

mand is but natural, and springs from a good heart. Let the chamberlain be seized," he continued, turning to his guards.

"I see!" cried the chamberlain, "I did not see anything—it was the steward."

"Let the steward be seized then," said the king.

But the steward protested with tears in his eyes, that he had not witnessed anything of what had been reported, and said it was the butler. But the butler declared that he had seen nothing of the matter, and that it must have been one of the valets. But they protested that they were utterly ignorant of what had been charged against the count; in short, it turned out that nobody could be found who had seen the count commit the offence, upon which the princess said:—

"I appeal to you, my father, as to another Solomon. If nobody saw the offence committed, the count cannot be guilty, and my husband is innocent."

The emperor frowned, and forthwith the courtiers began to murmur; then he smiled, and immediately their visages became radiant.

"Let it be so," said his majesty, "let him live, though I have put many a man to death for a lighter offence than this. But if he is not hung he is married. Justice has been done."

The following error in punctuation is a good illustration of the use of the comma. At a banquet this toast was given:—"Woman—without her, man is a brute." The reporter had it printed: "Woman—without her man, is a brute."

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