small screw steamer, and was about to enter, when he discovered the hostile vessels, or was signalized, and putting about succeeded in making his escape.

HOW "PAT" GAVE THE BLACK FILLY A

"Peter," said I, "do you think I could trust you to give the black filly a warm mash this evening ???
As he stared at me for a minute or two without reply-

As he stared at the duestion.

"Is it a mash; sir? said he. "Sure I'd like to be plasin' yer honor, any way, and that's no lie."

As he spoke, however, I fancied I saw a strange sort of puzzled expression flit across his face; but taking it for granted he knew what I meant, paid at the time no further attention to it. The conversation which followed immediately after, by one of those singular coincidences which so frequently happen in life, turning upon the subject of horses, tended still more to impress me with that belief. Now don't laugh, Urban; for, though I perceive by your quizzical look that you are pretty well acquainted with your Irish friend, even you cannot possibly have any conception of the manner in which the affair terminated.

"In some egregious blunder, Stanley, I'll be bound.

But, pray, proceed with your narrative.

"Peter stood for some time crushing his hat uneasily between his hands, and occasionally shifting the weight of his gaunt person from one foot to another, until I began at length to entertain a faint suspicion that he had not exactly understood me after all; so I said to him. 'A warm bran mash for the black filly; you will not forget it, I hope, Mulrooney?"

"Och, its an illigant mimory I have," said he,—but its bothered intirely I am. Will I give her an ould counthry mash, or an Ameriky mash?

"I don't know of any distinction between them,"-I answered, rather puzzled in my mind at what he was aiming. I found afterwards he was ignorant of what a mash was. 'I don't know,' said I, 'of any distinction between them.

Arrah, 'lis reasonable enough that ye shouldn's,' responded Peter.

Look here, Mulrooney, said I, impatiently. 'I want you to put about two double handfuls of bran inin a bucket of warm water, and, after stirring the mixture well, to give it to the black filly. That is what we call a bran mash in this country. Now, do you perfectly understand me?

Good luck to yer honor, replied Peter, looking rely much relieved; for the rascal had got the information he was fishing for; 'Good luck to yer honor, what'ud I be good for if I didn't? Sure 'tis the ould

country mash, afther all.'
I thought as much,' said I; 'so now away with you, and be sure you make no mistake.'
'Tisn't likely I'll do that, sir,' said he, looking very

confidently. But about the warm wather, sir?

An' the naygur? Will I say till her 'tis yer honor's ordhers?'

Certainly; she'll make no difficulty."

Oh, begorra, 'tisn't a traneen I care for that. But will I give her the full of the bucket, sir?' 'It will do her no harm,' said I, carelessly.

with that Peter made his best bow, and departed from the presence. It might have been some ten minutes after this that

Mrs. Stanley entered the room where I was sitting, and as she was still somewhat of an invalid, I laid down the book I had in my hand, and leading her to the sola, arranged the pillows to her liking.

'I wish you would go into the kitchen, George, she said, as I was disposing a light shawl about her person. I am afraid there is something wrong between that Irishman of yours and Phillis. Both their voices appeared to be a good deal raised, as I crossed the hall; and I heard the man say something about some orders you had given him.

'Oh, 'tis nothing, my dear,' I said half laughing, 'I understand it all. Mulroony requires some warm water, which Phillis, who bears him no love, has, I

suspect, declined to give him.'

My explanation scarcely satisfied Mrs. Stanley, who seemed to think that the disturbance was greater than would be likely to arise from such a trifle. However, she said nothing more, and I was searching for a passage in my book which I thought would please her, when all at once we were startled by a distinct crash of crockery ware—plates and dishes, in lact, as I atterwards discovered. To add to our annoyance, this trash was speedily followed by a half-suppressed shriek. Mrs. Stanley started up in alarm.

Do go and see what is the matter, George, said she. 'I told you I was sure it was something serious. That Irishman will be the death of Phillis some of those days: they are always quarrelling.

Scarcely pausing to listen to the closing portion of my wife's speech, I burried from the room, and soon heard, as I passed through the hall, an increasing clamor in the kitchen beyond. First of all come the shrill voice of Phillis.

'Ha' done, I say! I won't hab nussin to do wid the stuff, nairaway!

'You ugly an' conthrairy ould naygur, don't I tell ye is the masthers ordhers?' I heard Peter respond. 'Taint no sech a thing. Go away, you poor white Insher!—'I tell 'ee I won't. Who ebba heard ob a colored 'coman a taken a bran mash afore I like to know.

The whole truth of what I had been suspecting for some time flashed upon me at once, and the fun of the thing struck me so irresistibly that I hesitated for a while to break in upon it.

'Arrah be aisy, can't ye? an' take the dose like a dacent naygur.

'Go 'way, I tell 'ee!' screamed Phillis,-'I'll call

missus, dat i will.?

'Och, by this an' by that,' said Peter, resolutely, 'if' is about to frighten the beautiful misthress ye are, an' she sick too at this same time, I'll soon put a stop

Immediately afterwards, L heard the sound of his heavy step across the kitchen floor, and then came a short scuffle and a stiffed scream. Concluding that it was now time for me to interfere, I moved quickly on, and lust as the conflict as and just as the scuffling gave way to smothered sobs, and broken ejaculations, I flung open the door and looked in. The first thing that caught my eye was Phillis seated in a chair, sputtering and gasping; while Mulroony, holding her head under his left arm, was employing his right hand in conveying a tin cup of bran mash from the bucket at his side to her up-

What in the name of all that's good, are you doing now Mulroony? said I.

Sure, sir, said he, what ad. I do but give black

Phillis the warm' mash, according to yer honor's ordhers? Augh, the haythen! Bad 'cess to her!' 'is throuble enough I've had to make her raisonable an' obedient, an' that's no lie—the stupid ould thafe of a

My dear Urban, you may imagine the finale of so rich a scene; even Mrs. Stanley caught the infection, and laughed heartily. As for Peter, the last I heard of him was his muttering, as he walked away-

'Ayeh! why didn't he tell me? If they call naygurs fillies, and horses fillies, how the divil should I know the differ?

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