

Henrich's laborious endeavors.

"Nil desperandum is my motto," answered the young man; and when the words were scarcely uttered, Henrich jumped upon the carriage step and leaning through the window, thrust the tinder eagerly in the direction of the gentleman's face. "Hurrah, sir, puff away!"

After a short pause, during which time the stranger had been puffing at his pipe, he removed it from his mouth and addressed Henrich in this way:

"I have been thinking over what you have been telling me; and perhaps in an humble way I might be able to assist you, and thus act the part of the cousin you are seeking. At all events, when you get to Berlin, take this note," handing him the slip of paper on which he had been writing; "take this note to Marshal Grumbkow, who is somewhat of a friend of mine, and who will I think be glad to oblige me. But mind! Do exactly as he bids you, and abide strictly by his advice. If he says he will help you rely upon it he will keep his word. But he is rather eccentric, and the way he sets about doing a kindness may perhaps seem strange to you. And now," he continued, "as the road is improved, I must hurry on the horses, and so bid you good evening, hoping you will prosper in your career."

As Henrich began to express his thanks for the good wishes of his unknown friend, the signal was given to increase the speed of the horses, and, before he had time to make any acknowledgements, he found himself alone again. The young man not a little astonished at what had taken place; and as he gazed on the slip of paper, could not help wondering whether any good would come of it. These

were the only words written on it:

"DEAR MARSHAL. — If you can forward the views of the bearer, Henrich Meyer, you will oblige your friend. F.

"Let me know the result of your interview with him."

"Time will prove this, as it does all other things," thought Henrich as he proceeded on his way. Somehow or other, the road appeared less wearisome, and he felt less tired and footsore, since receiving the mysterious bit of paper. Hope was stronger within him than the she had been for many a day; and on her wings he was carried pleasantly along, so that he reached Berlin by nightfall.

The noise and bustle of the capital was new to him; and he found some little difficulty in making his way to the gasthaus, to which he had been recommended by the pastor of his parish. The pastor, having been once in Berlin, was considered an oracle in all matters connected with town life.

The inn was, however, found at last, and after a frugal supper and a good night's rest, our friend arose, ready to hope and believe everything from the mysterious note, which he started forth to deliver immediately after breakfast.

Obliged to ask his way to Marshal Grumbkow's he was amused and surprised at the astonishment depicted on the countenances of those of whom he made the inquiry; as if they would say, "What business can you have with the Marshal Grumbkow?"

The house was however at last gained, and having delivered his missive to a servant, Henrich awaited the result in the hall. In a few minutes the servant returned, and requested him in the most respectful manner to follow him to the marshal's presence. Arrived there, he was received most courteously: