Continued from 1st page. Joe, who knew now where he was going, stood by him remorseful and must go back at once. I will not allow "Will you not bid Tom good- you to go near them."

"Tom? No, I could not do that." pering, like Alice, when-you were in He turned and walked without a word | danger ?" down into the fog. Had he forgotten His face turned scarlet. "You are

wish to awaken. heard the boat swash through the water one know of your coming?" as it passed down the river, she turned & "No one, turning away sullenly. and went up-stairs, smiling very brightly as she met her mother.

"Where is Tom, my dear?" "I do not know, mamma, Tom? J have not seen him." "Has Mr. Vodges goue? Joe told all, James Vogdes?"

you his intention?" "O dear, yes! How foolish men are. Good night, mamma," and, smilroom, double locked the door, and with a mad, despairing gesture. threw herself suddenly, white and him so! I love him so! I could have thought Vogdes. He spoke to he made him so happy and comfortable!" very courteously, however, as he al-

Miss Vane, combing out her false black hair in the next room, felt her heart beat faster as she heard a sob. "It will make more of a woman of her, you to victory ! though. But he is not mine yet."

She sat thoughtful for a few minutes then from the bottom of one of her | was to go into congress, was I not? or trunks took out a suit of men's clothes | higher? That was a capital joke of and laid them ready for use. Then she yours." lay down and slept heavily.

CHAPTER V. Daylight wakened Mr. Vodges out of his feverish dream very thoroughly. The yellow fever in a coal diggers' village was certainly prosaic; and then he was kept hard at work. But for his pity for the poor wratches and his nausea at the dirt about him, he was well and hearty; death never seemed further off from him. The disease was not half so fatal as it had been reported; physician came down from the hills and another from the court house; he began to suspect that his expectation of selfsacrifice had been a bit of melodrama of which he ought to be ashamed, and to feel himself not so much of a hero after all. As to the two women to whom he had almost committed himself the night before, it was a most

damnably perplexing affair. It was late the next afternoon when he met Dr. Masters at the door of a his hand. But this was a pert, sallowlarge wooden building, into which they had removed two or three of the pati-

"Jones is better." "So is that woman Moore. I think we have it under."

"Yes. This change in the weather is favorable. There is the boat alreadv.'

"There will be no passengers to night." Vogdes glanced at it down through the twilight carelessly, and went into the house. .

He was stooping over one of the pallets when Dr. Masters came in, and touched his elbow. "There was a passenger-a young man, who offers himself as nurse. He asked for you." "We really need no one else. He ought to be sent back."

"So I think. See to him, Vogdes; here he comes." The old doctor went out to his own patients, and Vogdes, busied in lifting the great, groaning Irishman before him, only noticed by a glance the awkward young fellow who had entered and stood by the door. Irishman before him, only noticed by a had entered and stood by the door.

over the ill kept, dirty room, the half dozen wretched occupants of the beds, and the man who moved about among and the man who moved about among them, stout, prompt, business like infectious. The Vogdeses had troops them, stout, prompt, business likeCould this be the hero of last night's
dusk, and romance, and passion? Charlotte's heart dropped to low ebb. Then
she stood stiff and erect. She had
made a desperate move. But it would
win. If daring and self-sacrifice were
admirable in a man, Vogdes would
think them divine in a woman. He
would find that she could stand by him
shoulder to shoulder anywhere on shoulder to shoulder anywhere on man's ground. Why should she not the stage. thus show him that she loved him? Very. Though one could not ima-Why should not a woman be the first to gine Charlotte in men's clothes." Why should not a woman tood woman stood the by?"

Just then Vogdes, having finished, "You asked for me, I believe?" "You do not know me?"

He glanced over the shuffling, un- her, James. Poor Charlotte!" gainly figure, the sallow face, pert "No," said her husband absently, nose, and hold eyes, paused a moment still looking at the stage. "Good God! It is not"-

to-to die with you! You will not But she was too good for the man cast me off?"

and dismay choked him. "What will ing against the side scene. hands slip off untouched.

people say?" he gasped out, letting her "Is that all? What the world thinks! But as for me?" --- She cried out her in watching the sorrows of the gen-

the words shrilly, her teeth beginning | tle Ophelia. to chatter. She was a nervous woman, and the strain on her had been terrible all day. The reaction was coming. "For heaven's sake, Miss Vane, control yourself. The men will hear you. The doctor- Come outside and tell me what you meant by this-this freak."

Charlotte followed him. He stopped Cooked Shredded Codfish in the chicken yard outside, among the coops. It was still daylight, bald, ugly daylight. He had a bottle in one hand and a spoon in the other, and there she stood in her man's coat and trousers, a felt hat on her head, into which she had, with a lingering hope of effect, put a black feather, which had been broken and sagged down behind. She knew that her face was smutted with

soot from the boat. Twilight, and romance, and passion were gone from between them forever. She had made a mistake. She saw that now suddenly. Life itself seemed to turn cold and thin before her eyes.

"Why should I not come?" she said at last, as he waited sternly. "Are

foolish child. If you had ever had a mother to take care of you- But you

"Could I sit at home, pale and whim-

his boy in the last hour? He felt as generous, Miss Vane, as we all know, if he had been lost in a hot, feverish speaking thick and hurriedly, raising ream, from which he would never his voice with to awaken.

Meanwhile little Ally stood by the window, watching him go. When the window, watching him go. When the easily correct the mistake. Did any easily correct the mistake. Did any easily correct the mistake. dream, from which he would never his voice when she would have spoken, window, watching him go. When the too far now. No matter! We can noise at the shore had ceased, and she easily correct the mistake. Did any

"Thank God for that! The return boat passes in a few minutes. You will

She turned on him slowly. "Is that "What more can there be?"

The cool masculine eye mastered her. "God knows!" wildly. "But I ing and nodding, she went into her thought"- She threw up her arms "I wish to the Lord she had a dose shivering, on the bed. "And I loved of asafeetida-and was off my hands,"

was all the moan the poor little thing | ways did to women. "Miss Vane, you are hardly yourself to-day. I insist upon your going at once to the boat." "You chose me as your friend !" she muttered under her breath. "I was to "Silly child!" she said, not unkindly. read yourself to you. I was to help

> "You mean that plan of ours las night?" with an awkward laugh. "I

She looked at him keenly. "A joke," he repeated, meeting he eye steadily. "Such friendships as ours are made by young ladies every day to pass away a leisure hour. I

"Such friendship as ours, Mr. Vogdes?" trying to gain her usual tone. "They are, you think with Laertes, but the perfume and the suppliance of a minute-no more?"

"He was silent for a moment. "No more," he said gruffly. "I will go now," she said, letting her

glove fall. He walked a step or two behind her down to the river bank. When she stepped on the plank to go on the boat she turned. "Good-by," she said. Vogdes' conscience wrung him sharp-

ly. He remembered how sweet the beautiful woman's sympathy had been last night-the kiss the had left upou her lips. He hesitated, half held out faced boy, going on deck. "She can make her own way in the world-trust her for that!" he thought. He touched his hat. "Good-by, Miss Vane," he said, coolly, and, watching her safe-

ly on deck, went up the hil'. A man came up and touched It was Joe Page. "You sent her back?" The young fellow's face was white and haggard. "I knew you

would." "Of course. Is it known that she

"Only to me. I followed her." "See that she reaches home safely, SHERIFF'S SALE. Joe. And keep the thing quiet, my lad won't you ?" "I know what is due to a lady," curtly. "But I have done with her

forever, Cousin Jeems. "The better for you, Page." Joe shook his head dolorously and

went down to the boat. A year or two afterward Mr. Vogdes The setting sun threw a glare of light them in a new and marvelous tartan

"No. Where is she now, Ally, by

"At Havana, I think, or Paris. came up quickly, touching his hat. Breaking men's hearts somewhere. I wish she would love somebody and marry him. You never appreciated

perplexed, and then drew back. The page had keen eyes. She drew back just then behind the throne. She caught his arm with both hands. (The play was "Hamlet!" It is!" she "Yes, it is I-it's Charlotte! I came said to herself. "Silly little Alice! after all. A stupid fellow." She left For a moment Vogdes' astonishment | the stage then, and stood alone, lean-

"Poor Charlotte!" she too said after a while, to herself. But the others had quite forgotten

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