## 

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS

and returns. him that there had no recommendate the sound of proceed, but later he learns that solicitor has mysteriously disapieing last seen in the neighborhoo renorman's home.

(CONTINUED FROM LAST SUNDAY.) CHAPTER VI



QUINTIN started with an exmation much uder than that "Mon sieur Leblane!" he oried in a tone which was anything but cor-

For, indeed, he felt at that mo-ment by no means well disposed toward the courteous Frenchman. The next moment, however, he found his hand seized in

most friendly grip, and his host smiling into his face with a cordiality which made him ashamed of his momentary

Whatever he might fancy, suspect or imagine about Monsieur Leblanc when away from him, the kindly greeting, the pleasant smile, the quiet, easy, well-bred manners almost set at rest all his fears when he was with him. Monsieur Leblanc chatted amiably with his guest and with his niece until madame came from the kitchen garden, laden with a basket of apples, and beaming broadly upon St. Quintin as she came slowly across the lawn with outstretched hand to greet Marle took the basket from her and the two ladies went toward the house together, while Monsieur Leblanc led the young man to admire his dahlias, which were the pride of But they would not grow so well here as in France, he said with a half

sigh. "But you've been settled in England a long time, to speak our language as well as you do, haven't you?" asked St. Quintin, anxious to lead his host into the direction of autobiography.

Monsieur Leblanc sighed again. He was too polite to say roundly that he had been longer in England than he although he loved England and had lived here many years, it was natural he should sometimes long for the bluer skies and warmer climate of the land of his birth.
St. Quintin admitted this, and then

turned somewhat abruptly to a subject which he wished to thresh out before they were rejoined by the 'By the by, Monsieur Leblanc, did

you see in the papers that Mr. Burdock, who visited you on the day I was here last, has disappeared?" he asked point-blank.

But if he had thought to disconcert his host by the suddenness of the question he had miscalculated his effeet. Monsieur Leblanc nodded gravely and said at once:

"I have seen it, and it has filled me with the gravest concern. He left me in a state of great distress, because he had asked for the hand of my niece, was passionately in love with her, he said, but I had an idea it was her money he was fond of, and although he was profuse in his gifts-most generous in fact-I had to decline Whether he was sincere in his protesmay have done him an injustice in thinking the contrary. One can but follow one's reasoning, and may make did not like him. . She is particular, and though my wife and I are French, and should wish to influence the choice of our niece, yet as she is English we have to consider her own fancy more than is the custom in our own country. She, it seems, prefers to answer

Quintin which seemed to suggest that it was upon him that her choice was

to have had with the unwelcome suitor, it was hardly likely he would care to enter into a discussion as to the unpleasant interview, or to answer questions about the visitor of whom he had been so anxious to get rid.

"And what do you think has become of him?" he asked. "Has it occurred to you, Monsieur Leblanc, that he may have got back again to the house, or the near neighborhood of the house, and that he may have—have—"

"Made an attempt upon his life?" broke in his host, gravely. "That is exactly what I have been asking myseif, ever since I read in the papers that he has disappeared."

St. Quintin breathed more freely. But still he had a final suggestion to make, to clear up the mystery entirely. "Has it occurred to you that it might be as well to—to communicate with the police?"

ing connected with any mischance to Burdock, but I more than suspect that they would, none of them, stay here, and I should have the place on my hands. And although I am not a poor man, I should not care to have the rent of a big house like this to pay ndefinitely, while I had to keep an-

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other house going somewhere else for my wife and niece."
"Oh, I see that, of course. But is there no fear of their finding out what you have done? Won't the police come here to conduct a search, an investi-

"No doubt they will. But I must contrive that the ladies shall be out of the way. In any case, however, I have asked that no one shall be sanf except in plain clothes. So if you see a man you don't know, and who is not ex-

her all he felt, and find out whether she experienced for him anything like the intensity of passion he felt for her. That she liked him he felt quite sure. To have doubted it would have been treason. For he would not admit the possibility of her saying with her eyes what her heart would have

repudiated. How to get a word with her un-heard? Would she come out with him into the garden? Dared he propose it? Even as he asked himself these questions he saw, to his great delight, Monsieur and Madame Leblanc, in earnest conversation, leave the room by the most distant of the two doors. A glance at Miss Stanley showed that she was having a doze after an excellent dinner. He leaned forward; Marie

Madame heblanc, in my telling your niece that loved her, and asking if she loved me? there snything underhand,

"If you satisfied yourself with that I should say nothing. But if what I heard I understood aright, you were suggesting that she should marry you and run away from us. Was not that what he raid?" what he said?" And she turned abruptly to the girl

And she turned abruptly to the girl herself, who was white and distressed.

"I certainly didn't understand that Mr. St. Quintin wanted me to marry him without your permission and uncle's," said she, earnesty. "I thought all he wanted was to find out whether I cared for him—whether I liked him better than any of the others and enough to marry him."

But his astonishment was nothing to that of Madame Lebland, who stared at her niece in open-mouthed amazeting herself go after a period of great self-restraint and reticence, poured out these words in a burst of passionate feeling. She was impatient, eager, earnest and shy, all at the same time. Madame Leblanc, after the first con-

threw her, turned upon her niece with 'Why, what is all this," she cried "about admiration and love and the rest? I should have thought a girl "What! By such men as that fat Monsieur Marbeau and Mr. Burdeck, and that horrid Captain Darnell and Mr.—"

"Oh, what do I care about the property? Let me marry her, and do what you like with the property!" cried St. Quintin, impatiently.

Madame smiled again. "My dear Mr. St. Quintin, that is,

unfortunately, not possible. To our French ideas, you know, the property is as important as the girl." Well, but property or no property, sternation into which this outburst must marry some one, and you had only to notice what she said her-self just now to realise that this stream of suitors is becoming a sort of persecution. Tell me what you

"Softly, softly. In the first place, you have not assured yourself of my

"But"—
"In the second place, it is too soon, much too soon, to do so. In the third place, there is her uncle to be consulted, and I am afraid he, who is much stricter in these matters than I, will be angra with you, another than I have been, for speaking to her so soon."

"Let me have it out with him at once then," said St. Quintin, in impahim, tell him what I feel, beg him to

Madame smiled more kindly than be-"Well, you will have to remember that he will not look so indulgently upon your impatience as I have done. He will say wait, and he will insist upon your approaching him in the first place. You may say it is your English custom to speak to the girl herself. But you must remember that we are upon your impatience as I have done. He will say wait, and he will insist upon your approaching him in the first place. You may say it is your English custom to speak to the girl herself. But you must remember that we are her guardians, and that our French prejudices and customs must be considered."

her guardians, and that our French prejudices and customs must be considered."

"Indeed, I will remember," said St. Quintin humbly. "I am sorry if you thought me presumptuous. Indeed, I lost my head a little, and wanted her to tell me whether there was any hope for me, before I ought to have done. But you must remember, on your side, Madame Leblanc, that it was your husband himself who allowed me to meet Miss Densley at the concert at Queen's Hall. That did not look as if he wished to put any obstacle in the way of my seeing his niece. And I could fairly look upon that as an encouragement on his side."

Madame Leblanc, who had a tinge of

that direction. Madame looked at him quickly.

"What is it?" she asked, with one of those glances which gave him so strongly the impression that she noticed a good deal more than she appeared to do.

He hesitated what to reply.

And at that very moment by an extraordinary coincidence, as it appeared to him, Monsieur Leblanc himself came toward them from the angle of the house.

want to know about me, and I'll con-trive to satisfy your scruples about letting me marry Marie; that is, if you

Moneteur Leblanc laughed.

'You are too impatient. He is not to
England at present, though I believe
he will be in about a menth. He has been ordered away for his health during the long vacation." "The long vacation!" echoed St. Quintin in dismar. "That isn't over till the third week in October! Must

I wait all that time before I see im?", afraid so," said Monsieur Leblene, smiling at his impatience. "However, perhaps you can manage to fill up the time pleasantly. We shall the translation of the control of

Ilways be delighted to see you, Mr.

make no objection to my suit; that I have your full permission to pay my addresses to Miss Densley?"
"Certainly. Subject to that fact, that

St. Quintin, and so, I think, will

here is another man's permission to be obtained, I should be much pleased regard you in the light of a preder for my niece's hand." This seemed satisfactory enough, but st. Quintin hesitated,

"There's just one thing I should like have cleared up, Monsteur Leblanc," said he. "In accepting me as a suitor, do you intend to discourage the attentions of the other men who are now in the same position?"

The gentle Frenchman shrugged his shoulders with mild deprecation

"Ah!" he said, "I cannot do that altogether. As I have told you, I am tied until my fellow-guardian returns, and in the meantime all I can do is to make my own selection, subject to my nice's inclination, which, I think, co-incides with mine." And he smiled encouragingly at the young man.

Do you mean that you think she likes me, and that you approve of me more than at the others? said St. Quintin, persisting until he should get a straightforward and satisfactory

the single exception of Monsieur Marbeau, who is a very gener-ous suitor, there is no one I should put on the same level with yourself, Mr. St. Quintin."

The young man raised his eyebrows with confidence. "I know Miss Densley doesn't like Marbeau," said he, with decision. "She said so."

"Ah! But as a husband he is not to be despised. Did I not show you the gift he sent me for her?" "That miserable bracelet!" retorted St. Quintin, hotiy. "Oh, I saw that, of course. But I can give Marie something much handsemer than that."

Miss Densiey's uncle looked politely incredulous. St. Quintin went on:

"You will see, I'll bring something down for her the next time I come, and you shall judge whether her English lover is less generous than the French one."

Oh, it is not a question of gifts only,

say the best I can for Marbeau, who is a very old friend of ours. But if Ma-rie's heart should speak for one nearer her own age, and her own country-man, why, as I have already said, I should be prepared to indorse her

"You have made me very happy, Men-

OW, although Monsieur Leblanc had thus given St. Quintia some reason for looking upon himself as provisionally accepted as Miss Densley a favored lover, the young man found himself prevented from exchanging any more words with her until the moment came to say good-bys. Even then he could not utter a word unheard by the rest, as he shook hands with her in the presence of her sovern-

Byen then he could not utter a word unheard by the rest, as he shook hands with her in the presence of her governess, her uncle and her aunt,

"Good-bye, Miss Densley. I hope I shall have the pleasure of seeing you again very soon," were the only words he was suffered to utter before Monsieur Lebianc slipped a hand within his arm and insisted on seeing him on his way down the garden.

As he sat back in the train on his way down the garden.

As he sat back in the train on his way to town, St. Quintin thought over all that had taken place, and, while he felt more sure than ever, not only that Marie Densley was the sweetest and most straightforward of girls, but that she liked him more than she liked her other admirers, he was troubled by consideration of her uncle and aunt and their policy toward their nice's suitors.

have no objection to make to me bacause I know how to make up my mind."

"Indeed I have none. But there is more to be done than to get my consent to your proposals to my niece. There is her other guardian to be consulted."

"Her other guardian? Do you mean Madame Lebland?"

"Oh no, I mean the trustee for the property."

"Oh, the property!" exclaimed St. Quintin, impatiently. "I'm thred of hearing of it. I wish she hadn't any!"

"Ah! That is a good sign, a very good sign. It makes me think you are, of all the suitors she has, the one I should prefer for my niece. But at the same time, I'm bound to tell you that the consent of Mr. Williams, who was her father's trusted solicitor, is necessary, as well as mine."

"Certainly. When can I see him?"

CHAPTER VIII

ed that he had neither ! bond. He likewise admitte ing Krumpleman \$215 on wheat, but announced the not the money to pay for i Dermid appeared for Kr and in view of the uns position taken by Hitching, magistrate to impose the ty of the law. Mr. Turne section, which provides for from \$10 to a \$1000, or ment for not less than on not more than one year gressions of this nature. that the offence was a ve one and called for severe p Mr. Snow stated that th

farmers should be protecte ing had been given an opposettle the matter but had so. Hitching pleaded for and stated that-his farm able him to make everyth allowed to work it. He a that he has a wife and support. The magistrate fine of \$50 and costs or in jail, the money to be p Monday noon. In addition dant must also make good to Krumpleman.

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Parliament has just demonstration in favor son Bay railway by members who support ment. These gentlemen

routes by the northern feetly feasible, and add t the line will assure the mer reduced rates on his

grain. The road is so

proposition that it is diffi

derstand why it was not

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support has not taken the

towards the ding of

On this point Mr. M. S.

the member for Calga

light. It appears that

Laurier administration to

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After the Laurier admi

came in, and Mr. Sifton w

in charge of the Interior D ment, the policy on this was changed. Instead of puthe construction of the Hu

road, the government bent

towards the construction of

Prince Albert by a route

noted for what is termed curves" or elongations of t

increase the land grant.

Wheat Buyers Fined

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Saskatoon, April 26.-A c

reaching importance occupi tention of Magistrate Turr

police Court last Friday.

a complaint by Matthew S

sistant warehouse com against W. G. Hitching of

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charged with buying a

wheat from G. Krumplen

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Hitching admitted the of

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but was adjourned to enable

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Hitching announced had

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## TO PREVEN A NERVO BREAKD

Take Dr. Williams' When the First Syr Are Noticed and Yourself Muc Suffering.

Are you troubled with of spirits, waves of heat er the body, shortness of er slight exertion, a p ping of the heart's beat, tion, cold hands or feet, of weight and fulness? the mistake of thinking t diseases in themselves an ed with relief for the tin This is the way that give warning that they lown. It means that b come impure and thin



"'Hello!' he cried; 'what's that! Something pretty?"

actly like a guest, though he is treated as one, you will know what to make of him."

St. Quintin was quite satisfied. It was plain that, however mysterious the incidents of his previous visit had appeared to him, Monsieur Leblano was at least as anxious as he was to have them cleared up. His host, dismissing the subject with a wave of his hand as the ladies reappeared at the drawing-room window, took out of his pocket a morocco case, which he opened, showing St. Quintin a beautiful bracelet, consisting of a half circle of large diamonds.

"Look," said he, "what Monsleur Marbeau has sent to me to give to my niece. A generous sultor, is he not?"

St. Quintin's face clouded. "That stout man who was here last week! Surely she doesn't like him? cried he sharply, incredulously. His host shrugged his shoulders

mournfully.
"Indeed, I am afraid she does not. But she ought to. He is well off; he is generous; I believe he is genuinely fond of her. He would make her a very good husband. In the French fashion, he proposed to me for her when he was here last night."

"And she has accepted him?" asked St. Quintin, passionately, Smiling, Monsteur Leblanc raised his hand. Smiling, Monsteur Leonand hand.
"Not so fast, not so fast, my young friend! I have not told her yet," said he gently.
"When you do, I can tell what the answer will be," said St. Quintin,

"Miss Densley," he whispered, won't you come out on the lawn and ook at the stars? It's lovely out there, and so beautifully cool." Miss Densley smiled demurely.
"I don't believe there are any stars

onight," she said. But as she spoke she made a slight vement, as if half persuaded to ac-

cede to his request.
"Will you bet on it?" said he, smil-

"Yes I bet there are no stars."

"Very well. You're wrong, I know."

With this strange wager on their

the two young people, with a
glance at the nodding nead of Misa

Stanley, moved softly across the floor
and glided out into the night.

Once outside in the pleasant garden,

however, with the dark night sky overhead, a cool breeze just moving the tree-tops, and that intoxicating

overhead, a cool breeze just moving the tree-tops, and that intoxicating face not far from his, St. Quintin forgot the stars, forgot the wager, forgot his prudence, too.

All he remembered, all he could think of was that he loved this cir, that she was loved by others also, and that he must know whether he had any chance with her. So he burst out in a quavering voice, under his breath:

"Miss Densley, has your uncle told you about that fellow I met here last week, that stout man-Marbeau, think his name is?"

Miss Densley turned, so that het pretty eyes had the light from the drawing room lamps upon them.

"What about him?" she asked, with but faint apparent interest, though with some surprise.

"That he says-he-he wants to marry you."

"Oh!" She shrugged her shoulder disdainfully. "So many of these mer especially these Frenchmen, say that when all the time it's money, money they're always thinking about."

"You think that's all he think about?"

"Yes. They all do."

"Except me," broke from his lipe "Marie, you don't think that of me do you? Do you?"

Before she could answer, before she could do more than turn toward him with a faint, sweet smile quivering upon her lips, St. Quintin heard adoor shut and hurrled on, afraid of losing his chance of speaking.

"Marie, if you are troubled by these people, come away from them Marry me, and come away from them heard adoor shut and hurrled on, afraid of losing his chance of speaking.

"Marie, if you are troubled by these people, come away from them Marry me, and come away from them heard adoor shut and hurrled on, afraid of losing his chance of speaking.

"Marie, if you are troubled by these people, come away from them Marry me, and come away from them heard adoor shut and hurrled on, afraid of losing his chance of speaking.

"Marie if you are troubled by these people, come away from them Marry me, and come away from them Marry me, and turning he saw them with eyes whic

CHAPTER VII

THERE was a moment of slience and intense anxiety on both sides as Madame Leblanc and St. Quintin faced each other; Marie Densiey looking on the while in a slete of strong emotional excitement. Marie Densiey looking on the While in a state of strong emotional excitement.

The French woman recovered berself the first, if, indeed, she could be said to have lost her self-possession at all.

"And so, Mr. St. Quintin, you take advantage of our confidence to make love to our niece and to urge her to deceive us?" she said her mouth closing into a hard line when she finished her speech.

The young man was, however, by that time ready with his answer.

"And so, Mr. St. Quintin, you take advantage of our confidence to make love and admiration of a down men whom I don't care two straws about, that I should like with you to feel differently. I should like with time ready with his answer.

"And so, Mr. St. Quintin, you take advantage of our confidence to make fun of you both to make fun of your both to make fu

tenderness he saw in her eyes as she glanced at him. It was a stronger assurance than he had had yet from her of her liking for him.

But, madame was unconvinced.

"He said 'come away,' " she persisted, "and spoke of being able to do without your fortune. Then what could he mean but that, if you married him, we should object, and you would sacrifice your property?"

Now, St. Quintin certainly had meant to secure from the girl a promise which he vaguely felt her uncle and aunt might not approve of. But he thought it prudent not to say any more on this point, but to leave Marie to fight his heattle, since she was able to do it better than he could himself.

"I shouldn't have listened to him if I'd thought he wanted me to behave ungratefully to you who have done so much for me," said Miss Densley,

uch for me," said Miss Densley, "And would it not be ungrateful to marry without consulting us, knowing, as you do, that we have only your wel-

marry without consulting us, knowing, as you do, that we have only your welfare at heart?" said madame.

"Of course, it would. Be sure, aunithat I shall never marry any one without consulting you."

"Ah!" cried madame, somewhat soothed by this assurance, and at length suffering her features to relax into smile, "that is better. That is a promise, and an assurance which satisfiems. And you, Mr. St. Quintin, I hope that you will not again speak words to my nisce which sound so like a desire to make her disregard our wishes.

St. Quintin heard her with mixed feelings. Was she really the disinterstand guardian she pretended, or was she secretly concerned more with her nisces fortune than with herself?

St. Quintin, as these questions darted through his mind, feit half ashamed of them. What reason had he for doubting the genuine affection or the sunifor the niece? Was it that straight hard mouth, or those curiously cold one, which made him mistrust Madam Leblanc? On the other hand, it assumed clear that her niece was fone of her, and if that her affection for her niece was as disinterested as he felt sure that the niece's was for her, what were he felt that she had no right to assume the right to mistrust his. So he met her eyes steadily and asked:

"Why should you object to my telling Miss Densley of my love, Madame Leblanc? You could scarcely suppose to could come here time after time, as you have invited me to do, without being and tracted by her, and I think I had right to suppose you did not disapprove of the samination I have made no presence of hidins."

"Oh, don't, don't, said Miss Densley;" To don't want anybody to admire me, or or much I want on to look upon me, to treat me as if I were a man, too, and not to say silly things any more. Do, aunt, persuade Mr. St. Quintin not to admire me, but to be just my friend. I should like that so much the best."

"Madame Leblanc and St. Quintin win mat to admire me, but to be just my friend. I should like that so much the best."

"Oh, don't laugh at me. It's too bad o

Madame Leblanc cut her short.

"You have nothing to complain of.
You ought to feel flattered that so many men do you the honor to pay you attention."

"Well, I don't. And you yourself say

that it's not all on my account that they are so full of compliments and so anxious to show me attention. You told me you thought it was because they

"of course there is always a possi-bility, when a girl is rich, as you are, that some of the attention she gets may be due to her fortune, but I did not say it was so in every case. I should not be so unjust. Some of these men who admire you have plenty of money of their own."

"Then I wish they would be satisfied with what they nave and not tease me," said Miss Densley, rest-

unusual color in her cheeks, turned to St. Quintin with a little laugh.

"Girls have changed since I was one myself," she said. "It was the fashion then to be pleased if one were sought after."

"I can understand Miss Densley's feeling quite well," said the young man, taking her part bravely. "She does not like to disappoint so many, knowing that she can only conferhappiness upon one."

Miss Densley took advantage of this moment when he was apeaking to her aunt to escape into the house, and St. Quintin suddenly perceived a great change in the elder lady when he was left alone with her. Her air of canton and dry reserve disappeared, and she became friendly and communicative at once.

"On, lingse girls, these girls!" she said, with a laugh as genial as it had previously been dry. "They will have their own way, in spite of guardians and friends. Monsieum Marbeau is the man she ought to marry, the man her unple would have her choose, and she will have nothing at all to say to him.

"I should think not!"; orled he, excitedly, "A man like a, hippopotamus, and old enough to be her father."

"Ah! You English are all for such young marriages! But we in France say that a girl who is ignorant of the world should have for husband a man old enough to know mere."

"But not if she doesn't like him!"

"She would have grown to like him in time. But we may as well give up that hope, I fear, dear old friend of our shough he is. Marie prefers men or her own age."

"An man of her own age." corrected St. Quintin, "and we in England shouldn't blame her for it. What objection have you madame to my marrying your niece? My fortune is ample, so that I'm sure you can't suppose I want momeny with my wife. And she likes me, I'm nearly sure. Though you came upon us just too soon for me to have got an answer to the question I put to her."

"You can guess what I wanied to ask her. Tell me, Madame Leblanc, is there any objection to my asking it?" Madame looked reflective.

"In an ordinary case I should say none in the world, except that we have unusual color in her cheeks, turned to St. Quintin with a little laugh. "Girls have changed since I was one