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murdered. There is much to say about that—but not now. I had no difficulty in getting away from that part of the world unobserved. I went to Cobalt and only a few days ago left there for Chicago. It seemed but yesterday that I left the British Columbia gold fields when I saw the scarehead notice containing my own name. Yes, friend, you can say much to clear Splinkins of this crime—he is here yet and only escaped jail to do the community one more great service."

There was something else on the report-er's mind. Holder interpreted it.

"Better just say that Dr. Dixon is look-
ing after him," he said, opening the door
to bow the other out. "He was in half-
an-hour ago and will be back," he looked at
his watch, "in ten minutes."

Holder returned to the bedside of Splin-
kins immediately."

"Oh, I can't bear it a minute longer,"
wailed he, as Holder entered. "Henry, boy,
I DID try to kill you up there in that law-
less corner of the earth. I could strike
nothing myself and it maddened me to see
almost every one else leaving the land
laden with wealth. You say you spent
your money on fast living. Henry, boy,
there was forty thousand of it stolen from
you and I am the thief."

"I never missed it, Billy," objected
Holder. "I spent hoodles of it on the boys
and then went and found more to blow in
the same way. When I came to—that time
my head was dinged in, there was a roll of
it in my bootlegs. I didn't miss any, I tell
you, and I've dug out tons of it in the Co-
balt since. Don't worry at all, Billy: I'll
stand by you. You've done a noble thing
in this town and I don't want to spoil the
popular satisfaction."

"Oh, they'll find out; they'll find out,"
fretted Splinkins. "I'm a greater crim-
inal than any who will ever occupy a cell
in Cheops. God help me, they think me a
benefactor when all these years I have
planned this jail so that I could escape if
ever this crime were found out."

"Yes, Billy—they think you a bene-
factor and so do I—let it go at that. I'll

stay in Caledon and let me hear just one
dissenting voice!"

"But I can't bear it. Oh, the sim-
plicity of people!" He sat bolt upright
in bed and stared at Holder, holding out
both arms appealingly. "Henry, I'm
crooked all the way through. I escaped
from jail last night, not because the bars
are too far apart but because some of them
are made of rubber. For God's sake do
not let it get out to the people. Tell
Madsen, the foreman, to take down the
bars himself and destroy the rubber ones.
Madsen is true metal—God, they are all
worthy but old Billy Peelings!"

"There's always a remedy," hinted
Holder. "The getting of money by other
means than personal sacrifice seems to be
a common modern evil but you will find
rigidly honest men who will give less in
proportion of what they have. Principle
develops even in thieves and honest men
will fall—which goes to prove that none
of us is absolutely honest [while a thief
can exist among us.]"

"That's it," mourned Splinkins. "What
people think a great idea in jail building
is really their blind expression of the town's
corruptions. If I have done a noble thing
for Caledon, why a jail? Just as I have
told you—through the meanest of mo-
tives. This I can confess to you and yet I
am afraid to let them know."

"And why should you? A mind that
could evolve the plans which made this
town what it is, can surely turn out a reform
which will make a jail unnecessary," sug-
gested Holder.

Splinkins' eyes brightened. The thought
took root and his whole countenance be-
came transfigured. The doctor came in
in a few minutes and all three chatted
comfortably. He left, elated at the suc-
cess of his treatment.

Caledon has long since learned Splin-
kins' secret, Cheops no longer exists, and
he is more respected than ever.

To Say and To Do

"Do you wish to go to church this
evening? Father is going to preach,
you know," the minister's fair daughter
asked.

The young man considered.
"Um. The last time I went, he rather
fell on some of my small failings. Do
you know what his text will be to-
night?"

"Yes; 'Love one another.'"

Undemonstrative

A wealthy gentleman living in a village
in the north of Devonshire took a great
interest in the church, and offered to
give the choir a treat, deciding on the
really princely one of taking them for a
week to Paris. This he did, escorting
them while there to all the places of in-
terest and beauty in that charming
city; but not during the whole of
their stay, or even on their re-
turn, did any of the men say
to him that they had liked the trip
or had enjoyed themselves; so a few days
after their return he asked one of the
churchwardens, a farmer, whether he
thought the men had enjoyed their time
in Paris. The churchwarden cogitated
for a moment or two. "Well, sir," he
said at length, "I ain't heard no com-
plaints!"

Rank in Kentucky

"Yes, sir," said the Kentuckian, as they
sat by the stove, "you can tell a man's
rank in this state thusly: If you see a
man with his feet on top of the stove,
he's a general; if his feet is on that rail
about half way up, he's a colonel; and
if he keeps them on the floor, he's a
major."

"Ah, yes," said his companion; "that's
good as far as it goes; but how are you
going to distinguish a captain or lieu-
tenant?"

"Stranger, we don't go no lower than
major in Kentucky."

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