protection unnecessary.

"Aha!" he muttered, "he's got something valuable in some of his inside pockeets, and now my business must be to find out what it is: if

Closely followed by the spy, who had so persistently dogged his steps, Ned made his way back to the Delayan House, where he went straight to the office and paid his bill.

Then going to the reading-room he drew forth a time table and sitting

Then going to the reading-room he drew forth a time table and sitting down began to study it attentively. A few minutes afterwards he arose and disappeared upstairs, where he remained for a short time, then came down with his satchel in hand, thus indicating that his business was completed and he was homeward bound. After leaving the key of the room with the clerk, he proceeded directly to the station, where he purchased a ticket, with a seat in a parlor car, for Boston.

oston. The next train was to leave at five Gould, still clad in his impenetrable

disguise, also purchased a ticket for "the Hub," and secured a chair in the parlor car directly behind the one that Ned had just taken.

Then as it lacked about fifteen mir-

utes to five o'clock, he slipped across the street and disappeared inside a

store. then the express left Albany for the operation of the persons Boston there were only five persons in the parlor car. A lady and gentleman who occupied chairs together, thus indicating that they were hus thus indicating that they were hus-band and wife, an elderly man who wore green glasses, and walked with a cane, Ned, and a dark complexioned, leavily bearded man who sat directly behind him.

The afternoon had been cloudy, and soon after the train started a driz-zing rain began to fall, foretelling a gloomy and disagreeable night.

At half-past zix the train reached Pittsfield, where the lady and gentle man got off, thus leaving only three

persons in the car.
Gould glanced uneasily at the man wearing green glasses and wondered if he was going through to Boston. He was soon enlightened upon the point, however, for the next time the

conductor made his appearance he in-quire! at what time they would arrive at West Brookfield, "Fine minutes past nine," was the reply: whereupon the gentleman set-tled himself comfortably in his chair preparatory to snatching another nap, before he reached his destination. Ned had produced a book from his satchel soon after the train started, and appeared to become immediately absorbed in its contents, to the exclu-

on of everything else.
The man behind him wondered what had found so interesting as to hold attention hour after hour, and, coning forward he read from the op of one page College Latin Course n English," and from the other Statires of Juvenal."

"Homph!" he muttered under his

reath, "so our embryo banker has literary turn of mind, but surely will not be able to keep awake atil eleven o'clock over that dry

After ascertaining the nature of Ned's reading, Gould settled himself for a nap, thinking he might put in an hour or two of sleep as well as

He soon fell into a doze, but did not sleep so soundly as to be unconscious when the train stopped at Westfield. Springfield and Palmer. At each of these places he aroused sufficiently to assure himself that his intended victim had not moved from his seat and

was still poring with undiminished ceal over the "Satires of Juvenal."

When the stop was made at West Brookfield the man in green glasses limped out, thus leaving Ned and his relentless pursuer alone in the car.

After the stop at Palmer Gould aroused himself, and turned his keer

aroused himself, and turned his keen eyes with an anxious, covetous look upon the young man in front of him. After leaving Worcester. Ned put up his book and shook himself restlessly, for a feeling of drowsiness stealing over him.

was steaming over him.
He did not mean to go to sleep
he dld not intend to close his eyes
even, until that precious package,
which was in the inner pocket
his vest, was securely locked within
Mr. Lawson's safe.

Mr. Lawson's safe.

But he was very tired, for the excitement of travel and seeing new sights, together with the heavy responsibility resting upon him, had according to the control of th taxed his nerves severely and he would not have experienced half the sense of weariness if he had remained at home and pursued his ordinduties.

His eyes began to grow heavy and in spite of all his efforts to overcome it, an intensely sleepy sensation was creeping over him.

He arose and walked the length the car several times, he went out upon the platform for a few minutes to get a whilf of fresh air. but the moment he resumed his seat his lids began to droop again. and it seemed as if he must resign himself to the thrall of the drowsy

He stood up again yawning, while he shook and stretched himself, glancing as he did so at his neigh-

The man was peeling an orange and two more luscious tooking ones lay just temptingly visible in a paper bag on his knees. He looked up with a smile as Ned

ped.
Getting sleepy, ch?" he inquired an off-hand manner, as he separad a section from the golden fruit his hapl and slipped it into his

Yes, I am not accustomed to travelling, and it makes me stupid," Ned

replied.
"Have an orange; perhaps the eating of it will serve to arouse you,' his companion remarked, as he passed the bag to him, and took another

the bag to him, and took abouter bite of his own.

"Thank you, I believe I will, since you are so good as to offer it," Ned said, as he helped himself to the smaller of the two. He peeled and ate it, chatting sociably meanwhile with the stranger;

"No thank you; I've had sufficient,"
Ned replied, wishing now that he had
not eaten the other, for it had left a
disagreeable taste in his mouth.

"Then I guess I'll take it
home to the baby," the man
remarked, as he rolled it up and
slipped it into his pocket. "and now
I believe I'll go and have a comfortable smoke; there'll be just
about time before we get in town."
He rose as he spoke, as if to go
into the smoker, and Ned left alone,
resumed his chair, and drew forth
his book again.

But Gould did not go into the
smoker; he stood on the platform
outside the door of the car he had
just left, and watched his prey with
a hungry eye.

a hungry eye.

Ten fifteen minutes passed and gradually Ned's book dropped until it rested upon his knees, while his head fell against the back of his their, his eyes closed, his face set-tled into repose, and in five minutes more he was locked in a sumber so profound that little short of a smash-up would have awakened

him.
When the train stopped at Framinglam—the last buting place be-fore reaching Boston—Gould stole back into the car, and seated him-self in the chair in front of Ned. There were only twenty-eight min-utes before the train would roll into the station in Boston, and what the man had to do must be done quickly. He was obliged to wait until the conductor made his trip through the car, and then he swung his chair

around until he was face to face with his victim.

Leaning forward, his skilful hands and cunning fingers make rapid work in going through the young man's pockets.

But he found not much of value un-

til he came to the inside pooket of his vest, when he discovered a bulky wallet which, he felt sure, contained valuable papers, if not a large amount

He defuly drew it forth and opened it, when his eyes flashed with ex-ultation, for within there were sev-

ultation, for within there were several packages of crisp bank notes, of large denominations, and a number of government bonds.

Quickly abstracting both meney and bonds from the receptacle he slipped them within his breast, after which he carefully folded a newspaper as nearly as possible to the same size and bulk as the notes and other documents, and placing this within the wallet, which he fastened together as before with the rubber strap, he returned it to Ned's pocket, carefully rearranging his clothing as he had found it.

This had been so quickly and deftly accomplished, while the potent drug, which had been so cunningly inserted in the fruit, had done its work

serted in the fruit, had done its work so thoroughly that the young man had not stirred throughout the operation.

robber than replaced the The book upon Ned's knees, swung he chair around to its original posi-tion, after which he went back to the one he had occupied when he left

ly from the window to read the names of the stations as the train whizzed by them; drummed uson the sill, while one foot kept ap a continual and impatient tap, tap upon the

floor.

He looked at his watch.

It lacked three minutes of eleven

He uttered a sigh of relief-only five still he kept glancing anxiously at that sleeping figure in -while holding the watch in his hand, he impatiently counted the econds as the tiny hand ticked the

Only two minutes more! One minute past, and the train began to slow up, as it neared the Huntington Avenue Station, where it must stop before crossing Old Colony Gould arose and moved toward the

door. The porter was just entering. He glanced back at Ned—he had not moved; he seemed in profound slumber.

The porter approached him as if to

awaken him. awaken him.

The train stopped. Gould leaped to the ground and fled away in the darkness toward the steps leading up to

ness toward the steps Dartmouth street. No one else had got off the train at that point, and, the night being so un-pleasant, the place was entirely de-

Throwing a keen, searching glance about him, to make sure there was no one near, the man, instead of mounting these steps, slipped around behind them, and in less than five minutes emerged again entirely changed in appearance.

A heavy wig and full dark beard, with cyebrows to match, had disap-peared. The slouch grey hat had been eplaced by a more shapely black one A grey and black checked muffler had been removed, revealing an immacu-late shirt-front and collar, with a stylish satin tie. In a word, the man,

stylish satin tie. In a word, the man, instead of looking like some ordinary countryman, now appeared the thoroughbred city gentleman.

Running lightly up the steps, he turned to the left on Partmouth street, and, walking rapidly across the bridge, soon vanished out of sight, and as far as his recent traveling companions were concerned, apparentompanions were concerned, apparent-

out of existence. Poor Ned, however, was left in a

Poor Ned, however, was left in a sorry plight.

The porter who had entered the car inst as Gould was leaving it, thought it was time for him to be stirring nimself, and therefore attempted to timself, and therefore attempted to arouse him.

But he did not wake easily.

The man shook him roughly and shouted in his ear that they were in Boston and he must get out, but he only rolled from side to side in his chair, with half-open eyes, looking like a drunken person in a heavy stupors.

CHAPTER XXVII.

The cashier regarded Ned with a puzzled expression, for the young man looked perfectly wild as the conviction of the terrible situation forced itself upon him. His face could not have been whiter if it had been dead, and he trembled so violently that he was obliged to lean against the desk for support.

"Well," said the cashier, when he

"What in thunder ails you?" growled the porter impatiently. "Can't you wake up?"
Ned was deaf, however, to all sounds. He would partially angue, but the moment the porter risked his efforts, he immediately respectint his stupid state again.
"There's something wrong about this," the man muttered, and then went in search of the conductor. could recover his own self-possession ifficiently to speak, "I, of course, tannot answer your questions satisfactorily—you are the proper person —to explain this mystery. Where is the money? What can have become of the bonds?"

"There's something wrong this," the man muttered, and then went in search of the conductor, "He's either been drinking headly or else he has been dringged," was that official's verdict regarding Net condition. "Where's the other pisenger?"

"Got out at the avenue."

"Humph! I don't like the looks of it; but let him alone till we are at leisure then we'll give him a cup of strong coffee, and see what that'll do for him."

Accordingly, as soon as they were at liberty the coffee was procured, and the liquid forced between Ned's lips, until he had swallowed the most of it.

It had the desired effect after a time, and, sitting up, he looked around with a dazed expression.

"What is the matter with me?" he asked, as he noticed the cup in the porter's hand.

"That is more than I can tell. It looks to me as if you had crooked your elbruws a little too often." with the

looks to me as if you had crooked your elbows a little too often." said the conductor, with a good-natured laugh. Ned flushed.
"I never drink anything of an interviewing nature." he would with

toxicating nature,"

toxicating nature," he said, with quiet dignity.
"Well, then, you have been broken of your rest a good deal lately, for you were more difficult to wake than the seven sleepers I've heard about."

An expression of alarm swept over Ned's face at this. He had fallen asleep while on duty in spite of his determination not to do so.

He put his hand to that inside pocket with a sudden heart-sinking.

Had his precious trust been stolen while he slept?

while he slept?
No. the wallet was there, safe No, the wallet was there, safe enough, and apparently untouched. Reasured, he arose to leave the par, after paying the porter for the cof-fee, and thanking both him and the conductor for their efforts in his be-

half.

His head felt heavy, and there was a strange feeling of numbness throughout his body—his legs especially seemed to be very clumsy and as if they hardly belonged to his body.

as if they held, body.
"I must have slept soundly, indeed,"
"I must have slept soundly, indeed," he thought, as he walked down the platform, but having no suspicion of the truth. The only explanation that he could think of was that there had been such as unusual tension on his nerves, he had become exhausted by

He took a carriage, and reached home a little before midnight.

He found Mr. Lawson and his mobber, both up, watching for him, and after exchanging greetings with them, and giving them a brief outline of his trip, he asked Mr. Lawson to lock the wallet in his safe. He was still so unsuspicious that it did not occur for him to examine it, for it had no appearance of having been tampered with. Then they all retired without a thought of the terrible revelation which the morrow was to bring to them.

Ned's condition was almost as bad, when he awoke the next morning, as when he was so roughly aroused in the car the night previous. His head ached, and there was a very disagreeable taste in his mouth; in fact he was almost sick, and could not eat a mouthful of breakfast.

His mother insisted that he was not able to go to the bank; but he He took a carriage, and reached

His mother insisted that he was not able to go to the bank; but he said he must, and after drinking a cup of strong coffee, he obtained the precious wallet from the safe, and started forth to meet his fate.

Even then it did not occur to him to examine the wallet. The ashler of the bank in Albany had aimself placed the notes and bonds in it, and secured it with a strong rubber hand, and he wished to deliver it to his employers just as he had received it.

He entered the bank a little after

o'clock, and going directly to the private office of the cashier, handed the wallet to him.
"Well, Heatherton, I hope you had a pleasant trip," the man remarked, as he cordially shook hands with him. Very, thank you, sir, although have felt the burden of responsibility rather more than was comfortable," Ned smilingly responded.

'I believe it has worn upon you,'
e man returned, as he notice! his pale face and heavy eyes. "Are you

"No, except that I have a slight headache. I hope you will find every-thing all right there," Ned remarked, as the cashier removed the strap from the wallet.

the wallet.

"So you felt the responsibility rather burdensome, eh?" he remarked, with a little laugh, as he laid the wallet open on the desk before him. "Well, that isn't to be wondered at since it was your first experience. You'll get over that, however, after a while. Hullo! what does this mean?" The exclamation had been caused by the discovery of the folded newspaper which had been placed in the wallet when the bank notes and bonds were abstracted.

Ned started as the man began to unfold it.

infold it.
"Why!" he exclaimed, "there was why: he exclaimed, "there was no newspaper in the wallet when Mr. Cutler gave it to me yesterday."
Then leaning forward to look more closely into it, he cried aghast:
"But the money! where are the bills? Where are the bonds? Great heavens!"
"Heathbeston, what does this mann?"

"Heatherton, what does this mean?"

"Heatherton what does this mean?" sternly demanded the cashier, who at once realized that there was grave trouble ahead, and whose face was scarcely less pale than Ned's, which was absolutely ghastly.
"I don't know—upon my honor, I don't; everything was all right yesterday when I left Albany. Oh, where is the moreou? What can have beis the moxey? What can have become of it?" Ned exclaimed wildly, as he selzed the wallet in his trembling hands and searched every pocket for the missing notes and papers, forgetting in his excitement that the bulk; package must have been the first thing to attract attention.

Then the dreadful truth forced it. Then the dreadful truth forced it Then the dreadful truth loreed the self upon him—the money had been stolen—he had been robbed while he had slept, like a careless soldier at his post! The bonds were gone, and he was responsible for the loss.

CHAPTER XXVII.

thought flashed through his mind that his good friend might be suspected of having tampered with the contents of the wallet.

"Alem!" said the detective, dryly, "that may be, but I guess we'd better have that gentleman down here for a while."

"I will vouch for Mr. Lawson's integrity," Mr. Cranston remarked, "and, besides, he is a heavy stock-

Who had the keys to Mr. Law

important an errand

Mr. Cranston left the room, carefully shutting the door, and leaving the unhappy fellow alone in his misery.

He consulted for a few moments with one of the other officials of the bank, avalaining as briefly as possible.

bank, explaining as briefly as pos-sible, what had occurred, and then a

sible, what had occurred, and then a messenger was secretly despatched for a detective.

The man was not long in putting in an appearance, when he was taken into the private office and the situation made known to him.

He then questioned and cross-questioned Ned in the most relentless manner, never once taking his eyes from his face while doing so; but it was impossible to ascertain from his own manner what his impressions were

holder in the bank."

"All the more reason, then, why we should send for him," incomically rejoined the detective, and a messenger was accordingly sent to summon It was some little time before he

"I don't know," groaned Ned, with pallid and quivering lips, as he sank strengthless upon a chair.

"You don't know!" thundered the You don't know!" thuncered the asliler sternly. "But you had them you received them yesterday?"
"Yes, I went to the bank a little beove four o'clock yesterday afternoon; waited until it was nearly time to

find no one there save the cashier.

"Heatherton," he remarked, looking up with a genial smile, "if you are not too much upset by the trying events of the morning, won't you take this pack-

age of papers around to Cobbs—they were promised for to-day." Ned regarded the man with aston-

ishment, and the expression plainly indicated that he had expected to re-ceive his dismissal from the bank on

"I surely did, sir," Ned answered, with visible emotion.

with visible emotion.

"Well, you have made a good many friends since you have been with us; and, as there is a question as to how this money disappeared, the officers of the bank are disposed to give you the benefit of the doubt, and so everything will contain the containing the containing

thing will go on as before—at least for the present," Mr. Cranston ex-

"I am sure it is very—considerate,"
Ned began, huskily. Then, feeling that
he could not trust himself to say more,
lest he should break down entirely,
he took the bundle of papers and
abruptly left the office.

The cashier gave two or three satisfied little nods. "I'd as soon 'believe it of myself as of him," he said, in a low tone, as he turned his attention again to his

Ned went about his errand with a thankful though still heavy heart.

He felt that the bank officials had

been very good to him, and he re-solved that he would not spare him-

solved that he would not spare him-self in the future, if by any amount of faithfulness and diligence he could further their interest and thus regain his somewhat tarnished reputation. Still his trouble and the loss to the

bank weighed very heavily upon him, and he rebelled, with all the strength

may some time be able to repay him for his many favors." for his many favors."

Ned did not realize—though the man himself did—that Mr. Lawson had been gotting his pay as he went along, for never, during his long life, had he enjoyed so pleasant a home as since

enjoyed so pleasant a home as since Mrs. Heatherton had come to preside

over it, while personally, both nother and son had won a strong hold upon the eccentric old man's affections, aside from the fact that he knew that they were closely related to him by ties of blood.

As Ned turned into Mount, Vernon

As Ned turned into Mount Vernon

street on his way home that afternoon, he overtook Mr. Lawson, who
greeted him with unusual gentleness,
"Hold up your head, my lad—hold up
your head," he sald, cheerily. 'It'll
never do for you to carry such a face

as this home to your mother; we mustn't let her get wind of what has

happened."
"Oh, Mr. Lawson, I am clad to hear

you say that," Ned eagerly said, "for was wondering if it would be wrong to keep the truth from her; you know

have never had any secrets from "Of course it would not be wrong,

Who wants the blessed little woman to worry herself sick, and all for nothing?" Mr. Lawson responded, with assumed roughness, to hide a sus-

picious quiver which he felt creeping

nto his tones.
"But it will not be an easy thing

Mr. Cranston smiled again. "Your face betrays you, Ned," It said, "you imagined that you wer going to get 'the grand bounce didn't you?"

wated until it was nearly time to the bank, so as not to have the meany about me longer than was necessary. The meller, Mr. Cutler, arranged it and the bonds in different packages, placing them in the wallet and securing that with this rubber strap. I put it, in his presence, in the inside pocket of my vest, and did not once remove it until I reached home last night, when I gave it to Mr.

last night, when I gave it to Mr. Lawson to put in his safe." Ned explained, with what coherency ne could. "Did you examine it last night after reaching home, to ascertain if the contents were all right?" the coshier incurred.

ger was accordingly sent to summon' him.

It was some little time before he arrived; meanwhile Mr. Cranston and the officer talked the matter over in a low tone, while Ned, too benumbed to think of anything but his own wretchedness, sat with bowed head and dejected mien, paying no heed to what the "aud.

When at last Mr. Lawson arrived, and the mysterious affair was made known to him, he was rendered speechless with astonishment and horror, and for a few moments he could only look from one to another in blank dismay.

"The boy is all right," he remarked, with considerable energy, when he at length found his voice, and comprehended that Ned was regarded with suspicion; "he's as innocent of any wrong in the matter as either you or I."

"Ahem!—well, that, of course, remains to be proved," the detective coolly returned.

"Heavens!" cried Ned, starting wildly to his feet, his face almost convulsed with pain. "I hope you do not think that I may have been careless. I may have been unwise in having had anything to say to that stranger, and in accepting and eating the fruit he offered me; but to be suspected of being dishonest! I shall be wretched, indeed, if I am accused of complicity in this affair!"

There was surely no evidence of guilt in his manner, and no one but the most consummate actor could have leigned such anguish of mind, such horzor at being thought capable of committing such a crime, and those observing him—even the detective—could not help feeling convinced that he was as innocent of guilt as themselves.

Still it was a very serious affair, and they all knew that Ned must quired.

"No. I did not open the wallet; I have not once removed the strap. I was so sure that it was exactly as Mr. Cutler gave it to me that I did not think it necessary."

"Edward Heatherton, are you telling me the truth?" demanded his companion, looking him sternly in the eye with a glance that must have made any novice in guilt quali before him. him.
"The solemn truth, sir," Ned re-"The solemn truth, sir," Ned returned, meeting his gaze unwaveringly, while an expresion of agony swept over his features; "but, oh! Mr. Cranstou, I am crushed, and I cannot understand it. Yet stay!" he cried, starting wildly up, as his thoughts went flashing back over the events of the previous night. "I see it all now—I have been robbed—I have been robbed!"

and he rebelled, with all the strength of his honest heart, against the stigma which he felt must rest upon him until the real thief could be brought to justice.

"But I must not let it break me down," he thought. "I must fight

he was as innocent of guilt as themselves.

Still it was a very serious affair, and they all knew that Ned must remain under something of a cloud until some solution of the mystery was arrived at.

There actually were tears in Mr. Lawson's eyes, as he listened to Ned's agonized protest against being thought criminally concerned in the recent robbery. "There can be no doubt about that," his companion curtly remarked, "but can vou trace the act to any one in particular?"
"I think so-I believe so," Ned said, Then he related all that had occur-

"But I must not let it break me down," he thought. "I must light against it, and mother must not know one word of all this trouble, for it would worry her to death. If I carry such a haggard face, as I have during the past week, she will begin to suspect that something worse than a 'disordered liver' is the matter with me. I will ask Mr. Lawson to be careful not to arouse her suspicions—dear Mr. Lawson!" he continued, swallowing hard at the lump in his throat. "how kind

Then he related all that had occurred during his homeward journey; how he had taken his book along to study, so as to make sure that he would not sleep; how he had grown drowsy in spite of every effort against the feeling, and while pacing back and forth to overcome it, the man occupying the chair behind him, had offered him the orange.

Ned did so, and the man's lips were gradually compressed into a hard thought criminally concerned in the recent robbery.

"Of course you're not suspected of anything of the kind," he said, in a reassuring tone. "Anybody who has served his employers as faithfully as you have done, for more than a year, isn't going to have his good record entirely blotted out by a single misfortune. Now look here, Mr. Cranston—and you, too, Mr. Detective; I want this matter kept quiet—and, take my word for it, it will be the quickest and best way to get to the bottom of it. I'll advance the money that was stolen—dellar for dollar—"Oh! Mr. Lawson, you believe in at the lump in his throat, "how kind he was to agree to advance the money. But I shall pay it all back some day. What a good friend he has always been to both of us! I hope I gradually compressed into a hard, stern line, as he realized but too plainly that the traveler had been dis-

plainly that the traveler had been disguised.

"Drugged!" he muttered, as Ned spoke of the queer taste he had noticed while cating the orange, and the subsequent events in the car.

"Can it be possible?" the young man exclaimed, looking perfectly blank as he caught the ominous word.

"I never thought of such a thing!"

"I should suppose you would have suspected that something was wrong, when you came to yourself and felt so queerly," Mr. Cranston remarked.

"I did for a moment wonder if I had been robbed," Ned replied, "and I instantly feit inside my vest, but when I found the wallet or it. I'll advance the money that was stolen-dollar for dollar—"

"Oh! Mr. Lawson, you believe in me if no one else does!", Ned interposed, in a voice quavering with grateful feeling.

"Believe in you, lad? I'd stake all I'm worth on your honor," responded the old man, heartily. "I haven'y lived with you all those years for

ed the old man, heartily. "I haven't lived with you all those years for nothing. I've tested you in every conceivable way, and I would advance twice the amount rather than have this matter made public. As for the bonds, they can't be disposed of without nailing the guilty party, since you say they were not negotiable—at least for the present, and we shan't hurt anybody by hushing the affair for a while. Meantime, Mr. Detective, you shall do your best to hunt down the chief. whoever he may be, and you shall be handsomely paid for your time and work."

It was finally agreed to submit Mr. Lawson's proposition to the Presimy vest, but when I found the wallet inst where I had put it, and apparently untouched, I did not dream that it had been tampered with. I naturally thought, if anyone was going to rob me, he would have taken wallet and all." "True—that would be the probable conclusion"

Mr. Lawson's proposition to the President and trustees of the bank, and if they offered no objection the matter should rest thus:

When this was done, Ned was sub-

"True—that would be the probable conclusion," said the cashier, while he studied the young man's face with a keen, intense gaze.

Ned appeared to be perfectly honest in his explanations, and his story certainly sounded plausible, while his grief and consternation over his loss were too genuine to be doubted.

He had appeared to be the very soul of honor, during his connection with the bank, while no one could have been more faithful in the performance jected to another trying cross-exami-nation, but he conducted himself with so much modest frankness and sincerity that the general belief prevailed that he was innocent of wrong-do-ing—that he was only the victim of with the bank, while no one could have been more faithful in the performance of his duties, and all this, of course, teld in his favor.

At the same time Mr. Cranston knew that even the most tried and true were liable to fall, in times of peculiar temptations, and it might be that they had made a mistake in intrusting one so young and mytred with so

a crime.
It was a trying ordeal, however, for the sensitively organized fellow, and when he was finally released from the examination he left the room greatly depressed and fully expecting that whatever the verdict important an errand.

"Oh! just to think," Ned cried, hoarsely, as he nervously paced back and forth through the office, "that this was my first commission—that when I was so anxious to execute it creditably to myself and satisfactorily to any Lebenth bare failings.

expecting that whatever the verdict might be, he would be discharged from the bank.

Then followed a long discussion upon the case, but it was finally arranged as Mr. Lawson had proposed, provided he would hold himself respond ble for all loss to the bank.

it creditably to myself and satisfactorily to you, I should have failed so miserably. And more than that," he went on, with increasing anguish of mind, "I cannot restore the money—I cannot replace or redeem those bonds. Oh! tell me, Mr. Cranston, what shall I do? I believe it will drive me insane."

"Sit down," gravely commanded his companion, and Ned sank down into his chair and bowed his face upon his hands, too wretched almost to care to live. This he unhesitatingly agreed to do. and it was also arranged that Ned was to retain his position, though under secret and close surveillance, as a further test of his integrity.

He had not expected this; when he is the received the second of the second

helf the presence of that body of grave men he had told himself, with a heavy heart, that he was 'handicapped at the very outset of his career, and that it would be very difficult for him to

A Failing Memory Is One Symptom of Low Vitality and Waning Nerve Power
— A Sign that You Need Dr. Chase's Nerve Food to Build Up the System.

To the practical physician, skilled in the diagnosis of disease, there is much to be read from this one symptom. It is also be read from this one symptom. It is also be read from this one symptom. It is also be read from this one symptom. It is also be read from this one symptom. It is also be restless at night and could not sleep. My appetite was poor, and I suffered from nervous dyspepsia. Little business cares worried and irritated me. After having used Dr. Chase's Nerve food for about two months, I can frankly say that I feel like a new man. condition of the nerves, to thin, watery blood and to weakness and irregulari-ties of the organs of the body. The person with the failing memory

The person with the falling memory has sleepless nights, is nervous and irritable, suffers from nervous headache and dyspepsia, and gloomy, despondent feelings. He is weak, exhausted and run down, and may be fast approaching nervous prostration, paralysis evilency or inspatty.

impossible to ascertain from his own manner what his impressions were regarding the young man's sincerity and honor.

"Very boid—very cunning — very blind," he muttered, when he had gone over the whole ground for the third 'time, without making Ned contradict his statements in a single instance. "Now tell me how many people knew that you were going to leave the city upon business for the bank."

"My mother, Mr. Lawson and Mr. Cranston," Ned answered.

"And you mentioned the fact to no one else?" proaching nervous prostration, paralysis, epilepsy or insanity.

This wasting away of the nervous energy of the body must be stopped, and stopped quickly, if robust health is to be restored. Whatever the cause of this weakened condition, the cure is the same—restoration by the building up process—restoration by the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

This great blood builder and nerve vitaliser has proved wonderfully successful in restoring to perfect health scores and hundreds of pale, weak, nervous men and women. It promptly stops the wasting process, and alds nature in the restoration of health and strength. "Who had the keys to Mr. Law-son's safe during last night?"
"Mr. Lawson, himsell, but he is truth and honesty petsonlifled." Ned eaegrly asserted, but flushing as the thought flashed through his mind

Geoux, 22 Metcalf street,

"My appetite is good, I rest and sleep well, and this treatment has strength-ened me wonderfully. Dr. Chase's Nerve Food Pills are certainly the bast I ever used, and I say so because I want to give full credit where it is

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food is not a pat-ent medicine, but the favorite pre-scription of the world's greatest physi-cian, Dr. A. W. Chase. It is thoroughly up to date and scientific. It has proven its right to the high estimation which it is held by physicians and peo-ple alike by the marvelous cures which it has brought about. As a restorative It is unapproached by any preparation known to man; 50 cents a box; at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co.,

Toronto. There are imitators of Dr. A. W. Chase, but none who dare to reproduce his portrait and signature, which are found on every box of his genuine

when-"
"Tut! tut!" interposed his friend,
as Ned's voice broke, "you just put as News voice broke, "you just put on a bold front, for the thing is going to come out all right by and by: It was rather an unfortunate occurrence, a I admit, and I'd rather have given twice the amount than had it happen to you. But I know that you are true blue, and you're going to prove it to everybody, sooner or later. And even if you shouldn't be able to, my boy," he added, as he slipped his arm confidingly within Ned's, "I've promised to pay to the bank the full value of these bonds when they become does those bonds when they become due, and no one outside the bank will ever

"Have you bound yourself to do that, Mr. Lawson?" Ned cried, aston-ished at this fresh evidence of the secure another position of so promising a nature."

After a time he was recalled to the room, and was somewhat surprised to man's interest in and regard for him.