

MODERN SHORT STORY SERIES

英漢合璧小說叢刊

第一種

HALF A TON
OF DYNAMITE

炸藥千磅



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MODERN SHORT STORY SERIES

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英漢合璧小說叢刊緣起

歐美文學，小說居其大部。吾國稱小說家者，歐亦稱文學家。如俄之托爾斯泰 Tolstoi，英之迪更斯 Dickens，法之毛也桑 Maupassant，德之哥的 Goethe，美之馬克圖文 Mark Twain，一代文豪，均以小說著。其所抱之人生觀，雖各有所不同，而均以小說發抒懷抱，則一也。

夫民有民俗，國有國風。讀其小說，即所以觀其俗而規其風。故歐美學校，假此以習文，社會讀之以進智。至炎夏林間，寒冬爐下，以及舟車旅行，莫不手執一編，以自娛焉。

近年小說一道，已為吾國學者所注意。歐美名著譯本，日益增多，尤足為觀俗規風之資料。然此雖能傳達情意而不能為學彼國文字之助。同人有感於此，因有發行英漢合璧小說叢刊之舉。延攬通才，遂譯近世短篇小說，英漢對照，復加註解。成語奧義，詳為詮釋，使學者循譯得文，由文傳意，習文規風，兩者具存。且譯筆尚雅馴，可為有志譯學者借鑑。一舉而數美備，不亦善乎。由此循序漸進，為日後直接習歐美文學之基礎，同人區區微意，諒亦



人識

北師大圖 R2407700

HALF A TON OF DYNAMITE

BY MARTIN SWAYNE

On a pleasant summer's evening Mr. and Mrs. Levison¹ were seated in a corner of their immense drawing-room,² listening to the strains of a cabinet gramophone.³ For the first time for some weeks⁴ the Levisons found they had an evening to themselves,⁵ and they determined to spend it⁶ in a simple and homely manner. Mrs. Levison rested in negligent attitude⁷ on a couch, while her husband, clad in⁸ a purple, quilted smoking-jacket, with a large cigar in his mouth, reclined in an arm-chair, smoothing his sleek, black hair with one hand and beating time to

1. Levison, (Lēv't-sūn). 2. Immense (im-mēns') drawing-(dra'ing) room, 廣闊之休息室. 3. Strains (strānz) of a cabinet (kāb't-nēt) gramophone (grām'-ō-fōn), 自留聲機發出之幽韻. 4. For the first time for some weeks, 數星期中爲第

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時維夏日初昏。惠風和暢。勒未生夫婦、小憩於廣闊無比休息室之一隅。靜聆自留聲器發出之幽韻。蓋數來復中。若夫婦二人、可名爲屬於彼等之所有權者。此夕實第一次也。故彼等決以簡單明淨天倫團聚之法度之。勒夫人坐於一躺椅內。一若無憂無慮四大皆空者。其夫則服紫絨吸烟衣。斜坐手椅中。口銜雪茄。手撫其黑而光滑之

一次。 5. Had an evening to themselves, 可名謂自己所有之黃昏。 6. To spend (spénd) it, 度之。 7. Negligent (nég'li-jent) attitude (át'ti-tūd), 無憂無慮之態度。 8. Clad (klád) in, 服 (動詞卽着衣之意)。

the music with the other.¹ His feet rested upon the back of another chair.

Mr. Levison was one of those simple and unassuming men who, from the moment they begin to think,² concentrate all their faculties on³ the acquisition of money.⁴ His success had been slow, but steady,⁵ and each passing year⁶ saw him rising higher on the steep way⁷ that, in his opinion, was the only way of life. But although he was successful, Mr. Levison remained a⁸ simple and unassuming man, timid in manner⁹ to those whom he fancied were his betters,¹⁰ and easy and natural to his inferiors.

1. Beating time to the music (mū'zīk) with the other, 以手拍節使合音奏. 2. From the moment (mō'ment) they begin to think, 至用腦時. 3. Concentrate (kōn'sēn-trāt) all their faculties (fāk'ūl-tīz) on, 以聰明智慧注於.... 4. Acquisition (āk'kwī-zīsh'ūn) of money, 積聚; 生財之道. 5. Slow, but steady (stēd'ī), 遲而穩. 6. Each passing year, 一度

髮。一手拍節以合音奏。其雙足則高置於又一椅背上。

勒未生之爲人。淡泊簡單。謙恭率直。至用腦時、則以其所有之聰明智慧、注於積聚上。其一生之成功、遲而穩。一度星霜、常見其向人生峭壁上、略昇數層。然彼今日雖已席豐履厚。而仍爲一淡泊謙恭之人。對於自度不如之人。往往面然退讓。而對於自料勝之之人、則一任自然。

星霜. 7. Rising higher on the steep (stēp) way, 於人生峭壁稍進數層. 8. Remained a..., 仍爲.... 9. Timid (tīm'id) in manner, 怯生生. 10. To those whom he fancied were his betters, 對於自度不如之人(原文爲勝彼者, 換言之, 即不如之人也).

“My dear,” he remarked to his wife, removing his cigar from his lips, “it is very nice to have a quiet evening together.”

“It is, my love,” replied his wife, with a contented sigh.¹

The gramophone music ceased, and a gorgeous footman, who had been standing in the distance,² advanced and stopped the machinery.

“Edward,” said Mrs. Levison, “go upstairs to the nurseries and get the report of the night nurse.”

“Yes, madam.³”

The footman withdrew, and Mr. Levison loosened the buttons of his white evening waistcoat;⁴ the Levisons were in the habit of⁵ dining late and their *chef*⁶ had excelled himself⁷ that evening.

1. Contented (kǒn-těnt'éd) sigh (sī), 愉快的歎聲 (文中譯意)。 2. In the distance, 在遠處。 3. Madam (mād'am), 下人對女主之稱, 惟平等相見亦用之。 4. White evening waistcoat (wāst'kót), 西人禮服中所衣之白色背心。 5. In

勒未生當時擲口中之雪茄。目其妻曰。吾愛。與卿靜度黃昏、若今夕者、非樂事乎。

勒夫人唏噓答曰然。而歎聲中、含有無窮愉樂。

留聲器戛然中止。一立於遠處之華服下人。入而停其機。

勒夫人謂下人曰。愛多亞、速上樓至保姆室。得其逐日之報告來。

下人答是。

下人退。勒未生以其白色背心之扣。略鬆數枚。蓋勒氏家庭。晚餐素遲。而當日廚司、又特別求味之可口故。

the habit (hāb'it) of, 素; 習於. 6. *Chef* (chěf), 廚夫. 7.]
celled (ēk-sēld') himself, 直譯為勝過自己; 意譯為特別已
結, 勝於平日等.

Mr. Levison blew a cloud of fragrant blue smoke towards the carved ceiling, and his eyes began to wander round the room.¹ He was justly proud of² the apartment. It was one of the largest drawing-rooms in London, and it was hung with a vast number³ of valuable pictures. In an alcove, softly illuminated by concealed lights,⁴ stood the Levison collection of china,⁵ sparkling with a thousand radiant hues.⁶ Charming examples of sculpture stood about,⁷ supported on marble columns. The furniture was not crowded, but each article was exquisite, for Mr. Levison was sufficiently a connoisseur to know⁸ when a thing was genuine, and what its price should be. Although the Levisons had only taken

1. Wander (wǒn'dēr) round the room, 四馬室中. 2. Justly proud of, 宜於滿意. 3. Vast (vást) number, 極多(文中譯意). 4. Softly (sǒit'lǐ) illuminated (il-lū'mǐ-nāt-éd) by concealed (kǒn-sēld') lights, 依稀隱約燃數藏燈. 5. Levison collection (kǒl-lēk'shūn) of china, 勒氏所積聚之瓷器.

勒未生上望雕鏤之天花板。口吐藍蔚香濃之烟。二目四矚室中。甚爲滿意。蓋此室爲倫敦城中首屈一指者。四壁圖書。琳瑯滿目。壁洞中依稀隱約、燃藏燈數架。洞中儲勒氏一生積蓄之無上窖磁。五光十色。雕琢模型。遍佈室中。每具承以雲母石座。傢具不過多、而無一非最良者。蓋勒未生頗爲鑑別家。不特能識別真僞。而其應價若干。亦無不知也。勒氏夫婦。雖置此屋

6. Sparkling (spär'kling) with a thousand radiant (ra'di-ant) hues (hūs), 五光十色; 光怪陸離. 7. Stood (stōōd) about, 遍地皆是; 遍佈室中. 8. Sufficiently (sūf-fish'ent-lŷ) a connoisseur (kōn-niā-sūr') to know, 足爲鑑別家以知 (文中譯意).

the mansion a year ago, it was already stored with¹ treasures of art, from attic to cellar.

The footman entered the room from a distant door and crossed the wide floor with noiseless tread.²

“Master David is asleep, Master Samuel is asleep, and Miss Miriam is asleep,” he announced.

Mrs. Levison nodded contentedly.

“Thank you, Edward; you can go,” said Mrs. Levison, waving her hand; “we do not wish to be disturbed³ now.”

“Very good, madam.”

The footman cast a glance round the room, to see that everything was in order, and then departed. Mrs. Levison settled herself⁴ more comfortably, and prepared to go to sleep. Her husband readjusted his feet

1. Stored with, 儲藏. 2. Noiseless tread (tréd), 寂然無聲之步武. 3. To be disturbed (dis-türbd'), 人擾我; 與 To

不逾一年。而上自最高層。下至地底室。已滿儲文藝美術上之珍品矣。

下人自側門入。行於廣闊之地板上、悄然無聲言曰。大衛小主已睡。薩門小主已睡。梅林女公子亦已安置。

夫人頷之。心中甚喜。搖手語下人曰。愛德亞、謝爾。吾等今不欲人之相擾矣。

甚佳、夫人。

下人四顧室中。視各物無煩部署。乃退。勸夫人微動其軀。使稍安適。爲入睡鄉之備。勸未生

disturb 不同，因 To disturb, 爲我擾人也。4. Settled (sɛt't'ld) herself, 轉動其身 (文中譯意)。

at a still higher angle at the back of the chair, and gave himself up to¹ those deep and calm trains of thought whose outcome showed themselves as shattering cataclysms² in the world of finance.³ The long, gold-coloured curtains before the open windows stirred softly in the evening breeze.⁴ The murmur of London penetrated musically into the room. A quaint clock on a writing-table near by⁵ ticked⁶ a gentle and soothing rhythm, and soon Mrs. Levison's breathing told that she was in the world of dreams.⁷

A quarter to ten chimed softly⁸ from the clock on the writing-table, followed at intervals⁹ by chimes that came from all parts of the great apartment. Mr. Levison stirred himself¹⁰

1. Gave himself up to, 以全神注於. 2. Shattering (shät-tër-ing) cataclysms (kät'a-klizmz), 潰流之洪水. 3. World of finance (fi-näns'), 經濟界. 4. Stirred (stërd) softly in the evening breeze (brëz), 飄飄於習習晚風中. 5. Near by, 左

挪二足與椅背成更高角度。以全神注於沈密周詳之意念中。此意念者。他日或於經濟界中爲潰流之洪水。亦未可知。斯時也。懸於窗前之金色長簾。飄搖於習習晚風中。倫敦之擾攘塵聲。如風飄仙樂。送入廳室。左近書棹。置古式鐘一。秒聲淅瀝。若悠揚跌宕之樂聲。無何、聞勒夫人之鼾聲、知老夫人已酣然入夢矣。

書棹古鐘。溫溫然報十鐘一刻。室內外斷續鐘聲。迭相應和。勒未生微動其體。四盼使之心

差。 6. Ticked (tiket), 秒鐘淅瀝之聲。 7. World of dreams, 睡鄉。 8. Chimed (chimd) softly, 溫溫然報出。 9. At intervals (in'tēr-valz), 斷續。 10. Stirred himself, 微動其軀。

and once more began to let his eyes wander round the room of which he was so justly proud. He noted his Velazquez¹ and his Tintoret;¹ he dwelt lovingly on his little cabinet of Empire miniatures;² he doted on the marble Pandora,³ and had turned his head a little to enjoy the Vandyke,¹ when he noticed a man seated on a couch half way down the room.⁴

Mr. Levison started slightly.

The stranger was in evening dress, and even from that distance he looked⁵ a distinguished figure. He was caressing a long black moustache, and looking with interest⁶ at the wonderful collection of china opposite him. Mr. Levison removed his feet from the back of the chair, and sat up.⁷ He felt a little

1. Velazquez, Tintoret, and Vandyke, 均爲名畫. 2. Empire (ēm'pīr) miniatures (mīn'i-ā-tūrz), 著名雕琢品. 3. Pandora, 著名石像之一. 4. Half way down the room, 室中

滿意足之室中陳設。二目忽注於「丁都萊」。忽注於「維勞圭」。視「帝國」雕琢模型。則色然喜。恍惚中目光及「潘度拉」雲母像。則昏昏欲睡矣。迴頭見「梵渡宮」名畫。正欲細賞。驀地間觀一不速之客。倚於廣室中央之一軟椅中。

勒未生斗露惶悚之狀。

不速之客、身衣禮服。視其狀貌、雖遠觀之、亦似爲赫赫人物。手撫黑而長之美髯。目注對室之窰磁。一若深有興味者。勒未生自椅背挪二足下。正身而坐。

起。 5. Looked, 似爲。 6. With interest, 甚有興味。 7. Sat up, 坐起。

agitated.¹ Was it possible that he had been asleep and that the visitor had been announced unheard² by him? In questions of social duties,³ Mr. Levison was always a little agitated. The sight of⁴ the distinguished stranger, sitting alone and unheeded, made him feel as if he were⁵ guilty of a crime.

He hastily buttoned up his waistcoat and adjusted his evening tie. Then, with a surreptitious movement,⁶ he roused Mrs. Levison. When she realized what her husband was trying to convey to her by violent gestures,⁷ she scrambled into a sitting position⁸ and smoothed down the folds of her elaborate yellow satin tea-gown that she had put on for comfort.

“Who can he be?” she whispered, in some excitement.⁹

1. A little agitated (āj'i-tāt-ōd), 稍有不豫. 2. Announced (ān-nounst') unheard, 未聞傳報. 3. In questions (kwēs'-chūnz) of social (sō'shal) duties, 於社會交際問題. 4. The sight of, 見. 5. As if he were, 一若. 6. Surreptitious (sūr-

中心若不豫然。豈客來下人傳報時、竟深入睡鄉、未獲聞乎。勒未生於社會交際問題。恆覺有不豫心者。則今日見此不速之貴客。孤坐室中。絕無招待者。自不得不手足無措。一若身犯重罪者矣。

勒未生整其衣冠。理其領結。悄悄將勒夫人推醒。夫人知其手言足語之意。則亦起坐。將其所衣之鵝黃織錦茶裳。以手平其摺縐處。

夫人低聲詢曰。客果何人乎。語時頗惶悚。

rēp-tīsh'ūs) movement, 暗昧不明之舉動(文中譯意). 7. Violent (vī'ō-lent) gestures (jēs'tūrz), 劇烈之手式(即文中之手言足語). 8. Sitting position, 坐形. 9. In some excitement (ēk-sīt'ment), 惶悚貌.

“I do not know, my dear,” replied Mr. Levison, nervously. “He must have been announced when we were asleep. His face is vaguely familiar.¹”

“So many people come to our dinners whose names we scarcely know,²” said his wife, plaintively. “But go and speak to him, Joseph. Be very polite, and pretend you know him. It is always rude to ask a person’s name.”

Mr. Levison braced himself up³ and began his journey down the brilliantly-lighted room. The stranger, on his approach,⁴ rose and bowed in a foreign manner.

“Good evening,”⁵ said Mr. Levison, rubbing his hands, and bowing also.

“Good evening. I trust I do not disturb you,” replied the stranger.

1. Vaguely (vāg'ly) familiar, 恍惚依稀似曾相識. 2. Scarcely know, 幾乎不識. 3. Braced (brāst) himself up, 鼓

勒未生顫聲戰慄而答曰。吾不知也。客來下人傳報時。吾等必在睡鄉。卽客之容。亦恍惚依稀、似曾相識者。

夫人曰。吾家宴客而幾不識客之名姓者。不知凡幾。然而、約瑟吾愛、速往與之語。足恭謹退。一若熟識之者。問人姓字、固常爲極失禮之事也。

勒未生鼓膽行過此光華燦爛之室。客見勒至。亦起立。行一異邦禮。

勒答禮、且曰晚來好。語時、磨搓雙手。

客答曰、晚來好。僕深望此來未驚動閣下。

譯. 4. On his approach (äp-pröch'), 見其至. 5. Good evening, 西人晚間相見時之開場語.

“It is so kind of you¹ to come,” said Mr. Levison, nervously. He continued to rub his hands.

The stranger, who was very tall, gazed down at him with a pair of dark, inscrutable eyes. He smiled slightly.

“I walked in,” he said. “The door was open. Your butler is conversing with a young lady at the corner.² The footmen in the hall are fast asleep.³ So I walked upstairs.”

“Tut, tut!” exclaimed Mr. Levison; “I am so sorry no one announced you!”

“Not at all.⁴ You see, I know the house very well.”

“Of course!”⁵ exclaimed Mr. Levison. He was greatly embarrassed. Who could he be? He ought to know his name. He made

1. So kind of you, 謙語; 方言中之你真好也 (文中譯意).
2. At the corner, 在牆角. 3. Fast asleep, 酣然入夢. 4. Not

勒以二掌盡力搓磨。戰慄之色形於面。答曰。貴客下臨。受寵多多矣。

客之軀體偉岸長大。一雙深黑不可測摸之目光。下望勒未生而笑曰。

我直趨此室也。君家門役。正與一妙齡女郎。墻角談心。君家下人。已在廳室中、酣然入夢。吾故直趨此室也。

勒答曰。貴客下臨。竟無僕人傳報。負疚良深。

客曰。無傷也。吾於此室、本輕車熟路也。

勒未生慚慙交并。答曰。然、然。客果何人。勒不應不知其姓字。

at all, 諺語; 方言中之那沒有什麼也 (文中譯意), 5. Of course, 自然.

a movement towards¹ his wife, and the stranger accompanied him.

“Ah—you know Mrs. Levison, of course,” murmured Mr. Levison, waving his plump little hands vaguely. The stranger bowed again, very deeply.²

“How d’ye do?”³ said Mrs. Levison, in her best manner, and then silence fell on all three.⁴ Only the stranger seemed at ease.⁵

“I was just telling your husband that I know this house very well,” he remarked, at length.⁶

“Oh, yes,” exclaimed Mrs. Levison, rapidly. “Of course. I know you have been often here; such a pleasure; please sit down, won’t you?”

The stranger bowed, but remained standing.

1. Made a movement towards, 向...舉步. 2. Bowed deeply, 鞠躬至地. 3. How d’ye do? 即 How do you do? 4. Silence fell on all three, 三人皆寂然不作聲. 5. At ease

然二足則不期而然向其妻之方向而行。客亦隨之。

勒喃喃視客曰。此爲密昔司勒。吾知客必與之素識者。語時微搖其肥而小之手。客鞠躬至地。

勒夫人用其最良之禮節敬客曰。客佳。禮畢。三人寂不作聲。時三人中稍形自在者。惟客而已。

終、客乃言曰。吾方與尊夫譚及吾熟悉此室之事。

夫人忙答曰。是、是。……自自然。……吾知客曾數臨敝者。……樂乃無央。……請坐。願否。

客行鞠躬禮。仍立原處。

(ēz), 自在; 惶悚拘束之對語. 6. At length (lǎngth) at last 同意.

“My name is Kromeski,” he announced, calmly.

“Oh, I know—yes, yes, of course! Prince Kromeski,¹” murmured the unhappy Mrs. Levison, who was greatly agitated, and quite at her wits’ end.

“Your Highness—began Mr. Levison, spreading out his hands.

“No; not Prince Kromeski. Simply Kromeski.”

He bowed again. He was obviously foreign. The Levisons bowed too. Who on earth could he be?² His manner was magnificent, although cold and distant.³ His lean, muscular frame was set off⁴ to perfect advantage⁵ by his evening clothes. His composure was almost startling. Mrs. Levison was too

1. Oh, I know—yes, yes, of course! Prince Kromeski, 惶恐時語意斷續，又欲示客以禮，故稱之若素日相識之親王也，亦以見勒氏不慣交際，見客時慌張之狀。 2. Who

客安然告曰、僕之名爲克露米斯基。

此不自在之勒夫人喃喃答曰。我知之矣。……自然自然。……克露米斯基親王。此時勒夫人惶恐已極。一點靈犀已達強弩之末矣。

勒未生張二手向客曰殿下。

非也。非克露米斯基親王。僅克露米斯基而已。

客重行一禮。視其狀顯然爲異邦人。勒氏夫婦答禮。客果何人乎。其貌也冷峭孤高。可望而不可即。而自有一種尊嚴之態度。其瘦而多力之體格。爲其所衣禮服。襯出最好處。其嚴重之態。亦實可驚。然勒夫人此時神

on earth could he be, 猶言斯人爲誰, 世上寧有此人乎. 3. Distant, 可望而不可即. 4. Set off, 文意甚多, 但此處爲顯出. 5. To perfect advantage (á-l-ván'táj), 最好處.

upset to notice¹ that he was waiting for her to sit down.

“Will you take a little refreshment?” inquired Mr. Levison, at length, in despair.² “Something, perhaps, to drink?”

“You are most kind and thoughtful,” said the stranger. Was it possible that there was a sinister gleam³ in his eyes? Mr. Levison, at any rate,⁴ did not observe it.

“Some champagne?” he asked, timidly.

“Thank you. A little really good champagne, well iced,⁵ would be very refreshing,” was the singular reply.⁶ Mr. Levison at once⁷ hastened to the bell.⁸

“We keep some excellent brands,⁹” he exclaimed, obsequiously. The footman entered. “Bring up a bottle of champagne from

1. Too upset (ŭp-sĕt') to notice, 腦筋太昏不及注意. 2. In despair (dĕ-spār'), 失望. 3. Sinister gleam (glĕm), 叵測之目光. 4. At any rate, 無論如何 (文中譯意). 5. Well iced.

經昏昏然。未及注意客之俟其坐下也。

失望之餘、勒未生終顧客詢曰客需茶點或解渴之物否。

客曰。主人可謂仁慈周密矣。客目光中果含叵測之意乎。有之、勒未生亦終不之知也。

勒惴惴然詢客曰。香檳。

客僅答云。謝主人。冰浸之最上香檳少許以解渴。固佳。勒聞言立趨呼鈴處。

勒作詔媚狀顧客曰。吾家藏釀頗富。語時、僕入。勒命曰。速往

冰浸的。 6. Singular, (sín'gū-lēr) reply, 特別之答語。
At once, 立即。 8. Bell, 呼人鈴。 9. Brands (brándz),
類; (文中譯意)。

bin number eighty-eight, and let it be iced. Be quick!" he commanded.

The footman vanished.

"The weather is a little hot," he continued, rubbing his hands. "One needs refreshment."

"Quite so,"¹ said the stranger. He looked round² the room. "You have some wonderful treasures here. The size of the apartment shows them off to perfection."³

"Yes," said Mrs. Levison, who was getting tired of⁴ standing; "it is a large room."

"The largest in London," said the stranger. "It took some planning,⁵ I assure you, to build it. Such a vast span⁶ of ornamental ceiling, without central support, is

1. Quite so, 果然. 2. Looked round, 四 顧. 3. Shows them off to perfection (pěr-fék'shün), 烘 染 其 最 佳 處. 4.

八十八號箱內取香櫟一瓶至。
勿忘以冰浸之。速速。

僕退。

勒續言曰。天時苦熱。茶菓似
爲不可少之物。語時、磨搓二掌
至力。

客答云果然。因四矚室中。語
勒曰。此間頗富藏珍。而是室之
廣狹亦能烘染其最佳處。

是時勒夫人已疲於久立。答
曰。客言然。是室固非小也。

客云。此爲倫敦之最大者。吾
必其造此室時。頗費計畫也。試
觀偌大鏤刻天花板、無一中心

Tired of, 疲於. 5. It took some planning, 頗費計畫. 6. Vast
(vást) span (spān), 甚大之距離, Span 之意爲兩柱間之距離

difficult to construct. At first¹ I thought I could not manage it."

The Levisons stared at him in surprise.

"You see," said the stranger, with a smile, "I am the architect who designed this house."

"Oh!" exclaimed Mrs. Levison. They looked at each other in surprise.

"The architect!" said her husband, with raised eyebrows.²

"Just fancy!"³ added Mrs. Levison, sitting down at once. "How extraordinary!"

"What is extraordinary?" asked Kromeski.

"Your being only the architect," she said, resuming her attitude of complacency⁴

1. At first, 最初. 2. Raised eyebrows (i'brouz), 高聳其眉, 詫異狀也. 3. Just fancy (fān'sy) ! 驚歎辭也, 即俗語

點以支之。其構設之難可知。吾最初固不望能建之也。

勒夫婦目注客容。莫知所答。

客微笑云。少安毋躁。吾計畫此室之工程師也。

勒夫人聞言曰。嘻。四目互矚。似甚詫客言者。

勒未生高聳其眉。曰。工程師！嘻！

勒夫人立即下坐。續言曰。怪事！不可思議！

客曰何爲不可思議。

勒夫人復其禮讓之態。答曰。客之僅爲一工程師耳。吾以

“你想想看這可不奇怪麼”之意(文中譯意)。 4. Attitude (āt'ī-tūde) of complacency (kōm-plā'sen-sŷ), 禮讓之態。

on the couch. "I thought you were somebody quite different!"

In the scheme of life which Mrs. Levison had adopted, all people who followed a definite profession¹ were treated coolly, for they were the servants of gold. Her husband—a person of finer sensibilities²—did not hold quite the same views. He motioned Kromeski to a seat.³

"Dear, dear," he said, in tones of relief, "I didn't know what to make of⁴ you. So you are the architect? Well, you didn't make a bad job of this house."

"Not bad," said his wife, carelessly. "We should have preferred to build our own house. But Joseph thought this would do."⁵

1. To follow a profession (prô-fesh'ün), 以營業爲生涯

2. Finer sensibilities (sén-si-bil'i-tiz), 感情與情性稍爲入理

客爲大異於渺渺工程師之人也。

夫人於生計經營中。凡人之以營業爲生涯者。每以冷淡之禮待之。因若輩爲金錢之奴僕也。其夫之感性稍入理。故宗旨亦不同。當時延客就坐。

勒心中頓自慰。謂客曰。吾始實不識客爲何人。孰料客卽此屋之工程師耶。然子之經營此室頗覺不劣。

夫人重申其夫之語曰。頗不劣。吾等始願自行佈置。然約瑟以此爲可矣。

3. To motion one to a seat, 延之入坐. 4. To make of, 斷爲 (文中譯意). 5. This would do, 以此爲可.

At this moment the butler, followed by three footmen, entered the room. They formed up¹ at the door and advanced in a little procession. One footman carried a silver ice-pail, containing the bottle of champagne; another, a tray on which was a glass; the third bore a table. The butler superintended their manœuvres.

Kromeski watched them with a curious expression.²

“That is very good champagne,” observed Mr. Levison, after the servants had left. “From bin eighty-eight.”

“Yes,” echoed his wife; “you build good cellars here. We have over two thousand pounds’ worth of wine stored in them.”

1. Formed up, 成行. 2. Curious (kū'ri-tis) expression

時三數下人。隨門役而入。將及門。成雁行列隊入室。一僕擎銀製之冰桶。中承香檳。一僕手一盤。上置玻璃蓋一。第三人則持一短桌。而總以門役統其事。

克露米斯基目注數僕、微呈駭詫狀。

僕去後、勒未生視酒而言曰。此爲香檳頗不惡。取自八十八號箱者。

夫人曰。客造地室亦不劣。吾家有價值二千鎊之藏釀儲中。

“That is true,” said Mr. Levison, with a look of satisfaction.¹

“The attics, too, are full of valuables,” continued his wife, in a kind of chant;² “they contain the contents of two valuable libraries which Joseph bought last month.”

“They are worth twenty thousand pounds,” echoed Mr. Levison, rapidly; “one-fifth the value of this room.”

“Yes,” continued his wife, “Joseph values the contents of this room at one hundred thousand pounds.”

“And that is apart from³ the china, which, by itself, is worth ten thousand pounds, at least.”⁴

They paused, a little breathless, and looked at each other with an expression of mutual satisfaction.

1. Look of satisfaction (săt-is-fäk'shün), 得意狀. 2. Chan

勒未生面呈得色。謂客曰。吾妻言然。

夫人曼聲微誦曰。屋頂室中。亦滿儲珍物。約瑟上月新置之二重價藏書樓均實其中。

勒急云。書價約二萬鎊。然僅爲此室陳列之價之五之一。

夫人續之曰。約瑟估計是室之值約十萬鎊。

而審磁尙不在內。僅磁器一項。至少需一萬鎊。

二人語至此暫息。四目互注。面呈得意容。

chant), 曼聲. 3. Apart from, 不在內. 4. At least, 至少

“And the whole house?” asked Kromeski. “What is that worth?”

“Contents and all, about three hundred thousand pounds,” said Mrs. Levison.

“Rather more,¹ my dear,” corrected her husband; “about three hundred and fifty thousand pounds.”

Kromeski poured himself out a glass of champagne and drank it slowly. He put the glass down again on the table.

“I am a Nihilist,”² he remarked, reflectively.

“A what?” asked Mrs. Levison, with a yawn.

“An Anarchist.”³

The Levisons both sat up⁴ and stared at him.

客詢曰。然則此宅共價幾何。
夫人答曰。宅內外約值三十萬鎊。

勒未生曰。吾愛。尙不止此。全價約三十五萬。

克露米斯基徐傾香檳一盞。飲畢、仍置之案。

徐言曰。僕虛無黨人也。語時若內省者。

夫人欠伸曰。一個什麼？

一無政府黨人。

勒夫婦斗然起坐。注客面勿釋。

4. Sat up, 起坐。

“ An Anarchist ? ”

“ Yes. ”

Mrs. Levison gazed at him reproachfully.

“ But you said you were an architect ! ”

“ I am both, ” replied Kromeski, with great calmness. “ I create things ; but if they do not please me, I destroy them. I created this house, but it does not please me. So I am going to destroy it. ”

Mr. Levison, who had been momentarily alarmed,¹ was reassured by the stranger's calm manner. He laughed, and nudged his wife.

“ It is a little joke, ” he whispered.

“ Oh, ” she returned, “ a joke ! ” She at once leaned back again on the couch.

“ You forget, my friend, that I bought the house, ” said Mr. Levison, entering into

1. Momentarily (mō'mên-tâ-ri-lý) alarmed (â-lârd'),

一無政府黨人？

然。

夫人責視客曰。然客非自稱工程師乎。

客鎮靜如常。徐答曰。吾兼而有之也。吾職在造物。物而不吾喜。則吾滅之。吾建此屋、而吾不喜之。故今欲滅之。

勒未生斗呈懼色。然見客容色鎮靜。則亦不懼。肘其妻微語曰。客言戲也。

夫人曰。戲乎！乃復斜倚躺椅而坐。

勒未生忽思以詼諧示客。乃笑

the spirit of the jest.¹ "You cannot destroy it."

Kromeski did not answer. He rose and crossed the room to observe a picture more closely. Then he returned and poured out another glass of champagne. His manner was very composed.

"That is a genuine Daubigny² you have there," he observed, sitting down.

"Yes," said Mr. Levison. "I paid over a thousand pounds for that."

"It is a pity that it will be destroyed."

"Ha ha! That is very amusing," Mr. Levison exclaimed. "So you are still determined to destroy the house?"

"Of course," said the stranger. "That is why I came to see you to-night."

1. Spirit of jest, 諷諧.

謂客曰。客似忘吾已價購此宅。客何能毀之。

客不答。起立。面壁端詳視一畫。徐還原處立。傾香檳盈盞。其狀鎮靜非常。

客就坐。曰。此畫的非贗物。果一陶伯尼真筆也。

勒答曰然。吾以逾千鎊之金得之。

客云。惜哉此畫之將同歸於盡也。

勒曰。嘻嘻。客言趣甚。客決欲毀此室乎。

客曰。誠然誠然。此僕今夕之所以造訪也。

2. Daubigny, 陶伯尼、著名畫家、

“Excellent,” cried Mr. Levison. “And how are you going to destroy it?”

“With dynamite.”

“Of course. With dynamite!” echoed Mr. Levison, greatly entertained.¹

“It would require a lot of dynamite to destroy this house,” said Mrs. Levison, contentedly.

“About half a ton,” said Kromeski, looking round the room.

“You would need a cart to bring it here!” she added, smiling broadly.

“No,” he answered. “It is here already.”

The look that accompanied the statement was so curious that Mr. Levison's gaiety left him, and a chill feeling² crept into his heart.

1. Greatly entertained (ĕn-tĕr-tānd'), 玩之甚有興味之

勒曰。甚佳。然客將何以毀此宅。

客曰。炸藥耳。

勒曰。誠然誠然。炸藥耳。！一若玩客言甚有興味者。

夫人泰然曰。欲毀此宅。需炸藥諒不少。

客四顧室中。答曰。約半噸足矣。

夫人微哂曰。客或需一車以載如許炸藥。

客曰。無需。炸藥早已置之宅中。

客言時。貌呈怪狀。勒未生一腔歡喜心。瓦解冰消。不寒而慄。

狀. 2. Chill (chil) feeling, 寒慄之心.

He was naturally a timid man, and any suspicion of¹ physical danger upset him.

“Here?” he exclaimed, in amazement.

“Yes.”

Mr. Levison looked at his wife. She was sitting up, studying Kromeski's face. Her expression² showed she was uneasy.

“Where is the dynamite?” she asked, at length.

“In the cellars.”

“Impossible!” she cried. “The cellars are always locked. The butler, James, has the keys. It can't be in the cellars!”

“It is, however, in the cellars.”

“But there is no room for³ half a ton of dynamite in the cellars!” cried Mrs. Levison; “the wine-bins occupy all the space!”

1. Any suspicion (sūs-pīsh'ūn) of, 無論何等莫須有事。
2. Uneasy expression, 不自在之狀。 3. No room for,

勒本怯懦。卽莫須有之事。苟危於軀體者。毋不令之慄慄危懼。詫曰。此宅乎？

客曰然。

勒目其妻。夫人起譖客容勿釋。視夫人容色。知其甚不自在也。

終之。夫人詢曰。炸藥何在。在地室中。

夫人呼曰。甯有是理。地室常閉以鎖。門役「及姆」藏其鑰。炸藥何能至地室中。

客曰然。炸藥確在地室也。

夫人曰。地室之廣狹。不足以容炸藥半噸。餘地均爲酒罈所佔矣。

“The dynamite is under the wine-bins.”

Once more¹ the Levisons exchanged glances. Mrs. Levison uttered an exclamation of impatience. “How can it be under the wine-bins?” she said; “the floors are of concrete. You are talking nonsense.”²

“The dynamite is under the concrete.”

There was a pause. Mr. Levison threw up his arms with a gesture of incredulity.³ “How is that possible? Who put it there?”

“I put it there when I laid the foundations of the house.”

This startling piece of information⁴ made Mr. Levison's heart contract. His wife turned pale. They sat gazing at the sinister visitor with terrified eyes. What was this extraordinary tale? Mr. Levison, with an

1. Once more, 又, 再. 2. Talking nonsense (nŏn'sĕns), 道無意識之言. 3. Gesture of incredulity (in-krĕ-dŭ'l-tŷ)

客曰。炸藥藏酒罈之下。

勒未生夫婦又互視以目。夫人似忍無可忍。叱曰。炸藥何能藏酒罈下。地室下層。均砌以石。客言真無意識。

客曰。炸藥在砌石之中。

三人不語者移時。勒未生張兩臂作不信狀。曰。是何能。？誰實置之。？

客曰。僕爲之。砌基時實置之。

勒未生聞此可駭之通告。心房頓縮。勒妻亦面轉土色。目注客容。驚惶已極。不稔此奇特之故事果爲何。勒未生勉力支持。

作不信之狀。 4. Startling (stär'tling) piece of information
可駭之通告。

effort, pulled himself together¹ and endeavoured to assume a courageous manner.

“ You are mad ! ” he exclaimed. “ How dare you come here with this fairy tale ! I will have you turned out of the house ! ”

“ It is ridiculous ! ” said his wife. “ And even if there is some dynamite under the concrete, it is safe enough there. It cannot explode. ”

“ On the contrary, ”² said Kromeski, looking intently at her. “ It can explode. On the top of the dynamite there is a time-machine, connected with an electrical apparatus. I put it there myself, exactly a year ago. It has been ticking, unheard, all this year ; it is an ingenious time-machine. I made it myself. ”

Mr. Levison sprang to his feet. His wife stood up also.

1. Pulled himself together, 卽鎮攝支持之意. 2. On

強自鎮攝。示客以不懼。顧客曰。客其狂乎。何敢以此齊東野人之語。淆人清聽。意將揮客於門外。

勒夫人亦曰。茲事誠可笑。即砌石下果有炸藥。亦無害。以藥無從炸裂也。

客視夫人言曰。不然。該藥未嘗不能炸裂。炸藥之上載一時計。時計連於電機。去年今日。余實置之一載矣。時計聲滴瀝。特子未之聞耳。時計關鍵甚巧。余自製之。

勒未生斗然起立。夫人隨之。

the contrary (kǒn'trá-rǐ), 承上文而言, 即不然之意。

“ You mean it may go off¹ at any moment ? ”

“ No. It will go off at a certain definite time, which I arranged when I set it. ”

“ And when is that ? ”

“ To-night, at half-past ten. ”

Mrs. Levison uttered a cry, and sank down upon the couch.

“ Good heavens ! You are a maniac ! You are dangerous ! I will get the police ! ” Mr. Levison rushed towards the bell.

“ Stop ! ” said Kromeski, imperatively. Mr. Levison halted and turned. “ If you get the police, nothing can save your house. It would take a week of digging² to find that dynamite. You have only a few minutes. ”

Mr. Levison looked at the clock. It was five minutes past ten.

1. Go off, 爆發.

曰。客謂炸藥無論何時可爆裂乎。

客曰否。至定時自當爆發。而此定時亦余裝置時所定。

此定時爲何？

今晚之十鐘三十分。

勒夫人哀呼一聲立倒於榻。

勒未生急趨呼鈴處。謂客曰。汝爲狂人！汝心叵測！意將鳴捕逮汝。

客命曰、止。勒止。客續言曰。汝往鳴捕。於汝屋無補。欲求搜獲藏藥。須一禮拜之鑿掘方能。而屋之命運。僅此數分鐘而已。

勒未生迴顧壁間。鐘已指十點五分。

2. A week of digging (dig'ging), 一禮拜之鑿掘。

“Good heavens!”¹ he muttered. “What am I to do?”

Kromeski rose. He began to saunter towards the nearest window that overlooked the street.² Mr. Levison stood irresolute.³ He had twenty-five valuable minutes in which to decide on a course of action.⁴ His wife seemed in a state of collapse. He went to her and endeavoured to comfort her. Kromeski pulled the curtains aside, looked into the street in a casual way,⁵ and then turned back.

“Joseph,” muttered Mrs. Levison, “he is a dangerous man—we must get the children out of the house.”

“But are we to believe him?” whispered her husband. “It may be lies—it must be lies!”

1. Good heavens, 驚駭語, 與天乎之意略同. 2. Overlooked (ō'vēr-lōōk') the street, 臨街. 3. Stood irresolute

勒自語曰。吾將奈何？

客起立。徐步至最近臨街之窗。勒未生木然立。罔知所措。時已迫。於此危機一髮生死關頭之二十五分中。須擇所從。回視其妻。似昏不知人者。因趨前謀所以慰之。客泰然曳簾下矚。徐回至室中。

勒夫人自語曰。約瑟。此爲萬惡之人。吾等當謀所以出兒輩於險之計。

勒悄語其妻曰。然吾等當信其言乎。或謊語也。！必謊語也。！

(tr-réz'ò-lüt), 意見不定(文中譯意). 4. Course of action, 從行之道. 5. Casual (kūzh'ū-ai) way, 泰然, 如無意中事.

Mrs. Levison was silent. Then she sat up and looked intently at Kromeski, who was examining a small table, covered with delicate ivory work.

“That is true,” she said, in a low voice. “It may be simply a clever trick to get money out of you.”

The contending emotions¹ upon Mr. Levison's face began to subside, and a cunning expression crept into his eyes. He gave his wife's hand a squeeze, as if to show he had made up his mind,² and moved towards Kromeski. He stood on the other side the ivory table, thrust his hands into his pockets, and eyed³ him craftily.

“Ivory is not a very good medium for art,”⁴ observed Kromeski, critically. “It is flat and cold—altogether too dead.”

1. Contending emotions (ē-mō'shūnz), 情緒交戰, 即驚懼之意. 2. Made up his mind, 打起主意; 決定方針(文中譯

勒夫人不語。徐起坐細譎克露米斯基。時克方品題一陳列精細象牙具之短棹也。

夫人低語曰。約瑟言然。或一巧術以求得金也。

勒未生之容。向之呈情緒交闕者。漸就平和。目中頓露詭譎之狀。力握其妻之手。若示以心志已決者。回身向客而趨。相對立。手插夾袋中。目中露狡滑狀注客勿釋。

客評曰。以象齒爲藝術之媒介頗不佳。其爲質平淡而冷。大無生氣。

意). 3. Eyed, 矚目. 4. Medium (mē'di-ŭm) for art, 藝術之媒介, 卽以之爲美術品之意.

“Dynamite is a better medium for art” said Mr. Levison, softly. “I mean for the art of lying.”

Kromeski looked at him in slight surprise; the other continued with sudden vehemence. “Yes, that’s what I think you are—a liar! a shameless impostor! Curse you! do you think you are going to walk into my house and tell me a cock-and-bull story¹ for nothing? I’ll have you arrested do you hear?”

“Certainly,” said Kromeski. “Have me arrested, by all means.² That will save your house.”

“Indeed!” sneered Mr. Levison. “And what, pray, will save my house?”

“Heaven knows,”³ said Kromeski soberly; “I’m sure I don’t. To me, you

1. Cock-and-bull story, 齊東野語. 2. By all means,

勒和聲答曰。以炸藥爲藝術之媒介較佳。余謂謊語之藝術也。

客微露詫怪狀視勒。勒仍以激烈狀視客。然、吾固知汝爲何人。…妄人！無恥之匪徒！天將降罰於汝！汝以爲入吾室、口出妄言。吾無能爲乎。今將鳴捕逮汝。汝聞之否。

客曰。是無疑。無論如何、逮我可也。而於汝屋終無補。

勒冷笑顧客曰。果然！客請告我以補救之法。

客以嚴肅之容答曰。其權操之造物主。吾不知也。吾所知者、

如何。 3. Heaven knows, 無人能知之(文中譯意)。

one of the most loathsome creatures in London. It is said you have never given a penny to charity; it is said you have ruined more people than there are hairs on your head. You are universally detested.¹ The society to which I belong marked you down² many years ago. When you took this house you walked straight into a trap, my friend.”

Mr. Levison balanced himself on his toes, and reflected. Then he leaned across the table. All his business cunning was aroused.

“If you are an Anarchist and wish to destroy me, why do you come here to-night and warn me?”

“Because our society does not seek to destroy life. It destroys property. We hold life to be sacred—even lives such as yours—and endeavour to save it.”

1. Universally (ū-nī-vēr'sal-lŷ) detested (dē-tĕst'ed), 天壤間

則汝爲倫敦賤物之一。人謂汝一生善舉未逾一便士。爲汝所傾家蕩產者。擢汝之髮且過之。天壤間無不賤視汝者。余所入之黨、數載前已以汝名載之簿籍。吾友乎。汝置此室時、實自投羅網也。

勒舉趾左右平其身。默然自省者久之。繼俯其軀過短棹。買人心計。霎時齊至。

顧客曰。設汝果爲無政府黨人。立意毀吾室。則今晚之關白可爲者。

因吾黨宗旨。不絕人生命、而僅毀其財產也。生命爲神聖不可侵犯者。能救則救之。卽卑污若汝之生命且然。

Kromeski turned away, and left Mr. Levison thinking deeply.¹ He was seeking to detect a flaw in Kromeski's attitude.

"It was unnecessary for you to come," he said, at length; "you could have merely written."

"True. But would you have paid any attention to² the letter? Every very wealthy man of your type receives threatening letters every day. He flings them into the wastepaper basket. I came myself, so that you might thoroughly understand, and act as you thought best."

"An Anarchist does not drink champagne!" exclaimed Mrs. Levison, suddenly, from across the room.

"Why not, madam? There is no harm in champagne," replied Kromeski, simply.

1. Thinking deeply, 深思. 2. To pay attention (ăt-tên'-

克語畢。以背向主人。密司忒勒未生垂頭深思。暗窺客舉動。伺其可疑處。

終之、勒乃謂客曰。汝無來此之必要。僅函告我足矣。

客曰。固然。然汝能以區區一紙書爲可恃乎。席豐履厚之輩若汝者。日得恫嚇書。則擲之敗紙麓中而已。吾故自來。庶汝能洞明透徹。擇其善者而行之也。

勒夫人忽自室之一隅呼曰。無政府黨人無飲香檳者。

客曰。是何言。香檳固絕無害也。

“ I do not quarrel with the normal pleasures¹ of life. For a man to possess a few good pictures, a reasonable house, a few pounds' worth of wine in his cellars, is normal. We are not fanatics. But to possess more than a hundred priceless² pictures, to live in a palace, to have two thousand pounds' worth of wine in one's cellars—that is a crime against humanity.”

“ Then why did you design the house—the palace ? ” asked Mr. Levison, shrewdly.

“ To trap people like you. I have designed three palaces like this in my lifetime. One in New York, one in Paris, and this one here in London. The one in New York is so much dust, dispersed over the city, together with half a man's fortune. The one in Paris is just completed, and, like a gorgeous spider,

1. Normal (nôr'mal) pleasures, 情理中之快樂. 2. Price-

吾於人之有情理中快樂者不責之。小康之家。藏數幀名畫。居樸實之居。地室中或藏值數鎊之佳釀。是爲情理中性分中之快樂。吾黨不爲已甚也。若家藏逾百無價名畫。居富麗堂皇之宮室。藏釀逾二千鎊。則爲爲非分。非分者、人類之蝨賊。

勒未生詢客曰。然則汝當時何爲構劃此屋。此皇宮。

客曰。設阱以獵若輩財虜也。余一生共構華屋三。一在紐約。一在巴黎。一在倫敦。紐約之華屋。業已與某某財產之半、同成灰燼。遍佈城中。巴黎之室已竣工。如一富貴之蜘蛛。張網以待

awaits its fly. This one—well, you know all about this one, now.”

“Who lived in the New York one?” asked Mr. Levison, sharply.

“Lucas Spyer.”

Mrs. Levison uttered an exclamation, and Mr. Levison's colour faded a little.¹ He rallied his forces,² however, and pointed an accusing finger.

“Lucas Spyer was blown up³ with his house?”

“Yes. He refused to believe⁴ my story. He had me turned out of the house. I could do nothing more.”

Mr. Levison was about to ask another question, when the footman entered and said something to him in a low voice.

1. Faded a little, 稍呈土色. 2. Rallied (rāl'id) his forces, 鼓其餘勇. 3. Blown up, 爆發 (文中譯意). 4. Re-

蠅虫之入穀。至此宅則汝當已知之無煩喋喋矣。

勒詰客曰。居於紐約宅者何人。

客曰。魯格斯斯潑。

勒夫人聞言驚呼。勒未生之容稍呈土色。然仍鼓其餘勇。戟指顧客曰。

斯氏與其居室同燬乎。

客曰然。渠不納余之忠告。揮之門外。則舍毀之外尚何從。

勒未生方欲詢數事、而僕人入低聲稟白數語。勒聞言陡現

fused (rě-fūzd') to believe, 不納, 不信.

Levison started. A flash of fear showed in his eyes. Then he nodded. "I will come at once," he said, and waved the man away.¹ He crossed to his wife. "My dear," he whispered, bending down,² "a superintendent of the police has called. They are probably on this man's track."³

"The police!" muttered his wife.

"Hush! Not a word! I will go and see him. I will tell a footman to stand outside the door in my absence.⁴ He will enter at a cry from you. Keep the madman occupied⁵—keep him talking. Tell him the doctor has called, and I have gone to see him."

1. Waved him away, 搖手令其退. 2. Bending down, 俯首. 3. On his track, 追縱此人. 4. In my absence

驚惶之色。繼乃頷首謂僕曰。吾當卽來。乃搖手退僕人。趨勒夫人處、俯首低語曰。吾愛。警廳中人來求見。似係追縱此賊而來者。

夫人曰、警官！

勒曰。勿聲。勿洩一字。吾當往見之。吾離此室時。當令一僕侍門外。一聞汝聲僕當至。勿與此狂賊以暇。時逗之與語。且告彼醫士求見、吾往見之矣。

(āb'sens), 我不在此時(文中譯意). 5. Keep him occupied (ōk'kū-pīd), 勿令其得有閒暇之意.

Levison stole out of the room. Kromeski studied a picture for a minute or two. Then he turned, and frowned slightly.

“Where has your husband gone?” he asked, returning swiftly. “I thought he was here!”

“He has gone to speak to the doctor. One of the children is ill. The doctor sent in a message to say he wished to see Mr. Levison. It is little David who is ill. He is our eldest boy. Next week he will be all right. He was taken ill quite suddenly—this evening.”

Mrs. Levison paused a moment. It was essential to go on talking. Her thoughts ran swiftly,¹ and she continued: “Yes, he had a shivering fit, and was a little sick. So we thought it was probably a fever. Most

1. Her thoughts ran swiftly (swiftly), 其意思之來

勒未生潛出門外。客品題壁間畫者。一二分鐘。四顧室中。面微露不愉色。

驟問曰。汝夫焉往。吾謂其在此室也。

夫人曰。吾夫已往見某醫士。小兒女輩有染微恙者。醫生來求見。染恙者爲大衛。大衛爲吾長子。下星期當可占勿藥。疾病之來也驟。大衛之恙固僅自今日始也。

夫人語至此稍息。然言語滔滔。實當晚不可少之事。則神思亦繇繇而來。續語客曰。吾子患寒慄症。微覺不舒。吾等斷爲風

fevers begin in that way, don't¹ they? But he has already had scarlet fever and measles. So I don't know what it will be. It may be measles again. Does one have measles twice?"

She looked at the Anarchist wistfully.

"I think not, as a rule,"² said Kromeski, after a moment's thought.

"But I have heard of cases," said Mrs. Levison. She gazed at him helplessly. "What is your real name?" she cried, at last. "Who are you?"

Kromeski smiled slightly.

"That is of no consequence."³ My names and my disguises are many. In ordinary life you would not recognize me." He touched his hair and moustache, and continued to smile. "I think you should begin to clear

1. Don't (Do not). 2. As a rule, 常例. 3. Of no

寒。風寒之來。大都若是。果否。然彼曩時曾患紅症及痘症。則今日之恙。不敢斷爲何病。或痘症重來也。客知痘症果能復發否。

夫人目注客容不少釋。

客思索片刻答曰。常例已患痘症者不復發。

夫人曰、然吾曾聞痘症之復發者矣。彼時勒夫人才竭技窮。莫知所措。終乃顧客曰。客果何名。客果何人。

客微笑曰。是實無足輕重。吾之名姓及化裝甚多。苟吾衣常服。汝必不之識。語時。撫其鬚髮。微

consequence (kǒn'sē-kwěns), 無足輕重.

the house,"¹ he added; "you have not much time left."

Mrs. Levison clasped her hands, and before she replied her husband entered. His appearance gave her a shock of fear. He was very white. His eyes seemed to bulge from his head and his whole body was trembling. She beheld him with horror.

"Joseph!" she cried, weakly.

He took no notice,² but went straight to Kromeski. She could see he was making a powerful effort to control himself.

"I have been thinking over what you said," he began, gulping a little and trying to smile. "I am inclined to believe³ you are speaking the truth. Of course it is difficult to say, very difficult." He gulped again, and

1. To clear the house, 盡移室中各物出外(文中譯意).
2. Took no notice, 勿顧; 不聞不見. 3. Inclined (in-klind')

笑不已。又曰。吾謂汝宜速清此屋。餘時無多矣。

勒夫人緊握其掌。未答、而勒未生入。其顏色之蒼白。令其妻見而生怖。眼珠似將自首部突出。身體作戰不已。夫人視之斗生恐懼心。

夫人唏噓曰。約瑟！

勒未生不答、若未聞者。直指客方而行。夫人視其狀。知其方強自鎮攝也。

勒作噎狀視客強笑曰。吾方熟想汝頃所言。頗有信汝意。然事固不可知也。語畢又噎。然勉自

to believe, 頗有信意.

steadied himself. He continued more calmly: "I propose to offer you a large sum of money, on condition that¹ you stop the time-machine."

Kromeski clenched his hands.

"Never!" he said, fiercely.

Levison's face turned a shade whiter.

"The money, of course, would be for your society," he continued. "I offer ten thousand pounds." He gulped, and watched the other intently. "Or, rather," he went on, in a strained voice,² "I offer a sum of twenty thousand pounds for the society."

The Anarchist's face was set like flint.

"Well," said Levison, catching at a chair to support him, "I will make it thirty thousand. I will write a cheque,³ and also a

1. On condition that, 若; 苟. 2. Strained (strānd) voice, 強迫而出之音 (文中譯意). 3. Cheque (chök), 或 Check,

抑制。續謂客曰。汝若能止此時計者。吾當酬汝以多金。

克緊握兩拳。

怒答曰。決不。

勒容色轉土。

顧客曰。頃所言之酬費。自供客黨中之用。吾今願與客金萬鎊。言時又噎不已。目注客面。又勉續曰。或二萬鎊。

此無政府黨員之客。堅定如石。

勒握椅以支其身。續言曰。吾願增至三萬鎊。立書支票與銀

covering letter to my bankers. You will be able to cash it in the morning." A slight gesture from Kromeski brought his emotion to a head. "No, I swear it!" he shrieked. "I will not stop that cheque.¹ You shall have the money, if you prevent the explosion. I know what you are! I swear it!"

Mrs. Levison stood up and came to her husband with outstretched hands.

"But can he prevent the explosion?" she exclaimed, hysterically.

Kromeski sat down and looked quietly at them.

"Yes. I can stop it," he said, at last. "There is a hidden wire in the cellar. If I cut it, no explosion will occur. You say you will give thirty thousand pounds for the cause?"²

1. Stop the cheque, 致辭銀行支票作廢之意. 2. For

行紹介書付客。明晨客赴銀行取金可也。客微動似不信者。勒更實其辭。聲言曰。否。皇天后土。實式臨之。客能止此時計者。當受此金。吾知客爲何人。吾誓之！

勒夫人起立。張兩手趨其夫之旁。

狂呼曰。然客果能止此時計否。

客徐徐就坐。靜相二人面片刻。

始言曰。然。吾能止之。地室中有藥線一。如吾斷之。則藥不復能爆發。主人頃言輸金三萬鎊於吾黨然乎。

“ Yes! I swear it! Only, for Heaven's sake,¹ stop the explosion! ” Levison's eyes fell on his wife. “ It is true! ” he muttered. “ Good heavens, the dynamite! ”

“ Ring for² the cellar keys! ” said Kromeski, with sudden sharpness. “ Heaven knows if I have time to do it. Write that cheque and letter at once! ”

Mrs. Levison rushed to the door and called the footman. Her husband staggered to the writing-table, took a cheque-book from the drawer, and began to write. Kromeski leaned over his shoulder. A minute passed, and Kromeski straightened himself. He held the cheque and letter in his hand. Mrs. Levison held the keys out to him.

“ I will go down to the cellar and cut that wire, ” said the Anarchist, coolly. “ I

1. For Heaven's sake, 天乎, 驚極時之語(譯文中亦未

然！吾誓之！但視上帝面。速止藥之爆發！勒之視線落於其妻身。自語曰。茲事果礪！天乎。炸藥！

客疾聲言曰。速曳鈴取地室之鑰至。不識我尚有餘時止此時計否。并速將支票及紹介書繕就與我。

勒夫人疾趨至門。召僕人入。勒鼈行至書桌。自抽屜取支票簿疾書。客倚其肩觀之。一分鐘後。客起立。手支票及紹介書。夫人以鑰示客。

此無政府黨人乃冷然曰。吾今將往地室斷線。吾夾袋中

盡達其意)。 2. Ring for —, 曳鈴召以。

have a revolver in my pocket. If anyone tries to prevent my leaving the house, I will kill him. If you stop the cheque, I will shoot you, Levison. Dy you understand ? ”

Levison nodded.

“ Both of you will stay here,” said Kromeski, going to the door. “ I have four minutes left. You may consider yourselves very lucky. But for the fact¹ that my society needs money, you would not have escaped so lightly. Good night.”

He went out of the room, slamming the door behind him. Mr. Levison rose, and put a shaking finger to his lips.²

“ We’ve got him ! ” he whispered to his wife. She gazed at him wonderingly. He tip-toed to her. “ A raid was made to-night on the premises of a dangerous Anarchist

1. But for the fact (與 If not for the fact 同). 2. Put a

藏手鎗。有阻我離此室者。吾斃之。勒未生。汝若設法關白。阻我取銀者。吾必以手鎗敬汝。汝知之否。

勒未生頷之。

客趨室門。回顧曰。汝二人留此勿動。我僅餘時四分鐘。汝等當自慶。使非吾黨需款者。汝等決不能輕逃一死。晚安。

客趨出室。力推門使合。勒未生起立。加一微顫之指於唇。

示其妻使勿聲。微語曰。吾等獲此賊矣。彼將焉逃。夫人聞言不解。勒趾行至其妻旁。啞聲言曰。警廳今夕搜查一無政府黨

society," he said, hoarsely. "Papers were found relating to Lucas Spyer and to us. The police came straight here to warn me."

"Then it is all true?" she gasped.

"Absolutely true! But we've got him. The superintendent knew, from letters that were found, that the society was short of money. He suggested my offering money."

"Yes, yes," she said, eagerly. "But the cheque! He will cash it!"²

Mr. Levison, still very white, shook his head cunningly. "The police are going to arrest him outside. The house is surrounded. He will be arrested with the cheque on him—a piece of damning evidence!"³

"Joseph!" She made as if to embrace him. He pushed her away. His eyes were

1. Short (shōrt) of, 缺 (文中譯為需). 2. Cash (kāsh) it, 以支票取銀. 3. A piece of damning (dām'ing) evidence

巢窟。獲述及斯潑氏及吾等之簿籍種種。警官頃至吾家相告矣。

夫人聞言曰：然則一切果確乎。

確無疑義。但吾等今已捕得此賊。頃來之警官。閱其黨中書札。知其黨需款。因勸我餌以金。

夫人急曰然。然頃所與者爲支票。彼取金而逸且奈何。

勒容色時猶未復。然力搖其首以示非是。謂其妻曰。警廳中人將於宅外捕之。今屋之四週均爲警中人。此賊將與支票並獲。適足以證其罪。

夫人呼曰：約瑟。若將吻之者。

(*ev'i-dens*), 一件坐實之證據 (文中譯意)。 + *As if to*, 一若。

on the clock. The sweat poured from his brow."¹

"We are not out of danger!² Good heavens, the dynamite! Half a ton of dynamite!"

"Supposing he doesn't cut the wire!" she moaned in terror.

"He'll cut it," he whispered. "The bank would be suspicious if the house was blown up. They wouldn't cash the cheque. He would foresee that."

They waited hand in hand,³ until the clock pointed to half-past ten. A door banged far below in the house, and the sudden sound almost made Mrs. Levison faint.

"He's done it!" Mr. Levison exclaimed, jumping up. "He's gone out! The police will have got him!"

1. Poured from his brow, 自額間流不止. 2. Out of

勒止之不使前。目注鐘不釋。額間汗流不止。

勒曰。吾等尙未脫險。！天乎。炸藥。！炸藥半噸。！

夫人聞言、亦懼。唏噓曰。設彼竟不斷此線。！

勒微語曰。彼必斷之。屋被毀。銀行將生疑。不復與銀。此賊當知之也。

夫婦二人。攜手而待。針指十點三十分。聞屋下層閉門之聲甚洪。音浪突至。勒夫人聞之幾暈。

勒未生斗起。疾聲呼曰。賊已斷之矣。！賊已行。！警中人將獲之。！

He ran out, followed by his wife. The front door bell was ringing loudly. There was a sound of rapid steps in the hall. Mr. Levison went cautiously downstairs, peering over¹ the banisters.

“ We’ve got him, sir ! ” cried a hearty voice. The superintendent was standing in the hall, looking up, his bronzed, honest face beaming with pleasure.² “ We caught him at the corner of the street ! ”

“ Thank Heaven ! ” said Mr. Levison, coming down to meet him.

“ A good night’s work, ” said the superintendent; “ our little plan worked out well,³ sir ! ”

Mr. Levison pressed some gold coins into the superintendent’s hand. Relief rendered him speechless.⁴

1. Peering (pēr'ing) over, 下關. 2. Beaming with pleasure, 滿面喜色 (文中譯意). 3. Worked out well, 有驗. 4.

勒疾趨出。其妻隨之。門鈴丁丁然作聲甚洪。廳室中步趨聲往來甚疾。勒未生小心翼翼。指樓而行。倚欄下矚。

忽聞歡呼聲曰。先生。吾等已獲之矣。獲之於街盡處。勒聞聲下視。則見警官立於廳室。首仰望。其風吹日曝誠實無欺之貌。滿呈歡欣鼓舞狀。

勒未生曰。謝天帝。！乃下而迎之。

警官曰。一夕功成。先生。吾等之計劃果有驗也。

勒未生納金錢數枚於警官手。欣喜之餘。莫知所言。

Relief (rē-lēi') rendered (rěn'děrl) him speechless, 俗言心裏一鬆, 快活得到沒有話說了(文中譯意).

“ Thank you, sir. If you'd¹ step round to the police-station in the morning, we'd² be much obliged³—and Mrs. Levison, too Good night,⁴ sir.”

“ Good night ! ” cried the Levisons, gaily, waving their hands.⁵

“ Take care of⁶ the cheque ! ” added Mr. Levison.

“ Oh, that's⁷ all right,⁸ sir ! We'll look after it. We need it for evidence against him. Good night, sir; and thank you.”

Next morning, about ten o'clock, Mr. Levison received a message from the police-station, asking him to come round and give evidence against the prisoner. Accompanied by his wife, he drove round in his magnificent yellow limousine. The Levisons were

1. You'd (=you would). 2. We'd (=we would). 3. Much obliged (ò-blijd'), 銘感. 4. Good night (與 good evening 不同, 一用於見面時, 一用於離別時也). 5. Waving

警官曰。敬謝先生。先生苟於明晨來警廳一行者。吾等尤當銘感。……密昔司勒亦祈同臨。……晚安。

勒夫婦歡然揮手。呼曰諸君晚安。

勒又自後呼曰。請君注意支票勿失。

無妨！吾等當守此勿失。且需此爲證以坐其罪也。晚安。敬謝先生。

翌晨。鐘鳴十下時。密司脫勒未生得警廳電話。乞其速往爲證人以定囚罪。勒偕其妻乘華美之黃色摩托轎車往。欣悅之

their hands, 揮手以送其行(歡欣之意). 6. Take care of, 當心. 7. That's (=That is). 8. All right, 無妨.

in high spirits.¹ It is difficult, therefore, to describe their dismay² when they found that nothing was known at the police-station about the sensational arrest³ of the previous evening,⁴ nor had any message been telephoned from there to Mr. Levison that morning. It was only when Mr. Levison discovered, after telephoning to his bankers, that the cheque had been cashed half an hour previously, that he began to estimate the events of the preceding night at their true value.⁵ For he had entertained unawares⁶ two of the cleverest thieves of modern times.

1. In high spirits, 欣喜. 2. To describe (dē-skrib') the dismay (dīs-mā'), 筆述其失望之形 (文中以之拆開分譯). 3. Sensational (s'ñ-sā'shūn-ol) arrest (ār-rēst'), 可驚可愕;

心。難以筆述。而至警廳後。竟無知昨夕之大逮捕者。亦無於當日自電話關白勒未生。乞其來此者。其當時駭詫失望之狀。自更非筆墨所能形容矣。後勒由電話詢銀行中。知半句鐘前。已有持支票取金去者。方核以隔夕種種之真相。恍然大悟。蓋已於無意中款禮物質文明世界之最上上胙篋二人矣。

逮捕 (文中譯意). 4. Previous (prē'vī-ŭs) evening, 隔夕.
 5. To estimate (ēs'tī-māt) their true value, 核其真相. 6.
 Entertained (ĕn-tĕr-tānd') unawares (ŭn-ā-wārz'), 無意中款待.

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