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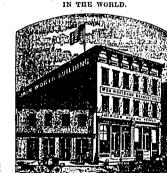
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MR COWSLIP'S HOLIDAY.

It was in the mouth of August, 18-that th Rev. Charles Cowslip found himself at Coire, It is an old town at the opening of the valley which leads up to the Pass of the Splugen Heavy rains had made the road almost impa able, and he was glad to break his journey and spend the night in what seemed a pleasant esting-place. He was traveling, poor fellow, or a month's holiday—his first for many years. Sick chambers with their sad stories, and pov erty, which his own narrow means would not | two would get rid of one trouble at any rate. ermit him to alleviate, were left far behind. HUDSON BAY and MINK SABE. He had been fairly broken down with hard ork, and he was at last enjoying a change which he had long needed. On stepping inside the inn, he was surprised

to find no one to welcome him; but as he Cowslip supplied the means of travel to her heard voices up stairs, he waited patiently. At own home. The vetturino was not an unin his own patois: "Ah, this is lucky Monsicur is wanted. Step this way." Mr. Cowslip was forthwith conducted to an upper room, one mourner, whose life he had blasted in which there lay upon a bed a man in a reckless pursuit of his own brief pleasure. state of insensibility. The host lost no time in | Then she took her departure up the wildest explaining that the sick man was an English- and most picturesque of Alpine passes. Mr. an—that he had failen from a cliff, and had Cowslip once more retired to the sick room. seriously hurt himself that he could only speak English, and, in short, that it was obviously had been concussion of the brain. Happily, the duty of the new-comer to take the place of no limbs were broken. A sprained ankle and nurse to his fellow countryman. At this mo- some severe bruises were the only bodily in ment a brief return of consciousness enabled | juries he had sustained.

the sufferer to enforce the claim; and before Mr. Cowslip knew where he was, or what he was doing, he found himself thrust upon a stool by the bedside, which the patient had many days before Fuller's recovery was sufust sense enough to prevent his quitting. "Do not leave me, pray; do not leave me, he kept repeating. The words wove a spell It then appeared that he had but one brother, hat poor Cowslip's previous training rendered him utterly unable to break. He had carcely broken his fast in the morning, and seemed hardly advisable, so poor Cowslip he had been jolted all day in a dilgence; but whatever his inclinations for food or rest might be, it was clear that he must forego them. There he was; landlord and servants had disppeared. His slightest attempt to move, or long coming; in was concise and to the point: even change his position, was checked by the 'My brother is in good hands-pay attention half-imperative, half-querulous appeal: "Do to him."

At length the sick man fell into a sleep; and as Mr. Cowslip was about to seize the opportunity of stealing out of the room to sup- ecived and answered. In that time the patient father and mother had died, and which was ply at anyrate the cravings of appetite, a knock came to the door, with a repetition of the phrase: "Monsieur is wanted." On descend- the end of the month before Fuller could be clerk, but he had been winning his way in the engine driver must have heard it eighteen ing to the court-yard, he found an agitated, horror-stricken group standing round some object on the ground. They made way for | for the most part gone as we have described. him, and he saw a man apparently dead or At starting, it had been a question whether dying with blood flowing from his head. A pistol had fallen from his hand. He was dead. He had shot himseif. Mr. Cowslip's presence and been invoked, not from any definite notion of what he might be able to do, but from a general sense of helplessness in the bystanders. Of course he could do nothng except decipher some papers which were found on the deceased, and from which it appeared that his name was Logan. The local authorities were sent for; and Mr cowslip was only too glad to retire from the scene to his old place upstairs. Some retresh-

safely and parted at London Bridge. ments were brought to him; and soon under how it was that he never wrote, and left you the soothing influences of food and fatigue, he to take such a charge upon you?" fell asleep. His slumbers, however, were of short duration. He was awakened by what me to meet them at dinner." eemed a familiar voice, saying; " Monsieur is vanted." The person wanting Monsieur was dinner, I hope, at anyrate?" this time a young and very pretty girl, Italian y birth, but able to speak a little English. dined at the Green Posts eating-house in the ne was weeping bitterly. Her story, brok- city, and we had roast veal and greens." en by sobs (and Italian), was soon told. She knew but too well the state of the patient upstairs, and she had just heard of the more terwilling, and indeed unconscious cause of both. It is time, however, that we call the sick man by his name, and relate the circumstan made this explanation ces which led to such an unlooked-for situation. His name was Fuller. He had been partner in business with the man who had just shot himself. He and Logan had been plied:

friends before they became partners, but, in business as in love, there is seldom a perfect thinking aloud." reciprocity of advantage. In the present in stauce, the friendship and the money had all been on the side of Fuller; Logan's contribution had been wits only. After a short trial of business, Logan had decamped with all the realizable capital, and had been enjoying himthis one needs something." If in Italy. It was there, near the Lake of Como, that he had on a previous business journey, fallen in with the young Italian girl who now "wanted Monsieur." He had absconded with his partner's money, in order to be with her, and for more than a year he

had been traveling with her as his wife. It had been in search of his false friend and lost money that Fuller had come abroad. By some information accidentally received, he had een put upon the right track, and had pursued it only too successfully, to the scene of our story. In fact he had followed Logan ver the Splugen Pass to Coire.

The two met upon a mountain-path; words uch as we may imagine, had passed between hem; there might have been a hasty blow or cuffle; at any rate, Fuller had been found insensible at the foot of a steep cliff, and been carried to the inn. This was on the evening revious to Mr. Cowslip's arrival. It seems that Logan had been seized with remorse a what he had done, and had come to the inn eeking to see Fuller, but had been refused. In udden desperation, he had shot himself. He had spent all his money; as long as it lasted, he had lived in a reckless, expensive way. He was, in fact, hardly in his right mind, and was unable to foresce the consequences of his ctions, or in any way forecast the future. What his object had been in crossing over to Switzerland did not clearly appear, but the talian supposed that it was either on scheme

of business, or, more probable, to obtain some money that he had deposited there. Nothing ore could be known of his intentions. He as dead. The poor girl ended her contribution to the above sad story with the passionate entreaty: Pray, sir, help me." Poor Cowslip was no ore able to resist such an appeal than the mamma." "Do not leave me" of the patient upstairs ; but efore he could go into the details of what was be done, the landlord again appeared with the old announcement, "Monsleur is wanted." Fuller had awakened, and, finding himself ing loud unintelligible cries. Mr. Cowslip was the young Italian return on the following morning, for it was now towards evening lis head was ia a whirl; he seemed to have lunged into the vortex of a perfect Maelstrom of troubles. To drift round under the myste rous influence of the current seemed the only

ourse of proceeding. Once raore he took h is love!" place on the stool by the bedside. The sick aan held him by one hand, and extorted a romise that he would not leave him till his own pleasure and comfort. He is on thoroughrecovery was assured, or, as seemed mose probable, death released him from his sufferngs. In this uneasy position he passed the dressed, and ride in her carriage, and reflect night between waking and sliping. When norning broke, the first sound that recalled him to a sense of the general situation was the ow quite familiar and expected phrase, "Mon ieur is wanted."

"Monsieur" mechanically arcse, and, 20 Fuloom, and went down to the court-yard of the it Two valentines, man. The person who wanted him was at it was the fourteenth. lriver of a carriage. It was the vellurino who had brought Logan and the Italian from the other side of the Pass. He was clames

his money; and had been threatening the poor idowed girl with terrible consequences he did not find instant means to pay him. I parture of glittering diamonds, flashing up was, in fact, this pressing difficulty which had glorious sea of color. brought her to Mr. Cowslip on the previous "Leon Payne !" cried Gertie. Are they vening; and she was now waiting with the vetturing, to whom she had spoken of the not exquisite?"

Englishman as one in whose pity and power Mrs. Jameson's lips quivered a little as she looked at her daughter's flushed face and It was indeed a hard case. Mr. Cowslip's little viaticum was scarcely touched. He was not a very calculating person. A napoleon or

To return to her home was all that the poor "Only a copy of verses," said Gertie. girl could now think of as an assuagement of "Violet roses and all that sort of thing. But are not these diamonds magnificent? I her sorrows. It was speedily agreed that the vetturino should take her back as far as his is the very set I admired so much when own town of Chiavenna, from whence Mr. were out the other day."

> love into her eyes. "Gertic, my daughter be true to your own

heart." And so she left her. True to herown heart, Gertie Jameson sa down to ponder over these words. The diamonds flashed out their glorious waves of light before her eyes, the copy of verses lay open upon the little work table, and Gertie sat mus ng. Pictures of the past came in succession into her memory.

"After a day or two," said Mr. Cowslip, "I shall be able to leave him, when I have telegraphed to his friends." It was, however. ficiently advanced to trouble him with quesions about his friends and circumstances a clerk or junior partner in a merchant's house. To detail the circumstances by telegraph resigned himself to still a few more days of nursing, and finally wrote a letter requesting to be informed by telegraph what steps should be taken for his patient. An answer was not father had squandered.

Already more than half of Mr. Cowslip's holiday had passed away; it would be another week or more before fresh letters could be reought more prudent to save the money; for brother return refreshed and strengthened for eis next long spell of work. It.was well that it had been so determined, for the vian thus set apart was almost all wanted to carry home the sick man and his nurse. They arrived and so read to advise or assist Jane's betroth-

"But," said I to Mr. Cowslip, when he told me the story up to this point, "did you never hear from the brother? Did you not hear worthy of any sacrifice? "O yes," he replied; "the brothers asked

"Yes" answered my guileless friend; "we

ery of genteel poverty. There had been a long interval of silence in Mrs. Jameson's sitting room. when Gertie The pleased voice and tone of kindly inquiry nade the young girl blush deeply as she returned dresses for his sake ?"

"Of some velvet flowers I saw yesterday which just matched this ribbon," and Gertie him as—as I could do for Harry !" held up a bonnet she was trimming. "Velvet flowers are so lovely for a winter bonnet, and velvet bed. "I could bear all this for Harry, but not for Leon Payne. I will be true to my

"I am sure it looks very nice, Gertie." " Nice" said the girl, scornfully emphasizown heart." ing the word; "yes it is very nice, and that turned silk is nice, and the short sack made "Why, Gertie!" cried her mother in a voice But there is nothing stylish or handsome in

old cloaks turned into sacks and so I say poverty is a bother." "Gertie, put away that bonnet, and come upon the walls. Above, large bed rooms cion."
were filled with handsomely appointed fur— Having nothing better to do, I wondered is here. Now little daughter," said the widov gently, "tell me the meaning of this sudder tirade against poverty; of the restless tossing I heard from your room last night; of the ner yous unquiet of my contented little girl since

There was no reply "Gertie, what did Leon Payne say to you last evening ?" "He asked me to be his wife." The words were jerked out hastily. "And you answered-"

"Well," I replied, "they gave you

HEART-TRUE.

"It is such a bother to be poor!"

"What is the new bother, Gertie?

"O, mamma, never mind. I

out of your old coat is nice. and-"

"Thinking of what?"

of amazement.

"Jane came in to shut up the parlor, not knowing he was there, and she stayed; so he attainable felicity. But Jane was to spend a described the robbers. "Edward Capon, clever disguises. We have had pretty full got no answer at all." "But he must be answered, Gertie. He has

spoken to me, and I told him it must rest with as I said before. "Mamma!" this after a long deep silence. wife can have every luxury. If-it is I, we were on-street the other day, and stopped to look in a jeweler's window, and, he pointed oddly out of place. out the kind of jewels he would wish his wife

to wear. I need not wear old silks then "Then you intend to accept his offer?" "I don't know; you see there is Harry." "But Harry cannot offer you jewels."

thousand dollars, Mr. Ingraham would take one, and, as he feared, deserted, was utter- him into the firm. He told me all about it last week. But think how long it will take to fall upon his bosom. bliged to go back and quiet him, after bidding save three thousand dollars, and of course his wife must save, and pinch, and economize full of oil," till he is able to spend more freely. "Yes, dear, there would be no variation on the turned cloth and retrimmed bonnets uo velvet flowers, no jewels." "But such a noble, true heart; such tender

> "Leon Payne loves you." "Never mind. We want a queen to pre-"As much as he loves anything beyond his own pleasure and colling and thinks so much of him- her husband stood as bewildered as Gertie had cord. Instinctively I know, and it was the old lady plaintively, as we reached her car- feelingly declares that Shapis "shows an apself. It is his wife that must be handsomely credit upon his choice. Mamma, he loves me because I am petty and can sing well, and can manage his house nicely. Harry loves me because it is L."

There was a violent jerk at the door bell at that instant that called Gertle to the door. er was still in a deep sleep, stole out of the Sue came back with flying feet. "Two!"

!! Yes O mamma; look !" white flowers, and rare bracelets clasped her i She had torn the cover from a dainty pack-

lage in her hand, and opened a morocco case wrists. She made a low reverence to her nside. Upon the black velvet lining lay a husband. where a stray sunbeam fell upon them, into a diamonds to-night." " What diamonds?"

o Leon Payne." bright eyes, and her heart sent up a silent evening, at one of Mrs. Clarke's receptions prayer for the future, trembling before her Mrs Levin Payne said to her, pointing to ner

"Look at the other," she said quietly, "Gertie, it is eleven o'clock and I must go

o Mrs. Lewis'. Little daughter, you may ength the host appeared, who, perceiving kindly sort of fellow, and he was put into have callers while I am out." She drew her she thought of the day, ten years ago, when im to be an Englishman, at once exclaimed good humor by the payment of his hire and child into her arm and looked with anxious she was true to her own heart. The dead man was buried. He had but the

> It was ten years ago, but she could still re ember the day, since her father had been called to the shadow land. The luxurious country home where she and Jane, her eldest ster, where born, was sold, and they had ome to the city. Her mother, one of the finest amateur planists of her time, had begun o teach music, and they had lived upon her arnings until Jane was old enough to take the French class in a large seminary, and Ger tie to have singing scholars at home; but even with these additions, their income was very limited. Close economy, self-denial, humble fare, and quiet dress. Gertie could recall much more distinctly than the wealth her

Where did Harry Clark come upon the scene? Gertie scarcely knew. He was a tepson of his mother's brother, and had come to the city to make his fortune. Far away in the central part of Pennsylvania nestled small farm where Harry was born, where might be moved or left in safety. Letters the boy's sole patrimony. The rent of the were written but no answer came. It was domain scarcely sufficed to clothe the young moved; his funds were exhausted, and Mr. Cow- I house of I. & Co., and now, if he could make slip's modest allowonce for his holiday had three thousand dollars, might be a partner. The farm might bring part of that sum, where was the rest to come from? queried he should take his sister with him to share the Gertie. Yet over Harry's memory picture, pleasure of the trip; it had, however, been the little maiden lingered lovingly. There was no part of her life so pleasant to dwell her it would be holiday enough to see her upon as that where he figured. Ling walks and talks, duets over the piano, chats by moonlight, firelight and gaslight. He was so her packages into it.

tender and loving, so honorable and true; so respectful to her mother, so tender to Jane, ed a fellow-clerk, who was waiting the turn n fortune's wheel that whould enable him to marry. Was not such love as he offered Leon Payne came to the scene only six

nonths before this musher fit upon Gertie. She had met him at a party, and had bewitch. ed him by her pretty, piquant beauty, her andsome face-Harry was not handsome. poot fellow, Gertie sighed-and wealth. But tion, that under the courtly manner, flatter-

ich, and Gertle knew all the tortu

The winter was gliding into spring, when

nature. In one room, laces, velvets, flowers good deal how these thieves could arrange and silks fit for a royal trosscau, filled drawers their getting away while the walls were covand wardrobe; the dining room was spread esed with the description of them, and every for a rich and varied repast, and the widow's official on the line was up in it. There was this Warwickshire robbery.

. It was nearly midnight when the carriage "He is very rich. When he marries, his arms, and then, as Jane took her place, the pon, his wife, a tall woman of forty; with a little bride stood in the center of the long par can have you with us, and Jane need not lors, pale with astonishment. She had tossed teach that horrid school any longer. We off her bonnet, and the soft gray traveling Capon, their son, a slightly built youth of not dress of the mistress of the house seemed

"Where am I?" she gasped at last. "At home, darling," and her husband pass ed his arm around her waist.

" Home !" "It is not such a very long story," he said looking down into her wonderous eyes, " but "No, poor Harry! If he had only three I dip not tell you before, because I wanted to see if you loved me.' She nestled close to him, letting her "The farm, Gertie," he said softly.

> "I sold it for more money than Leon Payne ever possessed. Now, pet, run up stairs; other wilbshow you the room, and let me see how some of the finery there suits you. " But is nearly midnight."

side over this supper." Mrs. Jameson led heraway, while Jane and been. Suddenly the bridegroom started forward to grasp Harry's hand

voices and moist eyes, and Jane was still looking out. If ightened young face would be looking out. If ightened light had come back to her eyes, the rich color | see ? Only the two passengers buried in their snowy arms and shoulders, while rich lace head from the book she held, and looked up at | call his attention to a probable shilling. fell in full folds around the sweeping skirts. me astonished—childishly and wonderingly upon her clustering curls rested a wreath of astonished.

"Lovely !" he cried, "but pet wear th

"The en s ! sent you for a valentine." " You sent me, Harry! I send them back It was certainly ten years later, when, on

"It was the old lest thing about these dis monds. Somebody sent them to Leon for a a valentine, years ago. He never could geuswhere they came from, for, of course, the lady must have been wealthy, though why she sent a lady's parture to a gentleman is a mystery. Are they not lovely, Mrs. Clarke?"
"Very lovely," said Gertie, and smiled a

HOW THEY ESCAPED.

The train was waiting to leave the station There had been robberies on the line, and detective was eagerly watching the faces of the passengers, hoping to catch the thicves. the guard was watching things generally Presently I caught myself watching a gir who stood alone at some distance. I wished I could have gone straight to her and put her into one-the most comfortable-of the line of carriages at which she gazed so timidly. Just as I hesitated, a very remarkable figure elbowed its way to me; a stout, grandly dressed old lady, panting painfully, and almost piercing me with a pair of restless half opened eyes, that looked out through the gold rimmed spec tacles perched on her sharp nose. Two porters followed her, laden with bags, cloaks, imbrellas and flowers-the only flowers in the station, I expect, that winter night-and one of the men winked at me over her head, while the other guarded her treasures with a face of concentrated anxiety and thoughts engrosse

by possible fees. 'This is the London train, is it guard?' she asked, peering sharply into my face with her halt-closed eyes, as if she found it difficult to distinguish me even through her specta

From her whole attitude I guessed he to be deaf, but I never guessed how deat until, after yelling my answer so loud that the carriages off, she still remained stonily wait ing for it.

dled off, looking as acid an old party as I should ever try to avoid. In at every door she peered through her glittering glasses, the two porters following her, until she made a stop before an empty second-class carriage near my van, and with much labor and assistance got herself and

When I passed a few minutes afterward, she was standing in the doorway, effectually barring the door to any other passenger by he wn unattractive appearance there, and prolonging with an evident relish the anxiety o he observious porters. The young and pret ty lady had taken a seat in a forward carriage. I suppose that, without exactly knowing it I kept a sort of watch over this carriage, for

saw plainly enough a lazy young gentlemawho persistently kept novering about it and grace and voice; he had dazzled her by his looking in. His inquisitive eyes had of course caught sight of the pretty face there alone, and I could see that he was making up his mind to he young girl knew with a woman's intuticareless and languid manner. He was no gening attentions and devoted air, there was a tleman for that reason, I said to myself, yet hard, selfish nature, a cru-1 jealousy, and a his dress was handsome, and the hand that suspicious and hot temper. Yet he was so played with his long, dark beard was small and fashionably gloved. Glancing still into midst of it, that she was almost tired of wait- proof that the majority of the House in adthe far corner of that one first-class compart as she arose and walked across the room. come; then, quite leisurely, he walked up to to make her understand that she had incurred stitution of the State. No great mental effort "Be true to my own heart," she said aloud ment, he lingered until the last moment was "Do I love Leon Payne? If he should lese the door, opened it, entered the carriage, and a penalty of five pounds, but he couldn't, his wealth, would I be true and loving wife in an instant the door was banged to behind though he bawled it at her until the poor old the digits of one hand the exact number of to him still? Could I wear old bonnets and him. Without the least hesitation I went up thing-perhaps mortified at having taken so days for which there has been an adjournment. to the window and stood near it while the much trouble for nothing; perhaps overcome

She took up the diamonds and put them lamp was fitted in the compartment. The by her hunger; perhaps frightened at the plain words of the constitution by raising the on while she spoke; They flashed brilliantly gentleman was standing up within, drawing commotionshe saw, though didn't hear—sank pretext that as Sunday is not "a legislative against the deep crimson of her young, tresh on a dark overcoat, the young lady in the distant corner was looking from the window, as the shillings and sixpences roll out of her lap in an adjournment, is quite worthy of the if even the half darkness was better to look at | and settle under the seats. than this companion. Mortified a good deal at the failure of my scheme for her comfort, I ed on again, but I suppose it was only six or

> waited for me. "No go, you see," he muttered crossly. take this train."

Mrs. Jameson sat in a luxurlous house on answered, for I hadn't gone with him in the good laugh in several of the carriages when street, waiting the coming of two brides. The idea. "It dosen't seem to me very likely parlor in which she waited was richly furnish- that three such skillful thieves as you are ed. Velvet carpets covered the floors, velvet dodging, who did their work in this neighcleaned gleves, and retrimmed bonnets, and curtains draped the windows, long mirrors borhood so cleverly two nights ago, should threw back the light of large chandeliers; leave the station any night by the very train costly pictures, in heavy gilt trames, hung which the police watch with double susp

> own dress, though only black silk, was rich | no doubt about their being three very dexterous knaves, but then our detective force was "My little Gertle," said Mrs. Jameson, very dexterous too, though they weren't softly, "how will she reign over this palace?" knaves (and I do believe the greater dexterity close scrutiny, I can tell you. What A quieter home, but pleasant, too, was wait- is generally on the knavish side), and so ing for Jane, whose husband had received an was odd that the description still was inefanonymous gift that enabled him to accept a feetive and the offered reward unclaimed. I he answered. "It seems that two of the business opening long looked upon as an un- read over again the bill in my pocket which thieves we are dodging are in this train in question is not for the courts, but for the senlow days with Gertie before going to her own Alias Captain Winter, alias John Pearson, particulars, though the discovery. home, and the mother looked for two brides, alias Dr. Crow; a thick-set active man, of made until after you left the junction. Have again without a proclamation of the governor. drove up. Gertie was the first to her mother's gray eyes, and an aquiline nose. Mary Cahair, and a cut across her under lip. Edward more than fifteen or sixteen (though, for the matter of that, I thought he might have had cunning enough for twice his age), with close

ly-cut black hair, and, delicate features." We all knew this description well enough and for two days had kept our eyes open hoping to identify them among the passengers. But our scrutiny had all been in vain; and the train rushed on, I felt how disappointed by her thick red hair and a cut on her upper this act there is only one adequate penaltythe police at Easton would be when we arrived | lip. again without even tidings of them. I was soon tired of this subject, and went

back to worrying myself about the sad-looking

yellow-haired girl who had so evidently wished to travel alone, and been so success fully foiled in the attempt by that intrusive hair that we are after." fop with the handsome beard. Foolishly I kept on thinking of her, until, as we were that there was all the train to search before sentatives." dashing along like lightning through the wind | we could reach that carriage at the other end and darkness, only fifteen or twenty minutes | where sat the girl whom I had, in a way,taken from Chalk Farm, the bell in my van rang out with a sharp and sudden summons. I never wondered for a moment who had pulled the train, pray? Call me a cab,"cried the deaf Citizen a twist of molasses candy. The editor carriage furthest from my van; I left my riage, and found her gazing out in most evi preciation for the press befitting riper years.' place almost breathlessly, as the engine slack-"Are we not brothers?" said Harry quiet. ened speed, and, hastening along the footboard, hesitated at no window until Ireached | you hear? There was a little talk then, with husky the one from which I felt quite sure that a I hear, aye, sharp enough. I only wished them weave a shroud in which to wrap a or opened and Gertie flashed in. All the and looked into the carriage. What did I helped her down. Then, seeing her helplesso her cheeks; and the shining silk revealed separate corners. The young lady raised her ed a porter to her, winking expressively to stove for a West street lady. Durings heavy

The gentleman roused himself leisurely from a seemingly snug nap. "What on earth has stopped us in this hole?" he said, rising; and pushing his handsome face and his long card past me at the window

not been given from this carriage; yet the "Empty and dark?" feeling had been such a certainty to me that the contrary ; and I went on along the foot- in. "Hallo! what's come to the lamp?" board to other carriages very much more slowly than I had gone first to that one. Ut- lamp, for the compartment was as dark as if. ter darkness surrounded us outside, but from it had never been lighted ; yet had not I mythe lamplit compartments eager heads were self stood and watched the lighted lamp put t trust, searching for the reason of this unex- in at Rugby? And-the carriage was empty pected stoppage. No one owned to having | too ! summoned me until I reached that secondclass carriage near my own van (which I had | ing sharply upon me. "Why was not the

hastened past before), where the fidgety, deaf | lamp lighted" old lady who had amused me at Ruggy sat nough to show that she was not over-power

nd by fear.
"What a time you've been coming," she said. "What is it?" "Where's what?"

my might and main, I believe I might just hopefully have questioned the telegraph post which I could dimly see beside us, and the two thieves-darkening the lamp even afnave expected an answer along the wires. "Where's the small luncheon basket ?" she nquired, pulling out her long purse with great the darkness; managing their escape in their fussiness. "A small luncheon basket, my

But though I yelled the question with all

good man, and make haste." Shall I ever forget the sharp expectancy of the old lady's eyes as they looked into mine, they have depended on this delay-this exfirst over, then under, then through her glittering gold-rimmed spectacles? What supriseed me most particulary was the fact of her decidedly not being, as any one might sup- the cause of our stoppage, something of the pose, a raving lunatic.

please," she said, resignedly sitting down, ty. Then it got clear to everybody that the and pouring the contents of her purse out into older scoundrel had duped us more ingeniousher lap, "I'm as hungry as I can be." I suppose that when she looked up at me old lady (deaf as a stone, and so blind that

of peevishness, and pointed with one shaking trick of all. Where on earth were the ironand to the wall of the carriage. "Look there! Doesn't it say, 'Small luncheon baskets. Pull down the cord,' I want lice saw the whole thing clearly it was too late a small luncheon basket, so I pulled down the to follow up any clue to him.

Then she shook her head angrily and wad cord. Make haste and get it for me, or I'll report you to the manager." Seeing now that she was almost as blind as was lost in the city and could not be tracked. she was caf, I began to understand what she A high reward was offered for information, meant. On the spot to which she pointed but no one ever won it. My firm belief is above the seat opposite her two papers were that it was no legitimately licensed cab at all, posted in a line; one the advertisement of but one belonging to the gang, and part of the "Small luncheon baskets" supplied at Rugby, finished fraud. I verily believe, too, that the other, the company's directions for summoning the guard and stopping the train in side of the channel-those three practised

said:

"SMALL LUNCHEON BASKETS. PULL DOWN | ful confidence, that he shall yet have the

THE CORD." While I was gazing from her to the bills. | most expert and skillful thieves in Britain. I' getting over a bit of my astonishment, and wish I felt as sure of it.—The Argosy she was giving me every now and then a sharp ouch on the shoulder to recall me to my duty and hasten me with her refreshment, we were joined by one of the directors, who happened to be going up to town by the express. But his just and natural wrath-loud as it was-never moved the hungry old lady; no, not in the slightest degree. She hever heard one marks :- "It would be a mere waste of time worl of it, and only mildly insisted, in the and space to produce further argument in

With a flerce parting shot, the director tried

It seemed to me a long time before we start tore off the jewels and replaced them on their went on to my van, beside which the detective seven minutes delay after all. I expect I the pretty young girl, of whom I considered "and yet it seemed to me so likely that they'd myself a sort of protector; but as I said, she was the very opposite end of the train, and I "I don't see how it should seem likely," I was in haste now, There must have been a the cause of our stoppage got whispered about. As for me, when I got back into my van, solistopped at Chalk Farm to take tickets. "Of course you have the carriage doors all locked and I'll go down with you while you

open them one by one by one. My men are n possession of the platform." This was said to me by Davis, a having had a good bit to do with him about "It is no use," I said, before we started "the train was searched, as you may say, at Rugby. Every passenger has undergone

such a scientific preparation for us here ?" middle height, and about fifty years of age; you noticed"—he dropped his voice a little with thick iron-gray hair and whiskers, dark here-"a young lady and gentleman together in either carriage ?"

> gether; but there may be plenty in the train. What if there are, though? There was no resolved to absent themselves from the post of young lady or gentleman among the rob. duty beyond the time fixed in the constitu "Among the robbers," rejoined Davis, with | which binds the representative to his constiuppressed enjoyment, "was a woman who'd tuents. For the grave offence against the make herself into anything; and you must own that a gentleman with a dark, long beard and there must also be protection against such

> what should you say, now, if I told you she organic law on which its life depended. Its grew out of that boy with the closely-cut dark parts-the disjecta membra-may straggle

under my protection. "When are we to be allowed to leave this dent and utter ignorance of all that was going

away only more and more hopefully from

ROBERT IREDELL, JR. Plain and Fancy Job Printer, No. 608 HAMILTON STREET,

ALLENTOWN, PA.

LATEST STYLES

each. He was so sure they were there, and that escape was impossible. We reached the last carriage in the line, and now my heart beat in the oddest manner possible. "Is this compartment empty, then?" asked Davis, while my fingers were actually shaking

It was only too evident that the alarm had as I put my key in the door of the centre one. "Even if it had been empty it wouldn't t was long before I felt quite convinced to have been left dark," I muttered, looking I might well ask what was come to the

"Why was this?" asked the detective, turn-

But the lamp was lighted, and burning now alone. I had no need to look in, and question as sensibly as the others-if we could but her. Her head was quite out of the window; have seen it. As we soon discovered, the and, though she had her back to the light and | glass was covered by a kind of tarpaulin, in-I couldn't see her face, her voice was cool tensely black and strongly adhesive, and the carriage was so completely dark as if no lamp had been there at all. The perplexity in Davis' face was as great as my own, when I told him who had traveled here. "They couldn't have left the train here, at any rate," he said:

and I knew that as well as he did.

But you have guessed the end. During those few minutes that we stopped on the line ter I had left them, and using their own key -had left the carriage under the cover of black dresses out in the blackness of the night as cleverly as they had managed their theft and subsequent concealment. But how could quisite opportunity given them in utter darkness, close to the city, yet at nostation? When I officially made my deposition, and explained truth seemed to break upon us all; but it wasn't "Be quick with the small luncheon basket for a good while that it settled tate a certainly than the younger ones. As the incapable from the silver she was counting she saw my she had to pear through her glittering glasses utter bewilderment, I didn't try now to make with eyes always half closed, and so hungry her hear, for I knew it to be hopeless-for that she had to stop the train for a luncheon the raised her voice suddenly to a shrill pitch basket.) he had played upon us the neatest gray hair and whiskers by which we were to have identified him? But by the time the po-

The cab which had taken the eccentric old lady and her parcels and flowers from Euston somewhere now-though perhaps on the other cases of danger. As they happened to be knaves enjoy a hearty laugh over that Decem-

placed, the large letters did read as she had ber journey by night express. Davis still asures me, with the most chee pleasure some day of trapping three of the

WAS IT SUICIDE?

The Adjournment of the Pennsylvania Legisla The Harrisburg Patriot offers these reiourning from Friday until Wednesday, with out consent of the Senate, violated the con is required of each member to count up on The peurile attempt to interpret away the body in which it originated. It is the most striking instance of love of the Sabbath that ever was manifested by a pious Pennsylvania Legislature. Their respect for the day was such that they could not even count it when resolving to adjourn. Such piety is most admirable, and will go far in the minds of

"The majority were not at all scrupulous about violating the constitution, but they did not dream of the consequences which would tary as it was, I chuckled over it until we flow from it. They are now busily trying to proposition that the time from Friday until Wednesday does not comprise three days. When they come to draw their pay per dien they will not be guilty of this absurdity. In seeking an excuse for the wrong they have committed, they only afford another Illustration of a remark of the philosopher Robbes, that even the truths of geometry would be disputed if men had a strong interest in wishing them false. This is a negation of the truths of

mental arithmetic.

many to pardon the violation of the constitu

"By adjourning for a greater length of time than the constitution permits, the house has stepped out of existence. It has itself performed, an act of political hari-kari. The wasn't | house adjourn sine die, it could not assemble An act performed by such a body would be itlegal, and consequently null and void. Worse still is the situation of this house of represen-I felt a bit of an odd catching in my breath tatives. Their act is not an adjournment handsome, fair face, a quantity of very red as he spoke. "No," I said, quite in a hurry. within the law, but being unconstitutions "No young lady and gentleman belonging to. and violent, it operates as a termination of the existence of the body. Having wilfully they have themselves rudely severed the tie constitution there must be some punishment, isn't bad for a lady known to us pretty well invasions of the rights of the people. For and that follows its commission-the self-an-"But the young lady?" I asked, cogitating | nibilation of the body itself. The house has put itself outside of the pale of the constitution "Ah! the young lady. True enough; well, | and therefore dies. It has violated the very back to the capital on Wednesday, but they I did come along, feeling very stupidly glad | cannot be blended into a legal house of repr

> Shaple Horn, a little boy in Pulaski, Tennessee, has sent to the editor of the Pulaski An orator of McKendree College proposed on around her. "I am locked in, ga'ad. Do to snatch a ray of light from the great orb of day, spin it into threads of gold, and with

Two men employed at one of our hardware ness, and her countless packages, he beckon- stores were engaged this noon in putting up a lift one of them told the other to " spit on his Carriage after carriage we examined and hands," when both were nonpluseed by the though Davis detected no thief, he turned lady hastily exclaiming at the doubt do that ;