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"It was," replied Mr Martin. "Five years ago to-day she stepped out or the street for a few moments, and from that time we were able to find no. trace of her. I happened into the court this morning as you was giving your story, and when you spoke of the peculiar scar, of course I was all at tention. It was not a sear, however but a birth mark I quickly question ed you, and was immediately con vinced that the girl was my long los May, and so it proved The poor chile is now with her mother, who has not known a woll day since M-y was kid

napped by the gang with whom you found yourself last night

"Oh, I am so glad for you," said Ned with a happy smile on his face.

"And now my young friend" said Mr. Martin, "you are entitled to the \$1,000 reward It was offered at the time of her abduction and the offer has been a standing one ever since" "But I shall not take it responded your return. You can get choppers, I

Ned "Of course you will, my boy ' said No.d. Mr Martin, looking very much surprised

"I did not earn it. I knew nothing about it, it was a mere accident. could not take pay for it under the circumstances. It is pay enough to think that you, the little girl and her mother are happy again 'responded' Ned

"But I insist on your having the reward," said Mr. Martin.

"But I will not" said Ned decidedly. "It would be outright extortion." of a late h key "Well well," replied Mr Martin,

you are the most remarkable young man I ever heard of Are you comfortable here?"

"It is a splendid place to stop, " said Ned

"Well, so long as you stop in the city you are my guest. I shall pay all your expenses here," said Mr Martin. "But you ought not, Mr Martin" said Ned "If I had worked for you

it would be different, but all I have helped you was accidental "

"But no one shall take money from you," said Mr Martin 'What is money beside the restoration of my daughter? While here young man, remember that your bills are paid."

"Well, if it will make you feel bet-

and to the parks. In fact, there was doubt kept watch of the movements of little of interest in the city that day, the police," replied Mr. Martin. that Ned's friend did not point, out. Toward night, Mr. Martin drove him' to the fish barrel factory, and Ned made a good bargain for all the poles longed to Mr. Martin. To Ned it was reward. I guess Ned has in some way that he might send: and the purchasa day of unalloyed pleasure. On their ing agent suggested that he might buy more if he could make it pay. They were to be cut at once and immediately forwarded by freight train. on the morrow, by an early train. Ned also made an unexpectedly good bargain for his spoonhunt sticks. He "God bless you, my boy," said Mr Martin, "I shall never lose sight of went through this chair shop with much interest, and was amazed at the you and of your prosperity." "Good bye' all." said Ned. uniqueness of the chairs made from As Ned went up to his room that this material. The proprietor stated that he had great difficulty in getting

night, the clerk handed him a paper all the material he wanted and was It was a receipted bill for board, paid by Mr. Martin. anxious for a lot at once, as the winter was the time to manufacture, and the

## CHAPTER XIX.

In Which Ned's Parents are Puzzled He remarked that he was much disappointed in the small quantity offered "I have just received an express as a result of his advertisement. package from someone, on which the He explained to Ned how it was to value "\$1.000" is marked," said Mr Jackson to his wife, one afternoon as was the more valuable it became for he came in from the village.

'The value is a joke, of course,' said his wife, "were you expecting anything?"

'Nothing that I know of," said Mr Jackson. "Who do you suppose it is from?"

continued his wife. 'I do not know," responded Mr

Well and good" I wish you had I Jackson," as he began to scrutinize the package closely. "Here is 'Port-

continued, after looking at a partly rears after it is reclaimed ' effaced stamp

"Then it must be from Ned." said bank treasurer

Mrs Jackson

materials, so you better hurry up on his father And he could not send \$1,000 said Ned, with the greatest surprise

either," said his mother. Nor is he one to joke his parents " said his father, as he looked at the plied Mr Jackson

words on the corner of the package. Ned \$1,000 value."

Why don't you open it and see?" said Mrs Jackson, with her womanly from Portland said his fature.

curiosity fully aroused. Mr Jackson, reaching for the scis- act

sors with which to cut the end of the great envelope He then pulled out the paper within

drove up to the door, and Mr. Martinand as he opened it two new \$500 bills you, not to accept the money' said admitted himself and Ned by means slid into his lap. 'What can this mean'" exclaimed both Mr. and Mrs. Jackson at once "There is a letter there, read it

he had befriended at his first lodging' place and who had afterward assisted Portland, Aug 18.

"Oh, I wish to thank you so much, Ralph Jackson, Esq for giving me my mamma and papa Please find herewith \$1,000, the wards again" she said, as she grabbed Ned rightful property of your noble son. 'We all thank you," said Mrs. Martin. for five years I have not had that he keeps the same, for in no way w already known to the reader a nappy hour until yesterday, when will it be received back by me my lost darling was returned to me.

Jackson I can't guess," responded her hus- which read as follows band

said the bank official, after a tew minute's thought, and then he began Ned returned to the hotel for the to chuckle to himself, "Ned is a lucky night and next day with his new fellow, a lucky fellow I remember friends, took a delightful trip down that five years ago. Mr Martin had a the bay in a steam yacht, which be- daughter abducted, and offered \$1.000

discovered his long lost daughter, and return, as they passed the hotel. Ned the little man that he is, every inch bade his friends good-bye, as he ded of him, refused to take the reward. clared his intention of returning home and Mr. Martin has taken this way to discharge a debt of gratitude. It is just like Ned, and just like Mr. Martin "

> While they were talking about the matter, who should enter but Ned Linself "Why Ned'" exclaimed his parents.

You did not stay as long as you expected ?" "Had a good time," asked his moth-

er. "Splendid!" replied Ned.

"Make a good business trip?" asked the bank treasurer. "Splendid! replied Ned, I have sold all the birch poles on my lot at a good price and all the spoonhunt

sticks I can get, at \$20 a car load. "Whew," said Mr. Jackson. "Never heard of selling spoonhunts before, at that rate you will sell brush enough off from your new lot to pay for it. So that was what you bought the land for

"In part, said Ned, buy I want the land for something else after it is cleared It is good land to hold, for

land express office' marked on it," he by the law, it cannot be taxed for ten

'You are a sharp one," said the

"Well here are your two five hun-"It is not his writing," responded ire (dollar bills ) said has father My two five hundred dollar bills?"

> on his countenance. "Yes they appear to be yours," re-

Where did they come from " said

"Your friend Mr Martin, sent them

"But I told him I would not take "That will settle the matter," said the money," said Ned, and I will

"But he tells me he will not receive the money back," said Mr. Jackson

"I think it would be a rudeness in

the treasurer 'I know Mr Martin' But you better tell us the story of

And if possible, I should be delightquick'" said Mrs. Jackson, and he ed to be present at the recital" said the bank official "I do not know as I object," said

Ned, "But you must not tell after-

And so it was that Ned related the He foolishly refuses to take the same, story of his trip to the bank treasurer I send it to you in trust for him. See and his parents, the purport of which

CHAPTER XX. Ned's Clearing.

WANTED.

X. Q. MARTIN On the next day after his return "What can this mean' said Mrs. On the next day area about town

better potato than any one ease to pegin with but you expect to improve silent for the strangers had come up the quality by raising them on new stairs and were in the room. ground."

"That is it, exactly," replied Ned; "besides I will get a larger crop." "But it will not really pay you for all the trouble you have had, when the potatoes are sold, will it Ned?" continued his father. "I shall get a higher price than any

one else" Ned continued But most people will not care to buy many at a high price. It will be too

expensive eating. You cannot expect time, as it was necessary to work his to sell many for table purposes at even \$1 per bushel.

sponded Ned, "having produced a potato that the public will want, I pro- locked, but Ned knew of a window pose to simply supply the seed, and let that he could unfasten, which he did, the rest raise for the market." "Will you make that pay?" said his

father

do must be done quickly. After the and it is the person who fooled me gofirst year others will have the seed. ing to Portland, and put woman's The first year in the market will be clothes on that man, and it is the womy harvest, and it will come. I hear, man who kept the boarding house complaints on every side that the potatoes which have been so long raised in this vicinity are growing less pro- how Ned saved the bank. ductive and of poorer quality."

Ned received his pay promptly for his freight, and on Saturday he paid his workmen and also those of whom he had made purchases.

Ned's money had come in form of a check and it was necessary to get it turned into cash before he paid off. He was at work in his clearing when a neighbor handed him the letter, and without going home to change his clothes he started for the bank. To see Ned now, clad as he was in blue overalls, a checkered blouse and a wide rimmed straw hat, he was not easily recognized as the spruce young fellow en-route for Portland the week before If the truth must be told in his haste to get to the bank before the hour of closing, he forgot to remove some of the crock from his face, which rather disguised his features in this plight Ned went to the bank. and it is needless to state that his neat and tidy mother censured him severely for it on his return home.

So you have received your pay.' said the bank treasurer, as he looked at the check, which Ned laid before him

'Yes sir,'' said Ned, '' and I want your adventure, remarked his father. the cash on it with a goodly number of small bills, as I pay off to-day, but i think I will deposit \$175."

You do not mean to say that you have made \$175 on your speculation do you," said the amazed treasurer. Yes sir, said Ned.

"Well, you do beat all the young fellows that I ever heard of, said the treasurer, as he placed \$175 to Ned's credit and handed out the rest.

Ned put the money in his pocket and turned to go out, as he did so a man and woman, strangers in the town, entered the bank, and asked to have a : \$5 bill changed. With just a glance at the couple and at the bill, the oblig-

municative, in fact, he was making

"No. 8 on second floor," said Ned,

"That is good, also," said Ned.

closet over room 8.

Ned watched his chance, and when

no one was looking, he went into the

"It may be a mean thing to do,"

once, but if it should prove imagina-

The dark closet had floor over only a

ney over head. Ned placed his hand

upon it, and found that there was no

"That is good," mused Ned, "I wish

I could get it out so as to hear better,

when they come in; but that would

not be a safe thing to do. Perhaps I

can break off a little piece of plaster.

and in that way get a better listening

Then a bright idea struck Ned. He

carefully lifted off the stove funnel

joint in the dark closet, and laughed

"There, I now have a speaking

at this exploit, saying:

But now Ned was obliged to keep

Ned took off his coat, and threw it over his head that it might aid him in hearing the sounds and placed his ear

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over the end of the pipe For a long time he listened there; his neck and arms and limbs ached from the constrained position in which he stood, but still he listened, as if his life depended upon it.

At last he silently made his way out of the dark closet. It took him a long way inch by inch, that no noise should be made. He reached the grain room "I do not cater to that trade," re- at last, and then made his way down into the barn. The doors were now and was again outside.

"I thought so," said Ned, when he was fairly out in the street. "Take "I think so," said Ned. "But what I and put man's clothes on that woman, from which I escaped."

In the next chapter it will be shown

CHAPTER XXI.

In Which Ned Saves The Bank.

The bank treasurer, who had been so friendly with Ned, had long been asleep, when he was awakened by t ringing of his doorbell.

He cautiously opened the window and looked out, for bank officials are proverbally careful when anything unusual happens at night.

"Who is there?" he at last called from the window overhead. "It is me," said Ned.

'Who is me'' said the official, not recognizing the voice.

'Ned Jackson," was the reply.

"What in the world calls you out at this hour?" said the surprised treasurer

"Come down and let me in as quickly as possible," said Ned.

"Anyone sick?" "Come down and let me in!" Ned continued.

"Why Ned! you look as if you had been rolled in cobwebs, and your face is all soot. One would think you had been burglarizing some place," said the official, as he looked at Ned, in that light of his bright lamp. "But now, what is the matter?"

'The bank is to be burglarized." said Ned, excitedly.

"Burglarized!"

"Yes, to-morrow night." "How do you know? queried the surprised official. And then Ned tola him the story; how he had discovered that the man at the hotel was disguised as a woman, and the woman as a man, and how he had found out that they were the two whom he met at Portland how he had hidden over their room at the hotel, and had heard them quietly discuss their plot. These

ing cashier handed the change, and two had come before the others in the gang to make ready and to find out at the interior of the bank they went as much as possible about the bank; how they had made impressions of the doorlocks at the bank already, and "I do not like the looks of those how in the morning they were to leave town, to avoid suspicion, but the man was to come back with the gang It seems to me as if I had seen them at night when the safe was to be somewhere, but I cannot think where." blown open and robbed." Half a dozen times during the af-The bank official heard the story ternoon, Ned found himself speculatwith surprise and said, "we must have ing in regard to the strangers he had them arrested at once.' seen at the bank. The faces impres-"I think not." said Ned. sed him so familiarly Later in the "Why not," replied the official. day he saw the two again walking up "The bank is not robbed yet, and a street by the bank, and he noticed part of the burglars are not in town," they appeared quite interested in the replied Ned. "I did not even tell the landlord the character of his guests "Who can they be, and what can He does not know that I burglarioustheir business be?" said Ned again to ly entered his closet over room 8. J himself. "I have seen them, but I think the work should go on: let no can't place them to save myself." one into the secret except tried men. After Ned was through work that and when the work is in progress be night he sat down to supper with his ready to strike."

Respectfully.

ter. I accept the kind hospitality you offer with thanks," said Ned.

"If it is not impertiment, may I inquire the nature of your business in the city?" said Mr Martin "As I have long lived here I may be able to assist you.'

Ned handed him the two advertisements.

"Have you hoop poles and spoonhunts for sale"" Mr Martin asked after reading the advertisements.

"Yes, sir," replied Ned

"I am interested in the fish keg factory myself, and can easily promise to take as many poles as you have, and at a good price too," replied Mr Mar-

"But I insist on only taking the usual price. I will not accept a higher price from your firm because of **'your gratitude – Business is business,''** said Ned decidedly.

"Well, as you will," responded Mr. Martin. "I like your pluck, and your nice sense of honor. We will go to the ker factory to-morrow Now in regard to the spoonhunt sticks. Have you a lot of them?"

"An acre or more," responded Ned. "That is good," replied Mr. Martin. "My brother-in-law has begun manufacturing lawn chairs and there is nothing like laurel or spoonhunts to make them of. He gives a big price, as farmers do not like to bother with them as a usual thing, or they do not have enough to make it pay "

"How lucky I have been to meet you." said Ned.

"The luck is all on my side," responded Mr. Martin. "And now I wish to again insist on your taking the reward."

"No, no, I cannot," said Ned. Mr. Martin said no more on the subject, but quietly led Ned to talk of himself, his parents, his friends, and ambitions, and before he left he knew the story of Ned's farming career from the beginning of that time.

"To-morrow." he said to Ned at parting, "we will see if we can find a market for your goods." Before he went home that night he saw the purchasing agent of both firms and paved the way for making a market for all the poles and spoonhunt stock that he could furnish. One other thing he did. He enclosed two \$500 bills in a letter, which he forwarded to Ralph Jackson, Esq., Ned's father, express paid. The letter read as follows:

Portland, Aug. 28, 18---. Ralph Jackson, Esq. :

Please find herewith \$1,000, the rightful property of your noble son. He foolishly refuses to take the same. I send it to you in trust for him. See that he keeps the same, for in no way will it be received back by me.

Respectfully,

X. Q. Martin.

## CHAPTER XVIII. In Which Ned Sees The City.

The next morning Mr. Martin called for Ned. He came with his team, and proposed to drive him about the city, much to Ned's delight.

Mr. Martin drove him to Manjoy' Hill, that from that high elevation Ned might get a delightful view of the waters of Casco Bay, its green islands and the ocean beyond; thence he drove to Bramhall's Hill, from which was an extensive view of farm, forest and mountain scenery. He took Ned to "They fastened the door leading to be wharves, where the vessels were at the garret. They evidently thought

Martin but wondered at the change tiful face of his hostess

Ned looked at the nicture hanging

on the wall of a robust looking woman

beside the portrait of Mr Martin He

recognized there the features of Mrs.

summer the time to sell lawn chairs.

be cut and that the more crooked if

his purpose and as it was crooked and

small, when trimmed and ready for

shipment it nust be packed to its best

advantages in box cars For a well

packed long car full he would give \$20

himself paying the freight "I can

furnish at least two car loads, and per-

dozen of them," replied the purchaser.

I might get you some besides," con-

Do so if you can," continued the

I think I can get enough," replied

Not having finished his business.

turned away and Mr. Mirtin took him

in his carriage again and this time

drove directly to his residence. Ned

was surprised at the elegance of the

house and surroundings, he had nev-

er seen anything like it before, and he

at once saw that his patron must be a

A servant took the horses as they

He had no sooner introduced Ned to

Mrs Martin than the little girl whom

by the hand "Oh. I am so happy now

I feel as if I could be well again.

him bounded into the room

chairmaker off you can buy so as

to make something for your trouble,

I shall be glad. I am in haste for the

haps three, said Ned

tinned Ned

SUDDOSE "

very wealthy man

"It was all accidental. Mrs. Martin, used in getting country people to cir-I really did nothing in the matter; but culate counterfeit money. I am really glad that I came to Portland and fell into the hands of sharpers Mr Jackson as it has turned out. It has made me

conceit out of me, and has made three Jackson. persons very happy I see," said Ned as he looked at the reunited family. birthmark, and the general form and

and looking eyes were now sparkling those delusive advertisements of confi- load of spoon-hunt for \$15 mer car, and clothes had been replaced by new ones, Jackson anxiously. rich and elegant, it seemed hardly

wrought in so short a time

never seen so many silver dishes, so belonged to him " much cut glass, or partook of such a sumptuous feast

"How long will you remain in the in the bank yet." city?" asked Mrs Martin, after they had returned to the parlor

"I thought you were to stop here a week," safd Mr. Martin.

goods, and have shown me the whole treasurer. city in your turn, so my work is done, and the dealers are anxious for the

hoop poles and spoonhunts." responded Ned

"Do not let him go to-morrow," said urer. Mrs. Martin, "let us all go down the

ter is like." "That we will." said Mr. Martin,

"will you stay another day? 'Do stay," said the little girl.

So Ned promised. for your thoughtfulness in saving me," | Portland last week."

said Ned, "you really did something. mistrust you."

house; they did not take the trouble this package by express and this letto come up into the garret to get me, ter, read it." but thinking you would inform the police of the character of the house, they made themselves scarce and had not treasurer. come back to release me, before my

father and the police came." "They have not been seen," replied Mr. Martin, and will probably never exclaimed the bank official. be seen here again. As near as I can make out they took the child hoping er with a relieved look. for a great reward. When I offered \$1.000 they evidently thought some of X. Q. Martin." time to get more, as they knew me to be very wealthy. They had never been

who is intimately connected with your a boy to be a friend of his." clergyman friend, who is a notorious, ing to get the reward very soon, as of such an unusual proceeding. they brought the child back to the

city." "I should have thought they would they found I was gone," said Ned.

"They fastened the door leading to it as well as my own." went with him on board the it best not to take her out until they continued Mr. Jackson. "I believe L see through "I believe L see through

is the money genuine?" asked Mrs. sorrow had wrought in the once beau- Jeckson, as she remembered an article few cords of hoop poles and spoonshe had just been reading of methods bunt sticks. Call at once on

"Have you any idea what Ned went farm. He had taken pains to learn snarper, it has knocked some of the to Portland for anyway, asked Mrs. just what was wanted in poles and

"No. I have been greatly puzzled tions to his men so that they fully over the matter, he never asked to go understood just what to do But Ned Ned wondered also at the change he away before, but there must always be found he could do but little work himsaw in the little girl. There was the a first time," replied Ned's father. "It is not possible that this money his men. feature, but the frightened and care- is poor and that Ned's ambition has worn expression were gone, and her led him to answer in person one of farmers who were willing to cut a

with delight Her ragged and solled dence men and sharpers," said Mrs. this left Ned \$5 per car profit

possible that such a change could be is honor bright in all he does, and was also looking after the men who Ned stayed to tea, and such a table besides this letter is from some one purchased. From his own lot he had he never sat down to before, he had else, and speaks of Ned's refusing what six car loads of spoonhunt sticks, in parents. He was unusualy uncom-

> "But," said his mother, "how could also found seven loads delivered by this belong to him. He has not \$500 neighboring farmers.

"I can't guess what it means," said and Ned's merchandise was on the his father There is the savings bank way to Portland. Ned informed the "I go home to-morrow," said Ned. | treasurer now! I will call him in." That official came as called.

"Are these bills genuine?" asked Mr. sticks to him, that he would pay one of his great problems," said Mr. Jack-"So I expected when I came," but Jackson, when his guest was seated. week from that day which was satis- son, "did you notice how intently he you have helped me to dispose of my As good as gold." responded the factory to all concerned.

"You are sure of the genuineness?" went home to figure up his specula- about," replied Mrs. Jackson. pressed Mr. Jackson.

Certainly, I will receive them on deposit at the bank," replied the treas-

"Has Ned drawn any of his money Bay, and let him see what the salt wa- from the bank of late?" queried his father.

"He has never drawn a cent since he began his deposit, replied the bank officer, and he then added. "That is a remarkable fine boy of yours. I un-"Now I must thank you, little girl, derstood he took a business trip to

"We are much puzzled over an ex-If it had not been for your letter let press package received this morning," down by that string, I should have replied Mr. Jackson, "I wish your been a victim of sharpers. Did they opinion of the matter. Ned left on Monday, and we have received a let-"I do not know," said the girl, "they ter saying he was well and stopping found you were gone about midnight; at a hotel. He made no mention of there was quite an excitement in the anything unusual, and to-day I get

The treasurer did so.

"Well Ned is a lucky boy," said the the result to his father.

Ned's father anxiously.

"Think, why I know it is all right!" "How do you know?" said the moth-

"Who is he?" asked Mr. Jackson. "He is one of the most wealthy citable to safely return the child, and get izens and bank officials in Fortland, even that reward. It seems that the and is known almost ever where for Ned?" queried Mr. Jackson. child has been away from the city un- his philanthrophy, honesty and intelli- said the poles and sticks were only a til recently, in charge of that woman, gence. It is worth a small fortune for part of your object "

"How do you account for his sending thief and confidence man, as you al- us this money for Ned, asked his ready know. I think they were intend- mother, still in doubt ovc: the right

"I do not know. I could not guess. responded the bank treasurer. "It is Ned. all right, however. if Mr. Martin has have taken the child with them after anything to do with it, and there is field?" inquired his father. no doubt about his signature, I know

"It beats anything I ever heard of,"

Several men to cut brush. Also a after they had taken a hasty glance out and wended their way to the hotel.

Ned Jackson

it was a dull time just then, and at two persons." said Ned to himself, as "The money looks all right," said the end of the first day Ned had en- he watched them go toward the hotel. gaged ten men to work on his new sticks and was able to give instrucself as it took the whole time to direct

> Ned's advertisement brought a few building or its surroundings

Within a week Ned had his field "ishaw," said Mr Jackson, "Ned cleared, and was loading his cars, and would not be fooled into wrong doing, were delivering that which he had addition to all his hoop poles. He

> dropped his knife and fork, gave a prolonged whistle and left the table and The freight was all loaded at last, the house. Mrs Jackson to her husband men who had worked for him and those who had sold poles and was thinking during supper time?"

After the train was fairly off Ned | tion, which read as follows: New Farm Account.

Cr. Six car loads of spoon-\$12000 of the two strangers, but he did dehunt-sticks @ 26 .... 5000 sire to know where they roomed. To hoop poles ..... To five cord saleable wood @ 4 .. .. ..

2000 "that is good, I will see now what I can find out." \$190.00 He glanced into the dining-room and Dr. By ten men's labor noticed that the two were still eating 5 days @ \$1 .. .. \$50 their supper. Teaming to depot .. 20

70 00 \$120 00 , In Account With Neighbors. Profit on 7 car loads of spoonhunts .. .. .. \$35

Profit on hoop poles purchased ..... 20 5500 \$175 00

"That was worth going to Portland said Ned, "and I may get into a scrape for, was it not?" said Ned, showing by doing it, but the end, will justify the means. If my suspicions are true "I should say so," replied Mr. Jackthere is too much at stake for scruples. "Do you think it is all right!" said son, "and then there was \$1,000 be-Perhaps I ought to tell some one at

sides." "Had I ought to take that, do you tion on my part I should be the laughthink, father?" queried Ned. ing stock, so here goes."

'Under the circumstances I think with our bank treasurer that it would "I know it by the familiar signature be rudeness to refuse it now."

'I do not feel half as interested in the \$1,000 as I do in the \$175 actually, room below and passing into a chimearned in my trip." said Ned. "But what did you buy the land for.

"You fire below. "Year after next," responded Ned, "is my year of triumph."

'What do you mean by that?" asked Mr. Jackson. "My seedling potatoes will be the

rage in the market at that time," said "What has that to do with this

'Potatoes always do best on new

land, and the more soddy the land the trumpet from below. What is said in better they do," replied Ned. front of the stove will come up through "I think I see your point," said Mr.

the pipe, and can be heard almost as "I believe I see through the matter." Jackson. "You will not only have a well as if in the room."

place.'

"You are right, as usual," responded the treasurer, "are you sure no movethe two faces a study He suddenly ment will be made to-night?"

"Perfectly sure," said Ned. "How many men will be present, do you think?" asked the official.

"What is the matter with Ned," said "Three peside the man here now dressed in female clothes," replied "I guess he has worked out another Ned. The woman dressed as a man will go to Portland in the morning, as I understood it. She carries some messages to some of their pals and "Yes, he hardly knew what he was will be the receiver of the stolen goods. Her associate only goes a Ned went at once down to the hotel short distance out of town before he and made an examination of the regisleaves the cars to await the arrival of ter. He cared nothing for the names the other cracksmen.

"You have done a good job, Ned," said the official. "The bank owes you a world of gratitude. Come we must go awaken the bank president and confer with him; while I am dressing, Ned, run and awake the sheriff, and tell him to go quietly to the president's house where we will meet him.

Ned did as requested, and a conference was held and plans laid for the raid on the coming night.

barn, hastened up the stairway, passed It was decided that only a few into the grain chamber, where he had should be let into the proposed plan. been several times before, in play at Trusty men were let into the bank one "hide and go seek." He remembered by one in the afternoon, and conabout a little door that he had seen cealed; men were also to be concealed several times, which led into a dark in the houses each side of the bank all heavily armed, so that there could be no possibility of the burglars escaping. Long before daylight the plans were perfected, and Ned went home. Before he did so, he asked permission to send at once a telegram to Portland.

> 'What for," said the bank official. "I wish that woman arrested as soon as she reaches Portland."

"But the burglary has not been committed yet," said the official, who repart of it, and Ned was obliged to move very carefully. There was a membered Ned's protest early in the evening. stove funnel extending up from the

"I know that, but she can now be held on two charges at least," said Ned. "we may need her before these men are brought to trial."

to appear in men's clothes, and she un-

doubtedly aided in kidnapping Mr.

Martin's child. He is anxious for her

arrest, in fact, I shall never be satis-

fied to keep that \$1.000 unless the one

who stole the child is arrested and

To be continued.

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locked up.

"On what charge could she be held," queried the treasurer?" It is contrary to law for a woman

