THE ENTERPRISE

ALFRED E. WHITE

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VOL. V. - NO. 13.



ner, toward which Det

as Denton hnd been. "I thought you still he had g

office of the superinten

said Mislerov. "Pome one who kutur my secret has done this." Ofga is here Who else but Ofga could do the thing?"

"Did the Princess Olga come to you during the ball?" Janeky suddenly ask

the An to the

police.

y has the Panly the forge with books f The prince's e door of the lonely hu Neilerov. The prince pr ently, and Prances stund a shot in the head. Van American bridge engine demands that her father int start for Obi. Neslerov hoards the train, which breaks in two, and row has Prances alone in his power, Neslerov Orags Prances before a tand bids him to perform a marriage ony. Jack Denton comes to the Neslerov is beaten off. VII-m, nearly kills Neslerov in a duel. Jack promises Frances to save the mith. IX-Jack repairs a disabled and hauls a car containing the selection of the same selection of the same selection. ind hauls a car containing the prince and Frances toward the road they meet Gordon, re with a special car for his daugh mores will not expose Neslerov', X—Neslerov sends, his creat On X-Neslerov sends his y, chief of police, to the Si nt Denton out of the way, secretly. XI Princess Olga, consin of Neslerov, yisite e palace at Tomsk. She recognized Princess Olga, cousin of Neslerov, visits the palace at Tomsk. She recognizes in the Vladimir picture the portrait of Princess Alexandra, the deceased wile of Neslerov's brother, and commerted with a mysterv at Oraslov. X H- Princess Olga secretly learns the story of Vladi-mir, Jack Denton, Frances Gordon and Neslerov. Vladimir and Jack are prison-ers in dungeons under the palace. The dead Princess Alexandra tases som sho disappeared in childhood and was report-ed drowned. He was heir to the Graslov and Neslerov estates. The bosits was never found and it was stild that his mother was murdered by Prince Nes-for a confederate one Théres, who has a key to the Mystery of Grazlov, the fate of Princess Alexandra and the missing poy. The wounen plot to release Jack and Vladimir. After drugging the pris-on keepers they descend to the vanits and get lost in the winding passages. XIV-Jaek Denton is released, but Vladi-mir cannot be found. Jack goes away to f.ctb Papa Paulpof, who can unravel the Mystery of Grazlov. "That man did not set himself free, stid Mesleroy. "Pene one who know ed fizig "Was it the princess who gave you that wine?"

who set him free! tion, for if she knows this much will ruin me. For a short time we m

act as if we did not know the Ameri-can had escaped. But you and Unsge thop must find blm-find blm-before he gets out of Tomsk. Then, with him again in our grasp, I will deal with Oign. Foel, to put her strength against mine, and in Tomsk!" "What about Vladimir?" asked Jan-

"Since the princess came the servants have had enough to do without talking about two prisoners of whom they know pothing. Anyway, how could Olga, who has spent but little time in Diga, who has spent but little time in

whothing. Anyway, how could life can do no harm." is and none near Graslov or Perminet in Jansky went quickly to work. Uns-hear of the Paulpoffs?" that gone to another place in the dis-know not. But certain it is there traitor here. This escape, if escape but no trace of the America

it is, will cost us dear." "If escape it is! It may not be an es-cape after all! The chains are old and

find. Olga, when, late in the day, she join and the primers may be wandering calm and the steely glitter of his eye.

were asleep the Amer-The other, Paster s set fr

d or not, he ed up the ickly di

ALL BIAL ice of the govern

in, his agitation at nsky and Ut at Tivi ourse, that if one could as loffsky, Itzig was at palace

chanced to go in his search, they found another stairway leading downward. This short flight brought them to a horrible place-more florifile than the age where Deaton had been chained. This was it dufficed matte cold gad damp by the witter that stood jives inches deep on the flood, and in which bind regular that had never seen any But Nesleroy was not ask Joh and impatient, he sat in awaiting the return of his police with the American, whose liberty was a menace to the life of Neslerov. He drank deeply from time to time from a bottle that stood on his table. If he oke, he did it with a lo hickes deep do the floor, and in which blind reptiles that had never seen, my, brighter place exarled around in the slimy cose. Long strings of rotten moss hung from the walk. Here, its this noisong and ferrible place, was Viadimir, chained in the sime meaner or these had been no one was near. His spoken thus, as with a man half mad

"Heavens!" he said as he drank "Heavens!" he said as he drank again. "If he reaches Perm, and the truth is known, I shall-what will be come of me?" He started as a light footstep sound-don the head down and his heavent ed on the hard flo r, and bis ace grew paler a

"I thought you still be had game loof" exclaimed Neslerov; a flood of hope and course showing in his volce. "I shought so. In my excitement 1, believed both had gone, but if one is here the other must be, We will search the dungcons." They did not speak to Viadimir, who was suffering a with tortures, but furn tered. "Why are you awake?" he harshly. He was too excited to of phras

"I could not sleep, and I knew were not in bed," she answered came to talk."

He stared at her. In his eyes she was as beautiful even as Frances Gdr. don, but his danger made him think her a tigress sbeking to devour him. Yet he dared not show it. "Why are you alone?" asked Olga.

They did not speak to Viadimir, who was suffering awful tortures, but furn-ed and ascehded to the upper floor. Here, winding and turning among the passages, they crept stealthily-three armed men scarching for one man who was unarmined, yet fearing that the one might leap upon them and slay them as they walked. But they did not find the American and returned crestfallen to the office of the superintendent of "You usually have Jansky, the super

"You usually have Jansky, the si intendent of police, with you?" "Jansky is away. A noted prin has escaped and the superinter has gone to retake him." "I heard a comm was something of that kind.

Russian " Yes-a nihilist." "I hope they will capture him." "They will They must!" said. No slorov florcely.

The pallor of the man's face gave Janety his answer "Heavers!" he exclaimed. "The white must have been drugged! If was Olga Olga's eyes were veiled-they dis not betray her thoughts. much concerning this sy "There

tem that is new to me, and it will tak long for me to learn it all. I am already weary with the little I have

"Better leave it alone. It is a bus ness for men, not princesses," said slerov. "The study has made me wakefu

Bring me son ne wine. "It has puzzled me why you do not marry," he said, trying to hide his He marry,"

fear of her as he poured out a glass of "Why should I?" she asked. "I ha not yet found among the nobles of Russia the man I would marry." "What sort of man must be be t

He was sparing for time. Any bour night bring Janky Eack with Denton. Then he could play his part in safety. But with Denton at liberty he dared not act.

WILLIAMSTON, N. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25. 1903.

The Enterprise.

"Tes-Quick-1 am poismon-1 am drowsy-bring Princess 01,a-quick" The lieutenant, wild with apprehen-nion, rubhed to Olga's resu. "His excellency the governor wants yoil" he panted. "He is poisoned." "He is not poisoned." answered ups caluity. "He is merely going to alege caluity. "He is merely going to alege the stat you to play give: from him and I want you to sheep outer." The officer stated. "What do you ansand. He is H!" The spectrum station me and here for you." am going to him, bat at. It is my du

erov, me Read this!"

per she had shown Dermsky, Lis fello officer. His eyes started from his hea "The seal of the caar!" he cried, and he, like perusky, fell to bis knees. "I ober-command me!" he exclaimed. ."Remain quiet. I did not come to Tomsk for nothing. This night will gean much to Russia. Work will be done that will right a terrible wrong. Ail you need do is to remain quiet and

de not attempt to interfere.". ..."I dare not?" he said. "You have t seal of the czar," It commands all

seal of the exart, it commands all to obey you! I obey?" She left him, staring and wondering, and went to Noslerov. The governor was drooping. He opened hill eyes as she entropic. "Xou!" he bissed as he tried to regains his strength. He would have, killed, ber.

ber. "Tes, I" she hnswered quietly. "You will sleep." It will not be long." "What will you do?" he asked, with a curse. "T 1

"My work," she an release him - Viadimir." He made a tremendous effort to rise and smite her, but fell with a groun to the floor. Quickly Olga, taking a nistol from her pocket, ran across the ball to

Itzig Itzig. "You!" he eried as she entered, "You brought me whoe that was drugged, and my prisoner escaped." "True," said Olga. "And now the other. You were with Jansky and the governor when they visited him. You know where he is."

"I know not," grunbled Itzig. "I know not," grunnbled Itzig. - ; "That is failse. I heard them apeak of you to Unsgethop. Will you guide me to his dungcop? Open the doot" "I cannot. The key is with Jansky. It is never out of uls hands." I "Oh, heaven!" cried Oiga. "Have I made this terrible mistake?" "The key "is Jansky's," said Itzig. "No one goes to the dungeon save by his orders. "Break down the door.

"Impossible! It is heavy oak. have no ax. She turned from him and fled to the

stairs. "Lleutenant!"

The young officer, with visions of mines and the knowt and wondering where this complication would end

"Come here," she said. "I want this or opened. He looked at the door and at Itzig. "Jansky has the key, and he

ald Itzig. "We must open ft, if the princes mys so," said the officer... "What! You disloyal to Neslerov?"

The officer smilled and looked at Olga "We must take off the hinges," be e must take off the hinges," be "I will get the tools." said.

He was goue bit a moment, and when he returned he attacked the prews that held the great tron hinges. "I will alarm the governor!" cried It zlg, leaping upon him. "Stand back! Keep your bands off!"

ordered Oigq, aiming her revolver at him. "I have commanded, and I will

"Fobey." "And I will guard you, prince

reas there to "Ironufisky "3 using Pa Tablooff to tell his story before f povernor general, who has not yet rived. Janaky, the superintendent Transford have gone police, and Unstein superior felch blue. They will kill i will not risk taking blue ally your duty to rick to Thyoloff, as for your own life

Christman presents has come to be much a losid that I can't carry it any lynger, and F won't. 3 shall cut of from the list of those to whom I have been giring yearly Christman presents all except the ones whom F wish to make happy out of sheer how with to rou cut?" I With the American and Papa I in danger! No; but a drink of

when." He watched her as the stopped late Keslerer's room. He say the governor. "Keslerer's he said. "Is he dead?" "No. 1 drugged his liquor. Here is wine will is not drugged. I drank of it myself."

He drained the glass, and the

into a mere favor buying, pres-swapping, charity bestowing, fatigut fivalrous, extravingant show baza were no one at the stables. I saddled and we dr

"Good. You will be a captain row. Now, Viadimir, go!" He mounted and was off. He fol-bayed the line of the pew reliway and could not lose his way. His horse was fast, the best horse in Neslerov's sta-He mo \$5.0

"Por the American! For Fra For the honor of Graslov!" muttered

When I make him a present, I have either have the bill sent to him i months afterward or skimp the pr horse's speed. He passed through villages askep under the bright stars. The boofs of his horse rang out on the pebbles of one road or smuk into the mud of an-other. But on he went. Tivoloffsky, like all the other villages, was askep. It onder was molely disturbed by the really has all be needs noy. No: M. Perkins, Esq., we strike you first. Then there are those four J Its quiet was rudely disturbed by the hummering of the iron aboes as the borse bore him through the silent as tustreets. Right well he knew the way to the but where Mamina Paulpoff was murdered. Two horses the door. His own dashed up and whinnled. They were from the gov-ernor's stables. Like a madman he leaped from the saddle to the ground. He heard shouls, a pistol shot. my, indepen

It was something like a demon that Jansky and Unsgethep saw coming in Jansky and Unsgethep saw coming in like a whiriwind. In a corner crouch-



He brought their heads together

d Papa Paulgoff, trembling and white with terror. On the floor lay Denton, in his forehead and the blood stream ing over his upturned face. Jansky

was bending over him. "Who is this?" cried Unsgethop as fladimir entered.

THOSE WHO EXPECT SOMETHING. Of course we are ing eyes of the te.

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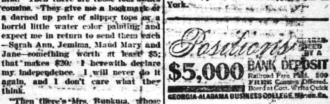
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approach. I'm going to throw th whole thing over, This year I will no Harry W. Stubbs, W. M.; Samu Brown, S. W.; Whithat Trees Charles D. Carstarpholy Trees uel R. Biggs, Secretary, They Thomas, S. D.; Henry R. J "And the first one I cut off will be my own husband. I love him of reduce I db," she wild energetically, subl=15 have no moment of my,owh, not a scaleazo F, Taylor and Office Kat varie: Richard W, Clary, Tyle STANDING COMMITTEES

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of the housekeeping or have the store bills charged up to him larger than they are to squkeze off noney to buy him something-handsome, when he CRARITY Harry W. Stable S. Brown, William C. Manning ORPHAN ASVIUM-William H. R. of St., John H. Hatton W





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Itzig."

or was terribly disturbed. He paced to and fro in the police office his face did not regain its color. He as playing for a high stake-the high -playing for his life-and the cot s

Janky sent for Itzig, and Le came be

Jansky sent for itzig, and he came be-fore them. "You went to sleep has night?" thus dered Jansky, whose theory was that to obtain the truth from a culprit you must territy him at the stars. "I swear I did not, your & eccellency?" regited Itzig, shivering in terror. "Tou lie! I went in the guardroom, and you were asheep. / I found there a portion of a bothe of wine. Who gave you that?" "I! A bothe of wine! I never tasied whos in my life. Brandy and youdka, plenty, but wine-I am too poor." "Oh, you did not buy this wine. Some one at the fets gave it to you. Who was it?"

 who put the wine is my room?".
"You are lying. A tray was also there, with dishes. You had your feast and got drunk. Who brought the stuff to any other the stuff. to you?"

to you?" "I strear no one. If there was a feast, it was some one che's." "How could any one cise ent there and you not know it?" Itsig may be was lost.

"I may have-perhaps I slept a mo

"A moment! You slept hours, the pricences you were guarding escaped." "Impossible!" gasped itzig, al

"Impossible" ranged itsig, almost sinking through the floor. "Enough of this!" said Neslerov. "Itsig is here, and if he has permitted the men to escape he can be punished any time. We are wasting preclous moments. Let us get down to the dun-geons and find them." Jansky took a pistol, and so did Ne-dietov. They went to the gunrdroom, Jansky took the lantern and opened the door and iron gate. He led the way, Nealerov and Itsig following. "Reef He has goos," and Jansky,

caim and the steely gitter of als eye. She knew he had discovered the scape of Denton, but the resolute girf did not fear him. She merely nerved herself to finish the work she had set herself to do. She had frequent errands that took her near the off e of the su eria tendent of police, and she kept her each liert to catch the slightest whisper. It was evening when sie went for the seventh time, and loud voices came from the superintendent's office. So ex-

pression # 2010 Start 1 -E

Winding and turning among the pa sages, they crept stealthily.

cited were the speakers that they did not realize that their voices reached not realize that their voices reaching the hall. "I tell you it is so!" said the voice

"It tell you it is so?" said the voice of Unsgethop, who had returned and who esemed to be angr?. "How was I to know that a man could escape from the dungeons? I beard it-that the Ameri-can had passed through Dorky on his way to Tivoloffsky. I supposed Nesle-rov had changed his plans." "Is he going to Tivoloffsky? Old Paulpoff is still there?" said the gov-ernor

be obeyed!" "Oh," said Olga, "to please me a ma "You have no authority!" said Itzig. covering before the pistol."

On," said Olga, "to please me it mai must be honorable, strong and wise He must not be bound by custion, no yet must he scorn it. There are ways in the world we live in there are ways -of being great without being eccentric "I have this." She showed bin the paper. His fac rew white, and be sank shivering and without following the lead of oth ers. A man whom I love must be pa-tient and must not use his strength against the weak." "The seal of the czar! Ob. princes I did not know! Lobey! I will do any thing!" "Help open the door." The hinges were soon off and the door was opened. The froh gate re-stated the united efforts of the two, but

A sarcastic smile crossed his lips. "You must look outside of Russ A sarcastic he said.

he said. "Perhaps," she answered. "But yo have not pledged me. Must I drin alone?" His eyes snapped with the remeti brance that Jansky and fizig had bee drugged. But she was so handsome, it willing that no since of sell internet

they sawed out the lock. "Take the lantern!" commanded the Trembling in every fiber, Itsig light ed a lantern. "Lead the way to the dungeon whe smiling, that no sign of eyil intent wa in her face. Vladimir is concealed.' "From your hand," he answered, w

"From your hand," he answered, with a show of gallantry. She poured him a glass of wine, and they drank. For a moment he waited, as if half expecting to fall asleep. But the wine had no ill effect, and they chatted on. But Neslerov grew more impatient as the night wore on. Why did this girl persist in staying up and talking to bim? What was in her mind? Was there another plot? He paced to abd fro in the riom as he spoke. When his back wai turned, she made a quick movement and dropped something-not into the wine bottle, but into the bottle of liquof from which Neslerov drank. "And I will guand you, princes, shid the officer. Thus they descended the stairs, itsig leading with the inntern, Oiga follow-ing and the officer close behind her ready to protect her. Potent was the seal of the carr." They found the giant blacksmith in his chains. The bunger he felt had not yet sapped bis strength. The key the princess had taken from its peg soon released him.

pet sapped dis strength. The key the orineases had taken from its per soon released him. "Come?" she said. "But who are you, and what does this mean?" he demanded. "Coine! We have in time to waste with words. Tonight you have the work of your life to do. Come?" The four ascended, and itzig estim-guished his initers. The eyes of Vlad-imir blinked as he entered the great hall, which was kept lighted all night. "You are Vladimir," said the prin-cess. "I am Olgs of the Neslerovs. Do you know the story of the pleture?" "The little pleture," cried Vladimir engerly—"the little one that Papa Paul-poff said he found? Yee, he told it to me and to the American one day in the but at Tivolofisky." "The nyou know the truth. The American was to go to Perm and start the investigation." but into the bottle of liquof from which Neslerov drank. "I think i will rethe," said the prin-cess. "It is late, and perhaps i can sleep now." "I hope you will find rest," he said. She went out. Neslerov watched her with a dark, safarnine face. What did she mean? He poured out a liberal dose of liquor. The wine was too weak for him. He needed something to steady his shaken nerves. He drank, it. In five minutes he was starting blankly at himself in a glass. "What is this-this feeling?" he muticred. "That she derill. I am pol-soned! What trick is this? Help! Guard! Lieutenant of the guard!". The young officer heard, and ran to him.

the investigation," "Yes, but he was brought bere." "I released him just night. He w ery called," he said.

In the whole scene. A small lantern stood on the floor. "I am your ninster!" cried the black-

mith, and the words were as if soared by a He

With a leap he landed between the With a leap he hinded between the two. Jansky's pistol and Unsgehop's hand closed on Unsgehop's neck. His left shot toward Jansky, and the super-intendent of police was powerkes, in that terrible grasp. -"Now pray to heaven," cried Vfidi-mir, "for this hour is to be your last!

"Now pray to heaven," cried Vikid-mir, "for this hour is to be your last! In this house you killed that peor old woman who had loved me. Here you have come to kill the American und Papa Paulpoff. Die like the dogs of murder that you are!, For your gripses take this! And this!"

With his muscles of iron he brought their heads together with a crish. "And this!" repeated Viadimir, swing-ing them spart and then 'together again." Flinging Jansky from him with a

Flinging Jansky from him with a curse, he stooped quickly, selzed Ung-gethop by the legs and swung him in the anis. He brought his head against like rude wooden, yall, and the bload. spuried from his mouth. Jansky, with chattering techt, tried to get his pistof aimed at the giant's head, but Vladimir caught him round the waist and sent, him, as an Indian throws a spear, into the corner of the room, where he lay motionies with a broken neck. I "Come, Papa Paulpoff," ordered Vlad-imir. "You are not infured. You are

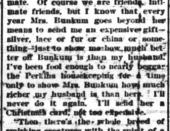
mir. "You are not injured. You are needed at Tomisk at once. But first I He picked up the bleeding and un-conscious Denton and set off with him o a nearby cottage. The priest admit

CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR

To Chre a. Cold in One Day

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"Then, there's the , prince bried of supprising creatures with the spirit of a mential who expect something in a really, blackmailing 'way. This year I thru them every one down. I declare ing in-dependence of them too. There's that Tom, the caretaker at the White Glove 'club roohs." All the-rest of the year he is so lazy and gapmpy he won't even bring argent messages to the ladies, but as the 25th of December ap, prosence an every trivial pretente, rub-bing his hands, grinning from ear to ear, bobbing his head fairly down to the ground and exping, "I wish you a

the ground and saying, "I.wish you a very merry christing, man," so that always I've feit fairly forced to give him some money. "This year I won's, I turn down'the whole crew of walt-ers, makis, people too hay and thirff-less to earn a good living and the vulgar, greedy uses who are alwaye trying to get something for nothing." "Who are left? There are the othe drem bless them! They are the othe dren, bless them! They are the only ones who cannot pay you back, except in affection, for your gifts, the ones who are honestly selfish and have a

the ground and saying, 'I .wi

who are honestly selfish and have a right to be. I must be generous to them. Then I will give what I can right to be. I must be generous to them. Then I will give what I can peally afford—not a cent more-in char-ity. Now who's left? There's dear Susie Snow, who is wearing her coat the fourth winter so that her sister Neil can have the last year in normal school. I'll give her a prefty boa to make the old coat look .nice And that's all, except a few Christman card preetings."

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