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A Losing Game.

The man we have in mind was as near the ideal as it is possible in this world of temptation and sin. He was kind—an admirable virtue; considerate, unselfish, companionable.

He had a wife and two little girls that were to him as the apple of his eye. His home was his club, and every moment away from business was spent there.

He had a good position in business, earning a good salary. He lavished money on his wife and children and upon home comforts.

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Being young, and the future having a roseate hue, he did not worry about the "rainy day" to come. "To-day is fine. We have health and happiness. What else is needed?" was his theory of life,—an excellent theory when all is well.

This admirable character had a fault. He was a gambler.

Not one of the open dare-devil sort, staking his gold on the luck of a card; nor did he "play" the races. His money was all spent on his wife, children and home; so he did not gamble in stocks on margin.

His folly was that he gambled with death—and he always won until one day his opponent showed him that he was no novice at the throw of the dice; and very suddenly, with a chuckle that made his heart beat fast, death declared "I have you now! You are mine!" That day death claimed him, and he passed out from earthly companionships leaving