rouping because I was late.' Carter was standing on the con ner watching the line of bungry men and women shuffling furtively into the mist, their shoulders wearing the discoursged stoop that is the ball-mark of the conquered, their torn, battered shoes making soft, clucking noises on the muddled pavement.

'Oo, I'm all right,' was his absent reply, his gaze still fastened on the bedraggled bread-line undulating into the foggy gloom of the November night like some bideous crawling reptile that the slime of civilization had spawned. 'I didn't get

himself-this midnight march of the ne's playin' in hard luck. Let's get hungry upon the great bakery where the day's unsold bread was given have a bite to est.' away; and now that he had seen it he would go home to bed. So think ing he turned up his coat collar-for the fog bad brought with it a fine advised his companion. 'Ain't I drizzle-and came face to face with the rough-looking man, still waiting on the pavement.

appearance was the reverse of invit- beside his companion, until they ing, and Carter would promptly came abreast of a flaring restaurant have evaded bim but for two large where veal pies cost a nickle each, red hands which barred his path as one one could revel in the real chick. they motioned vigorously toward the ory at two cents a cup. retreating procession.

Lot; I'm not going to wait.' glance at Carter's face, as though Beefsteak John's,' Words can say the remark passed the limit of the no more. oredible, and followed up the look with a knowing but friendly grin.

That bread's tresh-don't you worry. I've had a loaf for three doubtful eye. 'Delmonico for mine,' nights. There ain't no better in was his sarcastic comment.

Noo York. Strangely enough, Carter felt no in his pocket. 'Suppose we go in,' inclination to laugh. For an instant | he repeated. he eyed the drabbed array, half bid- 'All right, bo,' was the easy anden in the shadow. Then, spurred swer. But Carter, watching closely, he stepped forward, pushed his new cerned was shaking him like a leaf, acquaintance in front of bim.

'All right-after you!' when other belated stragglers surged the incongruous pair into his capain behind them, and the line leng- cious bosom. thened anew. And as it lengthened with the sunny world he was accus- his story.

him; then, reassured by the artistic Carter's attention; 'An' so I lost manner in which Carter drew his cap me job. over his right eye, straightway for-

got bim. two men handing out loaves of bread the letter today. to the waiting liners. In the foggy drizzle an electric light shed a dim, the bread liners, snatching their al- earn it down in West Street?' lotted loaves with wolfish eagerness and then vanishing in the darkness, to eat?' demanded Carter. seemed with their torn, weatherof some unsung inferno.

a near approach, as decidedly un- the stout, white-faced figure in the pleasant. Like most of the world, photograph, and drew back with a he had kindled at the story of the shudder. charity-the story of the kindly old 'Where have you been sleeping?' German baker who, at twelve each be asked. night, had been used to feed the 'Is it sleeping?' Carney was folness of the bread-liners was quite sently,

another matter. Carter came to himself with a vagrant, quiver of emotion, Carter shock, His acquaintance had re- did a foolish thing-exactly how ceived his loaf, and was crossing the foolish be quite failed to realize until street, while before Carter himself his invitation had been accepted and stood one of the genii of the backet he found himself alone in his apartholding out another loaf. He had ment with his new friend, barely presence of mind enough to It was a small apartment of three stammer a refusal and cross the rooms-so small that the presence

his share of the spoils beneath a pervade the place. As he sat in the shabby goat, looked around with a living-room, his barly individuality

'Say, didn't you get one?' There was an unexpected touch of disappointment in his voice. 'Ain't they got any more?'

Carter's reply was non-committal "I didn't get one."

The other finished buttoning his cost over the precious loaf, and swore softly into the night. Next he jerked his head toward the side street. 'All right; come sloug.' Carter stood looking after bim,

Wast do gou want?' *Ab, get a move on! Don't be

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reply. 'I'm hungry.' 'I'm not.' Carter's tone was im-

'Ob, you ain't, ain't you?' was he sarcastic rej inder. 'Then what was you doin' in th' bread-line?' 'Ob, 1-1-' stammered Carter.

'Aw, out it out, bo !' advised the other, kindly. 'Me name's Carney, It was worth while seeing, he told and I ain't down on a man because on one of them park benches and

Oarter started in surprise. 'Going to give me some?' 'Aw, cut out that funny talk, bo,

goin' ter give you half ?" Carter whistled; then he whistled again; after which, temporarily de-Hatless, collarless, gloveless, his void of speech he trudged silently

Carter recovered his self-possess 'Come along,' cried a hoarse voice, ion as he gazed into the interior, where coffee cups that looked like Carter shook his head. 'No, I'm relics of the Stone Age stood upon sloppy wooden tables that had 'Not going to wast!' The bread. strange secrets to tell. It was the liner cast a quick, unbelieving four hundred-eleventh 'Original

> 'Sappose we go in,' suggested Carter. The other swept him with a

Carter jingled some loose change

saw that the effort to annear uncon and that his weather-beaten face had grown pale. Then the door They had barely taken their places opened and Beefsteak John drew

When the loaf had been properly and the motley crew moved over the wrapped in a stray newspaper, the slippery pavement, Carter found original beef-etc., did his duty, himself exchanging odd bits of talk while Carter looked on and the with the other, as if he were in- waiter grinned in sympathy. And deed a denizen of this gray realm in the interval between a beetsteak of privation, and had no connection pie and an Irish stew Carney told

tomed to view from the club win- What the story was Carter never was able to recall. He was too oc-His clothes aided the illusion. He copied in wondering at the fearful had strolled our, beedless of over- gastronomic feats being performed coat, a cloth cap pulled down over on all sides of him to do more than his forehead; and in the dim light nod at the proper time. Besides, passed without comment. One of hard-luck stories have a curious the two policemen whose duty it sameness about them; they all boil was to keep the famished line in or- down to Carney's last sentenceder did, indeed, glance sharply at which was the first which caught

Carter had already risen to pay the bill when Carney proudly threw The rear end of the procession a tintype en the table. 'That's the now neared its goal-a gigantic missus, he said, his weather worn bread basket, at the side entrance to face softening. "I bet she felt good the bakery. Beside the basket stood when she found that two dollars in

"Two dollars ?" 'Sare, I told ye that.' Carney's blurred radiance on the scene; and tone was reproachful, 'Didn't I

'Why didn't you get something 'Didn't I have a loaf every night?'

worn clothes, their sunken eyes and | was the secusing reply, 'An' hadn't hollow cheeks, like the lost spirits I to put up a bluff to th' old lady?' Carter, cursed with the artistic The whole affair struck Carter, on temperament, cast a quick glance at

hangry with his anased stores, and lowing the outlines of his wife's who, in his will, had sprovided that heavy features with a slubby forethe distribution should go on. But finger, a satisfied smile upon his to see and feel the famished eager | face. 'In the park,' he ended ab-

It was then that, urged by a little

street in the wake of bis companion, of Carney, red-faced, broad-shoul-That individual, who was hiding dered, massive, seemed instantly to appeared to overflow into Carter's



est help. All Druggish

bedroom, and thence into the small room reserved for his Japanese servant, with an intensity that made Carter for the first time note the man's bigness and roughness.

'A mighty nice place,' was Carney's outspoken opinion, as he sat in a Morris chair and dominated the scene. 'An' I'm glad t' know ye.' Carter mentally cursed his own im oulsiveness. Of course he couldn't but there was no need to play the fool and bring him home. There were plenty of lodging-houses-why why had be not remembered? He

'It do beat all how they build it hem bookcases,' Carney was saying. And at the words Carter sharply realized the unpleasant seriousness o is position.

came to himself with a start-

Late that afternoon he had received com his mother's jeweller a pearl necklace, which had been undergoing repairs, and which in the early morn in the very bookcase—a frail affair of Carney's attention. Worse than all, was directly to the left of that couch which, he had already explained to trouble. It-

Oarney, was to serve him for the night. Carter thought rapidly while the inconscious cause of his perplexity slowly removed his shoes. Early permission to spend the night in Jersey, so that, by a rare mischance. Carter was absolutely alone. If only Yasuya had been with him,' he reflected. The Jap and he could have bandled the situation without any

be Johnny-on-the-spot,' an' don't ye stage.' ferget it.'

He carefully folded his threadbare coat and stretched it across a chair, and in the bedraggled shirtsleeves coked ten times more formidable for you on the table. than before—so formidable that Carter was unpleasantly impressed. He stepped to the bookcase and

chose a book with some care, man aging at the same time to get hold of the package containing the necklace. Then he turned to bid his guest

'I'll be awake when you go,' he assured Carney. 'I,m a very light sleeper.

'Yes,' replied Carney, composing I'm obliged fer the night's lodgin'.' Once in his room, Carter went over Pills. Price a box 50c. the situation. He was alone with a man whom he had virtually picked

up on the street : he had some valuable jewels in his possession; and he was a very sound sleeper. He had not told Carney the truth. Once really asleep, nothing short of an earthquake would awaken him. And in the meanwhile the man in the next He peered furtively through the

open doorway. Carney lay sprawled upon the sofa, already asleep, one huge hand relaxed upon the floor. In the night-light filtering through the transom, he bulked larger than her any good. Then father got Hagever, while upon his face there seem- yard's Yellow Oil and it cured ed to be a scowl that Carter had not mother's arm in a few days, Price 25c.

There was only one thing to dohe must keep awake! So placing the packet of jewels under his pillow, he the plane, said Mrs. Cumrox, laid a revolver beside him and settled himself down for a long vigil.

The night was very still. down a dozen stories below was the pending on homemade art., noise of motors, of street cars, all the multitudinous sounds which blend to make the mighty voice of New York. But in the enshrouding fog these far away. And mastering and dom-

sleeper's breathing in the next room. Presently this sound ceased; and eering out, Carter saw that the man had changed his position on the ouch. Was he asleep? Or had the sleeping been only a pretence? And was he even now preparing to aban-

don it ? Stealthily, as though he bimself were a burglar, Carter crossed to b side, revolver in hand, satisfied himelf that the man was still asleep, and turned to bed : after which h nely vigil began anew.

Half an hour later Carter found imself desperately sleepy. To arouse himself, he kept his gaze fastened on the formidable figure on the bed, noting the man's tremendous shoulders his mighty hands, the grim set of his beavy jaws. He had been a fool, he old himself, to bring the man into his apartment; he would pay for it with a sleepless night. And, having so decided, he closed his eyes for an instant and fell into a heavy dreamless slumber that lasted until morning.

He awoke to find Carney gone, and the superintendent of the building 'You're a lucky man, Mr. Carter,' was that individual's greeting. 'As is, we got both of them; they're pretty well banged up, of course, but we've got them. It was the boldest

hing I've heard of lately.' Carter swept one band beneath pillow, found the packet intact, and offered congratulations. 'Who was he second man?'

'The elevator man. 'The elevator man!' Carter's face bowed his surprise. 'I don't under-

stand. 'You see, it was this way,' explained 'You see, it was this way, explained factured only by The T. Milburn Co. the superintendent. 'The Jap tried Limited, Toronto, Ont.

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ng he was to take down to her Long it first and the elevator man waited in Island home. The package now lay the hall, Well no sooner did the Jap get inside—he had his own key, glass and wood—that had caught you know—then the chap you brought in jumped for him, then the elevator man took a hand and there was

Carter interrupted. 'Do you mean to tell me Yassuya tried to rob me?' The superintendent nodded 'They the evening his servant had asked tell me be was banging around the engine room all the evening. It seems he thought there was something in the bookcase. But that chap you brought in-

'Yes?' cried Carter, breathlessly 'Well,' declared the superintendent judicially. 'If those fellows can keep 'I'll be leavin' early,' Carney was their features the queer way you raying. 'There's a chance fer a job friend Carney knocked them, they'll down on West street, an' I'm goin' t' make a fortune on the vaudeville

'And Carney' - Carter demanded n excitement-'where is Oarney?' 'Oarney went early; had a job down West street. Left a package

With a bound Carter reached the table, picked up a package that lay here, and unrolled it.

'Now, isn't that funny l' exclaimed he auperinteneent, as he saw the ontents. 'The beggar's gone and left you half a loaf.'-Wm. Holloway n Everybody's Magazine.

Mr H. Wilkinson, Stratford, Ont, don't give yerself any trouble. 'An' from Muscular Rheumatism by using two boxes of Milburn's Rheumatic

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Mary Ovington, Jasper, Ont., writes :- "My mother had a badly sprained arm. Nothing we used did

I wish you would quit talking about how well Gladys Ann paints and plays Why. I was kind of proud of he

accomplishments,' replied her husband. 'I know that. But the first thing you know people will think we are de-

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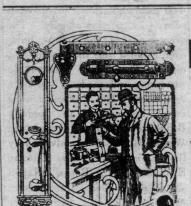
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