

A Physic Hunt for Diamonds

"It is your chief, Smithers," said Gentleman George.

"I shot my eyes; I turned about twice; I blew on my hand."

"Here's luck," I cried, as I pulled a card from the box containing the rejected and discredited risks of the Character Surety company.

"It is better luck," reflected Jarge; "for all the meaning of it," and he read as follows:

Anglum, Pierre, 21 Single, lives at home with his father, Dr. Robert Anglum, the noted scientist, and young sister Annette. Nifty for Pierre's application to be bonded under his father's name. Will Straight goods but queer. Walks in his sleep, writes poetry, forgets his own name, hides things. "To the funny house for him."

"It is luck," I began eagerly.

"'Tis the postscript that has the sting in it, like a scorpion's tail," Jarge went on, unheeding, "I've jotted down some time after in pencil by the inspector himself for his own personal use. Hear to it, now," and he read:

Good shot—\$50,000 saved. P. A. dead and the diamonds gone. 4 explains. If I only had the magnet—

"Now, what in the divvie—" he began.

"It is luck," I persisted. "It all comes back to me now; I kin see what he's drivin' at like the end of a road. '4 explains'—that's the sentence about, don't you see, Jarge?—about Anglum's walkin' in his sleep and hidin' things."

"The tucked away some'ers for keeps the diamonds left in his care by his uncle will—\$50,000 worth. 'Only a magnet!' Well, I guess, yes. If he only had a clue to lead him to that needle in a haystack.

"But we'll make a try for him, Jarge—'tis more an even chance." And then, as he brought down his hand heavy, I told this vortacous tale.

It was a year back when Jarge and me was apart. I was stumped; the pave disconsolate, with nautilus' but hands in me pockets, and those blue and cold.

A hearty old gent, with a long white beard, stopped me, lifting me chin and peerin' into me face with his bright, blue eyes. Thin, he offered me good pay and good if I would go to his home and act as subject for a triflin' scientific investigation.

I went to his roomy, ramblin' house, so tired and weak from me bed and board of stone that hardly had he told me to look at a big, blinkin' crystal and hardly had he made a pass and a stroke before I was piddlin'—in the line of "No; tubin' 'tis, in answer to his questions, but I don't know sayin' what, except it is about somethin' that was hid and must be found.

He kep' me there for tree days in a veropable land of Canaan, served straight, without milk and honey at the side, 'rank goodness, and when he dismissed me as not proven, me pockets were warm enough to keep me hands from gittin blue and cold.

"This was Dr. Anglum?" ast Jarge, impatiently. "And you think he was searchin' for the diamonds?"

"Right, but," I answered. "At first I thought he was simply daffy, but now I kin see he was daffy wit' a purpose, like every odder man of gen'us."

"And that ain't all, Jarge. He used me, he liked my gittin' ways. His last words were an expression of confidence.

"'Tis in your right hand," he said, with a slight, "but I ain't got the power to revoke it. Some'ers in the wurld, young man, is you compliment, the strong will that is a key to your sensitive soul, which kin unlock and unfold the mysteries of nature. Promise me, if the two hemispheres are ever reversed together by fortuitous and circumstances into a globe of puffin' knowledge and he will come to me as me honored guests."

"I see your drift at last," interrupted Jarge; "you want me to play the role of an audder Cally Ostrum. But what do I know about anny such?"

"That's the battle!" I cried, exultant. "Your method is sure to be an advanced way. Under your magical infloence I'll lead you by gradual and harmonious steps from cellar to roof, from cold to warm, until he be procces of elimination we locate your fortune. Talk about needles in a haystack! I'll 'troo that fodder with a fine tooth' comb."

Jarge assented at length, but in a half-hearted way.

"'Tis all very like with a dotty old man," he grumbled as we started on our quest, "but there's a girl—what's her name—Annette."

"There is a girl, very much of her name," I agreed with an impudent smack of the lips. "She was away when I was there; but I seen her picture and it wud make a did octogonater skip with jy. I wisht I cud put myself in your place, Jarge, I wisht that only for the once I might pose as the masher univusal."

But it was no use. The eternal spark of Jarge's vanity was blinked under a bushel of doubts. His Arab steed was shed with burlap and straw instead of fire.

"Eh, this ain't the way, Smithers," he fretted. "Was it genooine, was it natural?"

"Whin I had assured him of my ability to sleep at will under anny and all conditions, but allyus with wye eye open, I began to see the drift of his quams. The fear of the unknown was upon him—a fear that has rattled many a stouter nerve than his."

Not that Jarge was a coward—proud, ambitious, eagerness, greed, united to give him a sort of despit courage. But there was naverthin matter of 'ak about it.

It was allyus under excitement, inspiration; with nerves tightened up to the highest pitch, and hysterics follerin' cius like a shadder. No forlorn hope for Jarge, such as propin' 'troo a tunnel to locate a mine; he wanted to see the way ivery time; yin; and to know it wuz his.

However, the preliminaries were so familiar as to put him at ease. Dr. Anglum recognized me at once; he greeted me with feverish glee. The old man had fallen in the year, as if the hand of Deat' had already begun to smooth and soothe him into no't.

"'Tis it really so?" he quavered, "you have found your Alter Ego at last?"

"We're from the very same shell, and no mistake," I replied.

"An adept, a true adept, yused in the mysteries of the Yeast," he murmured as Jarge tossed back his flowing locks and cast his eyes into a corner of the ceiling.

It was really pitiful, so it wuz, to watch his tremblin' eagerness, his implicit faith that his own crazy no'tion had come true, as he explained how vital it was that certin' valuable hid in the house should be found, as he offered iverythin' he possessed, with no Spanish string to it.

It all happened in an instant in that narrow passage. It was as if a wicker chair had been laid affectionately on Jarge's shoulder; just as impulsively, with me free hand, I give her a warm'nudge.

An hour later I was alone in the library, ristin' from the strain 'o me soulful endeavor, when Annette entered—a transformed Annette, older, taller, with 'er light gone from her eyes and 'er smile from her lips.

"You meant to warn me against him," she said.

"I meant it kindly, Miss," I answered.

"Then you are a wicked fraud!" she flashed. "Was under the spell of animal magnetism cannot have independent intention. Prove your kindness now by tellin' me all."

I did, for I can't help it, for wasn't and the only time I was under a spell—the yearn and strain of a good woman's agonized heart. I pleaded guilty without blinsh of the charge. I 'trew meat on the mussey of the court.

Again I was struck with the sudden grasp and maturity of her nature.

"You must continue as you have until the end," she declared. "It is possible that

the outcome may bring jy and victory to my poor father, shame and defeat to the wretch with whom you consort."

"What use cud I do but obey? I wasn't lookin' for trouble with Jarge, therefore I had to keep quiet about my treachery. I respicited Annette for her new found firmness, I was cur'us to see how far and in what direction it might lead her.

I was sorry, too, for the poor old doctor. If the diamonds were not recovered he wud be ruined, since he held himself in honor bound to make good the ligatures to whom they had been bequeathed. Why, thin, shudn't I let him have a fightin' chance? It had allyus been easy come and easy go with me; there was plenty more cards in the box and there wud be anudder day.

Besides, I tuk a pride in my unsuspected powers and was anx'us to see if they wud not prove victor'us. The field of research was narrow; we had kivered the first two stories; there only remained the third, havin' a vacant attic in front an' a large work room in the rear, where the doctor had pushed his investigations, and within which his apparatus was stored.

"Smithers," said Jarge, with sparkling eyes when he was alone arter the last seants we was distined all unknowin' to hold. "Smithers, me b'y, we have copped the game for fair. Did you notice anythin' peculiar about my actus, this mornin', whin you had indicated that I shud search just back of the ledge of the dormer window in the attic?"

"I noticed you palmed somethin', Jarge."

"It was a note; here to it," he cried, and thin he read as follows:

For safe keeping against the secret enemies of our house I have hid the diamonds in the black box standin' on the father's worktop.

"We've got them sure," he continued delir'us, "as sure as if they was already in my hand. At the mystic hour of 12 the night, whin old Orphus is in ascendency 't'rou the house, we'll pluck thin from their matrix, and thin, he and away to Tom Tiddler's ground!"

There was no holdin' of him, he was so excited, so excited, in such a state, do you mind, wud he kep' him up to despit deede shud it didn't last.

"But it only last. Either the old doctor was persesed by the limp of the perverse or else his daughter had been primin' him; I cudn't tell which."

At all events, for the rist of the day and until late at night he deat out some blood curdlers from the undelfed springs of his min'y and exper'ence. I caught meself seein' things on the wall and lookin' over me shoulder for more and wuz bein' odd, and so for Jarge, his courage was visibly costin' from ivery pour. He was in a blue funk, he was, whin at midnight's mystic hour we stole up the attic stairs.

"If it only wasn't so dark," he murmured.

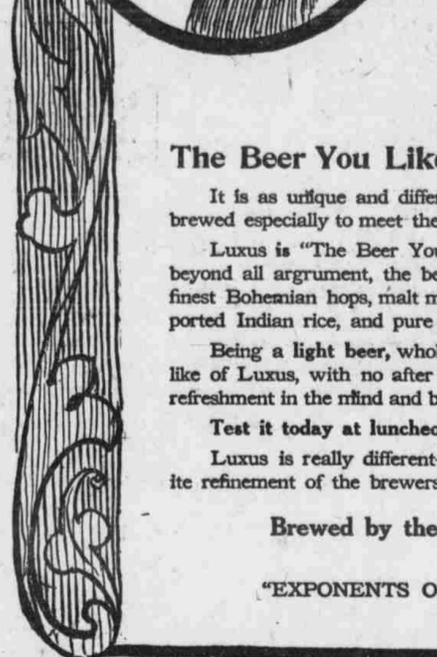
Dark it wuz; that cold, black dark which wud make a rookin' vault cozy in comparison. I know I had to hold on to my own jaw; as for Jarge, you'd tink it was playin' bones in some divvie's orchistry.

However, we persisted, creepin' into the workroom and passin' in the cister until I cud strike a match for our beams. The light flamed for a second and thin went out, but d'rectly in front of Jarge was the black box on the stand. He stretched out his hand—whin fash, bang!

I t'ought it was the rissurrection. There was a flashin', blinshin' flash and a blaze; there was a din, inosent, terrifin, horribel! I staggered against th' wall, faint and sick.

"Pick up your fellow rogue and be gone," said a stern v'ice, as the old doctor hisself advanced from behind a screen.

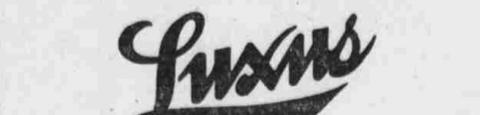
"Whin he recovers his senses tell him that 'troo your machinations the diamonds have been found and delivered to their rightful owners. If it wasn't for a snipe of obligation to you, Smithers, personally, but 'for your oliverness in devisin' a method of search and the favor you rendered me



daughter, I'd have you both in the lockup. As it is, let this be a lesson to you not to meddle with what you don't understand. Use, like Charcot's method of hypnotism, a dazzling light attin'd by the clang of a song, it may 'trow you."

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A light beer is just as essential as a moderate luncheon for a level head during business hours. Heavy, sticky, "bilious" beers are decidedly out of order during the business day—in fact they are out of place any time. A beer that requires digestion, instead of aiding digestion, is not the beer for you. The modern demand is for a light beer.



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France's Religious Strife

(Continued from Page One.)

for two classes of ministers of religion who prior to the passage of the law have been receiving salaries from the state. One is for priests who are 60 years old or over and who have served thirty years. To them is offered for life a pension equal to three-quarters of their salaries.

Those priests who are over 45 and have exercised their ecclesiastical functions under salary from the government for twenty years are entitled to a pension of one-half their salaries. In neither case, however, must the pension exceed 1,500 francs a year.

All other ministers who draw salaries from the government are allowed to receive for ministers who resign the suspension of the appropriation for public worship an allowance equal to the full sum of their salary for the first year, to two-thirds for the second, for one-half to the third and to one-third for the fourth year.

In communes of less than 1,000 inhabitants, the minister who resigns must exercise their functions, the duration of the four periods indicated shall be doubled. Applications for pensions must be presented within a year.

Elaborate provisions are made for the transfer of all the church property throughout France to the new associations that may be formed. This far not more than eighty priests have made the declaration required under the law of 1881, and not more than 100 associations have been formed.

When the enormous number of Catholic churches in France is considered it will be seen how the attitude of the Catholics toward the law makes the task of enforcing it well nigh impossible. Under the advice of the pope they are offering a passive resistance, which is expected to be much more effective than violence or the taking up of arms.

Little or no blood has been shed since the government started to enforce the law, but the Catholics simply refuse to obey its provisions. None of the priests who have been arrested for saying mass in churches without giving notice to the prefect have been sentenced to jail as a mark of their zeal for the old order of affairs.

The separation law decrees that meetings for public worship held in places belonging to an association or put at its disposal are public. They are relieved from the formalities of the law of 1881, but remain subject to the supervision of the authorities in the interest of public order.

They may take place only after a declaration has been made indicating the place in which they are to be held. A single declaration, however, suffices for all the regular, stated or special meetings that shall be held during the year.

It is forbidden to hold political meetings in places regularly used for public worship, and ceremonies, processions and other outdoor observances of religion shall continue to be regulated by the municipal law. The ringing of church bells shall be regulated by municipal decree, and in case of disagreement between the mayor and the president of any association the matter is to be settled by decree of the prefect.

Under article 13 of the law it is forbidden in future to erect or affix any religious sign or emblem upon public monuments or in any public place whatever, with the exception of edifices set apart for religious worship, burial grounds, monuments of the dead, museums and expositions. Violations of this article are punished by simple police penalties. The buildings and listed movable objects shall be freely open to the visits and inspection of the public without charge or fee.

Buildings set apart for public worship which belong to the state, department or commune continue to be exempt from the

reality tax and the door and window tax, but edifices serving as residences for ministers of religion, seminarians and the factions belonging to the state, the departments or the communes and property belonging to the associations and unions are subject to the same imposts as those of private individuals. The law then adds: "The associations and unions are not in any case subject to the special corporation tax nor to the income tax of 4 per cent."

Religious teaching may be given to children between the ages of 6 and 13 years registered in the public schools, but only outside of school hours.

A fine of from 16 to 500 francs, or imprisonment for six days to two months, is imposed upon those who "by assaults, violence or threats against an individual, either in causing him the fear of the loss of his employment or of exposing himself to injury in his person, his family or his fortune, shall have determined such person to exercise or to abstain from exercising rights of religious worship to join or cease to be a member of any association for religious worship, to contribute or refrain to contribute to the maintenance of a religion." The same penalties are provided for any defamations or interruptions of religious worship by disorderly conduct.

A minister who defames or insults a public official from the pulpit or by placards hung on the walls of the church is liable to a fine of from 500 to 2,000 francs or to imprisonment for one month to one year. The fact of the defamation is established before the correctional tribunal.

Article xxv reads: "If a speech, discourse or a writing posted up or distributed publicly in places where religious services are held shall contain a direct provocation for the execution of the laws or the lawful acts of public authority, or if it shall tend to raise up or arm a part of the people against the others, the minister of religion who shall be found guilty shall be punished by an imprisonment of from three months to two years. The Russians may recall, with admiring complacency in case the provocation shall have been followed by sedition, revolt or civil war."

During the eight years beginning with the promulgation of the law ministers of religion are ineligible to membership in the municipal council of the communes where they exercise their religious functions.

By the terms of the present separation law all enactments relative to the public organization of religions previously recognized by the state, as well as enactments contrary to the present law, are abrogated, a notable instance being the concordat itself. This is described as "the law of the eighteenth germinal, year 10, providing that the convention ratified the twenty-sixth messidor, year 9, between the pope and the French government, all the organic articles of the said convention and of that protocol which should be executed as laws of the republic."

The French government is firm in its resolve to enforce the law and it has the warm support of the Chambers in its determination. After the law was passed, but before it went into operation, an election was held and an increased majority of deputies returned who are in favor of the act.

Unquestionably a majority of the voters in France favor the separation act as the only practical solution of the vexed questions that have arisen between church and state, but it is not believed that the Catholics, who are loyal to the pope, will ever submit to the restrictions. As yet no practical compromise has been suggested by which the Catholics could continue to give allegiance to the Holy Father and still obey the provisions of the law.

In his encyclical of last August the pope declined to allow the French Bishops to comply with the terms of the act. He said that he had examined the law with the greatest care to see if it allowed the exercise of religion without jeopardizing the sacred principles of the church. He de-

clared that it was not permissible to try this kind of association as long as it was not established in a sure and legal manner, that the divine constitution of the church, the immutable rights of the Roman pontiff and of the bishops, as well as the authority over the necessary property of the church, and particularly over the sacred edifices, shall be irrevocably placed in the associations in full security. To desire the contrary the pope said was for him impossible without betraying the sanctity of his office and bringing about the ruin of the church in France.

A Pair of Short Anecdotes

James Bryce's Claim on America. WRITING of the new British ambassador to the United States, the Hon. James Bryce, Mr. Charles Johnson makes the interesting observation in Harper's Weekly that there is not a section of the American community on whose welcome Mr. Bryce has not some special claim. There is the great bulk of the nation, to which Mr. Bryce's great reputation recommends him. "To the Irish-American comes as a staunch home-ruler, who never for a moment wavered in his convictions. To the German-American he may probably boast that he is an alumnus of Heidelberg, that he is a lifelong student of German literature and history, that in his first political campaign, he had the honor, shared by few British members of Parliament, of addressing the German electors of East London in their own Teutonic tongue. To the French, he can point to his splendid study of Charlemagne, in the Holy Roman empire, and say that few historians have done more ample justice to the great reviewer of the French empire. The Italian should welcome him as a great student of Italy, from the days of Julius Caesar up to the present day. He may fraternize with the Swiss, if we have any among us, on the high ground that, for years, he was one of the most intrepid climbers of their lovely mountains, and in a former president of the Alpine club. The Hungarians will remember with a glow of satisfaction that he has explored many of the remote corners of their beautiful kingdom. The Slavs know of him as a traveler in Poland. The Russians may recall, with admiring complacency, that he has the honor of having climbed Mount Ararat, alone and unguided, while the dozen Cosacks and Kurds who

made the start with him were loiling worn out on the lower slopes of the mountain. To Scandinavians he may talk of his explorations in Iceland, where he trod in the footsteps of the daring Vikings of old, and his claim to have proceeded thence to America is better authenticated than that of Leif the Lucky or Eric the Red."

When Stubbs Cooled His Heels. J. C. Stubbs, one of the important witnesses in the Interstate Commerce commission's investigation into the Harriman lines, is traffic director of the Union Pacific and the Southern Pacific and is accounted one of the most prominent railroad men in Chicago. Mr. Harriman, it is known, relies upon his judgment in traffic matters almost implicitly. Mr. Stubbs arrived in New York City from Chicago one morning not long ago, relates the New York Sun, and had planned, after transaction of business with his chief, to return on an afternoon train. But Mr. Harriman was busy and kept the traffic director waiting and idling at the outer office. Eventually, train time approaching, he sent in to Mr. Harriman to request an immediate interview. The response was immediate, Mr. Harriman throwing open the door and shouting at the top of his voice:

"Sit down, Stubbs, and wait till I get ready to see you. Your salary goes on just the same whether you're in Chicago or New York."

Mr. Stubbs went back and sat down and did not appear at all disconcerted.

"He probably knows," said the man who told the story, "that more prominent men than he in the financial world have accustomed themselves to just such treatment."

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