

(HARDING attempts to rush upon ADOL., but is caught by MYLES.

MYLES—No, no! No more murders my fine fellow!

HARD.—(To ADOL.) Do you imagine that any sane man will believe this story?

ADOL.—Yes, the whole world will believe it. (To the OFFICER). Mr. Officer, here is a warrant charging Felix Harding with employing the gypsy, Vibert, to enter Mr. O'Donnell's house with felonious intent, on the night of the 15th of October.

(Hands Warrant.)

HARD.—You lie, fellow, and you know it! The gypsy did enter Mr. O'Donnell's house, but I had nothing to do with it. Maurice O'Donnell learned of the gypsy's act—and he killed him.

ADOL.—Yes, Maurice O'Donnell learned of the gypsy's act, but 'tis you who threw the unfortunate man into the river—'tis you who have that crime upon your soul!

HARD.—Again I tell you that you lie! (Points at MAURICE.) There is the murderer of the gypsy, and there lives not a man on earth who can prove him innocent!

(Enter RAYMOND VIBERT L.)

RAY.—Yes, I, Raymond Vibert, can! (Sensation.) Yes, villain, when you threw me into the river I was unconscious. The coldness of the water revived me, and being a practised swimmer, I struck out for the other side. Although the current was fierce, I reached the bank in safety, and, fearing punishment for what I had done, I fled. Yesterday I learned that you had charged Maurice O'Donnell with my death. I returned, and although I will suffer for my wrong-doing, yet, gypsy as I am, I scorn to shield myself behind the cruel lie of a white scoundrel!

PRESTON—Mr. Officer, will you be good enough to transfer your attentions to Mr. Felix Harding.

(Before the Officers can obey, HARDING draws a pistol.)

HARD.—Vibert, you have betrayed me, but your treachery shall cost you your life!

(Attempts to fire, but is disarmed by MYLES. OFFICERS approach and hand-cuff HARDING.)

PRES.—Officers, away with him!

HARD.—Maurice O'Donnell, I am defeated. Craft and double-dealing have sunk beneath the weight of truth and virtue. I have lost all that I plotted for and hoped to obtain. The prison awaits me: my future will be a dark and dreary one, but I myself, am to blame: I shall reap as I have sown: I accept my fate.

(Exit with Officers.)

MAUR.—(Advancing to RAYMOND.) Raymond Vibert, you have deeply injured me. During the past two weeks I have suffered what has appeared to me as years of anguish; but, I seek no revenge; your last