



BUILDING BLOCKS.

My there's lots of laughter
Just in building blocks;
Peals of happy laughter—
Now your castle rocks!



CHAPTER XV.—CONTINUED.

Once again the show of hands was unanimous, and Number Two having made fitting acknowledgment, the serious business of the meeting was commenced.

year to each of us, and to do as you propose would be to kill the goose that lays the golden egg, and for a paltry thousand apiece.

"Now listen to my plan, and if any of you think of a better one, I'll be glad enough to hear it. I've arranged that there shall be something of a ceremony on the occasion of the handing over of the money to the strike committee.

"What do you think of the plan, gentlemen? You see, we manage the business without incurring any great suspicion or running much risk, and we put a clear thousand apiece into our pockets.

"Your'e a genius!" said Councillor Number Six. "Wasn't I right, mates, when I said he was cut out for our chief?"

"Easy, my friend—easy!" put in Number Two, as I shall still continue to call him.

"Two out of the three must be Hubbock and myself, who can go out of the house unsuspected. The other must be one of you three gentlemen, but we shall have to go very carefully to work to smuggle him out.

"Yes," said Number Six bluntly, "and it would be too bad if Mr. Hubbock lost hisself when he'd once got his hands on the money. I'm a bit of a stickler for what's gentlemanly myself, but it's surprising how bad one's memory gets when there is a matter of £5,000

asking some one to put it in his pocket, and forget his way home again."

"Not so much of the 'thief,' please, unless you're speaking for yourself," retorted the fellow. Then, grumbling something under his breath about "the boss being in a hurry to put on the pot," he proceeded somewhat sulkily to do as he was told.



DURING THE MEAL HE TOLD ME.

slips several half-sheets of paper, one of which was marked with an X, he tossed them into a hat and shook them all up together.

"You've got to play Jonah this journey," yelled Number Six, slapping me on the back; "but don't sink the ship if you can help it, old man. We want to see that £1,000 apiece in our pockets first."

CHAPTER XVI. NUMBER TWO AND MYSELF JOURNEY TO LONDON TO ATTEND THE GREAT MEETING.

"You and I are going to travel up to town together, Number Seven," he said. "It will be best so, as in that case you'll pass as my friend, and no suspicion will attach to you."

"That sounds cleverish," I replied, "but I don't know what it means. However, I take it that you mean it complimentary, and that you want me to infer that you'd rather work with myself than with either of the other two upstairs."

"That's it," he said. "I was afraid I was going to draw 'the foreman'—I always call that glib rascal Number Six 'the foreman.' When he isn't insolent, he's cringing, and hang me if I know when I like him best or least!"

"I ought, I suppose, to have been flattered by Number Two's advances, but I was by no means certain whether his assumption of cordiality towards myself was not meant as much as a 'blind' as for any other reason. And even had I been convinced of his sincerity, I could not have brought myself to make friendly overtures to a man whom I was all the time planning to betray."

"During the meal he told me where the hall in which the meeting was to be held was situated. 'You had better go there direct,' he said, 'when we get to London. The care-taker won't be there till noon. He lives some little way off, and I've told him to stay in all the morning, as I'm calling to see him about the final arrangements, and I haven't time to go far east. But I've got a duplicate set of keys. Here they are. The switch, for turning the electric light on and off, is in the space between the double set of swing baize-covered doors. You'll see a little cupboard high up on the right. The key is always in it. Turn the light on and off several times, to make sure you understand it. There is a pair of round glass windows, about on a level with

your head, on the inner set of doors that lead into the hall. Watch the platform through them. You'll see me place the bag containing the cash on the table. When I put my hand on the top of my head, slip away at once, and turn off the light."

"And suppose there is a policeman or the care-taker there?" I asked. "They'll stand in the inner lobby, if so," was the reply. "The double set of spring doors was put there to keep out the noise of the street, as well as to keep out the draught. But they are placed inconveniently near together—the county council built the place, I expect; no one else would have done the thing so clumsily—and it's quite a work of art to pass in and out without getting a nasty clump from one or other of the swing doors."

"I understand," I said. "Am I to turn the light on again afterwards?" "No, I shouldn't trouble about that. If you should chance to be seen when turning off the light, and you went back to the place afterwards, you might get collared. The policeman, or the care-taker, or some one else can see to that. You'd best be off when you've turned on the total eclipse. You won't be able to get back here again to-night; but if you come tomorrow afternoon by the three o'clock train from St. Pancras, I shall be home by then, and will meet you with the trap. You'll be in time for the sharing up of the money. Now I think you have your sailing orders complete, and, if you have finished your breakfast, we'll be off to town."

"Arrived at St. Pancras, Number Two and I parted company, he perhaps to plan some new devilry, I to visit the hall where the meeting was to take place. It was a big red-brick building, lying back a few feet from a main street. In front was a graveled space with iron railings. On the right was a lattice-work wooden door opening upon a narrow passage that ran between the side of the hall and a high brick wall, and leading to the yard behind. It was upon this yard that the window immediately behind the platform looked, and here Hubbock was to post himself, in order to secure the bag containing the money, when it was thrown out."

[To Be Continued.]

A Yorkshireman undertook for a wager made in a tavern to eat a whole turkey and three pounds of sausages. The turkey was cooked and set before him. Slowly but relentlessly he got through it. Then the sausages; and here the excitement began.

"Surely he would break down at the second pound. Surely, surely—but no; gallantly, solidly, on he went, bite, bite, bite—the audience holding their breath—till the platter was clean. He received his money, took a glass of beer, and then, accompanied by a friend, set out for home. There was a strained silence between the two, till they were within sight of the victor's house, and then he opened his lips and spoke: "Say, Tom, don't tha say owt to ma missus about 't' turkey."

A constituent told Senator Spooner that an applicant for office possessed all the necessary qualifications. "He is endowed with common sense and will act with tact, for his head is well balanced." The senator thought well of his constituent, but did not wish to accommodate the office seeker. "There will be a session to-morrow. Bring your friend to the gallery," said the senator. During the dry speeches on the canal bill many left the gallery. But the constituent and his ambitious friend persevered, their nodding heads a token of indifference. "Your acquaintance does not come up to the standard of your recommendation," said Spooner, after the session. "No?" questioned the astonished constituent. "You said his head was 'well balanced.' No well poised head would nod and droop so decisively as your friend's did this afternoon."—Detroit Free Press.

Once upon a time there was a man who was traveling in foreign parts, and who found in an out of the way heathen temple an idol that was unique in form and construction. He knew that it was a great curiosity, and after a long bargaining with the priests in charge of it succeeded in getting them to sell it to him for a small amount of money.

Then he took it to his own country, where a different sort of idol was worshipped, and it attracted a great deal of attention as a very curious find. A wealthy banker who heard of the idol took a long journey to see it, and was so impressed that he offered the owner a very large sum of money for it, and immediately became its possessor.

Moral—Idol curiosity may be of great value.—N. Y. Herald.

A Common Weakness. Dr. Joseph Le Conte was an authority, recognized by the world at large, on the science of vision. One day he was showing a class how to detect the blind spot in the human eye. He took two coins and held them, one in each hand, before him on the table. "Look at both of these steadily," said he, "and gradually move them in opposite directions. Presently they will pass beyond the range of vision. That is due to the blind spot. Continue the movement, and the coins will again emerge to view."

Matter-o'-Money. An amusing method of securing the marriage of his five daughters has been adopted by a wealthy tradesman in Berlin. As suitors were not apparently inclined to seek the hands and affections of the daughters, the father advertised that he would pay to the accepted suitor of each daughter a dowry in cash proportionate to the weight of the selected damsel immediately after the wedding ceremony. A young lawyer was the first who submitted himself for the father's approval, and, having produced satisfactory evidence as to his respectability, he was presented to the daughters. He visited them for a week, and then chose the stoutest of the five, to whom he was married. When the ceremony was over the lady was weighed and registered 17 stone, the father immediately paying over to his son-in-law a sum of 13,000 crowns.—Westminster Gazette.

Got the Right Kind. Gainesville, Texas, Feb. 22nd.—Mrs. L. E. Burton of 507 Glad street, this city, writes the following letter:—"I have been awfully troubled with my Kidneys. I was in a bad fix and had been doctoring with the Doctors, but was getting no better. I tried a remedy called Dodd's Kidney Pills and I found they did me lots of good. I had a slight return of my trouble and I went to the Drug Store and called for Dodd's Kidney Pills. They said there was no such pills. I told them there was. They said they had the best pills that were made and persuaded me to try a box of another kind, not Dodd's. As I needed some medicine, I bought a box, but they did me no good, so I went elsewhere and got the real Dodd's Kidney Pills, and very soon was completely cured. I took a box up to the Drug Store and showed them that there was such pills and asked them to order some, but as I haven't needed any more I haven't called to see whether or not they got them."

Young men think old men fools, and old men know young men to be so.—Metcalf.

Stops the Cough. and works off the cold. Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. Price 25 cents.

To see what is right and not to do it is want of courage.—Confucius.

On Pneumatic Casters. The rapid multiplication of motor-carriages has created a demand for experienced drivers or chauffeurs, and schools of training have been established to fit men for receiving the license which the law requires. An automobile expert in charge of one of these schools says that an applicant recently entered and approached him. "I want to take lessons," he said, "to fit myself to be a chauffeur."

Billion Dollar Grass. When the John A. Salzer Seed Co., of La Crosse, Wis., introduced this remarkable grass three years ago, little did they dream it would be the most talked of grass in America, the biggest, quick, hay producer on earth, but this has come to pass. Agr. Editors wrote about it, Agr. College Professors lectured about it, Agr. Institute Orators talked about it, while in the farm home by the quiet fireside, in the corner grocery, in the village post-office, at the creamery, at the depot, in fact wherever farmers gathered, Salzer's Billion Dollar Grass, that wonderful grass, good for 5 to 14 tons per acre and lots of pasture besides, is always a theme worthy of the farmer's voice.

Then comes Bromus Inermis, than which there is no better grass or better permanent hay producer on earth. Grows wherever soil is found. Then the farmer talks about Salzer's Teosinte, which will produce 100 stocks from one kernel of seed, 11 ft. high, in 100 days, rich in nutrition and greedily eaten by cattle, hogs, etc., and is good for 80 tons of green food per acre. Victoria Rape, which can be grown at 25c a ton, and Speltz at 20c a bu., both great food for cattle, also come in for their share in the discussion. [K. L.]

Nothing More Dangerous Than Cutting Corns. The FOOT-EASE SANITARY CORN PLASTERS cure by absorption. Something entirely new. The sanitary oils and vapors do the work. Ask your Druggist to-day. Large box sent by mail for 25 cents in stamps. Sample mailed FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y. Vanity makes a cheap chameleon feel like an oil painting.—Chicago Daily News.



Mrs. Elizabeth H. Thompson, of Lillydale, N. Y., Grand Worthy Wise Templar, and Member of W. C. T. U., tells how she recovered from a serious illness by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I am one of the many of your grateful friends who have been cured through the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and who can to-day thank you for the fine health I enjoy. When I was thirty-five years old, I suffered severe backache and frequent bearing-down pains; in fact, I had womb trouble. I was very anxious to get well, and reading of the cures your Compound had made, I decided to try it. I took only six bottles, but it built me up and cured me entirely of all my troubles. My family and relatives were naturally as gratified as I was. My niece had heart trouble and nervous prostration, and was considered incurable. She took your Vegetable Compound and it cured her in a short time, and she became well and strong, and her home to her great joy and her husband's delight was blessed with a baby. I know of a number of others who have been cured of different kinds of female trouble, and am satisfied that your Compound is the best medicine for sick women."—MRS. ELIZABETH H. THOMPSON, Box 105, Lillydale, N. Y.

Thousands upon thousands of women throughout this country are not only expressing such sentiments as the above to their friends, but are continually writing letters of gratitude to Mrs. Pinkham, until she has hundreds of thousands of letters from women in all classes of society who have been restored to health by her advice and medicine after all other means had failed.

Here is another letter which proves conclusively that there is no other medicine to equal Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I suffered with poor health for over seven years; not sick enough to stay in bed, and not well enough to enjoy life and attend to my daily duties properly. I was growing thin, my complexion was sallow, and I was easily upset and irritable. One of my neighbors advised me to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and I procured a bottle. A great change for the better took place within a week, and I decided to keep up the treatment. Within two months I was like a changed woman, my health good, my step light, my eyes bright, my complexion vastly improved, and I felt once more like a young girl. I wonder now how I ever endured the misery. I would not spend another year like it for a fortune. I appreciate my good health, and give all the praise to Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound."—MRS. M. TRILLA, 407 Haberstein St., Savannah, Ga.

Mrs. PINKHAM has on file thousands of such letters.

\$5000 FORFEIT if we cannot forthwith produce the original letters and signatures of above testimonials, which will prove their absolute genuineness. Lydia E. Pinkham Med. Co., Lynn, Mass.

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