hay and considerable circumioention on my part, and learned that the elder of the two men, Mr. Allyn, had a sister named Maud, and that she was engaged to his friend and partner. Just think of my dismay. Actually engaged to the other fellow! I was sad enough to know she was bound, buil raged thinking of her as the wife of a fellow who had no ambition and less brains. There was





"I wish to sell it if you have the cour-age to buy," he made answer. It seemed to me that he proposedly made his tone dramatic, and I smiled scornfully. As for the stone itself, I liked it; the story he told of its virtue, although I only half believed it, inter-ested me. I had no fear of any evil su-pernatural influence; it was just the size I wanted to buy, and in shape and cut-ting it was all that was to be desired. The old dealer told me that when I was about to embark in any enterprise

was about to embark in any enterprise would dazzle with unusual brilliancy. would prove successful the stone upon me or mine, the stone would apdull and almost neutral.

Now I am a practical sort of a fellow, but I had no objection to take the mysery along with the stone, provided thrown in as a bargain and I had not pay extra for it. In a few minutes I le up my mind and counted out to four hundred dollars, the price he sked for it, and left.

I wore the diamond for more than five rears; at first in a ring, afterward in a years; at first in a ring, atterward in a shirt stud, and then in a ring again. It now encircles the finger of a lovely lady whose little girl calls me "papa." All this time there have been no tragedies in our family, no dear friend has died. My own health has been excellent, and I am e resigned to have it put down to nagination on my part that, to me, my one is bright or dull, according to my rospects ahead. Only this I affirm, that when, to test it, I went contrary to a warning, the punishment quickly fol-owed the offense. Once I speculated in actific Mail and lost heavily, and once I sked a sweet lady friend to be my wife, ent quickly folnd she refused me-plump. Superstitious or not, as you will, I re-

ard my diamond as my talisman, my entor, and ever since my unsuccessful poing I have looked upon it with love ot unmixed with awe. One morning, when riding down town in a Madison when riding down town in a Madison avenue car to my business, I looked up from my paper, conscions of a pair of cyes fixed steadily on me. Opposite was a lady of about twenty years, dressed in soft, somber gray; the only bit of color to relieve it—except the bloom in her re-fined face—was a bit of red, low down becast the bits of red, low down

fined face—was a bit of red, low down beneath the brim of her gray felt hat. Her eyes were light, lustrons brown; her hair, much darker and glossy, was brushed back in waves from her low forehead, upon which a curl or two fell, not the detestable "bangs," which I frankly state I abhor, but short, grace-for her bits inside that short, graceringe-like ringlets, that rested upon hite brow as if they loved it. There ras no doubt about it, this rare and maiden was gazing at me. oked at her in return with a face I ried to make expressive of nothing, cerinly not curiosity. She glanced down ain at her book, "Daniel Deronda." returned to my telegraphic dispatches the Herald. Again I felt her gaze, n the Herald. nd again I looked up and met her eyes. ntly wanted to speak to me, or omething on her mind concernng me. Had I ever seen her before? I asked myself. No! She seemed too modestly sweet to wish to attract the atention of a stranger. Perish the thought, maid inwardly. But she was certainly ooking at me again. I am not a bad-ooking fellow, and, as men go, not a bad

sort; I have always been popular with ner of South Weymouth, a mechanic, my lady friends, and I returned her look who never had more than ordinary his time with one of interest, and I am afraid I smiled. Instantly her face clouded, she bent over her book and bit her lip angrily. I turned to my paper but not to read. Once more I looked up at my fair vis a-vis; she was steadily guing at me. I could have sworn to it.)h, my talisman! you failed me then, out the fault was mine. I did not seek your advice. Just at this moment the actor came hurriedly to the front of the car to speak to the driver, and as he im in a low voice, every word perfectly indible to me, and as chilling as an ice-

"Conductor, the gentleman opposite me is losing his diamond." I flushed to the roots of my hair, felt for the stone and discovered that it was

Johannes Rex.

ambition and less brains. There was nothing in the man-absolutely nothing. Why, only a week before he had shown a lack of legal acumen in a case, —a mere technicality of which the rawest student Of all the wonderful adventures ever told, commend us, says the London Daily Telegraph, to the history of John should not have been ignorant. I looked at my ring after my disturbed thoughts, and its rosy gleam gave me fresh courage. After reflecting a day I resolved to re-

and its roy gleam gave me fresh courage. After reflecting a day I resolved to re-mozelessly and determinedly cut him, so ut-fi I could.
Dunn. Mr. Dunn is a colonist who had the skill to gain the good favor of the Cardinal to apologies and to raise a the skill to gain the good favor of the Cardinal to apologies and to raise a the skill to gain the good favor of the cardinal the cardinal to apologies and to raise a the skill to gain the good favor of the cardinal the cardinal to apologies and to raise a the skill to gain the good favor of the cardinal the cardinal to apologies and to raise a the skill to gain the good favor of the the skill to gain the good favor of the the skill to gain the good favor of the the skill to gain the good favor of the the skill to gain the good favor of the the skill to gain the good favor of the the skill to gain the good favor of the the skill to gain the good favor of the the skill to gain the good favor of the the skill to gain the good favor of the the skill to gain the good favor of the the skill to gain the good favor of the the skill to gain the good favor of the the skill to gain the good favor of the the skill to gain the good favor of the the the staft of the skill to gain the good favor of the the to the skill the benesses a hare more sweet and womanly than she card for our first meeting the resort thro until thad called apon her swered and for being to the resear of the favor the order here and the she the det stat o the skill the experi-tion until thad called on the swered associated with the second by prevention. A few years the favor that the the short of the swar i second a torse up whether John Dunn would accept the south fing annopare from him, and the said, looking at the carge. Too long are the simult is holy for the swar i second i mos short y the sub-to the favor that here the staft of the south fing annopare to the short is south the staft of the swar is south the staft the second the shead the said, looking at the carge. The mora

when I was escorting her home from the theatre, and I told her the story of my ring, and she believed in its magic more firmly than I did. "It has never failed me yet, Miss Allyn, and I am longing to put it to a

seller, and present spy and enlightened polygamist, should be made a king is stronger test.' She was so provokingly demure and unconscious that I kept back the petition on my lips, for I felt my courage, like Bob Acre's, cozing out at my finger ends,

"I should think you would be afraid of losing it," she said, a few days after. She was holding the ring in her hands, moving it this way and that way to catch the cleans. the gles

"Do you know, Miss Allyn, that I am constantly afraid of losing it ever since I met you?" Then I grew bold and took her hand and said: "Plese keep it for me. Let me put it on this finger. Please do and and and rive me yourself in redo-and-and-give me yourself in return.

She hung her head and blushed and stammered a little, but she did not say-No.-Philadelphia Times.

A GENIUS AT FIGURES.-Leonard Gard-

-A Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Times writes: "I am glad to schooling, devotes the most of his time to astronomical calculations, by methods he has taught himself, and has attracted the attention of the scientists at Cam-bridge and Washington by the accuracy r vis a-vis; she was steadily ne. I could have sworn to it. Alisman! you failed me then, ilt was mine. I did not seek c. Just at this moment the came hurriedly to the front of speak to the driver, and as he ing the lady in gray said to we voice, every word perfectly me, and as chilling as an ice-

- The Gardener's FRUIT GROWING.

Crequi was embassador at Rome, the Pope's Corsican guard made an attack on his servants, killed one and wounded

great scheme turns Zululand into a sort sent France at Constantinople and the of negro United States, with a paternal second at Naples, were arrested at of negro United States, with a paternal providence somewhere in Natal, and one Naples and thrown into prison, where of the States to be ruled by Dunn! That

they remained for thirty months. this ci-devant smuggler and whisky-The Dignity of Office.

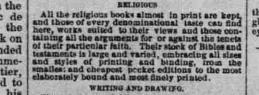
A Detroiter, says the Detroit Free hor Press, who was rusticating in one of the wilderness counties of Michigan, was one hand the voltage of the most complete in all is hamlet consisting of a sawmill, two houses and a log barn. The sign of "Postoffice" greeted his vision over a door in one of the houses, and he inves-tigated. The office was an eight by ten room, and the boxes for mail matter numbered inst for ally too remarkable an idea to have emanated from any one but the author of "Vivian Grey." John Dunn signing Johannes Rex and treating as an equal with Her Majesty's Resident would make a historical picture which might be hung sheek by jowl with another representing

cheek by jowl with another representing Mr. Dunn's twenty or thirty dusky sponses being represented at court. Per-haps, however, on the principle that your converted poacher always makes the best game-keeper—a principle well known to and often acted upon by our proud nobility—Sir Garnet thinks that John Dunn is the right man to stop the sumurgling of arms, which wa have desmuggling of arms, which we have de-

creed is now to cease. This much, at "Any le least, is true, that Dunn will never let Detroiter. "Any letter for John ----?" asked the The Postmaster didn't shake his head any one smuggle arms-but himself.

and crush the inquirer's hope all at once, as some officials do, but slowly rose, looked carefully into each one of the six JEFF DAVIS AND THE DOBSEY ESTATE. hear from a Mississippi Democrat that he feeling in that State is with the heirs of the late Mrs. Dorsey and those of the

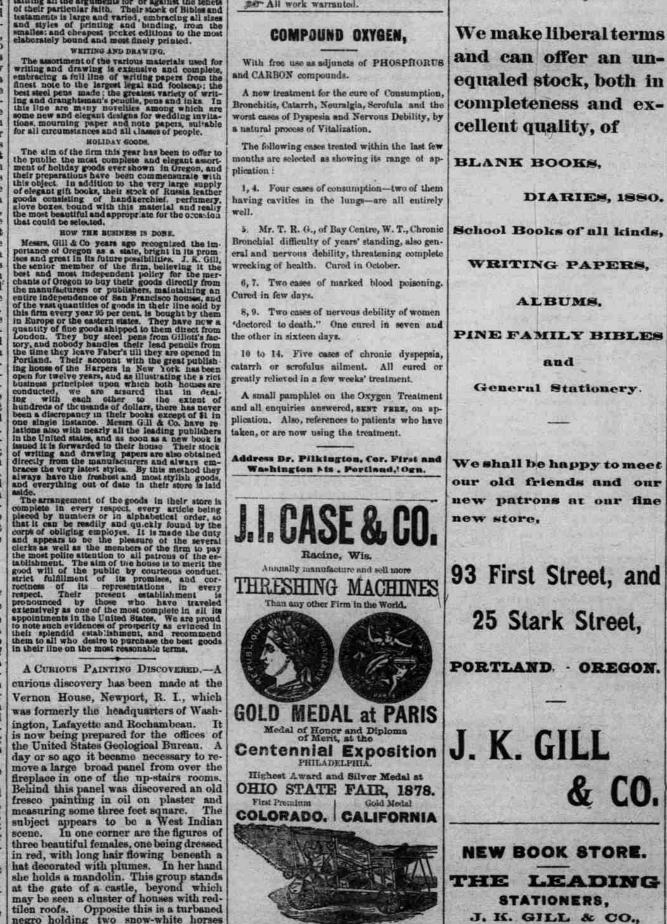
The Postmaster didn't shake his head and crush the inquirer's hope all at once, as some officials do, but slowly rose, looked carefully into each one of the six empty boxes, peered into an old eigar box on the window sill, and then an-swered: "I don't see anything just now, but it is only four days to the next mail." "Is this a money-order office?" con-tinued the stranger. "Well, no, not exactly, though we handle considerable money here." "Can I get a dollar's worth of threes?" asked the Detroiter, after a pause. "Well, no, not exactly, "replied the officer, looking into his wallet. "I guess I can spare you five or six now and the rest next week." There was anothere pause as the Post-master vainly tried to make change for a quarter, and the Detroiter finally re-marked: "This ism't rated as a first days next." In cold weather give a pailful at a the feeling in that State is with the heirs of the late Mrs. Dorsey and those of her late husband in regard to her estate, which she left to Jeff Davis, and it is thought the latter will do himself an in-jury if he seeks to establish by law his right to the bequest in a contest against the natural heirs. This feeling arises from the fact that Mr. Davis does not need the money and property and the heirs do, and that Mrs. dorsey wasgener-ally believed to be flighty and erratic, and incapable, from fostering a romantic hero worship, of making a just will."



WHITING AND DRAWIFG. The assoriment of the various materials used for writing and drawing is extensive and complete, embracing a full line of writing papers from the finest note to the largest legal and foolscap; the best steel pens made; the greatest variety of writ-ing and draughtsman's pendils, pens and inks. In this line are many norelikes among which are some new and elegant designs for wedding unvitable tions, mourning paper and note papers, suitable for all circumstances and all classes of people.

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