CHAPTER XLIII.

PIRE! PIRE!

he seried his hat and histened to the hotel where Mrs. Learned was staying. She at once launched out into a strain eulogistic and descriptive of her enjoyment of the whole thing.

'I never was so proud of Chicago,' she exclaimed. 'It is the greatest city in the world. Only the other day her streets were prefixes. I believe my husband expected to find buffalo and Indians just outside the town. But see! already by its liberality and attention to Art, it begins to vie with some of our oldest cities.

"On nothing,' said Dennis, coming out bundle.

songs followed each other.

'There is nething exultant or hopeful about those strains,' he said to himself. 'For some reason ahe is not happy. Oh, that I might have one frank convertation with libr, and ind out the whole truth. But it seems that I might just as well ask for a near look at yonder star that glimmers so distantly. For some reason, I cannot believe her so utterly heartless as she has seemed; and then mother has prayed. Can it all end as a miserable dream?'

Lete at night the music ceased, and the room was darkened.

t, my young friend, I am not dearly. Perinti me to predict this check for two thousand the true artist, our esteem tion of your artistic merit. Is not presentation of such notic, and the prediction of your artistic merit. Is not presentation of such notic, and the prediction of your artistic merit. Is not presentation of such notic, and the prediction of your artistic merit. Is not presentation of such notic, and the prediction of your artistic merit. It is not the gallery with a veil drawn over het face. Her g

long hours in bitter revery, which at last the summed up by saying:

'I have stamped out his love by my folly, and now his words, 'I despise you,' emerges the whole wretched truth' Then telenching her little hands she added with hid' line and a fook of scorn, 'If I can never help him (and therefore no one) win earthly greatness, I will never be the telenching the receipient of it from another. Since his second picture cannot be true of my experience, neither shall the first.' And as she was one to keep such a resolve. The evening was spent, as we

With eyes ablase with excitement, Dennis plunged into the region just before the main line of fire, knowing that there the danger would be greatest. None realized the rapidity of its advance. At I the door of a tenement house he found a pale, thun, half clad woman tugging at a sewing machine.

'Madam,' cried Dennis, 'you have no time to waste over that burden if you wish to accape.'

'What is the use of escaping without it?' she answered sullenly. 'It is the

branches at a point little over half a mile from the lake, one flowing to the southwest into the Illinois, and the other from 'That's use that young critter.

face of a fatal panic had not Dennis cried out in a clarion voice:

'All keep to the right!'

This cry was taken up and repeated on every hand, and side by side, to right and left, the two living streams of humanity, with steady tramp! trushed past each other. When they emerged into the glare of the south side, Dennis gave the child to its mother and said.' Madam, your only chance is to econe in that your only chance is to escape in that direction, pointing northwest.

at once.

In unapproachable see of fire. If they had not escaped some little time before, they had already perished. He then tried to make his way to the windward, towards his own com. His two thousand dollars and all he possessed was there, fugitives and the instinct of self preservation caustable ways.

save the family. The streets were last becoming choked with fugitives and teams, and the confusion threatened to develop into panic and wide spread danger. The fire was but a block away when he rushed up-stairs to the floor which the Bruder family occupied. From the way that blazing brands were flying he knew that there was not a moment to spare. He found Mrs. Bruder startled, anxious but in no way comprehending the situation.

'Quick!' cried Dennis, 'waken and dress the children—pack up what you can lay your hands on and carry—you have no time to do anything more.'

'Ah! mine Gott! vat you mean?'

'Drast I say—there's no time to explain else force it could fairly wake. Bruest took up another and followed his example. Mrs. Bruder, recovering from her bewildernent, hastily gathered a few things together, saying in the meantime:

'Surely you don't tink our home burn up?'

Dennis turned and recognized his old im to think it was time to look after this own. But progress was now very difficult. The streets were choked by drays, carriages, furniture, trunks, and every dealers of explain ficult. The streets were choked by drays, carriages, furniture, trunks, and every dealers of explain is one condition of humanity. In addition to these impediments his steps were often stayed by thrilling scenes, and the need of a helping hand. In order to make his way faster he took a street nearer the fire from which the paopla had mostly been driven. As he was hurrying along with his hat drawn over his eyes to avoid the sparks that were driven about fike fiery hail, he suddenly heard a piercing shele. Looking up he saw window of a fine mansion that was already burning, though not so rapidly as those in the direct line of the fire. He with a number of ethers stopped at the sound, "Wis will volunteer with me to save that woman?" original properties of the fire. He with a number of ethers stopped at the sound, "Wis will volunteer with me to save that woman?" original properties of the fire. He with a number of ethers stopped at the so

old stager for one, answered a familiar voice.

Dennis turned and recognized his old friend, the Good Samaritan.

'Why Cronk, he cried, 'don't you know me? Don't you remember the young man you saved from starring by suggesting the snow-shovel business?'

'Hollof my young colt. How are you?

—give us your fore foot. But come don't let's stop to talk about snow in this hell of a plan with that young filly whinnying up there.'

On Schleyon's Art Gallery.

igns to vie with some of our oldest cities, mint what is the matter? You leave the content of the view of the content of the view of the v

Brown.
'Yes.'
'How can we ever repay you?'
'How can we ever repay you?'

mens and darkanity. For some reason, the door of a tenement house he found as he has beened; and the mother has prayed. Can it all end as a miserable decided of a tenement house he found as a miserable of the state of the command o

a the lake, one flowing to the southt into the Illinois, and the other from
northwest.

That's reflection.

That's reflectio

the lake east of the north branch and north of the river, while the membraces all that part of the city west of the two branches. The fire originated in DeKoven Street, the southeastern part of the west side, and it was carried steadily to the north and east, by an increasing gale. The south side, with all its magnificant buildings, was soon directly in the line of the fire.

When Dennis saw that the flames had crossed the south branch, and were burning fariously beyond, he knew that the best part of the city was threatened with destruction. He hastened to the Wsshington Street tunnel, where he found a vast throng, carrying all sorts of burdens, rashing either way. He plunged in with the rest, and soon found himself hustled hither and thither by a surging mass of humanity. A little piping voice that seemed under his feet cried:

'Oh mamma! mamma! Where are void at the saw of falling buildings, and ever you it. In gettin lies.'

humanity. A little piping voice that seemed under his feet cried:

'Oh, mamma! mamma! Where are spirieks, and shouts of human voices, the short was laded at label of sounds—shricks, and shouts of human voices, the short was lady carried heart and per label of sounds—shricks, and shouts of human voices, the shricks, and sho

it must edge go, for an homenese building to the southwest on the tene block was burning, and the walls were already swaning. Suddenly a man rushed past him, and Mr. Ludolph put his pass key in the 'Mr Dudolph, it is not safe to enter, aid Dennis.

what are you doing here with your disonered face? retorted his out employer, turning toward him a countenance terrible in its expression. As we have seen, anything that threatened his landough's interests, even that which most men bow before, as sickndst and disaster, only awadened his anger; and his face was black with passion and distorted with rage.

'Come back, quick, Mr. Ludolph, or you are lost!' cried Dennis at the door.

'I will get certain papers, though the heavens fall' yelled back the infuriated man, with an oath.

Dennis heard an awful rushing sound in the six Hoders his to come his food Dennis heard an awful rushing sound in the air. He drew his hat over his face as he ran crouching. Hot bricks rained around him, but fortunately he desceped.

When he turned to look, the Art Ruiding was a crushed and blazing ruin. Sweet girlish faces that had smiled upon him from the walls beautiful aleased faces that had inspired his artist soul, aftern homen faces, that had made the past seem real, the human faces of gods and god-desses that made mythology seem not wholly a myth, and the white marble faces of the statuary, that ever reminded him of Christine, he knew were now all blackened and defaced forever. But not of these he thought, as he shudderingly covered his eyes with his hands, to shut out the vision; but of that terrible face that in the darkness had yelled out defi-

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that in the darkness had yelled out defi-

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