Mortar and **Excitement.**

either of the young participants thought so at the time.

The Cobbs are farmers, and live in one of the midland rural towns of Maine. Their farm occupies a beautiful tract of upland on the east shore of a lake, known locally as the Great Fond. Their market and posteffice are at a small village on the other side of the lake. The distance across by water is not much more than a mile, but the drive to the village, around the foot of the lake, is fully seven miles; and moreover, the road is billy.

It is therefore their usual custom to row across to the village; and they have for this purpose a pretty, well kept rowboat, capable of carrying eight persons, which they use in fine weather and on special occasions, such as going to church; an older, smaller boat, which they use on wet days, when one or two only are going over to the post office, or on light errands; and a strong large boat which they use for transporting heavy articles to and from the village stores.

They have an old fashioned two story

strong large boat which they use for transporting heavy articles to and from the village stores.

They have an old fashioned two story country farmbouse, painted white with green blinds, which was built two ganerations ago, soon after Grandfather Z:nas Cobb cleared the farm and settled therations ago, soon after Grandfather Z:nas Cobb cleared the farm and settled therations. It stands on the height of land overlocking the lake, and has tour very large elms at the foot of the slooping dooryard. Off to the westward, scross Great Pond, the view is an especially charming one. On very clear days the peak of Mt. Washington in New Hampshire can be discerned, although a great distance away.

So charming have the many relatives and friends of the family found the lecators and the plentiful farmbouse table that for several summers, from June to Septem ber the Cobbs have been tarly thronged with company. Otten eight or ten visitors would be at the farmbonse at once.

Pure in self defence, and in order not to be eaten out of house and home and worked to death in the effort to care for their friends, the farmer and his wife resolved to transform their home into a summer boarding house. They reasoned that as about everything they could produce on the farm, in the way of crops and diary products, was now required to supply the table in summer, their only hope of escaping the poor house lay in a charge of six dollars a week for all visitors during July and August.

This thritty resolution was taken about

dollars a week for all visitors during July and August.

This thritty resolution was taken about the tenth of last June; and by way of get ting ready for the new order of things, certain repairs had to be made. The kitchen, sitting room and five or six chambers needed to be replastered and newly papered. Now plastering requires the making of mortar: and to make mortar, quicklime, hair and sand have to be had. Hamlin loooked at his watch. 'Yes,' said he, 'I can scull across in halt an hour, I suppose. I will play an hour—just an hour and no more.'

'Good boy!' they said; and all went on together to the fair grounds.

The Dobbe's Corners nine was already

light, and on the whole the beat trimmed well.

He had then to see Sears, the mason, and walked to his house. On his way beek he met a party of eight village boye going out to the fair grounds to play baseball.

'Here's Ham Cobb? they cried. 'Just the man we want? Come on, Ham and play baseball with us? We lack a man and we are going to play Doble's Corners. We want you to pitch? '

'I guess I can't go,' replied Hamlin.

'I've got to be at home at four o'clock.'

'Ob, well, but it's only half past two now? they urged. 'You can play an hour all right, till Bert Haines comes.'

Francette climbed to a seat on the side of the cask whice had been rolled farthest into the bow of the boat, and Hamlin put off again, regretting that in order to scull be must necessarily stand with his back to his pleasant passenger.

He had made but a lew turns of the oar, when a very anoible peal of thunder caused them both to scan the sky anxiously. The first thunder shower of the summer was gathering in the westerly heavens.

'Do you believe we can get across before it strikes?' Francette asked.

'I guess so,' Hamlin replied, looking attentively at the clouds. 'It will not take me long, and that cloud does not seem to be rising very fast.'

He put forth his full strength at the oar and the boat moved forward on the pond. But it was heavy and low in the water. altogether there was a larger load than Hamlin had ever sculled belore, and although the boat moved steadily forward, he soon perceived that, do his best, a quick voyage was impossible.

The shower, moreover, appeared suddenly to gather blackness and loom up faster, as, darkning the heavens, it grew over the pond.

'Oh, dear. we are going to get wet! Francette exclaimed, with a thought, no dents of the best of the possibility hat and dress.

over the pond.

'Oh, dear, we are going to get wet!
Francette exclaimed, with a thought, no doubt, of her holiday hat and dress.
'I don't know but we are!' repled Hamlin, ruetully, and redoubled his efforts.
A bright flash and a heavy peal of thunder, which seemed very close at hands now filled them both with real apprehension.

we do P

Hamlin was obliged to crouch in the stern; he could not stand up before the storm. Francette, in the bow, bent as low as she could, and pulled the coat over her head and face. The boat drifted off its course, and waves began to dash over the grapula.

gunwale.

But the war of elements was not their greatest peril. Thus far Hamlin had not been very greatly alarmed, for he was used to the pond, and knew about what the boat would endure if he kept the stern to the wind.

Hamin loooked at his watch. Ye, said he, 'I can scull across in half an hour, and no more. The Dobbe's corners since was already on the field. The game began; and Hamin inte of four, when Bert Haines appeared and took his place. He then ran whart through the village to the littless are through the village to the littless cast of the way and the waste of four, when Bert Haines appeared through the village to the littless cast of the hattly, pushed to come fast sculling home. Hardly had be set the our aback in the rowlock when he heard his name called, in girlish accounts which he knew well and was rather fond of bearing. "Please, Ham, wait for me! Can't I go over with you? I came around with mother, this morning, but she had to go home at noon. I wanted to stay to see the Hoty girls. But I'm afraid I shall have to walk clear around home." It was a schoolmate of Hamlin's, Francette Bartlett, who lived on the east side of the pond, not far from the Gobbs.

Anxious about the delay, yet secrety glad to have Francette's company homeward, he changed the oar and brought the heavy host back to the landing place.

"Why, yes. of course I can take you,' he said." But the beat is full of lime and things. You will have to sit on a lime cast and may be get your dress white."

"Oh' I don't care for that 'I cried Francette, langing as she hastened down to the landing. 'Any way to get home, for Pam afraid there's a shower coming. There's a black cloud, no mistake I' asid Hamlin. He had been in such a hurry that he had thardy looked at the sky. "Still heard it tunder a little jest as the past is the market boat, and get air casts of lime and hair escought to be and the start of the ward when I down." That is a black cloud, no mistake I' asid Hamlin. He had been in such a hurry that he had hardy looked at the sky. "Still heard it the ward here is the market boat, and get air casts of lime and hair escough to be a service as the such was to dome." The stay and the said the such was to dome. "That is a black cloud, no mistake I' asi

ed. Hamin's tather had been watching them in considerable anxiety from the farmbouse, when the equall struck the boat but lost sight of them in the rain.

When the sky cleared, he discovered them on the island, where the boat was now sending up a cloud of steam, and lost no time in putting off to their assistance in the amaller boat. Thus the adventure embed loss seriously than at one time had seemed possible. Beyond getting very wet and obilly, neither Hamin nor Francette was much the worse for their hazardous voyage across the pond.

Mr. Cobb supposed at first that his lime would prove a loss from being 'burnt,' on account of imperfect slaking. The boat was towed to the landing, however, and then, with the lime still in it, hauled to the house. Sand and hair were added later in the usual proportions; and Sears, the mason, declared that he never spread better mortar.

MYSTERIES OF THE CENTURY.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWELVE.)

exhausted in the vain attempt to detect the piteous secret. Only four years old, a pretty child with bright curls, dancing eyes and winsome face, and still weari the frocks of babyhood, the boy had be tenderly reared by his parents in their old-fashioned mansion at Germantown in the suburban region of Philadelphia. The father was a merchant of moderate means, who, after transacting his affairs in the city, returned to his home in the evenings. lin, ruefully, and redoubled his efforts.

A bright flash and a heavy peal of thunder, which seemed very close at hands now filled them both with real apprehension.

'Yes, it's coming? cried Francette. 'See it's raining at the village now! Hear it roar! See the trees bend! Oh, what shall we do?'

city, returned to his home in the evenir ga. In the early part of the summer of 1874 his wile had gone to Atlantic City with a daughter; and Charley, together with his brother Walter, who was two years older, and two infant sisters, were left temporarily in the charge of servants of the household. It was in the period of the school vacation 'We shall get a ducking, no mistake!' admitted Hamlin 'Here, put my coat around you!' He threw the garment across the casks to her. 'I'm much too warm,' he added, as Francette started to decline two men who drove a buggy accosted in the lane with merry zest. Several times Jawaica Plains, April 4 by Rev. George B. Dean Willi m Philips to Bella Grabam. it.

The girl had barely time to wrap it about herself when the the shower struck with a flash of vivid lightning, awful, rattling thunder and a blinding dash of winddriven rain. the elder boy was persuaded to go to a shop and buy some Fourth of July torpedoes. When he came back his little brother, the men and the buggy had gone. Charley Ross had disappeared lorever. On the Fourth of July, or three days

On the Fourth of July, or three days after the abduction, the distracted father received a letter in which twenty thousand dollars was demanded as the price of the ramson; if the offer should be refused the boy would be killed Moreover, if his captors discovered any attempt to approach his hiding place it would be the signal for instant death. A wave of fury swept over the land. In the midst of the popular frenzy the daring brutes coolly wrote: 'We set God, man and the devil at difiance to wrest him from our hands.' Compassion for the agonized parents was overshadowed by the cry that in the interest of society the first duty of justice was the capture of the kidnappers, and that there should be no surrender to their terms, Simon Cameron, who was then Chairmaniot the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, expressed the prevailing sentiment when, on being asked for information as to the extradition treaties in relation to such crimes, he exhorted the father to make no compromise, declaring that if the villians received any money they would have no motive to retain the boy, and that the Almighty would surely protect.

Meantime the news of the mystery

protect.

Meantime the news of the mystery spread over the continent; it was a topic of sympathetic comment in Europe, and traces of the interest which it excited are said to have been observed even in Asia. In addition to the police of every American city, it was estimated that after the reward of twenty thousand dollars was offered, no fewer than five thousand men and women had resolved themselves for the time being into amateur detectives. Yet with all the publicity which was given to the case in the newspapers, with all the extraordinary co-operation of private citizens, with all the vigilance and scrutiny on railway trains, at stations, at the wharves of steamers, and in every known haunt of crime, the abdu-tors succeeded in carrying on a correspondence with Mr. Ross, negotiating for a conference or a ransom, and then covering up their tracts so completely that not one of the swarm of pursuers was able to do more than vaguely to suspect their rendezvous. As to the child, there has never been any clue to his fate.

The nearest approach to a solution of the mystery was when two burglars, one night moreithan five months later, were shot while breaking into the house of Judge Van Brunt, at Bay Ridge, Long Island. One of them was slain instantly; the other who said that his name was Joseph Douglas, and that his companion was William Mosher, lived long enough to say they had stolen Charley Boss. He said: 'Mosher knows all about the child. Ask him.' When told that his companion was dead he exclaimed: 'God knows I-tell you the truth. I don't know where the boy is. Mosher know.' Soon after he died.

The unhappy father lived for twenty-

Halifax, Apr. 11, to the wife of W. Page, a sen-Truro, Apr. 9, to the wife of Eugene Her, a son. Fenwick, Apr. 10, to the wife of Ritchie Nelson

danghter.

meton, Apr. 9, to the wife of W. Lockhart, a danghter.

and STEAMER SAILINGS to the

forth Sydney, Apr 2, to the wife of Ed. Christie, verett, Mass. Apr. 3, to the wife of C. Haddo Lewis, a son

MARRIED.

Rhode Island, Feb. 6, Patrick Amire to Aline Char East Bostov, Mar. 10, by Rev. O. D. Fisher, Hovey Rand to Bessie B. Banks. Charlo, April 3, by Rev. J. M. McLeod, Thomas Hamilton to Edith G. Dickie. West Cape, Mar. 26, by Rev. D Mclean, Alexande Collicot to Nancy Mackinson. Bonshey, April 21, by Rev. G. C. Robertson, Francis L. Bell to Agnes J. Boyce.
Advocate Harbor, Mar. 7, by Rev. L. Daniel, Owen
L. Falleston to Carrie McNeil. Smith's Cove, April 4, by Rev. J. T. Eaton, Norman Sulis to Jessie H Merritt. Halifax, April 11. by Rev. Dr. MacMillan, Robert W. McDonald to Maria S. Smith.

Aylesford, April 3, by Rev. John B. Morgan, Lea-lon B. Gould to Eleanor V. West. St. Stephen, April 11, by Rev. W. C. Goucher, Nie holas McCann to Jessie T. Young. Charlottetowr, M.r. 9, by Rev. G. P. Raymond Geo. E. Saville to Alberta Heustis.

Orwell, Mar. 28, by Rev. Donald M. Campbell Murdock Macdonaid to Mary E. Ross. Camb'dge, Mass., April 2, by Rev. Dr. Abbott, J. Frank Doberty to Trixie Rutherrord. Calais, April 7, by Rev. Thomas B. McDo:ald Frank L. Fietcher to Bula B. McDonald. arlottetown, April 4, by Rev. D. B. Macle John W. Mc & llisten, to Elia M. McCormici

Upper Musquodoboit, April 11, by Rev. F. W Thompson, David Archibald to John J. Dunlan Upper Musquodobit, April 10, by Rev. F. W Thompson, Henry H. McFatridge to Libbie & Henry.

DIED.

Pictou, Apr. 3, Andrew McKay, 92,
Amberst, Apr. 9, Gertrude Laws, 15,
Haliax, Apr. 12, William Spence, 59,
Bridgetown, Apr. 3, Alice Marshall, 33.
River Philip, Apr. 5, Charles Donkin, 81.
Forest Hill, Apr. 5, Donald Macbeth, 97.
Amberst, Apr. 6, Mrs. J. N. B. Kerr, 91.
Tidnish, Mar. 28, Robt K Brundage, 14.
Jordan Ferry, Apr. 4, James Purney, 81.
Emigrant Road, Apr. 4, Charles Allen, 58.
Charlottetown, Apr. 6, Ellen Dowling, 90.
Millerd, Apr. 5, Mrs. Paul Woodworth, 75.
Milltown, N. B., Apr. 5, Wilson Baxter, 61.
Lower Wahefi 1d, Mar. 29, Daniel Shaw, 83.
Amberst, Apr. 6, Mrs. David Bows, aged 76.
Yarmouth, Apr. 10, Mrs. Loran D. Cann, 91.
St. Anns, C. B., Mar. 25, John Morrsor, 96.
Vanceboro, Me., Apr. 5, Samuel McIniuch, 49.
Milltown, N. B., Apr. 1, Mrs. Mary Curran, 72.
North Sydney, Mar. 22, Mrs. Ann McPhee, 71.
New Glasgow, Apr. 5, Edith A. McDougall, 28.
Little Bras d'Or. Apr. 5, Roderick Matheson, 20.
Caigary, Alta, Apr, 12, Lewis C. P. Stubbling, 26.
Caigary, Alta, Apr. 12, Lewis C. P. Stubbling, 26.
Amhartt, April 10, Annie, wife of A. T. Munsie, 58
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Amhartt, April 10, Annie, wife of A. T. Munsie, 58 CentraliArgyle, Apr. 2, Deacon Ezra C. Sp. 87.

Muuroe's Point, C. B., Jan. & Roderick Morrison, 84. Halliax, Apr. 12, Conrad West, son of Eddy Tupper, 50.

. 22, Ethel B., child of Boyer, 4.

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A Montreal Gentleman Tells About It.

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regionly have Bucker

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Lve, Halifax 6. 30 a.m., arv in Digby 12.80 Lve. Digby 12.45 p. m., arv in Digby 12.50 p. m.
Lve. Digby 12.45 p. m., arv Yarmouth 3.20 p. m.
Lve. Yarmouth 9.00 a. m., arv. Digby 11.43 a. m.
Lve. Digby 11.85 a. m., arv. Halifax 5.50 p. m.
Lve. Annapolis 7.30 a. m., Monday, Wednesday,
Thursday and Saturday, arv. Digby 9.60 a. m.
Lve. Digby 3.20 p. m., Monday, Wednesday,
Thursday and Saturday, arv, Annapolis 4.40 p. m.

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