"The Cardinal's Diplomacy."

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The cardinal sat looking thoughtful- [had a quarrel with Mr. Black, and he ly out of the window, with a pious up-lift of the eyes, but his thoughts were on mundane affairs. The prelate had about. Only that morning he had coljust been to confessional, where a most charming young lady had poured into his sympathetic ear a woeful story of wounded effections; for the cardinal be it known, deals rather in affairs of the heart than those of the soul. His have arrived. functions are more terrestrial than ecclesiastical, as is often the case with those who wear the red robe-vide

Richelieu! "Oh, Billy!" his grown-up cousin Edna had mouned but half an hour before—"oh, Billy, I'm so unhappy!"
"I know," put in the cardinal, sympathetically. "Mr. Black didn't bring yer any candy last night."

Cousin Edna smiled mournfully. "Yes, he did, Billy—five pounds; but

but he's gone away!"
"Oh!" said Billy. "And then when the candy's all eat up there won't be any more." And Billy smiled a selfappreciative smile at his wonderful foresight.

"That's it, Billy," groaned Edna."No more-no more-er-sweets!" Here the young lady buried her face in the cardinal's sympathetic shoulder, and added in a whisper: "And only you to love me and kiss me, Billy, dear." There was silence for a space, with no sound but a faint snuffing from

The cardinal's forehead puckered thoughtfully, and his face grew long. This was partly from sympathy with his distressed cousin, and partly be-cause his chief source of revenue -Edna's bon-bon box-seemed likely to

"Isn't—isn't Mr. Black coming back at all any more?" he asked dubiously.
"N-no, Billy," sobbed Edna. "I'm awful sorry, 'cos he's an awful nice man," commented Billy. "Those long stick candies with nuts inside 'em

was lovely, wasn't they?" he added, with a sigh at the thought of joys departed. hat did Mr. Black go away for?"

queried the cardinal, when his pespiratory organs were again in full working order. 'Cause, 'cause, I sent him away," moaned Edna.

"And now you're cryin' 'cos he's gone," snorted Billy. And then he added, sotto voce. "Well, if that ain't les' like a girl"

jes' like a girl." "Oh, Billy, you don't understand," said Edna. 'But you will some day," and the unhappy damsel bestowed a wet kiss on Billy's rotund cheek. see, Billy," pursued Edna, "Mr. Black and I do not agree about a good many things. If-if he loved me as much as he says he does, he'd do what I ask him. You know his cousin Lou-"Oh, yes," cried the cardinal. "She's

awful pretty, isn't she?' "P'raps she is, but she's not my yle!" snapped Edna. "Dick—I mean Mr. Black-knows I detest her, and yet when I asked him not to call on her so often, he just laughed and paid no

'Taint any harm to call on your cousin, is it?" asked the cardinal. "Billy," said Edna, solemnly, "you'll learn, when you grow up, that cousins are sometimes very dangerous,

restful people "Mr. Black likes some things you remarked the cardinal. "Whenever he'd see you kissin' me, he'd always kiss me on the same place."

Edna laughed softly.
"Billy, you little rogue! I had no dea 76.1 were so observing." Just hen Billy's mamma poked her head .1 he door to remark, "My ne phew Algy has got a furlough, and he'll

be here to dinner, Edna.' This led the cardinal to say, thoughtfully: "He's a cousin. Is he dangerous?' No, he's not!" retorted Edna

warmly; and then she added with a little laugh. "But Mr. Black never could beat him." That same afternoon the cardinal

audience to his chief adherent, Trotabout. This personage, Bobby" though distinctively a layman, shared the cardinal's emoluments of office to the extent of an occasional chocolate. 'Bobby," announced Billy, when they were closeted together in the cardinal's anteroom—otherwice known as the wood-shed—"Bobby, Cousin Edna's

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large bottle.

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ain't comin' back any more! This was direful news for Mr. Trotleoted three marsh-mallows from an acquaintance, promising to pay with "o' the long sticky ones with nuts inside 'em''-this debt to be liquidated when Mr. Black's weekly box should

Now came the dreadful news that there were to be no more boxes; No wonder Bobby muttered, "Gee whiz!" and then gave utterance to a melancholy whistie.

Mr. Bobby had started in speculating

early in life, and now he had been caught selling short.
When the cardinal had been inform-

ed of Bobby's awkward financial situa-tion, he advised, "Give 'im back the marsh-mellers!" "Can't," said Bobby, "they're eated already. Isn't it awful?" he groaned

"I'll teil yer what!" cried the inspired cardinal, "Let's try and get 'em to make up. I hate to see poor Cousin Edna cryin' around so much; there's only 'bout six candies left I looked this morning.

It was a good mile along a dusty road to the domicile of Mr. Black, but the two made naught of that, and immediately started off on their self-imposed mission. Miss Edna had been talking rather

more freely to the cardinal than she would have done, being under the impression that the gentleman's mind was in the nature of a sieve. In this she was wrong, as the sequel will The cardinal and his able lieutenant

discovered Mr. Black in the act of strapping a trunk. All about were signs of impending departure. "Hello, 'young 'uns! What do you want" queried Mr. Black, as he gave the strap a savage tug.

"Cousin Edna sent me," replied Billy, promptly. Oh, she did, did she?" said Mr. Black, carelessly, as though it were of no moment; but he paused in his work

and sat down on a trunk lid.

"Yes; and she's been cryin' all the mornin'," went on the cardinal.

"Yes," said Mr. Black calmly, but puffing very fast on his pipe. "An'-an' Captain Algy is comin' to-

night," pursued the cardinal.

Mr. Black bit off the amber mouth. piece of his pipe, but showed no outward signs of interest; wherefore Billy, thinking the news had somehow missed fire, proceeded to elaborate facts a trifle. "He's goin' to stay a month, and he's

goin' to bring his horse, so's he can teach Cousin Edna to ride." He is, is he?" burst 'The devforth Mr. Black, with such savageness that the self-appointed peace commissioners retreated several paces. "Did Edna tell you to bring me all

this interesting information?" went on Mr. Black, sternly.
"No, sir," replied / Billy. "But thought you'd be glad to hear the news.

Well, then, what did she send you At this point Billy was seized with a panic. His invention failed him, and for a moment the cause seemed tot-tering to its fail. But just then Mr. Trotabout gallantly came to the res-

Bobby is rich in imagination and an "She says," put in Bobby, "she wants yer to call tonight, and-bring some

more candy.' This last came like an inspiration to Mr. Trotabout. "Go on!" commanded Mr. Black. By this time Billy had regained his

self-possession, and hastily put in, she says to meet her in the summer house at half-past eight."

A wonderful change had suddenly come over Mr. Black. He commenced

to hum gently to himself as he sat down and scribbled a hasty note. "Take this to Miss Edna at once. Here's something for your trouble. And he bestowed on each a silver half-

The two emissaries were in a blue funk as they reached home.

The cardinal dared not deliver the note to Edna, and yet he was even more afraid not to. He finally settled the affair by surreptitiously placing the missive on Edna's pin-cushion,thus covering his own tracks.

Bobby was invited to dine with the cardinal's family that evening, and all through the meal they threw furtive glances at Miss Edna. It was observed that she was very distrait. At half-past eight the young rascals

stole out of the house, via the nursery window, thence down a waterspout, and sped noiselessly towards the summer-house, half-fearful, but wholly

For ten minutes they crouched near a hawkhorn hedge, while not a sound was heard have the croaking of a melancholy frog. The boys were about to sneak away, when a man's voice, somewhat muffied, as though something besides a thick mustache interfered with a free utterance, was heard to re-mark, "And to think that rascally Billy should have been the means of bringing me to heaven.'

Why that gentleman should have found any cause for wonderment at this is hard to discover, seeing that it is always a cardinal's calling to bring heaven and man together. Then was heard Edna's gentle voice,

also much muffled.
"Dick," it said, "must it come off tonight. Why, folks would call it an "Let them call it what they like,"

said the other voice. "I'll not again risk losing you." "What's a 'lopement?" asked Bobby
of his superior, half an hour later.
"I—I don't know zactly." replied
Billy. "But it pays, don't it?" he
added, affectionately fingering his half-

dollar.-Harper's Bazar. DOCTORED. [London Globe.] News of battle, news of battle, Hark! 'tis ringing down the street, Every little newsboy purple Bawling out a fresh defeat.

Dublins weeping for their mothers, Gordons flinging down their guns, Sailors tearing off with cannon Weighing several hundred tons. News of slaughter and disaster-Britain's Navy all to bits; Joubert, the Avenger, knocking

Britain's Army all to fits; Russians load a million rifles, Frenchmen draw a million blades; England wiped from out the nations At the word of Derou-Leyds.

News from Brussels, News from Brus Feel the British Lion's pulse-Not the worst of all the rumors

Can his quiet tail convulse. Not a single hair he turneth, Not a tear bedims his eyes, For he knows it is in Brussels That a good young doctor lies.

ROOMS TOO HOT

[Chicago Tribune.] As the American arrival at this time of the year in London goes about tightly buttoned in his overcoat, while the tall silk-hatted Londoner walks the streets in his free-flowing frock coat, the visitor first wonders at his own apparent tenderness, and then complacently attributes it to his advent into a new climate. When later, journeying toward Edinburgh on a crisp Januray morning, he chances to sit in a compartment with native women who lower the window and evidently enjoy the breeze as it strikes full upon their ruddy faces, he may, because of his own discomfort, curse the paltry hot water bottle under the seat, but though he contrasts the situation with the steam-heated coaches of his own land, he at least admires the spectacle fore him. Finally, as he finds Britishers at ease in their homes in a temperature of 60°, while he himself is much of the time wretched from mere chilliness, he begins, perchance, to speculate upon the possibility of having been pampered witherto in his bringing

up in the matter of heat. The condition of many public teriors, not to speak of private offices and houses, in this country gives proof not merely of such tampering, but, indeed, of much positive discomfort and physical injury from overheated atmospheres. Street cars are rarely at fault in this respect, but are apt to become stuffy and thoroughly disgusting from mere lack of sufficient heat and of adequate ventilation. Steam cars, on the other hand, are frequently overheated, and sleepers seem particularly liable to this excess just at bedtime, when passengers, from their narrow confines, often feel like crying out for "a breath of fresh air." With theaters and public halls the trouble is an old one, and is connected with the problem of ventilation—a problem which even our chief local auditorium fails to solve in a satisfactory manner

for the upper galleries. Precisely the causes from which overheating, costing, as it does, extra fuel, springs, are not altogether easy of explanation. Some schemes and enterprises appear subject to a sort of racing principle, which drives them to over-emphasis upon their functions. The modern heating appliance too frequently seems inspired by such an irrepressible ambition. Aside from the needless burning of good coal, health, equable temper and general comfort would in many places of public resort, and possibly many also of private occupation, be favored by a reduced temperature.

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00000000000000 Boys and Girls.

The Pop-Corn Man. There's a queer little man lives down the street Where two of the broadest highways

In a queer little house that's half of it glass, With windows open to all who pass, And a low little roof that's nearly flat, And a chimney as black as papa's best

hat. the house is built on this funny plan, Because it's the home of the pop-corn

How does he sleep, if he sleeps at all? He must roll up like a rubber ball, Or like a squirrel, and store himself All huddly-cuddly under the shelf. If he wanted to stretch he's scarce

have space In his bare little, spare little, square little place; He seems like a rat cooped up in a can, This brisk little, frisk little pop-corn

I know he's wise by the way he looks, For he's just like the men I've seen in books, With his hair worn off, and his squinty eyes. And his wrinkles, too-oh, I know he's

And then just think of the way he makes The corn all jump into snowy flakes, With a "pop! pop! pop" in his covered This queer little, dear little pop-corn

-Clinton Scollard.

Coaching in Toytown.

The coaching season in Toytown was formally opened last Tuesday, when that well-known whip Mr. Dick Martingale took a party of friends out for an afternoon spin.

As they bowied along, Mr. Martingale would point out to his guests the various places of interest. He is a gentleman of large imagination and poetic fancy, as any one would know just to hear him talk. His wide-open eyes have the half-fearful, halffascinated look of one who sees goblin lurking behind every tree and a dragon in every quiver of the underbrush.

After he had called attention to various historic landmarks, he sud-denly pointed an impressive finger at a raimshackle old building. "See that old castle?" he demand-

ed, in a stage-whisper, of his compan-"Why, that's where Mr. Bradbury keeps his hay!" exclaimed the practi-

cal Thomas Tripper.
"Oh, no" retorted Mr. Martingale. "It looks mighty like it. Yer might really almost think it was. But it tain't. That's a giant's castle. There's a beautiful princess in there. She is pris'ner. She's tied fast by her long hair, so she won't run away."

"Gee!" exclaimed Mr. Tripper. "Why don't she cut her hair close to her head, and then cut and run?"
"'Cos she hasn't any shears," replied the ready Mr. Martingale. "Besides, it wouldn't be any fun for her to 'scape Walter Baker & Co.'s

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herself. She's waitin' to have somebody rescue her. "What does the princess look like?" queried Mr. Tripper.

"She's got light hair and—and light blue eyes. And she's very pale. Well, she's kinder light every way." "Is she light-headed too?" asked Mr. Tripper, with great irony.

Mr. Martingale ignored the innuendo and went on: "And she sits and cries all day, 'cos she's so afraid of the "I shouldn't think she'd look very pretty if she did that," put in the irre-

pressive Thomas. "To rescue the princess, o' course, you've got to kill the giant, and he's the biggest giant y' ever saw-bigger'n the one in 'Jack the Giant-Killer,'" pursued Mr. Martingale impressively. "How big is he?" asked Mr. Tripper, who took a Howellesque delight in de-

tails. "He's about a mile tall," said Mr. Dick recklessly.
"H'm!" sniffed Thomas. "No giant that tall could get into that old barn over there 'thout he folded all up like a patent stepladder." 'He can make himself big or little, jest as he pleases," retorted Dick, triumphantly. 'That's an easy thing for

a real giant to do!" Well, I say, let's go and rescue the princess now, and chop the head off the old giant!" suggested Mr. Tripper, whose dull imagination having length been fired was all eager for the

fray. At this point, Mr. Martingale, like an actor who drops his character for the moment while he makes his little speech before the curtain, stepped down from his high horse and said: giant. Just at this point the lunch bell rang

furiously, and the coaching party has-tily prepared to leave. "Here! wait a moment!" cried Mr. Martingale. 'Yer can't move out yet! You're miles from home. Now I'll drive back. I'll count ten and that'll be one

hour. Then I'll count another hour. Then we'll be home."

Never did two hours go so rapidly. "Ladies and gentlemen," said Mr. Martingale, as he jumped to the ground, "won't you all come and dine with me at my club? I have ordered a bully lunch. For Mr. Martingale had once more

stepped back into his character of host. -Harper's Bazar.

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Dec. 22 to 25, returning until Dec. 27, 1899.

Teachers and Students—On surrender of certificate signed by principal, single first-class fare and one third, going Dec. 9 to 31, 1899, returning until Jan, 17, 1900.

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Fare and One-Third for round trip, going Dec. 22, 23, 24 and 25, good to return Dec. 27, also going Dec. 29, 30, 31 and Jan. 1, good to return Jan. 3, and to points West of Detroit, Mich., Dec. 23, 24, 25, 30, 31 and Jan. 1, good to return Jan. 2. To Teachers and Students-On presentacertificates signed by principal, tickets

for round trip, going Dec. 9 to 31, good to return not later than Jan. 17. Usual Reduced Rates to Commercial Travelers.

Agent.

On and after Sunday, Oct. 16, 1899, the pot, Montreal, as follows:

The Maritime Express will leave Montreal daily except on Saturday, at 720 p.m., for Hali fax, N. S., St. John, N. B., and points in the daily except on Saturday, at 730 p.m., for Hali fax, N. S., St. John, N. B., and points in the Maritime Provinces.

The Maritime Express from Halifax, St. John and other points east, will arrive at Montreal daily, except on Monday, at 5:30 p.m.

The Local Express will leave Montreal daily, except Sunday, at 7:40 a.m., due to arrive at Riviere du Loup at 6:00 p.m.

The Local Express will leave Riviere du Loup daily, except Sunday, at 12 noon, and Levis at 4:35 p.m., due to arrive at Montreal at 10:10 p.m.

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