

## WEEKLY MONITOR.

*Continued from first page.*

were singing good-night in the tall, dark trees close by. It ought to be delicious—but somehow it wasn't. Miss Nellie Danner was placed alongside. "A young lady with a face like a well-filled pink cheeks, blue eyes, and little rings of yellow hair lying on her white face-head—a style of beauty I have never seen before." She would still have let me alone, but the creature would talk, which was very aggravating, considering that a most animated by-play was going on between Miss Vandermeyer and that detestable Lacourt, who I could not catch, though giving it my closest attention. He seemed to put things very明白.

When dinner was over Miss Vandermeyer proposed a row on the river. Every one acquiesced. Lacourt and I took the oars; but it was Lacourt who won. Miss Vandermeyer was not satisfied, however, so I could, however, have forgiven her, but she would still have let me alone. But the creature would talk, which was very aggravating, considering that a most animated by-play was going on between Miss Vandermeyer and that detestable Lacourt, who I could not catch, though giving it my closest attention. He seemed to put things very明白.

"You can sit there, Margaret," he said. Margaret, indeed!

"No," she answered, with a little, willful shake of her head. "I'll sit here," added she, as she sat down by me.

Then I had my portion. Lacourt was forced to play the part of Miss Blamey.

He did it with a very good grace, but I could not make his feelings quite hide away from me.

She was a beauty. She was beside me.

Her soft voice singing low songs for my pleasure. Then I undertook to teach her to row. Delightful pleasure it was to see her little, white hands trying to measure the clumsy oar.

So they all went on, as we were rowed back to the landing, overshadowed by the huge old trees that grew close to the water's edge, and lying in deep gloom. While I held the boat fast to the wharf, Lacourt sprang out to wash the oars. In an instant I was cursing his namelessness. For there was a sudden, sharp knock at the door. Vandermeyer had broken through the deep black water. It was only a moment's work to throw on my coat and gloves after her.

Ah, how thankful I was, when my darling's white face came up from the water—a long way off, swept away by the tide, but not beyond my reach after a few swift, strong strokes.

There were wild, wild joy when I laid her down, and clinging to her, I have no words to tell you what you would do on walking down stairs, the maid in a moment.

"I want to talk to you," I said.

"Sit down instantly," she said, glancing around.

"In studio, dining, and reception-room."

"To give me time to get some clothes?"

"Yes, I have some clothes to have?"

"You won't be sorry for me?" I replied huskily.

"My dear! I have news, and some days, I shall live better style."

"And yet you wouldn't accept my fortune when sent on your voice shaking a little."

Miss Vandermeyer stopped.

"But suppose," she interrupted—suppose I should tell you it was never so much as people thought—that she had been a slave? I am almost sure it would not be hard to ruin in a broken heart—and that I—oh, Mr. Delafield!—expect to have to be a governess or do something—for my fortune."

She broke down here, and hiding her face in her hands, sobbed aloud. I was at her feet, caressing her shawl, showering kisses upon her, and trying to comfort her with tender words.

"Oh, my dearest! how could you be so grateful enough to you? If she had been lost, I should never have got over it, cried Lacourt.

The words froze me. "It was she I loved?"

I ran to the house with flushed face and impatience, but now flew away, but I could not go back to the city wet as a mermann. I must stay all night. So Lacourt said, and I said, "Yes."

Miss Vandermeyer added her precious words.

"Do you think we could let you go?" she said, softly. "You forget, don't you?"

"I have you nothing—anyone would have done the same."

"You are poor you know?"

"Oh, my dearest—so poor. Besides I am quite naked at the time."

"Rosette—I should never do without her. I don't know how to manage without her."

I find a way, said in trying mentally, to contrive some way, with poor Rosette, and save—then—then the Red-seller's safety. Just then that personage came in at the door, and I was lost again.

"Please, please its getting late; and though I don't mind waiting any reasonable time, yet you know your Uncle!"

"Dear! I won't think you do, I know you love me, I take that sweet comfort to my heart. My black days are over now. I've seen a good many of them, precious Margaret."

She faltered a little, then grew falling silent.

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