

STAVE TWO

25. opaque. Dark, not transparent.

ferret eyes. Penetrating glance.

26. preposterous. Ridiculous, absurd.

This First of Exchange. So called to distinguish it from the duplicate copy which would be sent if the first happened to go astray.

United States' security. At the time when this story was written, owing to a recent financial crisis United States' securities were worth very little.

27. A quarter past. The clock strikes the four quarters just before striking the hour.

28. tunic. A loose garment without sleeves and drawn in at the waist by a belt.

30. reclamation. Reform.

33. deal forms. Benches made of pine boards.

latent. Concealed, secret.

Ali Baba. A wood-carrier in "The Forty Thieves," one of the *Arabian Nights* tales.

Valentine and Orson. Characters in a romance of the middle ages.

what's his name. Bedreddin Hassan and the Sultan's Groom are characters in another of the *Arabian Nights* tales.

34. The parrot. This paragraph refers to the story of *Robinson Crusoe*.

36. the garden sweep. The curve in the drive-way through the grounds.

39. negus. A beverage made of wine, hot water, sugar, nutmeg, and lemon juice.

40. "Sir Roger de Coverley." An old-fashioned dance, named from Sir Roger de Coverley, one of the characters in Addison's *Spectator*.

43. sordid. Mean, base, ignoble.

45. the celebrated herd in the poem. Referring to a line from Wordsworth's poem *Written in March*, in which in speaking of the cattle he says, "There are forty feeding like one."

46. fictitious. Unreal.