BY POBERT BARR.

- The Robbery In the Sleeping Car

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Jennie had promised Professor Seigfried not to communicate with the director of police, and she now wondered whether she would be breaking her word or not if she let that official know the result of her investigation when it could make no difference, one way or the other, to the professor. If Professor Seigfried could have foreseen his own sudden death, would he not, she asked herself, have preferred to make public all she knew of him. for had he not constantly reiterated that fame, and the consequent transmission of his name to posterity, was what he worked for! Then there was this consideration-if the chief of police was not told how the explosion had been caused, his fruitless search would go futilely on, and doubtless, in the course of police inquiry, many innocent persons would be arrested, put to inconvenience and expense, and there was even a chance that one or more who had absolutely nothing to do with the affair might be imprisoned for life. She resolved, therefore, to tell the director of the police all she knew, which she would not have done had Professor Seigfried been alive. She accordingly sent a messenger for the great official, and just as she had begun to relate to the impatient princees what had hap-, aned he was announced. The three of them held convention in Jennie's drawing room with locked doors.

"I am in a position," began Jennie, "to tell you how the explosion in the treasury was caused and who caused it, but before doing so you must promise to grant me two favors, each of which is in your power to bestow without inconvenience."

"What are they ?" asked the director of police cautiously.

"To tell what they are is to tell part of my story. You must first promise blindly and afterward keep your promise faithfully.'

"Those are rather unusual terms, Miss Baxter, " said the chief, "but I accede to them, the more willingly as we have found that all the gold is still in the treasury, as you said it was."

"Very well, then, the first favor is that I shall not be called to give testimony when an inquest is held on the body of Professor Carl Seigfried."

"You sinaze me!" cried the director. "How did you know he was dead? I had news of it only a moment before I left my office."

"I was with him when he died," said Jennie simply, which statement drew forth an exclamation of surprise from

without being able to demonstrate prac- that such a document will shortly be in tically the truth of the assertions made | transit. Nothing may come of it, or the article would have been laughed at. great things may come of it. New, on If some years ago a newspaper had the night of the 21st, on one of the stated that a man in York listened to sideping cars leaving St. Petersburg by the voice of a friend, at that moment | the Nord express for Berlin, there will standing in London, and was not only | travel a special messenger having this able to hear what his friend said, but letter in his possession. I want you to could actually recognize the voice speaking in an ordinary tone, and then if the cure a compartment near the messanger, paper had added that, unfortunately, if possible. This messenger will be a the instrument which accomplished this | man in whom the respective parties to had been destroyed, people would have the negotiation have implicit confispoken of the sensational nature of modern journalism.

Letters poured in upon the editor, saying that, while, as a general thing, the writers were willing to stand the ordinary lies of commerce daily printed credulity, and that they objected to be taken for driveling imbeciles. To comlished a semiofficial statement which Reuter and the special correspondents scattered broadcast over the earth. The statement was written in that calm, serious and consistent tone which diplomatists use when uttering a falsehood of more than ordinary dimensions.

Irresponsible rumors had been floating about (the official proclamation began) to the effect that there had been an explosion in the treasury at Vienna. It had been stated that a large quantity of gold had been stolen, and that a disaster of some kind had occurred in the treasury vaults. Then a ridiculous story had been printed which asserted that Professor Seigfried, one of Austria's honored dead, had in some manner that savored of the black art encompassed this wholesale destruction. The govern-

been stolen out of the treasury; second, within its bolted doors; fourth, the coins were not, as had been alleged, those belonging to various countries, which was a covert intimation that Austria had hostile intent against one or the other of those friendly nations (the whole coinage in this so called

war chest, which was not a war chest at all, but merely the receptacle of a reserve fund which Austria possessed, was entirely in Austrian coinage); fifth, in order that these sensational and disquieting scandals should be set at rest. the government announced that it intended to weigh this gold upon a cer-

tain date, and it invited representatives of the press from Russia, Germany, France and England to witness this weighing.

tion had taken place in Vienna long for generally I manage to get the news legraphic accounts of it appeared in | I am in quest of; but in several inthe English press, and several solemn stances, owing to his opposition, I have leading articles were put forward in the not only not got the news, but other paeditorial columns, which, without mentioning the name of The Daily Bugle, deplored the voracity of the sensational business, quite aside from the fact that! editor, who respected neither the amity we published the exact truth, this stupid, which should exist between friendly nations nor the good name of the honored ' self to be exceedingly sneering and oband respected dead in his wolfish hunt norious to me, and I confess I want to for the daily scandal. Nothing was too take him down a peg. He hasn't any high spiced or improbable for him to idea that I know as much about this print. He traded on the supposed gulli- business as I do-in fact, he thinks it ly, in the long run, these staid sheets could tomorrow nullify all the arrangeasserted, such actions recoiled upon the ments by simply publishing what is al-Sensational journals merited and re- on my part would create a furore in this ceived the scathing contempt of all country, and no less a furore in Russia. honest men. Later on one of the re- For the sake of amity between nations, please." views had an article entitled "Some

would be to cast an undeserved slight tirely unofficial; neither government is upon the intelligence of the British pub- supposed to know anything at all about lic. No one paused to think that if a it. As a matter of fact, the Russian newspaper had published an account of government has a suspicion and the what could be done by Roentgen rays British government has a certainty take nassage by that same train and sedence. I wish I knew his name, but I don't. Still, the chances are that he is leaving London for St. Petersburg about this time, and so you might keep your eyes open even on the journey there, for if you discovered him to be your in the sheet, there was a limit to their | fellow passenger it might perhaps make the business that comes after easier. You see this envelope," said the editor, plete the discomfiture of The Daily taking from a drawer in his desk a Bugle the government of Austria pub- large envelope, the flap of which was secured by a great piece of stamped sealing wax. "This envelope contains a humble ordinary copy of today's issue of The Daily Bugle, but in outside appearance it might be taken for a duplicate of the letter which is to leave St. Petersburg on the 21st. Now, what I would like you to do is to take this envelope in your hand bag, and if on the journey back to London you have an opportunity of securing the real letter and leaving this in its place you will have accomplished the greatest service

you have yet done for the paper." "Oh!" cried Jennie, rising. couldn't do that. Mr. Hardwick! I couldn't think of doing it. It is nothing short of highway robbery!'

"I know it looks like that," pleaded Mr. Hardwick, "but listen to me. If I ment then begged to make the following were going to open the letter and use declarations: First, not a penny had its contents, then you might charge me with instigating theft. The fact is, the the war chest was intact; third, the letter will not be delayed; it will reach 200,000,000 florins reposed securely the hands of the high and mighty personage in England quite intact. The only difference is that you will be its bearer instead of the messenger they send for it.'

"You expect to open the letter, then, in some surrentitions way-some way that will not be noticed afterward? Oh, I couldn't do it, Mr. Hardwick!"

"My dear girl, you are jumping at conclusions. I shall amaze you when I tell you that I know already practically what the contents of that letter are.

"Then what is the use of going to all this expense and trouble trying to steal it ?''

"Don't say 'steal it.' Miss Banter. I'll tell you what my motive is. There is an official in England who has gone out of his way to throw obstacles in . The day after this troy weight func- mine. This is needless and irritating,

all Econores is ordinate circum she would have enjoyed a visit to St. Petersburg, but she was afraid to venture out, being under the approhension that at any moment she might meet Lord Donal Stirling face to face and that he would recognize her. Therefore she remained discreetly in her room, watching the strange street scenes from her window. She found herself scrutinizing every one who had the appearance of being an Englishman, and she had bo confess to a little qualm of disappoint. ment when the person in question turned out not to be Lord Donal; in fact, during her short stay at St. Petersburg she saw nothing of the young man.

Jennie went, on the evening of her arrival, to the offices of the sleeping car company, so as to secure a place in one of the carriages that left at 6 o'clock on the evening of the 21st. Her initial difficulty met her when she learned there were several sleeping cars on that train, and she was puzzled to know which to select. She stood there, heaitating, with the plans of the carriages before her.

"I should like to be in a carriage containing some English people," said the girl, not knowing what excuse to give for her hesitation.

"Then let me recommend this cir, for one berth has been taken by the British embasay-room C, near the center, marked with a cross.'

"Ah, well, I will take this compartment next to it-room D, isn't it?" said Jennie.

"Oh, I am sorry to say that also has been taken! Those are the two compartments which are bespoken. I will see under what name it has been booked. Probably its occupant is English also. But I can give you room B on the other side of the one reserved by the embassy. It is a two berth room, Nos. 5 and 6.'

"That will do quite as well," said Jennie.

"It is not recorded here by whom room D was booked. As a usual thing, ' he continued, lowering his voice almost to a whisper and looking furtively over his shoulder, "when no name is marked down that means the Russian police. So, you see, by taking the third room you will not only be under the shadow of the British embassy, but also under



Mative to him "When did you changed his goon T with the mit volce. "Only this afternoon." replied the

conductor, w "Did you bore holes bet ween that and the adjoining compariment?"

"Yes, your excellency ; but Asof did and Januals went not tell me whether you wanted the other voice sayin fra holes at the top or the bottom."

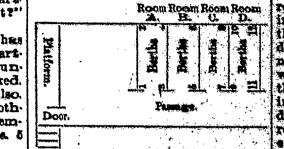
the Russian. "Any fool sight bart "This way arcallency," known that. Thegas must rist, not fall Juctor. Every one second then when he feels its effect and tum cellency with bian bles down he will be in a denser layer A moment later Jennis of it, whereas if we part it in at the again risen to her such as

cape. You did not hore the hole over She stood there for a few moment the top berth. I hopet" with excitement, then between her "Yes, excellency; but I bored one at self of the hole between her

the bottom also,"

English do is to open a window." "The window is scourely fastened Then the noticed there had been

giass." until it is too latet The English area brightly, and the could not every a law abiding people. How many other of the compariment except toward passengers are there in the car ?" floor. As the gased a man's back alo



PLAN OF BLEEPING CAR.

that room B has been taken by an Eng- was not the one who had spokes to lish lady, who is there now !"

you not any that before the mur that Jennie could not distinguish which closed over the semicir the words. A moment later there was a lamp like an aveild, kept ever, I 'rap at her door, and she had presence of light from penetrating into the mind enough to get in the farther cor. periment.

ner and say in a sleepy volce: "Come in it"

The conductor opened the door, "Votre billet, s'il vous plait, may Then there was a sound of a ba d**a 1**me. ''

"Can't you speak English ?" asked finng open, the head of the first H Jennie.

The conductor marely repeated his language a sipric graff word question, and as Jonnie, was shaking sistant then jurned the cost and her head the big Russian looked over of the gas from the cylinder. The the conductor's shoulder and said in of room B was instantly share passable English:

"He is asking for your ticket, ma as room A was being unlocked dame. Do you not speak French !! In answer to the direct question Jennie, fumbling in her purse for her tick- noise as she could slid her date ets, replied "I speak English, and I have already

solutions. The b CONTRACTOR AND ADDRESS

"At the bottom, of course," replied and of the car is that " top and he fell down he would come know that after all the ment into pure air and so might make his ei come, heard the door of his re

compartment and the one she will "Oh, very well! We can easily stop cently latt. She sprang ap on the the one at the top. Have you fastened and placing her eys with some call the window? For the first thing these at the hole, perced through. First thought the compariment was a your excellency, uples he breaks the at the end by the windows some a der that reached mearly to the ceilin

"Oh, he will not think of doing that the room. The lamp above was her

ross. He appeared to have been in ing on the floor, and he held in his her the loop of a rubber tube. Peeri downward, she saw that it was some nected with the cylinder and the was undoubtedly pouring wheters in the cylinder contained through the prointo room A. For a moment abe difficulty in repressing a shrink of realising how perfectly helplose she w even if she gave the sharm, she represe all exclamation. - She saw that the "Oh, I forgot to tell you, excellency, who was regulating the second of

conductor, Then, fearing that he m "Ten thousand devila!" cried the turn his head and see her are at Russian in a hoarse whisper. "Why did small aperture, she reached up and a The volces now fell to so low a man- complete darkness. The double covering

> As Jennie turned to her again she heard a blow given a door in room A that made it die on the floor. The door of room was thrust in; and he spoke in his se and Jempie heard the pattle of

Januie jumped down from shrew off her hat, and we Inch or two. The conductor locked the door of months Rumian standing. be "Never mind the man ! He the moment you open the dear h dow. Get the board Hold your a

both the princess and the director. "My next request is that you destroy utterly a machine which stands on a table near the center of the professor's room. Perhaps the instrument is already disabled -I believe it is-but nevertheless I shall not rest content until you have seen that every vestige of it is made away with, because the study of what is left of it may enable some other scientist to put it in working order again. I entreat you to attend to this matter yourself. I will go with you, if you wish me to, and point out the instrument in case it has been moved from its position.

"The room is sealed up," said the director, "and nothing will be touched until I arrive there. What is the nature of this instrument?"

"It is of a nature so deadly and destructive that if it got into the hands of an anarchist he could alone lay the city of Vienna in ruins."

"Good heavens!" cried the horrified official, whose bane was the anarchists, and Jennie, in mentioning this particular type of criminals, had builded better than she knew. If she had told him that the professor's invention might enable Austria to conquer all the surrounding nations, there is every chance that the machine would have been carefully preserved.

"The explosion in the treasury vaults," continued Jennie, "was accidentally caused by that instrument, although the machine at the moment was in a garret half a mile away. You saw the terrible effect of that explosion. Imagine, then, the destruction it would cause in the hands of one of those anarchists.'

"I shall destroy the instrument with my own hands," asserted the director fervently, mopping his pallid brow.

Jennie then went on, to the increasing astonishment of the princess and the director, and related every detail of her interview with the late Professor Carl Seigfried.

"I shall go at once and annihilate that machine," said the director, rising when the recital had been finished. "I shall see to that myself. Then, after the inquest, I shall give an order that evervthing in the attic is to be destroyed. I wish all the scientists on the face of the earth could be safely placed behind prison bars."

"I am afraid that wouldn't do much good," said Jennie, "unless you could prevent chemicals being smuggled in. The scientists would probably reduce your prison to powder and walk calmly out through the dust."

Mr. Hardwick had told Jennie that if she solved the Vienna mystery she would make a European reputation for The Daily Bugle. Jennie did more than was expected of her, yet the European reputation which The Bugle established was not one to be envied. It is true that the account printed of the cause of the explosion, dramatically finished off with the professor's tragical sudden death. caused a great sensation in London. The comic papers of the week were full of illustrations showing the uses to which the professor's instrument might be put. To say that any same man in Ingland believed a word of the article

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Aspects of Modern Journalism." which hold my hand. struck the head of The Daily Bugle with a sledge hammer, and in one of the quarterlies a professor at Cambridge

"I swear," cried Mr. Hardwick, as he paced up and down his room. "that thing to meddle with. If you tell the truth about a man, you are mulcted in a libel suit, and if you tell the truth about a nation the united press of the country is down upon you. Ah, well, it makes the battle of life all the more interesting, and we are baffled to fight better, as Browning says!"

The editor had sent for Miss Baxter, and she now sat by his desk while he paced up and down the floor. The doors were closed and locked so that they might not be interrupted, and she knew by the editor's manner that something important was on hand. Jennie had returned to London after a month's stay locked safely within a dispatch box to do so. The conductor seemed somein Vienna and had been occupied for a week at her old routine work in the office.

"Now. Miss Baxter," said the editor, when he had proclaimed his fear of the truth as a workable material in journalism, "I have a plan to set before you, quite prepared to hear you refuse to have anything to do with it, and, remember, if you do undertake it, there to The Bugle will be lasting. It will is but one chance in a million of your succeeding. It is on that one chance that I propose now to send you to St. Petersburg''---

"To St. Petersburg!" echoed the girl in dismay.

"Yes," said the editor, mistaking the purport of her ejaculation. "It is a very long journey, but you can travel in great comfort, and I want you to spare | failure. In everything else I have enno expense in obtaining for yourself any luxury that travel can afford during your journey to St. Petersburg and back.

"And what am I to go to St. Peters burg for?" murmured Jennie faintly.

"Merely for a letter. Here is what has happened and what is happening: I shall mention no names, but at present a high and mighty personage in Russia who is friendly to Great Britain has written a private letter making some proposals to a certain high and mighty personage in England who is friendly to Russia. This communication is en-

pers have. Now, since the general raking we have had over this Austrian old official duffer has taken it upon himbility of a fickle public. But, fortunate- is an absolute secret-yet, if I liked. I head of him who promulgated them. ready in my possession, which action which I am accused of disregarding, I "Now, if you get possession of that

envelope I want you to telegraph to me while you are en route to London, and of the special messenger that they conshowed the absurdity of the alleged in- I will meet you at the terminus. Then I sidered it necessary to protect him to vention from a scientific point of view. | shall take the document direct to this official, even before the regular messenger has time to reach him. I shall say I shall be more careful after this in the to the official: 'There is the document handling of the truth. It is a dangerous from the high personage in Russia to would her mission become indeed imthe high personage in England. If you possible. On the other hand, the ill paid want the document, I will give it to you, but it must be understood that you fluence of money, and as she was well are to be a little less friendly to certain supplied with the coin of the realizing newspapers and a little more friendly their presence might be a help rather to mine in future."

"And suppose he refuses your terms?" I shall hand him the envelope just the same.

"Well, honestly, Mr. Hardwick, I to the editor, if failure came it would don't think your scheme worth the amount of money it will cost, and, besides, the chance of my getting hold of the document, which will doubtless be sleeping car as soon as she was allowed and constantly under the eye of the what flustered at her anxiety to get to messenger, is most remote.'

"I am more than willing to risk all that if you will undertake the journey. You speak lightly of my scheme, but that is merely because you do not understand the situation. Everything you and when you know what it is I am have heretofore done has been of tem. made to accommodate two persons. When porary advantage to the paper, but if you carry this off I expect the benefit that I have never before succeeded in get a better ides of her surroundings. getting. In the first place, it will make a powerful lever when we are trying to get information which they are anxious to give to some other paper."

"Very well, Mr. Hardwick; I will try, but I warn you to expect nothing but success from the beginning. In this instance I am as sure I shall fail."

"As I told you, Miss Baxter, the project is so difficult that your failure, if you do fail, will merely prove it to have been impossible, because I am sure that if any one on earth could carry it out you are that person, and, furthermore, I am very much obliged to you for consenting to attempt such a mission."*

found herself in due time in the great- An instant later the two men came in. capital of the north, with a room in the speaking together in French. The larger

"Room C is the one that has been reserved for you.

the protection of Russia. Do you wish one berth only or the whole room ! It is a two berth compartment."

"I desire the whole room, if you

She paid the price and departed, wondering if the other room had really been taken by the police and whether the anthorities were so anxious for the safety the frontier. If, in addition to the natural precautions of the messenger, there was added the watchininess of one or two suspicious Russian policemen, then policemen might be amenable to the inthan a hindrance. All in all, she had little liking for the task she had under-"He won't refuse them ; but if he does taken, and the more she thought of it the less it commended itself to her. Nevertheless, having pledged her word be through no fault of hers.

Jennie went early to the station on the night of the 21st and entered the her room, and he examined her ticket with great care. Then, telling her to follow him, he took her to room B, in which were situated berths 5 and 6, upper and lower. The berths were not made up, and the room showed one seat, again, and Jennie, finding herself alone.

be gazing anxiously toward the direction from which passengers streamed, as belted round him, with a stern bearded face-looking, the girl thought, typically Russian-strode up to the conductor, of thesistion. The train was in motion and spoke carnestly with him. Then the two turned to the steps of . the car, and Jennie fled to her narrow little room. And thus it was that Jennie Baxter closing the door all bui about an inch-Hotel de l'Europe overlooking the Nev. had a gruff voice and spoke the las-

shown him my ticket," She handed her broad sheet sleeping a whisper-.car ticket to the Ruman, who had pushed the conductor axide and now stood

within the compartment. "There has been a mistake," he said. "There has been amistake," he said: your fingers and heep your and "Room O is the one that has been re There is is that black how?" served for you." bet.

"I am sure there in't may mistake," said Jennie. **I booked berths 5 and 6 See, there are the mumbers"-pointing to the metallic plates by the door --- 'and here are the same numbers on the tick-

The Russian shook his head. "The mistake has been made at the

office of the sleeping car company. I ana a director of the company." "'Oh, are you !! maked Jennie inno-

cently. "Is room O as comfortable as this one 2". "It is a duplicate of this one ma-

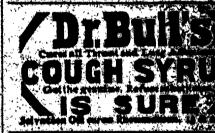
dame, and is more comfortable because it is nearer the center of the car."

"Well, there is no mistake about my reserving the two berths, is there?" * * Oh, no, madamet. The room is m.

tirely at your disposal." "Oh, well, then, in that case." and Jennie, "I have no objection to making

a change. She knew that she would be compel-led to change, no matter what her ticket recorded, so she thought it best to play the simple maider abroad and make as little fuse as possible about the transfer. She had to rearrange the car in her mind. She was now in room C. which had been first reserved by the Britan embassy. If was evident that at the last moment the messenger had decided to take room A.a. four Derth room at the end of the car. The police then would occupy room B, which she had first engaged, and from the bit of conversation she had overheard Jennie was convinced that they intended to kill or render insensible the measurger who bore the important letter. The police were not to project, but to attack The amazing complication in the plot con-centrated all the girl's sympathics on the unfortunate man who was messenger between two great personages even conductor went out on the platform though be traveled apparently under the protection of the British embasy at to The Bugle will be lasting. It will in the carriage, walked up and down St. Petersburg. The fact, koput it bald-give me a standing with certain officials the narrow passageway at the side to 1y, that she had intended to sob bim herself if opportunity occurred rose Room C, next to her own, was the before her like an accusing ghost them afraid of me, and that of itself is one taken by the British embany. shall never undertake any thing like this Room D, still farther on, was the one again" she cried to herself, "never that appeared to have been retained by never!" And now an reactived to make the police. She stood for a few moments reperation to the man she had intended by the broad plate glass window that to injure. She would watch for him lined the passage and looked out at the until he came down the passage and failure. In everything else I have en crowded platform. For a time she then warn him by relating what are desvored to do I have felt confident of watched the conductor, who seemed to had heard. She had there of her sai when she entered the room. Now abe put it on Anreledly thrasting a long if looking for home one in particular, pin through it. As she stood up there Fresently a big man, a huge overcost was a joit of the train that caused ber to all down again somewhat hurriedly. Passing, her window she saw the light

Tribe entitiened.



moortant Letter ... Utica. N.

THICK

To U. S. Army and Nay No. 17 East 14th 6 at longen - My wife Gentlet

number of years with a most of the lines says but. I trust different wary blac of speedles Ittle or to results, mittle of mines recommended and Almost in despete buby with left. I purchased a jour of and Navy Tablets, and loc They had an instruction change for the better, was once, and I am happy to reimprovementsincellen have a wonderful remedy TOMALE

ory preatfull

SHEN Cannet an in the last by: the line is

BEAR STREET

"Think heaven!" she cried fervestly "He is soo late! Those plotting villaring will have all their trouble for bothing." Ship denied upwervi covert he will high and holiced a sold about an upwers diameter - when on the birs trooping and hillon between we comparison when the

