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# BLUE

As he said this, his eyes were nxed on Marjorie's face with a keen, though furtive gaze.

TRACED BY A VALENITUE

\*\*\*\*\*

It was as though he were watching for some look of suspicion—as though he were half expecting that his description of the mysterious gang of thieves would awaken some special interest in her mind.

And it did-though not in the way he had expected.

Her cheek flushed, and her breath came fast. She uttered such an exclamation of surprise and horror that it startled him.
"What is it, Marjorie?" he asked,

"What is it, Marjorie?" he asked, fooking at her curiously.
"Mr. Hyde, my father was murders ed at midnight by a thief who came to rob him!"

He looked amazed—bewildered.

"Your father? - when? - how long ago?" he queried, in a voice which, try as he might, he could not keep quite

free from excitement. "Nine years ago. We lived in West-moreland then—at rather a lonely house. My father was writing a book, and he always sat up late alone. One night—it was Valentine's eve—he was murdered—stabled to the heart by some villain for the sake of a hundred pounds in bank notes which had been

paid to him that day." Again the young man cast on her a strange look.

"I fancy I remember something of that murder," he said slowly. "But the name-surely it was not St. Clair?"

And then Marjorie explained briefly how she had come to change her name. She told him, too, that her full name was Ethel Marjorie, and that it was as Ethel Bruce she had been spoken of in the newspapers at the time of the

"Tell me all about it.. will you?" he said, and she complied, beginning with her father's mysterious dream, and concluding with the extraordinary, co-incidence of Madeline's possession of

the locket. So amazed was he at this that he sould not repress a start, and, if he had not kept his eyes bent on the ground, Marjoris must have marvelled at the

strange look in them.

She went on to tell him how she had preserved the little piece of blue enamel, and, by that means, was able to prove, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that Madeline's locket was the one which had been stolen from her father

on that fatal night. on that fatal night.

"That bit of blue enamel is of the utmost importance!" exclaimed Hyde, raising his head for the first time during the narrative. "Take every care of it. Where do you keep it, Marjorie?"

"Oh, it is quite safe. I haven't kept that these years to less it your."

ft all these years to lose it now. I keep it in a little ivory box my dear father gave me, and this is locked up inside another box, and that, again, is locked inside my desk, and the desk is locked inside one of my drawers. Can anything be safer than that?" said

Marjorie.
"My word, I should think not," and Charles Hyde smiled so broadly as to reveal all his fine white teeth.

He seemed excessively amused at all

"Of course, I don't attach much importance to the discovery of the lock-et," went on Marjorie, gravely, as she rose and prepared to walk homewards.

As Madeline says, it no doubt passed through many hands before it came to hers.

"Oh, no doubt," said Hyde, with Alacrity.

"Still, it is a coincidence-a very strange coincidence; and somehow I can't help feeling that through that locket the murderer will be brought to justice in the end."

The young man cast a keen, side fong glance at her, as though doubting whether she might not be keeping back some suspicion in her mind.

"And this gang of thieves you were speaking of," she resumed. "Isn't it quite possible it is one of them who killed my father?"

"Quite possible. I should say," he answered, rather dryly.
"But not very probable, you think?"

said Marjorie, looking quickly into his

"I didn't say so." And he smiled a trific amusedly.

Marjorie felt hurt.

"Oh, Mr. Hyde, it isn't a jesting mat-ter—to me!" she exclaimed, reproach-

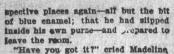
"Forgive me," he said, becoming per-"Forgive me," he said, becoming perfectly serious in a moment, and drawing her arm through his as he spoke.
"Forgive me. I wouldn't have pained
you for the world." After a pause he
added, very softly: "You believe that"
Marjorie!"

She did not answer, though a joyous

She did not answer, though a joyous thrill ran through her veins, and made her heart beat fast.

A few moments later they had reached the house.

That same afternoon, soon after funcheon, Mr. Hyde looked across the table at Marjorle, and said—



"Safe enough. I hope she won't miss

cance.
"I won't," she answered faintly, and then she hurried back to her

which the future was revealed. If such a thing were possible many a bright-faced bride would shrink from the revelation of herself, stripped of all her loveliness. If there is one thing which would make a woman shrink from marriage it is to see the rapid physical deterioration which comes to so many wives. The cause is generally due to womanly diseases.

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"I needn't ask whether your walk did you good. You have grown quite pale in this last day or two, but now



again. Do you know what Madeline is doing, my dear?-whether she is want-

ing you, I mean."
"No, sir. She is asleep." "Then get another mouthful of fresh air, my dear. I am going down to the village in a few minutes. Will you walk with me as far?"

With pleasure. sir." And she ran upstairs to put on het hat and cloak. Five minutes later, Charles Hyde,

standing beside one of the windows in the upstairs corridor, watched his uncle and Marjorie depart. He watched them down the drive,

through the gate, and out of sight; then, very coolly, and as though he was doing the most natural thing in the world, he crossed the corridor and entered Marjorie's bedroom. Locking the door carefully behind

him, he produced a bunch of keys of all shapes and sizes, and began, with great deliberation, to fit them, one after the other, into the locks of the drawers.

The fifth he tried was successful,

and revealed to his view the writing desk, of which Marjorie had spoken. The lock of this too, was tried, and

eyes feverishly bright, stood outside wrapped in a dressing gown. "Have you finished?" she panted

"She is coming down the lane. She will be here in five minutes."

"She may be here in one minute it she chooses," said Charles Hyde,

He put all the things into their re-

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"Have you got it?" cried Madeline excitedly, seeming in an agony of sus-

"sate enough. I nope she won't miss
it for a day or two. And if you are
wise you won't say a word of all this
to anyone—to anyone, mind you."

And he looked at her with signifi-

To Be Continued.

#### \*\*\*\*\* THE STAGE

"All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players."

\*\*\*\*\*

ANNOUNCEMENTS. At the Chatham Grand:-General Hospital Benefit—Oct. 9. Side Tracked—Oct. 10. Pauline & Co.—Oct. 12-19. Lyceum Course—Oct. 26. Sadie Martinot—Oct. 27. Firemen's Benefit—Oct. 29.

Over Niagara Falls-Oct. 30. (Supplied to The Planet by Press Agents.)

"SIDE TRACKED."

Theatre-goers at large will no doubt be glad to hear that our old friend, the funny tramp, Horatio Irv-

doubt be glad to hear that our old friend, the funny tramp, Horatio Irving Booth, will stop in his pereginations and lay over for a rest, the freight car in which he travels being "Side Tracked."

The play is well known as a good, sensational comedy, chuck full of fun, fire and ginger. The play has been rewritten and strengthened, is being played with a fine cast composed of well known and fully proficient actors, and is making a hit this season greater than ever. The plot, while not deep, is thrillingly interesting and serves to amuse and entertain, as it shows the true inwardness of certain hypocritical human beings, and the innate nobility of character of one of the "genus homo," called a tramp proving the truth axioms: "It is not the clothes that makes the man," and "A ragged coat may cover an honest heart?"

A complete new outfit of stage effects and picturesque seenery, including the great railroad switch seene with its manipulation of the signal switch system, and the transferring of freight cars making them true to the title, "Side Tracked."

At the Grand to-morrow night.

THE GREAT PAULINE.

From the Burlington (Vt.) Daily Free Press: "The Great Pauline, the eminent French hypnotist and mind reader, is giving a series of entertainments at the Howard and will continue them throughout the week. They are both amusing and instructive and fully demonstrate the power of mind over matter. His work is of such a character that the most skeptical must admit that it is genuine hypnotism and no slight of shand work. Nothing has ever appeared in Burlington that has furnished so much amusement and instruction and at the same time giving a peep into the mysteries of this great unexplained science. One of the great feats performed by the Great Pauline was placing a young man under the influence of his magic spell Tuesday evening and on Wednesday evening, twenty-four hours afterward, twakened him, unharmed and as natural as ever. The man was placed in a show window where he was viewed by thousands of people. Mr. Pauline demonstrated his power over the subject by causing him to lie down, rise up and turn THE GREAT PAULINE.

desk, of which Marjorie had spoken.

The lock of this too, was tried, and with the same success.

The same with the little box within ft, and finally he held in his hand the tiny ivory box containing the bit of blue enamel.

At this moment there came a low, hurried tap at the door.

Without a moments hesitation, he crossed the room and spened it.

Madeline, her cheeks flushed, her eyes feverishly bright, stood outside wrapped in a dressing gown.

"Have you finished?" she panted "She is coming down the lane. She will be here in five minutes."

"She may be here in one minute it the chooses" said Charles Hyda.

There are few female roles in modern drama which permit of the display of so many varying emotions as are evident in the character lof Paula Tanqueray in "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray," which Miss Sadie Martinot will soon present here. Her supporting company is chosen with only one thought, their fitness for the various characters and ability to impersonate them.

A certain stipendiary Magistrate in England has a remarkable head of hair. He is rather proud of his possession, and has no intention of parting with it at present.

Not long ago a local ne'er-do-well was brought before him on a charge of poaching, and in the course of the hearing of the case an amusing incident occurred. The prisoner was exceedingly impudent, interrupting the witnesses and insulting all who had anything to say to or against him.

Considering the case proved, the stipendiary turned to the prisoner and asked:

"Have you any remarks to make?"

"Have you any remarks to make?"
"Yes, I have," responded he, flippantly, "Your hair wants culting!"
There was an audible titter in court, which developed into a roar of laughter as the witty stipendiary coolly replied:
"So does yours, my friend. Three months."

Before the laughter had subsided the prisoner was in the cells.

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