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R. G. ASH & CO., St. John's, Sole Agents in Newfoundland, will be pleased to quote prices.

The Snake Scotched —AND— Justice Done.

CHAPTER XXIII.
(Continued.)

Martha said that she thought she could; and Veronica drew a breath of satisfaction. It seemed to her that she would find some relief for her aching heart in hard work, and some consolation in the fact that she, as well as Ralph, was living a life of toil. The girls talked far into the night, and at last Veronica went to bed—to dream that she and Ralph were married and were working hard for their living; but, ah, so happy, with a happiness which turned this common-place earth to paradise!

The next day she enquired her way to the shipping agents at the docks, and made enquiries respecting the vessels that were starting for Australia. One had sailed that morning, and the clerk, fascinated by the beautiful face and sweet voice, showed her the passenger list; but the name of Ralph Farrington was not in it, and the clerk, with some surprise at her question, told her that it would be impossible to discover the names of the hands.

"And most of them ship under false names, too, miss."

Veronica returned to Sowerby Street with the feeling of helpless despair which must have been experienced by the individual who first engaged in the historic task of hunting for a needle in a bundle of hay; but Martha that night brought home some work for her to do; and Veronica almost flew at it as a source of relief from her anxious thought and longings.

If she had only had the courage to defy the earl and keep Ralph at Lynne, or better—oh, still far better!—insisted upon going with him! But the earl had hypnotised them both with his worldly wisdom and cynical

If the Food Ferments

Chronic dyspepsia is essentially a disease of the intestines rather than of the stomach. The trouble is caused by the food passing too slowly along the alimentary canal and fermenting instead of being digested.

It will be found that the liver is sluggish and the bowels constipated. The fermenting food gives rise to gas, which crowds the lungs and heart, gives rise to belching wind and to smothering sensations. The stomach gets sour, the food repeats and leaves sour taste in the mouth; you feel out of sorts and are unfit for work or pleasure.

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run of bad luck—my own fault, my own fault!—and I have just returned from Australia, where I have failed in an undertaking. But I need not bore you with that."

"Australia!" said Veronica.
For your true lover everything turns on one pivot. Perhaps he could help her to find Ralph!

"Yes," he said, noting her sudden eagerness. "Is there anything I can do for you? Are you interested in Australia? I am staying at an hotel near here—quite a modest place—with my child, my Ada. I should like you to see her. She is the sweetest—but I must not indulge in a father's rhapsodies, though, of course, I am very proud of her. She is all the world to me. Will you come and see her? She has no lady-friend—no one but her old nurse. But it is asking too much, Miss Gresham!"

"I will come with you and see her," said Veronica.

She turned and walked with him; and he talked of his bad luck, of his people at the hall, but mostly of the child. As they talked a fire engine dashed past them. They reached the street in which the hotel stood, and to their surprise they found themselves in the midst of a huge crowd fringed around a couple of fire engines at work. The street was full of smoke, and flames were springing from one of the houses.

George Sainsbury uttered a cry of terror that thrilled Veronica.

"The hotel!" he gasped. "It is the hotel! Ada!"

He forced his way through the shouting mob, and Veronica, her heart beating fast, mechanically followed him.

It was the hotel and it was burning fiercely. In a group in the centre cleared by the firemen were the landlord and the people belonging to the place, and they were gazing with horror-stricken eyes at the windows through which the smoke and flames were issuing. As Mr. Sainsbury rushed towards them crying hoarsely "My child! Ada, Ada! Have you got my child?" a woman, the nurse, threw herself upon him and, clutching him, cried in tones of agony:

"She's in there—in there! Oh, God! naster, save her! I'd gone out—I left her for a few minutes! She's not here—all the rest are saved! Oh, he child, the child!"

The distracted father would have rushed to the burning house, but a stalwart fireman caught him and held him back, though he struggled fiercely.

Veronica stood, wringing her hands, and almost fainting under the strain of the terrible scene; but she was roused to full consciousness by a roar that went up from the spectators. A young man had made his way through the crowd, had paused a moment to look at the house, as a general might pause to scan a fortress he intended to assail, then had plunged into the door-way.

He had come and disappeared so quickly that the firemen had been unable to stop him, and the crowd roared still more excitedly when, a moment or two later, he was seen at one of the upper windows with a child in his arms.

He was framed by the blackened window, through which the smoke

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ready to use at first sign of trouble the best corrective for any disorder of the organs of digestion. The earlier you seek relief the easier it will be to get it—and the more certain it will be that the trouble will not lead to something worse. It is universally admitted that

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belched forth in a thick volume, and the flames, darting from one below, lit up his face. Veronica, gazing with horror, uttered a cry and staggered; for, to her overwrought mind, it seemed to be the face of Ralph!

He held the child to his breast and looked down as if waiting, looked down with an apparent calmness and assurance which was not misplaced, for the firemen shouted encouragingly.

The fire escape had not yet arrived—alas! here, in England, we are not abreast of the times in the matter of our fire department, and our gallant firemen are often sadly handicapped by the lack of proper appliances—but some of the men stretched out a tarpaulin beneath the window, and the man who held the child saw it, and stooping down as low as possible, gently dropped his still living burden.

A roar of applause went up from the crowd as the father rushed forward and caught her to his breast; but the roar grew more frantic, almost savage in its intensity, as the rescuer was seen to stagger and fall against the now burning window-frame, as if he were swooning.

"Jump! Jump, for God's sake!" yelled the crowd.
Veronica's tongue clave to the roof of her mouth, and she could not cry out; but her heart seemed bursting as her strained eyes were fixed on the figure amidst the flames and smoke.

"Jump—jump!" cried the crowd again; and the roar, almost drowning the crackling of the burning wood-work and the fall of the walls, seemed to reach the ears of the man. He was seen to pass his hand over his face as if he were struggling for breath, then he mounted to the window-sill and dropped.

A shout of satisfaction, a moan of doubt, arose from the thousands of throats as the crowd saw him fall. He was caught in the tarpaulin, and some of the firemen closed round him while others kept back the frantic and half-maddened mob.

Borne forward by the press, Veronica found herself amongst those surrounding him. The flames lit up the scene, and fell upon his face. A cry rose from her parched lips, a cry that went to the hearts of the firemen, accustomed as they were to such scenes.
"Ralph! Ralph!"
The name pierced the air; and as she uttered it, in the accents of a woman's anguish and terror, she fell on her hands and knees before him.

(To be continued.)

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