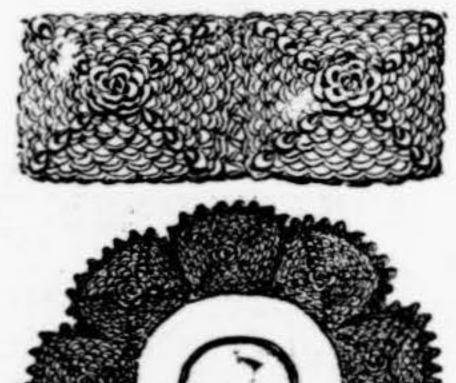
THE OBSERVER AND TIMES, TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1914.



in the following directions for making Irish | row: 8 ch. Repeat from \*. There should be medallions with rose-patterned centres. When joined together they make lovely insertions for trimming blouses, or they may be let into the latter singly, if preferred. The lace is illustrated herewith, and the following hints on how to make it have been supplied to me by a Russian lady who has spent many a leisure moment in making for herself beautiful Fourth Row .- Make 8 ch., join to the begincrochet lace.

The Rose .- Begin by working the rose centre. Make 5 chain, join with a double crochet to the 1st chain, then 5 more chain, and double crochet into the tiny loop just made. Work once, at the beginning of 2nd row. There will 3 ch. 1 treble into the centre loop, 3 ch., 1 tr. into the same loop, and repeat till you have 6 like the 3rd. little holes around the centre one. Then make 6 tr. and 1 d.c. into each of the 6 holes, turn work on wrong side and make 4 ch. and join with a d.c. between the petals (in the middle,

not too near the edge). Repeat this till you



The crocket worker will doubtless be interested knots; two more loops on the loops of previous three loops from each corner; the third loop is joined with a d.c. to the first of the six little trouble?" holes

Third Row .- Make another picot loop, join to the 5th little hole, "; 4 more loops along the side; the 4th join into the 1st of the 6 little holes; another loop into the 5th hole. Repeat from \* three times, and join the last loop of this row with a double crochet. ning of next loop and work this 4th row as

the 2nd row, the only difference being that the 8 ch. are joined to the beginning and not to the end of next loop. This must not be forgotten, as the joining to the end is done only also be 5 loops here instead of 3. Fifth Row.-The 5th row is worked exactly

Sixth Row.-This is worked like the 4th row; the only difference is that the loops have increased. Two medallions are indicated in the top sketch of group.

> -+\*+-NICE DISHES.

BANANA PUDDING .- This is a pleasing way of Bradbury !" using cake that is getting dry, or left-over "Yes," I nodded sponge fingers. Line a deep baking dish with the cake, two sliced bananas and half a cupful of few days before they were to have been you the reason. Do you care to listen ?" raisins. Make a custard of the yolks of eggs, married? Do you know the reason?" milk, and cornflour. Pour the hot custard over the bananas. Then make a meringue of the whites of the eggs. Spread it on the top of the pudding, and bake a few minutes till brown.

about half a pint or one large cupful of cold why. And you say he is in this affair with [ ] lied with a gesture. the saucepan first, then the onions and half the seasoning, pour in some water. It should not amazement, quite cover the meat. The potatoes go on top

about one and a-half hour.

"I do not know of anything, Miss Desbrough," I replied guardedly, "But you know that he is in some great wistfully asked this.

nim ?"

me a bit."

"You must not ask me any questions, for indeed I cannot answer them. I have told you that I know of nothing which in any way need affect your relations with him. I will add a word to that. There is a matter

which I know is worrying him; but it one in which he is not alone concerned; and if he does not speak of it to you it is

because he is pledged to others not to do day at Brindisi ?"

"Is it very serious?" at present uncertain."

re one of them?" "Yes, I am one," I replied, after consid-

eration. "There is another, a mutual friend tell you some day." of ours, Mr. Alee Winford. To my surprise, the mention of Winford's

jilted, and it hit him badly. "That's what a man always thinks.

STUFFED LETTUCE .- Rinse four lettuces in Despite my concern at this, I succeeded in I knew to be a scoundrel. I did not wish master had not been back since the morning. water several times, and then drep into boiling forcing a laugh. "You mean the red ink- you to know who I was, for I did not intend Roberts had been with him for several years and had accompanied him on many ever to see you again. Those days cloth, and when all the moisture has been She gave me another steady stare. "I among the happiest of my life. I hoped of his travels, so that the relations between squeezed out, remove some of the inner leaves, will not ask any more questions and drive that you had found them pleasant also, and them were very close. Prepare a forcement of minced chicken and you to fence with them in that way," she I wished your remembrance of them to be "I hoped you would be able to tell me breadcrumbs, a little chopped parsley, minced said, in the same dry tone as before; and unalloyed by the knowledge of the real cir. something, sir. I'm getting rather uneasy." mushrooms, peas, or French beans, and salt and at that moment the car stopped at Miss cumstances of my life. In a word, I was the man said. "It isn't at all like him to direct baffles me entirely. But there it is." pepper to taste. Bind with the volk of egg. and Vian's door, much to my relief. But she ashamed to own the truth. I know it was ill the centres of the lettuces with the mixture. pressed me to go in and would not let me mean and paltry and contemptible of me, me know." The up, and braise they for about half to three- decline. "Marna is expecting you. She but there it is. And we will never again re-"I suppose he has done it before?" quarters of an hour. Serve-after removing the waited for you all the afternoon, I know. fer to it if you please." You would not like her to know that you How I was moved by this can be easily if afraid he had rather committed himself. GROUSE AND SWEETBREAD QUENELLES .- Take had been at the very door and then gone conceived, and once more I had to cut res-"But why are you uneasy now?" traint upon myself to stay the desire to tell mince finely. Prepare a sweetbread for cook- Her significant smile as she said this her all that was in my heart. "I should ing, and stew gently till tender. Mince it also, showed mo that she knew all about the have been sorry had we not met," I mut-Then make a panada of a tablespoonful of happenings on the Mediterranean, and I tered with a fatuous smile, "For heaven's sake don't speak to me in grated lemon-peel, chopped shallot, a pinch of "Will you tell me what you meant about that simpering, meaningless tone !" she exherbs, pepper, salt, and the crumb of two Winford (" I asked as we went upstairs, claimed, with a sudden outburst of passion. French rolls previously soaked in milk and "Why that engagement was broken off, 1 "Marna" I cried and turned to meet her the morning papers, and instead of eating his pasted on to the sheet and read as follows: flaming eyes. For a moment we stood thus of thick white sauce and the yolk of an egg. Set "I promised not to. But if you know her each seeking to read the other's inmost then rushed out." "He came to me. There was something he thoughts. The limits of my self-control were "He's a great friend of Winford's and passed, and I was about to utter the hot, wished me to see. That's all, Roberts." bread and pound all together in a mortar. Add has been with him on more than one shoot passionate words which sprang to my lips, when Miss Vian came into the room with

some dismal, gloomy cloud had settled on to the Jew as hush-money from Dick, and your life, extinguishing every thought and then he came out to me, gave the whole

tope of happiness. You have come home show away, and we crossed together to have to some great trouble?"-gently and almost it out with the old shark." "Then why the devil didn't you tell us all

"Yes, I have some matters which worry this last night?"I cried angrify, Steady there, I don't let any man use

"Then how selfish of me to force mine that tone to me," he retorted, and swung feel assured that I desire nothing more upon you. And yet-" she finished the on his heel and hailed sentence with a sigh. "You spoke very which was passing. "You mustn't go like this," I said hurryfrankly to me then of your life and plans,

she added invitingly, when I was silent. ing after him. " I-I cannot speak of this. I should like "Try and stop me then," he growled as

the opened the door. to, and hope to, but-not yet, at any rate." "There is one thing I should so much like when he turned. "See here, I'm fed up to explain. You have not forgotten that with your sort of talk, but I'll tell you this. If you're looking for trouble from the house

I could not tell her, as I longed to, that, there "-jerking his head in the direction except in the last crowded hours, it had of No. 27-"you'll find it all right if you

"That must depend upon circumstances never been out of my thoughts, "The day you don't stop monkeying with that Hoffgang left for England, you mean ?' I answered, girl. A man who fools with a rattler has no "Who are these others you mention! You in as level a tone as I could command. cause to squeal when he gets bit." And "Yes, your question and my reply. That with that he drove off, leaving me fuming

if you still wished to know my name I would with useless rage It was positively monstrous that he should

have said nothing about this Peterson affair "I could not forget," I murmured, She started and paused for a few seconds, at his brother's house on the previous night, promise matters and speak of her as Miss the police would have betrayed me instantly. name appeared to affect her considerably, and I heard her sigh. "Perhaps you He snew that our fear of that had been the Marna; well, I was saying that for one "Winford," she repeated. "Is that the thought we should never meet again; or only reason for going to the Jew's house, thing Miss Marna has interested you in the Alee Winford who was engaged to Edith perhaps-oh, I do not care. I thought you and a hint of the truth would have eaved would consider it very strange that I should us all from the fearful trouble in which

not have told you my name, leaving you to Hoffgang's death had plunged us, "The engagement was broken off only a miscall me as you did. I wish now to tell That his silence had been intentional there could be no doubt. He must have had some Only with the strongest effort could I hold | purpose in getting us to the house, and his "No. I know that he felt he had been back the impulse to tell her how insistently visit to it now showed that he had secret my thoughts had dwelt upon her motive, relations with someone in it. Could he be in

I how I longed for the chance of seeing her league with Aranak? Were these relations know Edith Bradbury very well, and I know again, and how, through the long, long in any way connected with the mystery of Inish STEW .- Take one pound of neck or that she did quite right. It would have hours after the parting I had wearied my Hoffgang's death? The tangle was so inpieces of mutton, three pounds or twelve or six- been madness for her to have married Mr. brain with fruitiess wonderings and volved, and its ramifications so surprising. teen potatoes, three or four onions, two tea- Winford. He ought never to marry, of cherished desires. Utter another common- that I felt almost anything was possible. epoonfuls of salt, half a teaspoonful of pepper. course ; although I believe he does not know place at that moment I could not, so I re- Manuel's reference to the Armenian as a rattlesnake might mean either that he was

water. Wash and peel the potatoes thinly, cut Richard and you. Well, you have not told That my silence wounded and grieved her warning me against him, or that he was takthem in halves and leave them in clean cold me much, Mr. Rentmain, and it is all very was evident. She frowned and bit her lip, ing Aranak's side in regard to Marna. water. Peel and cut the onions up, and cut the mystericus; but you have succeeded in and her great dark eyes clouded with per- I was far too angry to be able to think the meat in five or six pieces. Put the meat into alarming me more thoroughly than before." plexity and trouble. "I will tell you now puzzle out, and I set off to do the only thing answer them, Mr. Aranak." "I can't understand you," I said in that I have begun," she said after a long there was to do-tell Gourley and Winford

pause, her lip quivering and her voice un- this new and amazing complication. "That bloodstain on Richard's cuff last steady. "I was silent from shame. I be- But I could not find either of them. with the remainder of the seasoning. Cover the night. Have you forgotten it? Was there lieved myself to be the daughter of a man Gourley's chambers I learnt that he had pan closely with the lid, and simmer slowly any violence from any one to account for whose life was utterly sordid and unworthy gone out of town and had not left 20.0 and I was pledged to marry another whom address, while Winford's man said that his

go off witout me, or at least, without letting "Only once or twice sir, at most when-" ing my face to observe its effect upon me, He checked himself and glanced at me as [ news, Mr Rentmain, He was terribly upset words had been used and in others merely lamps to the vacuum pump after a period of last night; I think he must have walked parts of words, and even single letters; the burning, about the room all night, for his bed hadn't spelling of the former was correct, but been slept in, and again this morning. He where the words had been made up, they sent me out first thing to buy copies of all were egregiously wrong. They were all breakfast he shut himself up with them and "THE MURDER IN EAGRAVE SQUARE." To Mr. Arrenack. "The sender of these lines thinks you "But I haven't seen him since, and I-I ought to kno that on the nite of the murder know him so well, you see, sir," and he of Mr. Hoffgang four men were sene to

a considerable time. at home perhaps you'll begin," I said.

"I hope I do not detect in that a note of "You would always have reason to be a taxi than to be upon the friendliest terms with it is so deeply marked that however strongly

"Suppose you stop play acting and get to with those of such a photograph, the abbusiness, Mr. Aranak. What is it you have sence of the scar would clear you entirely." come for?"

He was getting in "Of course, you are at liberty to adopt any twist of the screw rushed upon me, I had attitude you please, but I shall be sorry, answer to make, and could not even feign really sorry, if you decide to treat me in a an indifference to so deadly a thrust, hostile manner. I have come to confer with ally so, of course."

He raused, but I made no reply. The and leered into my face. less I had to say the better.

"For one thing," he resumed "Miss Hoffgang-I beg pardon, Miss Clifford-the his challenge. other name comes so much more readily to I dared not accept it, because the photo-

tragic affair, although there are, of course, other reasons for your concern'

"What do you mean by other reasons?" "We shall no doubt come to them premystery of her father's-there again-Mr. Hoffgang's lamented and sudden death. Is not that so?"

"As these lapses of yours are merely assumed for some purpose of your own, suggest that there shall not be any more of them. They don't impose upon me in the least. And let me say, once for all, that while you may ask me what questions you please, it does not follow tha I shall

"Quite so, quite so," he answered, in his sauve, insinuating way. "Very non-committal and prudent. I quito appreciate temperature of about 3,600deg, on the Fahryour position a very difficult one indeed. enheit scale. Taking the low of the fourteenth very difficult. But this is the present point. power, an increase of between 5 and 6 per You are anxious on Miss Marna's account | cent. in the absolute temperature, say about to help in solving this extraordinary 170- 200deg. Fahr., would double the light emitted. blem, and I concluded therefore that you The temperatures allowable are limited by would welcome assistance from any source. the durability of the filament. The exact came, therefore, to show you this peculiar. processes of failure are not all fully underbut significant and really most important stood, Fusion, of course, would occur at communication which has been sent to me, sufficiently high temperatures. At normal Why to me and not to the police temperatures a slow volatilisation seems to occur and accounts for the blackening of the He handed me a half sheet of paper and, bulbs. In other classes of work one of the as I examined it, he rolled himself another most fruitful sources of disintegration arises cigarette, his penetrating black eyes searchfrom the action of gases either occluded It was, as he described it, a very peculiar within the metal or attacking it from without. document. It consisted of some half-dozen It would be interesting to know if gases are lines of printed words which had been cut, occluded in gas filaments. If they are, it "I'm afraid he has had some very had from newspapers. In some cases complete night pay to remove them by returning the

cognise one of them if nessary, Advertise

I read it very carefully and, while

ffected to be puzzling over its meaning.

the real objective of the Armenian's visit.

This ingenious concoction was intended

to accede to the terms he had come to en-

force. Thanks to Manuel Gourley's warn-

ing. I could even anticipate them: "hands

As he looked at me to be thoroughly

frightened I tried not to disappoint him,

as I held the paper, my features twitched

appropriately, and I even went so far as to

render my breathing slightly laboured.

"What-can this mean?" I stammered.

"It seems to impress you, Mr. Rentmain."

in 'Daily Chronicle' to P.M."

There was no need for me to simulate any leisurely fashion, obviously intending me to alarm or anxiety now for both feelings were infer that the interview was to last deep and sincere, and involuntarily I drew my hand back, as his wicked eyes glanced "When you've made yourself thoroughly first at my injured tinger and then fastened on my face.

antagonism, Mr. Rentmain. I wish you to glad of such a scar as that," he continued with a hateful smile of triumph, "because the lines of your finger might correspond

As the full significance of this unexpected

"You would Lethaps like to give me an you about my employer's death. You take a impression of that exceedingly tell-tale very keen interest in that, and very natur- finger," he said, leaning forward as he thrust a clean sheet of paper in front of me

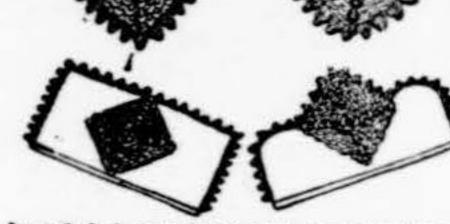
> And his grin deepened and his eyes lighted in malicious triumph when I shrauk from

my lips, that perhaps I had better com- graph which was already in possession of (To be continued next Saturday.)

## METALLIC FILAMENT LAMPS.

The great and legitimate success of the sently. But the position is this, I believe, newer metallic filament incandescent lamps, You have promised to help her in solving and particularly the tungsten filament lamp, the mystery which at present involves the has caused many people to speculate on the I go reason for their greater efficiency as compared with the old carbon filament lamp. The greater efficiency is due, says the Manchester Guardian, chiefly to the greater temperature at which it is possible to work the metallic filaments, and particularly the tungsten filament. The luminosity depends upon the temperature, and one authority states that at the temperatures usual in incandes-

cent lamps the luminosity increases as the fourteenth power of the temperature. Thus an ordinary carbon filament has an absolute



have 6 ch. loops; then turn the work and make on each loop Str. and 1 d.c. The last d.c. of the 6th petal in this row and in the last one must be joined to the 1st ch of 1st petal. Turn, and make on wrong side the 6 ch loops, as already described, then turn again and make on them 9 tr. and 1 d.c. This finishes the rose.

First Row of Filling .- Make 7 ch., and go back into the 6 ch. from hook with a d.c. This into the 6th with 2 ch. The picot loops are of the minced grouse, the panada, and the sweetcontinued throughout the work and made as 4th tr. of the rose petal, of last row; then, sauce. again, 7 ch., make the picot, 7 ch., picot, 2 ch., 1 d.c. between the 8th and 9 tr. of the same the petal.

between 2nd and 3rd of the 12 tr just made: over the whole, and keep covered until cold. 1 cb., 1 tr. between 5th and 6th, and so on, till there are 6 little holes: 1 d.c. at the beginning of next loop. Then 7 ch., make a picot, 7 ch. picot, 2 ch., 1 d.c. into same loop between the

2 knots; then 2 more picot loops (on the 2 loops of previous row). & ch\*, join with a d.e. certain class was very dull, decided to test to next loop at the beginning: 2 ch., turn, them himself, the "Chronicle" relates. Ask- to fear that I was in for another crossmake 12 tr. 1 d.c. at the beginning of next loop, ing the lads to give him a number, and one 2 ch., make 1 tr. between 2nd and 3rd tr. of of them calling out "Seventy-two," he wrote 2 ch., make 1 tr, and so on, till there are 6 little on the blackboard "27." No remark coming holes-in other words, make 1 tr. after each 2 from the class he asked for another number, tr. of the 12 tr. Make 1 d.c. into next loop; and was given "Forty-eight." This he wrote then into same hole, between the knots, a on the board "84," and turned to observe any picot loop: two more loops on those of pre- sign of intelligence. None were apparent, vious row, then again 8 ch., 1 d.c. at beginning "Certainly a very dull lot," he thought, and of next loop, 12 tr. and 6 little holes as de- once more asked one of them to give him a

number. Then came a raucous young voice, scribed above. Make 1 d.c. at the beginning of next loop, "Thirty-three. Nah let's see yer can muck nto same hole the picot loop, joined between abaht with that!"

water and boil for ten minutes. Press them in a stain from the Committee room

the meat of the remains of roast grouse and away."

string.

finely - chopped cooked mushrooms, a little made no further excuses.

squeezed dry. Mix all together with a spoonful mean?" forms a picot. Make 6 ch, again and go back on one side till cold. Then take equal quantities brother, he will, I'm sure."

described. Make 1 d.c. between the 3rd and a whole egg. Form quenelles in a tablespoon ing expedition. and slide into boiling water. Serve with a white She turned on the stair and paused to some banal remark about the rain, which shook his head dubiously

look at me steadily and meaningly. COMPOTE OF GREENGAGES .- To a teacupful of will not go again, Mr. Rentmain. Ask him I turned to make some random reply and petal. Repeat this all round the rose till white granulated sugar or a teacupful and why; it is probably of the greatest import- after a few minutes, pleaded an excuse and there are 12 picot loops round it. Join the a half of cane loaf sugar add a teacupful of cold | ance that you should know, since you and left the house. last d.e. of the 12th loop right at the end of water. Boil gently for twenty minutes in a re- Richard and Mr. Winford are so closely

latively large enamelled saucepan; then add as associated in this other affair. Make it your Second Row of Filling.-Work 8 ch., join with many whole greengages as will form a single business to ask him." she said this with a d.e. at the end of next loop (after the 2 layer. Cover closely, and cook very slowly, and intenso earnestness; and then broke off and knots); then 2 ch., turn, work on wrong side as soon as they are soft but not in the least laughed. " Mystery for mystery, you know. and work on the loop 12 tr., and 1 d.c. at the broken remove them from the syrup. Repeat That's only fair. You must not ask me any beginning of next loop; 2 ch., turn, work 1 tr. until all are cooked, then pour the hot syrup questions," she added, in mimicry of my

drawing room.

## TESTING THE INSPECTOR.

her hat. Eva left us together, A school inspector having been told that a

"Could not? Or would not " "Could not. It is not my matter."

tion you. She thought you would have been and had shown plainly how deeply I cared

S. & B., Ltd. back with her."

hing."

"He had just commenced to fall.

me know as soon as he comes home, and ask him to 'phone me." "Of course I will, sir, fidgeted nervously a moment and

## CHAPTER X.

The interview with Marna set the scal to own protest to her, and then ran on to the my determination to tell her the truth. Let

the results be what they might, I must put making an excuse that she would take off an end to a situation which was intolerable. The merest dictates of prudence re-

Courley," suid Marna directly, and I began facts. If she did not she would certainly my mind what Eva had said about Winford.

search of him. She questioned me about fluenced me. I could not ondure the own affairs The last post brought me a hastil

all its embarrassing equivocations, conceal

"She thought that perhaps you would we had spent together on the "Euthasia"

here earlier; and when she went out de- for her, and my every instinct revolted now concluded clared she would find you and bring you from the part of cowardly and dishonourable If he felt much worse than I did he was

you wish particularly to see him, Mr. Rentmain, I think it possible that Mr. Bradbury had one great advantage over him in this may know where he is. There was a letter respect-I knew that he knew of our pre-ARANAK'S FIRST MOVE

from him this-"All right, Roberts, I think you had lieved that he was springing a great surbetter not say any more," I interposed and prise on me.

went away. The subject of the Bradburys was taboo between Winford and me, and by to rouse my alarm and render me willing mutual consent Mildred Bradbury's name had never been mentioned by either of us

"Eva is very troubled about Sir Richard quired that she would certainly know the since the rupture of their engagement. Roberts's reference to the letter recalled to off." in regard to Marna.

cause Aranak's arrest. That was clearer than and as I walked back to my flat, I could

not help speculating curiously upon the and put up as good an imitation of abject matter, despite the urgent pressure of my fear as I could. My hands began to tremble But this was not the reason which in-

scribbled, half-hysterical letter from Gourley to the effect that his nerves were giving way glanced at and away from him in turn with

ment, and misunderstandings. In the weeks under the strain, and that he was going quick flashes of panic, while I appeared to away for a day or two. "If this horrible be struggling for self-control. As an old

that I could do any desperate thing," he ness, and I did well enough to deceive him. poltroon which was forced upon me. I to be pitted. I was on the rack for the he said, fixing me with a keen and very

"I did not know that you were expecting would not do it for any consideration on whole night with the worry of it, and the significant look. "Very unexpected, isn't me," I said, wincing at the implied re- earth and what was more I could not. The hopeless inability to see a single loophole it?" final passage of the interview proved that. of escape from the net which held us in its . I rallied a little then, and after the swal-

"Yes, gentlemen," said the candidate, "I am proud to say that in my candidature I am being supported by my wife." "What else could she expect when she married you?" came the strident voice of an opponent

and the second se

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SPRAINS STIFF JOINTS · BRUISES sence in the dead man's room, while he be

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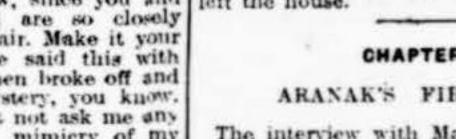


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the House of Commons; she had been in

not tell her anything."

tell me; at any rate, she asked me to ques- I had done my utmost to win her love, crisis least, I believe I shall go mad. I feel amateur actor I was no novice at the busi-

proach.

examination.

"Yes. I met her as she was coming from ever

him, but of course I said that I could false position in which I was placed with

## Birth-4lb. 6oz.

"A baby at birth weighed only 4lb. 6oz., now at nine months weighs 181b., and is a picture of health. Both the parents and myself consider SCOTT'S Emulsion has saved its life." (Signed) Nurse Cooper, 20 North Avenue, Garden Village, Burnage,

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"I had no right to expect, but I confess Only Miss Vian's entrance had stopped the baffling meshes,

what to do about Mr. Aranak.

than she imagined.

through the light rain. I stared after him in for the world.

unpunished ?"

what to say, She was standing under the light at the Manuel in Hoffgang's house! It seemed out of town, but I could tell from the writ- A very ingenious way of accounting for side of the fireplace, and I was nervously incredible, and I set off after him at a quick ing that something serious was the matter. his knowledge of the incriminating letter fingering a small silver ornament on the pace to settle the question. What could Do please tell me what it means. I'm sure without admitting that he had found Gourmantelpiece, just a few feet away from her, possibly be the meaning of his presence you know." and did not venture to meet the puzzled. (there? Then I remembered some words he "I have no idea where he is, I assure you; priately shaken up. A long pause ensued inquiring look which I felt was bent upon had spoken to Hoffgang. "I know more but I don't think you should worry. He'll and then I endeavoured to simulate the ap-

"Surely that man's villainy is concrete thousand miles for this interview with you." hear from him." enough, and his guilt beyond question." "Yes; I suppose it appears so to you."

Do you mean that you doubt it?" I felt that I was floundering deeper and firmed the impression. It confirmed also my freely to Marna.

after all." "I did not expect to find you championing sequence. That was beyond endurance, such a cause and such a man," she cried. It was Manuel right enough. He heard referring to Marna, surprise and some indignation in her tone. my quick step as I neared him. glanced "Why, Mr. Winford, of course. You know But for what followed I was utterly unchary of forming too quick a judgment. I you following me?" he asked bluntly. should like you to wait before you do any. "Yes. I saw you come out of Hoffgang's Bradbury yet?" thing, say, till to-morrow or the next day. house," I replied quite as bluntly, resent. "My dear My Something may turn up to alter your ing his tone. opinion. It-it would be a terrible re- "Well, what's it go to do with you? It

sponsibility to make a mistake in such a lisn't your house I suppose,"

I looked up then, but my eyes dropped a right to know what took you there. You've was broken off ?"

lowing motion which a scared man will I hoped you would have come. I have so declaration of love that was on my lips. I The next day brought no relief from the make when trying to nerve himself, much I wish to tell you and-and explain, dared not trust myself to be alone with her pressure. I rang up Winford early, only to essayed a little bluff, a very feeble one, "It especially after this morning. I must decide again until I was in a position to explain hear from Roberts that his master had not is nothing to me, sir. I don't know any-what to do about Mr. Aranak." "I have been thinking about that. It is Harassed by these thoughts I paused a any sort had come from him. "Do you pected," and I met his eyes with a suffivery difficult." In truth it was; far more so moment on the doorstep, hesitating whether think I ought to see Mr. Bradbury, sir?" ciently obvious effort.

it would not be better to return and tell her asked the man anxiously. He decided to drive home another point "Why difficult?" she asked, crinkling her at once, without waiting to discuss the "I can't advise you at all, Roberts," I then. "I think those four men can be brows. "I don't think I understand, matter with Winford or Gourley, when I saw answered, and rang off. I wouldn't have traced, Mr. Rentmain," he said, in so Surely you would not have such a crime go a man come out of No. 27 and swing away Winford think I was meddling in his affairs smooth a tone and with such deliberate utterance that I knew he meant it to be

"It will be all right, I've no doubt, Let street. I am watching things and can re-

then

added in a halting tentative manner. "If was in reality working out in my own mind

But-"

"No, of course not. In the abstract I amazement. The murk of the evening pre- Then Eva telephoned me about Gourley. particularly dangerous. "I found among would have every proved criminal vented my seeing him clearly, but I was "I haven't slept all night, Mr. Rentmain," Mr. Hoffgang's papers the draft of a letter punished," I answered, at a loss indeed vastly mistaken if the burly form and roll- she declared. "I had half a dozen lines he had sent making appointments for that ing gait were not those of Manuel Gourley. last night to say that some business took him night with three persons."

ley's and again I appeared to be appro-

than you think, and I have come four be back in the course of the day or you will pearance of a desire to make terms. I held out the precious document which he had

There had obviously been much more be- "Will you come round and see me ! Do." manufactured with so much trouble, my tween the two men than we had known. "I will if possible; but I have some ex- hand shaking violently, and with as sugges-"Mr. Rentmain! Are you taking his part! Some such thought had flashed across my ceedingly urgent matters to-day." Go to the tive a look as possible. I asked hesitatingly : mind at the moment, and this incident con- house I could not, until I was able to speak "What use are you going to make of

deeper into the mire, and that my hesita- already strong conviction that Manuel had "I suppose that means you won't," was He was a cruel beast, and he paused long tion was only making bad worse. "One fired the fatal shot. My anger flamed at the reply. "I certainly did hope for a dif- enough to enjoy the suffering he believed never knows," I said, with a feeble shrug the thought. He had crossed the Atlantic in ferent reply as you know how intensely he was causing me before he took the of the shoulders. "It is only circumstantial orde: to settle a private quarrel with the troubled I am. And I do so wish to talk to paper. "That depends, of course," he re-Jew, and we three were to suffer in con- you about that other matter." plied meaningly.

"What other mater?" I thought she was "Upon what?" I asked this with a suspicton of hope in my voice.

"I am not his champion; but I am always back over his shoulder and stopped. "Are what I told you, and I'm sure he's in some prepared. A new expression came into his way mixed up with this. Have you see Mr. eyes, one which for the moment I could not interpret, gloatng, confident and "My dear Miss Desbrough. I wish you abominably vindictive. "You have had a bad accident, I see," he said, pointing to a would put all that out of your head." "Oh, of course a man never thinks a deep scar on my forefinger, extending from woman can see anything. Will you see Mr. the middle joint to the tip. "Considering how matters stand, I have Bradbury and learn why that engagement "Yes. A gun-shot wound. What of it?"

He leant back in his chair as he folded



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