

body might be watching. Remain outside four or five minutes, and if you see no one by that time, come back."

I went out as directed, but I could not but feel that I had placed myself in the man's power completely, as far as giving him a fair opportunity to abscond with my friends' money was concerned, and, though a new hand at this kind of bellows, I determined to be as keen as he was shrewd. So, instead of leaving the building altogether, for the time mentioned, I started off for a little distance, and, quickly returning up through a small ravine, took a position near an open window, just in time to observe my Baptist friend from Vermont placing something beneath a wide, flat building-stone in one corner of that portion of the basement where we had been together.

This much seen, I got away from the place as speedily as I could, and at once sought a small eminence near the building, and made a great pretence of keeping a close watch on the locality.

While thus occupied, I observed, out of the corner of my eye, that Craig had appeared at one of the entrances, and was closely watching my movements. Apparently satisfied at last, he gave a low whistle, attracting my attention, of course, when he then motioned me to join him.

As I entered I told him that I had looked everywhere, but was unable to see any person about.

"That's all right," he replied pleasantly, and then, looking at me in a quizzical sort of a way, asked:

"Pinkerton, what would you think if I told you that Yel-
verson had been here during your absence outside, and left the
five hundred in my bills?"

"Well, I don't know," I answered; "I'd *almost* think you'd
got Old Nick working along with you!"

"Perhaps I have, perhaps I have," he returned quietly.
"Look under that stone over yonder."

I went to the place indicated, and, lifting the stone which
from the outside I had seen him busied with, I picked up a
neatly-made package.

"I *think* you will find what you bought inside it," remarked
Craig.

I opened the package, and found that it contained fifty ten-
dollar bills. They were the counterfeits, but, as I have already
stated, were most handsomely executed.