THE

By MARY ROBERTS RINEHART

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CHAPTER XIV.

An Egg-Nog and a Telegram.

We had discovered Louise at the lodge Tuesday night. It was Wednesday I had my interview with her. Thursday and Friday were uneventtal, save as they marked improvement in our patient. Gertrude spent almost all the time with her, and the But certain things hung over me con- strong is with you." stantly; the coroner's inquest on the death of Arnold Armstrong, to be held Saturday, and the arrival of Mrs. Armstrong and young Doctor Walker, bringing the body of the dead presi- very ill; perhaps to-night she can be dent of the Traders' Bank. We had told. not told Louise of either death.

Then, too, I was anxious about the children. With their mother's inheritance swept away in the wreck of the bank, and with their love affairs in a disastrous condition, things could scarcely he worse. Added to that, the cook and Liddy had a flare-up over the proper way to make beef-tea for read it slowly, judicially. Louise, and, of course, the cook left.

as! He had the faculty-found still any one, in some old negroes, who cling to the traditions of slavery days-of making his employer's interest his. It was all know," the lawyer said. ways "we" with Thomas. I miss him over reliable, kindly old man!

On Thursday Mr. Harton, the Arm-Sunnyside, as it was Mrs. Armstrong's unexpected and shocking manner. desire to come directly there.

days ago, she would never wish to eggs nesting among the bottles.

she says: 'Use every possible means them! Egg-nog for Miss Louise."

not going to do anything of the kind, egg-nog with his own hands. Some- twenty-year-old joke of his. the house at an exorbitant figure and nerve specialist in the city, trying to about something which is none of my costly experience. I moved out here for the summer, My

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not a single night of uninterrupted sleep, and I intend to stay until I have recuperated. Moreover, if Mr. Armstrong died insolvent, as I believe was the case, his widow ought to be glad to be rid of so expensive a piece of property."

The lawyer cleared his throat.

"I am very sorry you have made two had grown to be great friends. Mrs. Fitzhugh tells me Louise Arm- and now, with a final whisk, a last toss

> "Has she been informed of thisdouble bereavement?" "Not yet," I said. "She has been of real Kentucky whisky," he said.

"It is very sad; very sad," he said. paused. I have a telegram for her, Mrs. Innes.

Shall I send it out?"

will save time." There was a pause while Mr. Har- ready with a question. ton opened the telegram. Then he

Mrs. Watson had been glad enough, Monday. Signed F. L. W. care, and Thomas went upstairs night Carrington. Home Monday.' Very remember any such family. There the heart of Florence, is said to be and morning to greet his young mis- well, Mr. Harton, I will tell her, but used to be Covingtons down the haunted by the great poet's ghost. tress from the doorway. Poor Thom- she is not in condition to watch for creek.

"Well, Miss. Innes, if you decide to and the subject lapsed. -er-relinquish the lease, let me

sorely; pipe-smoking, obsequious, not and I imagined his irritation from the I did as I had fallen into a habit of own accord until the inmates have beway he hung up the receiver.

strongs' legal adviser, called up from word, afraid to trust my memory, and tations was that I got up suddenly and is responsible for the commotion on town. He had been advised, he said, decided to ask Doctor Stewart how went to the telephone. I had taken the part of the musical instruments. that Mrs. Armstrong was coming east soon Louise might be told the truth. the most intense dislike to this Doc- The believers in Spiritualism in with her husband's body and would The closing of the Traders' Bank I for Walker, whom I had never seen, Florence have held a seance in the arrive Monday. He came with some considered unnecessary for her to and who was being talked of in the house and they claim that the poet's hesitation, he went on, to the fact know, but the death of her stepfather countryside as the fiance of Louise spirit appeared clad in a long white that he had been further instructed to and stepbrother must be broken to Armstrong. ask me to relinquish my lease on her scon, or she might hear it in some

city home is dismantled and in the hands of directors. I have been here one week, during which I have had Stewart whisked the eggs he talked.

"I see you haven't changed an iota The donkey is unable to talk. There in a quarter of a century, Rachel." fore man has indisputedly proclaimed This was intended to be another jest himself lord of creation.

ed, a little red in the face from the exertion, "after I went home the other Walker and Miss Louise."

"Nothing of the sort," I pprotested. "The fact is," he went on, evidently ustifying himself, "I got that piece of information just as we get a lot of things, through the kitchen end of the house. Young Walker's chauffeur-Walker's more fashionable than I am, and he goes around the country in a comes to see our servant girl, and he told her the whole thing. I thought it was probable, because Walker spent a lot of time up here last summer, when the family was here, and besides, Riggs, that's Walker's man, had a very pat little story about the doctor's building a house on this property, just at the foot of the hill. The

sugar, please. The egg-nog was finished. Drop by this decision," he said. "Miss Innes, drop the liquor had cooked the egg, in the shaker, it was ready, a symphony in gold and white. The doctor

"Real eggs, real milk, and a touch He insisted on carrying it up himself, but at the foot of the stairs he

"Riggs said the plans were drawn for the house," he said, harking back "Better open it and read it to me," to the old subject. "Drawn by Huston suggested. "If it is important, that in town. So I naturally believed him." When the doctor came down, I was

"Doctor." I asked, "is there any one in the neighborhood named Carring-"Watch for Nina Carrington, Home ton? Nine Carrington?" "Carrington?" He wrinkled his

"Hum!" I said. "Watch for Nina forehead. "Carrington? No, I don't

"I shall not relinquish it." I replied, Time hung heavy on my hands, and flutes have uttered music of their Law Bullding, doing lately-I sat down and thought come terror-stricken. On Thursday I wrote the telegram down word for things over. One result of my medi- it was reported that Dante's "spirit"

had been a time, when Sam was a that he had been born in the house, Doctor Stewart came about four good deal younger than he is now, and would not suffer the place to be o'clock, bringing his leather satchel before he had married Anne Endicott, used any longer as a workshop, other-Here!" I said, "Surely you are into the house with a great deal of when I knew him ever better. So wise he would continue to haunt the mistaken, Mr. Harton, I should think care, and opening it at the foot of the now I felt no hesitation in calling him place and to agitate the musical inafter-what happened here only a few stairs to show me a dozen big yellow over the telephone. But when his of-struments. fice boy had given way to his confiden- It appears that the landlord told "Real eggs," he said proudly. "None tial clerk, and that functionary had his tenant recently that he intended "Nevertheless." he replied, "she is of your anemic store eggs, but the real condescended to connect his employ to raise the rent considerably; howmost anxious to come. This is what thing-some of them still warm. Feel er's deck telephone, I was somewhat ever, since the "ghost" has been at a loss as to how to begin.

"Why, how are you, Rachel?" Sam mind, and before he left, he insisted on go- said sonorously. "Going to build that tenant to remain in the famous have suffered enough at how, all the time he was doing it, I "Sometime, perhaps," I said. "Just

"I said to Mrs. Stewart," he confid- "Ask ahead: everything but my domestic affairs is at your service.' "Try to be serious," I said. "And day, that you would think me an old tell me this; has your firm made any gossip, for saying what I did about plans for a house recently, for a Doctor Walker, at Casanova?"

"Yes, we have." "Where was it to be built? I have reason for asking."

"It was to be, I believe, on the Armstrong place. Mr. Armstrong himself consulted me, and the inference was -in fact, I am quite certain-the house was to be occupied by Mr. Armto marry Doctor Walker."

When the architect had inquired for the different members of my family, and had finally rung off, I was certain of one thing. Louise Armstrong was in love with Halsey, and the man she was going to marry was Doctor Walker. Moreover, this decision was not new; marriage had been contemplated for some time. There must certainly be some explanation—but Specialties: Inlay and Bridge-Work. what was it?

That day I repeated to Louise the telegram Mr. Harton had opened. She seemed to understand, but an unhappier face I have never seen. She looked like a criminal whose reprieve is over, and the day of execution ap-

(Continued to-morrow.)

POET'S GHOST LOWERS RENT Wraith of Dante Befriends Tenants of His Former Home.

Florence, Aug. 19 .- in the absence of parliamentary reports the "Silly Season" presents an admirable opportunity for the Italian press to seize upon something likely to attract attention. The austere old house, in which Dante Alighierf was born in The house is let to a maker of "The name was Carrington," I said musical instruments and of late, so says rumor, not only have the instru-Gertrude and Halsey went for a long ments begun to fly about the workwalk that afternoon, and Louise slept. shop, but even the clarionettes and I knew Sam Huston well. There awful voice told the people present

active, the landlord has changed his

of this family. I rented had a vision of Doctor Willoughby, my now I want, to ask you a question for nothing seeker gets is a lot of



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