

## THE SCOTTISH BANKER'S DILEMMA

CHAPTER I.

Mr. Duff, the worthy and respected agent of the Central Bank at Tollkirk, was startled by his teller, James Hamilton, coming to him to say, just as the banker had signed the lastofficial letter before prohad signed the last official letter before proceeding to look up the safe: "I am sorry to say, sir, the cash appears to be one hundred pounds short." James was very pale as he spoke, and. despite his efforts to prevent it, his voice trembled. A stranger could not have told whether A stranger the youth's agitation was the result of

fright or gilt.

Mr. Duff knew him too well to let the latter alternative dwell in his mind fer even a moment; but the lad's excitement was somewhat infectious, and it was with just a little throb that he replied: "You are joking, Jamie." Mr. Duff leaned back in his chair and nibbled the feather. end of his quill as he looked in the lad's

"I was never more serious in my life," reiterated Hamilton.

"It is some mare's-nest, depend upon it," said Mr. Duff, in a tone that partly reassured the poor fellow. "Have you been very busy at the deak to-day, larges?"

"That is the mystery of it, sir; we have not been busy. Hardly three pages of our cash-book are filled." "A hundred pounds! H'm! I'm go-ing up-stairs to dinner. In the meantime check your consummations and your cash, and by and by I'll come in and lock up the

safe with ye."

The teller went from the banker's room to the outer office with a grave face. Mr. Duff, who lived with his family, as is customary in Scotland, in a very commodious house attached to the bank, sent his letters to be copied by the junior clerk, and then went leisurely up stairs to dinnor.

Mr. Duff's was for a man who does not object to permanent residences in a provincial town, a very easy and pleasant mode of life. His work was not hard, nor

by the riverside these ten years, still he had two of the prettiest girls in Tollkirk— Minna and Mary Duff (besides Jenny, the matried daughter, who lived in Edinburgh)
—whose delight it was to make his life dispenser of discounts and custodian of the wealth of the neighbourhood—a man the wealth of the neighbourhood—a man of some importance in Tollkirk's best solution. If you are in no hurry, sir, perhaps we can lock up when you come ciety. He was magistrate and farmer as well as banker; and on Sundays, for many a long year, he had stood beaming behind "the plate" at the entrance to the "auld casion Everybody knew him, and he kirk." Everybody knew him, and he knew everybody; and perhaps nobody re-spected him the less because he pretty well knew to within a pound or two what every rate-payer on his side of the country

was worth financially.

He took life very easy, as I have said; making no undue fuss when an accommodation bill was presented to him, if he knew—as he was certain to know—the pedigree and progress through life of drawer and indorser. He was protected, too, by his Edinburgh employers as a man of prudence and sagacity, who never made bad debts, never troubled them with applications for rise of salary or transfer of agency—whose books always stood the minutest inspection, and who, speaking generally, wanted no favours from them. Rather, granted favours, by occasional in-vitations to visit him at Tollkirk, where there is unsurpassed trout and salmon fishing, besides magnificent "links" for golf, and where the local distillery yields a liquid of more than local reputation. The city-birds were not slow to accept such invitations, Mr. Duff being over a tumbler o toddy the best of company, and generous in the matter of horses and fishing rods. The chief inspector of the bank came often enough to woo the fair Jenny, the eldest of

the family, and took her away with him one summer day, to the general bereavement of Tollkirk.

The banker did not hurry over dinner on the particular afternoon of which I write. When he went up stairs he did not give a second thought to James Hamiiton's pale face, but quietly settled himself in his armchair, after doing justice to his simple repast, to read for the second time the report of his own recent great speech at the parochial board, given at length in Tollkirk *Herald*, the fine roll of his own— Tollkirk Herald, the one roll of his own—somewhat improved—spoken sentences seen in black and white, communicating a pleasing sense of complacence and importance as influencing public opinion. It was nearly 7 o'clock before Mr. Duff remembered that he had not yet locked up his safe, and that his clerk was probably within the blow for him.

his safe, and that his clerk was probably waiting below for him. He was surprised when he opened the office door—leading to the hall of his house—to find Hamilton still bending over his cash-book with an expression of deep anxiety on his face, and bundles of bank-notes lying on the desk before him.

"What James, still in the fog?" he saked other fully as he came in "Not asked cheerfully, as he came in. "Not found your difference yet, eh?"
"I am one hundred pounds short, sir,

without doubt."
Hamilton had toiled through every entry over and over again, had counted and recounted his bundles of notes, and now had very sharply defined fear in his heart, and a vision in the background of his imagination of a dearly-loved old mother waiting for him at home, and who was ill able to bear the responsibility of such a loss—if loss it should prove to be.

"A mare's-nest, I'll be bound," Mr

Duffsaid good-naturedly, taking Hamilton's place before the cash-book. Very carefully and with a keen eye he went over each entry, very carefully, too, he counted the cash and recounted it, but only to find that Hamilton's words were too true. The cash was undoubtedly one hyndred account. cash was undoubtedly one hundred pounds short.
"I think we had better sleep over it,

Mr. Duff said at last, looking at his watch. "The difference will turn up in the morning, you may depend upon it." Then the cash and books were carried into the safe and the office closed for the night.

Poor Hamilton lay awake nearly all right thinking over some probable clue to the whereabouts of the missing money. Never before had he left the bank with such a dread upon his mind, for he felt certain that he had gone over each item of the day, that he had not overpaid any one to such an extent; and he knew that on to such an extent; and he knew that on him devolved the responsibility to make good any such deficiency. He hardly spoke to his mother as he ate what she called his "ruined dinner"—spoiled by hree hours' waiting in the oven—nor could she get from him all through the evening a hint of the cause of his trouble. She guessed and hinted that perhaps Minna Duff, "the little flirt," had something to do with his gloom, for she knew how her boy's heart lay in regard to the banker's younger daughter; but her son's reply was equivalent to a snub.

He was in the office two hours before official bank-hours on the following morn-

official bank-hours on the following morning; but no track of the missing money vious day been paid large sums, were asked to check the payments; but when four o'clock arrived and the cash had again to be counted, the balance still showed one hundred pounds short. If the money had been paid away, in error, no man had been paid away, in error, no man had been been to be the still a transport to the

reported to the head office. A hundred pounds to a rich man may seem a small matter to worry over; but to James Hamilton, whose yearly salary, after ten years' faithful and conscientious service did not amount to one hundred pounds, and whose mother—save for the help of a trifling annuity left by her husband—was in a great measure dependent upon him—the liability te refund this sum weighed heavy. He became anxious and nervous, not being altogether certain that the authorities of the bank might net suspect him of having appropriated the money; and from very nervousness was guilty during the next few days of making several small mistakes in his cash dealings, which confirmed him in the belief that he had paid the money to some unscrupulous rascal who did not mean to acknowledge it.

It seemed an age, although in reality barely a month had passed, before a note from Mr. Tait, the chief inspector (Mr. Duff's son-in-law), set the matter at rest. "In consideration," the note ran, " of the admirable mode in which the business of the branch at Tollkirk has hitherto been conducted the discetors have a sweet to many the same are and to winderters have account to winder the discetors hav

branch at Tollkirk has hitherto been con-ducted, the directors have agreed to wipe off the deficiency in cash, which it may be hoped will yet turn up and be recredited; but in doing so it must be firmly kept in view that the directors by no means establish the present case as a precedent, and must remind the gentleman who has charge of the bank's cash at Tollkirk that at no

future time will the directors be disposed to relieve him of the responsibility attaching to his office."

"There, Jamie, take that to your mother," said Mr. Duff kindly, handing the official note to Hamilton. "I thought mother, "said Mr. Dun kindly, handing the official note to Hamilton. "I thought Peter would manage it" (referring to his son-in-law, the inspector), "but we man ca' canny," said the banker, relapsing into broad Scotch, to put the reproof, if such it might be called, in the gentlest form, to

spare the lad's feelings.

There were tears of relief in Hamilton's eyes as he read the note. "That is generous treatment, sir; I was afraid they would

ous treatment, sir; I was arraid they would roup (sell by auction) me and my old mother out of Tollkirk."

"Roup ye? I couldn't spare ye, lad."

Then the youth went home to his mother jubilant, a burden lifted from him. But on the next evening, after business hours, Hamilton's face was whiter than hours, Hamilton's lace was whiter than ever. His hands were trembling; he fumbled over his cash, and "cast" and "recast" the long columns of figures on his cash-book. It was market day, a busy day, and large sums had passed into and out of his hands. To his horror he found his cash three hundred pounds short! He mode of life. His work was now man, were his responsibilities very heavy. He had a pretty and comfortable home in an the banker saw at once as he passed through the office on his way up the stairs that something was wrong.
"You are late, Mr. Hamilton." (Mr. Duff never in a general way called James "Mr." His doing so now implied mis-

givings.)
"Yes, sir; but I think I won't be sunny and happy. He was naturally—being known to possess private means, and on account of his official capacity as the "Are you ready to lock up the safe with "Are you ready to lock up the safe with

"Very well."
Mr. Duff went up stairs; but on this oc casion he did not linger over his meal. When he came down, half an hour later,

Hamilton was not ready to lock the safe. He was sitting looking into space, his head resting on his hands.
"Have you balanced your cash now?"

no way be accounted for.
"This is terribly awkward, James."

There were tears in the youth's voice as he uttered: "Yes, sir; and it will drive me mad."

When Mr. Duff returned from his meeting at 11 o'clock, Hamilton was as far from peace as ever. The younger clerk had gone away. Again the banker and Hamil-"We can't report this to the head office, whatever happens," quoted Mr. Duff

"Find it!"
They looked blankly in each others' faces. Both men went to bed with heavy hearts; nor did the search next day throw any light on the mysterious transaction. Mr. Duff could not bring himself to report this second deficiency to his head office, this second deficiency to his head office, and the only alternative left was to refund the amount from his own private means. This, as may be imagined, he did very reluctantly; and for the first time in his experience he watched the younger men, and perhaps his trusted teller, too, with just a faint and irrepressible glimmering of suspicion. A mistake of this sort might happen once; but to happen a second time as so short an interval, made him uneasy on other matters than made him a process. on other matters than mere loss of money. on other matters than mere loss of money. He had a frame-work of mahogany and glass made for Hamilton's desk, so that no one could come near the cash in future but Hamilton himself. And so, with what grace he could summon, and with many grave warnings, Mr. Duff paid the "short" money, having, as he said, to "grin and bear it."

ear it."
For a week or so things worked well under the new arrangement; but fer the third time Mr. Duff was destined to see Hamilton poring over his books long after bank hours, this time to hear on enquiry that the luckless lad was short by no less an amount than five hundred pounds! Had the shrewd, quick-witted James Hamilton, after ten years of faithful service, become suddenly dolt?

"This is beyond endurance," the banker and share the fact was a standard to the fact was a short by no less an amount than five hundred to the fact was a short by no less an amount than five hundred pounds!

aid sharply, as the fact was communicated

to him.

"It is most strange," replied the helpless teller, feeling that the fates were
against him.

"It is possible you can have paid the
money away."

"It is gone, sir."

"Then you must find it. I can no
longer be responsible for your blunders.
Here is no less than nine hundred pounds
in less than six weeks, to be accounted for.
Many a one has been sent across the sea
for less."

Many a one has been sent across the sea for less."

The youth put his hands over his face and fairly burst into tears. "I must give it up, sir. I can't stand this. I must leave the place."

Mr. Duff was looking at him with very keen eyes as this sobbed out. "Leave Tollkirk? Understand, Mr. Hamilton, that you dare not leave Tollkirk before this matter is cleared up."

For the greater part of the night the men sat up searching; but when the morning came they were as far away from the mark as ever.

as ever.

Mr. Duff, much to the surprise of cus-Mr. Duff, much to the surprise of customers of the bank, next day, "took over" the cash himself, and, rather awkwardly from want of practice, became his own cashier. Hamilton was degraded to subordinate duties. His spirit, poor fellow, was fairly broken. No trace of the missing money could be found. Of course Mr. Duff could not long continue acting as teller. The work interfered with even more important duties.

of heart lay in regard to the one sump daughter; but her son's equivalent to a snub.
in the office two hours before k-hours on the following moneyout to the missing moneyout state of the missing moneyout to be promote the commendation of the promoter of the missing moneyout the part of the part of the missing moneyout the part of the money had been part of the missing moneyout the part of the

Mr. Duff at the telling-table, in order to familiarize himself with the faces of the bank's customers. For some days all went well. Then came market day. At close of the day Mr. Traill's cash was five hundred pounds short.

Traill did not disturb him, did not even the trouble to follow him and the trailly him.

well. Then came market day. At close of the day Mr. Traill's cash was five hundred pounds short.

The former uneasiness became in the office a panic. Hamilton had been made ill by the anxiety of his position, and was in bed on the day that Mr. Traill's deficiency occurred. After closely scrutinizing every entry in the books. Traill came to the conclusion that he had not paid the morey in excess to any one, and that the notes must have been stolen by some one on the premises. The bank's safe was duly examined; but the looks bore no marks of being tampered with. The windows and doors of the office were unaffected, and Mr. Duff's domestics—who swept out the office—had been his servant and were known to him for years. The matter was on this occasion reported to the bank's head office; but thence came the cold intimation that no further deficiency could be made good, and referring the bank agents to their recent letter to that effect of such and such a date.

Mr. Duff began to think the place was haunted. Wherever the money was gone it had to be paid up; raising the total lossee made in this mysterious way to the unpslatable sum of fourteen hundred pounds in less than three months. The mystery was all the deeper that during the day of the difference in Traill's cash, it had happened there had not been a single cash payment amounting to fivehundred pounds. Then there came vague rumours—such as the police, had the matter passed into their hands, would certainly have made use of—that there was an itinerant locksmith, agipsy, in the neighbourhood to whom popular rumour astributed almost miraculous power in the manipulation of locks. Yet, it would take a very elever locksmith indeed to open the Central Bank's safe uncleased the properties of the conclusions of the conclusions of the conclusions of the conclusion of locks. Yet, it would take a very elever locksmith indeed to open the Central Bank's safe uncleased the properties of the conclusions of the conclusions of the conclusion of locks. Yet, it would take a very ele

indeed to open the Central Bank's safe unheard in the bonse, and to close it again
without leaving trace of his work. The
safe had a foundation of eight feet of stone,
and was coated on the floor, wall and roof
with a two-inch plate of solid iren. The
doors were, of course, of iron, and each—
there were four doors—had two keys and
separate locks. Through the lock of the
outer iron door an iron bolt was each evening shot down from Mr. Duff's bed-room
above, and while that bolt was down no
key in the world could open the door. It ndeed to open the Central Bank's safe unabove, and while that bolt was down no key in the world could open the door. It was necessary to be in Mr. Duff's bed-room before the bolt could be drawn or dropped.

No longer was Mr. Duff able to leave the bank with an easy mind for a 2 o'clock luncheon—with forty winks to follow—as had been his custom these twenty years. He was closely on the watch. Yet there was no visible cause for suspicion. Bankers and clerks were fast becoming demoralized—in the military sense—from sheer fright. in the military sense—from sheer fright, accelerated by mystery, and a sense of utter helplessness in face of it. Mr. Duff might far better belosing his fortune on the Stock Exchange, or throwing his money away on turf speculations; in these there would be some remote chance of profit, if not satisfaction in losing his property. His bark had up to this time sailed in smooth seas, had even hithertofloated in a sheltered tempests or reakers : but now a leak of a dangerous

sort had sprung, as likely, he imagin ingulf him at his anchorage as any l ing of waves in open sea.

Mr. Duff became a changed man. He was thin and worn and ill with anxiety was thin and worn and ill with anxiety and watching. They were all watching. Traill was watching. They were all watching. Traill was watching. They were all watching. Traill was watching. They was watching. Traill was w

bewitched.

His partner, George Traill, being called upon to pay up half of the £500, resolved to get to the botton of the matter. He had a bed fitted up in the banker's business-room, and determined to spend his nights there until some solution of the problem presented itself. His transfer from the Aberdeen branch seemed just then to prove a bad bargain. The keys of the safe, it should be mentioned, numbering eight, were placed every night after the locking up of the safe and the dropping of the iron bolt from the banker's bedroom, in a strong box, the key of which was always carried bolt from the banker's bedroom, in a strong box, the key of which was always carried by Mr. Duff. George Traill, armed with a revolver, in spite of Mary's protests, and Mr. Duff's jeers, occupied the room where the bed had been fitted there, and waited philosophically the course of events. philosophically the course of events. He slept little for the first night or two; but no intruder came to disturb his repose. The long, dull hours crept on without adventure or other result than to make Traill venture or other result than to make Traill sleepy and cross euring the following days. The bankers were beginning to despair of discovering the thief. Yet Traill—despite Mr. Duff's perfectly reasonable argument that if any man broke into the safe it would not be £500 that would satisfy him, nor would he likely risk a second or third visit—continued to spend his nights in the bank

bank. At daybreak, however, on a certain morn-At daybreak, however, on a certain morning in the following week, Traill, who slept very lightly, was suddenly awakened and startled by hearing the bolt that passed through the lock of the outer doer of the same drawn sharply up. He could hardly believe the evidence of his ears, thinking perhaps that he had dreamed. But the "click" was still reverberating, exaggerated as all sounds are in the stillness of night. If the bolt was really lifted, the person that drew it up must be in the room where Mr. Duff slept. Traill was a courageous man; but in spite of himself. room where Mr. Duff slept. Traill was a courageous man; but in spite of himself, he trembled as he felt for and examined his revolver. When the reverberation subsided, there was a silence for a few moments as of Death, Sleep's twin brother. Then he thought he heard, afar off, a door open, followed by a step on the stairs. Then a light showed at the seam under the door opend and

open, followed by a step on the stairs. Then a light showed at the seam under the door; presently the door opened, and a man entered, carrying in one hand a lighted candle, in the other a bunnh of keys. The revelver was firmly held in Traill's grip, and before firing, he was about to utter a cry of wasning, when he noted that the figure paid no heed to his presence, but passed him, making straight for the safe door. In the dim light, to his astonishment, he distinguished the fixed, even rigid features of his friend and partner Mr. Duff! His eyes were wide open, and he moved with his usual deliberation, but with an air of stern precocupation quite foreign to his working habits. Traill saw at a glance that the banker was walking in his sleep.

His first impulse was to seize him and wake him; but a moment's reflection decided him to wait the natural issue of events. Mr. Duff, without hesitation or fumbling, chose the right keys for the outer door, and pushed it, as the lock sprang back, alowly open; then the wicket-gate, the inner door, and so on, until he disappeared silently in the vault-like shade of the strong-room. When he reached the inner safe, he took from the well-packed, store of pound notes.—Trail cagerly watching him from the door—a bundle containing five hundred; he noise-lessly shut and locked each door as he retreated. He passed within arm's length of Traill, bearing the bundle of notes, the keys and his lighted candle; left the office—followed by his partner—walked slowly up stairs to his bedroom, where he deliberately dropped the bolt back in its place, and finally laid the keys carefully, apparently counting them, in their usual place in the box fixed in the wall for the purpose. Traill expected that he would

agony.

"How much do you reckon your pigs cost you annually, Duff?" Traill asked, with an apparent irrelevance and, as Mr. Duff thought, flippancy.

"Pigs! Hang the pigs! Hang the bank! and—Yes; I mean to resign my office. I'm not going to remain here to be robbed and ruined."

"I see you are putting a new roof on "I see you are putting a new roof on your sty, and papering it," Traill went on sententiously. "Sparing no expense on it. Doing the thing stylishly, eh?"

"Are you mad, Traill?"

"Well, let me see. At the rate of two thousand pounds, say, in three months, that pig-sty will cost you and me just about eight hundred pounds a year." Traill was apparently in his gravest mood. "That's

retty moderate, eh?" Poor Traill! The loss of his money has taken his brain. What demon has en-tered this house?" sighed Mr. Duff in the presence of a despair more tragic even

than his own.
"Look here, old feliow!" said Traill, suddenly bursting into laughter, "look here! I found these in the roof of your pig-sty this morning; and what is more, I saw you put them there with your own hands."

"Prodigious !" Yes, all the missing money was there. The banker gave a champagne dinner to his delighted clerks on the evening of that his delighted clerks on the evening of that day. His own health, however, was in rather a bad way. In a month or two he resigned his office, retiring on a liberal pension to his farm; and in order to compensate James Hamilton, for all his recent trouble and misery. Mr. Duff requested, as a personal and final favour, that the directors might appoint him to the position of assistant agent with George Traill, a proposal, which the directors favourably entertained. These offices both of the gentlemen hold with honour to this day. It mey be mentioned, too, that George Traill and James Hamilton are now brothers in law, each having in due time wedded one of Mr. Duff's daughters. The bank is James Hamilton's home, while George Traill has rented a farm adjoining Mr. Duff's. The fresh country air, and fishing, and unlimited golfing—all enforced on him by the doctor as the best medicine—have put an end to the old banker's somnambulistic rambles.

A SIAMESE SCANDAL British Consul's Daughter Runs Away with a Busky Nobleman—A Speck of War on the Horizon. (From the N. Y. Tribus

BANGKOK, Siam, June 1 .- There is a BANGKOK, Siam, June 1.—There is a speck of war on the horizon just now—a threat of a disturbance of the harmonious relations between Siam and England. About thirty years ago there came to Siam a young officer of the English army. He had been for several years in India, in the service of the East India Company, and was in favour with the old King and the high officers of the Royal court high officers of the Royal court. Through the influence of friends at home he was appointed to represent the British Government as Consular Agent at Bangkok, and from this position he gradually rose to his present high office of Consul-General of her Britannic Majesty for the Kingdom of Siam. His name is Thomas George Knox, and he comes of one of the old families in the North of Ireland. During the time of his service with the King, and before he dreamed of the honours to come to him in later years, Mr. Knox contracted an alliance with a Siamese woman. Three chil-

the botton of Ireland. During the time of infrastand the botton for the bott with a disconnection control of the same and the botton in the same and the same

NEWMAN HALL

The Opening of His Suit for Divorce—His Evidence and Cross-Examination.

Cause Celebre—Statement of the Case by Counsel.

The suit of Rev. Newman Hall v. his wife and Frank Waters Richardson, the co-respondent, for a divorce on the ground of adultery, was begun in the Divorce Court on the 30th ult. In The Mail's cable despatches of Saturday, it was announced that the petitioner had obtained the

divorce.

Sir Henry James, Q.C., Mr. Inderwick, Q.C., and Dr. Tristram appeared for the petitioner; Mr. Willis, Q.C., and Mr. Bayford for the respondent; Mr. Kemp for the co-respondent. It appeared from the opening statement of Sir Henry James that Mr. Hall was born in 1816. He became early in life a minister of the Conmake certain whether the money disappears by night or during the day."

Mr. Duff assented.

"Suppose you begin this morning."
Again Mr. Duff assented; and with reluctant fingers, at his partner's suggestion, counted the money. "Powers of darkness!" he exclaimed, "I shall not stay another day in this house. The cash is again five hundred pounds short!" Had Mr. Duff not been a remarkably bald man he would probably have torn his hair in agony.

"How much do you reckon your pigs

that Mr. Hall was born in 1816. He became early in life a minister of the Congregationalist community, and was appointed pastor of Albion Chapel, Hull, in 1842. He there made the acquaintance of the respondent, who was the daughter of a Dr. Gordon (since deceased), a gentlemant of good family and position at Hull, and they were married at Albion Chapel on the 14th of April, 1846. At the date of her marriage Mrs. Hall was 18 years of age. She was an only child and she had been treated by her father and mother as one whose will should never be controlled.

her, though with great reluctance, to go alone to Tring to hunt. As time went on she became less and less devoted to him; taking no interest in his pursuits and selshe became less and less devoted to him; taking no interest in his pursuits and seldom accompanying him to his church, and she finally refused him, while alleging no ground for the refusal, conjugal intercurve. The relation of husband and wife ceased between them in 1863, and from that date down to their separation in 1870 they occupied separate rooms. The correspondent was the son of the landlord and landlady of the hotel at Tring where the respondent stayed when hunting, and the respondent which led to the petitioner's permission, and then virtually began the intimacy between him and the respondent which led to the petitioner's permission, and then virtually began the intimacy between him and the respondent which led to the petitioner and respondent went together to the lakes and afterwards to the correspondent's stables, which were two miles away; that she was in the labit of constantly visiting him at the stables, of taking tea with him, and of dressing in his room. Previously to this date the respondent, who was always excitable, had suffered from sleeplessness, and had taken to smoking as a soporific. She would sit a hotel and the petitioner in the petitioner to give him and the respondent when the petitioner is the stables, of taking team the petitioner to give him and the respondent when the petit

been a true friend to him, and that he respondent, who was always excitable, had suffered from sleeplessness, and had taken a most transported from sleeplessness, and had taken a been at true friend to him, and that he should obey her wishes. I wrote to Richardson should it to smoking as a soporific. She would six up until late at night, and would smoke with gentlemen visitors, including the corsespondent, with whom she was often alone in a back kitchen or housekeeper's room. Her mode of life became at last the rintimacy with Richardson should cease. I showed the letter to her mother. I spent alone in a back kitchen or housekeeper's room. Her mode of life became at last the roundent, and also appealed to the coherence of the respondent vested with her on her conduct, and also appealed to the coherence of the respondent to discontinue his visits to the house. The respondent resented the respondent to the constrance, and in October, 1869, left her home and went down to Brighton with Mrs. Transer. I had no knowledge or idea of Richardson going to Brighton with Mrs. Transer. I had no knowledge or idea of Richardson going to Brighton with Mrs. Transer. I had no knowledge or idea of Richardson going to Brighton with Mrs. Transer. I had no knowledge or idea of Richardson going to Brighton with Mrs. Transer. I had no knowledge or idea of Richardson going to Brighton with Mrs. Transer. I had no knowledge or idea of Richardson going to Brighton with Mrs. Transer. I had no knowledge or idea of Richardson going to Brighton with Mrs. Transer. I had no knowledge or idea of Richardson, the house and went down to Brighton and the remittance. I replied on the Ilth of November, refusing her request, but stating that I should receive her on the constant companion, he had his meals with her, and he sat up with her until two and three o'clock with the same as they had been since a brighton the same as they had been since a bright of the protection of her husband's home. While at Brighton her workers and I now house a saked me to go

our house. He remained for three weeks.
He was respectful, and was treated by us as an inferior friend. Mrs. Hall suffered from sleeplessness, and she took to smoking as a sedative. She said it to smoking as a sedative. She said it had a soporific and soothing effect on her and I believed her assurance. In the spring of 1869 she constantly smoked with Richardson. She never made any is secret of it. I used to sit up with her I until my avagight was and angusted. I read I secret of it. I used to sit up with her until my eyesight was endangered. I read to her until the pages became a blank, and then I talked to her until she slept. Richardson took his meals with us and also rode out with my wife. His conduct towards her was always most respectful. I went to Switzerland in August, 1869. I wished her to come, but she refused, say the season in London, and the occasion of a tour in Switzerland, and ardson took his meals with us and also rode out with my wife. His conduct towards her was always most respectful. I went to Switzerland in August, 1869. I wished her to come, but she refused, saying that it was the season in London, and that she wreferred to wearing at her was ing that it was the season in London, and that she preferred to remain at home. I left Captain Cottons reading to her while he went to make a mountain ascent. He returned on the 18th of August. She was out not at home to meet me; she was out walking with Richardson. I subsequently found that her horse, which was kept at

found that her horse, which was kept at stables close by us, was removed to Richardson's stables, about two miles away. I went to the Lakes with my wife on the 19th of August. While at the Lakes I found her writing a letter early one evening. I saw accidentally that it began "Dear Frank." It was a long letter—several sheets. I said, "Your letters are much prized in America, and if you would only write such long letters as you are now writing to the papers you would earn much money." She wasgifted and was in the habit of writing for the press. She grew angry at my remark, and continued to scold me all night. After our return to London I acnight. After our return to London I ac- wards her but as a brother to a sister—a night. After our return to London I accompanied her, at her request, to see Richardson's stables and house; it was a small one in a mews. I saw Mrs. Hall's habit hanging up in his bedroom. I took no notice. We went to Llandudno together on the 13th of September, and Mrs. Gordon and Mrs. Tranmer came with us. I returned to London on the 2nd of October. Mrs. Hall and her mother remained at Llandudno. She told me that she wanted Richardson to come for a week, and that

age. She was an only child and she had been treated by her father and mother as one whose will should never be controlled and whose every wish should be gratified. She was accomplished and intellectually gifted, and had a power of persuasion which, combined with her husband's love for her, enabled her to have her own way in everything. In 1854 the petitioner left Hull for London, and became minister of Rowland Hill's chapel. Soon after they had taken up their residence in London the tastes and habits of the respendent began to change. She ceased to share in her husband's duties as a pastor, or even to take an interest in them, and when remonstrated with by her husband gave way to outbreaks of the most violent temper. Fearing such scenes, as the petitioner yielded to nearly all her wishes. He consented to her taking horse-exercise on her representation that her health was benefited by it, and he allowed her, though with great reluctance, to go alone to Tring to hunt. As time went on the list of the respondent began to change the properties of the respondent began to change. She ceased to share in her husband gave way to outbreaks of the most violent temper. Fearing such scenes, the petitioner yielded to nearly all her wishes. He consented to her taking horse exercise on her representation that her health was benefited by it, and he allowed her, though with great reluctance, to go alone to Tring to hunt. As time went on the staturd by the her the would pay his fare. I made no objection—I suspected no harm. I learnt afterwards that he went there. My wife and her mother came back on the list of October. I think Richardson came with us. I returned to London on the 2nd of October. Mrs. Hall and her mother came back on the list of October. I think Richardson came with us. I returned to London on the 2nd of October. Mrs. Hall and her mother came back on the list of October. I think Richardson came with us. I returned to London on the 2nd of October. Mrs. Hall and her mother came back on the list of October. I think Ric

the poor cannibals will starve to death at When a Chinaman makes love to a girl.

Have you not a person in your eye whom you would desire to marry if you were free?—I have.

free?—I have.

Have you not communicated to her the feelings you entertain towards her?—Yes.

And do not your friends know of your And do not your triends know of your object and purpose?—Very few.

And they have endeavoured to help you in this case? No. I know that Mr. Richardson's sister has lived with Mrs. the occasion of a tour in Switzerland, and left Captain Cottons reading to her while corresponding in shorthand two or three times a week with the lady (a Miss Mary

those relations as the main cause of their differences and ultimate estrangement.

Anna Drake, parlourmaid in Mrs. Hall's service in 1868 and 1869, deposed that Mrs. Hall and Mr. Richardson frequently sat up smoking until an advanced hour in the morning, and that on those occasions the danset the way was generally looked. door of the room was generally locked. She forther deposed that on a few occasions she had seen Mrs. Hall, when only partially dressed, go into Mr. Richardson's bedroom before breakfast.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

As soon as a passenger car is loaded it ought to go off.—New Orleans Picayune, An Erie girl calls her fellow, who is member of the Michigan crew, her evening's tar.—Bradford Era. Young man, if every other way of mak.

ing yourself conspicuous fails, eat peanuts in a railroad car.—Yonkers Gazette. A man in Rochester recently tried to steal a dog worth \$33,000. He would have succeeded better, if he had found one.

- Buffalo Express. The man who puts \$50 in a savings bank and forgets all about it for seventy or eighty years would do the same thing if he

Advice to the milkmen :- Don't cry over spilt milk, but carefully fill up the can with water so the milk will colour it, and continue peddling.—Oil City Derrick. Pious Old Lady : Just think, Rose, only five missionaries to twenty thousand can-nibals! Kind hearted niece: Goodness!

A man who shot at his village pastor was adjudged insane, and set at liberty. Then he killed his neighbour's hog, was convicted of murderous intent, and he goes to prison for twelve years.

lieve "Brown's Household Panacka will more surely quicken the blood, and heal—whether taken internally or applied externally, and thereby more certainly lieve pain, whether chronic or acute—the any other pain alleviator. It is warrant double the strength of any other medicing for similar uses. Sold by all dealers medicine. 25 cents a bottle.



FRUIT. BAKED PEARS. Bake washed unpeeled pears in pan only a teaspoon or two of water; spn with the sugar, and serve with their

BAKED PIE-PLANT. Cut in pieces about an inch long, baking dish in layers with an equal w of sugar, cover closely and bake. BAKED PEACHES.

Wash peaches which are nearly or ripe, place in a deep dish, sprinkle sugar, cover, and bake until tender. STEWED PIE-PLANT.

Make a rich syrup by adding sugar water in which long strips of orange have been boiled until tender, lay into single layer of pieces of pie-plant tinches long, and stew gently until of When done remove and ne remove and cook another l This makes a handsome dessert-disl namented with puff-pastes cut in fan shapes. Use one orange to two and a pounds pie-plant. PEACH PYRAMID

Cut a dozen peaches in halves, peel take out stones, crack half the seeds, blanch the kernels; make a clear bor syrup of one pound of white sugar, and to it put the peaches and kernels; very geatly for ten minutes, take out the peaches, boil the rest for ten min longer, and take out all the peaches kernels; mix with the syrup left in kettle the strained juice of three len and an ounce of isin glass dissolved in the water and strained; boil up once, mould half full of this syrup or jelly, stand until "set," add part of the peaches, an up the mould with jelly. This make elegant ornament. o it put the peaches and kernels: legant ornament.

FROZEN PEACHES. Pare and divide large, fresh, ripe, juicy peaches, sprinkle over them gr lated sugar, freeze them like ice-cream an hour; remove them just before serv and sprinkle with a little more su Canned peaches and all kinds of berries be prepared in the same way. TO KEEP PINE APPLES.

Pare and cut out the eyes of a ripe apple, strip all the pulp from the core a silver fork, to a pint of this add a po a silver fork, to a pint of this add a po of granulated sugar, stir occasionally til sugar is dissolved, put in glass can, and turn down the covers as closel possible. This will keep a long time, BAKED QUINCES.

Wash and core ripe quinces, fill sugar, and bake in baking dish wi little water. MOCK STRAWBERRIES

Cutripe peaches and choice well-flavor apples in proportion of three peache one apple, into quarters about the size strawberry, place in alternate lay sprinkle the top thickly with sugar, add pounded ice; let stand about hours, mix peaches and apples thoroug let stand an hour longer, and serve. SNOW FLAKES.

Grate a large cocoa-nut into a large d and serve with cream, preserves, jelli-

BAKED SWEET APPLES. The most elaborate combination of most skilful cook, can not surpass sir wonderfully rich and luscious. The best the "Pound Sweeting," but the "Ge Sweet," well known in Ohio, is alm equal to it. Never core sweet appl wash them, set in oven in baking-parallittle water in it, and bake slow several hours. When done, they are rich, dark brown colour. If taken ou

BAKED SOUR APPLES. Quarter and core tart apples with paring, put into baking-dish, sprin with sugar and bits of butter, add a li water, and bake until tender. The portion is a gill of sugar, and butter size of half a egg, to three pints of app and a gill and a half of water.

GAME

Of game birds the woodcock out-rar all in delicate tenderness and sweet flavor The thigh is especially deemed a choice bit. The leg is the finest part of the smi bit. The leg is the finest part of the sni but generally the breast is the most ju and nutritious part of birds. Birds should be carefully plucked skinned, drawn, wiped clean, and all si rem yed. Game should not be wash unless absolutely necessary for cleanling With care in dressing, wiping will rem

them perfectly clean. If necessary wash, do it quickly and use as little wa wash, do it quickly and use as little was as possible. The more plainly all kin of game are cooked, the better they ret their fine flavour. They require a brist fire than poultry, but take less time cook. Their colour, when done, should a fine yellowish brown. Serve on toast. Broiling is a favourite method of coing game, and all birds are exceeding nice roasted. To broil, split down ing game, and all birds are exceeding nice roasted. To broil, split down back, open and flatten the breast by coving with a cloth and pounding, seas with pepper, and lay the inside first up the gridiron; turn as soon as browned and when almost done, take off, place on platter, sprinkle with salt, and return the gridiron. When done, place in a high, butter both sides well, and serve ones. The time required is usually about

once. The time required is usually ab twenty minutes.

To roast, season with salt and peppe place a lump of butter inside, truss, skew and place in oven. The flavour is best preserved without stuffing, but a plain breadressing, with a piece of salt pork or has akewered on the breast, is very nice. delicate way of dressing is to place oyster dipped in the well-beaten yolk an egg or melted butter, and then rolled bread crumbs, inside each bird. All thirty minutes to roast or longer if stuffs Wild ducks, pheasants, and grouse a always best roasted.

To lard game, out fat salt pork in thin, narrow strips thread always in the same of the

thin, narrow strips, thread a larding-need with one of the strips, run the needle u der the skin and a little of the flesh of t bird, and draw the pork half way throug so that the ends of the strips exposed we be of equal length. The strips should about one inch apart. The larding integers with the natural flavour of the bir but renders it more juicy. Many pref tying a piece of bacon on the breast

Pigeons should be cooked a long time they are usually quite lean and tough, as they are better to lie in salt water half hour or to be parboiled in it for a few m They are nice roasted or m into a pie.

If the "wild flavour" of the lar

birds, such as pheasants, prairie chicker etc., is disliked, they may be soaked ov night in salt water, or two or three hou in sods and water, or parboiled with onion or two in the water, and then cook as desired. The coarser kinds of gan as desired. The coarser kinds of gan such as geese, ducks, etc., may lie in a swater for several hours, or be parboiled it with an onion inside each to absorb trank flavour, and afterwards thoroug rinsed in clear water, stuffed and roaste or pare a fresh lemon without breaking thin, white, inside skin, put inside game for a day or two, renewing the lem every twelve hour. This will absorb pleasant flavours from almost all meat a same. Some lay slices of onion over game. pleasant flavours from almost all meat a same. Some lay slices of onion over gawhn, sooking, and remove before servi In preparing fat wild ducks, for invalidation it is a good plan to remove the skin, a keep a day or two before cooking. Squir should be carefully skinned and laid salt and water a short time before cooking if old, parboil, They are delicious broit