BY CHARLES MORRIS BUTLER

Author of "The Revenge of Pierre," "A Tenement Tragedy," Anita. Etc. Copyright, 1905, by Charles Morris Butler.

CHAPTER VIII.—Continued. "We can run no chances, you know, ing with another man's wife. If there Doc," laughed Pearson, insinuatingly, is any law we do respect, it is the law then as if in apology for his act, "be- of marriage. Most all of our penalsides, it will be to your own interest | ties are death. A man is compelled to in case the haunt was discovered. If be honest to another if he desires to you do not know where it is, you at live. We are not justified in taking least will not be held responsible for life, we are not the law, but it canany harm that may come through the | not be otherwise with us." discovery, see?"

of-fact Sharkey, complaisantly.

"It may save your life," said Pearson, as he satisfied himself that the doctor was completely blinded. But he took no pains to insure the doc- ern machinery, and plenty of help to tor's comfort, for he placed a pair of till the soil. What we do not raise, handcuffs upon his wrists. "I am | we buy, or in extreme cases, like the obliged to do this," he said, as he changed places with the boy and sat the team, "so the boys won't think me from treachery."

a time, meditating upon the strangeness of his adventure. Oft and anon. from the distance, could be heard the baying of dogs, so that the doctor alight.

The trio left the roadway and the doctor heard the team drive off. Pearson walked arm in arm with Schiller, guiding his footsteps, so that the doctor did not fall into any of the numerous ruts or bark his shins against any doctor's case of instruments.

you taking me to?" he asked.

I stance, we shoot a man for interfer-

"How do you live? That is how do "We kill traitors!" said the matter- you obtain your supplies?" asked the

doctor. "We have agents who supply our wants. They have many acres of fine agricultural land, supplied with modpresent, we raise by force."

"You talk of schools. I should think upon the seat with Schiller, driving there would be no need of such a thing as an educational institution. unmindful of the duty I owe them in The country cannot exist, it will be protecting them from possible danger | depopulated through poverty, if nothing else. You certainly have not been The doctor sat in silence for quite in existence long enough to have raised children to the age of schooling."

"Not so. We have existed for twenty years or more unmolested. We are self-supporting. We dig gold from knew he was being driven past farm | the mountains. We have manufactures houses now and then. But they met | (in a remote form) for the making no one. At last the team came to a of shoes, and supply a large portion of halt and the doctor was assisted to one of the states with this article. In fact our treasury is on a sound basis, better to-day than it ever was."

> "Why do you divulge to me the secret of your existence?" asked the

"For the simple reason, my dear doctor." replied Pearson, complaisantof the snags in the underbrush. Shar- ly, "that it is my wish that you take key followed on behind, carrying the up residence with us. We are in need of a few professional men like your-Again Doctor Schiller broke the self, to make life pleasant for us. You silence: "What kind of a place are are one of our kind-an outcast-and have nothing to lose by joining us. This time Pearson condescended to As for a money consideration, we can keep up the conversation. "Did you I pay you a salary princely in magni-



Pearson walked arm in arm with Schiller.

ever hear of the Jonesboro Bank rob- | tude in comparison with your pres-

bery?" he asked. "Yes! You mean the time when erty?"

"The same. Well, we are going cause of all my trouble!" right to the cave in which the desby the citizens."

"So?" asked the doctor in surprise. "Yes, I don't mind telling you, Dr. Schiller, that we are only a foraging party for a colony of convicts-it is a hard term to call a company of menconvicts, but that is what we are! We have formed a colony; built a city; protected ourselves against capture, and mean to live in peace-if we can. But, Doctor, I don't think you will find us such a bad lot of men. after all. I don't know whether you are in sympathy with crime or not. though you once did commit a criminal offense. Even your class will never realize what a life such men as I have led in infancy, youth and manhood, and the need of protection from ourselves and the world."

"It must be an interesting community," said the doctor.

"So it is. You would hardly believe that we compel one another of the motley group of citizens to live upright and honest lives, would you. Composed as it is of all the different shades and grades of criminal out-

"Hardly," was the incredulous an-

"Such is the case, however," replied Pearson, enthusiastically. "We respect one another's rights; carry on business honestly: support schools, and while our colony, as you can well imagine, is not founded on a religious basis, we recognize something of the can depend upon me. To show you that he cannot stop with one nest, but goes sort—honorable marriage, or duty to I am sincere. I will do all in my power on building four or five in rapid sucour neighbor. Barring a few neceston aid you in any undertaking you cession. And there is nothing slowsary raids, such as we are out upon may engage in. To show the people enly about his work either. Look now, we live very ordinary lives."

"You are not all hardened then;

you cannot be!" "We are not all criminals, of course not. But most of us have done something some time or other to merit punishment from the government. There are many like you, who have paid the penalty of their sins, and only associate with us because they cannot bear to parade themselves before the world as having fallen once. Being a man's form shown up in the dis- places for himself.-C. Wm. Beebe in ed. can you?-New York Sun. bound together in the state described. however, places them on a footing with the rest of us. Whether all do anything contrary to the law or not, all are held accountable to the law ply, and at the same time he made a for what the few have done, under- mystic sign with his fingers. stand?"

to sav is, that the law never forgives | they passed a sentinel and at last you what you have done at any time, stopped before the door of a dugout. no matter how right you live after- situated in a ravine.

defiance of the law. That is, we have created by the burning of a pine knot 000,000 (American gold value) on Jan. manufactured laws that conflict with suspended from the ceiling of the room 1, 1905, after eleven months of costly the laws of the United States. For in- which was about eight feet square. war.

ent income!" The doctor was somewhat prepared President Jones was killed by about for the offer. "All I want is money twenty mounted desperadoes while at- and revenge in this world," he said. tempting to protect the bank's prop- as if assenting. "Money to be happy -revenge on the man who is the after a lot of conversation, had put You'll find a candle-

"You can command money in plenperadoes took refuge when pursued ty,' said Pearson-what kind he did not say. "Revenge depends upon yourself. Whom have you such bitter feelings against?"

> "A doctor who was instrumental in sending me up."

"How, and in what way do you mean to accomplish your ends?" "How I don't know, nor care. But I want to make him suffer as I have suffered. Disgrace him before the world as he has disgraced me! Reduce him to poverty and want! Ruin | many people." him; imprison him; do anything to make him feel what it is to be damned-an outcast of society. That is my

## CHAPTER IX.

only aim and desire!"

Dr. Schiller Initiated Into the Convict Society.

"The time may come," said Pearson, insinuatingly, to Dr. Schiller, as he helped that worthy over a log lying across their path, "if you join our forces, when you can do even more why, in the future, you could not organize a band, kidnap the gentleman, and incarcerate him alive in a living button box."-Birmingham Herald.

The chance was readily grasped by the doctor. "I accept," 'he said. "I have everything to gain. If you desire builders is the marsh wren, in fact, a second piece of cake with my mouth my presence among your clique, you he has the habit to such a degree that full," replied Tommie. whom I come in contact with that I will do right by them; if human hands | marsh, even within the limits of a can save your comrade I will put him

on his feet again!" "We will soon be at the rendezvous and can then be convinced of the sincerity of your resolve," said Pearson. They walked on in silence the bal-

ance of the journey. At last the party likely to be found when there are so came upon a little clearing. By aid many empty ones to be around. Then, of the moon, which was shining now, too, he uses the others as roosting in what year Charlemagne was crowntance. "Halt! Who comes there?" Recreation. was the challenge.

"Citizens, friend sentinel, who have with them a doctor." was Pearson's re-

The trio traveled a short distance "Yes, I believe I do. What you mean | further and were again halted. Again | years.

The door stood partly ajar, through "That's it. But we live in open which came the glimmer of a light

sentinel, armed to the teeth, guarded the door, but upon receiving the assword, allowed the party to pass Hewed logs at the rear of the room 'ormed a "blind door," which led into another room twenty feet long and sixeen feet wide, along one side of which bunks were arranged after the' ashion of berths on a steamboat, and from the number of these at least thirty persons were finding sleeping accommodations in the abode. In one corner of the room, on a lower berth lay the wounded man.

Up to this point the doctor had not been relieved of the bandage from his eyes. This was now taken off, together with the handcuffs. The room was dimly lighted by a candle stuck in the neck of a bottle. The doctor first rubbed his eyes, then his wrists, while he accustomed himself | dines and pie at a picnic.' to his surroundings. A groan from the direction of the corner berth made him look toward it. There were two villainous looking men sitting at the side of the bunk, holding the hands of a wounded man.

The doctor threw off the covering stretched upon a rude mattress, a row at the theater?" bandage roughly tied around his waist and over one limb. He was soaked in blood.

"A basin of warm water," said Schiller to Pearson. "Hand me my instrument case,' he said to Sharkey. With one hand on the wounded man's wrist he was counting the number of heartbeats to the minute. This being done, the doctor opened his case and laid out a package of clean bandages, and selected several instruments to have them handy. After the water arrived he bathed the hurt with a sponge, and examined the wound made by the bul-

"We will administer a little chloroform," said the doctor, as he saturated his handkerchief with the fluid taken from his case.

When the man was thoroughly under the influence of the drug, he was lifted upon the table. The doctor then began probing for the bullet and succeeded, in locating it almost immediately. It was but the work of a moment to remove it, and to thoroughly cleanse the wound with a preparation taken from his case. The flow of blood was stopped as well as possible, and the wound bound up. The patient was placed upon the bunk again, be fore the chloroform was taken from

(To be continued.)

Sure Thing Gambler for Once Gets the

BEATEN AT HIS OWN GAME.

Worst of It. "There was a sure thing gambler down in Mississippi named Gamblegood name by the way." said John Sharpe Williams. "He never made a bet unless he was sure he would win He was out at a country fair, staying at a hotel. One morning a man who was in the sporting line himself got up early and looked out of the win. | did she want to go?" dow. He saw Gamble carefully measuring with a tapeline the hitching you." post in front of the hotel. He knew something was up, and When Gamble went out to the fair he went out and measured the hitching post himself Then he took a sledge hammer and drove the post into the ground an inch

and a half. "That night, after supper, while they were sitting on the hotel porch. greatly. Gamble craftily led the conversation around to the difficulty of judging dis-

tances and heights. "'Now,' he said, "there's that hitch ing post out yonder. I'll bet a hundred I can come nearer its height than any

body here.' "How high would you reckon it is? said the sledge hammer artist, who

up the hundred with Gamble. "'Oh.' said Gamble. 'I'll take it at 30 inches.' "'Oh, no,' replied the other man,

'you are wrong. I'll bet it is less than "They measured and it was 281/4.

Gamble hasn't smiled since that day." -Rehoboth Sunday Herald.

Which He Took. You probably remember the school-

boy who, in a composition on pins. said, "Pins have saved the lives of His teacher was astonished at this

statement and asked him to explain it. He replied: "By people not swallowing them." That was not the case with the man

in the following incident: "'My dear,' Mr. Finnicky said to his it, Judge."

wife, 'I don't think those pills I have been taking have done me much good.' "'Why, you haven't been taking any for three weeks.' "'Yes, I have; I've swallowed one

three times a day as directed.' "'You have? Then why is it that than this. You are a man of intelli- there are as many left in the box as gence and will undoubtedly command | there were three weeks ago? What influence in time. There is no reason box have you been taking them from?"

"'This one-marked for me.' "'Dear me, John! That is my shoe-

An Energetic Builder.

One of the most energetic nestamong the cat-tails in the nearest great city, and you will find his little woven balls of reed stems with a tiny round hole in one side. There is a certain method even in his madness. for the nest in which his wife is broading her seven or eight eggs is less

Heard of Osler. She-They say the Kongo dwarfs. six specimens of whom have been brought to London by Col. Harrison. never reach a greater age than 40

He-What do you suppose does itchloroform?

Japan's Specie Reserve. Japan's specie reserve stood at \$225.-

## FYPIONS EXPIONS

"Are the Americans courageous as abroad.

"I should say so!" answered the patriotic citizen. "You should see the way the average American eats sar-

Two Cases Widely Different. "Why do you have your pew so near

the church door?" "In case of fire, you know-I could escape easily."

"Ah! And what's your idea in al- ceny?" which was over the man, who lay ways demanding a seat in the front

Father-So you think his intentions

about his habits? think his intentions are serious.

Father-How do you mean? Mother-His principal habits seem to be calling on Mabel and writing to

The Pilfering Soubrette. "Did you say that Miss Lightly, the

soubrette, had been guilty of lar-"Yes. She stole a Ham who had a

walking part in the third act."

THEY'RE STRANGERS NOW.



Bell (actress)-I promised mother I would never become an actress. Nell-And you kept your word, didn't you?

Why He So Decided.

"My wife has been talking a good I decided to have a plain, straightfor- been hangin' around our Mandy. ward talk with her to-day. I just delivered my ultimatum and the result is we go to Newport."

"Spunky of you, old man; but where

"Why, Newport; haven't I just told

Atrocious.

Richard Mansfield, the actor, was never known to forget his profession. The other evening he was smoking with a few men. All of a sudden his cigar went out. He lit a match on the sole of his shoe which flared up

"My," said he, "that was quite a footlight, wasn't it?"

Not Hard to Locate. Mr. Pheeder-Don't go to bed yet. We'll have some lunch first. I brought home a tidbit to-day and left it in the back kitchen.

Mrs. Pheeder-It's dark out there. Mr. Pheeder-Oh, I can find it in

the dark. It's Limburger cheese.

Embarrassing Circumstances. Chicago Maiden-I actually started downtown yesterday without my overskirt. Never noticed the omission until I got in the car. Oh, I was so mor-

Boston Damsel-I know just how you felt, dear. I once went out and forgot to put on my glasses.

Didn't Notice It.

A sudden death in Georgia is told by one of Representative Griggs's constitutuents in this way:

"Judge, I guess he died of heart disease, or something or other like that. He was sittin' on his chair and all at once he died-and he never noticed

When Affinities Marry. "Ninety-nine blue bottles a-hanging on the wall," commenced the bibulous Billings in a maudlin tone of voice.

His wife looked up quickly. "Dear me," said she. "You gave me such a start, dear. I was afraid something must have happened to the other

Something Like It. "What have I told you. Tommie. about asking for a second piece of

cake?" said the mother to her youth-

ful son.

Asphyxiated.

Wilkins - "Those Philadelphia thieves got the worst of it in that gas steal, didn't they?" Bilkins-"Yes, they tried to take too

much at one time, and were overcome

by the fumes!"-Detroit Free Press.

What the Professor Forgot. Waiter-Haven't you forgotten something, sir?

Professor-Yes, I can't remember

Detective at a Disadvantage.

Chief-Do you mean to say that you haven't been able to get a single clew as to the perpetrator of this crime? Detective-Naw. Them newspaper reporters is down on me and they won't tell me anything.

A Dangerous Character. Shorte-They've dubbed Sponger 'Antilightning.' Sharpe-How's that? Shorte-He always strikes more

than once in the same place.

Propelled by a Boot.

Farmer Geehaw-Waal, I caught Farmer Giddap-An' what happened,

Farmer Geehaw-Oh, the spark flew upward.-Louisville Courier-Journal.

No Wonder They Stood. Reuben-"Here's an article in the

Bugle that sez seats in the New York | with an umbrella under each arm and Stock Exchange are sellin' for \$75,000 Mandy-"No wonder we saw them all standin' up when we went through

Wall street last summer." Looking for Trouble.

hair," remonstrated Samson to his wife.

"And why not, pray?" asked the woman. "Because you don't belong to the Barbers' union."

No Chance to Lose. Gotrocks-"Why did you pay that scamp with a check? He will raise it

Swiftun-"Oh, I don't care if he does. It's an overdraft, anyway."-Town Topics.

In Need of a Rousing.

The Pastor-What in the world was rule?" asked the visitor from are serious. Do you know anything the matter with the choir to-day? I never heard such tame and absolutely Mother-Yes, that's what makes me listless singing. Haven't been fighting again, have they? The Organist-No; just now they

> -Cleveland Plain Dealer. Curious Circumstance.

McSosh-Mish'r Bartender, think I'll take 'nother one o' them p-p-ppous -pussy-cat-p-

are as amiable as turtle doves.

Bartender-Another pousse-cafe, Mr. McSosh?

McSosh-Thash ri'. 'S funny thing -th' more closely I b'come soshiated an' 'quainted with tha' drink th' less I c'n r'member its name!

The Riddle of the Sphinx.

her riddle. evening?" she demanded.

"An auto," they answered, readily.

Same There as Here.

She-"I see not one bride was over take more time to pick them than 22 years of age in the 346,590 mar- they are worth." riages which took place in Japan last year."

He-"That looks as if the women were as backward about telling their ages over there as they are over

here."

At the Play. "She handles the part exceptionally well. That outburst of jealousy in the first act was one of the best things a church wedding, the bride-elect be-I ever saw.'

"No wonder. Her understudy took the part the night before and made a decided hit."-Detroit Tribune.

The Safe Side.

Reporter-Were you quoted correctly in that interview in the morning dering about, clad in his showiest rai-

Senator-Come around the day after to-morrow. How can I tell until I see deal about plans for the summer, so | that young city spark last night that's | how the interview is going to be taken?-St. Louis Star.

Above Suspicion. "What a fine thing a reputation for scrupulous honesty is!"

"Apropos of what?" "I was thinking of Dr. Goodman. He walked down the street this morning

nobody winked!" The Lightning Cure. "Here is a story of a man who was

cured of rheumatism by being struck by lightning." "I'll risk de rheumatism every "You should not have cut off my time," said Brother Dickey. "I don't want no doctor what's ez quick ez

> dat!" Saw the Opening. Cholly-Yaas, I was only looking for an opening to propose.

Algy-Well? Cholly-She yawned.

Further Dilution Unnecessary. Philosoph-There's no use crying over spilt milk.



Mr. E. Z .- If I put my money in your bank could I draw it out the next day? Banker-Yes, if you give two weeks' notice.

Wet Below.

Satan-How long has it been raining up on earth? New Arrival-All this month. Satan-That's what I thought. It's beginning to leak through and put the

fires out.-Detroit Tribune.

Accounting for It. Mrs. Bacon-Don't you think a person's work has much to do with his disposition?

Mr. Bacon-Yes; I suppose that's

Changeable. The Wife-You see some shades of

what makes our cook so crusty.

hair look better in sunlight and others look better when it is cloudy. The Husband-It seems to be cloudy to-day: which colored hair are you going to put on to-day?

School Census. Parker-"Have you read 'The Count

of Paris?" Streeter-"No. but I've read the count of Cincinnati, and I think it's "I've come back for something I reexaggerated by about 50,000."

A Fizzer.

"What become of the boy you was going to make so much noise in | end of 1904 her mercantile steamship the world." "Oh, he turned out to be a 'fizzer.' 053 aggregate tonnage. This was

a drug store."-Detroit Tribune. Quick and Thorough.

Mrs. Paddock-I thought Bobbie had a system for playing the races. Mr. Paddock-He had, but he bet on a horse named Sarsaparilla and it that dealing in futures was the "self cleaned his system out .- Puck.

Too Old and Too Young. "If I were younger," said the rich old man, "I believe I might win you

for my wife."

say, fifteen years older." Another Kind of Soft Answer.

"Come back for something you've

forgotten, as usual?" said the husband. "No," replied his wife, sweetly, membered."-New Yorker.

THRIFT AS A FINE ART.

Peasants of Normandy Adepts in Its

Application. Writing of "A Corner in Normandy" in the June Delineator, F. Berkeley Smith gives an interesting side light upon the real character of the Norman peasant. These ruddy old Norman farmers understand economy to a finesse, he says. It is the secret of their wealth. And thus, when one morning I came across Pere Trebard munching a withered pear while he sunned himself beside the snug barn and asked the old man why he did not choose a good one from his fine crop

"Ah! but, monsieur, we might sell it!"

he exclaimed:

The character of the shrewd Norman is interesting. Never will he give you a direct answer; a definite "yes" The Pastor-Then tell 'em to fight. or "no" seems to have been expressly

left out of his vocabulary. "It is a fine morning," I ventured to

a grizzled old dealer in oxen. "It might be worse," he answered. "That's splendid cider of yours, Le-

grosjean." "Some say it is," he retorted guard-

Neither does the true Norman ever

seem pleased or satisfied. "Beautiful apples this year. Pere

"Bah! they are so few," he replies, The Sphinx had just propounded gloomily, with a shrug of his shoulders. The next year the tree are bent "What goes on four legs in the morn. under the weight of a rich crop, and ing, two at noon, and three in the you hail this rich old agriculturist as you pass his gateway:

"Plenty of cider this year, Pere With a heavy groan, she realized Mallet, vou surely have enough that the moderns had gone her one apples," you say convincingly as the old peasant looks up from his work to bid you bon jour. "They are so small," he groans, "it

PLACE TO TAKE PRESENTS. Colored Youth Was Explicitly Follow-

ing Instructions. Representative Griggs of Georgia employs a colored youth who is not a shining example of mental alertness. Recently this servant, who shall be

called Tom, received an invitation to ing a first cousin of his. The morning of the ceremony found Tom in a state of great excitement. He started for the church some hours before the time set for the great

Griggs chanced to meet Tom wanment, and carrying a small bundle under his arm. "Tom," he said, "why on earth are

you scurrying about dressed like that

event.

this early in the morning?" "Why, I'se gettin' ready for de weddin', sah!" replied Tom reproachfully. "Indeed!" said the Congressman. "And I suppose you are doing some

"No, sah, I ain't doin' no er-"But you're not going to a wedding with a bundle under your arm?"

errand on the way."

"Cert'n'y I is, sah," replied Tom, a look of wonder coming into his eves. "Dat's my present." "Present?" ejaculated Griggs. "Why, boy, you mustn't take your present to

the church; you must send it to the house of the bride." "Sho, Mistah Griggs, is dat so?" muttered the now bewildered negro. "Den why does dis card I got heah say: 'Present at the church'?"-The Sunday Magazine.

In These Days of Operations. A husband came home one evening to find a note left for him by his wife. Carelessly he opened it, but as he read his face blanched. "My God!" he ex-Dittow-No, there's probably enough claimed, "how could this have happened so suddenly?" And, snatching his hat and coat, he rushed to a hos-

> pital which was near his home. "I want to see my wife, Mrs. Brown, at once," he said to the head nurse. "before she goes under the ether. Please take my message to her at once."

"Mrs. Brown?" echoed the nurse.

"Then to which hospital has she

gone?" asked the distracted husband.

"I found this note from her when I came home," and he handed the note

"There is no Mrs. Brown here."

to the nurse, who read: "Dear Husband: "I have gone to have my kimone

"BELLE." Too Fast for Him. Don't keer of de worl' is roun', Or flat as flat kin be; Il I know

cut out.

On de lan', or sea, It goes too fas' fer me; Time is a-gwine Lak' a harricane flyin'-It goes too fas' fer me!

It goes too fas' fer me!

Or keep a-movin' free; My ha'r git gray En he don't shine long fer me! On de lan', or sea, Sun don't shine long fer me; Time is a-gwine Lak' a harricane flyin'-

Don't keer ef de sun stan' still,

He goes too fas' fer me!

Japan's Merchant Marine. In 1893 Japan had only 167,000 tons nerchant steamships, but by

-Atlanta Constitution

Has a job in the soda department in after suffering a loss of 71,000 tons by the war. Defines Dealing in Futures. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes of the supreme court, in a recent opinion on a stock gambling case, said

adjustment of society to the prob-

fleet numbered 1,224 vessels of 791.

Ostriches Are High Priced. At Grahamstown, South Africa, a pair of ostriches were sold recently for "Yes," replied the cold beauty, \$5,000, which is a record price. The dreamily considering his 65 years, "or. | plucking from the chicks of this pair realized from \$50 to \$62.50 a bird.

> War Is a Godsend. Manchuria is gaining by the war-The Chuo-Shimbun estimates that fully 100,000,000 yen, or \$50,000,000, of Japanese money had been disbursed in Manchuria up to the middle of April.