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# The Puzzling

"Bring her some strawberries, Mr. Bonnington," said Mrs. Dale. "By-thebye, I may as well remark that I don't intend to call you Mr. Bonnington very long. I shall drop into plain 'Rudolph' very soon, if only to give a fresh shock to the neighborhood, to whom I am Shocker in ordinary."
"The sooner the better. I can't understand anythody below Mr. Bonning. derstand anybody being Mr. Bonnington but my father. Now, he looks equal to the dignity, while I don't. I always feel that there is a syllable too many for me, and that people deme in consequence." Mabin, who had recovered the use of her eyes, felt rather envious. The quick give-and-take of light talk like this was so different from the solemn conversations carried on at home, where her father laid down the law ter of this feeling quickly, and looked up keenly at her companion and everybody else agreed with him, up keenly at her companion. that she felt this levity, while pleasant and amusing, to be something which would have caused the good folk at home to look askance.
"And how have you been, child, since

that unhappy day when I saw you And Mrs. Dale came to the next "Oh, I've been getting on all right, but it is tiresome not to be able to likely?" where. Don't you think that seems walk without those things walk without those things, and it has made me in everybody's way," sighed thought, but she answered indig-'How is that?"

abroad as he wanted to, when the acsident happened, only I couldn't well be moved then; and now that I could go he has lost the house he heard of Rudolph looked not suitty but grave.

I monorable to run away without paying one's debts, and I don't think you as a stop-gap his speech was accepted on all hands as the creditable effort of a capable understudy, and it certainly was effective so far as it went go he has lost the house he heard of at Geneva, and one which he could have now is too small for us. so that I feel I am in the way again." "Do you mean," asked Mrs. Dale quite eagerly, "that they could go if only they could dispose of you?"
"Yes. There is one room short."

Little Mrs. Dale sprang up, and the color in her cheeks grew pinker. "Do you think," she asked, after a moment's pause, "that your parents would allow you to stay with me-if you would come?" she finished, with a plaintive note of entreaty on the last

"Oh, I am sure they would, and I am sure I would," cried Mabin, with undisguised delight. And then quite suddenly the face of black-robed lady grew ashy-grey, and she sank down into her chair, trembling from head to foot.

"No; I-I mustn't ask you," she said, hoarsely. And there was a silence, during which both her young hearers cast down their eyes, feeling that they dared not look at her. It was Mabin who spoke first. Putting her hand between the two white hands of Mrs.

Dale, she said, gently: "Is it because you are lonely you want me to come?" She did venture to look up then, startled by the shiver which convulsed Mrs. Dale as she spoke, and in the blue eyes she saw a look of terror has told of the pillow made of a wood-"Lonely! Oh, child, you will never know how lonely!" burst from her pale

"Then I will come," said Mabin. "I should like to come." There was another silence. Mrs. it is necessary to have mosquito nets, Dale had evidently to put strong constraint upon herself to check an outburst of emotional gratitude. Rudolph. moved himself by the little scene, was looking out of the window. The lady in black presently spoke again, very I don't think you will be very much bored, dear, and you will be doing a great kindness to a fellow-creature.

And yet—I hardly like—I don't feel

"But I feel that I must and shall," said Mabin brightly. "You don't know how beautiful it would be for ime to feel that at last, for a little while, I shouldn't be in the way!" And the overgrown girl, who was snubbed at home, had tears in her eyes at the remembrance of the kind touch which she had felt on the day of her Accident. Mrs. Dale was too much moved to say much more, but it was agreed between the ladies that the suggestion should be formally made by the tenant of "The Towers" to the heads of the household at "Stone House" without delay, that Mabin should stay with her new friend dur-

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ing the absence abroad of the rest of the Rose family. Mabin did not notice, while talked, that Rudolph remained not only silent, but somewhat constrained; but it was not until she took her leave of Mrs. Dale, and he followed her out, that the young girl attached any im-

portance to his reserve.

Once out of hearing of Mrs. Dale, who steod on the stone steps to bid them good-bye, Rudolph asked her "Do you think they'll let you come?"
"Oh, yes, they'll only be too glad to.

set rid of me. Why do you ask in "Well, there is something I think I ought to tell you, if you are thinking of staying with Mrs. Dale." "Well, what is it?"

"It is that she is being watched." "Watched!" "Yes, by a stranger-a man whom I have never seen in the place before. He hovers about this place, keeping out of range of possible eyes in the house, at all hours of the day and even of the night."

"But how do you know this?" The words slipped out of her mouth, and it was not until she saw Rudolph redden that she saw that she was too "I am sure of what I say, anyhow,"

said he, quietly.

Mabin looked thoughtful.

"I don't care!" she said, at last.

"I thought you wouldn't." "And I shan't tell anybody anything

about it.' "I was sure you wouldn't." "But I shall tell Mrs. Dale." Rudolph stopped and looked at her. "I think you had better not do

that," he said. "But why should a person watch her, except with the intention of trying to do her some harm?" "Well, I don't know. But I think if you do tell her, knowing how highly nervous she is, you will do her more harm that ever the mysterious watcher would. Perhaps you would drive her out of the place, in which case, most assuredly, the watcher would go after her; while if we keep her here, perhaps we may manage to draw his fangs."

Mabin felt frightened. Then, being "What do you exactly mean by

that?" she asked. "Only that I will get hold of the man quietly, and find out what his little game is. Though I can guess." "Well, you can tell me what your guess is? "Why, debt, of course. One can see chair and piled sugar on the straw- she is inclined to be extravagant, and very likely she has run up bills some-

His tone was rather anxious, Mabin nantly: "No, I don't. It would be very dis-

"Well," said he, "people don't hang about a place at the risk of being taken up on suspicion of loitering for the new policy, the number of the nu purpose of committing a felony, without some reason." "Why," cried Mabin, triumphantly, "that is the reason! Mrs. Dale has

some lovely diamond rings, and the loitering gentleman wants to steal Rudolph, doubtfully.
"I am sure of it," retorted Mabin, resolutely, and she held out her hand.
"Good by and she held out for your most forcefully strikes the popular

about the Roses?" said he, as he took fact that the action of Russia and fact hand, and thought he liked grey Germany is likely to lead to the ad-"Perhaps," said Mabin, cautiously, as she hopped away on her crutches. (To be continued.)

HOW THE JAPANESE SLEEP. [K. Mitsukuri in the Atlantic.] When night comes, beds are prepared. Bedding is brought out from the closets where it has been put away during the day. One or two large thick futons or cushions are spread directly on the may be raised. The whole tendency mats of bedrooms, and coverings which look like enormous kimono or clothes are spread over them. Every traveler concert over the Sick Man's estate, en box, with a little cylindrical cushion tiation, intrigue and compromise, but on the top, but this kind of pillow is no fighting, when there is room enough going out of fashion. Softer cylindrical for all in Asia. pillows, made by stuffing a cloth bag with husks of buckwheat, are now

which generally inclose the whole As a rule, Japanese families retire early. Ten o'clock is about the average time. Eleven is considered late. A function that begins at 9 or 10, and lasts they say, "even ghosts, who are comme il faut, retire by that hour."



dren? What mother does not want them healthy, laughter. loving and able to

What

withstand the ordinary illnesses of childhood? Any woman may insure the health of her children who will take proper care of her health in a womanly way. The health of her children depends almost entirely upon her general health, and particularly upon the health and strength of the delicate and important organs that bear the burdens of maternity. A woman has no right to disregard her own health, comfort, ease and happiness, she certainly has less right to condemn her children to a life of suffering or an early death. That is what she does if she neglects the health of her special womanly organism. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is an unfailing remedy for all disorders of this description. It strengthens and invigorates the sensitive organs concerned, and is the best preparation for the trials and dangers of maternity. It insures the well being of the mother and the health of the child. Its use is a guarantee of a bountiful supply of nourishment for the little new-comer. Many women who once bore children only to speedily lose them, are now mothers of healthy, robust children as the result of the use of this

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### Cabled Comment

On Old World Topics-Britain's Good Bargain in China-Elated Over Success in the Soudan.

South African Affairs Coming to the Front Again -Mr. Gladstone's Condition-A New Commander for British Troops in Canada.

London, April 11.—Telegrams from in accordance with the policy of the paragraphic talk of the anger of the jingo section of the British cabinet. St. Petersburg talk of the anger of the Another correspondent says: "Mr. Russian newspapers over Britain's coup Rhodes is quite confident of the success St. Petersburg talk of the anger of the at Wei Hai Wei, but there is good of the progressive movement in Cape ground for saying that the Russian Government realizes that Britain's action was the natural sequel of Russia's own action at Port Arthur. There is good authority for saying that Russia has practically apologized for her seizure of Port Arthur. She has assured the British Government that she only took this step because forced to it by the position of affairs at Pekin, and South African Anglo-Dutch confedermust soon be attracted into a powerful reiterated her desire to respect British acy, under the British flag. With this treaty rights with China. In fact, she made the most friendly possible exmitting to Mr. Chamberlain important mitting to Mr. Chamberlain important cuses. Britain has, by leasing Wei proposals for imperial co-operation." Hai Wei, gone a long way towards securing predominance in the North Pacific, which Russia's presence at Port Arthur might otherwise destroy. She has, moreover, done this by an arrangement with the Japanese Government, which was perfectly friendly, and in no way impedes future co-operation between England and Japan. She has prevented foreign encroachment upon the Yang Tse Valley, has kept

the imperial maritime customs under British control, has opened up great Chinese waterways to steamers of all nations, and has obtained the opening of new treaty ports, which include two of immense significance to British commerce, namely, Ching Wang Toa.
right in the Gulf of Pe Chi Li, and Yow Chow, a lake far up the Yang Tse Valley. As for the future, Britain means at all hazards to preserve such naval paramountcy in the North Pacific as will enable her to insist upon the policy of an open door. BRITAIN'S GAIN IN THE EAST.

Harold Frederic says: "As was exected, the talk of a war with Russia fizzled out before Mr. Balfour delivered "Papa could have let the house to go honorable to run away without paying up his sleeve a declaration of war. from foreign office paper to the domain of action are not so bad. To have opened three more treaty ports and insured that the fine valley of the Yang Tse Kiang shall be the stalking ground for no other European power is something; but to have secured a share in the control of the naval ac-"Well, perhaps you are right," said tivity in the Gulf of Pe Chi Li, and to most forcefully strikes the popular imagination. An important English "And you will remember my parable ship owner testifies strongly to the vancement of British shipping interests. In a speech at the launch of the steamer Laureldale at Newcastle the managing owner said his firm had already been asked to take merchandise to Port Arthur and rails to Kiao Chau, and he is certain that a very important trade will be carried on at these ports, chiefly by British steamers. Britain has served notice in terms intelligible on the continent that she is alert and on the ground whenever of the new departure in policy is pacific, since it involves a fresh European

> THE ATBARA VICTORY. Rejoicing over the victory in the Soudan is universal in Great Britain. The fall of Khartoum is regarded as not long delayed, and the tardy avenging of Gen. Gordon has stirred the patriotic pulse of the nation. It is believed that the defeat of the Dervishes is so overwhelming that a sudtill the small hours of the morning not improbable, in which case the adfairly staggers the Japanese. "Why," vance upon Khartoum will be prompt den collapse of the khalifa's rule is vance upon Khartoum will be prompt and almost unopposed. The situation on the Nile has been marvelously cleared by the brilliant victory of the sirdar's forces. The British soldiers Or slip away ter dreamlan' in almost equal steadiness and dash, and so well was the two hours' battle planned that the defeat of the Dervishes was the most decisive one in the whole aistory of desert campaigning. The pacification and redemption of the sirdar's title to the peerage has been established. It requires courage for anybody to avow himself a Little Englander in the face of such exhibitions of old-time British valor and military skill in organizing victory.

THE BOER REPUBLIC. The presence of Cecil Rhodes in London has given rise to much comment as to South African affairs. opinion seems to be general among the ondon correspondents that Mr. Rhodes' visit to England bodes ill for President Kruger and the Transvaal One writer says: "The rethat Portugal was coqueting with Germany in connection with Delagoa Bay has been denied, but there was sufficient truth in it to induce Britain to make inquiries at Lisbon as to the reasons for Gov. Albuquerque's presence in Berlin. The inquiries instituted at the instance of Mr. Chamberlain elicited a satisfactory statement from the Portuguese Government. Ever since Emperor William's famous telegram to President Kruger, Mr. Chamberlain has entertained a strong belief that Germany has made the continuance of Transvaal independence a part the German imperial policy. But it is as certain as British determination can make it that the Boer Republic will cease to exist within the next two years. That is Mr. Chamberlain's policy, and he wants Delagoa Bay in British hands before that time comes. If Portugal will not sell, the British cabinet, in the opinion of the colonial secretary, ought to pick a quarrel with Pertugal and seize the place as the prize of war. Other members of the cabinet are known to agree with Mr. Chamberlain, and public opinion is being steadily educated in this direction. Mr. Rhodes is managwill be sent to any address upon receipt of 37 one-cent stamps to cover cost of customs and mailing only. Address Dr. R. V. Hierce, Buffalo, N. Y. The "Favorite Prescription" is for sale by all dealers and Transvaal-Delagoa Bay business will appear to the business here and in South Africa, and shrewd men declare that when things are temporarily quieted down in the far east, the Transvaal-Delagoa Bay business will rapidly come to a head for settlement

Colony. He will assume the premiership of Cape Colony, and next year in-tends to make a decided move to secure the federation of Cape Colony, Natal and Rhodesia, for the better securing of British paramountcy in South Africa. He calculates that with this strong federation, not on racial lines, but on a clear basis of British supremacy, the Orange Free State and the Transvaal

GERMANY'S POSITION. Not without significance is the fact that the Queen has just placed one of her Highland residences at the disposal of the Empress of Germany for this summer. The kaiser himself will probably visit his grandmother, for the first time since his luckless telegram to President Kruger. Indeed, everything just now suggests that England and Germany are finding afresh how much

they really have in common in their foreign policy. MR. GLADSTONE. The latest news of the aged stateman who is slowly dying at Hawarden, is that the disease must reach a fatal termination within seven or eight weeks. In a younger man the final stage, as the disease progresses inward toward the brain, might be insanity.
This will not probably be the case with Mr. Gladstone, whose vitality will not survive that point.

COMING TO CANADA. It is understood that Lord William seymour, uncle of the Marquis of his Chinese speech in the House of Gen. Montgomery Moore, in command Commons which so disappointed those of the British troops in Canada. Lord sanguine Britons who thought he had Seymour was born in 1838; first served in the navy as midshipman; entered the Coldstream Guards in 1855; be-Rudolph looked not guilty, but grave. tainly was effective so far as it went.

The practical results of the new policy. came major-general in 1889, and lieutenant-general in 1896. He served in paign, and was at one t quartermaster-general.

TREND OF TRADE.

Business Fairly Active in Canada, With Hopeful Prospects.

New York, April 11.-R. G. Dun & Co.'s review says: There is a fairly active state of business in Canada, with hopeful prospects on the whole. At St. John business is moderate in groceries and drygroods, and fair in hardware, with about the usual spring purchases of fishing gear. Retail trade is well kept up, with collections about the

There is an active movement in drygoods, millinery and clothing at Halifax, with an average demand for groceries and hardware, with stocks moving freely. Lumber is still inactive, foreign markets being well supplied. Montreal reports navigation opened. Spring rates have gone into force on the railroads, and heavy merchandise trade is of satisfactory character. Colections are fair to good, and money stiffer, at 5 per cent on call. Toronto reports good business gener ally, with collections satisfactory, though Klondike trade is less active. Failures for the week were 232 in the

United States, against 252 last year; and 32 in Canada, against 36 last year. SUMMER FEELIN'S.

There's a sorter feel o' summer in the lazy, daisy air, An' the shummin' birds air comin' an' the blooms are ever'where; An' a feller feels like noddin' when thar's any work ter do, Or loafin' roun' in medders whar the daisy drinks the dew.

It's wishin' time an' fishin' time, an' time fer stayin' still Whar the song birds in the blossoms air a-singin' fit ter kill! Ter feel yer hair a-wavin' in the vi'letdronin' o' the bees.

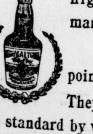
It ain't no time for thinkin'; it ain't no time ter stay In the city, when the coolin' shades air road to Khartoum has been opened, the Fer folks up the the city jest get a Soudan have been hastened, and the When thar's miles of it unclouded, in the medders, over you!

I like the lazy, daisy, springtime feelin' -like ter be Whar the blossoms air a-rainin' all their richness over me! That's the time you'll fin' me noddin' when thar's any work ter do, Or loafin' roun' in medders, whar the daisy drinks the dew! -Atlanta Constitution.

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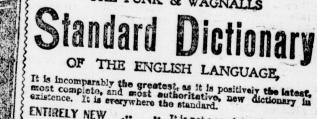
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