No harm done. John will hold a levee

I suppose it occurred to John what

a job that was going to be, especially

as he was apt to have a crowd of hys-

terical women on his hands any min-

ute. He tumbled the jewels back into

the bag as Doctor Graham's horn rent

the air, and was just about to pull

CHAPTER XXIII.

A Disappearance.

Dawn found me lying on the couch

in my sitting-room, pale and a little

sick from the ether, with my right

arm nicely boarded up and a bruise on

my shoulder about as big as a turkey-

platter. Doctor Graham, after mixing

me some vile stuff-doctors are brutes

about medicine-cheerfully turned to

discuss art with Jo, apropos of the

search of the gallery for any signs of

the bottom of the steps leading to the

tennis courts was open, and a hammer

one connected with Lone Oak was ly-

ing on one of the courts. The thieves

commotion that followed my

When I awoke from the sleep the

there was a huge bunch of pink roses

that I knew had not been cut at Lone

tearfully hovered in the background.

Celle brought my breakfast and Laura

y, to play golf with John Crownin-

"There's a nurse coming," she con-

To prove I could get up, I did, but

"Loulie, it was too funny about that

silk stocking and the hot-water bot-

"Has everybody discovered the rob-

"No," she replied. "No wonder they

form her. There was no cloth or any-

odor of chloroform was in her room.

Winthrop! I closed my lips tightly

"Has Everybody Discovered the Rob-

bery?" I Asked.

again. No one but I knew he had

myself was going to know it. But

Thomas! The thought startled me!

Laura finally broke the silence with

"Loulie, are you going to marry

"Why not? Won't you tell me?

She paled a little, I didn't know why

"Won't you confide in me?" she

She was very winning and sweet.

one of her startling questions:

I shook my head decidedly.

Have you a reason, dear?"

Yes.

perore

cluded.

over this arm."

bery?" I asked.

jewels?"

"They were up

we made last night?"

plicate Winthrop in this."

was rather trembly.

tle," Laura laughed gleefully.

"Well. I'll be damned!" he exclaim-

the string securing them.

"This is my bag!"

after luncheon and return them.'

BOBBS-MERRILL COMPANY

SYNOPSIS.

Jo Codman left orphans. Codman and her sister Loulie are

Jo Codman and her sister Loulie are left orphans. Their property has been swept away by the death of their father and they are compelled to cast about for some means to earn a living. Loulie answers an advertisement of an invalid who wants a companion. She declines the position. Loulie advertises for a position as companion, and Mrs. Hazard replies. She offers Loulie a position as her "secretary of frivolous affairs." Her chief work is to steer Mrs. Hazard's son and daughter in the right matrimonial path. Loulie talks baseball to Hap Hazard and also gains the confidence of Laura. Hazard. The Duc de Trouville is believed to be interested in Laura. Mrs. Hazard gives a big reception and Loulie meets many people high in the social world. Natalle Agazziz, to whom Hap has been paying attention, loses an emerald bracelet during the reception. She declares there is not another like it in the world. It develops that Natalle has lost several pieces of fewelry under similar circumstances. Hap takes Loulie to the baseball game. He tells her he is not engaged to Natalle and has been changes to the Hazard country place, where many notables have been invited for the summer. Loulie and Laura visit the farm of Winthrop Abbott, an author, in whom Laura takes considerable interest. Duc de Trouville arrives at the Hazard gince. Loulie hears Winthrop's motor boat out late at night. Next morning the papers announce the robbery of several nearby homes. Natalle accuses Loulie of stealing her ruby pendant. Mrs. Hazard assures Loulie of her confidence in her. Hap declares his love for Loulie. Shereciprocates, but will not admit it as the fears what Mrs. Hazard will say; Loulie is execused from dinner on account of a headache. She is bombarded with notes from Hap implering her to see him. Winthrop's safe, among them an emerald bracelet exactly like the one lost by Natalle hears what finds Hap in her room. Next morning Hap explains that he was in pursuit of a mysterious woman he had seen in the corridor and who cluded him by passing throu

CHAPTER XXII .- Continued.

When I remembered again, John was sitting at my desk with the glittering mass spread out before him. Every one had crowded around him, except Hap, who was kneeling beside the couch, holding my hand desperately and listening for the sound of the doctor's car. I remember that it ten," she told me. "John had an aw- derly gotten me into a negligee. the lavender brocade dressing-gown kimono harmonized-and lavender and have to toss for them. Funny, isn't for the ruby, when Laura had proved and you went to see what it was. I pink usually don't.

"Where did you get them, Loulle?" Jo asked. "What happened, dear?" My head was buzzing; there was a pounding in my ears. Her questions seemed to make a jumble of my

thoughts. "Why, of course, I must tell you." I tried to think clearly. "I-I found thing that has been saturated, but the them-found them in the card-room." "Yes, dear," Jo soothed. "What were | Thank Heaven, there's no way to im-

you doing in the card-room?" "I heard a noise in the gallery and wanted to see-see- I-I found them -found them in the card-room."

Everybody looked so queer! Natalie glanced quickly at Mrs. Hazarda glance Laura intercepted. I sat up suddenly.

"Surely you don't think I took them!" I fell back against the pillows again with a groan, but it was because little unseen devils tortured me when I moved. "She must not talk," Laura ex-

claimed. "Don't question her. It isn't fair. She doesn't know what she is saving. For Heaven's sake, why doesn't the doctor come?"

Jo sat down beside me helplessly There was nothing anybody could do

"I think there's loot here from ev-

until the doctor did come. erybody," John remarked. "It's a jolly

mess. From the mess he separated Dorothy Ambercrombie's green lizard with the ruby eyes, Mrs. Abercrombie's moonstone set with sixteen large diamonds, and that crazy bowknot collar of Mrs. Sargent's. Then Natalle pointed out other things she recognized. But there was left a jumble of solitaires, handsome but nondescript; rings and pendants, brace- been there on the lawn; no one but lets and brooches that only their own-

ers could identify. "Everybody but myself," Natalie He knew it. Butsaid finally. "There's not a single thing there of mine."

Somehow it seemed to me there ought to have been in the bag those Hap?" things she lost earlier.

"You had a pistol," I said weakly, thinking of it.

"Yes, but no one knew it but you!" said Natalie. And if a good, clear thought had come to me out of my at the time. throbbing head I would have seen what everybody saw later

"The thieves were in the gallery," I tried to tell them. "I heard-I heard is." a hammer fall. 1 went to see"-suddealy I thought of Winthrop, and I I intended to tell her jokingly my rea-

'Yes, dear," Laura soothed. "We'll courage the eligibles until she was

were Ver brimmed over and rolled down my I couldn't joke! "You love him-don't try to deny

Why are you giving him up?" "I can't let him spoil his life with me," was what I said after all, "I Grace if you decide to want him. would be terribly His Grace shocked-"

"I don't want him," she interrupted. "I love Winthrop and I'm going to marry him-if he ever asks me." "But I am nobody," I insisted. "I haven't a penny. Marriage-marriage

is impossible!" She looked at me in amazement. "Is that your only reason?" she asked.

"Surely-"Is that all? Oh, my poor, deluded little Loulie! What difference does a few paltry dollars make? I'm so glad that's the reason, dear; so very, very glad." She came close to me and slipped her arm around my waist. "Dear, if you had told me something terrible, some awful thing that was keeping you from saying 'yes' to Hap, I would have loved you just the same. Remember that."

It was a shameless statement. I wonder I did not see its significance at the time, but I only realized that her affection was one of the most wonderful things that had ever happened to me.

"You're a queer person," I told her. "Now, won't you let me say to Hap that he may come up after luncheon?" She tried to keep me from shaking my head. "I'm afraid he will come, even if you don't say so. I've had a terrible time keeping him out while you slept. He went to town for the disturbance. Nothing unusual was roses"-she pointed to them-"and found anywhere, except the door at was back in an hour. I don't know how he escaped being arrested for speeding. By the way, the detective that was proved did not belong to any is here. He wants to ask you some questions when you are well enough to see him. We've had an exciting had made good their escape during morning being questioned. He's rather a nice-looking chap. I think Natalie plunge down the steps into the wing. found her interview with him much more agreeable than she expected. doctor prescribed it was noon. The His eyes are blue," she finished irrele-

room was fragrant with flowers and vantly. "Has he talked to Mr. Abbott?" "Yes. He and John-by the way, Oak. Laura was with me, and Celle his name is Adams-went over to Winthrop's this morning. Winthrop came back with them; he came to explained that Jo had gone, reluctant- play golf. He was unusually cheerful, too. He has finished his novel. I shield, who decided not to go to town. don't think he cares how many emerald bracelets he is accused of stealing, since that is over. And I'm for-"Nurse!" I exclaimed. "What do I getting to tell you that Mrs. Dykeman want with a nurse? I'm going down- has dug up a German count. I don't stairs tonight if I can get a sleeve know how he ranks. He's a connoisseur on art, or some kind of a highbrow. She's giving a German musicale next week. Ich dien! Oh! We had a message from the Schuylers. The general is entirely out of dan-

I lay on the couch for a long time Celle had arranged my hair and ten- to. are ten solitaires still in doubt. I way out of all the robberies for Win- your story true? You heard a noise John wore and the soft pink of Jo's think Dorothy and Mrs. Sargent will throp and I could not do it. Except in the gallery; you're a brave girl it, people don't know their own that he was at home, and the woman would have been crazy with curiosity in the corridor, every circumstance myself. If you don't know why a "Did any one else hear the racket pointed to him. What did he actually thief put down a bag of jewels on know of it all? Was he shielding the floor of the card-room and left some one? A woman? But that it there for you to find, why you He know that the person was a thought was ugly. I had rather bewere robbed. Mrs. Cutler thinks there

must have been an attempt to chloro- lieve him a thief! The door of my sitting-room, leading into the corridor, was standing open, for the day was intensely hot, and I caught the sound of Hap's voice. He was talking to his mother. I listened, not deliberately to what he said, but just to hear his voice; and because there was no one to see, I arose and buried my face in the roses-his roses. It was wrong to listen; I knew it. I could not fail to hear what he said.

At first the full meaning of his words did not strike me, nor even the tone of the argument. I was thinking of other things. Then he spoke my name. He was angry; I listened, amazed.

"I don't care if she is a thief," he said, "I want her, and I'm going to have her. I'd marry her if she is proved a thief a thousand times. And wouldn't believe her a thief if I saw her stealing!"

His mother's answer I didn't want to hear; an instant later I stood in the doorway across the corridor.

"Don't believe him," I said to his mother. "He isn't going to marry me."

Hap, with an exclamation of concern, threw some pillows into a chair and indicated an intention to carry me to it.

"I'm not an invalid," I insisted. And walked to the chair. "I've just a silly broken arm, otherwise I am quite fit. Now, tell me why am I a thief again?" I was quite calm about it, but I had to sit down, for my knees were shaky and I was realizing why Laura had said such queer

things to me. Hap made some choky noises like men do when they want to swear; Mrs. Hazard pressed her handkerchief to her lips.

"Just because I found some jewels ful Hazard way. in the card room, and can't tell you who put them there, or why they and when they want a thing they get lin. were there?" The whole thing sud it. When I went back to my room, denly struck me as absurd and amus carefully shutting the door in Hap's pleaded. "And let me help you? I can ing. I laughed. "My story isn't plaus. face, the mystery was still a mystery. help you, no matter how difficult it ible?"

blessing tears are to a woman-and | ised Hap, with his mother's consent, it was so different from her dear to let him share it. closed my lips tightly for fear I son was that her mother really had chuckle I could not resist the impulse That night the mystery, instead of would say I had seen him there on intended me as a pace-maker for her, to go to her and put my only good clearing, deepened. Jo disappeared! become a girl scout, dear?" and that I'd have to be free to end arm around her fat neck.

surface. Two me, be sure of that; and the other only concerns myself."

"My dear child," she sobbed, feel responsible for everything. I told your sister I would take care of you.' "You distinctly said you would not be responsible for any lacerated afcouldn't spoil your chances with His fections, and you certainly can't help it if I'm a thief. I tried to get him on the right track, but-"

"Right track!" she sobbed.
"Right track?" Hap echoed.

And, notwithstanding the gravity of the situation and the tears running down her fat cheeks, Mrs. Hazard chuckled. She dabbed at her eyes. "I said, too, you might pick a plum

from the social pudding, and I had

no objection. If the plum happens

to be my own son it's my own fault." "What are you two talking about?" Hap demanded. "I love her, and I'm going to marry her whether she's a thief or not."

"All right, take her," Mrs. Hazard replied, giving me a gentle push, and Hap gazed at her with that comically surprised expression. "Just be sure to pour the coffee for him every morning at breakfast, my very dear little girl, and you have my blessing. It just occurs to me that I've never yet made a mistake in estimating a person, and I'm not going to begin now."

"But gracious me!" I exclaimed, as Hap swept me to my feet and shamelessly kissed me, "I'm accused of stealing!" "We'll have to prove you innocent!"

Her tone was final, "I must have my judgment vindicated." "But-

"The bag was my brother's," she



to Marry Me."

interrupted belligerently. "It occurs to me that he needs to do some explaining."

"Surely you don't think-?" "I don't think anything, after the

to do the thinking. If he thinks can't help it. Natalie having a pistol and you knowing it is just a coincidence. The thieves didn't get to her, that's all. The door of the back stairs was open and a hammer was dropped on the court where a hammer doesn't belong. It's quite plain that the thieves came from outside, since I've him. had the common sense to think of it."

But I saw how unreasonable my story was as she repeated it. The absurdity of my being in the cardroom when I had said the noise was in the gallery, the absolutely ridicu- Cameron in "The New North," they ruins of cities built during this period lous idea that a thief had put down a bag of loot on the floor of the card- own. room for me to pick up, and yet that's what he did-it was all a child's story. And I couldn't speak of Winthrop, nor of Thomas without men-

bracelet. "There won't be any further trouble," she went on. "Every jewel has been taken to a bank until somebody has been proven guilty. Now let the three whales were bagged. detective solve it. And he may just as well prove Winthrop innocent while he's at it. Winthrop is a farmer, not a thief." She dismissed the fat hand. "Since you've got Hap on of ice. the right track-'

"What's this right track thing?" Hap demanded.

"A scheme, a put-up job, to make you notice me," I replied. "But I had to do it; it was a part of my job." I suddenly covered my face with my "I guess you're satisfied then," Hap

grinned. "And now you refuse to marry me after deliberately-"You surely don't believe I intend-

ed-" I cried. "I don't know what you intended, but I know what's going to be." Hap put his arm about me in that master-

The Hazards are a stubborn lot. I couldn't see but that I had a badly Mrs. Hazard began to cry-what a damaged reputation, and I had prom-

And not only that, but she had been we have the jewels, so it's all right. marry, but I was weak, and the tears | tear. I'm not going to let him marry to protect us, was found bound and ling to be a suffragette."

gagged at the foot of the stairs leading to the tennis courts.

CHAPTER XXIV.

The Search. We knew Jo had been taken away by force because a woman does not, of her own free will, go out dressed only in a silk petticoat, a flimsy dressing-gown, and a pair of thin bedroom slippers, even if the weather is warm. Adams, the detective, whom John found tied up hard and fast, told us the little he knew of what had happened, when he could talk-poor fellow! And although I tried not to get shrieky and faint, I threw myself across the pillow where Jo's dear old dark head had rested, and came very near doing both. I tried to tell myself that she was all right, that we should find her soon, alive! I didn't believe it. I could only see that whoever took her away did so for a purpose, that they would kill her, or perhans-had!

It was the culmination of an awful day. After what I had gone through morning and afternoon, I could not go down to dinner. The doctor said "No," with that capital N, and I hated him. And I was exasperated with Jo, who, after playing golf with John all morning, played golf with him all afternoon-or said she did-and sat outside on the terrace all evening, also with John, where the sound of their voices floated up to me, punctuated occasionally with laughter from both of them. He never in his life did such a thing as sit on the terrace all evening with a woman! I could not catch a word of what they were saying. I was sure he was making love to her.

I could not complain of being neglected, for the doctor had ordered Jo down-stairs and told me to go to sleep, adding that my temperature was up and my heart queer. Celle God of Israel" (v. 1). This was at put me to bed, but when Jo came once a challenge as to the beasted sufinally I was sitting up, crying softly and scratching the palm of my hand.

sleep, but it was a restless, fitful allow these representatives of an opsleep, and at two o'clock I changed to pressed people any liberties? Lastly, the couch in the sitting-room because it was a question of economic impor-I imagined the salty breeze that came tance. in through the open windows would soothe me. I must have slept soundly after that. I did not hear Jo when are claimed for another. "Let my peoshe awoke; I did not know what had ple go." In contempt, Pharaoh exbecome of her.

I remembered to search for the pistol had been sent and right well was Phawhich Natalie had returned the day raoh to learn the answer ere the acbefore. It was gone, but I could gain count is settled. Men are flippantly no satisfaction from that because, evi- asking that same question today, both dently, Jo had not used the pistol and by word and conduct, who will find the reason of that was quite clear out to their final sorrow who Jehovah "Don't Believe Him. He isn't Going to me: they had disarmed her.

Adams said there were three men. He had heard sounds but couldn't he said "I know not the Lord," but locate them until he came into the upper hallway, when he heard the little knew what it means for a man door at the foot of the stairs leading | to set up his will against that of God. to the tennis courts slam. He had "I will not" was the proud boast of a a flashlight and he said he wasn't weak, wilful, ignorant worm of the thinking after Laura had gone, and fool I've just made of myself trying many seconds getting to the bottom dust, for all his exalted position among We have a detective here now of those stairs. When he opened the men. Read 2 Thess. 1:8 and Rom. door some one struck him a terrific hazily occurred to me how beautifully ful time getting things straight. There tried desperately—to see a wrong, I'll discharge him. Why isn't blow on the head, and when he regained consciousness he was bound securely, hand and foot, and gagged. He had not recognized any of the od, much better for us to deliver God's men-it was still dark-nor were their

voices ramiliar to him. They had gone toward the ninth hole and they were carrying some one. woman. That was all. What had happened before he heard the sounds he didn't know. His wrists were bad. Zech. 14:16-19, etc. This fearlessness ly cut and bleeding where he had struggled to release himself; he had dragged himself to the door and once to resume their burdens. The banged on it, but no one had heard

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

The Whale's Song. Whales are rarely thought of as vocalists, yet according to Miss A. D. really have a distinctive song of their

A certain Captain Kelly was the first to notice that whales sing. One Sunday, while officers from three whaling ships were "gamming" over their tioning Winthrop, and Winthrop had afternoon walrus meat, Kelly started enough to do to explain the emerald up with "I hear a bowhead!" There hopes thus dashed and more grievous was much chaffing about "Kelly's band," but Kelly weighed anchor, and went to find the band-wagon. Every sail followed his, with the result that

Among bowheads, this singsong is a call that the leader of the school, as he forces a passage through Bering accountable under the Egyptian tasksea, makes in order to notify those subject with an airy motion of her that follow that the straits are clear

Walruses and seals and all true mammals that have lungs and live in the whose stripes we are healed?" water have a bark that sounds strange enough as it comes up from hidden depths. Every lookout from the mast head notices that, when one whale is struck, the whole school is "gallied" or stampeded at the very impact of ings of this present time are not the harpoon; they have heard the

The sound that the bowhead makes s like the long-drawn-out "hoo-hoo-oo and as soon as Moses and Aaron turnoo!" of the hoot-owl. A whaler says ed to him he gives them a most grathat the cry begins on F, and may clous renewal of his promise and of rise to A, B, or even C before slipping the ultimate blessing, see Chapter back to F again. He assures us that 6:1-8. with the humpback the tone is much the note from the E string of a vio

Her Mission,

baby, bake a loaf of bread, build a accomplishment of his purposes. When coal fire and darn a sock, to say nothing of being able to find their way cease. When the fire has burned out about in woods and cure snake bites," said the parent. "Don't you want to

"No, mamma," replied the young "Please don't cry," I begged. "I taken away-foreibly abducted! girl; "I won't need to know how to do of the fight that is still in progress. look. The thieves are gone now, but quite sure just who she wanted to ern't see that it's worth one little Adams, the detective who was there those things when I grow up. I'm go Israelitish oppression still survives

INTERNATIONAL

(By E. O. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department The Moody Bible In-

LESSON FOR JULY 27.

MOSES' REQUEST REFUSED.

LESSON TEXT-Ex. 5:1-14.

GOLDEN TEXT-"Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted." -Matt. 5:4.

Only one incident is mentioned with reference to that long journey Moses had to take in returning from Midian to Egypt. "The Lord met him and sought to kill him," (4:24). Moses is about to pronounce a fearful penalty. see 4:23, and it was necessary that he comprehended the terrible meaning of his threat. Also he had neglected to observe the sign of covenant peace (circumcision) with his youngest son, and that was a serious delinquency for the future leader of Israel. "It was necessary at this stage of his experience that he should learn that God is in earnest when he speaks, and will assuredly perform all that he has threatened." (Murphy.)

Showing himself with Aaron, the elders of Israel are soon convinced that God had sent them and was about to work out through Moses and Aaron the long promised deliverance.

Issue Plainly Stated.

1. Moses' Message, vv. 1-9. Moses and Aaron plainly stated the issue at the very outset, "Thus saith the Lord perior greatness of the Egyptian gods. It also touched Pharaoh's pride for he Poer old Jo! She patted me to was an absolute monarch and can he

Pharaoh looked upon these Israelites as his own property, now they claims, "Who is Jehovah?" It was in When I could compose my thoughts answer to that very question Moses is, and why they should obey his voice. Pharaoh spoke the truth when though he seems to boast of that he 1:28.

In reply, (v. 3) Moses and Aaron did not seek to argue the case. Very little is ever gained by such a methmessage verbatim and trust to the holy spirit to bring conviction. Moses and Aaron were far more afraid of the pestilence and sword of Jehovah than the boasted power of Pharaoh. God does punish disobedience whether we like it or not, see Deut. 28:21. angered Pharaoh (v. 4) and he commands them and their brethren at world is constantly accusing the servants of God of unfitting people for their work, see Amos 7:10, Luke 23:2 and Acts 17:6.

Truth Confirmed.

The truth of this narrative is confirmed by the bricks found in the of Egyptian history. The bricks were made of clay mixed with stubble, rather than the ordinary straw and baked in the sun rather than in a fire kiln.

II. Pharaoh's Method, vv. 10-15. It must have been a severe test of faith for the Israelites to have had their burdens thrust upon them. Before, the government furnished the necessary straw, now they must get it themselves and at the same time keep up the usual toll of bricks.

Those who were beaten (v. 14) were of their own number who were held masters for the conduct of the whole. Is this not suggestive of one other than ourselves "who bore our sins in his own body on the tree" and "by

How little we comprehend, even with centuries of Christian history as our guide and the inspired word as our teacher, the full meaning of Paul's words, "For I reckon that the sufferworthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." Rom. 8:18. But God is mindful of his own

III. The Summary. God's ways of finer, and sounds across the water like | deliverance are never easy. His people are always slow to believe and his enemies have a hard hearted and terrible persistence in their opposition to him and his plans. But God does "Girl scouts must learn how to wash not permit this defeat, nor prevent the pain has done its work he makes it to the dross he will extinguish it. Pharach esteemed human life cheaply. how about the swent shop of today? "Let my people go" is the watch-word