Mistress of Darracourt.

CHAPTER TX.

A week passed since the accident in the park, and Lucille had seen have sent for him at any moment, for was he not her servant? But she did

One afternoon, while Lucille was up in her room, Marie Verner, from the drawing-room window, saw approaching a great yellow chariot, that might have come from the Ark, supposing that Noah bad stored furniture as well as animals, and a footman

An old-a very old-lady entered. with white hair and thick eyelids, with a touch of rouge on her cheeks,



your Digestions Sake

and ornaments of pearl and topaz

Marie Verner, with her sweetest,

stately, dignified little curtsey.

"Ah, Head? Yes, I remember. Respectable man! And how do you like

"Oh, remarkably," replied Marie Verner, enjoying the mistake the old woman was making. "It is compact

"Compact? Humph! Pretty extensive, too. Comfortable? Of course it

"Oh, it's quite large enough," said Marie Verner, "Miss Darracourt says ometimes that it is too large."

"Miss Darracourt!" echoed the old lady, glaring at her flercely. "Aren't

you Miss Darracourt?" "Oh, no," murmured Marie, with an

"No! Then who-who are you?" demanded Lady Farnley, with a scowl of indignation at the trick played up-

"I am Miss Darracourt's friend and

companion, Marie Verner," she re-

olied, with an innocent little smile. What the old lady would have reorted in her wrath will never be

"This is Miss Darracourt."

sey, Lucille held out her hand, and on her almost fiercely, and dorpped a Lady Farnley took it.

"Humph!" grunted her ladyship.



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worse luck to them! But I don't re-Lady Farnley rose, purple with member any with that hair of yours.

> "You are Lady Farnley?" said Luculle, amused at her visitor's eccentrie manner.

"Yes, Martha Farnley, the principal like that girl you've got here! Impu-

"I don't think I could help liking it," said Lucille, deciding that it would be the wisest course to meet the old lady's appalling candor frank-

"No, I suppose not. Well, you take it quietly. I'm glad of that. I thought you'd make a fuss. I told everybody so. I thought you'd put on airs, and behave like a schoolgirl. But you lon't. Yes, I like you. It's because you are pretty, I suppose; or because needn't blush. You'll hear plenty of omebody else besides an old woman Are you engaged?"

She wrapped out the question like a shot from a gun, but Lucille met

her keen glance with a frank, open

"To be married? No, Lady Farn-

"Quite right. I'm glad of it," re orted her ladyship. "Plenty of time. was afraid you might have entangled yourself at that school before you came to Darracourt. Humph! It won't be long before the swains come round you. Be careful, my dear."

"I will." said Lucille, laughingly, Lady Farnley laughed, too, for the first time, a short laugh that was not

"You are a match for me, my dear, and I admit it," she said. "Well, you until you think it proper to call, but got up quickly.

Lucille went with her to the door, but the old lady seemed loath to part with her.

"If I send my carriage on to the park gates, will you walk with me that far?" she asked.

Lucille, for reply, ran and fetched "Humph!" said her ladyship

'That's sensible. I thought you'd keep me half an hour, while you put on all your fallals." "I haven't any to put on," said Lu-

The two passed out, and followed

the carriage, Lady Farnley talking, Lucille listening, and rejoining occasionally. The old lady told her great deal about her neighbors, and in turn, warned her against them all. Presently they came to the little clearing in which Harry Herne's cottage stood.

Lucille glanced at it sideways, as they were passing it, when there strode almost across their path Harry Herne himself. He was walking slowly, with his head upon his breast, a fishing rod in hand, and did not see them.

ed slightly and turned pale under her

"Who is that?" she demanded

"That is-Harry Herne," she said with a faint touch of color.

Perhaps he heard her, low as she had spoken, for he stopped short and looked back

He stood for a moment as if un

(To be Continued.)

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