limousine drew up at the curb and

I didn't want to contradict her by

and got out. Hap followed reluctant-

ly. He wanted to see the practice be-

Natalie kept us in suspense until

"I suppose reporters were here

"Yes," answered Mrs. Hazard. "I

saw them. It's the only way to get

rid of them, but I said nothing. I

ing slowness. "I saw them."

"Thanks," she cooed with exasperat-

Hap began to glare through a win-

"I told them," she said at last, "that

also that I hadn't the slightest idea

where I lost it. It seemed the only

"Then you really don't believe you

"My dear girl, it really doesn't mat-

ter what I think. It was the only

thing to do and I did it. I might add

that I had to be questioned this morn-

ing by a big, boorish policeman who

asked me all sorts of impertment

rather lose fifty bracelets than have

Hap moved in the direction of the

door, and winked at me to follow, but

I sat still, not knowing just what to

"It's hardly fair to insinuate, Na-

talie," Laura said, "If you think

you've been robbed you ought to say

"O-o-o-oh! The police!" Natalie

insist that the bracelet is lost."

can stand any awkwardness."

"I think so," I managed to sav.

lost, and I merely thought we would,

all of us, have it understood that way.

know, and reporters so very suspic-

"But what about the insurance peo-

ple?" Laura asked. "Will they take

"Don't Blush, Dear," Laura Remarked

Cold-Bloodedly.

your word that the bracelets were

"I don't see but what they will

"Is that all?" asked Hap from the

"Oh, yes," cooed Natalie. "Sorry

"Can't promise, Natalie," Hap an-

going to the ball game; might not be

If Natalie was surprised at his re-

"Oh, to be sure," she replied, and I

have to," replied Natalie loftily.

drop in to tea about five?"

lost?"

ious and so very, very wise."

hand on my shoulder.

dow as Natalie seemed to be reflect-

Mrs. Hazard and Laura came down,

she drawled.

Natalie alighted.

fore the game.

sav.

"Good morning,"

ing at the ball grounds.

sent them to you."

thing to do."

lost it?" asked Laura.

to talk to him again."

SYNOPSIS.

Jo Codman and her sister. Loulie, are seft orphans. Their property has been swept away with the death of their faher and they are compelled to cast about for some means to earn a living. Loulie answers an advertisement of an invaid 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 ition as companion, and Mrs. Hazard replies. She offers Loulie a position as ner "secretary of frivolous affairs." Her inief 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 Launa 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. Natalie Agazziz, to whom Hapias been paying attention, loses an emirald bracelet during the reception. She leclares there is not another like it in the world. It develops that Natalie has lost several pieces of jewelry under similar circumstances.

CHAPTER VII.-Continued.

"He went for a glass of water anyhow," I told her. "If Miss Agazziz thinks her bracelet was stolen while she was on the balcony, why-?"

"Oh, & clever lawyer could twist ! ing what further to say, and I shivyou all up on that, dear, if it's a ered with pure nervousness. point to prove he didn't take the bracelet. Thieves are usually prestidigitators, anyhow."

What does your mother think of lt?" I asked.

"She thinks it's all absurd and that Natalie is just careless. Things do get lost sometimes. Natalie has so many bracelets on that arm she doesn't know when she loses one until she gets home and counts them. You know my mother isn't anxious to see me marry Winthrop; she doesn't think we'd gee one bit, on things I didn't care to answer. I'd account of his always wanting to mope in a garden while I always want to flutter about at teas and things; but she doesn't believe he's

"It's quite ridiculous," I agreed. A little silence fell between us while Laura aimlessly stirred her chocolate and I took off my hat, sticking the pins back and forth into so and find out who robbed you." it, and that isn't conducive to the general health of spring headgear. I gasped. "I can't find out who robbed was thinking of that simple life Jo me without answering a lot of dreadand I had been leading with no jewels ful questions, in which case I'd rather to bother about; where the days were not know. I insisted that I lost the full to the brim of things to work bracelet at the Abercrombies and the out, and learn, and do. What a tidy one at Mrs. Loring's because I didn't little life it was, to be sure; tidy and choose to answer them, and this must comfortable and dear.

"But I wish I knew," I said at last, "whether Miss Agazziz really lost her

bracelet or not."

"Oh, I know she did," Laura assured me. "Don't you worry; nothing ever came of those other lost brace- talie's speech. Laura put a protecting lets, except bother with newspaper men and raising a still unanswered question with the insurance company. But if anybody makes it uncomfortable for Winthrop, I'll marry him whether he asks me or not. Then John will have to fight for me; and I'm sorry for any one else suspected if John takes it up."

"Meaning me?" I smiled. "Goodness, no! She lost those oth-

er bracelets before you appeared on The newspapers are so curious, you the scene."

"Then His Grace-?" My heart began to thump as I put the question. "No, he wasn't there either. Our evidence, dear, if we admit the bracelet was stolen, is all against Winthrop. Foolish, isn't it?"

CHAPTER VIII.

A Question Concerning His Grace. We had closed the subject and disposed of it when a servant brought me a note. The handwriting was not familiar to me and I begun to cogitate about it with no Jo to hustle me, I even held it out before Laura in my efforts to guess.

"Why, it's from Hap?" she exclaimed, seeing; she couldn't help it. I opened it, noting the handwriting again before I read the actual words. A woman takes a curious interest in a man's handwriting. She deduces from it, just what, it's hard to say, but it usually makes or changes an opinion.

"Don't blush, dear," Laura remarked cold-bloodedly as I began to read. know I did blush then.

"Am I blushing?" I asked, with wide-eyed innocence. | "I don't see why. He merely wants me to go to the ball game."

"I hope you're going," she declared. Suddenly she turned upon me. "Loulie, I wish you'd marry Hap." I put my hand over her mouth,

profoundly shocked. "Gracious!" I ejaculated. "You're so so sudden! If you don't quit doorway. saying your thoughts out loud in that awful way I'll-I'll refuse to speak to have detained you. Won't you to you."

"That for Natalie!" she said and she snapped her fingers cheerfully, swered. "Miss Codman and I are "Hap's crazy."

I wasn't so sure about Hap being out then; never know when it's going crazy, but then Laura hadn't read the to be ten innings or more.' letter. I intended to show it to Mrs. Hazard if I didn't lose my nerve, just fusal she showed it only in a little to see if she thought I was getting flutter of her drooping lids. on the right track.

We seemed destined to make a day of that lost bracelet of Natalie's, for what innings are. "But bring Miss as Hap and I were getting into the Codman with you."

blowing off some of its owner's tem-

Hap assisted Natalie into the limousine while I climbed into the gray car unaided. It was an awkward situation, and for the life of me I didn't know why. Just as Hap was letting off the emergency, Natalie leaned from the limousine.

"Are you going to the Sargent musicale tomorrow?" she asked me. "I don't think so," I answered. "I to the wing. don't go anywhere unless it's neces-

sary.' "Oh, forgive me!" she begged, and the footman closed the door.

Hap exploded as the limousine Won't you come back for a moment? moved away, and I was awfully angry. have something most important to She knew I was not going to the musicale. The cat!

"I wonder if I ought to apologize saying "good afternoon," so I bowed for her?" Hap wanted to know. He so angry I didn't care if the old engine

"Are you engaged to her?" I asked. "I am not," he replied.

and as Laura had to dress and didn't "Oh!" I tried to put a world of hurry at that she appeared about the meaning into it. "I have no wish to time the last practice gong was soundbe de trop."

"You are not de trop," he replied. 'Who told you I was engaged to her?" this morning?" Natalie asked finally. "No one," I admitted: "but she gave me the impression just then."

He jerked on his gloves and we started. We were both terribly serious, tragic even-you see, we were both young-in spite of the perfection of the early summer's day, the green grass, the bright sun; and I was sure birds were singing in the trees if we could only have heard them above the hum of the engine. "May I laugh?" I asked suddenly. the bracelet was unmistakably lost;

"It seems to be the only thing to

"You may laugh or swear, just as you prefer!"

We both shrieked; as I said, we were both very young. "Pshaw; what's the use?" he asked. The world is young yet and the ball

game only commencing. Well, guess every man has to make a fool of himself once over an older woman. I am cured. Will you forgive me?" "Forgive you?" I echoed. "Why don't see what I have to do with

"No? I thought perhaps you would." I didn't answer. I know when a man is trying to make love to me even when I pretend I don't. I didn't answer because I was afraid of getting beyond my depth. I wasn't sure just how far I was to go with him before I snapped it off; and there was that look in his eyes again that I wasn't able to take care of.

be lost, too. Otherwise, it might be

"I've been thinking of that lost could quite stand that." awkward for Miss Codman. We must bracelet and the duke," she said. "Do you remember the Duc d'Aubigny, who I looked at Mrs. Hazard, wondering if the implication was more or less went to jail for jewel robberies the than appeared on the surface of Nafirst year we were in Paris?" "Can't remember, Jo."

"Well, I do now. I don't see how I "I think, Natalie," smiled Mrs. Hazforgot him. He was about the cleverest thief the nobility ever produced. ard, "that if necessary, Miss Codman His methods were simple. He just took things; a jewel simply disap-"Oh, dear me! I'm not accusing peared. His victims were rich Americans principally, who were so highly anybody," Natalie laughed, a mere tinkle of far-away bells. "I am trying flattered by his society that they didn't not to. The bracelet positively was dare expose him."

> I held on to the receiver as if I feared she would run away before she finished, and my heart was thumping so I had to moisten my lips to frame my question.

"He went to jail, did you say, Jo?" "Yes, finally. I don't remember for how long, but that was four years

ago. "But the name? Of course even a duke can change his name, but how about the Almanach de Gotha and ancestors back to the eleventh century? Did you ever see him?" I was all atremble and it seemed a year before she answered.

"Yes, at the races at Auteuil. Phil Dempsey pointed him out to me. It was hardly a month later that he was arrested."

"What-what did he look like?" "Tall and fair, with a saber cut

across his cheek." "No, dear," I answered. "This duke is small and dark, and I think perhaps the nearest he ever got to a saber was in the audience at a romantic play."

She laughed and said good-by, and I hung up the receiver with a vague sense of disappointment.

CHAPTER IX.

At Lone Oak. A month later I looked out upon Lone Oak, the Hazard's country place, and the lone oak tree which gave the place its name, and I found it good. From my windows I could see beyond the wide expanse of closely-cropped lawn a miniature forest of native firs, and through the tops of these, a glimpse of the sea, with its white sails of hoats; and the tang of salt air was always in one's nostrils. Below me was a succession of terraces, somewhat Italian, brilliant with flowers, all rowed out so nicely and precisely they looked Dutch; and the house. covered with climbing roses, was English; but something about the ensemhle was so distinctly American its didn't jar one bit.

My rooms were in a wing of the house which had been built on, Laura know she hadn't the slightest idea told me, when her father needed a larger gallery for the paintings he had smiling in a vague sort of way. I

bowed in acknowledgment of a cordial the southwest breeze the family had She arose to go as we promptly taken possession. Mrs. Hazdid and that delayed us more, for ard was next to me this time with a her adieu was languid, but when she small corridor be ween while Laura and I reached the sidewalk the gray was at one corner. Hap at the other, car's engine was snorting like mad, on the lap back, then John Crowninshield; and Natalie, who was to be with us all summer, was almost opposite me.

Laura took me on a tour of inspection through the house. It had all sorts of curious step-ups here and step-downs there, nooks at unexpected places, where an architect's fancy had seemed to run riot, and, while charming, was most confusing. I couldn't always find my way back

"May I put a smudge on the wall?" l asked Laura one day when she finally had guided me aright.

"Heavens, no!" she exclaimed. You'll spoil the fun. It's awfully simple when you get used to it."

She tried to show me just how the wing joined the house, that our floor was half a story higher on account of the picture gallery above being a gave the throttle a yank, and I was story and a half, or something of the sort, and the whole business having to fit the roof line; consequently we always had to come up half-way or down half-way, according to which floor we were on. Goodness! I know now how you do it, but I've never really understood how I do do it. She led me back into the house proper and pushed open the doors to several suites, telling me who was to be where for the summer. We came to the end of the main hallway, and she wriggled an expressive forefinger.

"Sh-h-h-h! This is to be the duke's." she said, for Mrs. Hazard had managed to jerk him from the water



"Are You Engaged to Her?" I Asked

much to the chagrin of the other an-When I came home after the most glers, especially Mrs. Henry Dykewonderful game of baseball I had ever man. "It's really two suites, but we it until you came back in the sumwitnessed—and the score was awful hope it will look like one. I hope he mer." at that, fourteen to nine-I found a won't keep the man with the gold telephone call from Jo. I rang her lace stationed outside the door. I so long ago now. Of course, since don't believe our American humor

We laughed and tip-toed in. I was curiously interested in the dainty blue and white furnishings which were to be the background of a really truly duke for the summer. I passed through a succession of rooms until I came to one with an unbroken view of the ocean. I parted the curtains and looked out.

"Why, there's our wing again," I exclaimed. "My window."

"Now, don't you go making eyes at His Grace, Loulie," she admonished. 'I suppose, really, those rooms of yours should be Natalie's, since Hap

I turned my back on her, fearful of those thoughts she said out loud. "I suppose you know," she con-

tinued to my back, "I hear that gravel on your window every morning?" "I don't see how you could do oth-

erwise," I retorted. "I don't see why everybody in the neighborhood doesn't

"Natalie doesn't," she laughed, "but perhaps she doesn't want to hear it, since Hap-"

"I suppose you know," I interrupted, "that I only get up to stop the racket. He beats me every morningevery morning. I've been thinking he might let me win once to encourage me, but it's a fair field and no quarter

with him." "Gracious, Loulie, that's the greatest compliment he can pay you. You play awfully good tennis. I've been watching."

"I thought so once," I admitted, "but I've discovered that I do everything fairly and nothing well. The trouble with me, and I'm just finding it out, is that I have generalized and not specialized. I think Miss Agazziz was rather cross at me for the muddle I made of her no trumps last night."

"She couldn't have done any better herself. You couldn't help it if John had fifteen of a suit, and got in." "She plays a rattling good game," I defended, "and I'm sorry I have to

help her lose her money." "And her future husband as well." she taunted

"Nothing of the kind," I denied. "He was never engaged to her. He told me so." "So! You're that far along." She

smiled mysteriously.

"We are not any far along," I smiled back cheerfully. "Really, truly, cross my heart. If you are so wise you might see that if I have designs upon anybody it is Charlie Ayer." That was a jab. I knew it went home from the way she turned suddenly and looked at me.

"You can't mean it, Loulie?" regarded me questioningly, but I kept "Haven't you noticed that I encour-

"Yes," she replied, "and it's a shame to flirt with him. He's such a good sort and so deadly serious. He's going to make some girl a good, gaddy, rattle-brained husband."

"That's exactly what I think," I laughed.

"But you, dear-" She paused, dismayed. "I refuse to believe it. I want you in the family, anyhow. Besides. Charlie is hanging around my elbow. I'll refuse to give him up." She fell so easily into the trap! How very wise Mrs. Hazard was, to

be sure. "I thought you wanted Mr. Abbott?" I said.

"I haven't decided." "'It's a shame to flirt with him." I quoted. "'He's such a good sort, and-'

"Oh, Loulie, shut up," she laughed. You know he hasn't asked me.' "Well, then, we could fight for Charlie," I went on.

"All right, we will fight for him," she answered, "but I feel desperately

sorry for Hap." We went out through a den which, she explained to me, was a sort of sublimated card-room where the men might play poker when the lights were out, and the rattle of chips would disturb no one. The outer door of the den opened upon a corridor abutting the wing with steps leading down to our floor and up to the picture gallery. We went up.

I was amazed at the size of the gallery and the number of pictures it contained. Men were upon ladders removing the winter coverings and revealing old masters. I felt as if I had stepped into a corner of the Louvre, or come upon a slice of the National Gallery.

"Why, I never quite comprehended -this!" I said to Laura, "Have the newspapers ever had anything to say about-this?"

"Qh, yes," she replied, "but there's nothing actually remarkable here, just good things. Some are unknown, some are even disputed, although my father wanted them and bought them. This Velasquez, for instance; looks bad enough to be real, doesn't it? Father always said it wasn't and believed it was. I really don't know much about pictures."

"I wonder your mother dare leave these things here in the country with only a caretaker," I remarked.

"Oh, there's no possible danger." she replied, "except from fire, and of course they're heavily insured. Jenkins carries an arsenal around with him and wouldn't hesitate to shoot if any one looked suspicious. The natives here don't believe that about

"But thieves?" I suggested. "Art thieves? Perhaps you'd never know

"We did worry once, but it's been has rather died, too. They are just to think that such an artist starved in a garret."

the gallery, for many of the pictures were still covered and I could come back again as often as I wished. Laura wanted me to see Winthrop's farm, anyhow. Another week and my peaceful rest in the bosom of the family would be over. Mrs. Hazard would assemble her cabinet, and I was secretary of Frivolous Affairs. I'd commence on the polish, the stick, the doctor and the adjustable peg. with only time between stunts to change my clothes.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Bitterness in an Epitaph. Mason and Dixon's line is fast becoming a memory, but here and there are to be found evidences of the once bitter hatred which prevailed in the days of the Civil war.

George W. Kerdolff, who before entering the insurance business spent much time in the south, tells this story of an epitaph rudely carved on a block of sandstone yet to be seen in a Louisiana parish:

When the slogan of the south was "On to Washington," and the youth of the Confederacy had shouldered their muskets for the front, leaving only the older folks and women and children at home, a band of Union soldiers came into Louisiana. Sighting the enemy, the aged men, assisted by the women, gathered together their scant supply of firearms and planned resistance. As the Federal forces

one of their number dead upon the field of battle. The victors buried the fallen foe, and over his grave, to this day, one may read the roughly chiseled epitaph: "The Yankee bands with bloody hands came southward to divide our lands. This lonely and deserted spot is all this -- old Yankee got."-Kan-

came up a narrow lane, the southern-

ers opened fire with such deadly effect

that the invaders retreated, leaving

Hints to Brides. If a wife or prospective bride wishes

sas City Journal.

to have a happy married life, she may rest assured that her desires will be gratified if she bears in mind the following "don'ts:" Don't marry a man for a living, but

for love. Don't overdress, or the reverse. Common sense is better than style. Never, when married, get the idea that the way to run a house is to run away from it, or that it is right to lecture your neighbors on how to bring up their children, while you are neglecting your own.

Don't nag. Nothing is so likely to collected than was afforded by the had to get in that pace-making stunt send your husband out of the house

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

ing Department, The Moody Bible In-stitute of Chicago.)

LESSON FOR JUNE 1.

JOSEPH TESTS HIS BRETHREN.

LESSON 1 EXT-Gen. 44:4-17.
GOLDEN TEXT-"Confess therefore your sins one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed." James 5:16, R. V.

Last week we beheld Joseph gazing for the first time upon his brothers. While we witnessed his joy, at the same time we noted another strong trait of character, viz., that of selfrestraint. In that lesson we studied briefly the fear and the suspicion of the guilty brothers and at the close we left them with feigned merriment (for their hearts were at unrest) seeking to put on a bold front, if perchance their fears were groundless. It was doubtless Joseph's plan to retain possession of his brother Benjamin and let the others go (v. 2). In his present joy and love for his brother Joseph seems to have forgotten for a moment the aged father.

. Gladness Shattered.

"As soon as the morning was light," the very earliest possible moment the brothers departed, and who can say but that it was with a sense of relief that they were once more well out of the city and on the road homeward?

I. The Plotting, vv. 4-13. However, all of their gladness and exultation was shattered swiftly and suddenly when Joseph's steward overtook them and charged them not only with ingratitude, but worse still of purloining the cup of Joseph, who was "even as Pharaoh" (v. 18). It is easy for us to picture the consternation that filled them when after their protested innocence the cup was discovered in Benjamin's sack, and with what shame and fear they must have retraced their steps. We cannot read into this story any idea that the brothers had any knowledge of the cup being in Benjamin's sack, and therefore they must have considered him, upon circumstantial evidence, as being guilty, and having made such a strong protestation (v. 9) that they were involved in his guilt. They were, therefore, in a place of great danger and difficulty.

Involved in Web.

Again, as last week, we do not blink at Joseph's deception and we need to remember that divination (vv. 5, 14) was later strictly forbidden in the law Deut 18:10-12 able, however, that Joseph did not practice that art. The profuse selffather died the fame of these pictures | defense of these brothers (v. 8) in emphasizing their honesty may, in the here to his memory. Isn't that Greuze light of their history, be questioned. a beauty? It always distresses me The return of the money was more to avoid trouble than because of conscientious scruples. A proper regard We made only a cursory tour of for the events of their former visit ought to have cautioned them against. undue protestations or any thoughtless promises in this instance. As it was, they involved themselves in a web from which they were unable to-

extricate themselves, Of course the steward knew of their innocence, but notice how he prolongs their anxiety by beginning with the eldest and going through each sack till he reaches that of Benjamin (v. 12). Now it was their turn to rend their clothes (v. 13); deception has been practiced upon them even as they had practiced it upon Jacob.

II. Pleading, vv. 14-17, and the balance of the chapter. Whether or not Joseph foresaw the result of his plan, a remarkable thing happened. Though in all probability these men judged Benjamin guilty yet they at once decided to stand by him, both for his own and for Jacob's sake. They thereby revealed the fact that a change had taken place or else was beginning towork itself out in their lives. Joseph. was waiting for them as though in the main he had all the details worked out in his own mind. Yesterday feasting and making merry, today with abject, servile fear they are on their faces before Joseph protesting their innocence and through the mouth of Judah pleading for Benjamin. We need toremember that it was Judah who saved the life of Joseph by advising his sale into slavery, and it was Judah who undertook to be responsible for Benjamin when they began this present journey. This is not the last time they were on their faces before Joseph (50:18), even so the day of confession before our Joseph is coming, Phil, 2:10, 11. They are called upon to give an account of their deeds, even so must we give an account of our stewardship and of our acts, 2 Cor. 5:10. Judah's plea is a fine bit of logic and an appeal to compassion, Hiswords indicate that he knew that all of the difficulties were the outcome of their own sin, vv. 16, 29 and 42:21, 28.

God always finds out our iniquities, but blessed is that man whose sin is covered by the "robe of his righteousness." This new attitude of these men as voiced by Judah is a remarkable illustration of what the grace of God can do in the character of a man. Judah's sin, chapter 38, is a type of that danger ever present to God's children.

One ought to study this entire chapter in order properly to teach this lesson. The story is one that is full of dramatic power, but do not let the telling of it be so vivid as to exclude the fundamental lesson.