



vester leaned back in her chairwill, a sigh of seligh conflort as he held; as Japaneser screen, between her delicate face and the ardqut fire.

She was a handsome woman, who were diamonds and velvet as a queen wears royal robes; a wealthy woman used to command and control, haughty and degmatic in her positiveness.

And this evening she was in her most rositive, imperious mood "as she sat

And this evening she was in her most positive, imperious mood, as she sat there making her decision about Theo. Vincent. Then she rang for lights, and by the servant sent a message for Miss Vincent to wait upon her as soon as Master Garnier and Miss Giralda could dispense with her services.

It was ten minutes later when Theo obeyed the summons and came into Mrs. Silvester's presence—a slender.

obeyed the summons and came into Mrs. Slyvester's presence—a slender, pale-faced girl of sixteen or seventeen, with lovely brown eyes, soft as velvet, and a great mass of brown hair—a deli-cate, refined, thoughtful looking girl. who bore indisputable traces of having worked almost beyond her strength. She came quietly near to Mrs. Sylves-

"And now, if you'll allow me to see my patient," he said. And then he went in to find Theo de-lirious and talkative and entirely un-conscious. ter and stood awaiting that lady's

pleasure.
"I sent to have a word with you on a subject very distanteful to me, indeed. Miss Vincent," Mrs. Sylvester began. coldly. "I refer to a display of forwardness and boldness on your part to ward certain gentlemen I might name which has been called to my attention more than once. I desire to say that I more than once. I desire to say that I shall not tolerate any further attempts on your part, Miss Vincent, to flirt with gentlemen visiting at the house—notably with Dr. Pennington— Ah, do not not interrupt me, and I am indignantly

not interrupt me, and ramining analyse sorry to say, my son also!"

"Mrs. Sylvester, you..."

Theo attempted to gasp her protest but the cold, relentless voice resolutely hushed her.

but the cold, relentless voice resolutely hushed her.

"Denials are more than useless, Miss. Vincent. It is a notorious fact that you, a mere servant, a common nursery governess and a seamstress, boldly at terminal term you, a mere servant, a common nursery governess and a seamstress, boldly attempted to engross Dr. Pennington's attention last night, and one or two evenings last week when you were ordered to attend the children in the dered to attend the children in the drawing room. Again, upon more than one occasion you have inveigled my son into conversation with you—you.

Whom his mother hires as a servant!

Miss Vincent, I have-I. Theo was standing there, white and shivering, her eyes full of a horrified brushtification and insulted pride.

"Mrs. Sylvester." she interrupted, hotty, "I cannot permit you to launch such a torrent of abuse at me. It is not true that I have tried to first with your guest or your son. Dr. Pennington spoke to me and I answered, as any one would have done. As to your any one would have done. As to your

And her lips curled-a feature which

did not escape Mrs. Slyvester's eyes.
"We will not discuss the subject furthem. You have acted in this matter disgracefully, and in justice to my lit-tle innocent children I have decided to remove you from their care over them. You are discharged from to-night, and In place of a month's notice you can have a month's wages—as is my custom with all my servants. As to a character," and the cold eyes took a malicious look at the pale, trembling girl, "of course that is out of the question. You are excused, Miss Vincent." in place of a month's notice you can ion. You are excused, Miss Vincent."

She pushed along a roll of bills, but Theo did not touch it. Instead the girl's face grew suddenly cold and haughty, and she walked out without a syllable of further protest.

And somehow Mrs. Sylvester realized

that she had done something more than simply discharge a servant.

11. "It's a shame—a burning shame." Aunt Ibby said, indignantly. "It seems to me that nowadays the rich do nothing but grind the poor. You poor child, you—don't cry any more about it! That Sylvester woman isn't any very great shakes herself, you take my word for it, or she'd not be thinking such things about you. Don't cry, Theo. Chirk up, and we'll go out for a walk to Cen-

But Theo could not "chirk" up, not did she go with dear old Aunt Ibby for a walk to Central Park. Instead she had cried and worried herself into a hot fever that defied all home remedies —a fever that dened all home remedies
—a fever that ran higher and hotter,
until even Aunt Ibby thought it was
best to send for a doctor, and a doctor
was sent for by little Tim Maguffin,
next floor above. She shall accept me!"
"I think there is no danger of her refusing such an offer," said his mother.

"And be quick about it, too," said And the durk about It to a hard the durk about It is grimy hand. "You can run around to Dr. Perry's office in a few minutes, I know and tell lim to come right around."

too, as witness the footman with fold

ed arms, the proud stepping horse, the handsome robe.

And ragged little Tim, all unaware he was an instrument of unalterable fate, succeeded in attracting Dr. Pen-

account of Theo's illness.

"Of course It is not true," she said.

as he sat down beside the pure white cot, "I never flirted with Mr. Harry

Sylvester or Dr. Pennington either. It wasn't fair of her to turn me off without a character, was it? And Aunt Ibby and I are so poor!!

And, although he knew there was no

recognition in her bright eyes, still his face flushed. "She is very sick," he said, gravely.

"She is very sick," he said, gravely.
"I will see her again this afternoon,
Mrs. Bley."

A perfect afternoon, even for la belle

Paris, and Mrs. Sylvester, leaning back in her chair beside the window of her grande salon, thought that life in the gay city was the one thing desirable, and would be the one thing most glor-

ous were it not for her son Harry.
For her son, her darling, her chief pride, for whom nothing in all the world was too good, for whom mar-

riageable maidens and shrewd mothers

dismay, what would be the result of it all.

And "it all" meant that Harry Syl-

vester was in love with Mrs. Van Ren-seller's charming young friend and companion—Theo Vincent, whom, two years before, Mrs. Sylvester had turned

"She will not listen to me," Harry

had said to his mother before he went out that afternoon. "I tell you I must have her answer-her favorable an-swer, too-before another twenty-four

on would not sanction an engagement

that keeps us apart."
"You think that?" said Mrs. Sylves-

tell you, her just pride restrains her.

See here, mother, if you want to do me a favor—if you don't want to have me brought in dead some time—you will go and tell her you want her for your

And Mrs. Sylvester knew as she

looked upon her son's handsome, hag-gard face, that even if it killed her to humble herself she must do it for his

"It is awfully cruel of you!" she said

You can take your choice-Theo

"I mean it. She won't refuse me, if

you ask her. By jove! she is the only woman in the world I shall ever ask.

a little of the old scornfulness in her

Vincent for your daughter, or - get along without me!"

out of doors.

daughter.

er most valued was Dr. Pennington. III.

complish her errand and yet not sacrl-

ome to offer. She ordered her carriage and dressed

n a most elaborate toilet, was driven o Mrs. Van Ranseller's, where, sur-counded by all the luxuries of wealth

a street corner, wondering what on earth would become of Miss Theo, just as a doctor's carriage passed him—evi-dently a doctor's, and a well-to-do one,

fate, succeeded in attracting Dr. Pennington's attention.
"Say, you! you're wanted down to Miss Theo Vincent's—No. 86 Pollard street—sharp, too! Goin'?"
Theo Vincent! Clyde Pennington was surprised, and conscious of a pleasureable sensation along with it. "All right, my boy! I'll be there before you are."
And sure enough, when Tim reached home; there stood the doctor's carriage at the door, an object of, envious admiration for a score of urahins, while Dr. Pennington was sitting in Aunt o her errand. No doubt you will be quite surprised Dr. Pennington was sitting in Aunt Ibby's snug parlor explaining the cause of his appearance and listening to her

And Thee, her face expressive of surprise "listened, then replied:
"I think I do not at all understand pou, Mrs. Sylvester. You have evident-

undertaken some commission for ar son, but what, might I inquire?" This from the girl she had disgraced! But she put the curb on herself and went blandly on for her son's sake.

"Your delicacy certainly does you redit. I cannot express how delight-ully charming I find it, my dear Miss incent. Yes, I am commissioned by son to make you an offer of his my son to make you are one of his hand, his name, his position, his affections. And, Miss Vincent, if you will cliaritably permit me, I cordially inforse whatever will conduce to Harbid's happiness."

And for the first time in her life Mrs. Sylvester realized that she had eaten

A curious look swept over Theo's

Will you tell Mr. Sylvester, for me "Will you tell Mr. Sylvester, for me, please, that in the society in which I move it is not customary for gentlemen to do their proposals of marriage by proxy. Will you also be kind enough to tell him that under any circumstances I could not possibly consider his offer? And will you inform him that I have here energed to Dr. him that I have been engaged to Dr. Clyde Pennington for the past three months? And, as Mrs. Van Renseller's carriage is waiting, and I have an engagement at half-past 5 o'clock, be so

riageable mandens and shrewd moders had angled visibly and invisibly, who never yet had been disappointed or thyarted in all his life, was in a state of desperation and distress that made Mrs. Sylvester wonder, in agitation and ood as to excuse me, Mrs. Sylvester."

And so Theo's turn came, and like a oung duchess, she bowed to the womn who had, all unconsciously, been her While Mrs. Sylvester went back

b her son.
But as, a year afterward, Mrs. Dr Pennington, sitting in her luxurious parlor on Fifth avenue, read aloud to Aunt liby the notice of Harold Sylves-ter's marriage, it was self-evident he did not commit the suicide he threat-ened—unless, rushing into marriage with a pretty girl after a month's acquaintance be considered as such.—Sat-

The Sense of Smell in the Horse. Evidently the sense of smell, the scent, in the horse is not as well known or appreciated as it should be swer, too-before another twenty-four hours go over my head, mother. Unless I get her for my wife I'll shoot myself just as sure as fate. I love her—by George! I never cared so much for anything or anybody before, and it's only the memory of your cruel treatment of her—the feeling that she thinks you would rot spacing an engagement.

by their owners and drivers.

This sense is claimed to be as accurate in some horses as it is in the dog; and for those who have to drive at night, such as physicians, a knowledge of this fact is likely to prove valuable. One who has ridden hundreds of

er, tremblingly—a little dismayed.
"I know it," he answered, hotly. "She s gracious and kind, but beyond that, miles on dark nights says he has never known this power to fail. He conse quently advises that the horse "b ot checked in traveling at night Give the horse a free head then, and one may rest assured that he will

This is not praising the horse too highly, though it is quite probable that what thus appears is due quite as much to the splendid eyes of the noble animal as it is to the quality named.— Home and Farm.

Russian and Jap.

In the excessively cold climate of northern Russia all classes of people wear linen underclothes instead of woolens, and such a malady as a cold is unknown. The Russian of those loss not understand the latitudes does not understand meaning of rheumatism, bronchitis, catarrh or consumption. Japan is a country essentially humid and rainy. There are from 180 to 200 rainy days in the year. The changes of tempera-ture are sudden. The winter is very cold. The houses are exposed to every wind, The dress of the natives leaves voice. "Of course you will go," he answered the decidedly. "When I come back at 7 and o'clock to dinner I will hear what you folk around."

Bit Dr. Perry wasn't home—out of town for several days—and Tim's wits were nuzzled fo know whether, so long as Miss Theo was so awfully sick one doctor wasn't just as good as another, it all out, wondering how she could active to have to say from her.

Then he had gone, and Mrs. Sylves—had sat in trouble and dismay, thinking it all out, wondering how she could active to have to say from her. chest naked, winter and summer,

CAUSES OF STRANGE FIRES. her pride how she could conciliate to Vincent, and yet give the girl to erstand it was an honor she had

> Chemicals and Other Combinations and Others, ...

of leather belting against the edges of the aperture through which it passes from floor to floor.

In a fancy goods house a large from rault was blown open by some force generated within and there issued a sheet of fame. Nebody had been in the vault for at least twelve hours. The steef bax was a filled with paper dolls, between each pair of which there was a flu of celluidid. A three-inch roceiver a message of which I am earer, because usually such messages re delivered personally, Miss Vincent, but as I am willing to remove any obstacles from the way to my son's happiness I determined that in no better way could the accomplishment of his wishes be decided than by my coming in a perfectly friendly way to you."

In a perfectly friendly way to you."

Also had not sacrificed her a perfectly friendly way to you."

Also had not sacrificed her a degree that the celluloid had taken fire. Gun cotton is one of the componen. Gun cotton is one of the component parts of celluloid films and the explo-sion was the natural result of a combi-nation of the gun cotton and high tem erature. One of the most stubborn perature. The of the most actions fires which ever visited St. Louis, had its origin in a plate glass window. The pane domentrated the heat of the August sun upon a celluloid comb. The comb blazed and sputtered and soon

other samples of celluloid which were around it were on fire. The flames com municated to the remainder of a stock of inflammable merchandise. The overwhelming fondness of mice for sulphur has been the cause of many gires. A fireman told the writer that he had in several cases seen nests of matches which the rats and the mice to the floor and ignited fat soaked car matches which the fats and the mice had made between the floors of buildings. It is no unusual thing to find that rodents have lined their abodes with the hrimstone anointed sticks. The mice and rats will steal an old-fashioned sulphur match whenever they get an opportunity and take it away to chew at their leisure. The gnawing process results in the igniting of the matches and there follows a myster.

process results in the igniting of the matches, and there follows a mysterious and suspicious fire. The rodent regards parafin as a choice delicacy. If the insulation of an electric wire contains this waxy product of petroleum the rats will eat it. The bared wire thus becomes a ready means of sterling a blaze. starting a blaze.

In many cases the steamfitter is re-sponsible for destructive fires. If a steam pipe is too close to woodwork a slow process of carbonizing takes place.

A little extra heat or a draught of air may fan a flame from the carbonized wood. Another cause of conflagrations is the carclessness of carpetters. From is the carciers as so that the species is the trade to sweep the shavings in between the joists of floors. If either the wire or the shavings were properly insulated there would be no trouble. But in one way or another the wire is exposed and communicates a spark to the shavings which may be lying near it. The sparks may smolder for days, and then, in the dead of night, there comes a cry of "Fire!"

FIRE TRAPS OF THE RICH.

The houses of the wealthy, even in these days of fireproof construction, are often greater fire traps than the neanest tenements. abodes of wealth and luxury are often defective. In many cases only the width of a brick intervenes between in-tense heat and highly varnished and inflammable cabinet work. Rich hangings and uphelstered furniture give the food upon which the fire feeds. Defective electric wiring has many sins to answer for in these days. Electricians who are supposed to be competent will cross wires and violate nearly every principle of common sense and electri-cal science. Some of them lead strands of wire through wooden boxes, which in the event of fire, become roaring flues. Some of the most descructive fires known in the large cities have been due to carelessness in placing the

been due to carelessness in placing the wires for electric lighting.

There is a mysterious property in dust which under certain conditions, produces violent explosions. There have been instances in postoffices where the dust of the mail bags suspended in the rear of a close room exploded with terrific force. Dust explosions are of frequent occurrence in floir and drug mills.

Sportgeous combustion covers a

Spontaneous combustion covers a nultitude of sins of carelessness. The rigin of many fires in tailor shops may to traced to the so-called dry cleaning of clothes. A rag dipped in naphtha is requently used in removing grease poots from garments. The rag soaked with inflammable fluids is thrown upon

the floor,
When the shop is closed up and the lashion, owin air is confined the maphtha soaked material will of itself generate fire. Bales of cotton placed in the hold of a ship Brandicourt.

As Mrs. Van Renseller's friend society had opened its most exclusive doors, and Theo had found herself a favorite in pleasant social circles, where her personal attractiveness, her sweet winsomeness, her refined intelligence, held the position given her.

And Harold Sylvester had renewed his acquaintance with his mother's discharged governess, and—

This was the result—Mrs. Sylvester was the waited in the shift of themselves. It was only a few years also have to come, with whom she was to plead in her son's behalf.

It seemed like some impossible bursels and sweetness, in her soft, white dress.

And then Theo Vincent came in, a vision of elegance and loveliness and sweetness, in her soft, white dress.

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And the Theo Vincent came in, a vi

whole kitchen is in flames.

Prequent recommendations have been made by the chiefs of city fire departments that the swinging gas bracket be abolished by law. Whenever the authorities get a chance they order such brackets to be removed or made stationary. Hundreds of fires have been caused by the carelessness of persons who left these swinging brackets in such a rosition that the flame could such a position that the flame coulc come in contact with lace curtains With a special reference apparently to causing as many fires as possible the rasfitter too frequently puts a swing ing bracket where he knows the house keeper will wish to hang a lace curtain The combination of curtain and brack et is often fatal.

One of the most active causes of fires is the mantel decoration. In many homes a siken scarf is hung from the mantel itself. Whenever there is a fire in the grate there is danger of the flimsy scarf taking fire. In tenement houses small stoves are often placed before the mantel. The mantel shelves are none the less duly decorated with to the floor and ignited fat soaked carpet or matting. In some honses there
are wardrobes and clothes closets near
the chimneys. The clothing hung behind the closed doors and subjected in
the whiter time to a steady beat from
the chimney is liable to combustion.
In places where chemicals are kept
the varieties of fires are almost countless. Comparatively innocent substances in themselves may come in contact and generate heat sufficient to

stances in themselves may come in contact and generate heat sufficient to start a lively blaze. One of the Atlantic freighters came to port recently with a cargo composed of crude chemicals and cotton. There had been an explosion of acids and a fire. It seemed impossible to check the flames, which had communicated to the cotton. The fire, however, generated heat sufficient to liberate the chlorine from a quantity of bleaching powder. The chlorine materially aided in keeping the fire in check, although its suffocating fumes nearly caused the death of some of the sailors who went into the hold to fight

allors who went into the hold to fight the flames.

In the storage of all kinds of materials too much care cannot be exercised. The fact must be taken into consideration that where air does not circulate the chances of fire are greatly increased. The observance of the simple rules laid down by fire department pie rules laid down by line departments would frequently obvinte the necessity of investigating the origin of mysterious fires. Investigation, shows that less than one per cent, of "suspicious" fires are the result of deliberate attempts to destroy property.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

New Carbon Compound.

At a recent meeting of the Academy of Sciences of France, held at Paris, M. Henri Moissan presented a paper concerning the preparation and characteristics of a new carbon compand anytaining molybdenum. This companyaming molybdenum. terismes of a new carbon compound containing molybdenum. This com-pound is obtained by heating charcoal with melted molybdenum and alum-inum in an electric furnace. The re-sultant metallic mass is treated with suitant meanine mass is treated with a concentrated solution of potash, and needles of well defined crystals of the new carbon compound are obtained. The substance is very hard, is hard-ly attacked by acids other than nitric.

and is not decomposed by water of steam at a temperature below 600 de grees C. It resembles the carbure of tungsten, already known, which is not considered surprising, as the met als tungsten and molybdenum as much alike. It is thought that this ne nd may play a role in molyb

denum steels.

The method of preparation shows that even at a rather high temperature (that of boiling aluminum) a molybdenum compound is obtained which contains twice as much carbon as the compounds formed at the highest heat obtainable in the electric furnace.— United States Consul Covert, Lyons,

Plants so highly charged with essential oil that fragments of their leaves move about on water in a mysterious fashion, owing to capillary action, day to the spreading of the oil on the sur-face, are described by M. Virgila



ONE GIRL'S WISDOM. He asked the maiden for a kiss, But her answer failed to come; She knew that silence gave conse So she kept on keeping mun. —Chicago N

HARD HEADED.

'He's got a fine head for business What business? 'Playing football."-Cleveland Plain

HE KNEW. Mrs. Benham—"What are the first signs of insanity?"

Benham—"In a man, marriage."—

Town Topics EARMARKS. "How do you know that they are not married?"
"Isn't he carrying all the packages?"
—Detroit Free Press.

WISE BOY. Pop-"Bobby, if I were to give you a dog and some one else gave you a cat, what would you have?"

Bobby - "Trouble." - Detroit Free

CONSOLING.

Miss Slim—"Would you love me nore, dear, if I weren't so thin?" Her Flance—"Of course not; the carer the bone, the sweeter the meat." —Detroit Free Press.

THE RESULT.

Johnny—"Papa, what does it mean when you say a man is good at re-partee?"

"It means he hasn't any friends."-Cincinnati Commercial Tribune. UP-TO-DATE.

"Are you going to send your daugh-ter to boarding school this fall?".
"No; she is going of her own accord; we don't presume to dictate to our children."—Detroit Free Press.

HIS INCENTIVE.

Friend—"My boy, how can you manage to inject such a note of pure optimism into all your daily writings?" Press Humorist-"Easy. The boss old me he'd fire me if I didn't."

SURE WAY. "How can we keep man at a distance?" screamed the woman in the "By wearing, crinoline," responded the one in the ragian.—Chicago News.



He-"I hear you won your breach of promise suit. Did you get all the \$16, She-"Sure; I married my lawyer."

LEAP YEAR AT THAT. "She is the stiffest, most unbending

"She is the stiffest, most unbending summer girl I ever saw."
"How is that?"
"Why, she won't even stoop to pick up an acquaintance."—Chicago Jour-

OF COURSE.

"Do you suppose," murantred the thoughtful Theresa, "that insects have any sense of beauty?"
"Why, of course," replied frivolous Faunie, "don't the moths always get into the prettiest clothes?"

THE REQUISITE.

Briggs—"Mrs. Pacer is a very oright woman, judging from my inter-riew with her." Griggs-"What did she say?"

Briggs-"Nothing much. But she approved of what I said."-Detroit Free

THEY AGREE.

Mother-"Oh, you careless boy! Just ook at that new suit of yours. There's no use telling you to keep clean."

Tommy—"Great minds run in de same channel, mom. A'm been thinkin' de same thing."—Philadelphia Public ledger.

STRONG.

"Young man," whispered the old spellbinder, "there are some things about this campaign that will take your breath away."

"You don't say!" responded the young man. "Are you alluding to the campaign digar?"—Chicago News.

A BUM HERO.

"Pa," said little Johnny, "what are you readin' about?" "About a hero named 'Horatius,' my

son."
"Was he a baseball hero, pa?"

"A football hero, then?"

"No, my child."
"What sort of a hero was he, pa "He was a hero," replied the patient father, "who held the enemy at bay

and saved his city from destra

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