A TALE OF THE CLYDE.
CHAPTER XV.
HERMANN IS LED WITHIN THE AWFUL
SHADOW.
"Oh, Hermann," she cried, "do you
t see what must follow?"
Nothing very serious I houe" he

"Oh, Hermann," she crica, "ao you not see what must follow?"
"Nothing very serious I hope," he quietly rejoined. "This baffled villain, Dubosque, will doubtless spread abroad the fact which has come to his knewledge in a very mysterious way; and acquaintances may talk of it, but those whose friendship we value are too sensible to look at it in any other than a true light, and for what others may say we need not care."

"Oh, Hermann, Hermann, do you not see what must follow?" she wailed, regarding him as she spoke with a look of agony.

garding him as she spoke with a look of agony.

"No," he answered, in utter astonishment. "I see nothing beyond what I have indicated."

"And were that all, it would be nothing, for it would not touch us in the temple of our love. But oh, Hermann, do you not understand that by it our temple is destroyed—made desolate, its shrine removed, its altar swept away, its whole fabric laid in ruins?"

"Helen!—merciful Heaven, Helen! you are raving," cried Hermann, in the extremity of stricken amazement. So utterly unprepared was he for an idea of this kind that her words brought the fear into his mind that the shock had touched the delicate organization of her brain, and her reason was being driven from its place.

But, if he could have looked steadily

the delicate organization of her brain, and her reason was being driven from its place.

But if he could have looked steadily into her countenance he would have seen no trace of such a dire calamity. There was no wild gleam of insanity in her eye, no fever heat of madness in her cheek. Misery and anguish were face—the best evidences of a fully exercised reason under such circumstances. Woe and pain were there, and the sadness of deepest, fullert consciousness. There he might have seen and been disabused of his first swift notion, but the result the pointed at was so appalling and, to him, so uncalled for, that he thought nothing but a recling reason could have conjured it into her imagination.

He was forced to believe otherwise, when, with perfect composure, but with an aspect of infinite suffering, she laid her hand on his, and, raising her sorrowful eyes to his face, murmured—

"No, dear Hermann, I am not raving. The discovery ends all between us. My reason, my conviction, my sense of right tells me so. Eeffect calmily, and you will see and own it."

"Thank God that my fear is ground-

The discovery ends all between us. My reason, my conviction, my sense of right tells me so. Reflect calmly, and you will see and own it."

"Thank God that my fear is groundless," he said, with a long relieving sigh. "You are not raving, Helen, but you are laboring under a strange and terrible delusion. This discovery does and can make no difference to us; it cannot possibly affect us or our relation to each other. What a frightful, what an appalling thing it would be if it could. Only think, dearest, what your delusion, if true, would involve: separation—the death of our dearest hopes—the withering of our hearts—the quenching of our joys—life-long woe—and agony unspeakable."

"Oh, I know, I know," moaned Helen. "It involves all that, and more even than these words, or any words, can express. Bit ris our fate, Hermann, our hapless fate, and we must bear it."

He stood before her stupified into silence. He saw by the carnestness of her manner and the decision of her language that there was at the moment a perfect conviction in her own mind that what she said must be done, was a necessity, and he suspected that a little time and reflection would be needed to show her the mistake. After a few moments' inward thought, he spoke again—"We shall say no more about it at present, Helen. This has come upon you so suddenly and unexpectedly that you are not able to see the matter in its true light, and in the excitement and agitation of the hour, you have—"

'Stop, Hermann, she interrupted. I know what you mean, and what you would say. You think that tomorrow, or in a day or two, I shall abandon this thought. I cannot allow such an impression to settle on your mind. I would be false to myself and cruel to your if I did. This is no contingency suddenly presented to my mind, which I have had to look at for the first time in excitement and agitation. It arises from a principle rooted in my nature, and rooted in yours too, Hermann, if your generous and ardent after the first time in excitement and agitation. It arises from a pr

cido.

We are in one and the same position, Helen; we are betrothed, he said impressively.

"Conditionally, Hermann. All that I could set against the social difference which existed between ns, against your wealth and my poverty, against your wealth and my poverty, against your wealth and my poverty, against your or active sphere and my humble rank, was an un-potted name. With prond assurance I took my stand on that in the interies which our true love dignified and justified. My words to your father were this alcone could render me worthy of an alliance which our true love dignified and justified. My words to your father were these—"If dishonour attached to end in the same. It is not the pledge I gave your father who can be undered them and the cath came, centrols and sways me beyond the power even of my deep, unclaimed the sacrifice we make. In one some, it is true, I cannot; but I have felt it hard to do, and will feel it more and more in the lonely years to come. My heart bleeds for you, my poor, lone and more in the lonely years to come. My heart bleeds for you, my poor, lone and more in the lonely years to come. My heart bleeds for you, my poor, lone and more in the lonely years to come. My heart bleeds for you, my poor, lone and more in the lonely years to come. My heart bleeds for you, my poor, lone and more in the lonely years to come. My heart bleeds for you, my poor, lone and more in the lonely years to come. My heart bleeds for you, my poor, lone and more in the lone we shall emerge from the valley of sorrow, and reach the land of peace and not feel to make the power only the power only; we have the power only the power only; we have the

SATURDAY EVENING, FEB. 10, 1872

HELEN MOIR

OR—

LOVE AND HOUDE.

A TALE OF THE CLYDE.
CHAPTER XV.
HERMANN IS LED WITHIN THE AWFUL
SHADOW.

SUSTAIN S

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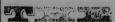
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