

ministerial party, we find that its leader is the Comte de Gondreville, your husband's colleague in the Chamber of Peers. With him trains a very influential elector, his old friend, ex-mayor and ex-notary of Arcis, Grévin by name, who, in his turn, draws in his orbit an elector of equal importance, Maître Achille Pigoult, to whom he sold his office when he retired from business. But Mother Marie des Anges has a powerful lien upon the Comte de Gondreville through his daughter, the Maréchale de Carigliano. That great lady, being, as you know, a person of most exemplary piety, comes to the Ursulines almost every year for a season of humble seclusion. Furthermore, Mother Marie des Anges claims, without going into details, that she has old Gondreville on the hip by reason of a certain matter known only to herself; and it is a fact that the life of that ex-regicide, become senator, count of the Empire, and afterward peer of France under two dynasties, has wound its way through such tortuous underground passages that one can readily imagine secret openings which it would not be agreeable to him to have laid bare. Now, Gondreville means Grévin, his confidential friend and, as they say, his *âme damnée* for the past fifty years; but, assuming that the impossible happens, and that their everlasting alliance falls to pieces under the present circumstances, we are sure in any event of Achille Pigoult, Grévin's successor, who is, as Grévin was, the notary employed by the convent, and upon whom, at the time the papers were passed