A BID FOR FREEDOM.

By Guy Boothby. (Exclusive Copyright Secured by the St. John Sun.)

(Continued.)

"Well, I shall go down and make in-You, Mr. Mercer, and you, ur inquiries in other directions. What are the police doing?" Searching the surrounding streets,

Mercer answered. We alighted from the cab and proded to the shop in question. hope you can speak the lan- less very unfair on my part, but a very age," said the General to me, "for natural proceeding I venture to say on't suppose the Duke can, and I when the circumstances are taken into quite sure that I can't." think I can be of use to you in

case." I said. be called, and well-defined the greasy little Greek. He recognized the commander-in-Chief, and bowed and "I am still inquiring for Manalaki," ank what had become of the Eng- him now." sh lady who had called at his shop

men had waited outside. not obtain from him what she want- expression come over his face. ed; and that, in consequence, she had illing to tell. This was pure surof course, on my part. Tell him he had better let us know

Gibraltar.' translated this to him, and he believe him, he knew nothing at me. about the matter. He was a poor

his soul by telling a lie.

tirely innocent. the General, whose temper was by no nothing, and if she falls into that means of the sweetest. "I'll teach arch-devil's clutches, God have mercy him to do that. I firmly believe she on her soul!"

I dropped my head on my arms on

informed the fellow what was goto be done, whereupon he shrugged his shoulders and from that mo- be gained by giving in. If only we ed his snoulders and from the utcan find that rascal Manalaki, he coolness on his part rather discon- us."

the sleeping apartments, of which as "a tight corner." He was the sort yound description. But there was no one instead of against one. hopeless going on any longer, we reowner bowed low before the Govern- ized well with his somewhat swarthy or, and said in a voice of ill-conceal- skin,

my humble dwelling."

I translated. "Tell the fellow that while I am ed for one of us to reply. convinced she is not here, I still conknows where she is at this present

I said as much to the man. He only shook his head.

und, and woe betide those who have had a hand in the business!"

Then, without another word, he led way out of the shop. It was anxiety. He tottered along as if he ittle, said-

comforting the Duchess? The strain is vidently proving too much for him." good idea," he replied. "I will certainly do so;" and turning to his old going to do with you? I am going put you into a cab and send you ome to comfort the Duchess. You

nothing undone to find her."

and he was placed in it. with you when next we meet."

Now, Mr. Gavesson," said the other, "Well, I think, sir, if you will allow

known for many years, and who prob- vidual to forget." ably knows the town better than any man living. He will advise me what

and a friend afterwards. "I am not thinking of money," he

anything." should come to business.

Ibrahim Hassan who is—what you say

Having taken leave of his Excellency, I set off as fast as I could for We entered the shop, if shop it could Maxwell's office. He seemed rather be called, and were received by a surprised to see me, though he did not

commander-in-chief, and bowed and but so far without success. However, long to kick him. I asked him point one of my clerks is out looking for

ter of far more importance." He opened his greasy hands and I then told him everything owed by all he held sacred, which

"This is bad-very bad," he said, pinion was that he was lying, or that in his pockets. "Do you suspect any knew something more than he was one?" he asked, turning suddenly

He began to pace the room again. wept. If his Excellency would Then once more he stopped and faced

"Look here, Gavesson," he said: "I an honest man, and would not im- don't like the look of this thing a little bit, and I am going to take advanthe lady would not be found in any I may be all wrong in my calculations, outation to have searched a poor say any more after what you told me man's house discharge of which he was that something must be done, and done quickly, if you want to save the Threaten me, would he?" thundered lady. Those two rascals will stick at

nere. It you garnes on his office table and groaned like a liceman in and we will go through wounded bull. He came round the table and placed his hand upon my

ost indifference. I must admit this would be of the greatest assistance to me, for I had imagined he He had scarcely spoken the words and have been frightened, and thus when the door opened and the man vever, for I was not in the humor I can promise you that very few peothat sort of thing, as you may ple will believe it. As his name imose. In little more than five min- plies, he was a Greek, a tall, hand-

the General returned with a po- some fellow, standing something like six foot two, strong as a lion, active Your Excellency is most welcome," as a cat, devoid of fear, and, except said the proprietor, rising from his to those he liked, one of the most thor-"will you be pleased to follow ough-paced rascals unhung. How he lived nobody knew: he had been all conducted us over his over the world, and did not appear to frowsy dwelling. A dirtier place I have prospered anywhere. I had been den't think I have ever explored. able to render him rather an important There was grease upon the floor, up-service on one occasion, and in return There was grease upon the hoor, apof furniture as the single living-room ship, a thing by no means to be dentained. Thence we were shown spised when one is in what is known

ok and cranny. At last, when we a carefully curled moustache, from had convinced ourselves that it was beneath which peered out a magnificent turned once more to the shop. Its was black and curly, which harmon-

"I trust your Excellency is satisfied smilingly. He prided himself on his now that I was no telling you a lie English, did Manalaki. "My good when I declared that she was not in friend Jose has informed me that you desire to see me." Here he lit a cigarette with great composure, and wait-

asked his opinion. What do you advise us to do?" "We must search elsewhere," said the General. "If we have to overhaul a great lady, in your country, Senor

every house in the town, she shall be Gavesson? A princess per-haps?" Serious as the situation was, I could not suppress a smile. "No, scarcely that," I answered. "Nevertheless she is a great lady, and to touching to see the poor old Duke's a very beautiful one into the bargain." you don't understand my feelings."

were ninety years of age, and was as gave an airy wave of his cigarette, as milike the man who, less than a fort- if to allow me to understand that he night ago, rode so gallantly to hounds. quite understood why I took such an as he pushed a cigar-box towards me. managed to take my place beside interest in the matter.

"I must think," he said, dropping

beautiful lady has, what you say in patient of the delay.

day, maybe not soon, but still carefully behind him, and with an air some day, my friend Valiochi will of mystery which he always affected

have his throat cut, an' dam good job when he had something important to too." This with great emphasis. "My communicate, said in a low voice: what do you think is the best thing friend, Senor Gavesson, believe Ibrahim Hassan and his brother put up 'Thank Heaven,' I cried, and shook me to make a suggestion, I should him Hassan. He played me dog's lady with them?" by that if you would visit the police trick two years ago in Algiers, and "Ah! Zat is what I cannot tell you," station and stir them up, I will go off as you know, senors, Manalaki is not he replied, solemnly shaking his head. and interview a man whom I have the sort of-how you call it?-hindi- "She may be or she may not, but zey

is best to be done, and I can report to how we are to discover the where he spoke. abouts of the lady in question, If you "Senor, how do I ever know any-

zey likes to help me."

usually managed to obtain it either by force or fraud.

had finished, "now that you have had time to think it over, what do you suppose is best to be done?" them," he replied. "It will not be ze together, and please God," here he lift-

will not be ze last." I knew from experience that, if he did not vouchsafe information of his -running the show. If you will graciously permit me to go, I will walk own accord, it was useless to attempt about and see if I can hear anything. myself with asking at what time I place. should see him and where.

> at eight o'clock," he said. "After that we will go to ze house I know of, and we will deal with Ibrahim Hassan and his brother, and rescue ze beautiful lady.' "And do you think Valiochi had any

"It all depends on how long you will well. "That we shall see later." he observ-"It will not be a good day for Valiochi if he did. It will be a very

bad day. And so I tell him." "But may they not escape in the mean time?" I asked, referring to the brothers Hassan. perhaps with good news," he remark-

He shook his head and gave us to understand that there were those watching them who would take very good care that they did not get away. "In that case," I said, "I suppose there is nothing for it but to wait with what patience we can command. Confound you, Manalaki, you know how anxious I am to get to work."

He laid his hand upon my shoulder. "Patience, my dear friend," he said "you must have patience. Much must be discovered before we can make ze attempt. It would not do for us to make a mistake." "Very well, I will meet you at eight

o'clock." I bade them "good-bye," and returned to Government House, where I found my friends eagerly awaiting my coming. time any longer, Maxwell," I said, ris-ing from my chair as I spoke. "I

"What news do you bring?" asked the Commander-in-Chief, as I entered the verandah. "Have you anything to tell us? For mercy's sake, man, don't keep us in suspense. We have been through enough already, and cannot bear much more.'

"I am afraid I have not very much to tell," I replied, "But at least we are on the track of the two men whom donning my hat, went out into the I have the best of reasons for believing street once more. Thinking it possible have been concerned in the business. that something might at least have have arranged tonight to visit the been heard of her, or that she might to search it thoroughly." "And I pray to Heaven you may find

whom you speak, may be able to do something for us. I shall await your return with feverish impatience. For goodness' sake, don't be longer than you can help."

I could only shake my head. To have told them what I knew would have been impossible. I can feel the shafte of that moment now.

"You may depend upon it that"

I are as possible, publicity should be avoided. If we could manage to rescue her without the world knowing that she had been abducted, so much the better for all concerned.

After casting about at the front for

what it is," replied the Duke. "It is a case of kidnapping. Oh, my poor decided to try the back of the house, urned to the town. It still wanted girl, my poor girl! what would I not give to be with you ?" "I have taken the liberty, sir," I

said, addressing myself to the last speaker, "of promising a reward to the man who is to accompany me tonight, provided he manages to effect her release. I hope I did not do wrong ?"

store her to me."

"More than enough," I answered. professional burglar could have been more expert at his work. pounds be enough, think you?" ed. Half the amount would have been sufficient." "No, no," protested the Duke.

you for all the trouble you have taken in this unhappy matter."

"I must beg of you not to speak of the next few minutes,

time, and his Excellency insisted that I should dine before setting out to keep my appointment. This I did, and ever, which struck me particularly, at a quarter to eight went to my room to prepare myself for the evening's work. I took the precaution of slipping a revolver into my rocket. ping a revolver into my pocket, and then, bidding my friends "good-bye," left Government House for the town.

nervous as to the success which would the emissaries of the Sultan. paid no heed to that. I was too. thoughts for anything else.

True to his promise, I found Manters to write to catch the mail, so light

alaki waiting for me outside the Oriental Hotel. "Good," said he; "with your permission we will now proceed to business.

"I have got a revolver in my pocket," I answered. "Do you imagine that

"Pardon, senor," he said, "but I was only thinking of your safety. There his colleagues had they been present may be what you call big trouble tonight, and it is as well to be prepared. It was on "Good heavens, Manalaki!" I cried,

"to hear you talk one would think I was a youngster out here for the first You know as well as I do that "What is that? I do not know it. What do you mean?'

"It means that I always go armed. remember it. You go heeled!"

in-Chief were willing to give if he a little laugh. could succeed in rescuing Lady Olivia through the silent house.

at all. I knew better than this, how- how you call it ?-ah, wits-to work, hold of him. With six hundred pounds me, and you know also that I would ever, for the man was a Greek first and as often as not zey does. I am at his back he knew that he would be not play false to you. If it had been very good friends with my friends and in a position to commit a hundred vil- any one else I might have"-here he lainies, and possibly by so doing add shrugged his shoulders - "well I The truculent air with which he said not only to his reputation, but also to might have done it. With you it is this would have been amusing at any his capital. All things taken together, other time. I knew of old that when in and back, as they say in a certain are gone. And when I meet my two he wanted information of any sort he part of the world with which I am good friends who were to watch this acquainted, Manalaki was a far-seeing fellow, who knew on which side his

> into a narrow street-alley would be a ed his eyes devoutly to the ceiling, "it to extract it from him, so I contented of Lady Olivia imprisoned in such a

> > "We must be quiet now, my dear

ing impatient. "We shall soon know everything," said Manalaki: "but remember, Ibrahim Hassan belongs to me !"

The house Manalaki conducted me to, in which he assured me Lady Olivia was kept a prisoner, was of the typical Gibraltar pattern and was situated in of indignation swept over me as and in such loathsome company.

it. I knew the men with whom we had to deal, and was well aware that they were the last people on earth to allow themselves to be taken by sur-

Hassan, has to say to us."

forward to the opportunity of settling old scores. Personally I am not sure that I was not looking forward to doing the same, and yet, goodness knows, had intended doing exactly what they had done.

Though Manalaki spoke so confidently, I did not quite see how we were to knock at the door and demand admishouse in which they are staying and sion would be worse than useless; called. My hopes, however, were her, said the General fervently, while the destined to be fulfilled. Nothing not destined to be fulfilled. Nothing the Duke took my hand and said in a ity of conveying their prisoner else-

some time for a means of ingress, we which, we could approach from a narrow lane. The windows on that side "Offer him anything you like," replied the Duke. "Tell him I will give stood in the shadow (and possibly you him five hundred pounds if he can retime of full moon) watching Manalaki said the General. 'Will six hundred at work, and was struck by the dexterity with which he used his tools. No

When some five minutes had elapsed, he turned to me and, with a gesture, signified that all was ready. I can

I don't remember in all my wander-

For the moment I began to think

could leave without your knowing it." "And I did tell them to watch it," he returned savagely. I will talk to them for this business, and they shall

know what it is to play with Manalaki." Then followed a statement in Greek which would not have been calculated to inspire confidence in the breasts of

some two hundred and fifty yards be- stood and looked at each other. He fore he addressed me again. Mean- must have guessed well what my temidual to forget."

"This is all very well, Manalaki," I suspect something, zat is sure."

"How do you know that?" asked while I could hear him muttering to per was, for I saw his hand steal while I could hear him muttering to said, "but what we want to know is Maxwell, biting the end of his pen as himself. Then I told him of the re- round to his back and a well-known ward the Duke and the Commander- light come into his eyes. Then he gave It seemed to echo "My friend," he said in English,

This miserable affair is, as you may imagine, a terrible blow to me. I would not have had it bappen for a reward had not entered his thoughts to do me se favor of putting their—

In the does. But I will tell you, than I could tell from the expression to do me se favor of putting their—

If the does in English, withdrawing his hand as he spoke and than I could tell from the expression on his face that it had taken a firm

are gone. And when I meet my two house-well, I promise you they will

We must look about." "You're still prepared to help me them?" I said. He gave a scornfull sniff, and then added with immense dignity-

that not enough?" We shook hands. All things considered, it would have been difficult to find a better man than Manalaki-that is, of course, provided that he liked you Having assured ourselves that the house was empty, we left it by the way we had entered. A more unhappy man than I was at the moment could not have been found on the

The next question to be decided was in what direction we should continue our search, for I was determined not to return to Government House until I should be in a position to make some sort of a report. We took counsel together in the deep shadow of the lane. To attempt to search the town for her at that hour would have been like looking for the proverbial needle in the bundle of hay. Forgetful of my former speech, I was weak enough to suggest invoking the aid of the police, and I must leave it to you to imagine for yourself the scorn with which the proposition was received by my companion. It was evident that his re spect for the minions of the law was not of a very high order.

"If you do that," he asserted, "you will lose ze beautiful lady for ever and two days. No, my friend, I have a better plan zan that. See here. Listen, you. I have a friend who lives not far om here, and it may be that he will help us. I will go to see him. I have been thinking and I have what you call a notion. It my not be right, but still it is a notion. I will go to him at once.

"And I am coming with you." said. "As for those other trusty friends of yours, it would give me great pleasure to have a few minutes with them." "I will see to that," was the ready

response. "Come along, then, we will go and seek out my friend." We accordingly set off and threaded alleys of the native town. At last my companion stopped.

"Here we are at ze last," he remarked, as we stopped at a narrower and darker alley than any I had yet "Egad! Manalaki," I remarked,

your friends don't seem to live in savory places. This is as bad as the ack blocks of Port Said." "But not as bad as the Kasbah in Madrapore," he answered, with a laugh.

reached the farther end of the lane and stopped before a small squalid residence, the outward appearance of which was as unprepossessing as the the most loathsome den on the face of the earth. Approaching the door, Manalaki knocked upon it in a pecu- cause, if any there be, why Letters liar manner. After a while the signal ministration of the estate and effect said Charles Edwin Owen Hatheway was returned from the inside. Manalaki whistled five times, and the sound of heavy bolts being drawn came to us from within. The door was opened, but on a chain and a face looked out: but said probate court this eighth day of April. was returned from the inside. Manafrom within. The door was opened, but on a chain, and a face looked out; but A. D., 1904.

MELVILLE N. COCKBURN,
MELVILLE N. COCKBURN, it was impossible to see whether it belonged to a man or a woman. Manalaki said comething in a low voice whereupon the chain was withdrawn and the door opened. The place was full of surprises. I had expected to find it as dirty as that which we had lately visited - at any rate, squalidly furnished. To my astonishment, how

ever, it was nothing of the kind. For a house in such a quarter its appointments were luxurious. The room into which we were conducted was filled from ceiling to floor with curios. collected from every country, I should say, in the Mediterranean. But it was not so much the room that astonished me as the appearance of the man whom we had come to interview. stranger human being I do not think I had ever set eyes on. He was little more than a dwarf, and so thin that upon him. His face, which was hairwrinkles. He showed no surprise at

his clothes seemed to hang like sacks less, was seamed with a thousand our visit, though he gave me a sharp glance, as if to familiarize himself with ny appearance; then turning to Manalaki he bade him welcome in Greek It was evident that they were well known to each other. Bidding us be seated, he produced cigars, and excellent they were. (To be continued.)

A STRANGE FIND.

Captain John Ingersoll of the steamer Aurora, was made happy this morning by the recovery of a Masonic emblem which was lost by him some eighteen years ago, at the time the steamer Flushing was burned at Turnbull's wharf. After the Flushing had been towed to Carleton for repairs, this emblem, it seems, was thrown overboard among the debris and the captain never thought to recover it again. Imagine his surprise and joy when this morning a man from the West Side approached him and returned the pin, explaining that among other things which the government dredge had brought to the surface the pin was found. On cleaning it the name was easily discernable, hence the return to its owner. The pin looked none the worse for its eighteen years' repose amongst the mud of Carleton's dock.

MAY GO TO SCHOOL

OTTAWA, May 3.-Militia general orders just issued authorize the following non-coms, and men to join the provisional school of artillery at St. John, N. B.: Staff Sergeant J. A. Lindsay, Sergeant-Major J. C. Edwards, Sergeant Wiggins, Corporal Wigmore, Bombardiers G. G. Ester, Eay, Gunners G. S. Beer, W. W. Raymond, J. D. Robinson, G. W. Pollock, S. L. D. Robinson, G. W. Pollock, S. L. Clifford, F. Ruddock, E. R. Mosher, S. A. Sewell, W. R. Small, J. L. Lamb, G. C. Barle, Titus, Henderson, S. S. Patchell.



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PROBATE COURT.

To the Sheriff of the county of Charlotte, or any Constable within the said County, Greeting: WHEREAS, Robert P. Chandler, of the our way through some of the filthiest of Saint John, in the City and County wick, Gentleman, by his petition, bearing date the therty-first day of March last past, hath represented that he is a creditor of the estate of the late Charles Edwin Owen Haestate of the late Charles Edwin Owen Hatheway, late of the town of Saint Andrews, in the County of Charlotte, who died intestate, and hath prayed that letters of administration of the estate and effects of the said Charles Edwin Owen Hatheway might be granted to him by this honorable court.

You are, therefore hereby required to cite the said Robert P. Chandler, P. Clement Hatheway, a brother of said deceased; Julia Eccles, wife of Charles Eccles, a niece of said deceased; Charles Fitzpatrick, a miphew of said deceased; the said P. Clement laugh.

By the time that I had admitted the correctness of his remark we had ceased, and all others interested in tate of the said deceased, to appear

Judge of Probate for Charlotte County,

JAS. G. STEVENS, JR.,

Registrar of Probate for Charlotte County.

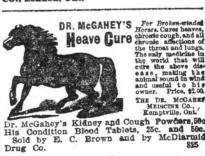
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ho are absent er the Province

KLY SUN sent

few bruises. The court of apo appeal against in the case of his son, convict-

"An excellent suggestion," said he. can manage it for us, I fancy you will thing?

"I will visit the police station at once. find it a profitable business."

worlds, and yet one can scarcely blame those two poor fellows., Mercer and Walkley; they very naturally sup-

posed that she would be some time in Mr. Walkley, had better prosecute the shop, as is the custom of the sex. I know they feel it as much as we all "I have no doubt of it," I returned, though I must confess that ever since we had received the news I cursed them for what had happened; doubt-

consideration.

"I haven't come to see you about that morning, and for whom two gen- Manalaki altogether, but about a mat-

by the way could not have been much, listened attentively until I had that he did not know; that she could finished. Then I saw a curious ed; and that, in the shop immediately. My own rising and pacing the room, his hands

round on me. "I am positively certain that those two scoundrels, the Hassans, are at once where she is, or he'll get into the bottom of it," I replied, "if they h trouble he'll wish he had never are not the actual abductors, which is more than likely."

"Let him know that I intend to take advantage of the privileges of an old friend by the his house searched, and at once."

It would be useless, he declared, for part of his premises, and it might be but I think that I know now what detrimental to his Excellency's great your errand to England was. I won't man's house unjustly and to have actihis morning, but it's very evident

> shoulder. "Cheer up," he said; "nothing is to

the sleeping apartments, of the be- of man one would prefer to have with sign of Lady Olivia, though assisted He entered with his left hand in his the policeman, we searched every trouser pocket and his right twisting

"Good-day gentlemen," he said

Maxwell took upon himself the post tinue to believe that he had a hand of spokesman. He explained the cirin her disappearance, and that he cumstances of the case to him and "If any man can help us, you are he. "Am I to have to understand that

Here he smiled significantly and title, said—
"Don't you think, sir, it would be "Don't you think, sir, it would be "Too to buy things of the greatest wisdom. "Ze lady over."

Anglish, cut her lucky."

said proudly. "I am thinking of my friend Senor Gavesson, and of the

beautiful lady. For them I would do I expressed my appreciation of his generosity and suggested that we "We have made inquiries at all the

shops she would be likely to visit in the streets," I said, "but without success. No one seems to have seen "Pardon, my friend," put in Manalaki: "perhaps they would not have told you even if they had. It is not always wise to know too much, mark you, and more than not when it is

They will think it is another of that rascal Manalaki's little businesses and so they will not suspect." He smiled good-humoredly at the thought of his own villainy and rose to leave. "Where shall I see you, senor?" he asked, turning to me.

be gone," I replied. "Who can say? Perhaps an hourperhaps two hours, who knows? There must be no hurree!" Well, will wait here for two hours, or rather I will come back in two hours—that will be better." "Very good. I too will come back-

ed, with a grin that showed his fine teeth. "I hope so," I returned sincerely. He shook hands with us both in his best English manner, and then, with the same jauntiness with which he had entered it, he left the room.

"It will be a strange thing," said Maxwell, "if he does not find out comething. That man would make one of the best detectives in the world, if he were given an opportunity. Lecocq would not be in it with him, though I expect he would be in collusion with every criminal he was set to catch before he had been a month in the service. The only way to keep Manalaki straight is to pay him higher than any

"Well, I am not going to waste your

ing from my chair as I spoke.

think I shall go out and try a little detective work on my own account, though I don't expect to have much luck." "Well, please yourself, my dear fellow. If you care to stay here you're more than welcome." I thanked him, but declined, and

even have been found. I made my way to the Convent—as Government House had been heard of her, though inquir-broken voice—"God bless you, Gaveshave given himself away. But not a bit of it. He calmly lit a cigarette, bit of it. He calmly lit a cigarette, being the assurance of an emperor. Some and then began to discuss European politics with me. I soon shut him up, however, for I was not in the humor however, for I was not in the humor however, for I was not in the humor like assurance been told that "The Duchess is naturally in great tribulation," said the General, when I have time I am going to what I know of his history, and less had been made in every direction. "The Duchess is naturally in great tribulation," said the General, when I have time I am going to what I know of his history, and less had been made in every direction. "The Duchess is naturally in great tribulation," said the General, when I had been done, what I know of his history, and less had been made in every direction. "But what can the reason of it all be?" asked the General. "Is it brigandage? Kidnapping in the hope of obtaining a ransom? What I had no desire to do. It had been unanimously decided that so obtaining a ransom? What I had been unanimously decided that so obtaining a ransom? When I have since been told that what I should have done would have been done, what I should have done would have been done, what I had been active the assurance of an emperor. Some day when I have time I am going to what I know of his history, and had been made in every direction.

"The Duchess is naturally in great tribulation," said the General, when I had been done, what I had no desire to do. It had been made in every direction.

"But what can the reason of it all be?" asked the General. "Is it brighted to avail may be a constant of the assurance of an emperor. Some day when I have since been told that what I had been done what I should have done when I have since been told that the calming have a standard that the calming h become of her I cannot imagine. Let us hope this fellow, Manalaki, of

you can help."

half an hour of the appointed time, and I felt that I must have some one to talk to or I should go mad. At the risk, therefore, of interrupting Maxwell at his work, I resolved to anticipate my appointment by half an hour. As I passed Valiochi's shop he was standing in the doorway. He smiled sardonically at me.
"Have you found the gracious lady,

I promised not to be, and then re-

senor?" he asked, with an assumed interest that was offensiveness itself. "When I do it will probably be a bad day for you," I replied. "Ah, senor, you judge me too harshy," and he winced sycophantly. "Had known anything concerning the affair, I would have told you immediately. But, alas! I do not. It seems as if the poor must always be suspected. It is the justice of the world."

able," I retorted; and then, having no intention of prolonging the argument, I left him and went on to Maxwell's office. Manalaki had not as yet put in an appearance, nor did I expect to find him there before me. "Look here, my dear fellow," said Maxwell. "Try and keep cool. Worrying in this way can serve no useful purpose. I know you are anxious, but

"In your case it is not unreason-

you are only defeating your own ends by over-exciting yourself about it. Let us wait and hear what Manalaki has to say for himself." "It's all very well for you to say wait for Manalaki, but I am afraid left Government House for the town. "Oh, yes, I do, probably better than you suppose, and more perhaps than you do yourself," was his calm reply "However, I have got one or two let-

well if we could induce the Duke goes to buy things at the shop of Vago home, if only on the excuse of goes to buy things at the shop of Vago home, if only on the excuse of Ze gentleman he buy tobacco," here he can do occupied myself with my own far You are armed, perhaps?" waved his cigarette in the air and from pleasant thoughts. Then I beblew a puff of smoke as if to show gan to worry myself as to why it was that he perfectly understood the mean- that Manalaki did not put in an ap- I should be likely to come out a busiing of the word. "When zey return pearance. Every minute that went by ness like this without it? You ought friend, he said—"Do you know what I to the slop of zat villain Valiochi ze found me growing more and more im-When another half hour had elapsed and still no sign Manalaki was very proud of his of him was to hand, I began to feel slang, and indeed he had reason to be, as if I were going off my head. I got soul, must be suffering agonies. You for if ever a man could have writ- up and paced the room like a wild animay rest assured that we shall leave ten a book on the subject, he was that mal in a cage. Yet Maxwell still one, having studied it in almost every wrote on with the same imperturba-The old gentleman looked piteously known language and every part of the bility. At last there was a quick step us, but in his own heart he knew world. After inhaling several mouth- in the patio outside, a knock upon the that he was not fit to continue the fuls of smoke and expelling it through door, and when it opened Manalaki search. A cab was accordingly called his nose, he continued: "Some stood before us. He closed the door on such occasions I always go heeled."

this job. I would like to see Ibra- him warmly by the hand. "And is the

When Manalaki says he knows, you may bet your bottom dol- from her terrible predicament.

"Well, Manalaki," I asked, when he bread was buttered, and was not disposed to drop it in the dust. All this time we were toiling up the hill. A more wearisome climb I don't "Come with me tonight to a house think I ever remember. It was backthat I will show you and we will catch aching work for a man who had been without exercise for upwards of a fortfirst time that we has had some fun night. However, at last we turned

better name for it; and any one who has had experience of Gibraltar - I don't mean the tourists, who only see the best side - will understand what I mean. I shuddered when I thought

"Let it be outside ze Oriental Hotel friend," said Manalaki, as we reached the centre of the street. "They may he on the watch." And so we approached the house that held all I loved in the world. As I looked at it I felt as if I could tear it down with my finger-nails. But hand in the business?" asked Max- there was nothing to be gained by be-

> CHAPTER X. Vamosing Ze Ranche

one of the steepest streets it has ever been my ill luck to encounter. A wave thought of the beautiful, delicately nurtured girl confined in such a place "What do you propose doing?" asked my companion as we approached

"We must first get into ze house,my friend," he answered. "Then we shall see what our good gentleman, Ibrahim From the chuckle of satisfaction that followed this remark it became evident to me that my companion was looking

obtain an entry to the house. To while to endeavor to force an entrance would only be to put the enemy on the where. I have since been told that

were barred, for obvious reasons; my companion, however, had brought certain tools with him with which he was able to force an entrance. While he was at work a picture of my past life rose before me with all its haunting eralism. Who could say what the next dow is when thrown by a house at the

"Don't stint him. Mr. Gavesson, I recall the sensations of that moment shall never be able to make it up to now. To say that I was not nervous would be untrue. All my happiness in life seemed to depend on the issue of making some little return to you for your kindness to me."

am only ings to have seen a dirtler house—always saving the Kasbah. I should be willing to give it as my opinion that

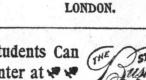
It was a dark muggy evening, with that the whole business was a hoax, a suspicion of thunder in the air, but and that I had been led into a trap by "Look here, Manalaki," I whispered. attend our efforts that night to have after we had explored room after room and found no one there, "what does this mean? The house is deserted. There's nobody here. Yet you told me that you had put your people on to waten it, and assured me that no one

It was only waste of time to remain where we were, so I suggested that we should take our departure. Try to imagine my feelings. I had counted so thoroughly on finding Lady Olivia in the house, and on being able to "Heeled? How that?" he asked restore her to her father and mother! Manalaki had given me his most positive assurance that his friends would take the best of care that no one left the house until we arrived. Yet here Carry my shooting iron, you know." the house until we arrived. Yet here "Ah! That is good," he remarked, we were in a dwelling in which there with a chuckle of satisfaction. "I will was not only no living being, but also no article of furniture of any sort or He was so proud of having acquired description. The moonlight streamed a new expression that we had gone in upon us, and my companion and I

not make a fool of Manalaki again. Now we will-how you call it?-get out-

"I have called you my friend. Is

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