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THE LONG PACK.

"Auntie, tell me a story," I said, as I sat with my maiden relative in a huge tapestried appartment in a ram-bling old-fashioned house in the coun-

"What kind of a story do you want, Harry?" she asked, "grave or gay, ture or untine, pleasant or sad? For my life has been long and my experiences many," she added, as she gazed dreamily and thoughtfully into the fire that blazed on the hearth before

I exclaimed as I drew near her side

watched her face in eager hope of the exciting tale that was coming.
I was about sixteen (Aunt Betsy be-

gan at last) when I was invited to go and stay with some relatives in Sussex, bave lived all my days-was some. stopped me. what monotonous. I was a lively girl then and, with delight at the prospect of a change of scene, I looked anx to me alive, and twice I have fancied liberation the desired permission was have been in to look at it. given; so, early one morning, accomplenty of rooms of all sizes and descriptions. I can recall so well the great entrance hall. It was of immense size and gloomy, and from it ascended a wide staircase which led to an open gallery above. During her face, my stay with my Sussex friends Mr. "What and Mrs. Oldham went to spend a few days at a gentleman's bouse a few miles distant from their own, and it was while they were absent that the alarming occurrence I am about to relate to you took place. The house-hold consisted of the butler and four maid servants. The coachman, who lived in a cottage on the grounds about a quarter of a mile distant, was now absent with his master and mistress. The butler was a pompous, stately, middle-aged man, given somewhat to patronizing, though always respectful in his manners to us young people. He evidently considered the safety of the house as his peculiar charge, and was very particular in the extinguishing of fires, and in looking fter the fastening of doors and windows. We had heard of one or two rabberles being committed in the neighborhood; but we did not feel nervous, and my cousin placed great dependence on a huge black dog which always slept at night in the hall. One evening-I believe it was the third after Mr. and Mrs. Oldham departed-my cousins and I were sitting chatting merrily around the fire in a large room which opened from the hall. I think it was about seven o'clock, when there came a pull at the front door bell, and, after a short delay, the butler answered it. Presently hearing a somewhat prolonged parley outside, we opened our room | pack is placed, I suppose?" parently much examinate, sugar to lower end of the hall, while on the floor at their feet lay a large, long package. Opposite to them stood the butler and one of the maid servants, and a stormy discussion seemed to be going on between them. Mildred, my elder cousin, after a few moments' pause, walked forward and requested

a respectable looking individual, I thought, advanced toward her, and making a low bow, began to speak:
"Madame," said he, "we have brought this bale of goods to your house my mistake; we were to take it to Mrs. Needham's," mentioning a house about five mile distant, "but have carried it here instead. We are much exhausted, for we have walked far; the night is tempestuous, and we feel that we can take it no farther. Will you kindly allow us to leave it here till morning?"

an explanation. One of them, rather

Mildred looked at the butler inquir-

ourselves, madame, we shall make our know at present, ladies," and here tions, way to the nearest public hoves. It jones bowed politely. Sarah had be is only the pack we wish to leave. It is very heavy and we will call for it "What did you see, Sarah?" Jones of the come quicker, so Mildred inquired:

"What did you see, Sarah?"

in good time to-morrow. We throw ourselves upon your compassion.

"Let the poor men leave their large package, Mildred," said Janet, my younger cousin, "and have it put in the ante-room until to-morrow.

Mildred consented, and in disregard of the frown and ominous looks of the butler, ordered the pack to be carried to a little room near the entrance. This was done, and glad and thankful I was to see the door bolted and bar- added with a repressed shriek. red behind the formidable strangers. It seemed to me a dangerous risk, in our thinly peopled household, to admit "Oh, something harrowing and two strangers at that time of the eve-thrilling, fearful and shocking, and noticed, too, that they above all, true—there's a dear aunt!" glanced around the hall in a surreptitious manner, and especially at the and gazed shudderingly around the dog, which stood with us in the hall, large, gloomy room.

A little pause ensued, while aunty gazed meditatively into the fire, and I maid servant, who still stood by, shared my uncomfortable feelings, and she assisted, very readily, after the departure of the men, in barring the door and seeing to the safety of the whom I had never seen. My life in this old house-where I was born and ning I met her on the stairs and she

iously for my parents' permission to I saw it move-once when lying on accept the invitation. After some de-

I smiled, and telling Sarah "not panied by my father, I set out in high to be whimsical," passed on, and respirits for my destination, arriving joining my cousins, I told them what there in the pleasant twilight of an Sarah had said to me, and proposed autumn evening. Our friends gave us to go and take a look at the mystera cordial reception. 'Squire and Mrs. oldham were staid, good-tempered, rather elderly people, and their two daughters—girls of eighteen or twendaughters—girls of eighteen or twendaughters—gi ty-as merry and as wild as I could side of the room. It was enveloped desire. Their names were Mildred in a brown wrapper, was very long, and Janet. The house, standing on and thicker at the middle than at the its own grounds, and surrounded by two extremities. Somehow I did not two extremities. Somehow I did not lofty trees, was old and spacious with like the looks of it; but my fears many long corridors and passages, and were of such a vague nature that I did not like to express them. As we crossed the hall on our return to the sitting-room we encountered Sarah, who was hovering about with a very uneasy and mysterious expression on

"What is the matter, Sarah?" asked Mildred.

"Oh, Miss, I am so frightened about that pack. I cannot rest, and I am sure that I cannot go to bed while it is in the house."

were very respectable-looking individuals, only two shopmen. We have just been looking at the pack, and it did not move, though I gave it a good squeeze. I am sure there is nothing in it to alarm you."

Sarah looked very pale, and shook her head warningly. Ten o'clock came, and my cousins and I were thinking of betaking ourselves to our sleeping appartments, when we heard a door in the hall violently shut and locked. Immediately after Sarah rushed in on us, on the nearest chair in violent hysterics. She was speedily followed by the butler looking as pompous and still as ever, but with a certain expression of unquiet on his fat, grave face.

"What is the matter, Jones?" asked Miss Sarah.

"Hush Sarah," said Mildred, calm-"let Jones tell us. I heard you lock the door. It was that of the aute-room in which this unfortunate

"It was, Miss," replied Jones nation he added.

"So far so good," said Mildred, com-posedly. "And how, pray, do you know that the pack is alive?" "You see, miss," replied Jones, "ev-

"I saw the thing move when it was laid in that hall," sobbed Sarah.
"Go on, Jones," interposed Janet.

Jones continued: "So before we went to bed Miss come pretty quiet. The dog was si-Sarah persuaded me so come and take lenced and made to lie down in the

"Never mind that," said Mildred; "tell us what you have seen."

tle, but could make nothing of it. Presently Sarah found a small hole in had a long, pale face, a brown, grizzly the wrapper. She pulled the rent beard, and eyes that glanced doubtful and suspicious air, whereupon the rather more open and looked in. I fully from Jones and his dagger, who drew me out of the room, pulled the proached him. He was perfectly door to and locked it. This is all I mute and refused to answer any ques-

The girl shivered and covered her face with her hands. "Come, Sarah, speak," said Mildred

becoming a little pale. "Yes, tell us, and instantly!" cried Janet.

Sarah took her hand from ber face and looked up.
"It was an eye, miss," she said in
horror-stricken tones, "such an awful
looking eye, and it glared at me!" she

We looked at each other in mute consternation. "Was it a living one, do you think,

Sarah?" I asked. "Yes it was all alive, miss, I am sure," she sobbed. "Oh, what shall we It looked so malignant and ter-

We looked at each other for a few moments, and then Mildred spoke: "I can scarcely believe that you are right, Sarab," she said: "I fancy that your imagination must have been

making a goose of you."
"Still, Mildred," I ventured to say, "Sarah may be right, and it would be well to do something at once. This may be a plan to rob the house when we are all in bed."

"And murder us all," shricked Har-Janet began to cry; and meanwhile the butler had left the room.

"Where is Jones?" inquired Mildred, suddenly observing his absence. Let us go and find him, and see what is to be done."

She passed into the hall, and we followed. Jones was rumaging in a large closet, the door of which stood open; he had a lamp in his hand. The other servants stood by, and we together waited for him to emerge. He was rather a long time, so Mildred went close to the door and whispered ;

"What are you doing there, Jones ?" Jones made no reply, but came out armed with an old rusty looking dagger and two pieces of strong rope.

"You are not going to kill him? inquired Janet. "Never fear, miss," replied Jones, "a little prick, however, will do no

hurt. I must take care of my master's house." "We will come with you," whisper-

ed Mildred. "Very good, miss," he answered, please bring the dog to the door, and keep him there till I want him,

So off went Jones with his lamp, his dagger and his ropes, we and the servants following closely with the "You are very ridiculous, Sarah," dog, who seemed to possess a strong remarked Janet. "I am sure the men consciousness of comething being amiss.

Jones opened the door of the little room quietly, and went in and placed the lamp on a side-table which stood near. Then at once, dagger and rope in hand, he walked toward the pack, which lay on the settee; but I now observed that there were one or two openings in the wrapper.

for a moment or two, interrupted onrestrained from rushing into the room. Then there came a scene of noise and confusion. Jones reached the pack, and throwing the rope over his arm, and still clutching the dagger, stooped to inspect the slit in the wrapper Mildred, starting to her feet, "tell us quickly. Do try to be quiet, Sarah."
"Oh that pack is alive?" shricked most fearful and terrible yells I ever heard broke from between the folds of the wrapper. The pack structured violently, and rolled over and fell voice begged for mercy; at this same time a knife was seen endeavoring to servants, the hysterical sobs of Janet, the loud howlings and whinnings of the room, made a din that I never can Gen. Darks, the famous Indian fight pack had time to free himself from the his oppenent's struggles, to pass the had accomplished this, we had all beanother look at the package. You hall, while Mildred and I and two of know I did not approve of its being the servants, the terrified Sarah not being one, went into the room. being one, went into the room.

The pack presented a very ludicrous

appearance. The wrapper had been "Well, miss, I thought it great non- slit open from the centre upward and sease, but I went. We took hold of displayed the figure of a man apparthe bundle and turned it about a lit- ently about thirty years of age, lying in it, the ropes wound about him. He saw her face change. She turned and knelt beside him, to us, as we ap-

"See, he has got a whistle," cried one of the servants. Jones instantly seized it and after a lenced.

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few moments consideration beckoned Mildred out of the room. I followed. "Young ladies, he said, the man is now quite secure and his accomplices will certanly not attempt to enter much before daylight. I expect the whistle was to have been the signal. Would you be afraid if I would slip

down to the coachman's house and get his wife to send one of the boys into the village for other assistance? We could then probably secure all the villians." "But you may be attacked by them

on the way," said Mildred. "No fear, miss, I can slip unseen behind the shrubs in the darkness. "Go then, and quickly," said Mildred.

"You are sure that the man is quite safely bound?"

"Quite so, miss; but perhaps you would like to ask the consent of the household before I go?"

Mildred soon obtained our consent to the plan, and Jones was cautiously let out of a small-sized door. In about twenty minutes, which seemed two hours to us, he returned, and his low tap was instantly answered.
"It is all right," he said, "I have

seen and heard nothing of the men. The boy is sharp enough, and he has his directions, and is to bring a party from the village to this door by the way that I took,"

More than an hour passed away ; then a low tap was again heard, and six men appeared, accompanied by the boy who had been sent to bring About midnight Jones opened them. the shutters of a casement window in the hall, and blew a loud whistle; the whistle was responded to by another, and two men presently appeared at the open casement. Jones drew back into the darkness of the ball and silently allowed them to enter. The moment their feet touched the hall floor they were secured.

"And where were you, aunty?" I said, "during this scene?"
"We stood in the gallery above. The boy who had received his in-

structions, soon brought forward a lantern, and we also had lights at hand in the gallery." "Were the men tried, austy, and what was their punishment?"

"Yes, they were conveyed to the county prison, and on their conviction were sentenced to transportation. The butler, as you may imagine, was handsomely rewarded."

A GREAT NEWSPAPER.

The New York Times had a peculiar start. Six men met in the Directors' room of a bank. In a contract written on one side of a sheet of letter paper an agreement was made to start a daily paper, to be called the Times. Raymond was to be editor-in-chief. and was not to be interfered with. George Jones was to be the publisher, and an autocrat in that department. There was a deep silence among us That contract still exists, and no other ly by the low growling of the dog. The original subscription was eaten up asis has the Times to stand upon. who became manifestly more and more in a mouth. The first year the stock-uneasy, and was with great difficulty holders did little else but put their bands in their pockets, from week to week, for the deficit. Then the tide began to turn. The value of the paper now is seen in the long contest over the few shares connected with an estate that gave the controlling inter-

est to whoever held them. Dr. A. W. Washington, grandnephew of Gen. Geo. Washington, the nearcountry, and a resident of his heavily to the ground, while a choked Texas, ships a box containing the following articles for exhibition at the Cantennial: Gen. Washington's court suit in which he was supposed to be the suit in which he was supposed; ivory seal set in gold, presented; the dog, who was still restrained by Washington by General Lafayette; Mildred from rushing frantically into sword, presented to Washington by forget. I remember that Jones alone er before the Revolution; knee and or since that pack has been left Sarah looked very composed and numoved shoe buckles, and, most valuable of has been in a distracted state of mind throughout. Before the man in the all, twelve, and most valuable of throughout of her senses, in pack had time to free himself from the Washington to his brother Same Washington to his brother Samuel. wrapper, Jones had managed, despite dated between 1772 and 1783, some from Mount Vernon and some from ropes several times round him, the field, and all giving Washington's and to secure them. By the time he private views of the war then waging

A little schoolgirl asked her teacher what was meant by "Mrs. Grundy." The teacher replied that it meant "the world." Some days afterward the teacher asked the geography class, to which this little "bud of promise" be-longed, "What is a zone?" After some hesitation, this little girl brightened up and replied: "I know; it's a belt around Mrs. Grundy's waist."

A traveller was once telling Scotchman about a wonderful bashaw whom he had seen in Turkey, "will three tails that came out of his hat." when the Caledonian, with a shrug of contempt, interrupted him with the exclamation; "Hoot, mon, and ha' wo no' Sir Walter (Scott) right here amang us wi' forty tales all direct frac his head?" The traveller was