Mercedes!
"Bring ropes," he shouts to his men,
"we will bind them all. They shall
see how sweet a place a Turkish dune how sweet a place a Turkish dunen is. Genarene shall eat their
sh. Every breath they draw will
a curse upon the hour they ever
aved the anger of a Pasha. Ropes, I
y; tie them tight, until the blood
ands in their veins like knotted
nea. The dogs have come to test
a hossithifty of a Pusha—they shall the hospitality of a Pasha—they shall discover how warm it is." He laughs like a fiend from Tophet, and rubs his hands together, then suddenly frowns, for in front of him Mercedes appears,

and something in her face gives the Fashs a shuddering fit. "What would you?" he asks, sullenly in Spazish.
"These men must go—you will not

teep them here, pasha," returns the

A speer sweeps over his face. In common with all Turks he has a very poor idea of a woman's abilities, and thinks she is only fitted to be a man's slave, hence he imagines Mercedes means to try her power at pleading—that might have done before, but she has crossed the Rublcon, and become his wife, thus losing her power.

"Out of the way, woman. This is business fit only for men. He was your lover. You shall see how I punish him for crossing my path. Begone to your apartments!"

If he expects to see Mercedes obey, he makes the greatest mistake of his life. Those black eyes never leave his face, and he experiences a queer feeling—it is fear—something that never before came to him in connection with a woman—they have no part even in the Mohammedan worship, as they are not believed to have souls.

"Not yet, pashs. I shall not sleep to-night until every one of these—my friends—have reached a place of safety. And you yourself shall give the command that they be unharmed."

He stares at her in blank amazement, perhaps imagining that she has lost her senses. Then a grim smile ownes upon his dark face. The electric midnight eyes do not once leave him, but they seem to have lost their power.

"I shall at once give the order for

him, but they seem to have lost their power.

"I shall at once give the order for their execution," he cries, fiercely.

"And in so doing sign your own death warrant," she replies, with a contemptuous look.

"What do you mean, woman?"

"Abdul Hamid, your royal master, does not forgive a traitor. If his brother were found in communication with Russia his head must pay the pensity for his offense."

The stout pasha is selzed with a species of vertigo. He trembles so that his lips twitch, and his knees seem to knock together. Into his eyes there comes a great fear, as though the woman's words have shot home to his heart. The Turkish Sultan has been known as a martinet in military affairs, and more than one of his subjects has suffered death because of being connected with some plot against the Abdul Hamid dynasty.

"You speak of a matter upon which you are ignorant. What reason have I to fear the Sultan's displeasure?" he demands, boldly, but his assurance is assumed, for secretly he is still trembling with that haunting fear.

"Ah! cast your eyes upon that paper, and tell me if you ever saw it before." She hands him a little slip, insignificant in itself, but containing several dozen Turkish names.

At sight of the magic paper the pasha has another desperate fit of trembling, and his teeth rattle in his head like Spanish castanets, while his buiging eyes, filled with terror, are gived upon the face of the woman who stands there—mistress of the field. "Where did you get this?" he almost shrieks.

tears in his eyes. As he passes out of the door he takes one swift look backward, sees the pashs still grind-ing his teeth and shaking his fist after them. Mercedes' head has sunk in her hands, poor girl. Jack feels a lump in his throat that nearly chokes him as he hurries away.

The scene changes—they reach the shore where the boat awaits them. Entering, they pass over the dark water to the yacht. Six hours remain, then hot pursuit will be made, and they must depend upon artifice to saye them. Mercedes has put a slip of paper in Jack's hand, and striking

"I have managed that the pasha's steam yacht shall be out of order. It will take them a day to get her ready for work. Beware of the forts at the

in his heart, then they reach the yacht, where Avis is waiting to greet the Aleck first, as he is helped on o and then Jack, about whose neck her arms are folded as she whispers:

"Safe! Oh! Jack, what tortures I have endured."

"All is well now, love. See, already the anchor is up—we are off for Rome, where I mean to claim my reward."
No pursuit is made, but the pasha, after he has recovered his papers, sends a message to the forts to search every yessel. Our friends are in hiding, and the Thistledown is allowed to proceed.

At last they are upon the Mediterranean, and all around them is peace. Hand in hand Doctor Jack and Avis look back upon the troubled wake of the vessel—it is like their own past, while bayond lies the calm blue sea, promising a happy future.

THE BND, mons alternates his fist blows with jabs with his elbows, and he can make the ball fairly "touch" each time he uses them ou it. Griffo, too, is very good at this elbow work.

PUNCHING THE BALL AN EASY METHOD OF REDUCING FLESH AND GETTING

History of This Adjunct of Fistic Science—
How to Hang the Hail and How to Fight
Ib—Carbett the Champion Bail Pancher.
Some months ago a wealthy friend of mine who is somewhat of an epicure and was more corpulent than he cared to be, all of "Maoon, I am is or 30 pounds heavier than I ought to be. How can I take that weight off without dicting? I am willing to work a bit, but I won't deny myself the pleasures of the table "Punch the bail!" I responded. "Bail punching is one of the best of physical methods of reducing the weight and improving the wind of feely people. When a bail is fought, energetically and persistently, the exercise produces parspiration. Every muscle of the body and limbs is brought into play and there is little or no danger of straining any of them, and that is more than can be said of 'pulley lifting' and many of them, and he obtains nearly all the benefits of sparring without any of them, and he obtain nearly all the benefits of sparring without any of its innonveniences, such as bloody noses, black eyes, or bruisse." My friend took may advice, bought him a punching-ball, once the top months and the proposition of the knuckles which is somethine something and the state of the body and limbs is brought into play and there is little or no danger of straining any of them, and the time of the body and limbs is brought into play and there is little or no danger of straining any of them, and the time of the proposition of the total proposition of the common of the knuckles which its somethine somethine sealed to who for the knuckles which its somethine somethine sealed to which its counts and the length of the tow of the table "Unclaimed to which its will be a sealed to who can be all the proposition of the knuckles which its somethine somethine sealed to be increased to wise end round, the training any of them, and the limit of the proposition of the knuckles which its somethine somethine sealed to be a different to the proposition of the knuckles which its somethine somethine sealed to work the



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anoy was very great. Assuming that the ball traveled five feet each time it wastruck, it went 1,800 feet in all, or about one-third of a mile. This was great speed when it is remembered that the ball changed direction 240 times a min The four greatest ball-punchers in the pugilistic profession are Tommy Ryan. Jim Corbettt, Bob Fitzsimmons and young Griffo. Parson Davies claims that Ryan is the best of the lot, and I am in clined to agree with him. Corbett make ball punching one of the features of his theatrical entertainments. Bob Fitzsim-Bob Fit



reopie who wish to punch the ball, as an exercise, should suspend it in a room which, while well ventilated, is free from dratts. They should strip to the waist, and wear nothing but drawers and slippers. It is well to encase the hands in loose kid gloves, from which the fingers have been cut. This will prevent any abrasion of the knuckles which is sometimes caused by glancing blows. One minute rounds are long enough for a beginner, with two minutes' rest between

grandmother, while on a recent visit to her home in the East, but it has been in the Holman family. Mrs. Dabb's ancestors, since the sixteenth century.

The Holmans are descendants of the Plantagenets—the line of kings that succeeded the Normans—and during the middle ages the Holmans were quite an illustrious house. Among some old family papers which are still in existence i one referring to the tea set of which this pitcher was a part. This says that the tea was brought from "a certain Mistress Kennedy" and that it had formerly belonged to her mistress, the Queen of Soots. Mrs. Kennedy, it will be remambered, was the Queen's faithful servant. On the night preceding her execution the Queen, surrounded by her weeping servants, supped in her apartments at Fotheringay Castle. "She supped sparingly and soberly, as her manuer was," says one historian. When she saw her servants weeping she cheered them and then assigned to each that portion of her personal belongings she wished each to be added to the complete of the complete of

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