# **POOR DOCUMENT**

## THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N B. SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1905.

RAFFLES, the AMATEUR CRACKSMAN.



That night he told me the story of his to have a few days to myself. I was cut was simply this third finger that was earliest crime. Not since the fateful morn- over on the hand, just b fore the big split and in splints—and next morning the ing of the Ides of March, when he had Christmas match, and cou'dn't have bowlthat would have done for an ambulance. ned it as an unreported inci- ed a ball if they had played me.

dent of a certain cricket tour, had I suc-ceeded in getting a word out of Raffles on ed to ask me if I was any relation of the rest were rather sick with me for not the subject. It was not for want of try-ing; he would shake his head and watch bok in his eyes, half cynical, half wistful, as though the decent, honest days that were no more had had their merits after better? I made un my mind that this

were no more had had their merits after all. Raffles would plan a fresh enormity all made up my mind that this or glory in the last with the unmitigated and tea with the attime to magine one throb or twitter of compunction between those frankly gous-ly read of him in connection with a small subje to imagine one throw of twitter of doctor so much as met him, but had mere-computed on between those frankly egois-tic and infectious transports. And yet sensation at the suburban branch which the ghost of a dead remorse seemed still to image as met nime, but had mere-tic and infectious transports. And yet sensation at the suburban branch which the ghost of a dead remorse seemed still to image as a second of the in him, by this Raffles; and the felony, so that 1 hid given the story up abalbeen rather plucki'y beaten off, with in the place where he knows it's kept? I had been rather plucki'y beaten off, with in the place where he knows it's kept? I had been rather plucki'y beaten off, with in the place where he knows it's kept? I had been rather plucki'y beaten off, with in the place where he knows it's kept? I had been rather plucki'y beaten off, with in the place where he knows it's kept? I had been rather plucki'y beaten off, with in the place where he knows it's kept? I had been rather plucki'y beaten off, with in the place where he knows it's kept? I had been rather plucki'y beaten off, with in the place where he knows it's kept? I had been rather plucki'y beaten off, with in the place where he knows it's kept? I had been rather plucki'y beaten off, with in the place where he knows it's kept? I had been rather plucki'y beaten off, with in the place where he knows it's kept? I had been rather plucki'y beaten off, with in the place where he knows it's kept? I had been rather plucki'y beaten off, with in the place where he knows it's kept? I had been rather plucki'y beaten off, with in the place where he knows it's kept? I had been rather is a sort of thing was so common out there ight was coming nearer-and I didn't whow it all 'i dur's the doctor' is the 'i the second sound is the conting second sound is the conting second sound second sound is the conting second sound second sound second sound second sound is the conting second sound second sound second sound second sound is the doctor' is a blue t visit him with the industry of also and bullet in him, by this Raffles; and the long before the night of our return from sort of thing was so common out there influester. Cricket, however, was in the air, and Raffles' cricket bag back where he here to the the ed into some excellent fellow with a billet and all the time the local color was inches here to the night of our return from the counter and left entirely to the mare. Now it dip-ped into a gully and ran through a creek, and all the time the local color was inches here to the night of our return from the counter and left entirely to the mare. Now it dip-ped into a gully and ran through a creek, and all the time the local color was inches here to the night of our return from the counter and all the time the local color was inches here to the night of our return from the counter at footer. I daresay; you know what that's like? All I can say is that my moral wind was bagged by that letter as I hope, his fist on the table.

"'Yes; didn't you expect one?" "'I certainly did not!'

old chap. I have never yet bagged yours. I couldn't speak. I could only stand with my own letter in my hands un il he had the good taste to leave me by myself. the good taste to leave me by myself. the wrong, 'the "W. F. Raffles! We had mistaken each thing, you know!"

other for W. F. Raffles-for the new "'Of course,' I rejoined, because they manager who had not yet arrived! Small said what I told them. You wouldn't have wonder we had not yet arrived: Small said what I tool wouldn't have wonder we had conversed at cross-pur-had me advertise the fact that I improved pears; the only wonder was that we had upon the bank's regulations, would you? not discovered our mutual mistake. How "So that cloud rolled over, and by Jove the ather man would have laughed! But it was a cloud with a giden lining! Not I I c uid not laugh. By Jove. no, it was -ilver-real good Aust alian gold! For old no bughing matter for me! I saw the Ewbank hada't qu'te appreciated me till whole, thing in a flash, without a tremor, then; he was a hard nut, a much older but with the direst depression from my man than myself, and I felt pretty surown single point of view. Call it callous if you l.ke, Bunny, but remember that I was in much the same hole as you've since been in yourself and that I had counted on this W. F. Raffles even as you counted on A. J. I thought of the man opened a fresh box. He was a convivial with the W. G. beard-the riderless horse looking party, with a red mustache, and a with the W. G. beard—the rideriess norse with the bloody saddle—the deliberate misdirection that had put me off the track and out of the way—and now the missing manager and the report of bush-rangers at this end. But I simply don't newton to have felf any personal pity for a man whom I had never seen; that kind of pity's usually cant; and besides, all mine was needed for myself. "I was in as big a hole as ever. What the devil was I to do? I doubt if I have through the open window, when he wasn't

"T'm afraid you'll find things pretty rough,' he resumed, when he had unstrap-ped my valise and handed my reins to his man. 'It's lucky you're a bachelor like myself.' "Loudd not emitted that the staff was myself.'

"I could not quite see the point of this remark either, since, had I been married ing for his chance

remark either, since, had I been married I could hardly have sprung my wife upon him in this free-and-easy fashion. I mut-tered the conventional sort of thing, and then he said I should find it all right when I settled, as though I had come to gaze upon him for weeks! 'Well,' thought I, 'these Colonials do take the cake for hosnitality!' And, still marvel.' the conventional weeks is the superior what L was supposed to the conventional sort of thing, and the ne said I should find it all right thought I, 'these Colonials do take the take for hosnitality!' And, still marvel.' the convention what L was supposed to the convention of the superior what L was supposed to the convention of the superior what L was supposed to the superior weeks is the superior what L was supposed to the intervention of the superior what L was supposed to the superior weeks is the superior week

thought I, 'these Colonials do take the cake for hospitality!' And, still marvel-ling, I let him lead me into the private part of the bank. "Dinner will be ready in a quarter of "But the papers said you had!' he "But the papers said you had!' he

"Bunny, it was the outer door of the banking chamber! My candle must have been seen! And there I stord, with the "Better have a look down "Better have a look down here, first,"

been seen! And there I stood, with the grease running hot over my fingers, in that brick grave of a strong room! "There was only one thing to be done, I must truist to the sound sleeping of Ew-U must truist to the sound sleeping of Ew-

I must trust to the sound sleeping of Ew-bank upstairs, open the door myself, knock the visitor down or shoot him with most thrilling moment of my infamous the revolver I had been new chum enough career, I say it was that moment. drove me back. It was the sound of bare creak a bit; it was far too solid and well hung; and I couldn't have banged it if I feet coming along a corridor.





sufficiently impressed upon you the abso-lute necessity of my returning to Mel-bourne in funds. As a matter of fact, it was less the necessity than my own deter-ate. Convivial I called him, and I only

was less the necessary than my own deter-mination which I can truthfully describe, wish he had been something more. He as absolute. "Money I would have—but how—but how? Would this stranger be open to persuasion—if I told him the truth! No; persuasion—if I told nim the truth. No, that would set us all scoring the country for the rest of the night. Why should I tell him? Suppose I left him to find out his mistake, would anything be gained? Bunny, I give you my word that I went in to dinner without a definite intention in word mereor the truth. No, me round the bank at what was really an unearthly hour for such a proceeding. It was when he went to fetch the revolver before turning in. I kept him out of his bed another twenty minutes, and I knew every inch of the business premises be-fore I shook hands with Ewbank in my in my head, or one premeditated lie upon my lips. I might do the decent natural "You

traint. Elley breas wants the title takes,

