



"I admit the force of what you say and repeat that you are absolved from any unpleasant consequences. I explained it to the marshal, and he agrees with me. Our explanation to the district attorney will be all that is needed, but you may have to appear on the witness stand."

"I would prefer not to do that, though, of course, I will obey any subpoena."

"Don't you think it was a reckless thing to draw the \$10,000 and take it to that stone house in Jersey?"

"The results answer your question." "True, but those men carried weapons, and your strength could not avail you against a revolver."

"I can't say that I do. But this miraculous strength of yours seems to be a sudden thing."

"On the contrary, it has been with me all my life. But I resolved while still a boy never to make a vain display of it."

"What of your performance with the boat the other night?" "That was idle display. There was no necessity for yanking that craft ashore as I did. Had I paused to reflect, I would not have done so."

"And the breaking of the darky's table?" "That was another instance of which I am ashamed."

"Now, however, since you have broken your rule, there will be no harm in going a little farther."

"What do you mean?" "Give me a private exhibition."

"Haven't you had enough to convince you?" "Yes, and enough to make me wish for more."

"I did not like this, but my eye happened to fall upon the safe in the next room. I recalled what I had done before Harold Westcott, when there was reason for my exhibition."

"I'll do one thing and no more for you."

"Very well, provided that one thing is sufficient."

"Advancing to the next room and turning my side toward the mass of iron, precisely as in the first instance, I extended one arm across the top and lifted it from the floor, the detective giving utterance to a gasp of amazement."

"But a strange thing impressed itself upon my consciousness—the safe was heavier than before. What could be the cause? I was the only one in America that had the combination, and I had added naught to its contents."

"I started to walk round the room, but the burden was so great that when half-way across I abruptly retraced my steps, setting the massive structure back in place with a bang that shook the upper floor."

"Nevertheless it was a most astonishing feat, and Detective Cone declared it surpassed everything of which he had ever heard."

"Just one more demonstration."

"I shall do nothing else of that nature," I said, thrilled by a shivering fear that I had already done too much.

"Very well, and I thank you for your kindness. I would give \$1,000,000 if it were mine for that gift, which is one of the marvels of the century."

"Of what good is superior strength? The most dangerous desperado of whom I ever heard was a youth in Texas, whom a schoolboy could handle, but he was lightning with the revolver. Man's brain enables him to make all the forces of nature his servants. It is the brain that is king."

"But, all the same, the power of a lion is a handy thing to have about the house."

"There may be instances in which it is convenient, but the possessor is liable to presume upon it to a fatal extent. I can see now that if Tom Discoe had known how easily I could vanquish him he never would have given me the chance. If he is acquitted, I shall be at his mercy."

"I sat for several minutes smothered by a strange terror. There could be no mistake about it. The miraculous gift, reproduced after the lapse of centuries in myself, had departed forever."

"My vanity was my own Delilah. Yielding to a silly pride, I had made a vain display of my incredible strength, and now it had vanished, and I was as ordinary men."

"Singular that during all my life, when I was not as others, the feeling of awe, though present with me in a greater or less degree, never approached in height and breadth and depth that which now pervaded my being."

"And yet it should not have been so. Rather the emotion should have been one of inexpressible relief that the supernatural element had been eliminated, and that I was walking on the plane of my fellow-mortals."

"Perhaps such would be my mood when I became accustomed to the great change. But for the present I shivered like a man standing on the verge of a fathomless abyss, into which he feels himself slipping without the power to draw back."

"I must do something to fight off my impending madness. I was seized with an unspeakable dread of myself, of my room, of being alone. I must go out—must look upon others and meet men face to face."

"Amid my tempest of emotion that saving consciousness remained. My only escape from the collapse of brain and mind was to rush out of the building and plunge into something that would relieve the terrific pressure by turning it in another direction."

"Without waiting for the elevator, I dashed down the stairs three steps at a time. In the clear sunlight I breathed freer."

"Whether should I fly? What was to be my refuge?"

"Wall street. In the wild vortex, the dizzy maelstrom of that place, I might find surcease from my tremendous emotions. Thither I would go and leap into the pit which has been the grave of despairing multitudes."

"True, I had never been there, and knew nothing of its labyrinthine wind-

"out now! A man must have money in order to lose money. The \$10,000 which I drew some days before was still in my pocket. Most likely my cheque would be accepted, but it might be questioned. I had never looked at the bank-book that was shoved toward me, and did not do so now."

"How much is my balance, please?" The cashier turned to the bookkeeper and said something in a low tone. The bookkeeper handed him a slip of paper with some figures on it.

"That's how your account stands," said the courteous cashier, passing me the slip, with which I walked to the row of desks provided for the accommodation of the customers of the bank.

Even in my exaltation I was surprised for the figures were \$15,000. Before Harold went to Europe he placed some bills in my hands, of which I had made use, such as paying Mrs. Murphy and my personal expenses. I had drawn only the single cheque of \$10,000. He had assured me that just ten times that amount was subject to my call, and that half of it was absolutely mine.

Evidently there was a mistake somewhere, for the whole amount left at my command was \$25,000. However, that was not the time to inquire into the matter. It could wait.

I drew out every dollar of the balance, and added it to the package in my pocket. That made a goodly sum with which I could make or mar my fortune in Wall street. I was resolved to do one of these things.

It would be a fitting climax with which to wind up my loss of strength. I did not know a soul in that financial centre, though several persons spoke to me, and I returned their salutations.

Entering the office of the first prominent firm of brokers, I controlled my agitation so as not to attract attention, and made inquiries as to the movements of the various stocks.

"Have you any intention of making a venture?" was the bland inquiry.

"That is what brings me here. What do you advise?" "Have you any preference?" "None. I simply made up my mind awhile ago to take a flier. Here is \$25,000. Invest it for me as your judgment dictates."

He gave me a receipt, thanked me for my custom, and I told him I would call on the following afternoon to learn the result.

I walked all the way back to my rooms up town. The exercise and the reaction from the grotesque step I had taken acted as a soporific. My fever cooled, and a refreshing calm suffused my being. I was not afraid to re-enter my apartment and to sit down in the chair, from which I had bounded with a nameless terror.

I looked at the black, ponderous safe, which seemed to glower and gibe at me from the adjoining room as if to say—

"Vain fool, you would lift me again from my support. Try it and be overwhelmed with shame."

But I did not accept the challenge. I was not afraid to do so, but what man knowingly attempts the impossible?

After all, as I reflected, it was well that it had come out thus. To go about the world with the power of Samson was to separate me from my kind. By and by I would find myself apart from others. If in due time I should seek a wife, she would shrink from me upon learning my inexplicable gift. But now I was only an ordinary man.

Strange how quickly a sound philosophy reconciles us to the inevitable! My sickening horror, my awe, my dread, left me. Truly I was relieved to have things as they were.

But with this new phase of the situation came vexing thoughts of another nature.

I had risked every dollar I possessed where the chances were a hundred to one that I would lose all. Then I would be penniless. No doubt when the matter was explained to Harold he would assist me. But I could not live upon the generosity of that man who had already done so much for me.

I would tell him the whole truth, but sternly refuse any aid. Why should not I earn my own living like any other person? I was no better than thousands of young men that do not shrink from carving their own fortunes.

What a lunatic I had been to risk all on the throw of a die! I would return to the brokers and cancel my order.

(To be Continued.)

These two cases led me to prescribe Tutti-Frutti Gum chewing in a number of cases of Atonic Dyspepsia that came under my care. I have not kept these cases, but in nearly all a cure was effected, and in the few that did not progress to a complete recovery the benefit from the procedure was marked.

CYRUS EDSON, M.D., Health Commissioner of New York City, and President of the Board of Pharmacy of New York City, and County.

THE FUNNY ENGLISHMAN.

Some of the Pranks He Plays on His Unsuspecting Victims.

To successfully annoy a policeman is quite one of the little arts. Try this: Go up to the Lobby and say, "Please can you direct me to such and such an address?" To which Bobby answers, "Go straight down there, take the first turning to the right, the second to the left and the first to the right again. You are stupid. You do not comprehend. Bobby complies with your request to repeat it. "Thanks. Then, to start with, I go straight in that direction?" (This with an air of respectful, trembling humility.) "Yes, sir." Then walk off bang in the other direction.

And here is a new way of aggravating mathematicians. Say to your victim: "Think of a number; double it; multiply it by 9; add 165; subtract 17; divide it by 22; add 365," and so on until the man begins to get impatient. Then say to him, "Well, you have arrived at a certain result?" "Yes." "Well, divide that figure by a similar figure and I think you will find the result is 1."

Which reminds me of a simply horrid game for ladies I once invented. Here it is: "Think of your age; multiply it by 2, and then you get your real age."

And here is something for poor old cabbies: You hail him in Regent street and show him a piece of paper with "Charing Cross station" written on it. "Blessed god, you take me to zat address, gabman?" you say. "Right, sir," he answers. Arrived at Charing Cross station you alight. "How much voz dat, bleese, gabman?" you ask naively. "Aif a sovereign, sir."

"Right. There's a shilling for you, you lying old scoundrel!" But don't do it to a very aged cabman. He may fall off his box.

I will conclude with a piece of advice—a warning. Without doubt the person best adapted for the profession of a practical joker is a champion of the racing track. The man who lacks that fleetness of foot, and yet wishes to practical joke, had better wear at least treble seated trousers. —London Exchange.

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