CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE

The burglar's tone was threatening.

'I won't though!' said Van Nesten. He was surpised at his own quiet, firm tones. 'I won't though?' he repeated.

The silence then was electrical. The two men, tense as steel, stood glaring at each other.

'You won't!' The burglar's attitude seemed to be more intense. 'You won't!'

'I would—to save my life!' said Van Nesten, 'but it's not necessary. If you kill me you'll have murder as well as house-breaking to answer for—besides being no nearer to getting the safe open. And it might make a noise,' he added.

The burglar stood for an unpleasant, concentrated moment, and then he seemed to growa little less intense. He relaxed and uttered a curse.

'Throw up your hands!' he snapped.

'I'll do that,' said Van Nesten, and he did.

The burglar put down his lantern and produced from his pocket a piece of stout cord. He leaped into a chair, 'Come here!' he said, with vicious curtness. 'Backwards!'

Van Nesten, turning about, endeavored to comply.

'Hands together!' said the burglar, when he had him satisfactorily stationed. Van Nesten's hands came together; and the burglar rapidly wound round and round them at the wrists with an end of his cord. The cold nozzle of his revolver pressed lightly against Van Nesten's neck.

'No monkey business!' the intruder cautioned by way of general admonition, as he drew it away. And then he tied Van Nesten's hands.

He stepped down from the chair then and directed Van Nesten to climb up in his place. Then he bound the young man's ankles together. He was a strong burglar and he bound them exceedingly well.

This done, he backed off and regarded his work. Van Nesten stood with his back to him, in a perfectly helpless position. He could not even get to the floor without severe risk of injury. The burglar walked round and faced him.

'I ain't going to gag you,' he growled. 'You understand if you make a noise what it will be—a personal risk to me! You understand that?'

'I understand,' said Van Nesten. 'That's the reason I'm tied. It won't be necessary to gag me.'

The burglar grunted.

'It's also unnecessary to keep me standing up here,' went on Van Nesten boldly. 'Take hold of my elbow,' he said, and steady me so I can jump down.'

The burglar glared at him an instant in amazement, and then suddenly jerked himself forward and seized him by the arm.

'Jump!' he said roughly.

When Van Nesten came down to the floor again the burglar gave him a whirl about, and pushed him over into the chair. They regarded one another steadily, then the burglar turned away.

'Keep your face shut now, will you?' he said, and went to pick up his lantern again.

He approached the big iron safe as a man approaches his chosen work. Van Nesten watched him making his arrangements—inspecting, tapping and fingering about—as deftly, accurately and readily as a skillful artisan.

He never pansed for an instant and his tools seemed ready to his hand. Finally he prepared something with a few sharp clicks, and then he dropped down to his knees and began to work—drilling.

Van Nesten did not at all enjoy his situation, but the pain from his thongs soon gave way to a numbness, and then he did not suffer so much. The only sound for severel moments was the dull grinding of the burglar's drill.

Suddenly the burglar stopped his work and began to sniff at the air. He laid down his tools and raised his face toward the ceiling, then cried out excitedly and sprang to his feet. 'What's this smoke?'

Van Nesten not only smelled it, but saw that it was pouring into the room through the open door.

'This place is afire!' said the burglar.

Like a flash Van Nesten's mind went back and he remembered himself drunkenly ascending those stairs and lighting matches to try and find the way. He remembered now that when he had entered the office there had been no match left in his pocket. He gave a great wrench at his thongs—but they held him fast. Van Nesten groaned.

The burglar was down on the floor again, gathering up his implements. He was defter and quicker now than ever, and Van Nesten, in a cold sweat, sat watching him.

The burglar's tools clinked and jingled together as he stowed them away. Then he suddenly leaped to his feet and faced Van Nestan.

'Shoot me—strangle me—do something!' cried Van Nesten. 'For God's sake don't leave me here like this!'

But the burgler had not hesitated an instant. His hand had been in his pocket even as he rose from the floor, and a knife gleamed as he advanced with a rush.

'Stab me, then!' said Van Nesten wildly. 'Stab me, then! Don't leave me here to roast!'

'What!' cried the burglar. He recoiled from those words as suddenly as if he had been hit. An upward motion tore the mask from his face, and aghast he glared at Van Nesten.

'My God, man!' he said 'what do you think I am?'

The rising smoke eddied between them.

But the burglar recovered himself almost instantly.

'You're scart,' he said, 'and I don't blame you.'

With two deft strokes of his knife he severed the cords that bound Van Nesten's hands and feet. Then he stepped back and thrust the knife in his pocket. 'It's up to you' he said. 'How are we going to get out of here?'

Van Nesten passed a hand across his forehead and staggered to his feet. He stepped to the door and the burglar quickly followed.

'Wait!' said Van Nesten. He flashed the burglar's lantern up and down the hall. It was thoroughly full of smoke. His quickening mind took in the whole situation.

'Come on!' he said.

He took the burglar by the hand and led him swiftly through the hall.

'Up?' asked the burglar.

Van Nesten opened a door and they passed out into the bindery among stitching-machines and great stacks of unfolded paper.

'Good thing you brought this lantern!' remarked Van Nesten, leading swiftly on. They encountered another hallway and more smoke, then a flight of stairs, which they mounted two steps at a time.

'Can you open a door!' asked Van Nesten, when a locked one barred their way. The burglar grunted and applied himself, while Van Nesten held the light. Neither spoke, but hot clouds of smoke were coming up faster and faster, and the sound of a crackling roar was beneath them. The fire was coming on with a rush.

The door opened, and they burst into Greddin's paper-box factory, full of combustibles.

'This way!' cried Van Nesten, taking the burglar's hand again. They ran through tangled aisles of machinery, tables, and benches, the thick smoke all about them. Then Van Nesten reached a window and he and the burglar seized it together and threw it up. Shouts and the sounds of confusion in the street came up to them now, and in the distance clanged the gong of an approaching fire engine. But there was no time to lose.

'Go ahead!' said Van Nesten. 'It's one at a time now.'

Then the burglar, with his head and shoulders through the window, drew back, white and shaking.

'My God!' he exclaimed, 'have we got to jump across there?'

It was a perfectly easy leap of five feet to the roof of the next building with a twenty-four inch drop to make it certain. 'I can't do it!' the burglar groaned.

Van Nesten stared at him, appalled at his sudden fright. 'You're crazy!' he cried. 'It's perfectly easy. Go on, man! Be quick!'

The burglar clutched the window-sill, looking out with wild eyes.

'I can't!' he muttered despairingly. 'I was always this way. I can't do it!

'You've got to!' said Van Nesten.

'I'll throw you over!'

But the burglar shrank away. His nerve was utterly gone.

'Save yourself,' he said. It's no use. I'll never make it!'

Van Nesten glared about him. Then he cried:

'Quick, man, your knife! Some belting!' He leaped to the top of an embossing-machine which stood near the window and seized hold of the two inch leather belt which connected with its overhead shafting. The burglar had his knife ready and thrust it up to him. Van Nesten slashed at the belt, and it fell in twain. He leaped to the floor, bearing an end of it with him.

'Fasten it here—quick! Van Nesten said, circling a projecting piece of the heavy machine. 'When I jump across throw me the other end of it. You can cross on that.'

Van Nesten clambered to the window-frame and made his leap. His feet crunched on the gravel roof of the next building.

'Come on!' That belt!' he cried, rushing back to the edge of the roof. 'Come on!'

The burglar had already thrown it.

It curled in a twisted mass at Van Nesten's feet, and he seized it up and retreated back on the roof with the end of it. In vain he looked for a place to fasten it—hither and thither he darted, and the burglar, his white face showing through the smoke, his crouching body pressed down upon the window-frame, watched him.

Van Nesten wrapped the belt around his body and stretched it taut. There were twenty feet or more of it, and though the leverage would be against him, he could, by keeping to the far end of it, easily sustain the burglar's weight for a distance of five feet from the window-frame on which it rested.

'I've got you!' cried Van Nester. 'Come on!'

'The burglar crept up on the window-sill, his feet curled beneath him. Slowly, slowly his hand led out along the piece of belting—he reached to the center and part of the space that lay between him and safety, but still, distrusting, dispairing, he clung to the window-ledge. Then he lurched suddenly forward, and swung by his hands over the abyss.

Van Nesten, braced as he was, took a step forward under the quick strain. The belt sagged, and the burglar sunk to a level with the roof. Its cornice was almost in his face. Terror was upon him as he hung, and he could not move. Then the belt slipped: Van Nesten could not hold it. The burglar gasped and clutched at the edge of the roof. Van Nesten tangled in the belting, thought that he had fallen, and he hurried forward. The white face was beneath and his own wild eyes stared into it.

Van Nesten, breathing heavily, bent over and took the burglar by the wrists. Terror now upon them both. Slowly Van Nesten drew up the burglar who hung inert. It was not till his waist had passed the point of safety that the burglar exerted himself. Then he made a sudden frantic effort, and, wrenching himself free from from Van Nesten, he crawled out upon the roof.

He lay flat for a moment from sheer exhaustion, then he sat up.

'Heavens!' said the burglar, passing his hand over his face, 'I don't want nothing more like that.'

Van Nesten, feeling suddenly weak, had sat down also. Now he turned toward the burglar and burst out laughing.

The burglar gave Van Nesten a quick look.

'What's to do with you and me?' he asked.

Van Nesten remained cheerful.

'Don't know,' he said. 'Say,' he immediately added, 'got anything you want to burn up? The firemen'll be here in about a minute, you know.

The burglar took the hint. He stood up and cast certain things clear through the window to the room they had just left.

'Chuck that gun over there, too,' said Van Nesten, with just an authoritative twang to his voice. The burglar, giving him another quick look, complied.

The burgaler stood a little awkwardly.

'Well, let's get out of here, said Van Nesten, springing up. 'It's getting hot.'

Together they traveled over the roof toward the fiire-escape.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, Md., letters of administration on the estate of

JACOB L. SHAFER,

late of Carroll County, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated, to the subscriber, on or before the 24th day of April, 1907, they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate.

Given under my hand this 23th day of September, 1906.

LUCRETIA V. SHAFER, Administratrix.

sept 28 4t

NOTICE TO TAX-PAYERS.

Notice is hereby given that the Mayor and Common Council of Westminster, Md., have made their annual levy for the current year 1906. Taxes are due and payable on and after November 1st, 1906. Interest will be charged on all accounts not settled by December 1st, 1906. All persons in arrears for taxes, prior to and including the levy of 1905, are required to pay the same in full, on or before November 1st, 1906. All taxes remaining unpaid at that time will be sued for.

By order,

OSCAR D. GILBERT, Mayor.

H. B. GRAMMER, Clerk and Collector.

Office: Second Floor, Firemen's Building East Main street. Office hours: 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. oct 5 4t

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embraces the fullest meaning of its name—purity, convenience and home-likeness.

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should be done each year. Free advice given upon application.

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J. E. STONER, Sole Proprietor

of the Westminster Nurseries, WESTMINSTER, Md.. To which address all communications should be sent.

C. & P. Phone, 103-R.

sept 7 6t

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Cash Paid on Inspection.

10,000 White Oak, Rock Oak and Chestnut Oak Ties are wanted by the undersigned, to be delivered along the line of the Western Md. Railroad, convenient for loading. Dimensions must be 8½ feet long, pole-ties to be 7 inches face and 7 inches thick; sawed ties to be 8½ feet long, 7 by 9 inches. C. and P. Phone.

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oct 16 tf

Funeral Director.

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(NOTARY PUBLIC.) ap 7 tf

Charles Roberts Seabrock,

ARCHITECT, 102 CHARLOTTE STREET, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.

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Commissioners Notice.

HEREAFTER, and until further notice the County Commissioners of Carroll county will meet at their office in Westminster, EVERY MONDAY for the transaction of business.

By order, FRANCIS L. HANN, feb 10 05 Treasurer.

LYNCH & STEELE,

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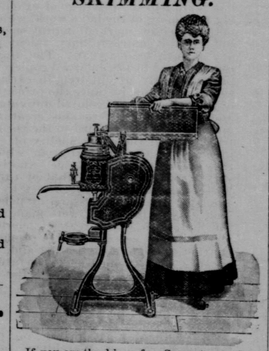
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Then all the bright tints and the duller ones, too,
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Till out of the mass, tint by tint, line by line,
There comes a bright harmony exquisitely fine.

Ah, many a painter of human ideals,
Who grasps after beauty until his brain reels,
Would give half his life for the keen perfect touch
That Nature lavishes on us so much.
But past human eye and above human hand
Is that cunning, fine skill that her art can command;
There's no famous gallery of treasures rare,
By artists world famous, which dares to compare
With the art treasures painted in reach of each man
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And the greatest of artists new lessons can learn
From Nature's brush when once the leaves start to turn.

How the Air Brake Won Out.

WESTINGHOUSE'S REBUFF TO VANDERBILT.

After leaving college, George Westinghouse devoted his attention to mechanics, taking particular interest in safety appliances for railroads. The first one of any account was the air-brake, patented in 1872. Though it was a clumsy affair, operated from the cab of the engine and requiring eighteen seconds to transmit power from the first to the last of a train of thirty cars, it was a big improvement over all previous brakes and contained the correct principle.

RIDICULED BY VANDERBILT.

None of the railroads, however, was willing to try the new invention, and Westinghouse set himself to fashion a brake that they would have to adopt. He worked three years on it, and finally brought forth the brake that is an automatic unit in controlling each individual car. When he had this ready for exhibition, he wrote to Commodore Vanderbilt, president of the New York Central Railroad, explaining the merits of the invention and asking for an interview.

CASSATT OF A DIFFERENT MIND.

Vanderbuilt read the letter and then leaned back in his chair and roared with laughter. It was a great joke to think a train of cars could be stopped by wind. So he scribbled at the bottom of Westinghouse's letter, "I have no time to waste on fools," and sent it back to him.

Alexander J. Cassatt, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, was of a different mind. He gave Westinghouse a chance to explain his brake, examined it thoroughly, and even gave the inventor financial assistance when he found that the cost of his experiments had left him broken and in debt.

WESTINGHOUSE TO VANDERBILT.

Then Cassatt gave the brake a thorough tryout on the Pennsylvania road and demonstrated that a fifty-car train, running twenty miles an hour, could be stopped within fifty yards, as against two hundred and sixty-five yards with hand-brakes, and a fifty-car train running forty miles an hour could be stopped within one hundred and ninety-five yards as compared with eight hundred yards when hand-brakes were used.

Vanderbilt heard of the test, and immediately sent a note to Westinghouse, asking him to call at once and explain his new brake. The letter came back indorsed:

"I have no time to waste on fools.
G. Westinghouse."

Vanderbilt's letter had not been forgotton.—Scrap book.

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