

the church was somewhat old-fashioned and dark. Dinner also passed somehow. I sallied out once more upon my quest. This time I was desperate, something must be done at once.

Barber shops were easily found, they were even plentiful, indeed. But then there were none of them open. I tried them to see. Naturally this required caution, for I did not know who might be about. The people I saw seemed all French, and of course I did not mind them, but I was afraid some of my congregation of the morning might be watching my movements curiously. This being so, I decided on a plan which I consider worthy of some praise.

Walking slowly and unconcernedly until I came to the shop I wanted, I would stop and gaze with interest at its architecture. It never was at all interesting, as I remember, but this gave me an opportunity to sound its walls with my stick, and also, incidentally, the door. In other cases, in order to see a building across the street to full advantage, I backed up into the doorway carefully selected, and kicked abstractedly at the lower panels. As I say, I think the scheme was well conceived and carried out, but it brought forth no response. All the barbers were away from town that day with their wives and families. It was very discouraging. At last, however, I did succeed. This time the shop stood at the corner of an alley, and right upon the street. I gave the door two good whacks in passing and was pleased to hear a voice hail me. I looked back and found a man leaning half way out of a door which opened on the alley. That, of course, wasn't the one I had knocked at, but I supposed the apparition must have some connection with my knock. I found it was so. "Was he a barber?" "Oh, yes." "Could he oblige me?" "Ah! no! He was sorry, but it was against the law." I was moving away hopeless, for the man looked incorruptible, when he hastened to add, "Mais oui, . . . peut-être, would I step into the house and he would see?"

I passed in. During the last few moments he had been peering anxiously in various directions, but now apparently satisfied, he followed me and carefully barred the door be-