

THE DEBROTHERS' DEATH.

We all know of the old superstition that it is ominous for thirteen people to sit down to table together. Even now, it is something that very sensible people do not like to do, and in France there were mentioned a number of persons who hired themselves out to hosts who found it impossible otherwise to avoid the dreaded number.

When Madame Verne's granddaughter Horace was betrothed to Monsieur Moran, it became necessary to celebrate the occasion by a little family supper. No strangers were to be asked. But when Madame Verne had counted them all, she found, to her horror, that they numbered thirteen.

So M. Rodon was invited, and all went well until two days before the supper, when an unfortunate young cousin betrothed to her broke a limb, and reduced the party again to thirteen. The time was short, but Madame Verne made the best of it. She invited the multi-headed, who accepted with delight. Matters were arranged once more, when a message came to Uncle Pierre which demanded his presence elsewhere.

Again there were thirteen present, and half a day remaining. Madame Verne was equal to the emergency. She sent a note to a dear old gentleman of her acquaintance, begging him to come. And how all was well again. The fourteenth guest was in his house, the table was set, the ladies were adding the finishing touches to their toilettes in the dressing-room, and Horace, all thumbs, was receiving the congratulations of his friends, when suddenly a scream was heard to sound through the house.

The maiden aunt, Mademoiselle Rosine, had caught her dress on fire. It was extinguished before she was hurt; but the dress was spoiled, her nerves upset, and she could not remain. Madame Verne was equal to the emergency. She sent a note to a dear old gentleman of her acquaintance, begging him to come. And how all was well again.

Madame Verne was in despair. A quarternote must be had; but how and where to get a note? Suddenly Madame Verne remembered her husband. He was short as yet. She tossed on a bed and saw, and hurried into it. "Drive to number one," she said to the coachman, "as fast as you can."

It was only five minutes' ride to the building in which the notary's office had been located. A many-voiced edifice, which he occupied the second floor. On the first were situated the apartments of M. Moran. Horace's beloved husband. As she hurried past their door, Madame Verne directed toward them, and saw a lady dressed in black, standing in a hallway, who, at the same instant, said the door in his face.

Madame Verne, having mounted the stairs, was doomed to a disappointment. The notary was in, but he was suffering from an attack of the cholera, and could not give her the direction of a quaternote, who, if he was disengaged, would be happy to take himself off for a short time. He wrote it on a piece of paper, and again Madame hurried down stairs. As she reached the foot, however, she found a woman, dressed in black, and upon whose lower end, rocking herself to and fro, and touching the figure upon the shoulder and said: "My poor child, what is the matter?"

THE WELLAND CANAL.

The Welland canal will open April 15. John Scatchell, of Dresden, committed suicide by jumping into the Welland canal. Mrs. Miller, of Toronto, fell over the canal bridge, outside the city of Ottawa. George Stables, of Allumet, Island, had his right foot cut off at the ankle by a saw on Tuesday last.

Next week's program. The steam of General Interest. The Welland canal will open April 15. John Scatchell, of Dresden, committed suicide by jumping into the Welland canal. Mrs. Miller, of Toronto, fell over the canal bridge, outside the city of Ottawa.

Gen. Bennett, of Rodney, who forged his daughter's name on a check for \$1000. The new C. P. R. depot at Windsor is to cost \$100,000. The materials are nearly all on hand. The new C. P. R. depot at Windsor is to cost \$100,000. The materials are nearly all on hand.

On Friday morning, Mr. Geo. Martin, of Toronto, with his wife and two children, was driving to Hamilton. The car was struck by a train, and the family was killed.

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