

THE
STUDENTS' MONTHLY.

THE KNIGHTS OF MAPLE WOOD.

CHAPTER IX.

"How well Horatius kept the bridge."

LORD MACAULAY.

"The members of the Guild of S. Basil request the attendance of Edward Ellis, at a meeting to be held this evening at seven." Such were the contents of a note which Edward found awaiting him on his return home. It was not the regular day of meeting, so Ned had little doubt but that some reference was intended to the event of the day—nor was he deceived—all the members were assembled, and when Edward entered the room where they met—it was the Warden's lecture room—Tremaine came forward and shook him by the hand.—"It is on a matter which very nearly concerns Ellis that I have called this meeting," he said. "It strikes me that an occasion like this, is just the time when we, with our organization, standing as we do between the boys and the masters, may do some good. We all know the circumstance which has happened in Major Ellis' home with regard to this bracelet. I think I may take it on myself to say that no one here suspects or has for a moment suspected Edward Ellis. But I think it might be well if Ellis will give us his confidence as fully as he can on this occasion; he may be able to put us in a position to assert his entire freedom from suspicion, nay perhaps to lay our wits together so as to discover the guilty person. What say you, Ellis?"

"It is just what I have been wishing for. I can trust you all with what I would not tell to any one else outside my own family. I can not, as you will see, even tell it to them. I was in the room with my father when the alarm of the theft was given—we all went with him to search the house—with the exception of the servants, who were with mamma in the kitchen; well the first room he came to was my cousin Edith's room. On the toilet table lay the cross concealed under a pincushion which covered it, but so awkwardly that part of the peculiar red colored gold could be seen. As soon as I saw it, I made up my mind. I knew it had been put there by some enemy of hers, and I knew who that enemy was." It was a person who has no principle whatever—and who will never rest till she