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THE WINNING OF A WAGER AND A WIFE

"What I can't make out is why amarter men don't go into the burglasy business," remarked Jock Lanister looking up from the perusal of his evening paper. "The average thief is an idiot, an absolute bungler."

"I expect the smart men find they can do better in other walks of life," suggested Lyle Stanford with a laugh. "You see, their occasions of periodical forced retirement from business must reduce the profits considerably."

"That's just my point," broke in Jock, eagerly. "With smart men the chances of forced retirement would



"Talk about ourselves." be small. They wouldn't botch the whole affair by leaving tracks as these chaps always do. Look at this

"You are like the man who sits in the stalls and tells his admiring females that lion taming is quite easy -no risk," laughed Stanford.

"Bet you 10 to 1 I'd carry one through and not get caught," mapped Jock deflantly.

'Done," shouted Stanford, "and you may as well write out your theck. I'm going to catch the 5.15 to Oxford. Come to lunch to morrow and I'll introduce you to my wife, so that you do not scare her if you are seen."

"Right you are," agreed Jock. "What time lunch?"

"One-thirty. You will have to sharpen up your wits, for you'll find it a tough bit of work to get into \$ St. Anne terrace. We use all the modern safeguards.

Some two hours later a cab drove up to 5 St. Anne terrace, and a decldedly smart young man announced himself to the servant as Mr. Archibald Rumble.

"So delighted to meet you," said Mrs. Stanford, coming forward with outstretched hands, "but I am so sorry Lyle is away for the night. I suppose it is one of his stupid mistakes. He thought you were to arrive to-morrow."

Perhaps the mistake is mine. If it is at all incon-"

"Oh, no, no. If you won't be bored with my sister and myself, we shall be very glad the mistake has been made," broke in Mrs. Stanford. "We are feeling dreadfully lonely."

"Do you know," continued Mrs. Manford. "we are awfully glad you are here. We've had such a queer legram from Lyle."
"I am gled I am here too," said telegram from Lyle."

Jock, looking at her sister with undisguised admiration and wondering. 'Oh, but we are not paying com-

pliments, Mr. Rumble," protested Miss Netta. "We are serious." "Not more serious than I am." insisted Jock. "But might I ask what

this wire is about." Mrs. Stanford handed him the

telegram, which ran: "Have reason to believe burgiari. are in neighborhood. Take every precaution; inform police; see that

alarms are set at all windows and doors, and have Bully Boy round the bag he was greeted eagerly by from the stables.". "Humph!" said Jock, suppressing

a smile. "Very thoughtful of Lyle, not have the table laid until you arespecially about the dog. I suppose It is a bit feroclous?" "Lyle says he isn't except to bur-

glars, but I am sure he looks as if he is." sighed Mrs. Stanford. "Nette" and I are dreadfully affaid of him?"

what I imagined you would be, not a adventures.

The the description Milly gave You didn't steal it, though it me," said Netta.

Who the deuce was Milly? Jock. confidently. "Well, I don't know-just a little

bit perhaps." "Oh, I say," said the disconcerted Jock, startled out of his complecent salisfaction, "that's awfelly rough on me getting preconceived ideas I

THE WEST "But you're better than I expected you would be," said Netta with a lauch, " ever so much better. I believe I should have hated you if you had been as Milly described you She said you talked of nothing but colebrated criminal cases, and you've meter once mentioned any of them."

"Of course not," said Jock with indignation, "I never talk of such things to ladies at night. Think of their nerves. I wait for daylight, But with a decided "No," she looked im'an injured tone, "if you want-

"I'd much rather talk about-"

"About ourselves," finished Jock, Sufer Assoyanos, Polin and Greek
awing measure to her, "Yes, so Expense Stelling Beauty drawing mearer to her. Yes, so would I." When Mrs. Stanford returned.

some time later, she felt in her match-making heart that no time had been wasted, and she was right Later on Jock and the ladies interrleved the policeman on duty. and when the servants had retired they went all over the house and saw that the modern safeguards were in good working order. When they paused in the corridor to say good night, Mrs. Stanford suddenly doubted whether the light had been turned off and disappeared. Jock concluded that she was a clever wo-

man. "Good night," said Netta softly, 'I am so glad you came."

"Are you really!" said Jock earerly seizing her hand. "I am more than glad. I-

Words failing, his feelings went into his eyes, and he was quite satished with the answering flush on Netta's cheeks as she hurriedly ford reappeared.

When he reached his room and remembered the work that was before him he felt pretty sick of the whole business.

After waiting a suitable time, he took his bag and tools and crept allently downstairs, and then started in excellently workmanlike style to pick locks and collect the silver. When he spread the plunder out on the floor and began to pack it into his bag he congratulated himself that he had not made one blunder. The next minute he was staring into the white face and flashing, scornful eyes of Netta Marshly.

"So," she said, bitterly, "you are the burglar we were to expect. You who have allowed us two womento trust you now meanly take advantage of our trust to rob us. And I thought you a gentleman-diked you -" The thought of the happenings of the evening rushed through her

mind and flooded her face with color. "Go!" she repeated, and he thoughtfully began to walk toward the door.

"You have forgotten your property-the spoils you've been working for," she said, scornfully.

"You don't mean that you'll let me take them?" he asked, in surprise.

"You shall enjoy the full benefits and risks of your evening's work." she replied. "Take them, and hope, although I'll not give you up, that the police are waiting for you Jock looked toward the silver and then back at her.

"I can't-with you here," he said, with a rueful grin "Coward as well as thief," she said, contemptuously, "You shall take them or l'il ring. If you get away there is enough to start you in an honest life. Use it for that and give up abusing the confidence of

Women." "I suppose you won't believe me," began Jock.

One hand on the bell, she pointed with the other to the door. He saw it was hopeless to try to explain, and hastily gathering the things together without a word or look he went out of the room, down the hall, into the street and the arms of a burly policeman.

"I thought there was something wrong here been watching your light through the cracks. Now, then, what have you got in that bag?" demanded the arm of the law.

Jock collapsed. The next instant Netta stood in the doorway and he hoped.

You've made a capture, cousts ble?" she asked. "We were right. then?" 《朱春文·安[》]**4**6年

"Looks like it, miss. I reckon it's your stuff in that ber." "Doubties ; Wa'd better look," she replied, and Jook ground.

The next instant she broke into hydiorical laughter

"It's all right, constable," she said. "I was only joking. Don't you recognize this gentleman. He was with us to-night—he is a friend. With a well-directed look of grati-tude, Jock caught up the bag and

disappeared. When at 1.30 the following day me arrived at St. Aspe's terrace with Lyle and Mrs. Stanford.

You dreadful man. We could rived," said the latter, laughing. "You are a fine burglar. I guess the bet's mine!" roared Lyle.

"But I got away with the swag," protested lock, trying to catch Netta's averted eye, and wondering "Do you know you are not a bit how much she had told of the night's

was a gift," laughed Lyle, "Here's Netta been offering us all her income "Are you disappointed?" asked to pay for plate she gave the burglar out of pity. House on . arearenes a

"Was it pity?" whispered Jock. getting close to her.

"No, containpt," she smapped 'I'll own up that I'm not a comand I'll give you the bot. But." with an expressive look at Netta, "I

"Oh is that how things are?" laughed Lyle, looking from one to the other. "Netta has caught the burclar with a venguence. But for all that I won't leave her to assist in looking after my house again."

"Will you look after mine in stead?" murmured Jock, shortly afterward, when he and Netta were sione; and, although she answered "Yes," and Jook was retished,...

VICTORS OF PLANTS SUBGREY.

The experience of the woman who came out of the West to have her wrinkles ironed out by a New York beauty dottor and south redress is the courts for scheno's dilure to work the miracle has hundreds of counterparts in every State of the Union.

To the one who has the courage to protest and demand her money back minely-nine swallow their charrin and say nothing, but are ready to seek the next glib congued lakir who offers to beautify them,

There recently mailed to Emgland to seal her docting at the altar with an English poer a beautiful American vidow whose bete notre had long been a thin meck full of hollows. How to face English society in decollete gowns kept her swake nights. the longues of bosom friends was

More splendid shoulders never graced woman, but also there were hollows galore. To a plastic surwithdrew her hand and Mrs. Stan- geon she confided her diemms. Daily for a week she went veiled to his laboratory. Into the pores of the skin of the offending hollows the surgoon injected hydrocarbon compound. This composition has all the ingredients of human flesh. After three weeks' assimilation it becomes wholly inseparable from the natural

The success of the operation that sent the American widow abroad rejoicing in the possession of a plump nock acquired in three weeks is not however, the expersence of all seekers of beauty by the scientific route.

A notable unsuccessful case was that of Miss Glades Deacon, whom Consuelo, the Ducken of Mariborough, launched into English society. Although Miss Descon is said to have had many royal suitors, the remark of an artist, that the beauty of her profile was marred by a depression in the nose between the eyes, sent Miss Deacon to Paris' most fa-

mous plastic surgeon. The injected conspound falled to assimilate and, pressing against the bone, it played such havoc with the tissues that a painful operation followed, with the result that original blemish was emphasized. A second operation is said, bowever, to have enhanced the perfection of Miss Deacon's nass) outline. New York

ANIMALS SELV PROTECTION. Practice Various Methods of Decel

Times.

Among marine amimals is a starfind, often called the "brittle star," which is the despair of collectors. It seems to make it a point of pride that hone of its family shall be shown in a bottle or on a maneum shelf. When taken from the water this starfish throws of its lers and also its stomach. This story is told of one collector who thought he had succeeded in coaxing a specimen into a pail, only to see it dismember itself at the last morment

W. H. Hudsom describes The death felening habits of a small South African for common on the parnipas. If caught in a trap or covertaken it collapses as if dead, and to all appears ances is dead. The deception is so well carried out that dogs are constantly taken in by it. When one withdraws a little way from a feigning for and watches him yeary attentively a slight opening of the eye

may be detected. Dogs show much the same ten dency when they lie down meekly talls jucked in, and invite a beating. Pupples are just as good at this as hardened veterant.
Some kind of beetles; many of the
wooly-vooly caterpillars which have

polsonous hairs on their backs and apprerous spiders adopt similar (action. Even the woold louse his the same trick and follow likely into A ball.

In the whole animal kingdom! anything runs away, there is always found something to run after it. The badger, which defends itself wicked ly when attacked, is often used for

balting Perhaps the commonest Instance tolse, which draws up its front piece and pulls in its head and less and defice its food by locking them out London Speciator

Punishing Crime in Chilas. in China the entire family is held responsible for the acts of any of its members and for certain offences such as an attempt on the life of the emperor, all are executed, even to the babe in arms. The tepson, or dean of the village, elected by uni versal suffrage, in responsible for the conduct of the families of his domain. The subprefect, governor and vicercy are all responsible in different degrees. An invadation and a famine are laid at the door of the constant or the piceroy, who are lister and mother to the people. About thirty years ago a mandarin Was murdered by soldfors As a resale thirty time functions in the fect, subprefects and superfutend behended and the movernor and treasurer of the province were exled.

Sulan Chiller Stall Vest The good old sedan chair is still in use in certain corners of the world. It is about the name kind of furniture that royalty mad in Cabon Elizabeth's days, Recently during the Passion, seek King Alfonso of Spain, was carried amund in a sedan chair full as the first Milles was when all the world saw high sounds at Tunkings Walls and Bith.

A TANKO COLETIFICA A Russian correspondent was talk-

ing about Riberia. In that Blumpe land he mid the strangest thing is the suicidal tendency of the Churchess. Among the Chukchess, actually, suicide is one of the most common forms of

"The Chulchess live in Northsastern Sheria. They are small and copper-colored. They dress in skins and ride reladeer. Tallow and raw kidney are their chief delicacion. "A Chukches doesn't kill himself by his own hand. He appoints his nearest relative his wife, son or daughter to do the deed. And the

delberate never rebels, never declines this and and horrible task "Innumerable are the causes of suicide—jectoury, unrequited fore, an incurable disease, melanchely, poverty and so on. I knew a man who was prosperous and apparently happy. Suddenly a desire for death selsed him, 'In'three moons,' he said, I will so home to my fathers. And he calmly settled his affairs, and at the appointed time bade his wife to knot a cold about his throat and his two mone to pull upon this cord titl he should be strangled. He died

they told me, imiliar. "The death toat, which hangs in every Churches house, has a hood; It is for use is suicide. The hood hides the facial contortions of the dying. There are Chukches familles wherein suicide is hereditary, wherein it is a point of honor for the sons to kill themselves, a satural death being regarded in such familiies an disgraceful and scandalous, a aira of the most unpardonable cowardice. The Chukehese, despite their sucidal tendency, are a happy and healthy people, moral, truthful, brave and temperate."

How He Knew It was a beautiful day, without a single cloud in the sky. The man who was buying some food in a delicalemen store remarked on the weather. on the

. "You it's fine, but it's soing to rain," replied the dealer.

"Impossible," said the customer: "I'll bet you a fror," said the dealer, "that it rains before the day is over, although L hate to take your money."

The money was put up and the Before night the rais was falling.
In torrents: The man was less the bet stopped at the delicetemen sign.

How did you know it was sound to rain!" he demanded of the w See that lot chest?" he as The outloaner saw the low bone it

"That cheet," said the storekeeper, rate in the air it beries to sweet. when rain is implement it sheds those big drops you we now. I've had it over two years and it never het pro-

phesied falsely. Never too late to learn, sighed the customer. "but sometimes a little knowledge comer high." -- Chloago Inter-Ocean

Disease and Door Knobs, The London Lanet, It is well known never loss an opportunity of "raising" the public's hear by dis-covering new and unsupported sources of infection, is after the dose Enob as a spreader of contaglous and postaglous year shoot which presents and postaglous appearance has

people let direct people con la constant de la cons foot lever instead of tape in the

The handles of the Bagish railesy concluse are closed by the Lamous are particularly lightle to primar in-coclose that cor his factor I separate the primary and the core of the factor I separate the core of the conclusion of the conclusion

on our of its mile or easp is under really proctive majorial 52 (Factive) to concluse with his hands the 11 is very probable fail 2 certain proper-tion of such diseases to contracte by this means . The hand graps on open trolley cars may be an efficiency for evil in this vey.

Romania Hontalita The Roumanian persent? and a very simple life. The principal disk at each meal is the mailer cake. Back person in his turn breaks of a small portion for himself. Besides this, rical boot of base, a size of weor nelon (/e) | ton | to a dragge o yelor (to the rece sea) is stall (est too) or yelor (to nor local at most a line of the second and the seco so limits. Than sot mes a title left for a greet " is the bittarest cor plaint a housewife can make

In my use bank depends this con try leads the world. Our deposits amounted at the Deginning of this year to \$1,660,178,511 That sum outres German mylage by \$788.



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