

The Hollow Ruby.

By JULIAN HAWTHORNE.

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CHAPTER II.

"Hallo, my son! Just ready for you," said Meryon.

"Honored lord, the prince commands your presence?" quavered the boy, excitedly twisting together his slender fingers.

"Something was wrong, Meryon recognized the need of restoring Ebal's confidence by preserving a bold front."

"Don't you fret, Ebal, my jewel; neither of us is going to quit this sinful and hollow life for sixty or seventy years to come, at least."

"I wish we were there, mightily lord," Ebal, whose black eyes had slowly expanded while he swallowed this information.

"Well, pack your grip, for we shall be starting before long, all three of us. Hand me that necktie, you two—no, the gold one—I'm out for blood this morning!"

"Thus did the young American go forth to battle. In one way the fight was an unequal one and no one knew it better than he.

"He stroiled with an insolent air towards that part of the palace buildings in which the prince's apartments lay. As he passed through the various courts, halls and corridors he was the object of a good deal of curious scrutiny."

"In the prince's ante-room was a knot of courtiers and attendants, Hatipha among them. His unseemly visage wore a grimace of awe which he had caught Meryon's eye, and as if some lift had got noticed of his being in difficulties."

"Well, how is the old pudding this morning?" the American inquired, sweetly. "It mustn't forget its supporters or its managers, Waddie, in and tell his highness I desire to see him at once on particular business."

The boldness of the rebuke startled

all present, but all except Hatipha himself were manifestly pleased. The head eunuch is seldom a popular personage in any place, and he had in this instance fewer friends than the average. But Meryon's blood was getting up, and he would have chastised the grand vizier himself had that functionary bit his thumb at him.

He entered the royal presence close upon Hatipha's footsteps, thus depriving the latter of the opportunity of re-

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This year the Republican majority was 12,000. The total vote of the state having increased in the meanwhile from 485,000 to 525,000.

Some Famous Instruments. A recent writer in an Italian paper gives some interesting details concerning famous musical instruments.

As to Locomotive Building. No American company built half as many locomotives in 1884 as in 1885, and only the smaller builders were able to keep within a third of the output recorded for 1884.

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Decl. Lack. and Western. Trains leave Scranton as follows: Express for New York and all points East, 1:40, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00 and 9:55 a.m.; 12:55 and 1:50 p.m.

Train leaves Scranton for Philadelphia and New York, via D. & H. R. R., 12:55 a.m., 2:30, 5:15, 8:00 and 9:55 a.m.; 12:55 and 1:50 p.m.

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