Notes: The Case of Mrs. Knapp

Tarbell, Ida M.
The superintendent of an apartment house in Harlem gave up his position because one of the tenants in the house, insensed because he had reproved her boy who was making a nuisance of himself, to get revenge, would begin to scream the minute he appeared in the hall on her floor; and he was afraid that in the end she would succeed in getting witnesses to her screaming and bring him to court on charges.

The owner of an apartment house down town said that he did not dare to to the apartment to collect the rent if it were not paid promptly to the superintendent, that he was afraid to enter one of the apartments, lest he would be blackmailed.

A gentleman on board a Fall River boat, I believe, got in conversation with a seemingly respectable woman. She led the conversation to her children and said she had their pictures in her bag, which was in her stateroom, asked him if he wouldn't like to see them. He went with her to the stateroom and stood in the open doorway. She went to her bag which was lying on the bed took out the pictures and called him over. The minute he stepped into the room, she sprang behind him, closed the door, and said, "If you don't give me $25 at once, I'll scream." He gave it to her, but of course wouldn't report it.