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ROBINSON & CLEAVER, Belfast, Ireland.

- The Face -Behind the Mask

A Romance.

"Enough!" broke in the dwarf, with a look and tone of an exultant demon. "That is all we want! My lord duke, give me the death warrant, and while her majesty signs it, I will pronounce

The duke handed him a roll of parchment, which he glanced critically | of two of the soldiers. The condemned over, and handed to the queen for her autograph. That royal lady spread self to be dragged by his four vellum on her knee, took the pen and affixed her signature as coolly as If she were inditing a sonnet in an album. Then his highness, with a face that fairly scintillated with demoniac delight, stood up and fixed his room and through a great archway eyes on the ghastly prisoner, and spoke heretofore hidden by the tapestry now in a voice that reverberated like the folling of a death-bell through the

"My Lord of Gloucester, you have been tried by a council of your fel-low peers, presided over by her royal self, and found guilty of trea-son. Your sentence is that you be taken hence, immediately, to the block, and there beheaded in punishment of your crime.'

His highness wound up this somewhat solemn speech rather inconsisttently, by bursting out into one of his shrillest peals of laughter; and the miserable Earl of Gloucester, with a gasping, unearthly cry, fell back into the arms of the attendants. Dead and oppressive silence reigned; and Sir Norman, who half believed all along the whole thing was a farce, began to feel an uncomfortable sense of chill creeping over him, and to think that, though practical jokes were excellent things in their way, there was yet a possibility of carrying them a little too far. The disagreeable silence was first broken by the dwarf, who, after gloating over his victim's convulsive spasms, sprang nimbly from the chair of dignity and held out his arm for the The queen arose, which seemed to be a sign for everybody else to do the same, and all began forming themselves in a sort of line of march. "What is to be done with this other prisoner, your highness?" inquired the duke, making a poke with his forefinger at Sir Norman. "Is he to stay here or is he to accompany us?"

here, or is he to accompany us?" His highness turned round, and putting his face close up to Sir Norman's, favored him with a malignant grin. "You'd like to come, wouldn't you,

my dear young friend?"
"Really." said Sir Norman, drawing back and returning the dwarf's stare with compound interest, "that de-pends altogether on the nature of the entertainment: but, at the same time, I'm much oblige to you for consulting my inclinations."

This reply nearly upset his highness's gravity once more but he checked his mirth after the first irresistible squeal; and finding the company were all arranged in the order of going, and awaiting his sovereign pleasure, he

"Let him come," he said. with countenance still distorted by in-ward merriment: "it will do him good to see how we punish offenders here, and teach him what he is to expect himself. Is your majesty ready?"



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"My majesty has been ready and waiting for the last five minutes," replied the lady, over-looking his proffered hand with grand disdain, and stepping lightly down from the throne. His rising was the signal for the unseen band to strike up a grand tri-umphant "Io paean," though, had the "Rogue's March" been a popular melody in those times, it would have suited the procession much more ad-mirably. The queen and the dwarf went first, and a vivid contrast they were-she so young, so beautiful, proud, so disdainfully cold, he so ugly, so stunted, so deformed, so fiendish. After them went the band of sylphs in white, then the chancellor, archbishop, and ambassadors; next the whole court of ladies and gentlemen; and af-ter them Sir Norman, in the custody guards; for he seemed to have become perfectly palsied and dumb with fear. Keeping time to the triumphant march, and preserving dismal silence the procession wound itself along the lifted lightly by the nymphs. A long stone passage, carpeted with crimson and gold, and brilliantly illuminated like the grand salon they had left, was thus revealed, and three similar archwavs appeared at the extremity, one to the right and left, and one directly before them. The procession passed through the one to the left, and Sir Norman started in dismay to find himself in the most gloomy apartment he had ever beheld in his life. It was all covered with black-walls, ceiling, floor were draped in black, and reminded him forcibly of La Masque's chamber of horrors, only this was more repellant. It was lighted, or rather the gloom was troubled, by a few spectral tapers of black wax in ebony candlesticks, that seemed absolutely to turn back, and make the horrible place more horrible. There was no furniture -neither couch, chair nor table-nothing but a sort of stage at the upper end of the room, with something that looked like a seat upon it, and both were shrouded with the same dismal drapery. But it was no seat; for everybody stood, arranging themselves silently and noiselessly around the walls, with the queen and the dwarf at their head, and near this elevation stood a tall, black statle, wearing a mask, and leaning on a bright, dreadful, glittering axe. The music changed to an unearthly dirge, so weird and blood-curdling that Sir Norman could have put his hands over his eardrums to shut out the ghastly sound. The dismal room, the voiceless spectators, the black spectre with the glittering axe, the fearful music, struck a chill to his inmost heart.

Could it be possible they were really going to murder the unhappy wretch? and could all those beautiful ladies could that surpassingly beautiful queen, stand there serenely unmoved, to witness such a crime? While he looked round in horror, the doomed man, already apparently almost dead with fear, was dragged forward by his guards. Paralyzed as he was, at sight of the stage which he knew to be the scaffold, he uttered shriek after shriek of frenzied despair, and struggled like a madman to get free. But as well might Laccoon have struggled in the folds of the serpent; they pulled him on, bound him hand and foot, and held his head forcibly down on the

block. The black spectre moved-the dwarf made a signal—the glittering axe was raised—fell—a scream was cut in two -a brigh jet of blood spouted up in the soldiers' faces, blinding them; the axe fell again, and the Earl of Gloucester was minus that useful and ornamental appendage, a head.

It was all over so quickly that Sir Norman could scarcely believe his hor-rified senses until the deed was done. The executioner threw a black cloth over the bleeding trunk, and held up the grizzly head by the hair; and Sir Norman could have sworn the features moved and the dead eyes rolled round

"Behold!" cried the executioner, striking the convulsed face with the palm of his open hand, "the fate of all traitors."

"And of all spies," exclaimed the dwarf, glancing with his fiendish eyes upon the appalled Sir Norman. "Keep your axe sharp and bright, Mr. Executloner, for before morning dawns there is another gentleman here to be made shorter by a head."

CHAPTER XII. "Let us go," said the queen, glancing at the revolting sight, and turning away with a shudder of repulsion. "Faugh! The sight of blood has made me sick."

"And taken away my appetite for supper," added a youthful and elegant beauty beside her. "My Lord Glou-

when he shares the same fate, in an hour or two!" said the dwarf, with a malicious grin; "for I heard you remarking upon his extreme beauty when he first appeared."

The lady laughed and bowed, and turned her bright eyes upon Sir Norman

"True! It is almost a pity to cut such a handsome head off—is it not? I wish I had a voice in your highness' council, and I know what I should do."

"What, Lady Mountjoy?"
"Entreat him to swear fealty, and ecome one of us; and—"
"And a bridegroom for your ladyship?" suggested the queen with a curling lip. "I think if Sir Norman Kingsley knew Lady Mountjoy as well as I do, he would even prefer the block to such a fate." (To be Continued.)

00000000000000 The Poets.

0000000000000 The Grey Mother.

(To an old Gaelic air.)

[The Colonial Volunteers proceeded to the front.-Public Press.]

Lo, how they come to me,

Long through the night I call them, Ah, how they turn to me

East and South my children scatter, North and West the world they wander, Yet they come back to me,

Come with their brave hearts beat-

Me, the grey, old, weary mother, Throned amid the Northern waters

Where they have died for me. Died with their songs around me, Girding my shores for me.

Narrow was my dwelling for them, Homes they builded o'er the ocean Yet they leave all for me, Hearing their mother calling,

Far from South seas swiftly sailing Out from under stars I know not

Come they to fight for me, Sons of the sons I nurtured, God keep them safe for me.

Bringing their lives for me

Long ago their fathers saved me Died for me among the heather.

Now they come back to me Come in their children's children Brave of the brave for me.

In the wilds and waves they slumber, Deep they slumber in the deserts.

Rise they from graves for me, Graves where they lay forgotten, Shades of the brave for me.

Yet my soul is veiled in sadness For I see them fall and perish,

Strewing the hills for me, Claiming the world in dying, Bought with their blood for me

Hear the grey, old, Northern Mother, Blessing now her dying children-

God keep ye safe for me, Christ watch ye in your sleeping, Where ye have died for me.

And when God's own slogan soundeth, All the dead world's dust awaking,

Ah, will ye look for me? Bravely we'll stand together I and my sons with me.

-L. MacLean Watt. 0+0 We Muddle Out Right in the End.

[We must look out for incidents of this kind. . . We generally muddle out right in the end."—Lord Rosebery.

When Thomas Atkins Esquire, takes a little job in hand, He muddles out right in the end; Though the party's rather meager, and

penic's badly planned, He muddles out right in the end; The cooks may curse and squabble at the way the dish was made-Mr. Atkins gets his carving knife and

sharpens up the blade; "troops" it to the camping ground, in khaki kit arrayed; And muddles out right in the end.

odds, perhaps, are two to one; he's faced the odds before, And muddled out right in the end:

Six hundred o' his namesakes charged a solid Army Corps, And muddled out right in the end; The Zulus thought they had him, when

they ate the Twenty-fourth; Fuzzy-Wuzzies made him work for all that he was worth; And the Pathans guessed his goose was cooked, when Thomas toddled north:

But he muddled out right in the end.

A bit o' contrariety may happen now and then:
But he muddles out right in the end; So what's the use o' crying if a regiment or so Gets carted, much against their will,

to where they want to go; Au Revoir, but not Good-bye; we'll meet in half-a-mo," And muddle out right in the end. -J. S. H. in Edinburgh Scotsman.

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Are Readily Removed by Our Constitu tional Treatment Without the Necessity of Operation.

Many people are afflicted with lumps or tumors in parts of the body, that me all the time." do not seem to cause them much pain or inconvenience. Tumors, it must not be forgotten, are serious and should not be neglected for several reasons. In the first place their growth may involve or impair some vital part of the body, in the second place they con-stitute a drain on the system, and in the third place they frequently develop into cancers, as any physician will substantiate. Few people care to have their growths removed by the surgeon as they dread the pain of the operation. With our pleasant home treat-ment it is different. You simply take the remedy internally. It goes through the remedy internally. It goes through the system, searching out and neutral-tzing and destroying those poisons from which tumors and cancers develop. You have nothing to suffer, nothing to dread. After a time you will notice the tumor lessening in size, and gradually disappearing till it is 0+0 and gradually disappearing, till it is completely cured. Send two stamps and we will mail you our treatise and testimonials. Stott & Jury, Bowman-

ville. Ont. A pretty face is often made prettier

A Practical Philanthropy.

The Countess of Warwick, who is known the world over for her attention to the wants of the poor and the needs of the middle classes, has again started experimental farms for "lady gardeners," agriculturalists upon a small scale. About 20 acres in the vicinity of Reading are now devoted to the project; and about thirty young women of gentle birth are here taught the care of small fruits, the rearing of fowls, and such minor industries as may be both possible to women and reasonably ermunerative. That Lady Warwick does not exclude some play nay be inferred from the fact that "all the lady gardeners are cyclists," and a fine tennis lawn occupies a part of the preserve. Mushrooms form an important part of the crops planted, and in the greenhouses the favorite flowers of England are all cultivated. The young women have tools wherewith they make their own boxes and shipping cases without the help of male assistants, which seems the most re-markable part of the story. Even the digging for the celery beds is done by the "students"; nevertheless visitors find them not "Daughters of the plow, stronger than

but no more tanned or robust than the amateur golf players of their own sex, pictures of health and vigor. Buttermaking forms an important part of the course, and all forms of cheese are produced from the dairy. This is a form of philanthropy that has not as yet been copied in our own country, but there are features about it that might commend it to those who delight in helping people to help themselevs.

000 The Consumer's League.

Club women who go shopping for white muslin underwear nowadays are pretty apt to ask if it has a "consumer's label." This is a stamp which shows the approval of the National Consumers' League, and bears the two printed inscriptions, "Made under clean and wholesome conditions," and "Li-cense to use this label is granted after investigation." Indeed, many club wo-men have taken a pledge to purchase no other muslin. Their attention has been first directed to muslin because both the producers and consumers of it are largely women. They aim to down the sweat-shop and support the fac-tory which, among other things, is both sanitary and fireproof, employs no child-labor, and has a reasonable limit on hours of labor. This movement started in Massachusetts several years ago, and in that state today two thousand women are organized for better industrial conditions of women and children. It has spread to New York, Pennsylvania and Elimois. These four states make up the National Consum-ers' League. The women's clubs have become actively interested because "industrial problems affecting women and children" are now receiving attention from the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and by individual pledge and united effort to secure better laws the fair ones of leisure are doing a vast amount of good for their unfortunate sisters of toil. In this connection it is worth mentioning that the feminine bargain-hunter is partly responsible for these bad industrial conditions of women and children; for the manufacturer, in an effort to put bargains on the market, is obliged to lessen in some way the expense of production. The Consumers' League, therefore, not only aims to educate the masculine producer, but the female consumer as well.—Bertha D. Knabe in Women's Home Companion.

0+0 The New Gown.

A feature of the new gown is, of course, the sleeve, that has been going through the same process of evolution, or rather revolution, on which the skirts are just entering. There is no question but that fashion has gone back again to the tight sleeve, and now there is just as much attention paid to having the sleeve fit closely over the upper part of the arm as there is to having a skirt fit abnormally smooth over the hips. There are a great many people to whom a close-fitting sleeve is not becoming, and as yet fashion is kind enough to allow a certain amount of trimming-rows of tucks, or soft folds, or even caps over the very top of the sleeve-but the very smartest coats and waists are quite plain. Cuffs have come into fashion again, that is, the cuffs of the same material as the gown, or of fur or lace. They are turned back from the hand and are flaring in design, and even when the sleeve is cut very long over the hand and in points, the points can be turned back to look like flaring cuffs. The coats rimmed with fur are much smarter this way than they were with the plain sleeve, but on the sleeve of any waist that has to be worn under a coat the fashion is awkward.

0+0 A Corean Woman's Faith.

Everywhere through Corea the women seem to take hold of Christ with a simpler, gladder faith than their brothers, the testimonies they give and their replies to questions when seeking admission are often touching. One of them, recently, when asked where Christ is? replied, "He lives at our house." "Does he live only at your house?" was the question designed to draw out her knowledge of his nature. She answered, "I am only a poor, ig-norant woman. I don't know all the places where he lives, but I know he lives at our house, because he is with 0+0

Brussels Sprouts.

Remove all the wilted leaves from the outside of the sprouts and let them stand in cold salted water for from 15 to 20 minutes, so that any insects there may be in them may come out. Put the sprouts in salted rapidly boiling water and cook uncovered 15 or 20 minutes, or until tender, but not until they lose their shape. Drain them thoroughly in a colander, then place them in a saucepan with butter, pepper and salt, and toss them until seasoned; or mix them lightly with just enough white sauce to coat them.

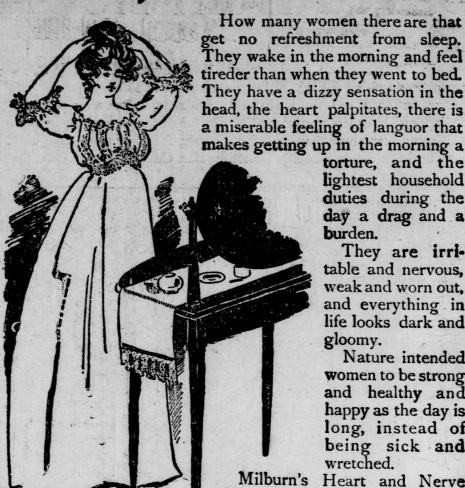
The New Shirt.

The horse show has made a new skirt fashionable which women are sure to welcome with joy.

It is Paquin's box-plaited skirt. It is a skirt of long lines and graceful beauty beside her. "My Lord Gloucester was hideous enough when living, but, mon Dieu! he is ten times more so when dead!"

"Your ladyship will not have the same story to tell of you are the best you will ever have. Andrews' Plugs are common sense treatment for toothache. Price 10 cents per bottle. Andrews' Dental a double box-plait, it is a very flat, much pressed plait, and does not open

Weak, Tired Women.



How many women there are that get no refreshment from sleep. They wake in the morning and feel tireder than when they went to bed. They have a dizzy sensation in the head, the heart palpitates, there is a miserable feeling of languor that

> torture, and the lightest household duties during the day a drag and a burden.

They are irritable and nervous, weak and worn out. and everything in life looks dark and gloomy.

Nature intended women to be strong and healthy and happy as the day is long, instead of being sick and wretched.

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are the very remedy that nervous, tired out, weakly women need to restore them the blessing of good health.

They give sound, restful sleep, tone up the nerves, make the heart beat regular and strong, create new red blood corpuscles, and impart that sense of buoyancy to the spirits that is the result of renewed mental and physical vigor.

Mrs. E. Fisher, Chief Companion, Maid Hope Circle No. 83, A.O.F., whose home is 95 McCaul St., Toronto, Ont., made the following statement:
"It was a fortunate thing for me I heard of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills and I started using them, or to-day I might be in my grave instead of as I now am, in perfect health.

For over six months I was greatly troubled with my heart and nerves. My heart would palpitate and beat irregularly and sometimes seem to almost stop. I felt tired and weary in the morning, and weak and miserable all day, scarcely able to drag myself about. I was also greatly troubled with spells of dizziness, which came over me at times and caused me much alarm. Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills have made a wonderful change in me. My heart now beats strong and regular, I have had no more of those dizzy spells, and am at present stronger and healthier in every way than I have

I sleep well and my sleep is restful and refreshing.

I consider Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills a grand remedy for people having any heart trouble, or who are weak, run down and nervous

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line. The new skirt has sounded the death-knell of the eel-tight skirt, which for some time has been the prevailing mode, and though she would not admit it, the fashionable woman has had her own trials with this sheathlike skirt. For it was uncomfortable to walk in, impossible to sit in with any degree of comfort, and to the fat woman brought only unlimited woe.

The new skirt is modest, graceful, and comfortable, characteristics which eel-tight skirt never possessed. In addition to the box-plaited skirt, gathered and tucked skirts also prom-

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