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It was clear he was awful fond of the given him some encouragement for him gentleman lover!

mmm

The feminine portion of the population was strongly antagomstic to father's return?"

Nell, on account of her undoubted claims to beauty; and the feeling "Not quite all against her was undoubtedly the re-

The male section of the populace, on the other hand, while less virulent than the women, were not inclined to warm partisanship on behalf of the girl who should think. had always displayed a marked indifference to their attentions. There time?"
was many a young man in the crowd- "I he salve for his wounded vanity, in the voucnsafe him so much as a look had come to grief between two admirers, and lit a fire. one of whom was not a lover to be "Was Miss proud of, while the other had unpubtedly placed himself in a danger-

On the whole, therefore, it was Miss Bostal, rather than Nell, who carried the sympathy of the ordeal. ter at her odd costume of five-and- up." twenty years before, at the "girl-ofthe-period' short jacket, bunched-up what you have said, quite three-quargown, and Tyrolese hat, which, once ters of an hour elapsed between the past. People pardoned her eccentric dress, her prim little manners, in consideration of the goodness of heart which had caused the little lady to hold out a helping hand to the poor scapegrace, and to champion the cause of the man of the people against the

Every ear in the court was strain- she brought in the tea, that it to say ed to catch her words, but the little woman spoke out well, in a thin, alcalm? most shrill voice, indeed, but with a istinct utterance which made every ord carry from end to end of the she told me

the last person who is known to have dence. Only one more question, Would spoken to Jem Stickels before his it be possible, do you think, for a perasked the coroner.

"I went to the cottage where he lodged, as soon as I heard of the accident, to learn how he was." 'He opened the door to you himself.

Yes, sir, he did." "And he was very surly to you, was

Yes, sir, he was rather. He was have to answer some questions tomorrow morning." At these words every man and wo-

the edge of the mystery at last.

spoke in a wild way. He was very of the doctors, before you ask this angry and exoited. All I thought witness any further questions." was trying to pacify him." and any idea of making away with ment in the court, and people looked himself?"

at the coronetr in frank perplexity. It tion, and whether she would be called was clear that the notion was new to as a witness? The story was growing 'No, sir, I certainly did not think

'You had no idea what he meant?" "Well, sir, I thought he meant to refer to the story that has been about -the story of some robberies not far from where he lived. He often used to say he knew who the thief was,"
At this ingenuous reply, which slipped out of the witness' mouth without her having any idea of the bombshell she was throwing down, a great sensation shook the listening crowd and called forth cries of "Silence!" from

He was much excited, you say? Did he seem, otherwise, in his usual state? I mean, did he speak as a man speaks who is in perfect health in perfect command of himself?" askthe coroner, much to the disappointment of the listeners, who were

To Lovers of Good Health.

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Fitzgerald, Scandrett & Co,. 169 DUNDAS STREET. more interested in the mystery under-Jem Stickels.
"Oh, yes, he seemed quite himself.

We were surprised to find him like 'And-was he sober?"

complaint? one while I was there." "And now, madam, I must ask you another question. How far is it from your house to the spot where the deeased was found?"
Miss Bostal considered

"If you go by the fields it must be bout a mile and a haif. By the road, should think it nearly two miles." At this point the superintendent of nodded to the coroner, to express his assent to this calculation. "And now tell me, if you please, what me it was when you left the cotge-when you saw the last of the ceased, that is to say?" "It was about ten minutes past

"How do you fix the time?" back home again, to see it it was time for my father's return. And it was hen five-and-twenty minutes past

"Then you reckon that you did the walk in a quarter of an hour?"
"Yes. It is about three-quarters of a mile by the way we came, over the

There was a short pause, and the Poor chap! they said to each other, alert than ever, waited breathlessly for the coroner's next question. girl, and to be sure she must have came in a rather surprising form: given him some encouragement for him "Can you tell me, Miss Bostal, to have made bold to go for her fine whether you and Miss Claris remained in each other's company from the moment you returned home until your

Miss Theodora reflected. "Not quite all the time," she anwered, after a moment's thought. "I sult of simple jealousy rather than a tore my dress on a nail as I came in opinion founded upon her own through the back door; and I asked Miss Claris to make the tea while I ran up to my room and mended it." "And how long were you upstairs?" "About a quarter of an hour, I

"You have no way of fixing the ed court that day who found a secret note of the time; but I think I remember seeing that it was between twenthought that the girl who would not ty minutes and a quarter to eight when I went down into the dinind room

> "Was Miss Claris there?" "No. She came in with the tea not long afterwards." 'And what time was that?" "I cannot exactly tell. But I think t was soon after eight."

"And during the time that you were the little thin lady, with the in the diningg-room by yourself, did pinched face and the faded hair, step-ped into the witness-box, and kissed kitchen?" the book with grave and dignified "I don't remember noticing. I was reverence, there was little or no laughthinking of the fire—it wouldn't burn 'Altogether, then, I gather from

"smart" and "up-to-doate" had time you left Miss Claris at the back now become such a quaint relic of the door, and the time she brought in the "About that, I should think." "You did not see her, or remember hearing her during that time?"

"I certainly did not see her. I don't remember hearing her. There was another intent pause. When you did see her next-when

-did she seem agitated, or was she "She was very much agitated. She

"I must thank you for the clear way "I understand, madam, that you were in which you have given your evison to get-say to the place where the "Yes, sir," answered Miss Theodora. body was discovered and back again, in three-quarters of an hour, or a little

The crowd in the court seemed to draw a deep breath of unanimous consternation. Only the witness seemed ignore the drift of the question "It would be absolutely impos impossible.

I am sure," she answered in surprise. "And you are sure the time was no much excited, and said that we should more than three-quarters of an hour?" 'As sure as I can be, considering that I took no particular note of the "Thank you. That is all I have to

They were touching ask you at present, though it is pose edge of the mystery at last. sible we may have to recall you. "He said you would be asked some Gentlemen," he went on, turning to the questions? What did you suppose him jury, who were already springing up to mean by that?" with their questions, "I think it will "I hardly thought about it. He be better for you to hear the evidence They sat down again, and again "Did it occur to you at all that he there was a buzz and a hum of excite-This question evidently took the other whether it was true that Nell witness by surprise. Miss Bostal stared Claris had been brought from the stamore mysterious The buzz subsided as the doctor, who had seen the body before it was moved, took the oath and gave his

He had noticed nothing to give him a clue to the cause of death in the first cursory examination he was able You afterwards, with the assistance of Dr. Clarges, made a thorough examination of the body?"

"And you were then able to come to some definite conclusion?

"I believe you were able to ascertain that the man came to his death by There was perfect stillness, perfect

silence in the court as the doctor an-Yes. In the right side of the head I found a small wound, and after probing for some time, I found a bullet embedded in the cerebellum!"

CHAPTER XV. To say that you could have heard a oin drop in the crowded count when shall come to him. he doctor made this announcement, to understate the death-like silence which fell upon the dense mass of

Not one man in twenty among the rowd had been prepared for this sensational disclosure, which had, in-deed, been communicated to no one but the police and to Hemming. new fact threw such a sudden light upon the case, thrusting out as it did all possibility of Jem's having come by his death through an accident, that every man and woman needed a moment's breathing space to grasp the new view of the situation thus abrupt-

v presented. the meantime the doctor went quietly on with his evidence, much of which was technical and uninteresting to the majority. But the crowd was able to fasten on the important facts far-away India for a word to describe that the shot had been fired from be-hind the man, and from the right side of the road, supposing the victim to have been coming toward Stroan; that the injury could not have been self-inflicted; and that the crime had been committed within a very short time of the discovery of the body. "Can you give us any opinion, doc-tor, as to the length of time which must have elapsed between the firing

of the shot and your inspection of the body?" (To be Continued.)

"Quite sober, I should say."
"Did he say anything about the peculiar Phase of Life in Bengal ow he had received: Did he make and Central India.

> The Ancient System of Child Betrothals Still in Vogue-Self-Inflicted Tortures of the Yogi-The Ever-Useful Elephant.

Among East Indian women, especially of the higher classes, it is the custom to contract marriages between children. It is a disgrace for a high-caste girl to attain the marriageable age without ing married, and so child marriage has become the custom. In a Brahmin family the father of a girl 18 months old begins to look for a husband for her. To make a match he picks out a boy in a family of equal social standing and calls to offer his daughter's hand in marriage. If the father is willing he states how much of a dowry he wants for his son's hand, and such preliminaries being arranged the marriage is fixed, although the young couple may both be infants at the time. If the chosen groom should die before the couple begin to live together the girl becomes a widow, and may never marry again. (This rule applies only to the higher castes, and is not observed by the common people.) On the other hand, the young man, whenever he is left a widower, may marry again as often as he wishes. This custom of child-betrothalds a very cruel one, and a great effort is being made to abolish it. The only plea in favor of it is that there is hardly ever a case of divorce among the Brahmins, for, naturally enough, a woman will put up with a great deal from her husband when she knows that she will never be able to

get another one. A queer result of these child marriages happens when the parents of one of the children make a second betrothal for their child. Such a case came up in the Burhamore criminal session two or three years ago. A little girl, six years old, was placed on trial for bigamy with a gentleman aged nine, her first husband being still living. The prisoner was married when two years old, and so couldn't plead the lawful seven years of absence from the first husband to justify her crime. Of course, she could not plead at all, the parents being the chief offenders. After a trial of three days the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty," and the two children walked out of court

hand in hand, wondering, no doubt, what all the fuss and talk signified. The young married people live with their respective parents until they are of marriageable age, and at the wedding the groom sees the face of his wife for the first time. There are very few divorce cases among the Brahmins, not one in a million, although for good cause the wife will leave her husband and return to her childhood's home. As a rule, however, the Hindoo home is a happy one, the wife gentle, obedient to her lord and master (as was Sarah, the patriarch's wife) and

fond of her children. A curious phase of Hindoo life is the religious hermit, or "Sunyasee." Now and then a man of prominence decides to forsake the world, its pomps and vanities, and to embrace the life of an ascetic, a life of contemplation. While this determination sometimes comes to the wor-



method of getting rid of his cares and worries, it is just as likely to come to his highness, the rajah. About ten years ago the eldest son of the rajah of Travancore, who was then about 50 years old, wealthy and living in a splendid palace, and of course the chief nobleman in that part of India, suddenly decided to embrace the life of a Sunyasee.

One day he told his friends he was go ing on a railroad journey and sent his servants and traveling equipage from the palace to the railway station, but he did not follow. He went away into the jungle and was never heard of again by his friends and relatives, except that his religious adviser, the "Gooroo," informed them that his highness had become a Sunyasee. In another instance a wealthy shipowner of Tanjore divided up all his property among his relatives and dependents and went away stark naked into the wilds of the Western Ghants to get spiritual light! The Sunyasee believes that the true method of obtaining a consciousness of the universal soul (which is God) is to ignore all worldly cares, even the desire for food, clothing and shelter, and to meditate through the years until some day the inner and divine light

One of the most deadly narcotics used in the far east, especially in central India, is hasheesh, which is an extract of a plant known to the druggist and betanist as Cannabis Indica. A simple tea made of the leaves and flowers of the plant is drunk by young and old, especially at festivals, and is mildly stimulating. The drug itself, however, is smoked in a pipe, with an equal quantity of tobacco, the smoker topping the pipeful with a piece of live charcoal. Its first effect is a delirious exhibaration or frenzy, under the in fluence of which the smoker is liable to commit murder, The Hindoos call the habitual hasheesh smoker "hashash, the plural form being "hashashin, whence comes the Englinsh word Strangely enough, we go to

man who, under some maddening influence commits murder. The frenzied stage of hasheesh is succeeded by one of dreamy enjoyment and if the dose has been strong enough, this is followed by a heavy stupor-like condition which lasts for hours. It is said that a fortnight's indulgence in the hasheesh pipe will make a lifelong victim, a hash-eesh flend.

Although the British government has put down the voluntary self-immolation

His Refusal to See the Signal of Recal

of Hindoo devotees at Jaggernath, where the piously inclined throw themselves under the penderous wheels of the pro-cessional car of the god Krishna, and has also prohibited the suicide of the widow on her dead husband's funeral pile, it does not interfere with the self-inflicted torture practiced on themselves by the 'yogi" and the "fakir." These religious men punish themselves in strange and barbarous fashion to propitiate the goddess Kalee. Hook-swinging is a favorite method. A six-inch iron or brass hook is inserted into the muscles of the back and the victim is swung around a pole by the temple attaches, while his shricks of agony are drowned by the blowing of conches and the beating of tom-toms Less violent but longer torture is resorted to by other seekers after immortal happi ness. Some pass years holding an arm upright above the head until it becomes impossible to lower it, other remain standing against a tree until they are unable to bend their legs. While these shock-



HINDOO COOLIE WOMAN.

ing exhibits are becoming less common with the advance of civilization one doesn't have to live long in Bengal or central India without seeing specimens of the tortured "yogee." Oftentimes within 100 yards of the Christian church may be seen the poor little Hindeo temple whose shrine is blackened by the soot

from the hundreds of votive lamps. If you live near any "sacred" city like Benares, for instance, you will be shocked by the spectacle of dozens of vogees, rivaling each other in the hideousness of their dress and the ingenious unpleasantness of their self-imposed penances, walking, crawling or rolling along the road or prowling about your servants' quarters

in search of alms. No stories or sketches of life in India are complete without a story about that strange resident, the elephant. The pachyderm is very much in evidence, sometimes as a beast of burden, used in the lumber yards, where he handles huge sticks of lumber as if he rather enjoyed pulling and hauling, while, in lighter work, he is employed to carry his native masters, to be gayly caparisoned for holiday processions and to be used by the dominant British instead of the horse to bring the heavy artillery to the parade ground, or assist in moving the tents and other military goods when the regiment is on the march. The elephant is very like a child in some respects. He can be coaxed by petting, by pieces of sugar, and even by promises of future reward. The Hindoo mahout is accustomed to get extra effort from Hooshiar Hatti (the

sheesh" (reward), and the beast will look for larger and sweeter "chupati" (cakes) at supper time for his backsheesh. betide the mahout if he fails to keep his promise and forgets the large chupati. The elephant never forgets!-J. Irving

NOVEL ENTERTAINMENT.

It Was Provided by a St. Louis Hostess for Her Feminine Friends. A wealthy St. Louisan in the vicinity

of Lafayette Park provided a novel form of entertainment for his guests one evening last week, says the Republic. The hostess was extremely anxious to provide something original for the edification of a score of guests whom she intended to call together for an informal evening. Her husband promised to provide such novelty, and took a boon companion into his confidence to that end. They had not exchanged ideas thirty consecutive seconds before they hit upon the device of converting the elegant parlors into a gambling house pro tem. A faro bank. a roulette wheel and poker and keno 'lay-outs" were easily procurable, as the conferrees well knew, and that part of the programme was soon settled. The friend suggested as a pretty epilogue the introduction of a pair of bulldogs, guaranteed to reduce each other to mince meat in three rounds. This rather staggered the ambitious host, but his friend is a ward politician, and with the eloquence he always keeps on draught soon

convinced the other that the evening would be a failure without those bull-The evening arrived and with it came The ladies were prettily guests. shocked at sight of the gambling paraphernalia, but became accustomed to it in an astonishingly short time and shared in the games with becoming vim. It was when the yellow bulldogs made their un expected entrance that the horror of the fair guests proved genuine. The beasts yelped and growled and showed other peculiarly canine symptoms of "spoiling for a fight." Thereupon the ladies sought refuge on the piano and card tables and

chairs, conducting their retreat as from Notwithstanding excited feminine protestations, the friend who had been consulted as to a novelty in entertainment unleashed the dogs. It was an exciting climax to an "original" evening. The dogs feasted for five minutes on choice bits of each other's anatomy. The ladies screamed and the friend who was consulted exulted in the success of his nov-When he was quite convinced-and it took a considerable time to convince him-that the ladies' desire for gore had been fully gratified, he doused the dogs into a convenient tub of water and sep-

Rapidity of Electricity. Electricity can travel faster than 200.

000 miles in a second, or, in other words, instead of requiring 20 minutes to go around the world once like messages recently dispatched from an American exposition, it can make the journey eight times in one second. This would be at the rate of about 500 times in one minute, or 16,000 times in 20 minutes.

Specification Necessary. Twynn-She's a scoreher. Triplett--Passion poetess, or wheel-

A Chicago youth who didn't know it was loaded has shot and killed his sweetheart.

NELSON AT COPENHAGEN.

From Admiral Parker. Captain Alfred T. Mahan, the great naval tactician, has an article on "Nelson in the Battle of Copenhagen' in Century As to the demeanor of Lord Nelson, Cap tain Maham, quoting from Colonel Stew art, gives the following description When the signal from the London, No. 39, was made the signal lieutenant reported it to him. He continued his walk, and did not appear to take notice of it The lieutenant, meeting his lordship at the next turn, asked whether he should repeat it (by which, if done, the squadron engaged would retire to the northward). Lord Nelson answered, 'No; acknowledge it.' On the officer returning to the poop his lordship called after him, 'Is No. 16 (for close action) still hoisted?' The lieutenant answering in the affirmative, Lord Nelson said, 'Mind you keep it se.' He now walked the deck considerably agitated, which was always known by his moving the stump of his right arm. After a turn or two he said to me in a quick manner, 'Do you know what's shown on board the commander-in-chief-No. 39? On asking what that meant, he answer ed, 'Why, to leave off action. Leave off action,' he repeated; and then added with a shrug, 'Now, damn me if I do!' He

see the signal.' Professor Laughten, whose authority on matters relating to Nelson is second to that of no one living, has lately told us in his "Life of Nelson" that this little display was but a joke, Nelson having received a message from Parker that he was to use his own discretion as to obey ing the signal. If so, it is not improbable that he had in view the effect manner upon the many bystanders who must have witnessed the scene in the midst of a yet doubtful and desperate

and then, with an archness peculiar to his character, putting the glass to his

bearing which he reprehended in the lieutenant. The moral effect of such selfpossession is indescribable. The Monon board of her: "When the carnage was greatest he encouraged his men by an began a htizza, which is of more impor ance than might generally be imagined for the men have no other communica some of them, alive and in good spirits.' quence than appears, for the supreme merit of Lord Nelson was not the disregarding of the signal, but the sound judgment and tenecity with which he

Turtle Soup Made Him. toasted bread.

paniment of lemon, cayenne pepper and After his appointment as colonel of a militia regiment, in allusion to his calling, he was known as "Marshal Tureen." This sobriquet he took in good part. He retorted, however, upon one of his officers, who was a dealer in corn and flour by conferring on him the nickname of "Marshal Sacks." Birch rose successively from common councilor and alderman to lord mayor of London. During his tenure of office the turtle soup served at the Mansion House gave his banquets a vogue invitations.

His fame as dramatist and author lingered for a considerable period after his death. The inscription that he wrote for a statue of George III. in the council chamber, Guildhall, will recall him to generations to whom he would otherwise be unknown. His daughter was the wife of the French post Lamartine. Probably England has not produced another man who, from the humble position of maker of turtle soup, has attained to so much distinction in so many other walks of life.-New York Sun.

them. On this Nelly fell upon her knees in a frenzy of embarrassment, crying out: "Yes, O Queen! No, O Queen!" ing her head with each sentence. "It's from County Cork I came, an' little does me father know I do be acquainted this day wid the great Queen of the world. The children burst into shricks of laughter, but the Queen, checking the smile which rose to her own lips, shook her head at them, gently bade the woman rise and sent her upon an errand until she could recover her wits.

The Von Payer Expedition. The south polar expedition that has been under preparation for a considerable time by German and Austrian scientista will be commanded by J. von Payer. It will be preceded by a preliminary expedition from Melbourne, which will start next summer, and spend the winter in Victoria Land. Ven Payer will not accompany this, but will set out with the main expedition.

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blind eye, he exclaimed, 'I really do not Aperfect Remedy for Constipation Sour Stomach Diarrhoea. Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and Loss of SLEEP. Fac Simile Signature of NEW YORK. MANAGEMENT IN STREET AS LIGHTS SET STEELS OF EASTE

battle. It is the converse of the outward arch's midshipman already quoted speaks thus of a wounded and disabled officer plauding their conduct and frequently tion throughout the ship, but when a shout is set up it runs from deck to deck, and they know that their comrades are, As Parker's messenger, Captain Otway, did not reach Nelson until after the signal, was hoisted, it is possible the scene witnessed by Stewart occurred before Nelson knew Parker's purpose. Parker's Nelson knew Parker's purpose. Parker's lows, mattresses and spring beds private secretary, who afterward served Ticks filled with feathers and deliv admirals. The matter is of less conse-

at that moment. This was wholly his.

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that aroused fierce competition to secure

Irish Nelly's Adventure. One of the ladies in waiting on Queen Victoria, in a letter to a friend, told a story of the Queen's kindness and tast. During her stay at Osborne Castle an Irish nurse came with her little charges, the children of the Duke of B., to visit the children of the Princess of Battenberg. While the party were at tea in the nursery the Queen entered unexpectedly. Irish Nelly stood up, pale and trembling. The Queen presently saw her, and said, kindly "The children do credit to your care of

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