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The prevalent maladies of diminution of the vital powers, undue physical fatigues and menual exhaustion, are today engaging the careful attention of the most eminent pathologists. Their prevalence is ascribed to poisoulng through alcoholic drinks, opinum tained and adulterated foods, contaminated water, the visitated atmosphered foods, contaminated water, and the contaminated water and water foods and admittance of the nervous system, all the constant activities, the simple personal to the contaminated water and the constant activities, the simple system and a wearing of tissue.

A German author in a recently published work calls attention to these unrelevous increases in nervous expenditure has not and can met an advanced to the theory of the proper and the prope

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legal deputy. But Col. Starbottle is wrong in his supposition that Col. Crackenthorpe still retains the func-tions of that office. He was removed by the president of the United States, and

his successor was appointed and sworn in by the federal judge early this morn-

"What the devil does this mean, sir? Who are you?" gusped Col. Starbottle, recoiling suddenly from the man at his

"I am the new United States marshal

for the southern district of California.

CHAPTER III.

Unsuspected and astounding as the revelation was to Clarence, its strange

reception by the conspirators seemed to him astounding. He had started for

him astounding. He not show the complo-ent, self-confessed spy would be im-notated by his infuriated dupes. But to his surprise the shock seemed to have

is surprise the shock seemed to have changed their natures and given them

ported you, and has given you the epau-iettes you disgrace. Nor shall I discuss treachery' with the man who has not only violated the trust of his country but even the integrity of his friend's household. It is for that reason that I

withhold the action of this warrant in so far as it affects the person of the master and mistress of this house. I am satisfied that Mr. Brant has been as

ignorant of what has been done here as I am that his wife has been only the foolish dupe of a double traitor." "Silence!"

The words brokesimultaneously from

he lips of Clarence and Capt. Pinckney They stood staring at each other—the

ne pale, the other crimson-as Mrs.

rant, apparently oblivious of the sig-ificance of their united adjuration,

ened to Judge Beeswinger in the fur d her still stifled rage and mortifica

py." she said with a contemptuous

esture towards her husband, "I go

"You will not," said Clarence, quietly

until I have said a word to you alone."

He laid his hand firmly upon her

The deputy and his prisoners filed slowly out of the courtyard together, the latter courteously saluting Mrs. Brant as they passed, but turning from Judge Beeswinger in contemptuous al-ience. The latter followed them to the

Turning to Mrs. Brant, who was still

half struggling in the strong grip of her husband, he said:

gate, but there he paused.

Starbottle

"But I can answer for him," said Mrs. Brant, rising with a quivering voice and curling lip. "There is no sympathy between us. We are as far apart as the poles. We have nothing in common— but the house, and his name."

"But you are husband and wife

bound together by a sacred compact!"
"A compact!" echoed Mrs. Brant, with
a bitter laugh. "Yes! the compact that
binds South Carolina to the nigger worshiping Massachusetts! The compact that links together white and black, the gentleman and the trader—the planter and the poor white—the compact of those United States!—Bab—that has been broken and so can this!"

Clarence's face paled. But before he could speak there was a rapid clattering at the gate and a dismounted vaquero entered excitedly. Turning to Mrs. Brant, he said, hurriedly:

"Mother of God! the Casa is surrounded by a rabble of mounted men, and there is one among them even now who demands admittance in the name of the law."

"This is your work," said Brooks, facing Clarence furiously, "you have brought them with you, but, by God, they shall not save you!" He would have clutched Clarence, but the powerful arm of Judge Becawinger inter-vened. Nevertheless, he still struggled to reach Clarence, appealing to the others. "Are you fools to stand there and let him triumph! Don't you see the cowardly Yankee trick he's played upon us?"

changed their natures and given them
the dignity they had lacked.

The excitability, irritation and recklessness which had previously characterized them had disappeared. The deptry and his posse, who had advanced to
the assistance of their revealed chief,
act with no resistance. They had evi-"He has not," said Mrs. Brant, haughtily; "I have no reason to love him or his friends—but I know he does not lie."

"Gentlemen! Gentlemen!" implored Col. Starbottle, with bearing and unctu-ous persuasion, "may I—er—remark— that all this is far from the question. Are we to be alarmed because an awk-ward rabble, no matter whence they come, demand entrance here in the name of the law? I am not aware of any law in the state of California that are infringing. By all means—admit them.

mit them."

The gate was thrown open. A single, thick-set man, apparently unarmed and dressed like an ordinary traveler, followed by half a dozen others equally unpretentious-looking men, entered. The leader turned to the balcony.
"I am the chief of police of San Francisco. I have warrants for the arrest of Col. Culpepper Starbottle, Joshua Brooks, Capt. Pinckney, Clarence Brant and Alice, his wife, and others charged with exciting to riot and unlawful pracwith exciting to riot and unlawful pra tice calculated to disturb the peace of the state of California and its relations with the federal government," said the leader in a dry, official voice.

Clarence started. In spite of its monotonous utterance it was the voice of the red-bearded controversialist of the stage coach. But where was his characteristic beard and hair? Invol-untarily Clarence glanced at Judge Beeswinger; that gentleman was quietly regarding the stranger with an imassive face that betrayed no recognition whatever.
"But the city of San Francisco has

no jurisdiction here," said Capt. Star-bottle, turning a bland smile towards his fellow members. "I am-er-sorry to inform you that you are simply tree-passing, sir."
"I am here also as deputy sheriff,"

returned the stranger, coolly. "We were unable to locate the precise place of this meeting, although we knew of its existence. I was sworn in this morning at Santa Cruz by the judge of this district, and these gentlemen with me are my posse."

There was a quick movement of re-sistance by the members, which was, however, again waved blandly saide by Col. Starbottle. Leaning forward in a slightly forensic attitude with his fingers on the table, and a shirt frill that seemed to have become of itself erectile, he said with pained but palite

"I grieve to have to state, sir, that even that position is utterly untenable here. I am a lawyer myself-as my friend here-Judge Beeswinger-ch?
-I beg your pardon!-"

The officer of the law had me tarily started, with his eyes fixed on Judge Beeswinger, who, however, seemed to be quietly writing at the

"As Judge Besawinger," continued Col. Starbottle, "will probably tell you—and, as a jurist himself, he will also —and, as a jurist himself, be will also probably agree with me when I also inform you—that as the United States government is an aggrieved party, it is a matter of the federal courts to prosecute, and that the only officer we can recognize is the United States market for the district. When lead that present struggle, you will understand that any action from him in this mat-

The officer approached him with a slightly perplexed and constrained air and exhibited the paper. Judge Desswinger handed it best to him.

vitation here, I dismissed after I had en tered this house! And I trust," he add ed, turning to Clarence, stornly, "I leave you muster of it!"

As the gate closed behind him, Clar-

once locked it. As his wife turned upon him angrily, he said, quietly: "I have no intention of restraining your illerty a moment after our interview is over But until then I do not intend to be

She threw herself disdainfully back in her chair, her hands clasped in her lap, in half contemptuous reagnifion, with her eyes upon her burg, elim, arched feet crossed before her. Even in her attitude there was something of her old fascination which, however, now seemed to sting Clarence to the quick.

"I have nothing to say to you in "I have nothing to say to you in re-gard to what has just passed in this house, except that as long as I remain even nominally as its muster, it shall not be repeated. Although I shall not longer attempt to influence or con-trol your political sympathics, I shall not allow you to indulge them where in any way they seem to imply my sunction. But as little do I appear your illerty that you are free to rejon your political companions whenever you choose to do so on your own respansiin by the reacher language in the paper on which he had been writting placed it in the hands of the deputy. "And this," he continued, in the same even voice, "constitutes you his deputy, and will enable you to carry out your duty in coming here." choose to do so on your own responsibility. But I must first know from you own lips that your sympathies are purely political—or a name for some-thing else."

She knd alternate'y flushed and paled sithough still keeping her accornful at situde as he went on, but there was no mistaking the genuineness of her cagu wonderment at his concluding words "I don't understans you," she said, lift-ing her eyes to his in a moment of cold curiosity. "What do you mean?"
"What do I mean? What did Judge Beeswinger mean when he called Capt. Pinckney a double traitor?" he said,

She sprang to her feet with flashing

(To be continued.)

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