# Ohe Equell Exemet. 

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## THE WORLD'S IDEAL.

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SALE BEGAN THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8TH., 1898.
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# Lowell Ledger Suppliment. 

## 3889883883 <br> THE CARUTHERS AFFAIR <br> argatim <br> 4. 1 . <br> versesused

came in to see about it, and happened to get here in time."
"Oh, he's gone," said Kola, grimly. "He is a coward. He knew what I was going to do in regard to the dead-fill and was too chicken-hearted to face it."
"Kola," said Hendricks, "it can do you no possible good to keep back information in regard to Gielow's whereabouts."
"You will never know that from me," answered the Indian.
Hendricks' face fell. He signaled Dr. Lampkin to follow and led the way downstairs.
In the basement they found nothing of note except a trunk bearing the initials of Weldon Caruthers.
"That's what he brought the body in," said Herdricks.
In the big cellars below, they found, directly under the trap Kola had arranged, the yawning opening of a deep pit.
"An awful hole," said Hendiricks, as he turned away. He pointed to some large steel vessels and two large copper cylinders such are used for making lime light in the theaters.

That's where he cremated the body section by section," he said. "He thought, as most murderers do, that his secret was well guarded."
They searched through all the rooms of the cellar, and then Hendricks stopped.
"We are losing time," he grunted, in disappointment. "I believe Kola told the truth ebout his leing the only one who knows the steret of Giicow's hid-ing-place. I am also sure that Ciclow is somewhere under ground. We have seen one cavern, and it is not unlikely tbat there are others. It has long been h. faved that the" ane under this hell.
an't you think of some plan to wring the truth from that imp?"
They had paused before the door of a littie toom whore a dim light shone over the transom. Lampkin tried the latch, and, finding the door un ocked, be pushed it open. The room had shelves on a!l three of its walls, and these shelves were well filled with all sorts of bottles.
"His laboratory," said Campkin. "No, I cannot tell you what to do. Ah! I have an idea."

The doctor took down a bottle and read the label and then uncorked it and applied it to his nose.
"Ether," he said. "This bottle re minds me of an experime:t $\boldsymbol{i}$ ontes saw
performed at a medical college. A thief was made to confess under the influence of ether. In the first stages of anaesthe sia a subject almost invariably becomes talkative and will talk about exactly what he desires most to keep back."
"Bring it upstairs, for the love of mercy," cried the detective. "It can't do any harm."

As they entered the recention-room Kola's questioning glance became fixed on the bottle in the doctor's hand.
"Huh!" he grunted, "you need not try to give me that. I won't take it."
"Find me a towel. Hendricks," was all the doctor said. He spoke like a determined man who is thoroughly angry. Hendricks darted finto a bathroom near by and returned with the required article.
"Now lay his lordship on the floor," the doctor said.
Kola wriggled like an eel, but, with Hendricks at his head and Sergt. Denham's determined hands at his feet, they soon had him laid out. Dr. Iampkin folded the towel into the shape of a funnel and saturated it with the fluid from the bottle. Then he started to put it over Kola's mouth and nose.
"Hold on, give him one more chance," ordered Hendricks. "Where is Gielow, Kola?"
The only answer the Indian made was to close his lips tightly.
"The devil is trying to hold his breath!" cried Lamnkin. "I'll show him a trick that will beat that. Ican make him take it."

And, holding the towel over Kola's nose with his left hand, he began to punch bim violently in the chest. This proceeding made the Indian gasp for breath, and forced him to take deep draughts of the ether.
"Good, good!" approved Hendricks, as Kola's body began to grow limp. "Give him some more!"
"Oh. no, he must not be too deeply under it," objected Lampkin. "He is just right now. Iet him loose. I'll manage him as easily as a rowboat down stream. Now, if he will onl" talk!"

Kola's face was bloodless. For a moment there was no sound inside or outside of the house. Lampkin raised the towel a little, for the lips of the Indian were moving.
A harsh laugh broke from the deathlike face.
"It's the wisdom of the east," chuckled Kola. "I'll never be suspected, and when Hendricks is out of the way, I shall be free. Yes, free, and rich, and as powerful as a king."
There he paused. Lampkin held up his hand to warn the others not to speak, and in a distinet voice said:
"But Gielow-will he be found?"
"Never!" burst impulsively from Kola's lips. "Yo one else knows the secret door. No one would think of the head of the dragon."
The eyes of Hendricks and the doctor met. Hendricks' flashed knowingly. and he grunted as he turned and ran ir to the he'. A mement tater Jamp.
kin followed, findine the detective $e^{-}$ amining the walnut dragon at the foot of the stairs.
"I beliese on my life that the head $r$ : the thing unserews," Hendincks e: claimed, excitedly. "See where it h: been rubbed by use. By Jove. I hav it!"
Grasping the head in his hands, Her dricks gave it a powerful wrench, and began to turn. In a moment it cam off, and they saw, protiuding from t. hollow tube in the neek of the dragon a steel rod with a ring on its end. Hen dricks tried to push the rod downward but it resisted his efforts. Then, ascending the steps till he was above it ring, he pulled it steadily upward. A little bell inside the dragon rang. Thi. was followed by n creaking sound usder the hall floor, and a tall gilt-framed! plate-glass mirror in the brick wa!! near by leaned outward on one side. Running to it. Lampkin pulled it out and found that it turned on hidde: hinges. And behind the mirror was revealed a doorway and a narrow flight of stairs leading downward into th darkness. There was a lantern on thfirst step, and Hendricks lighted it, and holding it above his head he hurried down the stairs. At first the steps wer. of wood, but deeper down they were of unhewn stone.
Perhaps 40 feet from the surface oi the earth, they found themselves in a long, narrow cavern, which wounc. abount like a serpent's trail. And when they had gone perhaps 200 yards fron. their starting point tiey found them: selves stopped by a brick wall in which was a rusty iron door. The door was locked. but a bunch of keys hung on a hook near by.
"We have found , im," said Lampkin. Hendricks noddec as he began to try the keys in the lock. After many failures, the door was finally opened, and in the combined light of the lantern and a streak of daylight that came in at a tiny crack in the rock, they saw. crouching in a corner, a white-faced creature with walling eyes und disheveled hair.
"Who is it?" came from his lips in a rasping whisper.
"Friends," said Hendricks.
Gielow tried to rise, but fell backward.
"In God's name-water!" he gaspri-
"Here, drink thiv first," said Lampl "o, kneeling and drawing out frese him poeket a fask of brariv. Cis'm.....trit to take the bottle in his hands. but his tingers were too stiff from cold. Dr. Lampkin placed the bottle to his $\mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{p}} \mathrm{s}$, and Gielow drank.
"Oh, thank God!" he said. "Is it true, are you fricnds?"
"This is Mr. Minard Hendricks," answered Lampkin. with a glance at the holder of the lantern, "and Miss Huntington is outside in a carriage waiting to take you home."
"Oh, no, really?" cried the prisoner, and then he lowered his head to his
knees and laughed like a happy child. "It reems like years since I came here."
He tried again to rise, but Lampkin stopped him.
"You must first drink some of this liquid food," he said.

As he opened the bottle, Gielow eyed it like a famished beast. As he was taking it from a spoon from the doctor's hands. Hendricks peered out through the crack.
"I have the solution now," he remarked. "In cutting the new road along here, they came within a few feet of chopping the end off this cavern. The blasting caused the crack. He must have thrust his message through it."

Gielow nodded as he ate, but he made no comment.
"Now, that is enough for the present." said Lampkin. "We must get you out of here and warm you up before we do anything else."
They raised the artist to his feet, and bore him slowly between them along

"WE HAVE FOUND HM."
the dark passage, and up the dark stairs to the hall above.
"We'll take him straight to Kola's room and wrap him up," sald the doctor.

## CHAPTER KXI.

When they had put him in a bi coft bed in the chamber adjoining tiola's reception room, Hendricks went out to the carriage. The green curtain was still down, but he saw that it was pulled aside, and that the occupant was peering cauticusly out. When she saw him coming, she opened the carriage door and looked ansiously into his face.
Hendricks smiled.
"Gielow is safe," he said. "He iz weak, of course, but he will pull through all right."
She secmed unable either to answer or to move. The stare of her eyes seemed to indicate doubt on her part as to the verity of the news.
"I think you might come in, if you wish," ahied Hendricks. "We havepr
him to bed, and the doctor is preparing something warm for him."
Without a word, she got out of the carriage, and dumbly fcilowed him As they were ascending the steps, she paused balf-way up the flight and locked at Hendricks pitifully, and then down at her feet. Her knees bent and she clutched his arm.
"I-I don't know what's the matter with me," she faltered. "I don't seem able to move. Oh, please pardon my weakness."
"It's the shock," said Hendricks, almost tenderly. "You must try to calm yourself. All the trouble is over, you know, and the prisoner is in chains."
"I thought something serious had happened," she said, slowly recoveritg. "I heard the crash, and then, as you did not appear, and the sergean: romained. I thought something was wrong."
"Perhaps you had better go hack to the carriage and not try to go in," sug gested Hendricks.
The remark seemed to rouse her to action.
"Oh, no. I must see him! I ean help," and, releasing his arm, she mounted the steps unatled.
liendricks led her to the door of the room where they had taken Cielow. Lampkin appeared on the threshold.
"He's begging to see you, Niiss Huntington," said he.

He pushed the door open, and when she had gone in he closed it and stood facing llendricks. For a moment they looked into each other's cyes without speaking. Then Hendricks turned

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