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a Con Partiand, Maine and receive, some go acthis work. All succeed.

shylv and blushing.

him. I wouldn't hust Bon Button by a | well reached the cars of those above. his life," replied Zip, with an earnest, cried Mrs. Spratt. ness unusual with him.

seem to be awindy in earnest and soi- teerly," whited B a, emn this evening. What is ailing you,

"Nothing much, only I have made up | out again," pleaded Mrs. Spratt. my mind to go away," answered Zil, looking aside. 👢

"Go away?" "Y", Melinda,"

"Anywhere. It makes no difference, so I get away."

"And ain't you coming back?" "Some day, maybe, if ever I get to in running to the well. be of any account to myself or anybody

"You are of some account now, Zip, you are."

"No; I've made up my mind to go, over hand, on the rupe, could happen for us all around, so Ill the bottom with a hellow sound, when stick to it, ' said Zip, resolutely.

They looked is to each other's faces, ow of annoyance flitted over her face. as Z p's head was above ground, the

a broad smile over his jovial features: when he saw the slight frown on her masses of earth from all around crumthe other, with a glance long drawa face, he too, glanced cut, and seeing bled in, and fell with a sound as of out, grave and solemn, that seemed to | who was coming he rose to his feet, | thunder to the bettem of the well. cast a shadow of gloom on everything ready to depart, saying: "I'll call in It was a narrow escape. again before I leave and tell you all "You'll do your best, and I'll do my good by. Good evening."

'That's it, Ben Button, and which picion of tears in her eyes, and a little a glad smile lighted up her fair young mured to herself: "Foolish Zu! He is away, Zip. Don't go away." ing to marry that hateful B n Button, by the doctor, entered the room and apand is jealous. But I can't make him proached the bed. When the good see, and I won't ask him to stay. I'll mother saw the smile on her daughter's

had at last come to Zip. He was in her voice was low and tender. "So if I should not you out of my love, and he knew it. He had looked "You can kiss her Zip, if you wan't continued, raising the pistol higher and | the meantime some other man-Ben | mere bruises after all. higher till it pointed straight for Ben's | Button perhaps-stopped in ahead of | breast, "and I were willing to take all him, why, he would still be the gainer

she would have an answer ready for sent peal after peal of merriment ring- him when he should call again, and word he uttered. In power or out, up

Ben Button takes the worm!' cried Zip, of hope to Ben, days of doubt and ir- majestic figure among his countrymen resolution to Melinda, and busy days for to-day. To say that he is the foremost

and Ben was on hand with his usual

had broken through the clouds in the The name is a flaming menace and a evening, and was setting bright and | terror to stupidity and silence. I have clear, casting its last rays upon Mrs. often amused myself, when traveling Ben and Zip had met in the road ac- Spratt, Melinda and Ben Button, as through England, by simply uttering cidentally. Ben was on his way to the they sat on the west gallery of the his name and observing the results. It

For the last few days Ben had had suddenly, "if them welldiggers haven't bility; and the result was always a long gone off and forgot to shut the gap in | lecture on political events brought to a the fence around the well."

of his heart and in the most persuasive | yard now and going straight for the thing that was vile and treacherous, or well. I'll go and shut up the gap, else a long enlogy of the most glowing would relinquish all claim to Melinda's | mother; you sit still," said Melinda, as | and exaltel nature." Mrs. Sprett was about to rise.

and with well-asumed earnestness tried the calf off at the same time. She was Whole sessions, says W. E. Curtis,

catastrophe.

Since the compact between Ben and Stepping carefully upon some planks Zip the latter had visited Melinda but that were lying across the opening of once, and then she had, in a very shy the well, they peered into the abyss beand sweet way, teasingly upbraided him low them. There was no sound except for having tried to take the life of her of crumbling earth and pebbles falling from the sides of the well. The earth "And would it break your heart, Me- was loose from the rain during the day, would feel a little faint at first," --

with an eager undertone in his voice, in hel started the walls to caving all around.

"It would-almost-of course, if- Then a large may of earth fell crashbut Zip, you have no right to tak such that to the button of the well and inid questions," she asswered, looking up bare a huge hounder ha gang as if ready to topple the next moment.

"We I, you needn't be uneasy about A taint mean from the bottom of the single thou ht or word, much less take 'Oh, Ben, she ly shye! Save her!'

"Tean't, Mrs. Spratt. That rock in "I was only joking, Zop. But you the side of the well will fall in di-

"Oh, save her, Bant I'll lower you down with the windless and heist you

"Taint nouse, That rock will turn ble in in a minute," still monned Bon. Just then Z p. with head bont, came walking toward the house. Mrs. Spratt saw him and called out to him excitedly: "Zip! Zip! come quiet and save Menada,"

Z p heard and did not lose a moment

He took in the situation at ouch. With all speed possible he unwound the rope from the windle s, and after telland you had better stay right where and Mrs. Spratt and Ben to stand ready to hoist, went down in the well, hand

and I am sure it is the bat thing that | The earth was still falling, striking Zip with a lusty shout told them to

dow. When she saw a man coming up | Melinda was landed above ground at the lane toward the house, and recog- last, bleeding, braised and unconscious. nized in the comer Ben Button, a shad- | The rope was lowered again, and just Zip had been watching Melinda; and large rock in the side of the well and

Melinda was carried to the house, and a doctor was sent for. Before he ar-Melinda glasced repreachfully after rived, however, she regained consciousthe retreating Zip. There was a sus- ness, and seeing Zip bending over her, quiver around her mouth, as she mur- face, while she murmared, "Don't go

going away because he thinks I am go- Just then Mrs. Spratt, accompanied face, and Zip bending low above the The truth was that a serious thought | pillow, glad tears came to her eyes, and

leg as he spoke, "and it would never be away, change his habits of shiftless- Then Mrs. Spratt put her arms around found out on me, why it would be at | ness, and become a useful man and | Zip's neck and kissed him too, and told citiz n. He would not ask Melinda him that he must leave the room while for her love until he had made him- the doctor attended to Mediada's hurts, "Or if I were found out," Zip still self werthy of it. If, however, in which upon examination proved to be

Ben hung around the house for a while, but when he saw that he was left out in the cold by everybody, even by Mrs. Spratt, he thought it best to go.

The Name of Gladstone.

"I saw Mr. Gladstone once at a garden party, where he was lionized to an extent that is unknown in America," writes Blakely Hall in the New York Sun. 'Everywhere he west, droves of people followed him. When he began a conversation with any one, all the surtheir lives depended upon hearing every or down, successful or unsuccessful, Days passed away. They were days Gladstone is the one prominent and man in England is to put it very mildly. mention of Gladstone's name among a group of sombre Britons in a railroad part of the kingdom, will set the crowd was enough to set the most taciturn of "I declare, Melinda," said Mrs. Spratt fellow travelers in a transport of voluclose by violent attacks on the grand "And there is Blossie's calf in the old man, stigmatizing him as every-

in turn to prevail upon Ben to with- about to close the gap in the fence, pass away with nothing but formal draw from the race. Neither, however, when her eyes fell upon the wide open- business, such as receiving communicawould give in. As a last resert they ing in the ground. She hesitated a mo- tions from the executives of the states, finally agreed that each should in a fair, mest, then entered the gap, and ap- or petitions from the people which are friendly way, be permitted to plead his proached the well cautiously. On the rarely acted on. Occasionally a bill is own cause with Melinda, and let her brink, she peered over and looked into passed but it passes almost as a matter the depth below. She was about to of course, some of the members giving With Zip, so far, it was only a good | withdraw again; but the ground under | a delicate little wave of the hand to the joke, and as such he had made the most her feet gave way, and with a loud Secretary as he calls their names by scream she was hurled to the bottom of sight, others merely smiling at him, some paying no attention whatever to evenings of the week at the Spratt domi- Mrs. Spratt and Ben saw what hap- him, but none of them taking the troucile. With Melinda he made very slow, pened, for their eyes had fondly follow- ble to open their mouths or rise, as the if any, progress into favor; with Mrs. | ed Melinda in her every movement, and | rules require. | Weeks and months pass Spratt, however, he won golden opin- they now rushed to the scene of the away without a speech of any kind or even a point of order.

> Would Get over it. "Tommy," said his penurious uncle, "how would you feel if I were to give

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ea Wanders exist in fliousands of

Like a shy starded thing she stood In the wild tangle of the wood; Her violet eyes in sweet's apprise Seemed some fair shadowing of the skies; In her white hands some bluebells spent The i d and breath in soft e latent Her place I lips their white place showing Her cheeks like rose-bu-s paling, glowing, And all her child-like innocence.

Guide, guard, protector and defense, What started her? A heavy tread Ti rough the dim at les, weeked overhead By sun-flowed leaves and vibrant bought, And what of he even such shade allows, All day swe t soon is had been a stir-

The soft, far-reaching orchestra \$ 97" Office: Comer Main and Tenth Of birds, bees, whispering winds-and over The nearer fields of grass and clover Came tinkling cow-holls sifting through, As violets that the dusk and dew. A tramp comes on! the pine-leaves swee Shudder beneath his naked best;

Hestops, wild, hungry, outlawed, flerces His haggered eyes the gurls eyes pierce; But sometime; in their tender light Checas his half-savage mood, despite The lawless, desperate soul within 2-3-1y. He moves aside sine passes by, Saved by the power of purity.

> - Mary A. Denison in Frank Leslie's THE RIVALS.

BY JOHN P. SJOLANDER. * Now that we understand each other let u shake hands and be friends,"

Their hands met in a firm grasp. one with a merry twinkle in his eye and

about the scene.

ain't it, Zip Tificins?"

ever of us wins, the other shall bear no "Just so, Zip." "And everything except murder shall

"And murder, too, if you are willing | die first. There." "Say, Zip, hold on!" way right here, continued Zip without at himself as in a looking-glass, and to," she said. seeming to notice the interruption, and found out his own worthlessness, More | Zip did ' want to' and kissed Melindrawing a small pistol out of his boot- than that, he had d termined to go da on her smiling lips

Alforney and Counselor at Law, the risk to get clear, which I think I by an ambition for higher things be all right," "Helle, Ben, where are you going?"

> shouted Zip, as the former turned and ran down the road at what seemed to be almost breakneck speed, frequently for Zip's foolish determination to go casting scared and anxious glances be- away troubled her in no small degree. Ben, however, did not stop to answer, but kept straight on until he was lost to sight in a bend in the road, while Zip,

bending almost double with laughter, "Of all the chickens in christendom

a broad grin still on his face, as he also turned and walked away. Zip Tifkins, full of life, fun and frolic, had for the last few weeks been playing rival to Ben Button in the afseriously in love with Melinda; Melin- to his suit. da's young heart was fond of Zip, and Zip, homeless, careless, fun-loving rover

that he was, had never a thought that

reached into the future for an hour.

Spratt homestead to lay further siege to house, Melinda's heart. but one thought, and that was how to get rid of Zip as a rival. So, when he met Zip, he pleaded from the fullness language he could command, that Zip

heart and hand.

Ben Button with regularity spent two the well.

ions and stood in high grace.

constant admirer, Ben Button. linda, if he were to die?" asked Zip, and the break where Malinda had fallen [Life.

watching her feet closely.

"Where are you going?"

Melinda was looking out of the win - hoist away.

best. That's what we've agreed on,

am ready to do, why that, too, would which, in an indirect way, would be a gift from Melinda. That evening, Ben Button asked Melinda to become his wife; but she was in no mood to answer him, then, She knew, too, that her mother favored Ben above any one else, and that she would be grieved if Ben received a curt refusal, so she told him | rounding crowd stretched forward as if

hand and thought with Zip. The decisive evening came at last, He is of so much importance that the cleckwork regularity to receive what he fections of Melinda Spratt. Ben was fully expected to be a favorable answer carriage, smoking room, or club in any It had been a rainy day, but the sun agog in a fashion wonderful to behold.

Zip, in pure fun, feigned love also, | Melinda ran toward the well, heading

In the Mexican Congress.

you a nickel?' "I think," replied Tommy, "that I

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