had been a guiding wheel in the "machine" that misgoverned one of the long-suffering and complicated-looking machine in a cormunicipal elections were near and the Citizens' Reform league was straining every nerye to put up a decent ticket, and incidentally (and successfully) to collect evidences of the misdoings of the present

It was in this latter work that I had part, acting as one of the league's special detectives, for which I was qualified by some experience with the government secret service. It was not long before we found good reason to suspect a most asfonishing solutely perfect. Every hair, every thread thing called state's evidence," I remarked. state of things; Kearnahan himself seemed to have been in actual collusion with one or more gangs of "high-class" safeblowers and counterfelters. As yet we had not sufficient proof to convict or even to serve as a campaign weapon, so we preserved an awful silence and had our man shadowed wherever he went.

Thus, when he left town, ostgasibly for St. Louis, I was detailed to follow him. He spent several hours most innocently in that city and then took a ticket for Denver, still in my unsuspected company. As we left the depot at the destination, however, I lost him in some unaccountable manner and could not pick up the trail. I could not well call on the local detectives for help, but I went through the city as scientifically as I knew how and afterward visited Leadville, Colorado Springs and Pueblo without finding any clue. It was most mortifying for his adroit disappearance strengthened the presumption that he was engaged in shady transactions. Nearly three weeks I spent in rushing about the state and finally returned, discouraged and disgusted, to Donver.

At the hotel I glanced over the register for some time back, as is my habit, and found a name which interested me, though it was not that of the man I sought. Years ago I had known Carl Glenny at the University of Chicago, where he was one of the most brilliant men in physical science they ever turned out, a devourer of scholarships. He had made no friends, scarcely any acquaintances, owing to a curiously stand-offsh manner that he wore, it seemed to me, against his real nature. I believe I was the only man with whom he had any intimacy, and he never invited me to his rooms, and always met me with something of the embarrassment of a shy lover keeping a tryst. It was not a question of poverty. He seemed to have plenty of money. The students simply considered him "queer," and let him alone, as he seemed to desire. I had never heard of him since leaving college, and here he was at the Hotel Denison.

'Do you know whether Mr. Glenny is in?" I asked the clerk.

"I'm pretty sure he is," was the reply. "Are you a friend of his?" looking at me with some interest.

"Why, I used to know him pretty well." I said cautiously.

'We'd be glad to see any friend of Mr. Glenny's," continued the clerk, still looking at me curiously. "He seems to be a stranger in town. He's been here for two or three weeks, and to tell the truth, we're getting a little uneasy about him-not afraid of his bill, you understand. But he don't seem quite right, somehow; hardly ever seems to eat or sleep and seldom leaves the house. Maybe he's sick, but he looks well enough? Anyway, something seems to be troubling him badly, and we'd hate to have anything happen in the house. You'd better go up and see him. Don't tell him that I said anything."

So I went up. A bell boy showed me the room, and knocked. "Who is it? I can't see anybody," said

"It's Billy Kirkman," I said. "Don't you

remember me, Glen, at 'varisty?"

A crack was opened and an eye appeared, then Glenny swung the door wide, dragged me in and elammed it after me. "Lord, Kirkman, I'm glad to see you!" he cried, and repeated it. "Any friend- mains of the man. Do you know him?"

couldn't think of a soul on earth to call gold." He had changed greatly, and looked older, had been a big, handsomely-built man, but he was stooped, his head showed patches of grissle and his face was pitifully lined.

Moreover, his nerves were clearly in regs. He could not ait or stand still for a mo- know him." pointing at the golden image ment and it seemed to me that he was that regarded the roof with a yellow stare. guiping down a fit of hysterics as we shook "He kept a gambling house in New Orleans hands. I did not much wender that the then, and one night I tried to get into his hotel people were afraid of having a safe with some tools of my own invention, look run down," I remarked. "What's the matter?"

"The matter? The matter?" he said, over a revolver barrel, he let me go. rather wildly. "Why, man, I'm rejoicing. "That was the beginning. Nobody I'h a free man, pretty nearly for the first time since I can remember." "You look it," I said. "Stop it!"

He had burst into a roar of discordant laughter, rolling in his chair, and he kept he baled me out and then told me to jump it up till I emptied the water pitcher over my bail and go north, where he would look his head. Then he sat up dripping and after me. It seems that he detected my looked at me more sanely.

what I needed. But you've no idea bow they hammered mathematics and elemenbadly I've wanted help or advice. I say, tary science into me and finally matricuyou've got to come with me. I can't tall lated me for Chicago university, where you you here; you'd never believe it. Will saw me. 'I don't want you to fail in love, And now I've lost her forever and to all of mind to balance probabilities. The man

Half an hour later we weer on an evening train for Limestone, where we spent can do as you d- please and call on me by turns, but he would give me no hint of for what I want." the cause. Next morning we hired two of intermediate pulleys to a small, gal- reason for it, or for his befriending me at production of the Absolute Zero. vanized iron house fifty yards away. We tied all-till I graduated. the horse under the pines and Glenny led

locked the strongly-fastened door. large windows, ran a long bench littered work he wanted me to do and he proposed glass, quite incomprehensible to me. Dis- in St. Louis. aster seemed to have been there, however; some of the apparatus was broken and frag- had hoped to spend my life in scientific water. I could not even decide whether it ments of glass had been actually melted into little pools on the burned table.

'Nothing here," said Glenny, impaon here and we'll go below."

floor was a movable platform like that of a ested in the enterprises of half a dezen freight elevator. Glenny had lighted a long gangs of expert safe crackers and countercandle and gave it to me to hold while he felters, and he wanted to apply modern manipulated the rope that controlled the science to these industries. He never accounterpoise, and we went down-down a companied the gangs on their raids, you dark shaft, twenty or thirty feet. Then the understand, but he supplied the capital and earth walls changed to stone and in two acted as 'fence,' and got hold of most of minutes we touched the bottom.

We were in a chamber perhaps fifteen

(Copyright, 1991, by Frank Lille Pollock.) | noticed a number of delicate thermometers. For many years Mr. Augustus Kearnahan An iron shaft ran down, apparently from the room above, and connected with a small cities of the middle west. The police de- ner. Close to this was a box-like trench, partment was his and he used it much as resembling a shallow grave, cut in the rock a German baron of old might have used his | floor. Its massive metal lid was raised and mercenaries, but his end was at hand. The in the cavity lay some long object covered with a blanket.

> "That," said Glenny solemnly, "is my evil angel." "It looks very harmless," I said, more

cloth. I shall never forget the shock. I hardly of a man in solid gold, a little less than life. I sicken to think of it!" size, and somewhat spongy-looking, but ab-

and checks, electric drills and blow-pipes good work, too, and I am ashamed to say the lid and peeped in. that it wasn't very long before the scientific side of the work began to eclipse the moral, in my mind. I had plenty of time for private experimenting besides, and Kearnahan bought the costliest apparatus for me without a kick. He said I was worth \$20,-000 a year to him, and, in fact, I believe that some of the eleverest robberies of that period owed their success to me.

"But the more I came to know of my master the more I loathed him. He never public life, you know; he posed as a 'sport,' carelessly than I felt, and pulled off the but his private life was a thing to turn the stomach of a beast. He wallowed in every sort of vice, and how he managed to keep know what I had expected to find-perhaps his wits so clear I can't imagine. He used a corpse. But there lay a marvelous statue to come to my laboratory and talk-Lord!

"You never seem to have heard of the

and went to werk, and nice overk it was. For an hour I watched the self-registering came with the flash There was no sort of lawless implement thermometers go down. Down they wentthat I didn't handle. Moulds and dies for 200 degrees, 250 degrees, 250 degrees and | all. It had struck our lightning arrester, colning, chemical erasers for bank notes then they cented to work. I the experifor safe cracking-I had them all. I did an electric bulb over the slars window in from the conductor it had emashed and

bricks exactly as I had left them. Then, at down the electric wires leading underthe flash of light, they seemed to move, to ground. expand, to turn pale, and before I realized the transformation they were white as marble and considerably larger. I raised the lid, but the gush of white vapor and awful cold that came out drove me hurriedly up nothing but what you see. the shaft in the lift. When the place had warmed a little I returned. Instead of the made any pretensions to plety even in his ice, brick-shaped, but nearly a third larger. enginemen and went to Denver, where you "I had half expected something of the

rangement, which happened to be that of water. The increase in bulk simply represented the difference in the specific gravities of the old and the new compounds. "It was certainly the greatest scientific



precious metal that glittered in the candle. had it all straight against me. Besides, | ment and triumph is hard to describe material, for the form and features were those of Augustus Kearnahan.

"In heaven's name!" I claculated, "Is

this a mine? Do you mean to say that you cast that statue yourself? Do you know that it's the most wonderful thing ever "I dare say," said Glenny, "I knew you

would'nt believe unless you saw it. But it isn't a statue; it can't be called anything but a corpse-fat any rate it's all that re-I never needed one more! I swear I "I know the face," I cried. "But this is

"Yes," he said. "I'll tell you all about it. I wanted you to see for yourself. You thought, than he should have done. He probably didn't know that I was once something of a cracksman, did you?"

"I certainnly did not." "It was before I was 20, and I was quite a success at it. That was how I came to and he came down and caught me in the act. Greatly to my surprise, he did not

have me arrested, but after a long talk

"That was the beginning. Nobody can think worse of Kearnahan than I do, but he had more foresight and shrewdness than any other man ! ever knew. I was arrested a month later for another affair and scientific bent before I discovered it myself. "Thanks," he said, seriously. "That was and he sent me to a good school, where take to drink, make any friends or get religious,' he said to me. 'Outside that you sort of dry gasp.

"It seemed that I had. You remember trail into the mountains, for nearly two theoretical physics. I seemed to have a that by the use of liquid air in some way where stood the rude buildings of what was happier in my life, except for his pro- a safe door could be cracked with a ham-

living being about the valley and he un- chief of police, and I found that he had been quietly collecting evidence of all The single room seemed to have been de- my , youthful misdeeds, enough to get dead, as no created substance has ever way. with other domestic arrangements at one he wouldn't bring these things to light side, while along the other, under three just at present, though, as he had some

"Of course I jumped at the opening. work and I would rather have faced death than twenty years of penal servitude, just then. But it wasn't long before I discovtiently. "This is just my workshop. Step red what sort of scientific labors were to be imposed upon me. Kearnahan made no Then I observed that in the center of the bones about telling me that he was 'inter-

the profits. "I rebelled, of course, but what could l feet square, hewn and blasted from the do? I've often wondered since what I in the floor was the 'cooling box,' and I to white fire. I was knocked down on the

stimulus came to me." flections danced on the dark walls.

He wasn't in their class, and I would have never got anything of any intrinsic value. felt it profanation to mention Helen's

"I couldn't see her often, but she came to care for me-I know she did. Then-I had been going on in a sort of golden dream-then I seemed to wake up to the horror of my position. I was nothing better said. would have cut my threat sooner than have Fine girl. dragged Helen into the net that held me, but rebellion meant the prison that would shut me off from her forever.

"I tried hard to break the cords. plotted and planned till I almost went cape. Those waiting years of imprisonment -I couldn't dodge them. I concluded that had beter lie low for a while and wait for an opportunity. To go up for trial meant pever to see her again. I knew that!

"Well. I turned back hard to work and

"That, you must know, is the tempera-Then he sent me to his own city, ture at which all heat is absent. It is and no more iron or earth than flesh or bare head. would be visible or not.

moved the engine shed to a greater disperiments if I described them, but largely, but liquid air was boiling oil compared to some of the ghastly fluids I dis- at my watch; it was 10:30.

tilled under tremendous pressure and cold. holding physical apparatus, among which I every road but one. In short, I succumbed locked the lid and started the machinery, quake at the fearful peal of thunder that equal before the law."

light. But at the moment I scarcely real- I knew that the influence of his 'ring' Mercover, the practical possibilities of the ized the miracle of its workmanship and extended even to the courts, in a greater thing were enormous, unlimited. If bricks or less degree. Well, it was cowardice, I could be turned to water, stone could be confess, but I daren't risk it. As I got to turned to diamonds; it was only a question know the breadth and depth of that man's of finding the right sort of shock to apply unboly power I was half cowed and I tried to the deadened matter. So I devoted myto think of nothing but science-till a new self to the problem of ascertaining what sort of shocks produced certain results, and Glenny stopped, and was slient for half I worked at it for weeks. I had the termiminute. The winking candle glittered on nais of an induction coil run into the cold that strange yellow effigy, and queer re- box, and used sparks of different intensities as agents. But I could not arrive at any "Except for its intellectual interests, my accurate results; the chilled matter seemed life has been bare and graceless to an un- to take one turn as readily as another. imaginable degree," he went on at last. "I Lumps of rock changed to ice or carbon hardly realized its colorlessuess myself till | readily, sometimes to lead, sometimes to a woman came into it-if you will believe air, and once I nearly blew up the whole me-for the first time. Kearnahan never place by suddenly producing several thouknew of my acquaintance with the Lesolrs. sand feet of a highly expansive gas. But I

"I had totally neglected Kearnaban's name in his brutal presence. She was the work for some time and one morning as I brightest thing that ever touched my ex- was at work in this dungeon I was startled istence. Man, you must remember what to see him letting himself down by the my life had been—the slums and the gutter lift. It was the first time he had ever and the thieves' hangout till I was 20, and visited my mountain laboratory, though he nothing but retorts and crucibles after had written several times. I had almost forgotten how I loathed him. But I remembered when I saw in his hand a photograph of Helen Lesoir which had hung on my wall upstairs.

"'Devil of a place you've got here," he 'How about the work on chilled than a slave, chained down to crime. I steel? I see you've got Miss Lesoir's photo.

"I simply glared at him without saying

" 'I didn't know you knew her. Remember, I warned you against falling in love. gray, but I could find no opening for es- I wen't have you marrying; not this girl, anyway. " 'Why not " I said

"Because I'm going to marry her myself, he grinned. "I believe he lied, but I was in no state

eternity!" He ended his sentence with a specared to me as a pernicious reptile that a male surplus of not less than 16,000,000; would be an act of grace to kill. I sprang at him barehanded, and he flung a the night. Glenny was excited and moody for the price. I know you've got the head moved out here. I needed a laboratory out heavy glass retort straight at my head of the reach of the jar-and vibration of a It smashed on my temple and the next city. I was working upon the production instant I had him by the throat and we Chinese who do not want girl bables acsaddle horses and rode up a very devices the way I went through practical and of low temperatures, for we had an idea went down together, his head crashing counts for the dearth of women in the on the stone floor. I thought he was Celestial empire. hours. This brought us to a little valley peculiar knack for the work and I never steel could be made as brittle as glass and dead, but after a moment I discovered that he was alive, but badly stunned. The cold might have been a mine. There was an hibition against making friends. I felt too mer. It was interesting, but I presently box stood open, for I had just finished 1,000 men, a condition of things which is engine shed with a tail smokestack and an much gratitude, however, to disobey him in stumbled upon a discovery that promised preparations for an experiment, and I practically the same in Hawaii. enormously long belt that ran over a couple anything, but I never could understand the greater things yet, nothing less than the dragged him into it, muttering, I remember, 'Stay there! Stay there!' and shut marked by the pursuit of an illimitable down the lid.

"I swear that I had no scher notion of the way to the house. There seemed no where he had just got himself appointed about 275 degrees centigrade and has never killing the man. If I had been in my the hemisphere we live in, women, from a even been approached by science. A lump senses I would have returned and let him point of number, are in the ascendancy. of matter at the Absolute Zero would be out presently and had it out in some other But the blood was running down my signed partly as a laboratory and partly me a good twenty years in the prison of been absolutely deprived of energy of any face and I was half dazed with the blow as a dwelling place. There was an iron bed two or three states. He said bland's that sort. Its atoms would only hold together I had received. I hurried up the shaft and by mere inertia, and would be liable to be ran out into the woods, unconscious of Climate, too, exerts a considerable influence broken up by any shock. I speculated a where I went, but feeling driven to move. good deal as to what form matter would I must have reamed about for hours withwith strange instruments in brass and to establish me in a laboratory of my own assume in such a state. It would be sim- out knowing it, and I was only brought to zone you live in. There are more men than ply matter, deprived of all its attributes, myself by a hard pelt of cold rain on my

> "You know how thunderstorms come up in the mountains. The sky had turned "I had the underground cell built to get livid purple, and at that moment a flash of as far from vibration as possible and lightning exploded with a noise like the crack of a whip, followed instantly by a tertance. You wouldn't understand my ex- rific clap. I ran for the house, which was worked for two or three months before I came heavier, shot through with vivid, near saw my way clear. I had already obtained lightning. As I aproached the buildings I temperatures lower than had ever been be- saw the puffs of steam from the engine shed fore obtained. Liquid air I employed and remembered that I had ordered the ma-

> "I hardly dared to think what might have "Two months ago I arranged my appartus happened. I had just reached the door of for the great attempt. That stone trough the house when the world seemed to turn

"But the discharge had missed me after and when I got up dizzily and went into the ment go on for an hour more and then held | het I saw the ravage it had made. Jumping melted the instruments, split and scarred "Just for a moment I saw the pile of the table, and finally seemed to have gone

"I went down and then returned to lift the lid of the cold box by the tackle that ran above. When I descended again the lid stood open, but there was no corpse there-

"The horror of the thing almost upset my mind. I couldn't touch the golden image. bricks I found half a dozen blocks of solid I covered it up, paid off and dismissed my found me. I was free of my tormenter, but sort. It had been a success. The rays of I had become a murderer. I didn't dare the electric lamp had broken up the atoms think of Helen. What to do I didn't know. of dead matter into a new molecular ar- I think I would have shot myself if you hadn't turned up."

"On the contrary," I said, "it seems to me that you should feel that most of your

troubles are done with." So I argued the case with him for an hour in that cold cavern in the rock over the yellow image. Finally he cheered up a little and consented to adopt my view.

"Tell her the whole story as you have told it to me," I advised. "If she's any good she'll stick to you. Report the whole affair to the authorities and take what they give you. But I think I can safely promise that you won't be badly treated." "And what will we do with this?" said

Glenny, pointing to the image. "I would remark," I said, "that you are a poor man now and that you have here almost 180 pounds of excellent gold, worth some \$40,000 at the mint."

"Never," he declared. "I could as soon rob a grave. No, wait. I have a better plan. Let's see if the engines are in work-

They appeared to be, and I got up steam with an enormous expenditure of time and unskilled labor, while Glenny busied himself with numerous occult preparations. Finally, we started the apparatus and waited.

After an hour the machinery was stopped and we raised the lid of the cold box by the rope and tackle in the upper chamber. A freezing blast swept up the shaft, followed by a cloud of white vapor. Its touch made me shudder. I hardly knew why. Glenny was pale and impatient.

Presently we went below. There was nothing in the box, absolutely nothing.
"Melted to air!" he muttered. "Melted to air! My God, Kirkman, from this day I never touch these devil's arts again!" Then we ascended the shaft for the last time and went out to where the horses were stamping under the pipes.

WANTS 15,000,000 MORE WOMEN.

Statistics Showing that a Bachelor is a Blessing in Disguise.

The government of one of the Prussian states has just passed a law warning all bachelors to marry under a heavy penalty. Some of the men have gone over to the majority and become husbands rather than pay the fine imposed by the new act; but generally speaking, the new move has proved a failure.

Instead of it having the desired effect and reducing the number of spinsters and increasing that of the benedicts to any great extent, relates Pearson's Weekly, it has taken a contrary course. There has been a sort of general exodus of the young men from the country, who have gone to live in the neighboring German states, where they may remain bachelors.

It is quite a common thing to hear people in Britain describe a bachelor as a selfish person, and as an object lesson for the belief, held in reverence by thousands, that every bachelor cheats seven women out o chance of marrying.

As a matter of fact, there are in th world 15,000,000 fewer women than men, so, therefore, supposing that every eligible man wanted to marry-happily all men don'twomen for distribution as wives; indeed there would have to remain 15,000,000 bach elers.

Taking America and Australia, there are 1,500,000 more men than women, so that bachelordom in those countries is an enforced necessity.

In Britain there are more women that men, it is true, and if our unmarried girls -the surplus who are not engaged-have any matrimonial ambitions they have only to proceed either to Australia or the United States in order to realize their highest as pirations.

Now, lumping the countries of Europe together, we arrive at a grand total of 334,000,000 of human beings, with nearly 4,000,000 more women than men. Population statistics show that it is not every country in Europe which has a population comprising more women than men. The greater powers are placed in that position. but in Italy, for example, and also in Servia, Bulgaria, and in the states adjoining Turkey in Europe, there are more men than women.

And even where the women outnumbe the men the difference between the two sexes is really not very alarming. Six nations of Europe, including Great Britain, have only, on the total population seventy women in excess of men per 1,000, whilst in Germany, France, Belgium, Austria and Russia, the surplus female population represents only about fifty per 1,000.

It is a popular statistical fact that where the population is thickest there you are sure to find the number of men in the minority.

Asia has a population of \$15,000,000, with Africa has 1,000,000 more men than women. In China the question of the sexes is a moot one. The summary disposal of the new-born female infants by those of the In Hong Kong the sexes are very uneven

there being fewer than 500 women to every In those countries where progress is

number of industries, such as is followed by the majority of the nations constituting And by the same rule, where the people follow a pastoral life, as, for instance, the Boers, who will find that their community is made up of more men than women.

in determining the multiplicity of either sex-we mean the climate peculiar to the women in tropical zones, but there are more women than men in temperate zones.

refuse to permit a party to introduce evidence of the general good character of his I not more than half a mile distant. The rain own witnesses, who are Chinese, where there has been no attempt to impeach their character, holds the United States circuit court of appeals in the case of Woey-Ho against United States (109 Fed. Rep., 888.) chinery to be started at 9 o'clock. I looked The court said that "a court is not at liberty to arbitrarily and without reason reject or discredit the testimony of a witness upon the ground that he is a Chinaman, an Indian, a negro or a white man. All people, solid rock. At one side stood a small table ought to have done. The prison blocked put haif a dozen ordinary bricks in it, threshold, and distinctly felt the earth or country, whether rich or poor, stand without regard to their race, color, creed

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