THE CATHOLIC REGISTER

NO EASY MARK

(By Marvin Dana.)

how.

"And then?"

ences.'

"Oh!" The managing editor of the Mercury ble. A black suit, very shiny, gave a step into the hallway of a bleak and Stanley stood aghast at the unexregarded his nephew with an indul- funereal air. gent smile.

ing the hot weather. The bigger our cautions. the readers interested in the work, however, he smiled at himself, He ed to the ruffian and muttered a moment of contact, he must have Sunday.

man said as the editor paused. "I am those days, article for the Sunday edition."

"Exactly. Here is a list of persons spoke to Stanley: for you to call on, and in addition you must use your wits as to whom ing water in a place like this." you will approach. You have a free hand.

Stabley Hart put the list in his pocket and walked out of the manag- here," the other continued, "but you ing editor's office dazed. needn't be. I know the proprietor,

He was just from college, and totally without journalistic experience. he sells a very decent beer." The task before him seemed impossible of achievement. The duty as don't care for beer-I never drink it." to the story was so vague as to be To himself he was thinking that the frightful. man's boasted acquaintance with the

editor's nephew rendered the situa- much in his favor, while his eagertion more difficult, for he knew that ness to induce another to drink was his work would be sharply criticized distinctly suspicious. Then, too, he by all the staff and by the editor him- persisted in his efforts to maintain a self.

However, when presently the confusion of his thoughts passed, he perceived that his first duty was simple enough-to call on the persons named in his list, and to this he straightcity? way devoted himself.

He hoped that some idea of startling originality would come to him him the truth? eventually; as yet his mind was a blank. He thanked his stars that he need not begin the actual writing of other know his position, and any intil the next day.

doned. With one exception he found each of the persons named in his list, and each one responded to his appeal with a generous subscription. This encouraged Stanley and gave him the en- wered with dignity. thusiasm necessary to stimulate his I'm over here on a story for the pa-

It was about four o'clock when he had completed the calls required by stantly. Hitherto curious, it now the table were of the simplest and the sprang to

The man shifted his glance as Stan- start at once," the other suggested. If he had but a weapon! Stay, he ley looked up, and allowed the young "I have finished my glass of beer." had his jack-knife, a large one; it "Why, yes," Stanley said, reluc- might serve to some purpose in a man to study him at leisure. Stanley's impression was one of tantly, and the two rose and passed hand-to-hand struggle.

He thrust his hand into his trousstrong distrust. The man's appear- out of the concert hall. "Get some money, anywiele, any- ance was by no means prepossessing. At the first corner, the stranger ers pocket for the knife. As he drew He was gaunt almost to ghastli- turned from the avenue toward the it forth, something in the unaccus ness; a pair of blue spectacles hid the river, and walked rapidly through the tomed emptiness of the pocket at-

"Then make a story of your experi- sunken eyes and emphasized the pal- evil-smelling, squalid street until the tracted his attention. for of the face, on which a day's next avenue was but a few rods dis- On the second he knew that his roll

"You won't often see any one drink-

"No, I suppose not," Stanley

"Thank you," Stanley said; "but I

Stanley hesitated a second. Should

he deceive the man, or should he tell

He decided that a half-truth would

best serve his purpose. Once let the

tention of fleecing him must be aban-

No confidence man would dream of

The incident aroused him to a

"If you don't mind telling me what

could be no possible harm in reveal-

As a matter of fact, the comments

'Splendid!'' the stranger ejaculated,

agreed.

beard showed an untidy black stub- tant. Then he ascended the single of bills was gone. cheerless tenement, and mounted the pectedness of the catastrophe. He was

Stanley's first thought was that the stairs. "Perhaps I had better go over it man might be an Anarchist; incident- On the first landing they passed a without his knowing it.

again," he said. "You see, our ice- ally, he might be a pickpocket. This burly man with lowering, fierce face, His mind flew over the events of the fund is one of our best features dur- thought induced Stanley to take pre- roughly clad, who bestowed on Stan- last half-hour in vain, until suddenly ley a glance that recalled all his he remembered that the man had collections, the more free ice we have Secretly, beneath the table, he shift- worst fears for his personal safety. brushed against him ever so slightly for distribution among the poor. And ed his roll of bills, which was next His apprehensions were not lessened as he entered the room, in order to to get the collections, we have to keep the man, to the left. As he did so, by the fact that his companion nodd- close the door behind him. In that

So we run something about the fund guessed that he was oversuspicious. phrase in passing. achieved the theft with marvelous every day, and a long story every But he had no mind to lose his At the head of the next flight he dexterity.

money, which amounted to a hundred looked down, and to his dismay saw The reporter's thoughts raced over "I think I understand," the young dollars-a very large sum to him in that the man, who had been descend- the possibilities of the situation. It ing on their arrival, had now turned might be that now, since the plunder

to spend the day trying to get sub- The girl with the atrocious voice and was coming slowly up the stairs. had been secured, he might be alscriptions for the fund, and then withdrew from the platform. As if write up my experiences to make an he had been waiting for this, the ca-A wild desire for flight assailed lowed to depart uninjured, if he made daverous stranger leaned forward and see no hope of escape with this guard But against this was the fact that

on the stairway below him. For the he carried a number of checks in his present he must strive to conceal his breast-pocket, and these might well suspicions and watch out warily. be tempting to the robber. Oh, if he But he shuddered at the situation in which he found himself. The presence of the second man made him realize the extent of his peril. But he shuddered at the situation in had but the sense to pack a revolver before he ever wandered into this re-gion of crime! His eyes fell on the table. which he found himself. The presence before he ever wandered into this re-"You're afraid to drink the beer of the second man made him realize gion of crime!

amazed that the deed had been done

the extent of his peril. He was unarmed, and he knew that Was it possible that there might be and you may take my word for it- he could hope for no help were he able a weapon in the drawer, or someto make an outery, for in such a where in the bed-room? There was neighborhood interference against little likelihood of it, but he must crimes of violence must be too dan- not neglect any chance, however gerous, did any even wish to offer it. small. He strove to comfort himself with the He moved swiftly to the table. The

The fact that he was the managing proprietor of such a resort was not thought that his predicament was the keys dangled from the lock, but it result of his devotion to his paper, was not fastened, and it yielded to but he failed to experience the mar- his quick pull. tyr's consolation, for he could not es- All the contents lay revealed at the

cape the conviction that he had only first glance. There were some sheets conversation, despite Stanley's aloof manner. "I suppose you are just slumming," he suggested a moment later. "Are you acquainted with this part of the city?" city?" city?" city?" city? city? city? city? city? city? city? city? conversation, despite Stanley's aloof conversation the blue glasses paused before a door on the third floor and unlocked it. "Wait just a moment, please," he said, "until I light the gas." conversation the dear golden gleam of conversation the stanley's aloof conversation the conve

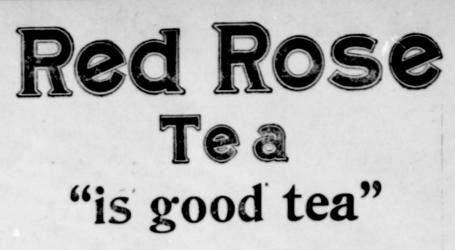
the twenty-dollar bill which he had put on the outside with a boyish de-sire of display. He plucked the roll forth and thrust it into his pocket. The possession of it gave him new spirit for the fray. He had his mon-ey, and he had at least his knife. It occurred to him that in his des-perate situation he might gain a He opened the door and stepped in- the twenty-dollar bill which he had to the room. Stanley, waiting in the doorway, sire of display. He plucked the roll ould hear the footsteps of the other forth and thrust it into his pocket. man ascending the third flight of stairs.

There was a flare of light within the ey, and he had at least his knife. room, and the voice of his host perate situation he might gain a sounded: "Come in, please," and Stanley en- strategic advantage by becoming the

victimizing a newspaper reporter. attacker instead of the attacked. By Immediately the door was shut be-prompt boldness he might win through the dangers that beact his tered. Having reasoned thus, Stanley anshind him. Yet his first rapid glance the dangers that beset him. "I'm a reporter on the Mercury,

the dangers that beset him. No sooner did the thought come to him than he acted on it. He dared not delay for an instant, lest his resoluabout him was reassuring. well be, but it was clean, and in a delay for an instant, lest his resolu-The stranger's manner changed in-

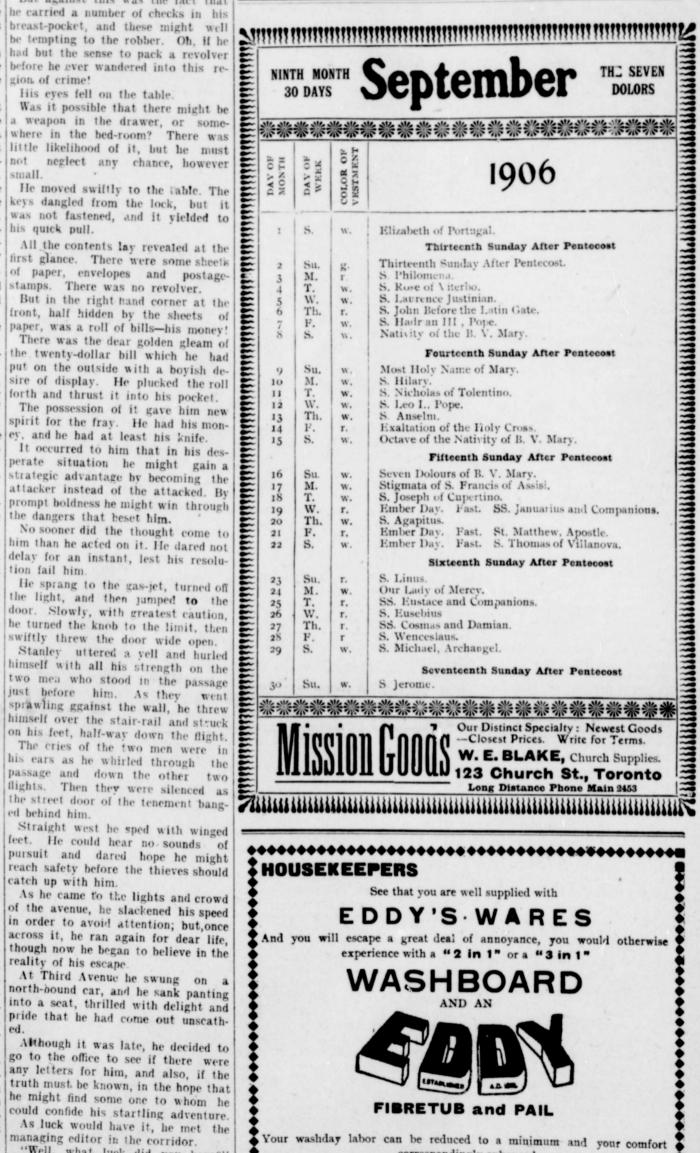
the list, and he set forth at once to carry out an idea that had come to him. This was to contrast the points of view in reference to this charity of the wealthy whom he had already stantly. Hitherto curious, it now became genial. "Oh," he exclaimed, "I was won-dering about you. You didn't have just the style of a slummer, and I



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Thursday, September 27th, 1905

of the wealthy whom he had already visited and of the poor; of the refined, presumably virtuous in the list and of the coarse and perhaps vicious dwellers on the East Side.

His experiences were many and varied, but nothing occurred pertinent to this narrative until, at 10 o'clock in the evening, he entered a small and particularly noisy concert saloon on Avenue A.

The room was crowded with a motley assortment of men and women it annoved him that this man in an listening to a girl who sang in an atrocious voice from a platform at fact at a glance and comment on it. the far end, to the accompaniment of a tiny piano. Stanley espied a small stronger suspicion of his companion, table against the wall near the door, where one chair was vacant, and to man's next remark: this he made his way.

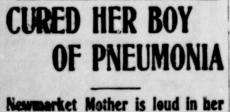
A blear-eved waiter paused before him, balancing on high his tray of empty beer-glasses. Stanley slipped able to give you some help. I know all Meanting his host h a quarter into the waiter's free hand. the region about here pretty thor- self at the table, and from a drawer

"Bring me a glass of water," he oughly." said.

Then, as the waiter turned away, he let his eyes rove over the crowd, and he shuddered at the stories writ- ing his mission to the man. ten on the faces of men and women alike. He had had little experience of this sharper might give him good of the city, and the revelation of hu- material for his article. He explainman depravity made by this crowd ed the purpose of his day's work. appalled him.

Doubtless, too, his imagination out- as Stanley paused. "It is a noble stripped reality and gave the scene a charity. Unless you have seen with horror for him that it did not in fact your own eyes the sufferings of the poor in the tenements during the bot possess. The waiter brought the glass of wa- weather you can have no idea of the

ter, and Stanley took a few sips me- great worth of the free ice.' chanically. As he set down the glass be felt the gaze of the ran next him man's voice that brought Stanley the table fixed on him intently.



Praises of the Great Consumption Preventative

My son Laurence was taken dows dregs of the East Side, should talk in opened the door, stepped into the hall th Pnoumenia," says Mrs. A. O. Fisher, such grandiloquent fashion and offer Newmarket, Ont. "Two doctors at-his gift in such lordly manner Put tended him. He lay for three months almost like a dead child. His lungs became so swollen, his heart was pressed over to the right side. Altogether I think the day s experiences. we paid \$140 to the doctors, and all the time he was getting worse. Then we duty to humor the man's schemes? commenced the Dr. Slocum treatment. Thus far he had nothing to go on hut

The effect was wonderful. We saw a his own suspicions. He had no proof hand. ifference in two days. Our boy was soon strong and well." Here is a positive proof that Psychine will cure Pneumonia. But why wait till Pneumonia comes. It always starts with Wo that the man was a villain, though evidence a-plenty tending to show the

Would it not be cowardly of him to a Cold. Cure the Cold and the Cold will efuse the stranger's invitation merenever develop into Pneumonia, nor the Pneumonia into Consumption. The one sure way to clear out Cold, root and branch, because there might be danger in going with him? Did he not owe to his paper and to the charity it repreand to build up the body so that the Cold won't come back is to use sented that he should boldly accom-



50c. Per Bottle

ward evil? "It is only a little way from here." the man remarked persuasively, as Stanley still hesitated.

"All right," the reporter agreed 'I'll go, of course. It's getting late. though," he added, in excuse for his all drugglots evident lack of willingness.

DR. T. A. SLOGUM, Limited, Teronto. "Then probably you would rather

swiftly threw the door wide open. fresh.

knew of course that you weren't in a Through an open door at the end place of this sort from any sympathy with the kind of life the patrons of opposite the window was a glimpse himself with all his strength on the the resort lead. But, perdon me, if I of another room, evidently a bed- two men who stood in the passage add that you haven't quite the air of room, equally bare and clean.

"If you will sit down, I'll give you sprawling ggainst the wall, he threw the average reporter on the city papmy subscription in a moment," the Stanley flushed a little. He under- host said gently.

stood perfectly that his clothes and Stanley seated himself in a chair The cries of the two men were in his whole manner lacked the subtle near the window, whence he could his ears as he whirled through the something that distinguished his fel- watch his companion and the door, passage and down the other two lows in the offices of the Mercury, but so that he might be on his guard flights. Then they were silenced as the street door of the tenement bangagainst any attack. He had listened East Side saloon should observe the intently for the sound of the other ed behind him.

Straight west he sped with winged man's steps ascending the next flight feet. He could hear no sounds of of stairs, but had been unable to depursuit and dared hope he might tect them for more than a few secreach safety before the thieves should which was increased again by the onds after the door closed.

catch up with him. He was sure that the ruffian stood As he came to the lights and crowd waiting just outside-waiting for of the avenue, he slackened his speed what? The question sent a cold shivin order to avoid attention; but, once across it, he ran again for dear life, Meantime, his host had seated himthough now he began to believe in the

which he unlocked drew forth a reality of his escape Stanley resisted a violent retort check-book. The absurdity of the At Third Avenue he swung on a that rose to his lips. After all, there check-book's presence in this povertynorth-bound car, and he sank panting stricken abode impressed itself strong- into a seat, thrilled with delight and ly on Stanley. Evidently the man pride that he had come out unscathwould carry out the bluff to the lim- ed. Although it was late, he decided to

go to the office to see if there were As evidently, too, he rather underany letters for him, and also, if the estimated the shrewdness of his comtruth must be known, in the hope that panion, for he offered no explanation or excuse for the incongruity of his he might find some one to whom he could confide his startling adventure. act and his surroundings as he pro-As luck would have it, he met the duced a fountain-pen from his pocket managing editor in the corridor. and proceeded to fill out a check. "Well, what luck did you have?" When he had made the correspond-

ing entries on the stub' the man blot-There was a ring of sincerity in the ted it and the check carefully with the blotter that went with the book. back to his first thought, that the folded the check neatly, rose, and gaunt being was an Anarchist. In gave it to the reporter, who thrust that case his appreciation of the sufit into his breast-pocket without unferings of the poor would be very folding it. real, the groundwork of his hatred

tale of the night? "You may quote me, if you please," the man said slowly, "as approving

He started toward the bedroom, but he heard, as did Stanley, a slight the tenement, but he toid carefully of Stanley stared at the man in open sound at the door into the passage, stonishment. It was too absurd and went to it. While Stanley watch- covery of the money, his escape from that this fellow, found among the ed with eager, frightened eyes, he the room, and his wild flight.

his gift in such lordly manner. Put Instantly the reporter darted noise- a tight place. You took a foolish it flashed on him that here perhaps lessly across the room and laid his risk, but that doesn't matter now. was car tal material for his story of ear to the panel. From without came a faint murmur of voices, but he

Besides, was it not in a way his could distinguish no word. Stanley was in a panic of fear now, Thus far, he had nothing to go on but for he realized that the crisis was at

his uncle asked, idly. drawer.

twenties ' "What!" the money, his face white.

(Continued on page 7.)

correspondingly enhanced.

"Why, very good," Stanley answer-

this was his uncle as well as his editor. Why should he not tell him the RING UP PARK 553 FOR

"Can you spare me a minute, sir?" he asked.

Then he reflected that, after all,

"Yes; come in." Alone with his uncle, Stanley rat-

the editor asked kindly.

led through the story of his adventure. He took no time for details, until he came to the exciting events in his discovery of his loss, of his re-

"Well, well," his uncle said as he

paused at last, "you came safe out of Only, be more prudent another time." "Oh, it will be a lesson to me,"

Stanley declared. "How much money did you have?"

"Just an even hundred doilars," before I came to the city, and of course I didn't want to lose it. It

was all in tens, except one twenty that was on the outside.' He pulled the roll from his pocket, and held it out.

"See. That's now it happened to atch my eye the minute I opened the

"Ah, that's one of the new oneslet me see it." The managing editor took the roll of bills from his nephew's hand. "I thought you said you had only one twenty-this is all

Stanley was on his feet, staring at

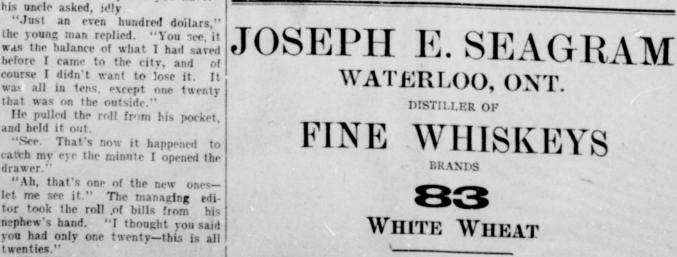
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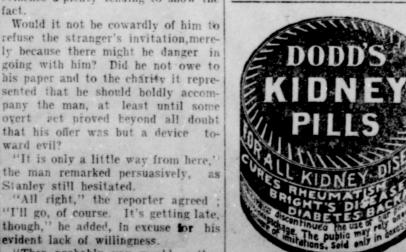
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against the rich. But the stranger's next words dis- most thoroughly of the free-ice diselled such fancies. fund.

"If you will walk a little way with I shall take pleasure in giving you a ne when you leave here, I shall be book. glad to add my contribution to the

