THE ALAMANCE GLEANER.

GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 22, 1913.

ever, "we will go through with this to

eyes, "we will go through with this to the end. And whether that slipper 'zeally fell at your feet in Bencon street or in the even less likely pre-cincts of littenhouse equare or under the windows of the Spanish embassy in Washington, I believe that you are my good knight and that you will see me so fely through this singular adven-ture."

ture." And I, Arnold Ames, but lately a student of chimneys, bent and kissed Miss Octavia's hand. She led the way to the library, where I thought it well to appear for a moment, and I was heartily glad that I did so. It was joy enough for any man that he should have carned such glances of hatred and suspicion as the sultors bent upon me. There they were, some standing, some seat-ed, about Cecilia. I bowed low from the door, feeling that to offer my hand to these gentlemen in their present

the door, feeling that to offer my hand to these gentlemen in their present temper would be too severe a strain upon their manners. As Miss Octavia appeared several of them advanced courteously and engaged her in con-versation. She found a sent and call-ed the others to her on the plea that she wished to ask them their opinion touching some matter. I believe it was a late rumor that Andree, who had gone ballooning to discover the Hyperboreans, had been heard of somewhere.

Cecilia appeared distrait, and I won

=

NO. 15

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The Semi-Weekly **Observer**

"No, I suppose I couldn't," she an-swered slowly. My powers of mendacity were im-proving, but her relief at holding the book again in her hand was so great that she would probably have believed Tues.'and Friday - 1.00

"here it is, Miss Hollister," I said, placing it in her hand without parley. "I beg to assure you that I return it just as you saw it last. Please satisfy

yourself that it has not been tampered with in any way. I have not opened it, and it has not left my hand since

recovered it." She had almost snatched it from me, and she turued slightly away and ran hurriedly over the leaves. "I' thank you, Mr. Ames. Thank you! thank you? You have rendered as the greatest service and 1 been

me the greatest service, and I hop

that she would probably have believed anything. "You see," she said, clasping the book tight, "this was given me for a particular purpose, and it contains a memorandum of greatest importance. And I was in a panic when I found that it was gone, for my recollection of certain items I had recorded here was confused, and there was no possi-ble way of setting myself, straight, Now all is clear again. I feel that I make poor acknowledgment of your The Charlotte Daily Observer, isued Daily and Sunday is the leadi newspaper between Washington, D. C. and Atlanta, Ga. It gives all the news of North Carolina besides the complete Associated Press Service.

The Semi-Weekly Observer is on Tuesday and Friday for \$1 per year gives the reader a full report of "Tray think no more of it," I re-"Pray think no more of it," I re-plied. And at this moment Miss Hol-lister appeared and called us to breakthe week's news. The leading Semi-Weekly of the State. Address all orders to

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CHARLOTTE, N. C.

inster appeared and called us to break-fast. "If it is perfectly agreeable to you, Arnold, I will hear the story of the finding of the ghost at 4 o'clock, or just before tea. I have sent a tele-gram to Mr. Pepperton asking him to be present. He's at his country home in Redding and can very easily motor down. As no motors are allowed on my premises, he shall be met at the gate with a trap." LIVES OF CHRISTIAN MINISTERS "You have sent for Pepperton!"

exclaimed. "That is exactly what I have done, and as he knows that I never accept apologies under any circumstances he will not disappoint me. In addition to reprinanding him for not telling me of the screet passage in this house. I have another matter that concerns you, Arnold, which I wish to lay be-fore him. The new cook that Provi-dence sent to my titchen vesterale it. This book, entitled as above, contains over 200 memoirs of Ministers in the Christian "Church with historical references. An interesting volume-nicely printed and bound. Price per copy: you, Arnoid, which I wind to my ou-fore him. The new cook that Provi-dence sent to my kitchen yesterday is the best we have had. Cecilia, and I beg that you both induige yourselves in a second helping of country scramcloth, \$2.00; gilt top, \$2.50. By mail 20c extra. Orders may be sent to

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All was over in a moment. In the mildst of the panic the lantern winked out, and instantly Hezekiah was beme the greatest service, and 1 hope you were able to do so without serious inconvenience to yourself." "On the other hand, it was the small-est matter, and instead of being a trouble I found the greatest pleasure in recovering it. Is it not possible that in throwing rejected correspond-ence cards into the waste paper basket that simds beside your desk-there is such a basket, is there not?" "Yes," she replied breathlessly. "Is it not possible, then, that that life-"For losing my slipper? I thought Cinderella had made that respectable." She placed her hand on my shoulder, lifted her foot and drew the pump on with a single tug. dde me. "Skip!" she commanded in a whis-"Skip!" she commanded in a whis-per, and, catching my hand, she led me off at a brist: true, When we had gone a dozen rods, she pansed. We heard voices from the stile, where the gentleme were still engaged in disen-tangling theffselves, and then the planks boomed to their steps as they crossed. They talked loudly among themselves, discussing the cause of their discomfuture. The lantern, I may add, had been knocked off the stille by the thoughtful flexekinh, when she blew out the light. "Ob, she had thoughts too dark to express. You probably heard what we said. It was she who found the slip-"Is it not possible, then, that that lit-tle booklet, hardly heavier than paper fiself, may have been brushed off with-out your seeing it?" "It is possible, I must admit that it is possible, but"--"The well trained maid who cares for your poon seeing scenae of paper in that laugh and whisked it away jealously. "She found it and carried it to you. blew out the light. "Oh, that Hartley Wiggins! I might buye known it?" she cr ed. "Kuown what?" I asked, pricking up my ears. "That he would be afraid of a pumpkin with a candle inside of it. Did you hear that yell?" blew out the light. "The well trained maid who cares for your room, seeing scraps of paper in the basket by your desk, naturally carried it off. When I accepted your commission just night I went directly to the cellar, sought the bin into which waste paper is thrown and found among old envelopes and other litter this small trinket, which but for my promptness might have been lost fory ever." Did you hear that yell?" "Anybody would have yelled," I sug-gested. "I think I should have drop-ped dead if you'd tried it on me." "No, you wouldn't." she asserted, with unexpected flattery. "Don't be deceived. Hezekinh. I tant." The business is impor-"I regret, my dear brother, that I shull be unable to sit with you at that hour in committee of the whole, and for two reasons. The first is that I refused to take bin character and the set of the "It doesn't seem possible." she fal tered: "Oh!" I laughed easily. "Possible or impossible, you could not on the witness stand swear that the book had not dropped into the waste paper has-ket precisely as I have described?" tered. should have been scared to death if that thing had popped up in front of "I don't telleve it. I gave you a

and can be no true knight of mine. Cecilia may have him. I always sus-pected that he wasn't the real thing. Why, he's even afraid of Aunt Octa-

It's Cecilia's memorandum

worse test than that. When I switch-ed off the lights and swung a feather duster down the stair well by a string and tickled your face you didn't make noise like a circus calliope scaring a noise like a circus califope scaring horses is Main street. Podunk. But that Wiggins man?" "He's a friend of mine and as brave as a lion. Out in Dakota the sheriff used to get him to go in and quiet things when the boys were shooting up the town." "Maybe, but he shied at a pumpkin and can be no true knight of mina

Tor two reasons. The first is that I am paired with Lord Arrowood. You refused to take him into your base compact and allowed him to be thrown out of the inn for not paying his bill. The act was deficient in generosity and galantry." "Then I suppose you would think it a fine thing for such a pauper to marry a woman 'like that-like that, I say?" and he jerked his head toward Cecilia. "I consider a lord of Arrowood as good as the proprietor of a kiniting mill any day. If you press me for an oplinion," I repiled aniably. "And this from a chimney sweep?" he seneered. "You fatter me, my dear sir. I've renounced soot and become a genite-man advenuture merely to prevent a type that long illumined popular fle-

no one sees it and you needn't look into it yourself. And we've got to

aunt's comment. "You may be sure that tickled Aunt Octavia. You can lie almost as well as an architect. Aunt Octavia says architects are bet-

rection of our flight, and I was sup-prised that we had now reached the stile over which I had watched the passing of the suitors on the afternoon meeting with Hezeklah in the

ear toward the house. It's about time those gentlemen were leaving Cécilia, and they'll be galloping for their inn in a minute, and then'--Hezekinb whistled the rest of it.

the flowary chimuey and singustening the servants by stealing into the for-bidden house through the cooling of the coupain in the library, and had a culprit to be scolded and forgiven. But what of Hezekinh mischievousj flehing an article of real value to ber sister? I did not like this turn of mfairs. I must get back to the root, find Hezekinh and compel her to re-turn the sliver book. Only by tactful ly managing this could f serve well all the members of the house of Hollister. But first I must leave Occilia with a tranquil mind. "I thank you for confiding this mat-fer to me. Miss Hollister. Please do not attach suspicion to any one until I may seen you again." "But if you should be unable to re-store"giow as means, but an instabl only. The world recled for a moment before the sharp cry of a man in fear. It cut the dark like a lash and close upon it the second man yelled in a different key, but so less in accents of terror. The first arrival had fung himself back, and so close upon him pressed the others and so unexpected was the halt that the six men seemed to have fung themselves together and to be struggling to escape from the hideous thing that had interposed itself in their path.

store"-"I assure you that the book is not lost. It has been mislaid, that's all. I shall return it to you at breakfast. I

"Well, what did Aunt Octavia say?"

Hezekiah laughed. The wind caught

knew, might be very distressing." Miss Octavia was carrying the in-vinchie Joho Stewart Diek away to the billiard room. He glared at me murderously as he trailed glumly after the lady of the manor. The others were crowding about Cecilia again, and I yielded...to them willingly. As I santered toward the door Ormsby de-tained me a moment. His manner chimney man. and I skipped just as runney man, and I skipped just as you began that beautiful story about finding it in Beacon street. I'm not supposed to see her, you know, until Cecilia is all fixed. Hurry and tell me how you got me out of it."

"How how you got me out of it." "How did you know I would try to explain it? You did a perfectly fool-hardy thing in roaming the house that way, scaring Lord Arrowood nearly to death, to say nothing of me. Why checked I fool year? tained me a moment. His manner was arrogant and he hissed rather directed to command your pres

fix it up." She drew from behind a bowlder by which we stood a pumpkin of portable size, which I surmised had been carved

give you my word." "Do you really mean it?" she fal-tered. "Pleaše keep this from Aunt Octavia! I can't tell you how impor-

tant it is that she be kept in ignorance

of my loss. The consequences, if she knew, might be very distressing."

renounced soot and become a gentle-man adventurer merely to prevent a type that long illumined popular fac-tion from becoming extinct. I advise you to illi the void existing in the beavy villatin class. Bolieve me, your talents would carry you far. Study Dumas and forget the wool market and you will lead a happier life. My second reason for declining to meet

you at the Armssat 12 tomorrow is

"You are better than I thought you were, Chimney Man," she declared, when I had concluded and added her

I had kept little account of the di

of my meeting with Hezeklah in the orchard. "This is the appointed place." she re-

"This is the appointed place." she re-marked, taking the pumpkin from me and dropping down on the far side of the stile. "Hezekinh. I've trotted across most of Westchester county after you, and my arm is paraiyzed from carrying that pumpkin. I must know what you're up to right here, or I'll go home. Besides, there's a usist failing and you'll be sonked. What do you sup-pose your father thinks of your ab-sence at this time of night?" "Oh, be'll never forgive me for not letting him in on this. This is the grandest thing I ever thought of. Sli on this step and gently incline your

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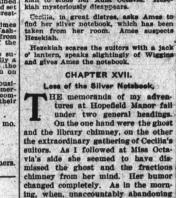
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Changed completely. As in the hold of the problem ing, when, unaccountably abandoning her habitual high flown speech, she had asked me about Ceellia's sliver notebook, she seemed troubled, and when we had reached the second floor she paused and lost herself in unwonted

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prohibited from visiting Hopfneid Manor. Ames seeks plans of the house, but finds Aunt Octavia has just secured them. Cs-ella's suitors are jealous of Ames. Ames assures Cecilis that Heseklah is not in love with Wiggins. Ames makes another award to astrong fire Strest Ames loarns that Hopefield Manor se-cretly incloses an old Revolutionary house. Apparently the ghost is Lord Arrowood, a rejected autor. The chimney smokes again. s the mischief maker. Ames hel ciah to elude her Aunt Octavis ciah mysteriously disappears.

The Siege

of the

Seven Suitors

By

MEREDITH NICHOLSON

SYNOPSIS

d Manor. Ames is ca, a tea room girl

She is Cecilia's Aunt Octavia, and fic woman of wealth. She invites o Hopefield Manor. Ames is fasc

Ames sees mysterious men watchin house. He bears of Hezekiah, Cec lister. Wiggins calls upon Cecilia. himney smokes mysteriously.

Wiggins regards Ames as a rival. letavia disilites Wiggins because h estors were Tories. Wiggins is in d in both Cecilia and Hezekiah.

Ames meets Francesca in a and learns that she is Hezek see nine silk hats cross a stile.

The house is said to have a ghost. Ce-clin tells Ames she is in deep trouble and asks him to urge Wiggins not to call upon her again.

Aunt Octavia shows Ames the pie pan-try. Cecilia fears Hezekiah loves Wig-gins. Her nine sultors call.

Cecilia rejects Professor Hume and makes a record in her silver book. The butter tells Ames a British officer's ghost haunts the house.

Ames finds Cecilia and her father, Bass-ford Hollister, fencing on the roof. Hol-lister is there unknown to Aunt Octavia.

Hollister vanishes mysteriously through the hall wall. Hezekiah tells Ames she prohibited from visiting Hopefield Mano

an orchard kiah. They

Ames sees Wiggins m

ey Wiggins is in love with Co er. His friend Arnold Ames n rly lady at the Asolando tea ro

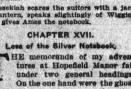
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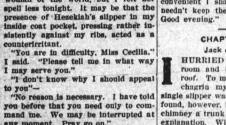
Cectilia, in great distres, asks Ames I ind her sliver notebook, which has bee aken from her room. Ames suspect Bent and Kissed Miss Octavia's Hand taken. She rose as I crossed the room and from her manner I judged that she welcomed this chance of address-

"You have scorned the library to-night. Has there been trouble? Is Aunt Octavia alarmed about any-thing?" Cecilia was a beautiful, charming woman of the world, but I feit her roull less tonicht. It may be that the

Hezekiah scares the suitors with a jack by lantern, speaks slightingly of Wiggin and gives Ames the notebook.

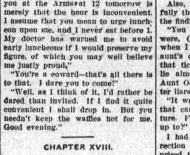
counterirritant.





any moment. Pray go on." "I have lost an article of the greatest yalue to me. It has been taken from my room." thread her flyteeing to reach the chim-ney crock and dropping the tray across the top. How gleefully she must have chuckled us she waited for the flut to fill and send the smoke ebbing back

ause confusion cause confusion. I had thought Hezeklah secure when I locked the trunk room door, but I had not counted upon the versatility and resourcefulness



Jack o' Lantern. HURRIED back to the trun

room and had soon gained the roof. To my disappointment and chagrin my young lady of the

single slipper was nowhere in sight. I found, however, lying near the library chimney a trunk tray that required no explanation. With this Hezekiah had blocked the flue, and I smiled as I pic-

into the library, to the discomfiture of ber aunt and sister and the suitors gathered about the hearth. The spirit of mischief never whispered into a prettier ear a trick better calculated to

of that young per

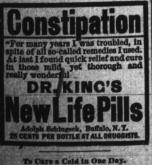
"Well, I rather think we'd better fill it. She led me now across the meadow, over a stone wall, up a steep slope and by devious ways through a strip of woodland. I bore the jack-o'-lan-tern. She had bidden me do if with some notion I did not question of making me a party in whatever mis-chief was afoot. Also, she demanded that I repeat "My wheel's in the weeds somewhere Please pull it out for me. I'm going tome." "But not alone. I can't let you do that, Hezeklah. "Ob, cheer up?" she laughed, arous-ed by my lugubrious tone. "And here's something you asked me for. Don't chief was afoot. Also, she demanded that I repeat fully the story I had told her aunt of Brop it, book. Give it back to her and be sure

ter llars than dressmakers." "It was my weakness for the truth that caused me to abandon architec-ture. For heaven's sake, what are you

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do about it?" "Miss Hollister." I answered, "if yo

"Miss Hollister." I answered, "if you rrusted Providence this morning to send you a corps of servants when yours had been most unfortunately scattered by ghosis or rumors of ghosis, why will you not continue to have con-dence that your affairs will always be directed by agencies equally alert and benedcen?" "I don't know the game, but I have found out a lot of things without being told, so tell me nothing! Remember that I have something quits remarks-ble, startling even, to show you tomor-row. I have even orecrome, you know, the obstacle you placed in the way of my discoveries by sending in ahead of me this morning for the plans of the house."

house." I watched her narrowiy, but she was in no wise discomfited. "Well, I burned them the moment Hida brought them back," she laugh-ed. "I had faith in you, and I wanted you to manage it all for yourself. I rather guessed that you would go to Pepperton. That was when I still be-lieved."

Heved." "But you must go on believing. Makebelieving is the main cornerstone and the keystone of the arch of the

and the keystone of the area of the happy life." "You are sure you are not mocking a foolish old woman?" "You are the wisset woman I ever knew," I asserted, and my heart was in the words. "I believe you have persuaded me, but Cecilia"-

but Ceclia"--"Leave it to me; trust me; lean upon me. I assure you that all will be well."

well." She bent her hend and yielded her-self to reverie for a moment. Then she sprang to her feet in that inde-serthaly light, graceful way that terased at leist affly of her years from the rectoning and was herself again. "Arnold Amer." she sald, hagding a little but gazing up at me with munis-tightle confidence, and liking is her

that?" "Yes. There has really been a sort of

The and about the nouse. To be denote that?
"Tes. There has really been a sort of gloss, you know."
She shrungged her shoulders. Cecilia had no patience with ghosts, and we was load to patience with ghosts, and we was load to patience with ghosts, and we was plain from his nerrounness.
"In wat to my room for a moment while Aunt Octavia was above, with good or a moment while Aunt Octavia was above, with you, I suppose, just after the chimney give another of its strunge demonstrations. I remembered that I had left my little silver bound book, that I usually cannot be duplicated. I am you for a my end that the source to me. It positively cannot be duplicated. I am you for any be mistrice as to where it was not an my dressing table or anywhere to be found."
"You may be mistrice as to where you is the You had the You were had been looking at it just positive that you left it on the dressing table. I had been looking at it just point it. I had been looking at it just point it. I had been looking at it just point it. I had been looking at it just be the dimer. I had set you a not the fibrat member having seen the littly thinked y smalles, thus a card case, silver backed and only a few you had it in your hand the thremember having seen the littly thinked singuity as this, but reading seen the look came back to me and yo the digitify at this, but reading the description. Miss of the my description. Miss of the my

I felt the sudden implogement

Resekts's slippet upon my own con-acience, if I may so state the matter. Hesektsh, playing ghost, had confessed to me that she had visited Cocilia's room. Heseklah, amusing herself with

el and inspected the down spouts, but it was incredible that she had sought

Walle we waited I tried once or wice to revert to the silver notebook out without success. Hezekiah was a nistress of the art of evasion with be the earth by this means, 1 swung myself to g third level and after much groping for my bearings decided that in athletic girl of Hezekiah's venturetongue as well as her feet.

tongue as well as her feet. "Wait till the eccing performance is over and I'll talk about that. Shi Quiet: Crawi over there out of the way, and when I say rup, beat it for some disposition might, if she set no great store by her neck, clamber off the kitchen roof by means of a tall maple whose branches now raspingly called attention to their slight contact the road."

the road." These last phrases were uttered in a whisper, her face close to my our. She gave me a liftle push, and I withdrew a few yards and whifed. The ground, I may ear, was wet and the drizzle called attention to their slight contact with the house. As the moon cruised into a patch of elenr sky something white fluttered from a maple limb, and I bent and pulled it free. I took counsel of a match behind the kitchen chimney and found that it was a handkerchief that had been knotted to the up of the bough. No one but Hezekiah would have thought of marking her thall in this (ashion. I sheld it to my face, and had become a monotonous autumn

<text><text><text><text><text>

T

..

cer's pistol from him. He was a bad negro from Winston that was have a talk about it and Cecilia. Let wanted for purse snatching.

in a second helping of country scram-bled eggs." A little later 1 met Miss Hollister in

the hall dressed for her ride. "Arnold, you may ride whenever you like. I may have forgotten to men-tion it. Wint have you on hand this

TO BE CONTINUED.]

Lame back is usually caused by rheumatism of the muscles of the back for which you will find noth-ing better than Chamberlain's Lin-iment. For sale by all dealers.

W. O. Saunders, editor of the Independent at Elizabeth City, was convicted of criminal libel last

Constipation Cured.

have a talk about it and Cecilia. Let me see. There's an iron bridge across an arm of that little lake over there and just beyond it a big fallen tree. Tomorrow at 9 o'clock I'll be there. I've got to tell you something, chin-ney man, without really telling you. You'll be there, won't you'? "I'll be there if I'm alive, Hezekiah." I had found the wheel and lighted the lamp. She scouted my suggestion that I find a horse and drive her home. The lighting of the lamp required time. week in a justices court and sen-tenced to six months on the roads He appealed and gave bond.

exclaimed.

orning?'

The lighting of the lamp required time, owing to the wind and rain, but when its thin ribbon of light fell clearly upon the road she seized the handle bars and

was ready to mount without ado.

was rendy to mount without ado. She gave me her hand. It was a cold, wet little hand, but there was a good friendly grip in it. This was the first time 1 had touched Hezekinh's hand, and 1 mention it because as 1 write 1 feel again the pressure of her slim cold fingers. "Barry sou spolled your clothes, but it was in a good cause. And you're a nice boy. Chimney Man. Good night."

CHAPTER XIX. A Tryst With Hezekiah.

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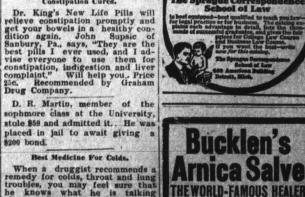
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