THE CIRCULAR STAIRCASE

ROBERTS RINEHART IL I LISTRATIONS BY RAYWHITERY

SYNOPSIS.

he Miss Innes locked up for the night, the was startled by a dark figure on the synanda. She passed a terrible night, which was filled with unseemly noises, in the morning Miss Innes found a transpe shak cuff button in a clother imper. Gertrude and Hulsey arrived tith Jark Bailey. The house was awakned by a receiver shot. A strange man cas found shot to death, in the hall proved to be the body of Arnold Armitist, whose hunker father swaned the suntry house. Miss Innes found Hallying whose hunker father swaned the suntry house. Miss Innes found Hallying whose hunker father swaned Decitive Jamiessen and the encourer arrived entrude revealed that she was engaged Jack Bailes, with whom she had clied in the belliand room a few moments before the murder. Jamieson told his lines that she was hiding evidence use the fill. Miss Innes that she was hiding evidence

CHAPTER XIII .- Continued.

came out about two o'clock in the aft. "What do you mean?" I asked, ernoon, and walked up from the sta-startled. But Louise was literal. tion. I was favorably impressed by "He didn't come back that night," had been employed by the Brays' until that I should see him." one assistant, and I was glad enough that we could attend to instead?" ant-faced young fellow, with black it myself," she said dully. hair and blue eyes, and his name was Halsey came to the door at that mo Coular about Alex, because, as I said Liddy for admission to the sick room. before, he played an important part

into the character of the dead banker. her pillows at the sound of his voice. my better judgment I went.

it between both of mine.

come like this-'

but of getting well. I said, patting an old woman. I would not bring him proper way to make beef-tea for

her hand. "When you are better, I um going to scold you for not coming here at once. This is your home, my ory that made me call out sharply. dear, and of all people in the world. Halsey's old aunt ought to make you my sewing and wert into the boudior and morning to greet his young mis-She smiled a little, sadly, I thought.

"Miss Innes, there are a great stand, I am afraid. I am an imposter on your symmethy, because I-I stay here and let you lavish care on me. superfluous things. and all the time I know you are going heart."—Halsey's voice. "Why didn't On Thursday Mr. Harton, the Arm-

"Nonsense" I said briskly. "Why, what would Halsey do to me if I even rentured such a thing? He is so big and masterful that if I dared to be



He Looked Young and Vigorous.

anything but rapturous over you, he would throw me out of a window. Indeed, he would be quite capable of it." She seemed scarcely to hear my faretions tope. She had eloquent brown eyes—the innexes are fair, and prone you must not try to see me again. As to a grayish-green optic that is better for use than appearance—and they here—where you are all so much kind--emed now to be clouded with trou- er than I deserve. And whatever you

Mas lanes, I cannot marry him, and ry-another man. How you must hate I am afraid to tell him. I am a cow- me-hate me! ard-a coward"

her. She was too ill to argue with, he went back to her again. I could and besides sick people take queer hardly sit still; I wanted to go in

are stronger," I said gently. But there are some things I must made together, the hopes, the-all of tell you," she insisted. "You must it-over! Well, I'll not be a baby, wonder how I came here, and why I and I'll give you up the minute you stayed hidden at the lodge. Dear old say 'I don't love you and I do love-Thomas has been almost crary, Miss some one else!" innes. I did not know that Sunnyside was rented I knew my mother wished "but, very soon, I shall marry-the to cent it, without telling my-step- other man." reached her after I left. When I phant laugh.

have taken a cold on the train." or California," I said, "and like all hear nothing more, although I moved

started east. I had only one idea-to



"I Am Very Sorry You Have Made This Decision," He Said.

did not disturb her.

CHAPTER XIV.

An Egg-Nog and a Telegram.

We had discovered Louise at the

lodge Tuesday night. It was Wednes-

day I had my interview with her.

Thursday and Friday were uneventful,

save as they marked improvement in

our patient. Gertrude spent almost

grown to be great friends. But cer-

tain things hung over me constantly;

the coroner's inquest on the death of

day, and the arrival of Mrs. Arm-

strong and young Dr. Walker, bring-

ing the body of the dead president of

Then, too, I was anxious about the

Louise of either death.

I was aghast.

come back."

"Here!" I said. "Surely you are

"Miss Innes," she said, "has my was staring with sad eyes at the The gardener mentioned by Halsey stepbrother Arnold gone away?"

His references were good-he she said, "and it was so important

they went to Europe, and he looked "I believe he has gone away," I reyoung and vigorous. He asked for plied uncertainly. "Isn't it something to get off so easily. He was a pleas. But she shook her head. "I must do

Alexander Graham. I have been par- ment and I could hear him coaxing all the time with her, and the two had "Shall I bring him in?" I asked

Louise, uncertain what to do. The That afternoon I had a new insight girl seemed to shrink back among Arnold Armstrong, to be held Saturhad my first conversation with I was vaguely irritated with her; louise. She sent for me, and against there are few young fellows like Halsey-straightforward, honest, and will-She held out her hand and I took ing to sacrifice everything for the one woman. I knew one once, more than What can I say to you. Miss In- 30 years ago, who was like that; he children. With their mother's inheritance swept away in the wreck of the I take out his picture, with its cane bank, and with their love affairs in a I thought she was going to break and its queer silk hat, and look at it. disastrous condition, things could But of late years it has grown too scarcely be worse. Added to that, the You are not to think of anything painful; he is always a boy—and I am cook and Liddy had a flare up over the back if I could. Louise, and, of course, the cook left.

Perhaps it was some such mem-I think, to turn Louise over to our

"Come in, Halsey." And then I took care, and Thomas went upstairs night beyond to play propriety. I did not tress from the doorway. Poor try to hear what they said, but every Thomas! He had the faculty-found I ought not to see Halsey," she word came through the open door with still in some old negroes, who cling to curious distinctness. Halsey had evi- the traditions of slavery days-of dently gone over to the bed and I making his employer's interest his. It suppose he kissed her. There was si- was always "we" with Thomas. I

"It was because I couldn't trust my- that Mrs. Armstrong was coming east too weak to struggle to-day; oh, Hal- arrive Monday. He came with some sey, how I have wanted to see you!"

"We could go away," he was say side, as it was Mrs. Armstrong's deing. What does it matter about any sire to come directly there. one in the world but just the two of us? To be always together, like this, hand in hand; Louise-don't tell me mistaken, Mr. Harton. I should think. it isn't going to be. I won't believe after-what happened here only a few

You don't know; you don't know," Louise repeated dully. "Halsey, I care "Nevertheless," he replied, "she is -you know that-but-not enough to most anxious to come. This is what for the house," he said, harking back

sternly. "You cannot look at me with there at once." your honest eyes and say that." "I cannot marry you," she repeated not going to do anything of the kind.

miserably "It's bad enough, isn't it? I and mine have suffered enough at Don't make it worse. Some day, be- the hands of this family. I rented the in the neighborhood named Carring

Then it is because you have never have moved out here for the summer. loved me. There were depths of hurt My city home is dismantled and in the head. "Carrington? No, I don't repride in his voice. You saw how hands of decorators. I have been here member any such family. There used much I loved you, and you let me one week, during which I have had to be Covingtons down the creek." think you cared-for a while. No- not a single night of uninterrupted that isn't like you, Louise. There is sleep, and I intend to stay until I and the subject lapsed. something you haven't told me. Is it have recuperated. Moreover, if Mr. -because there is some one else?"

"Yes," almost inaudibly.

"Louise! . Oh, I don't believe it." "It is true," she said sadly. "Halsey. soon as I can. I am going away from hear about me, try to think as well Poor Halsey!" she said softly, of me as you can. I am going to mar-

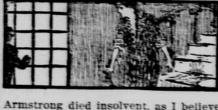
I could hear Halsey cross the room I sat beside the bed and stared at to the window. Then, after a pause and give her good shaking.

"Then it's all over," he was saying with a long breath. "The plans we

"I can not say that," she breathed. but the news must have I could hear Halsey's low trium-

"I defy him," he said. "Sweetheart, alone with my thoughts for a time, as long as you care for me, I am not at Fourteenth street, volunteered n bury myself here. Then I-must afraid."

The wind slammed the door between You came east in clothing suitable the two rooms just then, and I could this startling information, given in all ang garls nowadays, I don't suppose my chair quite close. After a dis- more amazed to hear the bridegroom wear finnels." But she was not creet interval, I went into the other saying: "Just a minute now and we room and found Louise alone. She come to Grace street."



Armstrong died insolvent, as I believe was the case, his widow ought to be glad to be rid of so expensive a piece of property."

The lawyer cleared his throat. "I am very sorry you have made this decision," he said. "Miss Innes, Mrs. Fitzhugh tells me Louise Armstrong is with you."

"She is." "Has she been informed of thisdouble bereavement?"

"Not yet," I said. "She has been very ill; perhaps to-night she can be

"It is very sad; very sad," he said. "I have a telegram for her, Miss Innes. Shall I send it out?"

"Better open it and read it to me," I suggested. "If it is important, that will save time"

There was a pause while Mr. Harton opened the telegram. Then be read it slowly, judicially. " 'Watch for Nina Carrington. Home Monday. Signed F. L. W.

"Hum!" I said. "'Watch for Nina Carrington. Home Monday.' Very well, Mr. Harton, I will tell her, but she is not in condition to watch for any one" "Well, Miss Innes, if you decide to

er-relinquish the lease, let me know," the lawyer said.

"I shall not relinquish it," I replied, and I imagined his irritation from the way he hung up the receiver.

I wrote the telegram down word for word, afraid to trust my memory, and decided to ask Dr. Stewart how soon Louise might be told the truth. The closing of the Traders' bank I concherub painted on the ceiling over the bed, and because she looked tired I

> to show me a dozen big yellow eggs known as "lingerie" hats. New models home as when made elsewhere. nesting among the bottles.

of your anemic store eggs, but the real dimities, lawns and mills, in fact any row and quite often the under brim is thing—some of them still warm. Feel sheer, pretty midsummer material, faced with scant ruffles sewed in the them! Egg-nog for Miss Louise!"

and before he left, he insisted on go lingerie hat. The prettiest models double raffle over the brim, for girlish ing back to the pantry and making show combinations of all-over em- wearers. an egg-nog with his own hands. Some broidery and the materials I have The lingerie hat, by the way, is how, all the time he was doing it. I mentioned. had a vision of Dr. Willoughby, my The safest designs for the amateur has been called the "baby" hat benerve specialist in the city, trying to are those made of edgings of lace or cause it was first made for little girls the Traders' bank. We had not told make an egg-nog. I wondered if he embroidery, either wide or narrow. when they graduated out of bonnets ever prescribed anything so plebetan All the hats are made over wire and took on the dignity of hats built -and so delicious. And while Dr. frames which are first covered with on a frame. It is durable and beauti-Stewart whisked the eggs he talked. very sheer mull or with chiffon. This ful and may be taken apart and the fided, a little red in the face from the the fi exertion, "after I went home the other for the brim and laid smoothly over it has come to stay. day, that you would think me an old the crown. A scant ruffle of wide gossip, for saying what I did about

Walker and Miss Louise." Mrs. Watson had been glad enough, "Nothing of the sort," I protested. "The fact is," he went on, evidently justifying himself, "I got that piece of information just as we get a lot of things, through the kitchen end of the house. Young Walker's chauffeur-Walker's more fashionable than I am, and he goes around the country in a Stanhope car-well, his chauffeur comes to see our servant girl, and he lence for a moment, as if words were miss him sorely; pipe-smoking, obse- told her the whole thing. I thought quious, not over reliable, kindly old it was probable, because Walker spent a lot of time up here last summer, when the family was here, and beyou trust me, and send for me be- strongs' legal adviser, called up from sides, Riggs, that's Walker's man, had town. He had been advised, he said, a very pat little story about the doctor's building a house on this properself," she said in a low tone. "I am with her husband's body and would ty, just at the foot of the hill. The sugar, please." hesitation, at last, to the fact that he

The egg-nog was finished. Drop by There was something I did not hear, had been further instructed to ask drop the liquor had cooked the egg. me to relinquish my lease on Sunny and now, with a final whisk, a last toss in the shaker, it was ready, a symphony in gold and white. The doctor sniffed it.

"Real eggs, real milk, and a touch of real Kentucky whisky," he said. He insisted on carrying it up himdays ago, she would never wish to self, but at the foot of the stairs he paused.

she says: 'Use every possible means to the old subject. "Drawn by Hus-"That is not true, Louise," he said to have Sunnyside vacated. Must go ton in town. So I naturally believed him "Mr. Harton," I said testily, "I am

When the doctor came down, I was ready with a question. "Doctor," I asked, "is there any one

house at an exorbitant figure and I ton? Nina Carrington?"

"The name was Carrington," I said.

(TO BE CONTINUED)



DRESS SUIT FOR A CHURCH

Interesting Information Given by the Groom to the Shrinking Bride.

They were on their honeymoon-he, all-important; she, timid and shrinking. He intended that she should miss none of the sights as they rode down Broadway, New York, in an open car one hot night, so he called her attention to various points of interest in a very loud voice and with elaborate gesticulation. His ideas, however, were rather hazy as to location, and she looked in vain, at his solicitation, for the Metropolitan tower clock on the Flatiron building, although she assured him timidly that

she had seen it. Then the conductor, for her horsemanship, an accomplish-"This is Herald square, where the new her. Pennsylvania station is to be." After seriousness, passengers were even

"Grace street?" she asked. "What's that?"

"Oh, that's a big church, where all the swells go. Here it is now-as the stately outline of the church came in view-and would you believe it? You can't get in without a dress suft?" It was with real regret that an interested listener had to signal for the car to stop.

Woman a Rural Mail Carrier. Mrs. Carrie Doherty King, of Crystal Springs, Miss., is the only woman mail carrier in her state. She delivers mail on a rural route, making a circuit of about 25 miles a day. In her girlhood she won many trophies ment that is now of great service to

Prof. David W. Marks, who died in London recently, was probably the only Jewish minister who held a place with the same congregation 69 years. Millinery for All





this year show many fabrics which If narrow edging, of lace or em-

that a few examples of those hats scallop. In such a hat the crown is soon, or she might hear it in some which are likely to be most successed made by sewing two rows of edging ful in the hands of the amateur, are together and making a small puffed Dr. Stewart came about four o'clock, interesting just now. These are the crown of them. A band and bow of bringing his leather satchel into the hats made of embroidery or lace or wide ribbon and a cluster of familiar house with a great deal of care, and Swiss and batiste which have come garden flowers finishes the hat, which opening it at the foot of the stairs to be a staple for midsummer, and are is quite as satisfactory when made at

"Real eggs," he said proudly. "None have not been used heretofore. Fine broidery, is used it is sewed row on such as are used for midsummer same way. Very sheer batiste or oth-He was beaming with satisfaction, gowns, is considered available for the er embroidery is often laid in a full

worn by maid and matron alike. It "I said to Mrs. Stewart," he con- first covering is either shirred over materials laundered. Study the lininto a fitted casing gerie hat for, like the lingerie waist,

flouncing, about 6 yards insertion, 11/2

yard ribbon, 114 yard lace for edging

WEAR HAT IN HOT WEATHER

Important for the Girl Who Has a

Shades.

Dislike for Hair of Different

Do you want streaked hair of 17

If you do not you must make up

different shades when next autumn

JULIA BOTTOMLEY.

PRETTY IDEA FOR DRESS | Materials required: about 7 yards embroidery 18 inches wide, 3 yards



All-over piece embroidery and deep flouncing are used for this; the piece embroidery is used for the princess

A simple but beautiful coat for wear

lucky remnant or two the expense will

Dividing by Two.

"How many brothers have you?" the

"I have four and a half," replied the

sides, the slashings being connected low the elbow and are edged with a

divided by ribbon.

be slight.

dense woman.

have nine half-brothers."

brothers?

your mind to wear a hat during the A bother, you say? Of course. Did you ever know anything connected with keeping fresh that wasn't a bother? And it is not half as hard as spending time and money later getting over

comes around?

Too strong a dose of sun acts on the hair by drying natural oils in the scalp and then burning just as a hot flatiron scorches linen.

the effects of sunburnt hair.

If it is impossible for you to wear a hat, oil must be rubbed regularly into AUTOMOBILE TIRES Tire Repairs and the scalp to counteract this drying

Remember that the most beautiful hair in the world comes from the M. Spiesberger & Son Co. peasant women of Britany, who keep

Irish Lace Collars.

With the return of warm weather upper part, the seams outlined by in- the fashion has swerved back to Irish sertion; the deep flounce is gathered lace collars. We will wear more of to a strip of insertion that is sewn them this summer than for years. The to lower edge of princess part. The girl in her new suit has mostly Irish collar and sleeve bands are of plain lace around the neck. For this reason cambric. The plaited frills of cam- she wears a four-inch Irish lace collar bric that finish the puffed sleeves are around her coat and a four or six inch one around her blouse, which is col-Hat of white straw, the brim slight- larless. This collar dips down for an y turned up in front, a wreath of inch in front and is finished with a May blossom forms the trimming. | plaited jabot of Irish lace and linen.

Warm Weather Sleeves. Undoubtedly the short sleeves are over a lingerie gown in the summer here, and it is delightful to couple evenings is of black chiffon, cut three | comfort with the new style. quarter length and slashed at the In blouses the sleeves come just be

by taffeta silk tabs. The half sleeves turned-back cuff or a plaited frill of are slashed and caught in the same net or sheer linen. manner, and in front-the neck is cut A latitude that should appeal to very low-the only fastening is a tas- every woman is allowed in the matter sel of silver cord. All the edges are of fulness. The kimono sleeve, gathembroidered in a wave design in the ered into a straight band, with no fulsilver. The chiffon may be mounted ness at the shoulder, vies with the over light taffeta silk, and net may be slightly full pattern with its gathers

substituted as the coat material. This at the armhole. Then, again, there is wrap may sound difficult to make, but a closely-fitting French monarchy it is not so; and with the help of a model that many are using. "It is so much easier to wash one's forearms than to discard a blouse after a single wearing," said a woman the other day. The question of cleanliness is decidedly a point in favor of

the short sleeves. Chantecler and peasant influence "Nonsense!" cried the questioner. holds good in the summer fashions "How can you have four and a half both in color an line.

"How can I help having four and a Persian patterns are seen in cot balf?" retorted the dense woman. "I ton and silk crepes; sometimes they form the entire garment.

Novelty. "I thought you told me you had something original in this libretto," said the manager, scornfully. "Here at the very outset you have a lot of merry villagers singing, 'We are hap-

py and gay!"" "You don't catch the idea at all." replied the poet, wearily. "The 'g' is soft. It should be pronounced 'happy

SOFT, WHITE HANDS

and jay."

May Be Obtained in One Night.

For preserving the hands as well as for preventing red ess, roughness, and chapping, and imparting that velvety softness and whiteness much desired by womes Cuticura Soap, assisted by Cuticara Ointment, is believed to be superior to all other skin soaps. For those who work in corrosive liquids, or at occupations which tend to injure the hands, it is invaluable.

Treatment-Bathe and soak the hands on retiring in a strong, hot, creamy lather of Cuticura Soap. Dry and anoint freely with Cuticura Ointment, and in severe cases spread the Cuticura Ointment on thin pieces of old linen or cotton. Wear during the night old, loose gloves, or a light bandage of old cotton or linen to protect the clothing from stain. For red. rough, and chapped hands, dry, fissured, itching, feverish palms, and shapeless nails with painful finger ends, this treatment is most effective. Cuticura Remedies are sold throughout the world. Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., sole proprietors, Boston, Mass.

His Big Bill. Guest-How long is this lease of your hotel to run?

Hotel Clerk-What lease? Guest-The one I just gave you the money for.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup.

illines teething, softens the gums, reduces in
ation allays pain, cures wind colle. Ecs bottle Many of us have cause to be thank

ful for what we don't get.

Lots of marriages merely demos strate that misery loves company.



The process of digestion and assimilation depends entirely upon the condition of the stomach. If yours is weak take a short course of the Bitters. It prevents Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Cramps and Diarrhoea.



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