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CHAPTER IV.

drawing room, Sibyl busy at her

tapestry, Narka sitting, with her long white hands in her lap, waiting to

pour out the tea, Marguerite turning

over the leaves of a book of old en

gravings with an air of excited in

erest, M. de Beaucrillon deep in his

newspapers, and Basil measuring the

long length of the room, slowly pacing up and down, his hands in his pockets

and a cigarette in his mouth, his hand-

ion, almost of sadness, as his thoughts

some face clouded by an air of abstrac

were far away from the company grouped round the lamp. Presently, passing near the table, he looked up

and his eyes rested on his cousin.

must have rested complacently.

was a picture on which any man's eyes

guerite's face had little claim to ad-

miration beside Sibyl's blond loveliness

and Narka's rich beauty of line and

coloring, and yet there was a charm

about its irregular features that made

it no contemptible rival to either. It

was the very personification of youth.

it had been classical, and the whole

face sparkled with happiness and

curiosity. This evening all her pretti-ness and brightness were further en-

hanced by an irresistible little demi

toilet of a white gauzy material, rose-colored ribbons in bows and loops

sprouting out of the white foam as

naturally as the rose colored flower

sprouted out of the curls and coils of

her glossy brown hair. Marguerite

denly, with an exclamation of dismay, "Sibyl," she cried, "I have made a

They all looked up, interested and

"That head dress that I sketched

and sent to Paris for will be out of

fancy how it will clash with that Floren-

tine thirteenth century costume What shall I do ?"

we are a set of barbarians and dunces.

"Dear, I would not worry about it,"

Sibyl continued, addressing herself

with sympathetic earnestness to Mar-

you beautifully, and that is the great

your choice of the costume ; you know

I said I thought a Greuze would suit

"As a head dress it will suit

Not that I fully approved of

it were in Paris, now-

attentive. Basil stopped in his walk

was intent on the engravings.

dreadful mistake !

to hear.

guerite

you better

point.

Mar

Sud

"Oh !- is it? Well, just leave off aggravating, and see if I don't grow fonder and fonder of you. "You might grow too fond of me !" They were now assembled in the

surveying her with a comical air of alarm. She glanced up at him with a flash of mirth and mischief in her brown eyes. "Well," she said, slowly, as if weighing consequences, might

but I'll risk it, if you don't mind.' He sat down opposite to her, leaned forward, and began stroking his silken beard meditatively; this skirmishing with his pretty cousin was delightful.

It is a desperate risk for me to run, he remarked, solemnly. "Run it !" said Sibyl, entering mer

rily into the fray; "don't be a coward !" "I'll tell you what," said Marguer-

te, slapping Anne of Austria again with the paper knife, " here are three competent judges : there is Narka, an artist and a mystic ; Sibyl, a superio and cultivated woman ; Gaston, a phil anthropist and a politician."

"Heavens! what names you are giving us all !" protested M. de Beau laying down his newspaper crillon and looking up in surprised expecta ful brightness and health ; the small spirited nose was more piquant than if t on.

Something in her brother's as tonished face, or perhaps a twinkle in Basil's eye, recalled Marguerite to the fact that she was on slippery ground, and cut short the appeal she was about to make to the three judges. "I wish Gaston would tell you not to be so dis agreeable," she said, turning away ike a naughty child, and blushing as red as the flower in her hair.

"For goodness' sake don't set them fighting, or there will be no living in the house !" protested Sibyl, coming to the rescue with her subtle tact, for she saw Marguerite's embarrassment : and we shall want peace amongst ourselves if we are to keep any kind of order amongst our friends and rela

tions. " How many are we going to be, all told-do you know?" asked Basil. "About three hundred."

keeping. I now remember it was in a portrait of Velasquez that I saw it ; so "All staying in the house !" claimed Marguerite. "Oh ! how many guest rooms have you ?"

"What were we all thinking about?" said Sibyl. Then, after a moment's reflection: "Really, ma cherie," she added, "I don't think you "Seventy-five. But then there is the armory ; about a hundred manage to sleep there ; they did at my marri need worry about it. No one here is

age." "But there are no beds in the ar mory," said Marguerite, more and more amazed. likely to find out the anachronism. If "That is a pretty character you are giving us," said Basil, who had been "We don't put up beds," said Basil.

'People bring their own beds and istening with intense amusement to pillows ; that is our barbarian mode of Marguerite's distressing confession. proceeding. "You want to make out that in Russia

" What fun !" said Marguerite. "It must be like camping out, with all the warriors and coats of mail mounting guard over one. I dare say they enjoy it very much. "They seemed to do so last time, if one might judge from the noise they made," remarked Narka, who had been silent for a long time, and watching Marguerite with a coldly critical ex-

pression that would have frightened 'A Greuze !" exclaimed Basil, conthe girl if she had noticed it. " They temptuously, and he threw his hands up to the ceiling. "Trust one pretty kept it up till all hours of the morn ing, and I got very little sleep, for my room was over the encampment.

woman for advising another to her ruin! You ought to have consulted a "They did make a most infernal racket one night," said Basil, with a man, cousin ; you ought to have consulted me ; I would have advised you boyish laugh, as if the recollection of the racket were very pleasant. "Some youngster proposed that they honestly, to your advantage. Since you won't be Red Riding hood, and let me play Wolf to you, why shouldn't you go as Jezebel or Judith ?—Jezebel should all get into the coats of mail and march out into the park like a phan tom procession, and frighten the wits out of everybody. The joke was at with a hatchet, or Judith with a draw sword? I'll lend you one as big as once adopted, and they were buckling yourself, and show you how to carry it.

murdered ! For a moment horror seemed to have rendered every one speechless; then they plied Vasili with questions. His story was short. Two peasants had crillon. found the count lying in the forest "I th with a gunshot wound in his chest. They thought he was dead, and carried him to the nearest cottage. He re-gained consciousness, and tried hard to say something, but no one could understand. At last they distinguished the words "Forgive! forgive! Father stand. Christopher.' They thought he wanted to confess, and some one ran for Father

Christopher, while two others fetched the doctor and the pope. Father Christopher was nearest ; he was in the confessional when the message came, and rushed out as he was When he got to the cottage, Larchoff

was still breathing. By the time the pope arrived it was

all over. "Who brought this news?" Basil inquired. " Paul the cobbler."

"And at what time is it supposed

the murder was committed ?" "About sundown. The count was

found at 8 o'clock, and the doctor said the wound must have bled for three or four hours." "Oh, Narka !" cried Marguerite. turning a shade paler, "that must have been the shot we heard." She stopped short, terrified by the expression on Narka's face ; and glancing in voluntarily toward Basil, she read an

answering horror in his eyes. Sibyl and Gaston, who were trying

to elicit further details from Vasili, had noticed nothing. A sudden noise made them look quickly round.

Marguerite had fainted. She fell forward, and must have fallen to the ground if Basil had not caught her in his arms.

"Poor child! No wonder she is overcome !" Sibyl exclaimed, rushing to assist.

Basil carried the fainting girl to a divan, and laid her gently down. "You had better go away, both of you, and leave her to us," Sibyl said. It will be nothing."

The two gentlemen saw they could be of no use, and went away, Gaston too much excited by the awful event which had caused Marguerite's swoon to attach much importance to so natura

an accident. The swoon lasted nearly an hour, in spite of Sibyl's incessant application of restoratives and Narka's constant friction of Marguerite's hands and feet. When at last Marguerite opened her eyes and gave signs of returning con-

sciousness, Narka said : "We had better let her sit up now. Bring a cushion from the red sofa--a big one." Then, Sibyl having moved away, she bent over Marguerite, and

said, in a whisper: "Don't let idle fears disturb you, dear. Keep perfect silence for a while." She raised her to a sitting position, Sibyl propped her up tenderly, and then, at Narka's suggestion, they left

her to recover herself a little. Meantime Basil and Gaston had gone round to the servants' hall to see Paul the cobbler, and hear the ghastly story over again. "Let us go down to the village and

see Father Christopher," said Gaston, when Paul had confirmed the few details given by Vasili. "We shall hear if any one is suspected of the murder, and if Larchoff was really conscious when the Father saw him.

Basil seemed reluctant; he urged that the Father could not possibly have any more to tell than they had already heard ; but Gaston was bent on it ; so

"You have heard the news ?" said THE ENGLISH REFORMATION. What Happened at it is Told Plainly by the Bishop of Salford.

the Father. "Was he conscious when you got there, Father ?" inquired M. de Beaucorner stone of St. Mary's church, at Stockport, England, Dr. Bilsborrow, "I think he was ; I hope he was.

questioned him, and made an act of faith and contrition, and he pressed my hand very distinctly, and made convulsive efforts to speak. It was awful to see. I pronounced the absolu tion over him conditionally.

Basil gave a short, explosive laugh, that sounded horrible in Gaston's ears Father Christopher winced perceptibly; he pulled his beretta forward, then pushed it back.

"Is any one suspected of the mur der ?" inquired Gaston.

Christ, and the forgiving of sins and granting absolution in the sacrifice of " They are saying it was accidental penance. Could these strange claims be admitted 3 This question has been settled adversely from the The forest has been full of men on the okcut for the wolf, and they think that Larchoff may have been shot by one of them in mistake." "Is that likely?" asked M. de been settled adversely from the hour the Anglican ministry came into existence, but owing to the importunities of its patrons the question has been submitted re.

Beaucrillon. "It is possible."

There was a pause. "Only this morning," said Father Christopher, breaking it, "the unfortunate man cently for consideration by the highes tribunal in Christendom, and Leo XIII. had finally decreed that the so-called Anglican priests, and therefore, the Bishops, were, according to the Cathonet me, and threatened to send me to Siberia for proselvtizing. He had be lie Church, nothing more or less than gun by telling me of the escape he had laymen. Amid the heat of controversy, had of being killed by the wolf, riding let them calmly consider whether this home last night-how he had fired and decision was true. Were the Anglican hit him just in time. I didn't believe clergy Mass priests? And was the him. Perhaps he was speaking the Mass a part of the doctrine and liturgy of the Established Church? For, be it truth. "If so, it was the first time it ever

happened him," said Basil. "Well, he has gone before the judg-ment seat," said the Father. "May

God have mercy on him !" Mercy on Larchoff! The devil

owes him some, for he did his work well Basil's handsome features were posi-

and wooden trestles, common tables, deal boards put in their places, the tively ugly with the expression of hat red that passed over them. Father altar stones being placed in the en-trance of the churches to be trampled Christopher had never seen such an upon, made into slop stones and pig expression on his face before. It sudtroughs, and used for other purposes denly occured to him that Sibyl had which decency forbade him to mention : more than once expressed uneasy suswhile the vestments in which the picions about her brother having been priests had offered the Holy Sacrifice of lured into associations of some sort with the Mass were made into bed room men who made crime and vengeance a curtains, covers for chairs, and sofas, part of their political creed. Father and even made into silk dresses, in Christopher had never attached much which the wives of the ministers of the importance to these fears ; he believed new religion disported themselves. that Basil was incapable of practically ommitting himself to such dark central doctrine of the Mass-transubtheories, though he might, partly from stantiation? Why, to this day it was instinctive hatred of the cruelties that upon the statute book that the soverhad provoked them, partly from a spirit of opposition, talk as if he sym pathized with them. If the Father had declare their abhorrence of transub been alone with Basil he would have challenged him then and there, and inoath that central doctrine of Christian sisted on knowing the truth; for though his old pupil was now a man of and the people of this country from the four and twenty, Father Christopher still looked upon him as a boy, and spoke to him with the frank boldness now they were asked to believe that ministers who composed this High of a master.

"The village is in a state of great excitement," he remarked, wishing to divert M. de Beaucrillon's attention from Basil's strange demeanor; "there will be little sleep in it to night." "I will go down and see Ivan "I will go do Gorff," said Basil.

"You won't find him," said Father Christopher ; "he rcde into X. this afternoon, and he had not returned an hour ago; that zealous gossip Paul went there to tell of the murder, and he heard that Mile. Sophie was ill ; the shock of the news brought on a nervous attack."

"No wonder," said M. de Beaucril-lon. "My sister fainted when she heard of it. We left her insensible ceit, and yet there were upwards of that the number did not include some when we came away

They wished Father Christopher of her Bishops-who claimed to have the power to offer that Holy Sacrifice, good night, and went back to the and no doubt the people who went castle. through these rites and ceremonies

REV. R. F. CLAR. ISM AND SAT

TIC

The Rev. Rober tinuing his course a Sacraments, in the of Jerusalem, Great Sunday, having rec vious discourse, in denial of the Rea Blessed Eucharist cheans, said : The l the despising, the r from religion, all m likely enough to co ing from great bodily affliction, is certainly the low aud sickness, dea wounds, pain, and need of medicines f of human life, all c side of matter. Si pestileace made the the material world days of the decay of when those ancient the same reason, in the time of the blac a sort of reaction material. There w and that was the East, more particul of the prac ens, which was known sort of monastic themselves servan their time in hyp: and one another. themselves with d fancying by the st that they saw regi seemed to them something more va than the actual w were surrounded. known in India, time they were acc their possessions t into the woods, t matting or bark o what they could ispend their time These wild fakirs age life, without any covering, d with red ochre, hvr rendering themse pain, suspended b their flesh, spendi most contorted pos order to excite sy quire a reputatio virtue. In Arabia Mohammed, there tics called I renounced eve

world, gave thems sm, and gained the ignorant pop they were know means pure. Fi tendency exhibit Manicheans, and fanatics grew u descended direct icheans. One of th the Euchites, wh reign of Constanti came from the dir made their appea They were in tro time they lay dow called themselves renounced the w work, but lived by they became part they disbelieved Eucharist, and sa remedy for all evi They appeared to They a notisers. They over, with the asked about their

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JUNE 10, 1897

On the occasion of the laying of the

Bishop of Salford, said that within the

last forty or fifty years the Ritualist or

High Church party, numbering, per-

haps, 1,000 ministers in all, had put

forth claims, to the astonishment of the

whole world and not less to the aston.

ishment of the Church of England

herself, to have inherited the powers

with regard to transforming the bread and wine into the body and blood of

remembered, if there were altars there

must be sacrifices, and if sacrifices, a

priest to offer them. They knew what

happened at the time of the so called

Reformation-how the consecrated al-

tars were cleared out of the cathedrals

and churches taken from the Catholics.

What was said in those times of the

signs of these realms were obliged to

stantiation, and to reject with a solemn

ity which had been the joy and the

consolation of the kings, the nobility

Church party, who were ministers o

the self-same Church that treated the

altar with so much indignity, were real priests. What taught the

Church of England herself regard-ing them? He supposed that nine

out of every ten genuine mem bers of that Church denounced this

High Church party and its pretensions

in all the moods and tenses of the Eug-lish language. They were traitors in

the camp, teaching the Catholic doc

trine and receiving Protestant money. The Church of England taught

that the sacrifice of the Mass was a

plasphemous fable and dangerous de-

.000 of her ministers-he was not sure

denounced this

second to the sixteenth century.

from the

JUNE 19. 1897.

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divide the set of the patient is restored to the condition he was in before he acquired the best of the set of the set

Jewish turban. Or, if you like something more modern, there is Charlotte Corday-" Marguerite seized one of Sibyl's

balls of wool, took aim, and hit the scoffer right on the nose.

"Bravo! What a capital shot! If this had been a bullet aimed at my heart. I was a dead man." said Basil catching the ball and weighing it in his hand. "By the way, as you are such a shot, little cousin, why should his hand. not you go as Diana the huntress? teach you how to draw the bow if vou like.

"Cousin Basil," said Marguerite, slapping the engraving of Anne of Austria with a heavy paper knife, and facing her tormentor, "I can't think why I don't hate and detest you, for aggravate me more than anybody know

"That is precisely why," said Basil. "Why what ?"



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ou would look superbly tragic in a themselves into the armor, when Lar choff, who was too drunk to know what he was about, pulled off his boot and began to hammer at some warrior's helmet. They had to fall on him, hal a dozen of them, and strap him into a big suit of mail, and then bind his legs so that he had to lie quiet. He bel lowed under the operation like a bull. It was awful. No wonder Narka could not sleep. I hope you won't put Larchoff in the arr ory this time, Sibyl." "You don't mean to say that that dreadful man is invited !" Marguerite

exclaimed, in a tone of incredulity.

"He was not invited then," said Sibyl; "but he thought it would be pleasant, so he came without being asked. Larchoff ne se gene pas. "I can't understand your letting

him into the house at all," said Marguerite.

"My cousin, there are many things in this country that you can't under stand," remarked Basil, with a pecu liar laugh.

There were indeed very few things in Russian life, it seemed to Mar guerite, that she could understand. The mixture of Oriental magnificence and barbarous discomfort, of lavish ex-penditure and shabby makeshift-let ting guests bring their bedding and encamp on floors, and setting them gold plate to eat off-these things were in their way as puzzling to her as that Prince Zorokoff should tolerate under his roof and admit to his table such a wretch as Larchoff.

M. de Beaucrillon had not been joining in the conversation ; he had been deep in his newspapers ; but he had now finished them, and got up and drew a chair to the tea table. "Mademoiselle, I should like a cup of tea," he said.

Narka took the teapot from the samo var, and was proceeding to pour out the tea, when the door opened, and Vasili, Basil's valet, pale and scared, stood on the threshold, and said some thing in Russian. It was answered by an exclamation of horror from the three who understood.

"What is the matter?" asked M. de Beaucrillon.

The man, who spoke French freely, replied, "Count Larchoff has been tribute of respect to Larchoff.

they went. It was a beautiful star-light night, but as a matter of course a number of servants lighted lanterns as if it had been pitch dark, and ac companied the two gentlemen. M. de Beaucrillon would have liked to talk with them, to hear what they thought about the crime, whether their instinct or information pointed with any suspicion to the murderer : but he could not speak Russian, and none of them spoke French, and Basil seemed too stunned to be willing to play the interpreter. He let his companion keep up a monologue without uttering a word

"I suppose these crimes are frequent in the rural districts in Rus-"The people in their hearts can sia. not be sorry to be rid of such a devil, and yet I dare say they will not try to screen the murderer from the police." "The Russian police are wonderfully clever, I believe, but one only hears of them as political agents," etc.

Basil never opened his lips to any of hese obviously interrogative remarks, but when Gaston said something about the probable difficulty of finding direct evidence to bring the criminal to justice, he retorted, with sudden vehemence :

"Justice! They will call the bullet that struck down Larchoff justice. The man who fired it will not be a criminal in the eyes of any man, or woman either, in the country for a hundred miles round. They won't call the deed murder; they will call it God's justice overtaking the wicked." M. de Beaucrillon had not expected to see Basil moved by any feeling of pity for the wretched man whose hands had been a scourge and a sword deal ing pain and death unmercifully to his people, but it shocked him a little to

hear Sibyl's brother speak in a tone of almost triumphant approval of the bloody deed itself. He made no fur-ther comment, and they walked on in silence to Father Christopher's door. The old priest had just returned

from the dead man's house ; he was the only person who had accompanied the body thither from the peasant's cottage where it had first been carried. No one else was willing to pay that

TO BE CONTINUED The True Faith Makes Patriots.

An admirable refutation of the offrepeated calumny that the Catholic faith is opposed to the spirit of patriotism has lately been given in the Island of Madagascar. The contrast in the patriotism of the Catholic and Protestant French settlers and their missionaries is most striking. The Protest ants, far from upholding the interests of France, have falsely been playing into the hands of the English faction, of course united to them in the bonds of Protestantism. So palpable was this that the Protestant Resident General, Laroche, had to be recalled, and his place filled by General Gallieni. He knows who the really loyal up holders of France are, and, although not favoring with unjust discrimination any religious party, has enforced freedom of conscience, which the Pro-testants had refused to the Malagasies and the Catholics missionaries S marked is the national and religious difference that the natives have come to consider as synonymous Catholic and French and Protestant and Eng-

This is certainly a damaging lish. verdict regarding the patriotism of the French Protestants who sympathize with England against their own fatherland. A French paper remarks that the same unpatriotic but fanatical anti Catholic spirit was manifested when England was allowed to take Egypt, Zanzibar, and other favorable territories, to the disadvantage of France. Whereas, Catholic missionaries all the world over are famous for their patriotism.-Messenger of the Sacred Heart.

Fagged Out.-None but those who have become fagged out, know what a depressed, miserable teeling it is. All strength is gone, and despondency has taken hold of the suf-ferers. They feel as though there is nothing to live for. There, however, is a curo-one box of Parmelee's Vegetable Pills will do wonders in restoring health and strength. Mandrake and Dandelion are two of the articles entering into the composition of Parmelee's Pills.

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were perfectly honest and sincere, although mistaken. These people claimed also the power of giving sins, and yet they had Church of England ministhey ters rising up and claiming to exercise this power themselves. He well remembered when he began his mission ary life, a young curate of the Church of England came to him in great distress. He said that on first coming to the place his vicar had asked him to begin to hear confession. He went on to say that he was educated at Cambridge and prepared there for the Anglican ministry; but at Cambridge University he never heard confession spoken of except to be ridiculed ; he did not know how to go about hearing confession, and another difficulty was he had never made his own. He (Dr. Bilsborrow) replied that it depended on whether he was a priest or not, and whether he was priest or not depended upon the Bishop who ordained him, whether he used the proper words and intention The name of the Bishop was mentioned, and he had to tell the curate he was no more a priest than his shoe, since he was ordained by a Bishop of a Church which declared that Ritualistic clergy. men had no power to celebrate what they all call high celebration, and therefore could not give what he himself did not possess. The curate re-lated what had occurred, and the vicar -infallible Pope that he was !-told him he had been guilty of mortal sin in going and asking Father Bilsborrow's advice. These things were going on, and no

wonder people were thinking for them selves and getting into a state of unrest. They were beginning to learn that the history of England as taught outside the Catholic Church was a con-People spiracy against the truth. were beginning to look for the truth, and they would find it within the walls of the sanctuary which they were that day helping to build, and in every other temple consecrated to God and the Catholic religion.

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