

violent and unjust attack. i was beside myself, and i opened my whole soul to you, and now that you know how it is with me, once more i ask you, where is sirona polykarp looked paulus in the face with anxious and urgent entreaty, pointing to the dog as much as to say, you must know, for here is the evidence. the alexandrian hesitated to answer; he glanced by chance at the entrance of the cave, and seeing the gleam of sironas white robe behind the palm branches, he said to himself that if polykarp lingered much longer, he could not fail to discover her a consummation to be avoided. there were many reasons which might have made him resolve to stand in the way of a meeting between the lady and the young man, but not one of them occurred to him, and though he did not even dream that a feeling akin to jealousy had begun to influence him, still he was conscious that it was his lively repugnance to seeing the two sink into each others arms before his very eyes, that prompted him to turn shortly round, to take up the body of the little dog, and to say to the enquirer: it is true, i do know where she is hiding, and when the time comes you shall know it too. now i must bury the animal, and if you will you can help me. without waiting for any objection on polykarps part, he hurried from stone to stone up to the plateau on the precipitous edge of which he had first seen sirona. the younger man followed him breathlessly, and only joined him when he had already begun to dig out the earth with his hands at the foot of a cliff. polykarp was now standing close to the anchorite, and repeated his question with vehement eagerness, but paulus did not look up from his work, and only said, digging faster and after nightfall he broke off, and clutched westrays arm. look, he said; do you see nothing in the last recess his abruptness made westray shiver involuntarily, and for a moment the architect fancied that he discerned the figure of a man standing in the shadow of the end buttress. but, as he took a few steps nearer, he saw that he had been deceived by a shadow, and that the space was empty. your nerves are sadly overstrung, he said to the organist. there is no one there; it is only some trick of light and shade. what is the building it was once a chantry of the grey friars, mr sharnall answered, and afterwards was used for excise purposes when cullerne was a real port. it is still called the bonding house, but it has been shut up as long as i remember it. do you believe in certain things or places being bound up with certain mens destinies because i have a presentiment that this broken down old chapel will be connected somehow or other with a crisis of my life. westray remembered the organists manner in the church, and began to suspect that his mind was turned. the other read his thoughts, and said rather reproachfully: oh no, i am not mad only weak and foolish and very cowardly. they had reached the end of the wharf, and were evidently returning to civilisation, for a sound of music reached them. it came from a little beer house, and as they passed they heard a woman singing inside. it was a rich contralto, and the organist stopped for a moment to listen. she has a fine voice, he said, and would sing well if she had been taught. i wonder how she comes here. the blind was pulled down, but did not quite reach the bottom of the window, and they looked in. the rain blurred the pains on the outside, and the moisture had condensed within, so that it was not easy to see clearly; but they made strong and comely, with flat roof and battlements; and to this fort, every sunday, the men and women walked reverently, three in a row, and in it they worshipped until they built for themselves a meeting house in as soon as each successive outlying settlement was located and established, the new community built a house for the purpose of assembling therein for the public worship of god; this house was called a meeting house. cotton mather said distinctly that he found no just ground in scripture to apply such a trope as church to a house for public assembly. the church, in the puritans way of thinking, worshipped in the meeting house, and he was as bitterly opposed to calling this edifice a church as he was to calling the sabbath sunday. his favorite term for that day was the lords day. the settlers were eager and glad to build their meeting houses; for these houses of god were to them the visible sign of the establishment of that theocracy which they had left their fair homes and had come to new england to create and perpetuate. but lest some future settlements should be slow or indifferent about doing their duty promptly, it was enacted in that a meeting house should be erected in every town in the