible a hind and that Margery berself was the man can be," she rejoined, sweetly.

"I need hardly say there is no one person with whom he could discuss it with helpful freedom.

Do what he might he could not bring himself to the point of takeverything which might help me, and ing Charlotte into his confidence in the matter of the book. Though it was wholly undefined in his and then took counsel of frankness. mind, the barrier was the one which "He admitted it because I asked had been builded on the voyage up im."

Griffin smiled, and then explained lotte, and the more he saw of Charlotte, and the more his love for her grew and throve, the less possible it became to look forward to a day when he might hope to tell her all with a fair probability of winning her approval of the thing he had

But with Margery no such difficulmitted the fact very willingly, ty existed. Her sympathy was although he would not admit that it ways quick and intuitive, and she as wrong."

"Ah; that helps more than you stinctively the thing he craved most; the thing he might have suggested if she were not always beforehand with him. He was not so besotted as to that other half of the artist's always incomplete circle; the one person in the world who can fully understand him. On the contrary, in his so-berer moments he thought he knew her for what she was. But these dis-illusions grew less frequent as visits Griffin smiled again and nodded reassuringly. What she was telling him fitted in admirably with the only tenable theory he had formed; that altogether. For Mistress Margery was wise in her generation, knowing many things well and the heart of a man better than any.

But about the book, which was to settle once for all the vexed question of the rights of man, they did not always agree. As first conceived, the story was merely a vehicle loaded to overflowing with the socialistic protests of its author. But in the rewriting a new plot had been substituted; suggested, nay, even out-lined, by Mistress Margery herself; and on the keel thus laid the venture built itself into something more like a novel and less like a preachment. Griswold saw the growth of it under his hand; saw the far-reaching possibilities of it; saw also that it was departing, despite his most strenuous efforts, from the course which he had pricked out on the chart of the former endeavor. In other words, the new book bade fair to grow into something which the publishers might accept and the publie might buy and read, but of the be less and less as the work pro-

Being first of all an enthusiast, Griswold dug deeply for the cause of



YOU HAVE HELPED MORE THAN YOU KNOW.

all this, and thought he found it in his new relation as an employer of labor. At first he had told himself that he would be a silent partner in the iron works, leaving all the activities to the practical Raymer; but he soon found this blankly impossible. And with personal interest and the shifting point of view came a change, gradual and almost insensible, in his attitude toward mankind in general and toward the workers in particular. So it came about that while he Thus spoke the young man with the clean-cut face; and at the older man's negative he spoke again.

"Just as you please. If you will take Miss Baywar and let you take the came to know all about the Raybus for the ranks of the oppressors.

"Just as you please. If you will take Miss Baywar and let you take the came to know all about the Raybus for the ranks of the oppressors.

like on the iron works horizon. Raymer was for temporizing with men, and for yielding something if need be; but this Griswold fought stoutly, growing more stubborn as the threatening cloud increased in If the men could not see for hemselves what was for their best

nterests, they must be made to see But in reality it was Margery who was responsible for the major changes in the book. Caring nothing at all for the ethical question in volved, she cared a great deal for the success of the author, and she was shrewd enough to arrive quickly at a double conclusion; that Gris was well able to write a successful book; and that, left to him-self, he would assuredly spoil it with his theories. So she labored faith-fully to keep him in a broader road and not without a goodly measure

"But, Margery,"-(they were well past the "Mr." and "Miss" by this time)—"I can't do that," he said one morning when they had been working the plot through one of the

cozy sitting-room talks.

"Don't you see it begs the entire question of labor and capitai?"

"I see that you can't help doing it unless you are deliberately false to

our art," retorted the literary ora-"You have put these people on the stage, giving them certain characters, and they must go on and do the things that are consistent."

"Not if the consistent things are going to make the entire picture out of drawing.'

"How many times must we go back to the original question. You must choose between saying it all and hav ing nobody read it and saying a little and having everybody read it. I'm not saying anything against your theory—it's lovely. But unless you make it a good story, first, last and all the time, you will never get a

"Then I may as well give it up," Griswold confessed. "If I may not preach a little I have no excuse for

saying anything at all."
"Oh, you may preach a little. But in this particular instance you must make Rathbone stern and inflexible, cruel, if need be. You needn't be afraid of its effect upon the girl. She will condone anything he may have to do-it's a way girls have." He looked at her narrowly and then the film of abstraction came

between. "I wonder_if you really mean that? Are women so ready to condone?" Her laugh was mocking. "You make me blush for you," she said. "Isn't an author supposed to know more about us than we know about

ourselves? "I don't know about the supposition. But the man who knows

heart of one woman-" She stopped him with a little gesture of impatience.

"Tell me what it is you don't know and I'll turn traitor and betray my

At that his gaze went beyond her again and he said: "I wonder if you "Try me and see."

He hesitated a moment, and then plunged into the depths of it.

"Then tell me this: If Rathbone should go on and do all the hard things you say his character calls for—things which Priscilla believes to be wrong—would she put her con-science aside and stand with him?" Miss Grierson's reply was brief and

ery much to the point. "A woman in love has no con-The man she loves has furnish enough of that commodity

Griswold winced. "What a merciless little cynic you are," he

clared. "It is true, and when you are saying true things where is the use of taking the roundabout way. I don't say the woman wouldn't be hurt. She would be, and the hurt might turn up afterward in a way to make the man sorry. But that has nothing to do with the fact that a woman's conscience can't hold its own against her love."

Griswold shook his head in deprecation. "I don't like to believe that. I'd like to believe that a man may go on making a good woman's con science the touchstone by which his own conceptions of right and wrong may be corrected."

Margery laughed lightly. And so you may, if you don't first go about to make the woman love you. But you can't eat your cake and have it Griswold folded his manuscript and

put it back in the envelope. Then he said what was in his mind. These are generalities, Margery.

Would you be that loyal to the man you loved?" Miss Grierson's shrug was barely perceptible.

"I like that," she said. "That is certainly personal enough." And then: "You mustn't endow me with a conscience. "Why?"

in the general distribution of things good but unhappy. I am afraid the question I ask oftenest is whether I want the thing hard enough to try to get it." "As if anyone would believe that

"Because I think it was denied me

But afterward, when he came to think of it, the thin edge of belief found a crevice and would not be denied its entrance thereta. [To Be Continued.]

He Meant Well,

I was laid up in the cabin of a North The first open confession of this Carolina mountaineer with a sprained change of creed came when the threat of a strike rose storm-cloud like on the istrike rose storm-cloud have provided me with the best, the fare consisted of pones, fried squirrel and corn coffee every meal.

On the fifth day I must have let slip some sign that things were growing monotonous, for he looked over at me

"Stranger, I reckoned to make a change in this yere fodder, but it didn't come about. "Oh, the fodder is all right," I re-

"But I don't skassly think it is, and was gwine to make a change. Sorry to say I couldn't do it, but the dratted woodchuck got clean away!"—Philadelphia Press.

A Strange Hobby,

The principal hobby of the ex-queen regent of Spain is collecting of playing cards. She possesses a large number She possesses a large number of curious packs, many of which have no little historical interest. One set, made of ivory, is believed to have belonged to Prince Eugene, who fought with the great Duke of Marlborough, and to have accompanied him in all his campaigns. Queen Christina also owns some exceedingly rare cards of Egyptian, Arabian, French and Spanish manufacture.—N. Y. Sun.

Wise Precaution.

"It is always advisable to know what business a man is in when he proposes marriage to you," said the blond.
"Why so?" asked the brunette.

"A man once gave me an engage ment ring and, of course, I was curious to know what it had cost.

"Well, I went to a jeweler's to inquire what was the value, and I found the man who gave me the token be-hind the counter."—Yonkers States-

"Sporty" Treasury Clerks.

Iowa Man, for the Good of the Service, Has Instituted Some Notable Moral Reforms in His Department.

[Special Washington Letter.]

THERE is a black sheep in every flock. There is an Arnold or an Iscariot for every age and Eation. There is a dead fly for every ointment.

All along the shores of the great ocean of life, driven far upon the beaches of the coasts, are the wrecks and remnants of those whose embarkation seemed to be under the benignant rays of the very star of hope. They seemed to take the tide at the flood, being led on to fortune. But, alas, they knew not the shallows, shoals and quicksands of life. Each life needs a separate and accurate chart, because each is set in a different current.

Just as a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump, so one pervert or misdirected entity malodors a whole class or caste. The embezzling, absconding Sunday school superintendent taints an honorable hundred thousand zealous workers for morality and_religion. In like manner the thousands who serve the government in the executive departments of the national capital have their reputation injured by perverts in their midst; albeit the ber of those who walk not in the straight and narrow way is small
It is so in all ages, and climes

Even the brilliant Cassius was an office holder reputed "to have itching palm." During President During President Jackson's incumbency some government clerks failed to pay their board class a bad bills, and gave their name. In those days it was easy for any citizen to see the president, so one landlady called and informed the president that an employe of the patent office owed her for two months' board. The president told the lady to go and get the young man's note for 30 days. That was easy. When she brought it back to the white house, the president took it and wrote his name on the back Handing it back to his caller, he said: "Put that note in bank, and if the young man don't pay it I will." It was paid by the young man, of course; and the news of it went all over the city, so that thereafter government clerks became accustomed to paying all of their debts.

During recent years government clerks have been given a bad name locally, because a sufficient number of them have been indulging in gambling to give cause for general sus-picion. This condition of affairs was emphasized recently when the disbursing officer of the census office was found short in his accounts, in the sum of upwards of \$8,000; when this criminal lapse was lowed by the discovery of a shortage of a similar amount in the ac counts of the disbursing officer of an executive department. Inasmuch as the paying officials of all of the de-partments have to get their cash from the treasury department, that department naturally made inquiry into preceding conditions which led up to these defalcations. It was discovered that in both cases the fiduciary officials had been betting the races, and that their gambling propensities had ultimately them to reach into the government coffers and take the moneys intrust-

ed to their honor. Although the laws against gam-



SECRETARY SHAW.

District of Columbia, to the extent of the ability of the responsible of ficials, there are games and games. Quite a number of clubs are protected by their charters, and gambling for high stakes is indulged in. There are secret games in various parts of the city. But across the river, up the river and down the river there are places within easy access by small boats, but too remote to war-rant constant surveillance by the state officials of Maryland and Vir-

ginia. of course there are "open" poker rames, and an occasional "sweat games, and an occasional "sweat board" inside the city limits, known only to a select few. It is well un-derstood that the Chinamen have very quiet games of loo and fan tan. In the alleys and attics the colored folks have their crap games But it is along the river shores that

steam tug receives passengers for | tice incarnate.

GAMBLERS MUST GO. the round trip, the price being 15 cents. Every half hour the trip is made to Heath's place. The tug be-Secretary Shaw Makes War on longs to the proprietor of the gambling resort, and it alone brings him a constant revenue. As soon as a load is aboard the tug strikes right out into the stream, darts under Aqueduct bridge, up the middle of the stream, puffing along in the shadow of the spires and minarets of Georgetown university. The tug bears its burden of anxious human beings up to the wharf of the club

Scrambling ashore, all bent on winning, or of recouping for past losses, the modest, quiet-looking house is found to be a Babel of voices. "Forty-eight, 63, 9, 15, 20-Keno," is the first distinct utterance. The front door opens into the bar, and that



A PIKER'S GAME

shows a great head for the gambler in chief. He not only takes in money for drinks, but he starts his victims the games with their heads not bit too clear. Back of the bar is the poker room. On the second floor we find roulette and craps, the cheap gambling hell showing forth in all its glory. Keno and hazard are in a

oom to themselves.
There is a "piker's game," with chips at ten cents each, the management being willing to take car tickets at five cents each. The floor is covered with sawdust and sputum, the air reeking with the fumes of cheap tobacco, consumed in pipes or cheaper cigarettes. In these rooms the pale-faced department clerks touch elbows with collarless, oatless, evil-visaged people from whose presence they would shy even on street cars. The games are carried on from Saturday night until Those who have Monday morning. stayed about the place during that entire period, whether winners or losers, and usually losers, must reto their duties; and they are both physically and mentally for any kind of work.

It was with some knowledge of these conditions that the secretary of the treasury determined to strictly enforce the rules and regulations against gamblers. More than two months ago Secretary Shaw gave this matter his personal consideration. He determined that the great treasury departmined that the great reasury department, wherein great responsibility devolves upon every clerk, is no place for poker players and those inclined to general gambling. The clerks would not believe that the quiet, grave-looking man would have time or take time to look after them. But "sporty boys" were surprised one day to find that the salaries of three poker-playing clerks had been reduced, and that they had been sent to less responsible positions. One clerk had his salary reduced from \$1,800 per annum to \$1,000. His wife and children will have a better living now than they had when he was drawing more money, for he took nearly all of it to the gaming hells. But for their dependent families the clerks might have been discharged.

The examples thus made have been productive of good, for they have caused others who have been reckone clerk in the treasury continued to ay the races for high stakes, and was also known as an expert in picking vinners. He invented an alleged "sys-em" whereby the races could be successfully played by those who were un-informed concerning the merits of the horses. This system was advertised by circulars, the allegation being that "the inventor holds a prominent position in the treasury department."

The "sporty" clerk was drawing a

good salary, but his great "system" went so much wrong that he was obliged to go into debt, and he borrowed money from John J. Kleiner, a private banker here. When he failed to pay this indebtedness, Mr. Kleiner sent his bill to the department, inclosing the telltale circular. And the clerk with the system was removed. In pass ing, it may be of interest to many readers to know that Mr. Kleiner was for ten years a member of congress from Indiana, and that he was the foremost champion of the opening of the great Sioux reservation in Dakota territory.

This dismissal has had an effect which will be lasting, because throughout the great department there is now a feeling that the man at the helm knows how to deal with minute details of the department, as well as with the great problems which require state-

eraft. Secretary Shaw is a kindly-disposed. Christian gentleman, a religious man, temperance man, a church goer, and a worshiper of the living God. Albeit he has been severe with those who de-But it is along the river shores that the great games are to be found.

On the Virginia shore, between the Aqueduct bridge and Cabin John's bridge, is "Jack Heath's place," close to the water's edge, against a steep cliff accessible only by boat. At one of the Georgetown wharves a little steam the previous passengers for the great the great that the sever with those who deserve severity, he is gentle with those who deserve kindness. During the very period when he was disciplining the wrong-doers, he took the 'time to clerk, and he tempered for her justice with those who deserve kindness. During the very period when he was disciplining the wrong-doers, he took the 'time to clerk, and he tempered for her justice with mercy. He can be a severe with those who deserve kindness. During the very period when he was disciplining the wrong-doers, he took the 'time to clerk, and he tempered for her justice with mercy. He can be a severe with those who deserve kindness. SMITH D. FRY,