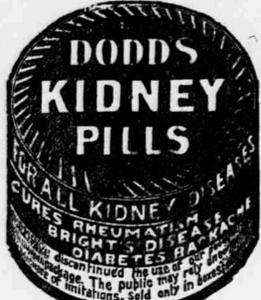


**The Winning Card.**  
 "What are trumps in the game of life?" I asked of all in the busy strife.  
 "Hearts," said the maiden, shy and sweet,  
 With happy eyes and blushing feet.  
 The society belle smiled scornfully:  
 "Hearts for you, but diamonds for me."  
 "Clubs," drawled the blase man of the world.  
 Drifting down stream with his sails all  
 furled.  
 The gravedigger laughed as he plied his  
 trade.  
 "Spades are the final trumps," he said.  
 —Baltimore American.



**A Positive CURE**  
**ELLY'S CREAM BALM**  
 Is quickly absorbed. Gives Relief at Once.  
 It cleanses, soothes, heals and protects the diseased membrane. It cures Catarrh and drives away a Cold in the Head quickly. Restores the Senses of Taste and Smell. Full size 50 cts., at Drug-gists or by mail; Trial Size 10 cts. by mail. Ely Brothers, 56 Warren Street, New York.

**Financially Speaking.**  
 Miss Wise—"The word 'sterling' as applied to English money seems to be lost in obscurity."  
 Mr. Short—"Yes, and so is the word 'money' as far as I am concerned."

**NO RELIEF FROM ECZEMA**

For Over Two Years—Patent Medicines, Quack Cures, and Even Doctors Fail—Cuticura Succeeds.  
 "I was very badly afflicted with eczema for more than two years. The parts affected were my limbs below the knees. I tried all the physicians in the town and some in the surrounding towns, and I also tried all the patent remedies that I heard of, besides all the cures advised by old women and quacks, and found no relief whatever until I commenced using the Cuticura Soap, Cuticura Ointment, and Cuticura Resolvent. In the Cuticura Remedies I found immediate relief, and was soon sound and well. C. V. Beltz, Wapaccanon, Ind., Nov. 15, 1905."

**The "Naomi's" Bible.**  
 It is well known that western rivers, especially the Missouri and Mississippi, often make great and sudden changes in their channels, filling in their old beds and digging out new. In 1896, says the author of "Early Steamboat Navigation on the Missouri River," a farmer was digging a well near the mouth of Grand river, Missouri, several miles from the channel of the "Big Muddy."  
 Deep down in the excavation he found a Bible, and on its cover the name "Naomi." The book was sent to Capt. Joseph La Barge, then one of the oldest steamboat men on the river, to learn if he could suggest any explanation of its presence there.  
 Captain La Barge recalled that fifty-six years before, the steamer Naomi had been wrecked at the very place where the Bible was found, which was then the channel of the river. In those days missionaries left Bibles in the cabins of steamers, fastened by chains to the tables, each marked with the name of the vessel. This volume remained as a monument both to the earlier tragedy and to the old course of the Missouri.

**When the Eyes Grow Dim.**  
 When a man begins to hold off his newspaper at arm's length like he was afraid it would bite him it is a sign that he has started down the western slope and that the afternoon sun is shining in his eyes.—Jewell (Kan.) Republican.

**GUIDES CHILDREN.**

**Experience and a Mother's Love Make Advice Valuable.**  
 An ill mother writes about feeding children:  
 "If mothers would use Grape-Nuts more for their little ones, there would be less need for medicines and fewer doctor bills.  
 "If those suffering from indigestion and stomach troubles would live on Grape-Nuts, toast and good milk for a short period they would experience more than they otherwise would believe.  
 "Our children have all learned to know the benefit of Grape-Nuts as an appetizing, strengthening food. It is every evening, with few variations, like this: 'Mamma, let's have toast and Grape-Nuts for breakfast; or, let's have eggs and Grape-Nuts—never forgetting the latter."  
 "One of our boys in school and 15 years of age repeatedly tells me his mind is so much brighter and in every way he feels so much better after having Grape-Nuts as a part of his breakfast." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a Reason."

## Between Two Fires

By ANTHONY HOPE

"A wise man will make more opportunities than he finds." —Francis Bacon.

CHAPTER XXIII.—(Continued.)  
 I could not pretend to regret the dead man. Indeed, I had been near doing the same deed myself. But I shrank before this calm ruthlessness. Another long pause followed. Then the President said:  
 "I'm sorry for all this, Martin—sorry you and I came to blows."  
 "You played me false about the money," I said bitterly.

"Yes, yes," he answered gently: "I don't blame you. You were bound to me by no ties. Of course you saw my plan!"  
 "I supposed your excellency meant to keep the money and throw me over."  
 "Not altogether," he said. "Of course I was bound to have the money. But it was the other thing, you know. As far as the money went, I would have taken care you came to no harm."  
 "What was it, then?"

"I thought you understood all along," he said with some surprise. "I saw you were my rival with Christina, and my game was to drive you out of the country by making the place too hot for you."  
 "She told me you didn't suspect about me and her till quite the end."  
 "Did she?" he answered with a smile; "I must be getting clever to deceive two such wide-awake young people. Of course I saw it all along. But you had more grit than I thought. I've never been so gripped by any man as by you. I'm sorry, Martin; I liked you, you know. But likings mustn't interfere with duty," he went on, smiling. "What claim have you on my hands?"

"Recent burial, I suppose," I answered.  
 He got up and paced the room for a moment or two. I waited with some anxiety, for life is worth something to a young man, even when things look black-ly, and I never was a hero.  
 "I make you this offer," he said at last. "Your boat lies there ready. Get into her and go; otherwise—"  
 "I see," said I. "And you will marry her?"

"Yes," he said.  
 "Against her will?"

He looked at me with something like pity.  
 "Who can tell what a woman's will will be in a week? In less than that she will marry me cheerfully. I hope you may grieve as short a time as she will."  
 In my inmost heart I knew it was true. I had staked everything, not for a woman's love, but for the whim of a girl! For a moment it was too hard for me, and I bowed my head on the table by me and hid my face. Then he came and put his hand on mine, and said:  
 "Yes, Martin; young and old, we are all alike. They're not worth quarreling for. But nature's too strong."  
 "May I see her before I go?" I asked.  
 "Yes," he said.  
 "Alone?"

"Yes," he said once more. "Go now—if she can see you."  
 I went up and cautiously opened the door. The Signorina was lying on the bed, with a shawl over her. She seemed to be asleep. I bent over her and kissed her. She opened her eyes, and said in a weary voice:  
 "Is it you, Jack?"

"Yes, my darling," said I. "I am going. I must go or die; and whether I go or die, I must be alone."  
 She was strangely quiet, even apathetic. As I knelt down by her she raised herself, and took my face between her hands and kissed me, not passionately, but tenderly.  
 "My poor Jack!" she said; "it was no use, dear. It is no use to fight against him."  
 "You love me?" I cried in my pain.  
 "Yes," she said, "but I am very tired; and he will be good to me."  
 Without another word I went from her, with the bitter knowledge that my great grief found but a pale reflection in her heart.

"I am ready to go," I said to the President.  
 "Come then," he replied. "Here, take these, you may want them," and he thrust a bundle of notes into my hand (some of my own from the bank I afterward discovered).  
 Arrived at the boat, I got in mechanically, and made all preparations for the start. Then the President took my hand.  
 "Good-by, Jack Martin, and good luck. Some day we may meet again. Just now there's no room for us both here. You bear no malice?"

"No, sir," said I. "A fair fight, and you're won."  
 As I was pushing off he added:  
 "When you arrive, send me word."  
 I turned the boat's head out to sea, and went forth on my lonely way into the night.

CHAPTER XXIV.  
 As far as I am concerned, this story has now reached an end. With my departure from Aureatoland I re-entered the world of humdrum life, and since that memorable night nothing has befallen me worthy of a polite reader's attention. I have endured the drudgery incident to earning a living; I have enjoyed the relaxations every wise man makes for himself. But I should be guilty of unpar-donable egotism if I supposed that I, myself, was the only, or the most, interesting subject presented in the foregoing pages, and I feel I shall merely be doing my duty in briefly recording the facts in my possession concerning the other persons who have figured in this record and the country where its scene was laid.  
 I did not, of course, return to England, on leaving Aureatoland. I had no desire to explain in person to the directors all the facts with which they were now in a position to acquaint themselves. I was conscious that, at the last of all events, I had rather subordinated their interests to my own necessities, and I knew well that my conduct would not meet with the indulgent judgment that it perhaps requires. After all, men who have lost three hundred thousand dollars can hardly be expected to be impartial, and I saw no reason for submitting myself to a biased tribunal. I preferred to seek my fortune in a fresh country, and I am happy to say that my prosperity

in the land of my adoption has gone far to justify the President's favorable estimate of my financial abilities.

My sudden disappearance excited some remark, and people were even found to insinuate that the dollars went the same way as I did. I have never troubled myself to contradict these scandalous rumors, being content to rely on the handsome vindication from this charge which the President published. In addressing the House of Assembly shortly after his resumption of power he referred at length to the circumstances attendant on the late revolution, and remarked that although he was unable to acquit Mr. Martin of most unjustifiable intrigues with the rebels, yet he was in a position to assure them, as he had already assured those to whom Mr. Martin was primarily responsible, that that gentleman's hasty flight was dictated solely by a consciousness of political guilt, and that, in money as his own, Mr. Martin's hand was as clean as the fair fame of Aureatoland in this matter was due not to that able but misguided young man, but to those unprincipled persons who, in the pursuit of their designs, had not hesitated to plunder and despoil friendly traders, established in the country under the sanction of public faith.

The reproach to which his excellency eloquently referred consisted in the fact that not a cent of those three hundred thousand dollars which lay in the bank that night was ever seen again! The theory was that the Colonel had made away with them, and the President took great pains to prove that under the law of nations the restored government could not be held responsible for this occurrence. I know as little about the law of nations as the President himself, but I felt quite sure that whatever that exalted code might say, none of that money would ever find its way back to the directors' pockets. In this matter I must say his excellency behaved to me with scrupulous consideration; not a word about that unlucky cable, or any other dealings with the money. For all he said, my account of the matter, posted to the directors immediately after my departure, stood unimpaired.

The directors, however, took a view opposed to his excellency's, and relations became so strained that they were contemplating the withdrawal of their business from Whittingham altogether, when events occurred which modified their action. Before I lay down my pen I must give some account of these matters, and I cannot do so better than by inserting a letter which I had the honor to receive from his excellency, some two years after I last saw him. I had obeyed his wish in communicating my address to him, but up to this time had received only a short but friendly note, acquainting me with the fact of his marriage to the Signorina, and expressing good wishes for my welfare in my new sphere of action. The matters to which the President refers became to some extent public property soon afterward, but certain other terms of the arrangement are now given to the world for the first time.

The letter ran as follows:  
 "My Dear Martin—As an old inhabitant of Aureatoland, you will be interested in the news I have to tell you. I also take pleasure in hoping that, in spite of bygone differences, your friendly feelings toward myself will make you glad to hear news of my fortunes."  
 "You are no doubt acquainted generally with the course of events here since you left us. As regards private friends, I have not indeed much to tell you. You will not be surprised to learn that Johnny Carr has done the most sensible thing he ever did in his life in making Donna Antonia his wife. She is a thoroughly good girl, although she seems to have a very foolish prejudice against Christina. I was able to assist the young people's plans by the gift of the late Colonel McGregor's estates which under our law passed to the Head of the State on that gentleman's execution for high treason. You will be amused to hear of another marriage in our circle. The doctor and Madame Devarges have made a match of it, and society rejoices to think it has now heard the last of the late monsieur and his patriotic sufferings. Jones, I suppose you know left us about a year ago. The poor old fellow never recovered from his fright on that night, to say nothing of the cold he caught in your draughty cold-cellar, where he took refuge. The bank relieved him in response to his urgent petitions, and they've sent us a young Puritan, to whom it would be quite in vain to apply for a timely little loan."

"I wish I could give you as satisfactory an account of public affairs. You were more or less behind the scenes over here, so you know that to keep the machine going is by no means an easy task. I have kept it going, single-handed, for fifteen years, and though it's the custom to call me a mere adventurer, upon my word I think I've given them a pretty decent government. But I've had enough of it by now. The fact is, my dear Martin, I'm not so young as I was. In years I'm not much past middle age, but I shouldn't be surprised if old Marcus Whittingham's lease was pretty nearly up. At any rate, my only chance, so Anderson tells me, is my own chance, and I'm going to give myself that chance. I had thought at first of trying to find a successor, and I thought of you. But while I was considering this, I received a confidential proposal from the old government. They were very anxious to get back their province; at the same time, they were not at all anxious to try conclusions with me again. In short, they offered, if Aureatoland would come back, a guarantee of local autonomy and full freedom; they would take on themselves the burden of the debt, and last, but not least, they would offer the present President of the Republic a compensation of \$500,000.  
 "I have not yet finally accepted the offer, but I am going to do so—obtain-ing, as a matter of form, the sanction of

the Assembly. I have made them describe their offer to me, but in the public documents the money is to stand at the original figure. This recognition of my services, together with my little savings, will make me pretty comfortable in my old age, and leave a competence for my widow. Aureatoland has had a run alone; if there had been any grit in the people they would have made a nation of themselves. There isn't any, and I'm not going to slave myself for them any longer. No doubt they'll be very well treated, and to tell the truth, I don't much care if they aren't. After all, they're a mongrel lot."

"I know you'll be pleased to hear of this arrangement, as it gives your old masters a better chance of getting their money, for, between ourselves, they'd never have got it out of me. At the risk of shocking your feelings, I must confess that your revolution only postponed the day of reparation."

"I hoped to have asked you some day to rejoin us here. As matters stand, I am more likely to come and find you; for, when released, Christina and I are going to bend our steps to the States. And we hope to come soon. There's a little difficulty outstanding about the terms on which the Golden House and my other property are to pass to the new government; this I hope to compromise by abating half my claim in private, and giving it all up in public. Also I have had to bargain for the recognition of Johnny Carr's rights to the Colonel's goods. When all this is settled there will be nothing to keep me, and I shall leave here without much reluctance. The first man I shall come to see will be you. The truth is, my boy, I'm not the man I was. I've put too much steam on all my life, and I must pull up now, or the boiler will burst."  
 "Christina sends her love. She is as anxious to see you as I am. But you must wait till I am dead to make love to her. Ever your sincere friend,  
 "MARCUS W. WHITTINGHAM."

As I write, I hear that the arrangement is to be carried out. So ends Aureatoland's brief history as a nation; so ends the story of her national debt, more happily than I ever thought it would. I confess to a tender recollection of the sunny, cheerful, lazy, dishonest little place, where I spent four such eventful years. Perhaps I love it because my romance was played there, as I should love any place where I had seen the Signorina.  
 (THE END.)

**PRECIOUS STONES AS CURE.**  
 Prescribed as Medicine Away Back in the Second Century.

Truly, among the ancient volumes there are none which yield better entertainment to the student of human nature and its foibles and follies than those dealing with ways and means to preserve mankind from ailments and disease, says the Westminster Gazette. And though the present day is said to furnish better opportunities to the quack doctor and the valetudinarian than any former period in the world's history, a glance through some of the medical works of four or five centuries ago shows that it would be difficult to beat some of the suggested cures and prescriptions.

We have come across some information gathered in an ancient volume telling of the marvelous properties of precious stones in curing disease. The compiler of the volume tells his readers that in the second century, A. D., a famous medical man cured King Necho of Egypt of digestive troubles by causing him to wear, tied around his neck, "a dragon cut out of green jasper." And whosoever wished for valor and daring had only to wear a diamond about his person. "But if taken internally in any shape or form it is poisonous."

Ten centuries later an Italian medical celebrity caused his patients to wear rubies "for to make them cautious and to drive away idle and foolish thoughts." Taken internally, the ruby kept the plague at bay and fortified the system against all manner of disease. The emerald, crushed to powder and administered in doses from six to thirty grains, was an infallible remedy against colic, snake bites, plague and epileptic fits. Likewise it stopped bleeding, strengthened the memory "and banished the fear of ghosts and evil spirits," and seems, in fact, to have been a panacea against all ills, so that one can almost read with approval of this otherwise cruel system of crushing into powder one of the most wonderful bits of color which nature can produce. The sapphire ran the emerald close for remedial virtues, and in powdered form "strengthened the heart and cured running eyes," while the "strengthening of the heart" was also a property of the crushed turquoise and the ruby.

Apart from the curative qualities which each separate kind of precious stone possessed there were various mixtures, mainly manufactured in France, for which fabulous prices were paid, and there was one remedy in particular, composed of a mixture of powdered corals, pearl, sapphire, emerald, topaz, gold leaf, silver leaf, grease of serpent, food and unicorn, which was considered as indispensable in a household as food and drink.

An old French medical man writes that this powder, notwithstanding its enormous price, is found in almost every home in France, especially in Provence and Languedoc. "But," he adds, "the great popularity of the remedy is the reason why there are thousands of imitations, and it is a very rare thing to find a tiny pot of the real thing."

Among the properties of the topaz was the invaluable one of improving bad temper, and one is apt to think that in this respect it may, even in this day of exploded "superstitions," retain its power, especially if, instead of being held "under the nose" of the sufferer (presumably for inhalation), it is presented in a dainty and artistic setting.

Ireland's high-water mark in population was reached in 1874. She had then 8,176,124 people. She has now fewer than 4,800,000.

**MRS. THAW ON THE STAND.**

**Wife of the Millionaire Prisoner Is Witness for Defense.**  
 The Thaw-White tragedy does not constitute a new form of crime, nor does it present any unusual underlying causes. It differs only from innumerable commonplace murders in its settings, in the environment to which its principals were accustomed, in the clothing and the jewels which they wore.

Yet, while the natural outgrowth of sin must be the same in the case of the rich as in the poor, it is undeniable that the interest which has pervaded the trial of Harry Kendall Thaw for the murder of Stanford White is due primarily to the fact that murderer and victim were rich men. Beyond the shadow of the Sing Sing death chair, beyond the mound which covers the clay of White, there is the glitter of the Thaw millions and the reflex of the extravagance in which White, the Petronius of our day, reveled.

Dr. C. C. Wiley, of Pittsburg, the Thaw family physician, who is connected with the Dixmount Insane Asylum, was called as the first witness for the defense. Dr. Wiley, in response to a question by John B. Gleason of Thaw's counsel, said he had devoted his life to the study of insanity and



MRS. EVELYN NESBIT THAW.

served as an expert in a large number of cases. Attorney Jerome took occasion to stir up Dr. Wiley by asking him a maze of hypothetical questions, filled with medical terms. Each time Wiley seemed to grow more nervous over the cross-fire questioning. Wiley said he never heard of the "Romberg test." Jerome poked fun at him for his "ignorance." Jerome kept up the bewildering fire until Dr. Wiley became hopelessly confused.

Evelyn Nesbit Thaw, wife of Harry Kendall Thaw, charged with the murder of Architect White, was called to the stand and told the story of her life in an effort to save her husband from the electric chair. She declared she saw White at the Cafe Martin early in the evening of June 25 and that she wrote a note to her husband in relation to White. This evidence later was stricken out. The witness said she refused to marry Harry Thaw in Paris in 1903 because of an incident in her life connected with White.

Mrs. Thaw broke down and cried and could hardly proceed as she related her experience with White. Thaw sat with his face buried in a handkerchief.

## WORK OF MANY STATE LEGISLATURES

The Kansas Senate passed the bill to abolish capital punishment.

Senator Littlepage of the West Virginia Legislature introduced a resolution to investigate Standard Oil operations in that State and ascertain whether the company has a lobby at the capital.

The Missouri House of Representatives Tuesday passed the anti-tipping bill, 88 to 39, making it a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of \$5 to \$500 to give a tip to any waiter, porter or other servant.

The lower house of the Tennessee Legislature has passed a bill making it obligatory for a judge, where a death sentence is returned with mitigating circumstances, to commute the sentence to life imprisonment.

The California Senate struck out the words "whereas the President of the United States is attempting to interfere" in its resolutions on the Japanese school question, and inserted instead "federal government," and then passed the resolutions denouncing such interference as unwarranted.

The lower house of the Missouri Legislature passed a bill prohibiting the manufacture, sale or giving away of cigars or cigarette papers under a penalty of a fine of from \$50 to \$200.  
 State Treasurer Berry of Pennsylvania in a report to the Legislature has renewed his charges that approximately \$5,000,000 was realized on the finishing of the new capitol. He says duplicate payments for the same work were made to different contractors to the amount of \$250,000 or more, and that specifications were ambiguously worded so as to prevent fair bidding.

**CANADA'S GOOD TIMES.**

**The Immigration During 1906 Was 216,000.**

While it is well to heed every word of caution from the leaders in commerce and finance, and to avoid all speculative ventures that lack a solid business foundation, it is clearly evident that there is no conspicuous weak spot in Canada's present era of prosperity. The Toronto Globe says: "The Dominion has in a commercial sense plenty of money, and our leading financial institutions are in a position to lend freely in the United States. The chief productive enterprises of Canada are not buoyed up by an era of dangerous speculation, but are following substantial business methods and finding safe and continuous markets for their goods. We are not bolstering up any industries by extensive export bonuses that must impoverish the people as a whole and ultimately lead to collapse through the failure of the artificial aid. There is no extreme protection in Canada such as would create great fortunes for a few at the expense of the general public and lead to disruption and catastrophe."  
 "The prosperity of Canada has no such artificial foundation, being based on a healthy and substantial expansion of trade and industry, with a proportionate extension of productive settlement to new areas."

"It is true that we are borrowing extensively for railway construction, but every line will bring new territory within the limits of profitable occupation, and will create prosperous settlements to bear the burdens and repay the outlays. We are not exhausting mineral resources, for it is quite reasonable to assume that, although mineral wealth is never permanent, ours will during the measurable future develop a far greater productive capacity than at present. Our timber wealth can be made continuous by a judicious policy. And agriculture, the real foundation of our prosperity, is expanding with every new expenditure on railway construction. We are not in the flush of a railway mania that could bring its punishment through the useless duplication of lines. The gigantic railway enterprises that now stimulate every line of business in Canada will create a new Dominion, and thus render easy the heavy burdens of debt now freely assumed. Canada's era of prosperity has been unprecedented, but there is no sign of weakness and no cause for lack of confidence. While our growth is normal and healthy, we need have no alarm at its rapidity." This article might have told of the growth that is taking place in Central Canada, where thousands of Americans have made their homes during the past few years. The past calendar year has given to Canada by immigration an addition to its population of 216,000. Of this the United States contributed 63,781. The agents of the Canadian government, whose advertisement appears elsewhere, say that this number will be largely increased during 1907.

**Patriotism.**

While exploring the grounds about the tomb of Washington a gentleman happened to see a lady of mature years who, bathed in tears, was kneeling before an edifice some distance from the monument. Thinking she was in some sort of distress the gentleman offered assistance.  
 "No, sir; thank you very much," said the lady, "I am not in trouble, but my patriotic feelings overcome me when I gaze upon the tomb of the Father of his Country."

"Quite so," the gentleman replied, tenderly, "I thoroughly understand, but, my dear madame, you have made a mistake. This is not the tomb of Washington; this is an icehouse."

**Of Interest to Women.**

Every woman naturally should be healthy and strong, but a great many women, unfortunately, are not, owing to the unnatural condition of the lives we lead. Headache, backache and a general tired condition are prevalent among the women of to-day, and to relieve these conditions women rush to the druggists for a bottle of some preparation supposed to be particularly for them, and containing—nobody knows what. If they would just get a box of Brandreth's Pills, and take them regularly every night for a time, all their trouble would disappear, as these pills regulate the organs of the feminine system. The same dose has the same effect, no matter how long they are used. Brandreth's Pills have been in use for over a century and are sold in every drug and medicine store, plain or sugar-coated.

**Squaring the Account.**

A practical joker of New York City tells this story upon himself, and declares that the experience cured him of his bad habit:

On my arrival at San Francisco, as a joke I sent to a friend of mine at home, well known for his aversion to spending money, a telegram, with charges to collect, reading, "I am perfectly well."

The information evidently was gratifying to him, for about a week after sending the telegram an express package was delivered at my room, on which I paid \$4 for charges. Upon opening the package I found a large New York street paving block, on which was pasted a card, which read, "This is the weight your recent telegram lifted from my heart."

**Explained.**

Miss Ascum—What does "Hac facet" mean on these old tombstones?

Mr. McBluff—Why—er—that's an abbreviation for "hickory jacket"—that is to say, "hickory coffin." That's the kind they used in old times, see?—Philadelphia Press.

**Might Have Been Perveristy.**

Old Time Doctor—In your judgment, what ailed the patient?  
 Assistant—Lack of vitality, sir. I bled him till there was scarcely an ounce left in him, and still he died.