## 

 tact with the man of his dream．Hoever，now that the search had been
trusted to the proper persons，，his ow
action in the matter was not wor
troubling about．I gave nim ma
cautions．He was to be quiet a
guarded in words and manner．1
gae not to converse with strange
wa he found himsels dogged or wateh
it
by anyone he was to communt

## CHAP Crowled． gre

＂You＇re paid to do my work，not an－
other＇s，＂sald Carriston．＂Go to the man who has overbribed you and sent
you to tell me your liee．Go to him．
tell him that once more he has falled． out of my sight．
mencing hostile operations，the man
led as far as the doorway．There，be－ ing in comparative satety，he turned ＂You＇ll smart for the ＂You＂
＂when th
lunatic F
I was giad to gee that Carriston paid
no attention to this parting shaft．
He no atention to this parting shaft．
turned hht back scornfuly，and
fellow left the room and the bouse． Now are you convin
Carriston，turning to me． ＂Convinced of what？That his tale
is untrue，or that he has been misied， ${ }^{\text {amn quite certain．}}$ Tush！That is not
ation．Don＇t you see that Ralph has
done all this？I set that man to watch him；he found out the esplonage；sub－
orned my agent，or your agent $I$ should sayed nent him hent，or your with a trumpent－up
tale．oh，yes；I was to belleve that
the Madeline had deserted me－that was to
drive meoot of my senses．My cousin
is a fool alter all！＂ a Without further proof I cannot be－
＂ilevo that your susplicons are correct，＂
eat some besitation．
＂Prooft A clever man like you ought
oo see ample proof in the fact of that to see ample proof in the fact of that
wretek having twice called me a mad－
man．I have seen him but once before you know if I then gave him any
grounds for making such an assertion．
Tell me，fgrom whom could he have learnt the word except from Ralph Car－
riston？＂＇ I was bound，if only to save my own
reputation for sagactit，to contess that
the polnt noted by Carriston bad raised the point noted by Carriston had ralsed
certain doubts in my mind．But if
Ralph Carriston really was trying by some finely－wrought scheme
about what he desired，there the more re
exercised．
＂I am eorry you beat the fellow，＂I
said．＂He will now owear right and
lett that you were not in your senses．＂，
＂Ot course he will？wher Only remember this．It is easier
get put into an asylum than to get ou man like me to be put in，especially
when he is on his guard．I have looked Raiph must be the prime actor in the
mystery．
But in sober moments such a deduc－
tion seemed an utter absurrdity．
Although I have said that Carriston when he is on his guard．I have looked
up the law．There must be a certif－
uate signed by two doctors，surgeons－ Although I have said that Carriston
was doing nothing towards clearing up the mystery，I wronged him in so say－
ing．After his own erratite way he was
at work．At such work too：1 really
lost alk patience with him．
He shut himself un in his yom，out
of which he searcely stirred for three
days，By that time he had complet
of which he scarcely stirred for three
days．By that tme he had completed
a large and beautifful drawing of his
imaginary man．This he took to a
well－known photographer＇s．and on－
dered several hundred small photo．
graphs of it to be prepared as soon as dered several
graphs of to be prepared as soon as
possible．The minute description
whith he had given me of his fanciful
creation was printed at the foot of each
copy．As oon as the first batch of
and cop
the
ho
sho a step nearer to the discovery of Made sign of doing anything to facilitate that
discovery．Again I urged him to in－
truast the whole affair to the police．
Again he refused to do os，adding that
he was not quite ready．Ready for home，to my great joy he did what he
should have olone days agoo yielded to
my wishese，and put he matter into th
hands of the police．
t was glad to find that in giving de
tails of what had happened he saic talls of what had happened he said
nothing about the advisatility of keep－
ing a watch on Ralph acristons pro－
ceedings．He diti indeed ofter an ab－
surdy large reward for the discovery
of the missing girl，and，moreover．
ond xiv．

率MUST confess，in
spite of my affe－
tion for Carriston
Ifelt melifned to re－
bel against the bel against th
counse which mat
ters were taking

was a pronale， <br> $$
2
$$

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## 为 <br> ＊

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## Was as much as I could do to belleve that Carriston wae not mad．Any doc hor who know what I knew would have

 tor who kn3w what I knew wouldgiven the verdict against him．
 they deserved，the fact of a man wh
was mady，passlonately in love with
wom was mady，passionately in love with
womana and who believed that she had
been entrapped and was still kept in
 Itself prima facie evidence of insanity
A sane man would at once have set al
the englies of detection at work the englines of detection at work．
I felt that if once Ralph Carriston make out a strong case in his own
tavor．Firat of all，the proposed mar
riage out of the ate of life；the passing under a false name lous，accusation made against his kins
mani：the murderous threats；the chas
isement tiseme
brougl seem
not
the q
qu me
riston
that，
migh
years，
strain． that，once in his power，my friend
might possibly be doomed to pass
years，if not his whole life，under re－
straint．So I was anxious，very anx－
lous ＂Not oftener than I can help，＂w
all the promise I could get rom hi
＂But see her I must sometimes，or
shall die．＂ I had now given up as hopeless the
sombat with his peculiar idiosyncras
col So，with many expressions of gratituce
on his part，we bade each other fare－
well．

