of yes, we have made to say the least, proud of every m. We are proud of ourves for having made so many noresolutions. Now we must know

Now the chair filled so gracely

shoot by an open window, some twen-ty feet below which lay a simable walled garden, an old English garden in full flower. And through the win-

w, now and then, a half-hearted

weese wafted gusts of warm air, zere and enervating with the heavy agrance of English roses.

Mr. Law drunk doep of it, and in the of his spiritual unrest, sighed lightly and shut his eyes.

An unapolen word troubled the death of his consciousness, so that old immories stirred and struggled to its surface. The word was "Rose," and for the time seemed to be the name neither of a woman nor of a flower, but oddly of both, as though

he two things were one. His mental vision, bridging the gap of a year, con-leted up the vision of a lithe, sweet discoutte in white, with red roses

of her belt, posed on a terrace of the

he sught to he sorry about something.

But he was really very drowey indeed;
said so, drinking deep of wine-scent
of reses, he full gently asleep.

The clock was striking four when
the awelte; and before closing his
ogne he had noticed that its hands
highested ten minutes to four. So be

Reflected ben minutes to four. So he would not have stopt very long.

For some few seconds Alan did not entered. But you are not not was, incredulished representing a rose which had making representing a rose which had make at his effect. He was quite sure it had not been there when he closed his eyes, and almost so sure that it was not real.

And in that lustent of awakening

smed to be even more strong and oring sweet than ever. Then he put out a gingerly hand & discovered that it was real beyond

etice. A warm red rose, free

Convinced that he wasn't dreaming, ion transferred the rose to his sound and, and meditatively sucked his

unspoken word troubled the

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS AND sist in good resolutions, but in wise and accept practical talent as the

We are the architects of our fortunes. We must rely upon our own strength of body and soul and remember that good health and a clear conscience are always essential to great and successful effort. The us start by learning a few useful things well, centering our attenton on fact that resolution amount to those relating directly to the work as unless acted on. The right that we are doing or especting to do t for the new year does not con- Learn much of men and their works

philosopher's stone.

Select some specialty for our life's work and then adhere to Paul's precept: "This one thing I do." Earnest effort in one direction, and stick to-it-iveness will be our surest road to great accomplishments.

Having found our tife work, let a do that. Stick to it. Day after day, month after month and year after year, with a fullness of purpose and fixty of aim let us press on toward

time in regrets over losses of time God in our work. There are do s to heard to the esh, to society. able a nad free by the State and great men to the surface. Drive a orning and to Cont and binings. tren have tenslaved us when the revent the discharge of datie: 11 nese. We have the assurance that not before obscure men.

Trine's death sign for your father.

rep away from America. But Alan had more than once vis-

Eight days out of London, a second

then crossed the Maine border.
On the second noon thereafter, trail-worn and weary, as lean astheir depleted peks, the two paused on a ridge pole of the wilderness up back of the Allagish country, and made their midday meal in a silence which if normal i utbe indian, was one of deep misgivians on Alan's part.
Continually his parse questioned the northern skies that lowered nortentously, foul with snicks—a country-wide confiagration that threatened all horthern Maine, bone-dry with drouth.

Only the south offered a fair pros-

pect. And the fires were making southward far faster thanman might hope t travel through takt grim and stubborn hand.

Even as he stared, Alen saw fresh columns of distributed amoke spring

up in the northwest.

Anxiously he consulted the impas-

and Honesty as our star; inscribe on arms shall stand before kings und our banner, "Luck is a fool, Pluck is a hero." Inscribe on your shield

cart of potatoes over a rough road and the small ones will go to the bot-Lot us accept industry, Economy

forestalled his arrival him overseas to this mortal pass. Feeture for feature, even to the hue of her tumbled hair, she counterfeited the woman he loved; only those eyes, aftense with their look of inhuman ruthlessness denied that the two were

Eight days out of London, a second clash reassenger newly landed from one of the C. P. ships, he walked the streets of Quebec—and dropped out of sight between dark and dawn, to turn up presently in the distant Canadian hanlet of Baie St Paul, apparently a way tenderfooted American woods-traveler chaperoned by a taciturn Indian guide picked up heaven-knows-where.

Crossing the St Lawrence by night the two struck off quietly into the kinterland of the Notre Dame range, then crossed the Maine border.

On the second noon thoreafter. breath rustled in his parched throat. He wind whispering among dead

Thrusting the Indian roughly aside, the woman knott in his place by Alan's head.

"No," she said, and smiling croolly, shook her head-"no, I am not your Rose. Hut I am her sister, Judith, her twin, born in the same hour, daughter of—can you guess whose daughter? But see this!" She flashed a card from within her hunting shirt and held it before his eyes. "You know it, eh? The trey of hearts—the symbol of Trine Trine, your father's enemy, yours. and-Rose's father and mine! So, now, perhaps you know!"
A gust of wind like a furnace blast

swept the glade. The woman sprang up, glauced over-shoulder into the forest, and signed to the Indian.
"In ten minutes," she said, "these

woods will be your funeral pyre." She stapped back. Jacob advanced. picked Alan up, shouldered his body, and strode back into the forest. Ten test in from the clearing he dropped the helpless man supine upon a bed of dry logs and branches.

Then, with a single movement, he disappeared.

CHAPTER IV.

Overhead, through a rift in the darkness called to mind a thunder

The heat was nearly intolerable: the voice of the fire was very loud.

A heavy, broken crashing near by
made Alan turn his head, and he saw a brown bear break cover and plungs on into the farther thickets—forerun-ner of a mad rout of terrified forest

Two minutes had passed of the ten. Something was digging uncomfortably tuto Alan's right htp—the automatic pistol in his hip pooket, of which pistol in his hip pocket, of which Jacob had neglected to relieve him. Then a sharp, spiteful crackling begongth him successfully to a sitting post-tion, to find that the Indian find

thoughtfully touched a match to the pyre before departing. At Alan's feet the twigs were blazing merrily. It would have been easy enough, acting on instinct, to snatch his limbe away, but he did not move more than to strain his feet as far as their bonds permitted. Conscious of scorching heat even through his hunting boots, he suffered that torture until a tongue of flame licked up, wrapped itself sound the thick hempen cord and ate

it through.
Immediately Alan kicked his feet

erawled from the pyre.

As for his hands—Alan's huntingknife was still in its sheath belted to the small of his back. Tearing at the belt with his hampered fingers, he contrived to shift it round until the sheath knife stuck at the belt-loop ever his left hip. Withdrawing and somveying the blade to his mouth, he



gripped it firmly between his tooth against the razor-sharp binds.

saw a vanguard of fiames bridge 50 yards at a bound and start a dead pine blasing like a turch. And then he was polting like a mad man across the smoked-filled clearing, and in less than two minutes broke

and in less than two minutes broke from the forest to the pebbly shore of a wide-besomed lake, and within a few hundred feet of a substantial dam, through whose spillway a heavy volume of water enconded with a roar rivaling that of the forest-fire itself. things: that his only way of escape was via the dam; that there was a

s work for the prize of our caller. Let us learn to-not weary in well this truth-that the great differences JUDGE CLIFFORD ENTERTAINS. in beliefe in or work. Bepond doing. Don't fret, despair, or waste between men-between men with an aim in life and men who have noneor rough usage. It is the jostlings the great and the insignificance, is and jostlings of life that bring energy, finvincible determination, a purpose once fixed, and then victory

> Mr. Robert Young returned Saturday to Knoaville where he is attending school. He spent most of the holf in that pleasant characteristic day season here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest F. Young.

Trine and the Indian-the latter wield ing the paddle. dam he saw Jacob drop the paddle. The next instant a builet from a Win-

chester .30 kicked up a spurt of peb-bles only a few feet in advance of builet fell closer, while the third ac-

ning feet as he gained the dam. Exasperated, he pulled up, whipped out his pistol and fired without aim At the same time, he noted that the



dolk, deer, porcupines, a fox or two, a A Tramendous Weight Tore at His wildcat, rabbits, squirrels, partridges

lessened perceptibly, thanks to the strong current sucking through the

His shot flew wide, but almost instinctively his finger closed again upon the trigger, and he saw the paddie map in twain, its blade failing overboard. And then the Indian fired

in the bow of the cance.

Simultaneously earth and beavens rocked with a terrific clap of thun-

der. He turned again and ran swiftly

Then a glance aside brought him un within a hundred yards of the spillway. The dead Indian in its bow, the

His next few actions were wholly

He ran out upon the bridge, threw attempt to properly enjoy himself down upon the innermest timber turned, and let his body fall backward, arms extended at length, and

the outer timber. scious thought, he was aware of the cance hurtling onward with the speed of wind, its sharp prow apparently almed directly for his head.

hands closed round his wrists like clamps; a tremendous weight tore at ms. and with an effort of incomceivable difficulty he began to lift. to drag the woman up out of the foaming tows of death Somehow that impossible feat was achieved; somehow the woman gained a hold upon his body, shifted it to his

belt, contrived inexplicably to clamber over him to the timbers; and somehow he in turn pulled himself up to safety, and sick with reaction sprawled prone, lengthwise ppon that foot-wide Later be became aware that the their privilege to do so.

farther shore, and pulling himself to-gether, imitated her example. Solid earth underfoot, he rose and stood swaying, beset by a great weakness Through the gathering darkness—a ghastly twilight in which the flaming an unearthly glare he discovered the guide. wan, writhen face of Judith Trine close to his and he heard her voice, a scream barely audible above the commingled voices of the configration

and the cascades: You fool! Why did you save me? I tell you, I have sworn your death!" The utter grotesquepess of it all broke upon his intelligence like the revelation of some enormous fundamental absurdity in Nature. He

laughed a little hysterically. Darkness followed. A fiash of light. ning seemed to flame between them like a flery sword. To its crashing thunder, he inpeed into unconscious-

er and a shudder. Rain was falling in torrents from a sky the has of slate. Across the lake dense volumes of steam enveloped the fires that fainted beneath the deluge. A great hissing noise filled the world, muting

even the roar of the spillway. He was alone. But in his hand, tattered and braise by the downpour, he tound-a rese

Delightful Smeker Given Close Friends In Hls Comfortable Home Upon the Heights ...

A goodly number of Judge J. C. Clifford's friends were delightfully surprised Friday afternoon when there came to them on the telephone speech that misakes not the distinguished owner of the voice, these words: "Gonna be busy much this evenin'?"

Well the writer was unmistakably gonna be busy much" and like to ave been the fool to say yes very busy but is there anything especially that I can do for you my friend? However, just in time for his salvation, something like a flash, seemed to whisper in his ear "thou fool, can't you discover a special significance in that question?" So like a good soldier he lied: "a-a-well--a-no-not-very" and then came the invitation that many will bear him witness is always delightfully pleasing to all who have heard it before. We are never too busy to accent one of Judge Clifford's invitations, knowing what is in store for

Everybody knows Judge Clifford's fame as a host and entertainer Well, on this occasion he just fairly outdid himself. He actually went out on the streets and highways and gathering his invited his invited guests together, under his personal guidance, escorted them out to his pleasant home on the heights.

Only one of the invited guesta failed to show up and everbody was pitying him for his stupidity when it was explained that he had given his regrets, not for lack of antcipation of the good time that was in stere, but on account of his incontrolable curiosity that led him into the folly of inquiring too much into the future. (The writer congratuthis mistake.) However, it is possibly well that he did since he is of such a peculiar personal temperament (possibly more his habit) that he is averse to taking his refreshments in the form of a flavor. He does not like this "perniller" that is adulterated by the soda fountain process but rather, if he shall ever find a need for refreshing draft, would prefer the pure sparkling essence for his.

Upon entering the cheery parlor, tastefully arranged by the capable, cod wife of our bost, from darkness without which humorously masked the recognition of the jolly marchers we found ourselves flatteragain, his bullet droning past Alan's distinguished company. The even-As he fired in response Jacob starts the older veterans vising with each other in telling old time experiences and anecdotes, such as can be so interestingly told by our honorable mayor and our host who has no equals in the town, while the younger members were joyous listeners grow bers that bridged the torrent of the ing wiser. A spicy diversion was given to this by the entrance of two with a thrill of horror; the suck of the overflow had drawn the canoe gave us some very interesting acrobatic performances. No clown in any circus that we have ever witness living woman helpless in its stern, ed, in our opinion, has anything on

Will. All attention was his. After refreshments, engagingly serve by our host, for the ladies lent unpre-meditated. He was conscious acryd by our host, for the ladies lant only of her white, staring face, her their presence in the beautiful and strange likeness to the woman that he spacious dining room only as spectators and, because honest, will not ves in masculine seclusion, eigars were passed around and the part returned to the parlor. Despite a for of smoke, which the ladies claimed to really enjoy, we were joined by them who gave a final climax to the evening's enjoyment.

At this time talk was given to more serious discussion of current topics. The final signal for retireant was a vote of the men expressing their apprval and disappoval of the Hobson prohibition resolution that has recently been before the nat ional legislaure, aftewards condensed to the question of who favored nat ional prohibition, the objection of the htree being only to some special features of the Hobson resolution. So we are greatly pleased to report that our congressman will vote for

Well, everybody had just a good time and after such expressions to the host and hostess each guest took his own way, and as by this time the moon had grown to its full glory in the heavens, we venture that orests on the other shore burned with not a fellow lost his way without our

PARMERS INSTITUTE

There will be a Farmers Institute held under the anspices of the State Department of Agriculture, in co-opcratio with the Parmers Instit Committee of Harnett county at-Lillington January 14, and at Turlington school house January 15th.

The institutes will be opened at 10:30 o'clock. There will also be held at the same time and place, a woman's institute conducted by Mrs. W. N. Hutt and Miss Jane Ward, to which women are invited to come and join in the discussions pertaining to household economics. Every one lavited to bring lunch and comp prepared to spend the day.

We certainly are looking forward ever been held in Harnett county.

T. B. PARKER, Director of Farmers Instit

to the same of the

The Trey O' Hearts

By LOUIS JOSEPH VANCE halor of "The Festive House," "The Bress Book," "The Black Bres," etc. Mantested with Plategraphs from the Picture Production

CHAPTER L The Message of the Rose. Spee deep in the leather-bound of an ample lounge-chair, of apart from the world by the ed to the unflattering that she had forgotten him.

rable solitude of the library of lon's most exclusive club, Mr. mean? When morning came, London had Law sprawled (largely on the lost Alan Law. No man of his se-Quaintance—nor any woman—had re-ceived the least warning of his dis-appearance. He was simply and suftape of his neek) and, equinting dis-contentedly down his nose, admitted ficiently removed from English ken.

And now the sign had come

CHAPTER IL

The Sign of the Three. Out-of-doors, high brasen noon, a day in spring, the clamorous life of New York running as fluent as quick-aliver through its brilliant streets. Within-doors, neither sound nor sun-beam disturbed a perennial quiet that

Was yet not peace.
The room was like a wide, deep well of night, the haunt of teeming shadows and sinister effences.

Little, indeed, was visible beyond the lonely shape that brooded over it, the figure of an old man motioness in a great, leather-bound chair. was black. The rack of his bones, clothed in a thick black dressing gown with walst-cord of crimson silk m the thighs down was covered by a black woollen rug. He stared un-blinkingly at nothing: a man seven-

eighths dead, completely paralysed but for his head and his left arm. Presently a faint olichting signal dis-turbed the stillness. Seneca Trine put forth his left hand and touched one of a row of erimson buttons embedded in the desk. Something else clicked—this time a latch. There was the faintest possible noise of a closing door, and a smallish man stole noise-lessly into the light, passed beside the desk and waited respectfully for leave

to speak. "A telegram, sir-from England."

"Give it me!"
The old man seized the sheet of yel

low paper, scanned it hungrily, and crushed it is his tremulous claw with a gesture of uncontrollable emotion. "Bend my daughter Judith here!" Two minutes later a young wom n street dress was admitted to the

hamber of shadows. "You sent for me, father?"

partition. A warm red rose, freshing and partiting like thy diamonds on the relivit of its fleshy petals. And when manistrally he took it by the stem, he She found and placed a chair at the deak, and obediently settled herself "Judith-tell me-what day is this?

"My birthday. I am twenty-one."
"And your sister's birthday: Rose too, is twenty-one."

"You could have forgotten that," the

so intensely?"

The girl's voice trembled. "You tnow," she said, "we have nothing in common—beyond parentage and this differ as light from darkness." "And which would you say was

light?" Hardly my own: I'm no hypocrite Rose is everything that they tell me my mother was, while I"—the girl smiled strangely—"I think—I am more your daughter than my mother's."
A nod of the white head confirm

the suggestion. "It is true. I have watched you closely, Judith, perhaps more closely than even you knew. Before I was brought to this"—the wasted hand made a significant gen-ture—"I was a man of strong pa-sions. Your mother never loved, but rather feared me. And Rose is the mirror of her mother's nature, gentle, unselfish, sympathetic. But you, Ju-dith, you are like a second self to

An accent of profound satisfaction informed his voice. The girl watted in a silence that was tensely expect-

were to ask a service of you the might injuriously affect the happines

t your stater—1"
The girl loughed briefly: "Only ask it!"
"And how far would you go to de

"Where would you ston toe of one you loved?"
Senets Trine nodded gravely.

after a brief pause, "Ross is in "Oh, I know-I know!" the fathe

affirmed with a faint ring of estisfac-tion. "I am old, a cripple, pricemer of this fiving tomb; but all things I "He true-that Engli

The answe

one woman, your mother. I won her—all but her heart: too late she realised it was Law she loved. He never forgave me, nor I him. Though he married another woman, still he held from me the love of my wife. I could not sleep for hating him—and he was no better off. Each sought the other's ruin; it came to be an open duel be-tween us, in Wall street. One of us had to fail—and I held the stronger hand. The night before the day that walked in Contral park, as was my habit to tire my body so that my brain might sleep. Crossing the East drive I was struck by a motor-car running at high speed without lights. I was picked up insensible—and lived only to be what I am today. Law tri-umphed in the street while I lay helpless; only a living remnant of my fortune remained to me. Then his



We Both Loved One Women

chanffour, discharged, came to me an sold me the truth; it was Law's car with Law at the wheel that had struck me down-a deliberate attempt at as meant to have a life for a life. For what was I better than dead? I promised him that, should be escape, I would have the life of his son. He knew I meant it, and sent his wife and son abroad. Then he died sudsaid; but I knew better. He died of

Tripe smiled a cruel smile: "I had made his life a reign of terror. Ever so often I would send Law, one way trey of hearts; it was my death-sign him; as you know, our name Trine, signifies a group of three. And every time he received a trey of hearts, within twenty-four hours an attempt of some sort would be made

son, but the distance was too great. the difficulties insuperable. The Law alliance with the Rothschilds placed mother and son under the protection of every secret police in Europe. But realised I could win only by playing waiting game. I need things; more money; to bring Alan

could trust, one incorruptible agent I ceased to persocute mother and son. curity, and by careful speculations repaired my fortunes. In Rose I had the lure to draw the boy back to could trust. "I sent Rose abroad and arranged

that she should ment Law. They fell in love at sight. Then I wrote informing her that the man she had chosen was the son of him who had murdered all of me but my brain. It fell out as foresaw. You can imagine the scene of undying constancy—the arrange ment of a secret code whereby, when she needed him, she would send him a single rose the birth of a great re-

The old man laughed sardonically rose has been sent; Law is already homeward bound; my agents are watching his every step. The rest is

a your hands."

The girl bent forward, breathing beavily, eyes allame in a face that had

seumed a waxen pallor. "What is it you want of me?" "Bring Alan Law to me. Dond or altre, bring him to me. But alive, if you can compass it; I wish to see him ile. Then I, too, may die content."

The hand of hot-blooded youth stole orth and grasped the loy hand of "I will bring him," Judith swore-

young Mr. Law was sole ages of his own evanishment; just as he was nobody's fool, least of all his own. The hidden meaning of the trey of The hidden meaning of the trey of the array of the trey of the sent perplexed him with men derest that before leaving London, he lispatched a code enblagram to his unfidential agent in New York.

his questions gained Alan little com-fort. Jacob recommended forced marches to Spirit lake, where cances might be found to aid their flight; and withdrew into sullen reserve.

They traveled far and fast by dim forest trails before sundown, then again paused for food and rest. And

as Jacob sat deftly about preparing the meal, Alan stumbled off to whip the little trail-side stream for trout. Perhaps a hundred yards upstream weary hand booked the state of Maine. weary hand hobbed the state of Maine. Too tired even to remember the appropriate werds. Also scrambled sahore, forced through the thick undergrows the masked the traff, found his fig but the state of Maine free- and syvingting on his heel brought up, note to a sapling, transfixed by a restangle of white pastenboard fixed to its trunk, a trey of hearts, of which each up his had been

He carried it back to camp, mean ing to commit the guide, but on second thought held his tongue. It was not likely that the Indian had over-looked an object so conspicuous on

the trail. So Alan wasted for him to speakand meantime determined to watch Jacob more narrowly, though no other suspicious circumstance had marked the several days of their association. The first half of the night was, as the day, devoted to relentiese prog-rens southward; thirty minutes of steady jugging, five minutes for rest—

No more question as to the need for such urgent haste; overhead th wind muttered without ceesing. Thin vells of smoke drifted through the forest, bugging the ground, like some weird acrid quist; and ever the curtained heavese glared, livid with re-flected fires.

By midnight Alan had come to the bounds of singurance; flesh, bone and sinew could so longer stand the strain. Though Jacob declared that Spirit lake was now only six hours distant, as far as concerned Alan he might have said 600. His blanket once unrolled, Alan Gropped upon it like one

The sun was high when he awakened and sat up, rubbing heavy eyes, stretching staing limbs, wondering

him sleep so late.
Of a sudden he was assailed by sick eating fears that needed only the brief-est investigation to confirm. Jacob had abecomed with every valuable

Nor was his motive far to seek.

Overnight the fire had made tremendous gales. And ever and anon the wind would bring down the roar of the heledest, dolled by distance

man's highly contains stood eye-ag the engine as sarrowly as the in-lian, but collie him with a count-

of the hole-hest, dulled by distance but not unlike the growling of wild animals thedring on their kill.

Alan delayed long enough only to swallow a few mouthfuls of raw food, gulped water from a spring, and set out at a destrut on the trail to Spirit

solitary cance at mid-lake, bearing

Lake. For hours he blundgred blindly on, holding to the trail mainly by instinct. At leastle, panting, gasping, half-blinded, he stagessed into a little natural clearing and plunged forward headlong, se bewildered that he could not have said whether he was tripped or throws; he even un he stumbled a heavy body, jahded on his back and crusted in heavest to earth.

In less this a minute he was over-In less this asympty to earth.
In less this a minute he was overcome; his willing hitched together, his
ankles local with heavy cord.
When his vision eleared he found
Jacob within a part, regarding him
with a face-as inshobile as though it
had been out in the bronze it resembled. alive, you shall have him CHAPTER III. The Trail of Treachery.

With Red Rosse at Her Both th. Then he jumped up from the and glared suspiciously round nom. It was true that a pro-jete in that solome atmosphere a thing unthinizable; still, there

tray of hand