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SYNOPSIS. Thenarrator is a defaulter to the amount The narrator is a defaulter to the amount of £50,000. Just at the moment when he was in despair, and further concealment seemed impossible, Mr. Meldon, the trusted cashier of a leading bank, called upon him, elicited a full confession, acknowledged himself a defaulter also, for an immense sum, and finally proposed the defaulters' protective league. The other readily agreed. A considerable company of defaulters on a large scale are to furnish to anyone of their number the funds he needs whenever his accounts are under examination—the money to be returned, of examination—the money to be returned, of course, They are also to establish a "mo-nopoly of defaication," and ruthlessly crush all petty operations. The narrator thereupon marries Margaret, a noble-minded girl whom he sincerely loves, but has much ado to conceal the truth from her clear, honest eyes. He is very wretched. Then a sudden danger arises. Mr. Meldon has called, and is speaking.

PART II. "There is an unexpected peril threat-

ening us." he said, when we were alone in the library. "One of our friends is preparing to abscond." One of the members?" I asked.

"Yes, he is hundreds of thousands short and is infatuated with an actress He wants to take \$100,000 and fly." "But does he fear detection if he re-

"No, but his wife has learned of the



Preparing to Abscond.

Exposure of his liason would result in his removal. Don't you see?"

This was indeed serious. What is to be done?" I asked. "The very question I came to ask

you," said Meldon.
"Could this actress be bought off?" "How?" retorted my companion "We would only expose ourselves to her. What do you say to killing her?" This made my blood run cold. Murder was anything but congenial. "I will think it over," I answered,

means at hand to cover up that man's stealings if he flies. Indeed, the death of any member of our combination would be serious.

I could see that he was intensely perturbed. His face wore a haggard look, and his calm, self-satisfied air had left him. I got alarmed for him and did my best to soothe his agitation. When he had gone, his suggestion about murder gave me a new idea. Much as I loved Margaret., nay, precisely because I loved her, I would rather she and I were dead than be dishonored in her eyes. The project broched by Meldon turned my thoughts in a new direction. Could I not kill Margaret and myself? It was a last resort should affairs reach a crisis.

This thought seemed from that hour

to haunt me. It was in my mind when Meldon visited me the next evening.
"Do you think," said he, "you could manage to interview this actress without arousing suspicions? After all, she may prove pliable, and it is our only

"Who is she?" I asked. "Gladys Blake."

The name gave me a new self-loathing. It was that of a beautiful, debased creature with whom I had had associa tions that I was not at all anxious to renew. But I simply had to see her, "I will try," I answered, quietly. "You are simply invaluable," replied

my mentor. "Do so at once."
I had no difficulty in seeing the fair enslaver of a financier, but the consequences were disgustingly absurd. She received me in the most appreciative nanner and immediately began to talk of other days. This gave me a new key of the situation. Perhaps it would be possible to win this creature away from our susceptible fellow conspirator without compromising an organiza-

I will pass the hideous days that ensued. Within a week I had installed the creature in superb apartments. I. a young man in the twenties, married and passionately in love with my wife, now led a double life. Meldon was in ecstacles. The elder defaulter who had so nearly ruined us was compara-

Why is it that the noblest impulses in our fellow creatures are so often rces of the most exquisite torture? My double life had not endured a month pefore I learned that Gladys Blake loved me dearly. It seemed to be the

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one last drop in a filled cup of bitter ness. She had no idea that I was now married. I found new depths in her and a capacity for good I never sus

pected. "Dearest," she said, one night, "I am tempted at times to regret the past

Yet, for your sake, I am glad." I looked at her in mute inquiry. "As it is," she said, "you will never marry me. Were it otherwis might, and thus ruin your life." Were it otherwise you

Gladys aroused my interest in spite of myself at times. I was furious at the situation she had brought about by falling in love with me; but I mus do her the justice to say that she never forced herself upon me, and was always considerate and patient. I had hoped there would be a train of admirers and that it would be a contest of purses, in which I felt sure of victory But to punish me, it proved altogether different.

"Why should you not marry me?" asked. "Becaus I love you, dear," she an-

swered, tenderly.

The matter was becoming absurd and that very absurdity made me internally rebellious. I left her and went home to Margaret. Here again my life was a hell. I could not be the same any more. Instead of that, I made her cry and cry, and then soothed her into calm by declaring that I loved her. I wondered how others managed these

plications to deal with in his early man-Thus the hideous life went on until could endure it no longer. I determined to give Gladys up. But how tell The wound would be very painful. Meldon was thrown into the most violent alarm when I made known my

matters so easily. Meldon told me once that he had had even worse com-

determination. "You'll ruin us, my boy," said he. 'She'll go back to that old fool." I was not to be shaken. Meldon be came profane and cursed all faithful

husbands heartily.
"Gladys," said I, that evening, "you know I am not rich."

She smiled. said. Besides, I gain it, as you know. My manager says this has been my best season. Can I be of service to you?" I almost cursed aloud in my humilia-

tion at these words. "It isn't that," I managed to reply "I cannot maintain you, dear, but l will not let you maintain me."

For a minute she looked in silence at "I cannot believe you do not care for me," she said at last. "You have done too much for me to let me doubt your sentiments. Will you not let me prove my affection in my turn? May I not lend you money? You may return it

when you please. She had put a roll of bills in my hand before I knew what she was about. "I cannot accept your proposition," answered, putting the money away

For the first time she seemed to lose

self command. "You will not let me do you a service?"

"Not of that nature," was my reply. "Does that mean that you really do

not care for me?" "I cast down my eyes without replying. In another moment I was encircled by her left arm, and her right hand had plunged a dagger into my breast. I knew that my only safety lay in utter 'non-resistance. Lombroso,

his wonderful pathological studies, has revealed the effect upon murderesses of this course. My intuition did no betray me. In a moment she had withdrawn her weapon, and was kissing me tenderly. My blood laved us both.

"Why do you madden me?" she said, when I had arisen and was dressing my wound, more painful than serious. was forced to remain in a hospital bed that night, but when I reached home or the following evening I noticed for the first time, a change in Margaret. It was so marked that I felt certain she had in some way been made aware of



"I Was \$200,000 Short."

my double life. The question that suggested itself was this: Did she know of Gladys, or had her discovery to do with my defalcation? I could not de-

So a new element of pain came into my life. My old sweet communion with Margaret was forever at an end.

I finally resolved to abandon the hole imbroglio. Discovery and deection were better than this. I could only get ten years at most. As for killing Margaret, the deed was one I could not bring myself to. Suicide I had not

courage for. Of course, Meldon was furious. He raved and swore madly when I definitely refused to implicate myself in any nore of the defaulters' league's enter-

"Do you mean to turn informer?" he

"No, but I intend to let discovery overtake me. I will confess my own crime, but I will implicate no one else." Meldon left me after making threats

o which I paid no attention. Well, detection came. There were rregularities in my accounts which I refused to explain, simply because I could not. I merely told the president of the bank that I was \$200,000 short. Then ensued a sensation, but not quite of the nature I had expected. I was placed under arrest.

The next morning I found, by the Donn's kidney fills are certainly a surprising discovery for kidney allments. I shall be glad to tell anyone of the wonderful cure they performed for me.

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Mailed by Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the U. S. could not. I merely told the president of the bank that I was \$200,000 short. Then ensued a sensation, but not quite of the nature I had expected. I was

newspapers, that I had been adjudged a lunatic. A very circumstantial story was printed to the effect that constant brooding over the cases of defaulters had made a young bank clerk—myself—crazy. I had then told the president of the institution that I was a defaulter in a heavy sum. An imme diate investigation followed, and the funds were found intact. Mr. Meldon was particularly prominent in the affair. He was quoted, as my friend, to the effect that I had talked wildly about defaulters at various times. I instantly divined what Meldon had

ione. The league had made good my shortage without taking me into their plan. When my confession came I was adjudged mad, for the bank's funds were intact. I am still in the asylum to which I

was sent. The league must be flourishing still. I never said anything to implicate others than myself. As for Margaret and all the persons of my old life, I dare not think of them. For the thought of Margaret maddens me, and then I am put in irons.

(The End.)

M'KINLEY'S LOYALTY.

man at the Expense of His Own Chances for the Presidency. In the new life of William McKinley

which has just ben put on the market from the pen of Robert P. Porter, editor of the Cleveland World, an incident of the Chicago convention of 1888 is related in the shape of a letter from ex-Attorney General John Little, of Xenia O. Mr. Little states that Major Mc-Kinley always refused him permission before to tell the story. The incident is

thus quoted: "Those who attended the Republican National convention of 1888 will not fail to remember the frequent manifestations of friendship toward William McKinley from its very beginning. During its six days' continuance he was usually among the first to reach his seat and the last to leave it. Whether his purpose was to avoid conspicuity I could not say; but if so he could not have better have accomplished his design. Still, hurried as were his steps to his seat, his entrance when discovered was the signal for a cheer. Every day at Ohio headquarters, and more and more as the week wore away, delegates from all parts of the country asked; "Why not nominate McKin-

Turning to McKinley. "When the balloting began, occasion al votes were thrown for him. These were received in the convention and in the galleries with marked favor. They increased as the balloting went on until he, with Sherman's concurrence, arose in his seat and made that short eloquent appeal, destined to live in the literature of conventions, in which he urged — almost — commanded — those throwing their votes for him to desist. Commissioned by the Republicans of Ohlo to promote the nomination of Mr. Sherman, he felt he could not honorably sit quietly and receive votes merely complimentary in character. This manly speech did not have the effect intended. The vote continued. If anything, it quickened the interest of the convention in its author. Talk of his nomination about the hotels then became more earnest. Particularly was this the case at the Grand Pacific. where he and others of the Ohio dele gates stopped. This caused him much annovance and discomfort, along about

Saturday, as I know. "Just after midnight of the Sunday before final adjournment on Monday. he took my arm at the Sherman headquarters in that hotel and requested me was going. I asked no questions, but went. He led the way to the rooms of the New Jersey delegation in the same building. On entering he at once inquired for the chairman of the delegation. He was brought in from an adjoining room, and after the usual greetings-they were old acquaintances -the following colloquy took place. It deeply impressed me and I think I give

it almost word for word.

McKinley's Effective Oratory. "Addressing the chairman by name— and this I do not recall—Mr. McKinley said: 'I have just been informed that your delegation has determined to cast its solid vote for me tomorrow, and called to inquire whether this true."

"'I do not wish to give you a short answer, major,' responded the chairman, 'but whether true or not it is a matter of our own concern. We act on our own responsibility in determining how we shall cast our vote, being accountable only to the Republicans of New Jersey for what we do.

"'I beg your pardon,' warmly responded the major, with a face some what flushed, 'allow me to say that it is not a matter of your own concern alone. It deeply concerns me, and I feel that it is my right to know your purpose. I am sure you will not deny

"'No, no, replied the chairman 'since you are so earnest about it. I see no impropriety in saying to you that we William McKinley, jr., of Ohio, for

A Professional Nurse Afflicted with Bright's Disease of the Kidneys Finds a Cure. (From the Buffalo News.)

Mrs. A. E. Taylor has resided in Buf-falo for over forty years, her address is 250 Herkimer avenue; as a professional nurse she has nursed back to health standard series of the series of the kidneys in the factor was a professional nurse she has nursed back to health many a sufferer. Disease in all its varied forms have become as familiar to her as to the regular practitioner. Her occupation is one that taxes the strongest constitution, but the fatigue of long watching and nursing at last brought her to a bed of sickness. Mrs. Taylor speaks of her complaint and cure as follows: "After being confined to my bed for some time my disease assumed such a serious aspect that a doctor was called in. He pronounced my allment Bright's disease of the kidneys in the third degree and a very bad case. My limbs swelled up so that I could not walk across the floor, or, indeed, help myself in any way. My face bloated up and my eyes swelled so that the sight was badly impaired. This condition continued for nearly two months without any marked improvement from the doctor's treatment. I have taken quarts of buchu and juniper. I tried battery treatment, but all without any lasting benefit until I felt like finally giving up in despair. Hearing of Doan's Kidney Pills I gave them a trial, and after taking three boxes I was able to get up without assistance and walk, something I had not done in months. I continued to steadily improve with their use. The swelling in my leg left, the color returned to my face, changing from a chalky color to a healthy bloom. I now consider myself entirely cured and I shall never rest praising the little pill that sayed me.

"Doan's Kidney Pills are certainly a "Doan's Kidney Pills a

"Doan's Kidney Pills are certainly a

self held to responsibility for it. His voice was subdued to suit the surroundings, and somewhat tremulous from ex-citement. It rang out but once and that was at the close. Speaking of receiving votes for himself as he was situated,

will be in death-I seem even now to hear his ringing words: "'Rather than that, I would suffer the loss of that good right arm! Yes, I would suffer death! To accept a nomillow He Remained True to Senator Shernation, if one were possible, under these circumstances, would inevitably lead to my defeat, and it ought to lead to my defeat!" The last clause was uttered slowly and with great emphasis.

raising his right arm, he said with

clinched fist and face as white as it

Carried Ilis Point. "This short speech, made in the small nours of the night to less than a dozen auditors, has since seemed to me the most eloquent utterances I ever heard. At any rate, I have no recollection of being myself so moved. At its conclusion I turned from the light to conceal ny own emotions. The stillness which followed seemed to me long, and was broken by the chairman, who said: Well, major, if that is the way you view it, of course, we will not vote for

Kinley. 'You don't know what relief that assurance gives me. Now that you have so kindly granted my request, let me make another of you.'
"'What is it?' queried the chairman.

"That you cast your vote for Mr. Sherman tomorrow. We have now strong hopes of his nomination, was

GOOL SHORT STORIES.

Here is a s. about a member of par-liament well known for his knowledge about all questions of finance. This wise statesman was approached by a rep-utable-looking man, who said, with a deferential but not servile manner. "Ex-

"I am," said the member of parliament, with affable dignity.
"I believed you are well informed upon all financial questions?" "My friends and the press are kind nough to say so.'

"You have given much attention to the subject, I think?"
"More than to anything else." "And no doubt you could give a sat-isfactory answer to almost any ques-tion I might ask?"

The member saw that he was being in-terviewed, and wished to say something that would look well in print. "Perhaps, I could, if it were in the power of any man," he answered.
"Well, I have a question of finance that

should be greatly pleased if you would inswer to my satisfaction." "Very good. What is it?" you lend me a sovereign for a The member of parliament produced the

George!" he said, afterward, "he could have caught me for five just as well, if he had only known it!"Tid-Bits.

The Bluff Worked.

cropped out in a certain law office yes-terday afternoon, while a knot of attor-neys were commenting upon the portraits prominent Milwaukecans in a recent work on Milwaukee. Mr. Merrill's like-ness was reached when one of the gentlenen, in relating anecdotes of the trouble

he had on the St. Paul road.

Mr. Merrill had discharged the conductor half a dozen times and quite regularly tor half a dozen times and quite regularly reinstated him. On this particular occa-sion the conductor had been stimmoned and entered the room in fear and trepida-tion. He found the general manager glowing with rage, and was speedily in-formed that his services were not needed onger, and tha this time his dismissal

was for good. "What's the matter this time?" ventured the culprit.
"It's this," blurted the general manager:

"I'm tired of listening to stories of my conductors buying \$1,500 diamonds on \$1,000 salary." "I suppose this is the diamond you re-fer to Mr. Merrill," returned the quick-witted conductor, pointing to a small headlight in his shirt front.
"I suppose so," assented the irate-man-

"Well," continued the conductor calm-"Well," continued the conductor calming, as he proceeded to unfasten the gem, "you may have it for \$2."

That settled the conductor with Mr. Merrill and he never received another reprimand. Mr. Merrill used to relate the incident at times, never for a moment sus-pecting the bluff and that the stone had really cost \$1,500 as he had heard,—Mil-

Drunker Than They Were.

Bishop Paret, of Baltimore, tells a good story at his own expense. He was recently on a train, and near him sait two drunken men. Presently one of the men, with a forcible expletive, remarked to the other that some one had robbed him of a \$20 bill. His friend remarked: "Oh, I guess not; you must have it about you somewhere." But the other insisted he hadn't, and that he had the bill when he came aboard the train; some one robbed him, and he proposed to find if he had to search the whole crowd. "As it happened," says Bishop Paret, "I had a \$20 bill, and that was all, and as I was the nearest man to them, and the first likely to be approached, I felt a little uncomfortable. Then it occurred to me to pretend to be asleep. Sure enough, in a minute more I was accosted with, 'I say neighbor!' but I made ho answer. Then the man grabbed my arm and shoole me, but to no use, as I didn't wake up. He kept on shaking, however, and always a little more forcibly, until at last his friend interposed with: 'I say, Bill, let him alone, will you; he's drunker'n you are!"—New York Tribune.

Melba as a Good Fairy.

Melba as a Good Fairy.

When Melba was here in October, it will be remembered, she had much to say of a young English woman, Miss Bennett, her companion and secretary. Melba told the reporters how much she loved Miss Bennett, and the reporters told the public, which thrilled more by the fact that Melba loved, than that Melba loved the unknown Miss Bennett. But now that young woman has suddenly gained a wonderful interest; for she has been the heroine of a true adventure which is more like a fairy story than people often run against these days. And it is so romantic! The singer's charming companion and secretary was all the more charming to her because in love with a poor young Englishman, for poverty, we suppose, is a kind of fabled joke to Melba. So she kept the disconsolate malden by her and gave her no hope, while secretly she wrote to the young Englishman to come to New York at her expense and spend the holidays with his sweetheart. Well, of course he came; and when it was time for him to go back, Melba said he should take his sweetheart with him as his wife! And then Miss Bennett became the heroine of the dream that was all true. Melba bought the trousseau for her; Melba gave to her the wedding, and the archbishop pronounced the benediction and the bride wore "white satin with duchesse lace and orange blossoms, and an encompassing cloud of tuille." And then Melba gave to the couple a wedding breakfast in the white and gold private suite of the Savoy; and above them, where they received, was a marriage bell of white roses, and lidden in the flowers of the round table were tiny incandescent lamps that shore like fire-flees, or the stars on fairy spears.

president, from now on to the end, and we shall not be alone.'

"I will not attempt to quote the response. It was short, not occupying more than three or four minutes in delivery and addressed to all the delegates present. He tersely spoke of Mr. Sherman's acknowledged fitness for the presidency, of the desire Ohio long entertained to see him in that exalted place, of himself having accepted the trust of delegate-at-targe to aid in accomplishing his nomination, of his purpose expressed in open convention in that regard which he still entertained, of the discredit that would necessarily attach to his conduct if he now allowed his own name to be used in that connection, repudiating theidea that his nomination could occur without being himself held to responsibility for it. His

LAWYER AGAINST HIMSELF. Paid a Judgment of \$23.40 and Came Out \$6-60 Ahead of His Fee.

From the Chicago Chronicle. "Talking about lawyers," said the man from Wisconsin, as he placed his feet on the desk of the hotel waiting room and lighted a bad cigar, "we've got some beauts up our way.'

"How is that?" 'Why, they're out of sight," said the drummer. "Some of them would just skin these fellows in Chicago who think they are all the works. There is one lawyer in Menasha whose name is Max Schoetz, and he gets the big red apple. He sued himself a few weeks ago. "What did he charge himself with,

vagrancy?"

"No. I'll tell you how it was. in the old Third ward of Menasha, Bernard Kasel, who also represented the ward in the city council, used to run a horse fair every Saturday. The paddock was surrounded by a high and well-braced fence, against which the animals were leaned. One day a milk-man, who resided a mile or so out of town, drove up to Kasel's and entered the barroom. During his absence Schoetz, who was present, unhitched his horse and supplied its place with one of the equine curiosities from the paddock. He then went in and plied the milkman with drinks until he was proper. The ride home to the vender of drinks was a long one. It seemed to him that he had never traveled so slow before, but it was not until he had entered his own premises and his oldest son asked him where he got the "boneyard" that he discovered the trick that

had been played upon him. "It was nearly nightfall when he got back to Kasel's, but Schoetz and a crowd were waiting for him, and swore that he had traded horses that afternoon in their presence. They thought however, by paying a little "to boot" he might trade back. As the milkman's memory was a little musty on the events of the afternoon, and the evidence was so overwhelming, he swallowed the story and gladly paid \$15 to get his horse back. The next day, when he discovered the trick that had been played upon him, he was furious, and visiting Schoetz, informed him he in tended to at once commence an action against him for damages.

"'I have always been your attorney haven't I?" asked Schoetz.

"'Yes, sir,' replied his ex-client.
"'Did I ever lose you a case?' continued the lawyer. " 'No.'

"'Well, let me handle this, and sue myself." "The milkman agreed, and the trial took place the next day in Judge Mc-Cabe's court. Schoetz prosecuted him self, and the judge found a judgment against him for \$23.40, which he immediately paid. He then presented i counter bill against the milkman for \$30 attorney's fees, which was also im-

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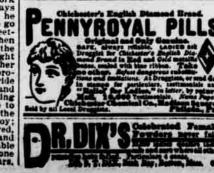
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WILLIAM TAYLOR AND SON



Conversation with a Great and Hone Scientific Man.

"The most remarkable machine in the world is the human body."
He was a Professor in a New York Medical College who declared this to a number of friends at the Club. Continuing he said:
"Take for example the heart. Did you ever stop to think that it works every minute of the life and never has a yacation or rest?"

vacation or rest?" "And then there are the kidneys, which have been truly called the 'filter of the body.' They separate every particle of liquid that passes from the body, except that which coses through the posses."

the pores."

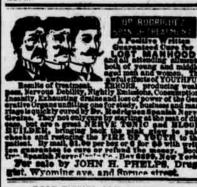
"Did it ever occur to you that this machine might wear out from overwork, over-taxation, over-exertion? And

work, over-taxation, over-exertion? And so it does in too many cases.

"For more than five hundred years the world and the medical profession groped in the dark for a remedy to sustain the kidneys, or cure them if they had become weakened or diseased, and it was only within the past twenty years that any remedy was found. Dr. Bright discovered the disease known as Bright's disease, but he could not and did not find a remedy. It remained for modern research to discover this remedy. We know it was a long search, but at last it was found, and that remedy. but at last it was found, and that rem-edy today, which is acknowledged as the only remedy for kidney troubles the weaknesses of women and Bright's disease itself, is Warner's Safe Cure, which is admitted by professional and scientific men throughout the entire world to be the great modern discovery.

and the only one for these troubles. This remedy is not an experiment It has been used for over twenty years in all parts of the world years in all parts of the world, and there are more than a milion persons in the universe today whose lives have been saved, or who been benefited by its use. It is a high standard, scientific preparation, as far above ordinary remedies for this Great Modern Disease as the oak is above the mushroom."

the mushroom."
"Where such serious things as the greatest organs of the body are congreatest organs of the body are con-cerned, no man and no woman can af-ford to take chances. "The best is the cheapest," and where health is involved it is absolutely beyond question that the most standard, the most scientific, and that which alone has been proved to be powerful and good, should be used."



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