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AVENCED AT LAST

most of the blood. Therefore, when this question was suddenly sprung upon him he was decidedly surprised, but at the same time was too old in the business to betray any undue agitation.

"Mr. Velasquez. Ab, yes, I remember him now; the gentleman from San Paolist. Thanks to the old Yankee's business tact, she found that she had sufficient money left from the proceeds of e sale to keep her in comfort for a mber of years. Still she was anxious be rid of the house also.

"Mos you say he was squeezed into a corner the day before the murder," asked Wilcox.

"Yes, and a pretty tight one, too," was the rejoinder, "but, as he left the office. I heard him tell Mr. Crandall that he would get the money in three days by fair means or by foul."

"Whew!" was the only reply.

Then Percy proceeded and told what had happened since, how Valasquez bought up the mining stock certificates, and sold them at a sleek profit, and how he had held a note for fifty themsand doll. e rid of the house also.

any case she would have been comded to sell it shortly afterwards, for on twentieth of the month, thirty days "Whi Delaro's death, a notice was served he executors of the estate to the effect ta note for (\$50,000) fifty-thousand lars drawn in favor of Leon Velasez and discounted by him in San ancisco, was due and must be paid in ree days. This threw a new light on affairs, and

Delaro was amazed. Why had her husband given Velasquez a note at "Yes," the little broker responded, thirty days for such an amount of "Mr. Velasquez certainly did have some lve the riddle, and at once sought her ld friend for aid. This is what old Joel Wilcox, the

riend for aid.
is is what old Joel Wilcox, the
is is what old Joel Wilcox, the
ionaire, said about it: "You kin
ionaire, said about there
ionaire, said about there
ionaire, said about there pend upon it, Mrs. Delaro, that there more in this than you or I know at esent. This note that's a lyin' in more in this than you or I know at sesent. This note that's a lyin' in a bank for you to meet was drawn on a night that my friend Mario was undured and University. ure that it's got amthin to do with that dirty work as amthin to do with that dirty work as amthat Anton Reyman is innocent of tall. The note'll hev to be met, but 'll knock a big hole in what you got at of the sale o' the vineyard to do it. when you're ready to sell your house don't go to anybody else. I'll buy it and give you a fair price for it."

Mrs. Delaro was much stirred by old Wilcox's words, and it was with a blanched face that she looked up at the big millionaire, and said: "Mr. Wilcox you think for one moment that Leon lasquez had any thing to do with the ath of my poor husband?" "Yes I do," was the reply, "and hat's more I'm going to find out just w much he did hev to do with it, or name ain't Joel Wilcox." don't like to think this without

e good grounds for the belief," said eautiful woman; "but I will ise myself at once. I am unusually its place to be replaced by a spirit evenge. Henceforth my duty snail to find Mario's slayer. I, too, do not are sty exclaimed: "I will find his been fixed up."

"Yes, I believe it has," replied "Yes, I believe it has," replied



THERE IS MORE IN THIS THAN WE KNOW AT PRESENT."

ave mercy on him when I do—for I all have none."

Joel Wilcox promised that he would "You were incations of Mr. house?"

You were incations of Mr. house?"

You I was."

days he must go to San Francisco

broker and Velasquez were "bosom cronies," having worked many quiet and sometimes shady deals together. Still, the broker was by far the shrewder of the two men, and while Velasquez brought the lambs to the shaughter Crandall managed to catch most of the blood. Therefore, when this question was suddenly sprung upon him he was decidedly surprised. but at

intention left the door ajar when he ushered Mr. Wilcox into the private room, and thus heard the remarks as he sat at his desk in the public office.
"Well," said Mr. Wilcox, "I have been informed that he had a good many business transactions with you and that this would be a likely place to find him."

She was utterly unable to business to transact with me but his here were always of the and we were not on such



YOU WERE INQUIRING ABOUT MR. VE-LASQUEZ?

terms that I could be supposed to know interested by this time and mentally ejaculated: "What a liar!"
"I am not the sort of man to beat

ouse myself at once. I am unusually diet and do not as a rule jump at consisions; but when my husband was nelly taken from me it seemed as nough my heart had been forcibly torn out to be at an another sort of man to be at around the bush, and I may as well be plain with you," said Mr. Wilcox. You have of course, heard of my friend Mario Delaro's murder near his own wine cellars on the night of Henceforth my duty shall the twenty-first of last month?"

(Yes, I did hear of the sad occurance," was the rejoinder. Joel Wilcox

around to the office of the broker who sold the stock for Velasquez and in-quire if the money has been paid;" say-ing which he rose to go and handed Mr. Wilcox a newspaper to read during his

temporary absence.

As soon as Crandall had gone Joel
Wilcox muttered to himself: "Well, I
wonder how much more money the villian has scraped together. There is no account of that money being paid to Delaro on his books, at least I couldn't find it if there was. The yaller-skin-ned 'possum tried his best to clean out his best friend before he killed him." He was not left to his thoughts very

"You were inquiring about the trans-Velasquez with this

"Then appoint a meeting with me to-gut and I will give you some informa-on that will prove of value."
"What do you know about the busi-ess?" queried Mr. Wilcox.

were, if I may be permitted to make lars, given him by Delaro, which Cranusc of such an old and familiar expression."

"What a lie," thought his clerk, (a young Englishman) who had without intention left the door ajar when he went with Crandall to cash a check for a god part of four these and large and never the cash a check for a god part of four these and large. a good part of forty thousand dollars which he said was the proceeds of the share in the sale of the Posada vineyards. Lovel gave it as his opinion that Valasquez had started East with very little short of a hundred thous dollars cash money in his possession.
"Do you know which way he went?"

asked Mr. Wilcox.
"No, I do not, sir," was the reply. "Now, come, Persy, we shall get along a good deal better without any of that kind of business. Don't 'Sir' me any more," said the plain-spoken Yan-

This information woke up the mill- the man to precious. Are you willing to go with discoveries, and make disclosures later.

So he concluded to sleep on his recent discoveries, and make disclosures later. ionaire and he said: "Then time is haste. "Well," said Lovel, "the question is ather sudden, Mr. Wilcox, and I might

ose my place if I go without Mr. Cran-

his questionable service.

CHAPTER V. that young man knew about the many transactions which had taken place between Velasquez and Crandall.

Here Mrs. Belaro produced an ivory handled stiletto upon the handle of which was carved the initials "L V."

"Great guns," exclaimed Wilcox,

ance," was the rejoinder. Joel Wilcox continued: "The week before that fundament of the lady was fast fading fore the hot southern blood of an oused woman, and it was with flash-g eyes and panting breath she naturally a free open-hearted sort of a

asked Lovel to give him a little of his that in the excitement of the hour it history. Said Lovel: "If I tell you my was forgotten that Lovel had not been Crandall; "but to make sure I will step history you may not think so well of introduced. me after you hear it as you do now."

"Yes," said the Englishman, "I sup- almost enthusiastic over his prospective home before I was twenty, got through a good pile of money in Paris and Brussels and then suddenly found myself in New York. I played the races, gambled and knocked around from one ich He was not left to his thoughts very long, for, no sooner was Crandall's back turned than the clerk made an excuse to come into the room with a bundle of papers in his hand. As soon as this individual got close enough to Mr. Wilcox, he whispered:

New York. I played the races, gambled and knocked around from one job to another and altogether led a Bohemian life. But I feel like sobering up now; it isn't necessary for a fellow to be a vagabound all his life, and I'm ready for the change. It isn't more than three weeks and more prudent, to be sure they were since I handled the chins for the last wight before going shead. change. It isn't more than three weeks since I handled the chips for the last time, but I have done with it for keeps. By the way, the very last game I sat down to was in the same room that Velas down to was in the same room that Velas and more prudent, to be sure they were the tut I am very anxious for a change."

The last speaker was Armida Delaro. Eleven years had elapsed since she left the vineyards and blue skies of the Particular in the same room that Velas.

MRS. DELARO MET THEM AT THE DOOR. Always philosophically contented, he never lost his temper or became unduly excited, and after a varied experience covering a range of occupations, from speculator to book-canvasser, he floated into Crandall & Co.'s office, and from there, as we have seen, to his present position. And this last move was to change the whole course of his life. When Joel Wilcox went to bed that

Lovel smiled and continued: "Velas-quez said he might stop at Denver awhile, but he expected to be in Chica-go inside of ten days."

When Joel Wheels were to bed that night he felt certain that Alton Rey-man's release was near at hand. He was now entirely confident that Velasquez had murdered Delaro, but he was not

Next morning he and Percy Lovel started over to see Mrs. Delaro. She met them at the door and said: "Oh! Mr. Wilcox, I'm so glad you have come. "Curse your position!" ejaculated Wilcox. "Come with me and help to run that villain to earth and I'll see They walked into the house and into

that you have a position as long as I the library, where Mr. Wilcox was as-"That settles it," said Percy. "I've from the cellars seated. The door was been drifting all over for the last seven closed, but, at Mr. Wilcox's request, years and I may as well keep it up."

The next day the millionaire and his

new-found friend, the poor English clerk, started off to San Paola together "has brought something here which much of his movements while in this and forged links of friendship that were will probably prove beyond a doubt who city." The clerk outside had become only snapped by death, while Crandall it was that killed my dear husband. only snapped by death, while Crandall it was that killed my dear husband. lost a good clerk who was too honest for Yesterday one of this man's boys was bathing in the stream which flows at the foot of the hill yonder," said the lady, pointing from the window as she During the journey to San Paola on the following day, Joel Wilcox took the opportunity to have a good long talk with Percy Lovel and ascertain what lady, pointing from the window as sne spoke, "and, in diving to pick objects from the mud in the bottom of the river, found this weapon."

Here Mrs. Delaro produced an ivory Here Mrs. Delaro produced an ivory

> "Great guns," exclaimed Wilcox, "we shall prove that snake guilty sooner than I expected."
>
> Then a long conversation ensued and the workman was asked to repeat his story to Wilcox, and so much engrossed Wilcox liked him so well that he did everybody become in the recitation

But Mr. Wilcox soon made amends "Oh, I dare say, like most young men who drift to Frisco, you have led a kinder wild life, but it is evident you were primed with a pretty good education before you started in onit," was the response.

There was much to be said about the new clew and Velasquez's former history, and Percy warmed up and became

pose that's so, and since I left Oxford I have seen life through the kaleidoscope of many promiscuous journeyings. Lieft should be arranged. On the morrow

ATORY OF RETRIBUTION.

but such as the occasion demanded, he called upon the judge to desist in his summing up, and asked that further evidence be taken.

The judge, who was strictly impartial, remarked that in such a case it was hardly possible that so blunt a point

could have penetrated the dead man's body as deeply as Delaro's wound, but that this was a matter worthy the utmost consideration of the jury.
"Yes, indeed it is, your honor," said ustly convicted. The most likely place of find it would be in Delaro's body, and

The doctor produced the fragment next day in court, and it was found to fit exactly to the stiletto.

Then the judge completed his charge, but on vastly different lines, the conse-

old place and manage it for me."

It was a light-hearted and yet a sad party that went back to San Paola that night, for few of them had yet forgotten the memory of their lost friend. And Wilcox, kind old fellow that he was, went that night to try and console the desolate widow, and informed her that he had arranged to render all possible assistance to the detectives in capturing the murderer.

It all and seek that rest in New York which was absolutely impossible at a place like Long Branch.

Just as the concluding words fell from door, which was answered by the maid, who took a card from the bell-boy and handed it to her young mistress.

Armida glanced at it languidly and then turning to her mother with a pite-ous gaze on her sweet face said:

sorts and conditions and of being made love to by old men and smooth-faced youths, you would say go, at once, and let Mr. Wilcox follow us." "No, my child. It would never do to go until we hear from them. There is no alternative but to wait."

"Very well, just as you say, mamma; Joel Wilcox promised that he would ave no stone unturned, but as Reyave no stone unturned, but as R



This employment, which had kept her traveling all the time, combined with the fact that Armida had been at-tending school at a convent near to Paris gave them very little opportunity

woman living with a purpose.

And indeed her purpose was stern as ever, for as she sat on this bright Sepever, for as sae sat on this bright sep-tember morning talking to her daugh-ter, her thoughts were far away with her two staunch friends, Joel Wilcox and Percy Lovel, who had left her two weeks before to follow up a clew at New Orleans. They had only written twice since their departure, and even then

often and often had she waited like

in a man's body it would break off."

"Then the body shall be exhumed and the piece of steel sought for," said the judge. Whereupon the court adjourned until the following day.

That same afternoon the body of Delaro was exhumed and sure enough the piece of steel sought for," said the oblivion of shadowy youthful memories.

The conversation at the opening the piece of steel sought for the piec

That same afternoon the body of Delaro was exhumed and sure enough, the piece of steel was found sticking to the bottom of the left shoulder blade. The doctor produced the fragment Then the judge completed his charge, but on vastly different lines, the consequence being that Anton was discharged without the jury once having to leave their seats.

Seguit acter by every ammarried wearer of pantaloons and suspenders during her stay at the Branch. Races one day, a garden party the next, then a ball, followed by yachting excursions and a hundred other inventions for killing

their seats.

The crowd cheered him as he went out and one of the first men who met him was Joel Wilcox.

"Anton," he said, "it was I that bought the Posada vineyards, and I hope, my boy, you will go back to your old place and manage it for me."

It was a light-hearted and your and which was absolutely impossible and well as the poor girl was almost tired out. No wonder then that she was anxious to get away from it all said seek that rest in New York which was absolutely impossible at the property of the said.

"Who is here now, my dear?"

year old boy, who was, at least physically, following in his father's footsepsbidding fair to outrival the celebrity of the Fat Boy in Pickwick.

The elder Blodger had, like many of his ilk, in these his later days of wealth and leisure, turned his attention to books and study in the fond hope that he might pass for an educated man in that society toward which his inclinations and ambition new led him. The result was that smattering of superfield. tions and ambition new led him. The result was that smattering of superficial knowledge which is so exceedingly dangerous; for in his unguided search in the higher realms of knowledge Stephen Redger had not deemed it necessary to appove his grammar, and as a consequence his conversation of t-times embodied a strange conglomeration of the classic sciences and fine arts, dished up in miserably had English.

Recently this genius had developed into a poet and he was never seen out without his serap book under his arm, in which he had pasted his own efforts, written on foolsoap in a large, round hand, together with numerous choices which he had clipped at odd times from the columns of the Sunday times from the columns of the Sunday papers. As this worthy individual en-tered the parlor he bowed low and said

Blodger at your service."

The two ladies returned the greeting The two ladges and the usual every day questions refollowed, Mr. Blodger drew from the side pocket of a loud-patterned

of being together.

Mrs. Delaro really showed very little sign of the struggles she had undergone in her features, though a close observer might have noticed a settled and determined expression which told without the aid of words that she was a

"Yes, indeed it is, your nonor, said the lawyer for the defense; "but permit me to suggest that measures be at once taken to find the point of this once taken to find the point of this was anxious and longed to know whether or not they were meeting with

Justly convicted. The most likely place to find it would be in Delaro's body, and if it is, then there will not be much doubt as to the identity of the actual murderer."

"It seems hardly credible that it could have broken off inside of the body," suggested the judge; "we can consult some professional advice on the matter."

"Then the best man to get that advice from is Joel Wilcox," was the lawyer's reply.

"Let Joel Wilcox be called to the stand," said the judge to the usher.

Upon being sworn Wilcox gave his opinion, as an old blacksmith and as a man who had worked all kinds of both iron and steel, hot or cold. Said he: "If the point of the stiletto had not been properly tempered, it is highly probable that in striking against a bone in a man's body it would break off."

Often and often had she waited like this before, but her interest had never flagged, nor her desire for vengeance become less keen. When in conversating her husting the notion with her two loyal friends she always spoke hopefully of the ultimate success of her life work and had free work and had free become less keen. When in conversation with her two loyal friends she always spoke hopefully of the ultimate success of her life work and had free become less keen. When in conversation with her two loyal friends she always spoke hopefully of the ultimate success of her life work and had free become less keen. When in conversation with her two loyal friends she always spoke hopefully of the ultimate success of her life work and had free become less keen. When in conversation wengence become less keen. When in conversation wengence become less keen. When in conversation with her two loyal friends she always spoke hopefully of the ultimate success of her life work and had free become less keen. When in conversation with her two loyal friends she always spoke hopefully of the ultimate that she fully expected to see Leon. Velisquez face to took possession of my soul and I was at unfinished state:

"ME. LADIES."

Icaket which he wore. A tablet, and c

literally bored to death. She had been sought after by every unmarried wearer of pantaloons and suspenders during

sible assistance to the detectives in capturing the murderer.

At the conclusion of the interview, at which Percy Lovel was present, they all decided to leave San Paola at once—Mrs. Delaro to go to her friends and his specific and the same statement of the same st

Mrs. Delaro to go to her friends and Wilcox and his young aide to follow in the wake of the guilty man.

CHAPTER VI.

"If Mr. Wilcox and Percy are not back here in a week we might as well return to New York. It is getting late in the season, and really, mamma, I can not endure much more of the noise and bustle of this hotel."

"Ha wawu peu eu saey firee sig ul deus chapter en deus ful peu eu deus ful deus ful euripeu eu deus ful de in the control of this potel.

"Have a little patience, child; we man the control of the control As the boy went away, something like a gurgling titter sounded as it coming from that progressive youth. In less than a minute the caller was at the less than a minute the caller was at the past of the caller was at the "Tell the boy to show him up."

> bimself; then turning to her maid she gentleman's unique style of introducing Stephen Blodger at your service.",
> Here Armids rose from her reclining
> specture and gave an imitation of that "That horrid, vulgar Mr. Blodger, who is so fond of saying: 'Ladies, Mr. ".noitolfini redtonA"

with a broad smile, precisely as Armida had mimicked him a moment before: "Good morning ladies; Mr. Stephen

"That may be, but we can modify word painting, Miss Armida. This is only in the rough." Then he continued: "Upon whose bosom white-winged ships, By day and night do roam." "There," said Mr. Blodger, as he com-

pleted the first stanza, "I think that will work up into something very neat, not to say beautiful."
"Very," said Armida and her mother they gave their assent.

(To be continued.)

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

One thousand cases of salmon were yesterday sent East, via the C.P.R.

It is more than probable that there will be no more difficulty caused by the detention of the steamers belonging to the Oregon improvement company which ply to this port, matters having been so far arranged.

The naval authorities at Esquimatt are shipping, by the next San Francisco steemer, some six tons of stores to be forwarded to Honolulu. The wharves, yesterdy, presented a comparatively deserted appearance, the focean vessels lay alongside the wharves with scarcely anything being done; as a rule the daily local steamers being the only ones upon which much was doing. "We are nere for some time," remarked an officer of one of the ocean flyers, "and for all I know might just as well spend Christmas here as be beating about during the dirty weather, that will be sure to materially delay us when we get to sea. This Pacific Coast trade," he added, "is very different from that to the West Indies and Atlantic North America."

There arrived from the Fraser river, by steamer Rithet, resterday, for J. H. Todd & Son, 6,000 cases of salmon, Horse Shoe and Beaver brands, which are being shipped to England via San Francisco.

Str. Alert came down from Nanaimo yesterday with a large cargo of coal.

Str. Rithet arrived yesterday from New Steamers arrived from from New Steamers arrived from the Str. Rithet arrived yesterday from New Steamers with 6,000 cases of salmon for

Outer whar.

Fraser river steamer Delaware, which ran aground some days ago, has been successfully floated.

Schr. Venture has been hauled upon Clark's Schr. Venture has ways for repairs.

Str. Umatilla, from San Francisco, arrivel last evening with passengers and freight. MARRIED

ITH—SHEEN—In this c ty, on the 28th Nov., at Christ Church Cathedral, by Rev. A. Beanlands, Arthur Smith, of 15 Broad St., to Jane Ann Sheen, of Montreal. ALLEY—DENNY—In this city, on the 2nd inst by the Rev. Douald Fraser, F. J. Bailey (so of the late Chas. A. Bailey), of Pow. Town send, to Miss Eliza, daughter of Win Denny, of this city.

DEATH.