

The Mystery Solved at Last.

CHAPTER XII. Tom's Story.

to supply his master's wish with half mare.

He hung about her, waiting with a

hand upon the canterbury, ready to it, Miss Chichester." find the song she chose to sing.

carry, and, if she chanced to sit down the seat to be dragged into the shade

If they rode out, he insisted upon an examination of the saddle girth and bridle before she mounted though Phoebe was as safe an ani-

mal as ever carried a side-saddle. Tom's anxious mind conjured up a | "I know to whom it belongs!" thousand accidents that might happen and he was always expecting.

All these, and many other atten tions, poor Maud took with some emhad not the heart to rebuke or discourage, for she must have had a suspicion that one cold word from he would start the unhappy boy off-to Timbuctoo, perhaps.

One morning Tom had ridden over with his sister to entice Maud into a ride, and, she at once consenting, the pair were soon cantering toward the cottage to call for Carlotta.

Tom, by Maud's side as usual,, suddenly pulled up, and said, with a hurried abruptness:

"Miss Chichester!" Maud checked the mare, and turn-

ed her sweet face to him. "Oh, don't pull up," he said, uneas-

ily. "We can talk galloping-at least, I can-I mean, that is to say, if you can, Miss Chichester."

"Oh, yes," said Maud, smiling gently, and patting Phoebe into a gallop

Tom, who was left behind by this movement, spurred on, and coming alongside, took from his breast pocket

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a small letter case, bound with silve edging and engraved with strange

up last night just by the rectory." At the mention of the rectory Maud flushed slightly, and took the

"It's a very curious affair, isn't it?" said Tom, taking the opportunity No slave of the ring ever watched to edge his roan a little nearer the

> "Very," said Maud. "I cannot sec any name on it, and all these strange figures I do not understand."

"You mean the queer scribbling on the silver? Neither can I. We opened it last night, to see if there was any name written inside, but it's filled ranged the music stool, with his with all sorts of odds and ends. Open

Maud hesitated. world of hard work, for there was can be no harm; besides, you will be the balls to recover, her mallet to able to make something of it, per-

> Maud still hesitating, Tom took i from her hand, and, unfastening the

foreign language-Italian, I think Bella said; but I don't think she knows-anyhow, she couldn't make

"It is Italian." said Maud, quietly. closed the book sharply, and, turning pale, said, in a low voice:

"Of course you do, Miss Chiches-

"Mr. Durant," said Maud, turning her face away and stroking the mare "Mr. Durant-of course; what a duffer I am; he's the fellow who they

"Mad!" repeated Maud, almost fiercely. "Who says?"

Tom looked positively frightened. "I beg your pardon, Miss Chiches ter." he said. "Upon my word-oh. friend of yours. What an idiot I am Miss Chichester-"

Maud stopped him with a faint

"Pray, do not apologize," she said You have said nothing wrong-at you have heard. Will you tell me anything more they say?"

She hesitated. "Of course I will-I'm bound to it

you ask me," he added, aside. "But "Oh, no, not since he disappeared," said Tom, delighted to continue the idiots say, will you, Miss Chichester?" conversation, and still flushing at "Oh, no!" said Maud. Maud's gentle thanks. "Not since he's gone. That's what makes it odd. He organ, for they had heard the ser-

"Well, it's generally supposed that Mr. Durant is mad all through the village. He does such queer things, dressed I mean, in such a queer of the woods. Besides, no one knows think that there's queer diversions "Then, old Charley White-you know the church, he was coming through he wood at the back of the rectory,

path, wet through with the rain, which You Can't Find Any was beating upon his face like a whip. Dandruff, and Hair Old Charley thought it was a dead body, and was going to cut for it. but, plucking up courage, he lit his little lantern, and creeping up, saw Save your hair! Make it thick, wavy, that it was Mr. Durant. He did't know

glossy and beautiful at it was him, you know, but from his description it couldn't have been any one else. Well, there he was, lying like a corpse, one hand being in a pool of water and wet leaves, and the other classing—what do you think.

Try as you will, after an application of Danderine, you can not find a single trace of dandruff or falling hair, and your scalp will not itch, but what

other clasping—what do you think, and your scalp will het itell, and your scalp will be after a will please you most, will be after a few weeks' use, when you see new your seen new your your seen new your your seen new your your your your your your your y Maud, who during the recital had hair, fine and downy at first—yes—but really new hair—growing all over scraggy, just moisten a cloth with at Tom's alarmed exclamation sud-

pressure of the small fingers, which

you. I'm so stupid! Well. Charley

took out his brandy flask, and pour-

ed a little on his lips. In a minute

the parson-I beg your pardon, Mr.

to drink, and he spouted it out."

then drawing a long breath, added:

vants telling about the way in which

he played at the hall."

Maud crimsoned

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continued:

at fom's alarmed exclamation sud-Danderine and carefully draw it denly regained her composure, and through your hair, taking only one small strand at a time. The effect is said, though faintly: will be light, fluffy and wavy, and "Go on, please-go on." "Well-but ain't you ill, Miss Chiincomparable lustre, softness and chester? Oh, do let me ride on for luxuriance, the beauty and shimmer of true hair health.

Get a 25-cent bottle of Knowlton's Danderine from any drug store or toilet counter, and prove that your "No, no," said Maud, eagerly laying her hand on his arm in her earn- hair is as pretty and soft as anythat it has been neglected or injured Tom flushed burning hot at the tle will double the beauty of your

he could feel trembling painfully, and "They should not speak of things that occur at the hall." she said, with "Well-I'm sure I'm frightening

evidence of distress. "And I'm a that the old man thought he really was dead. But, just as a chance,

"No, no," said Maud, pitying his

the parson—I beg your pardon, Mr. Then there was a silence, which burant—moved and spoke one word. Maud broke just as they were close or figured voile, checked or novelity with the parson—I beg your pardon, Mr. Then there was a silence, which design. It is good for taffeta, but as they were close or figured voile, checked or novelity with the parson—I beg your pardon, Mr. Then there was a silence, which design. It is good for taffeta, but as they were close the parson—I beg your pardon, Mr. Then there was a silence, which design. It is good for taffeta, but as they were close to the parson—I beg your pardon, Mr. Then there was a silence, which design. It is good for taffeta, but as they were close to the parson—I beg your pardon, Mr. Then there was a silence, which design. It is good for taffeta, but as they were close to the parson—I beg your pardon, Mr. Then there was a silence, which design. It is good for taffeta, but as they were close to the parson—I beg you have a silence with the parson w upon Tom's sisters, by asking, with a chambrey, linen or percale. For a morning dress linen, or gingham a name, Charley said—though he couldn't tell me what, only remem-slight hesitation:

bering the last part of it, which was like 'ece.' Then Charley forced some were speaking live? Could my brobrandy through his lips, and sudden- ther find him, do you think?"

ly Mr. Durant sprang to his feet. "Charley White, do you mean, knocking the flask out of Charley's miss? Oh, he's left the country and sleeve is close fitting below the elbow hand, and grasping him by the throat, gone no one knows where. Why, Mr. and finished with a smart pointed cuff, in wrist length. In short length looking at the first page, and with a lifted him clean off the ground. Old Fielding warned him off the estate, I a turn back cuff forms a neat finish. The skirt has plaited fulness in back ged-choked, you know-but he poaching. Shall I try and find him tuck effect. couldn't halloa, and felt his heart die for you, Miss Chichester?" he asked, to nothing as the parson, gripping eagerly. "If you want him, I'll find of 36 inch material for a 36 inch size. him with his hand like iron, growled him, if I had to search the whole the foot.

> listening! You have heard me speak. "Oh. no. no. no!" said Maud. "I only wanted to-to-give him a little

> White got his neck up, and groaned he read his soul, old Charley said, anyway, Miss Chichester," said Tom, then dropped him, and taking a hand- with a laugh. "He was hurt, I know ful of money from his pocket, bound for I saw the marks of the parson's him over in three or four words not | hand, but he got a lot of moneyto tell a soul wha had occurred, and nearly twenty pounds, I think he to keep his word, but I came across to break every bone in his body for him one night when he'd had a drop half that sum."

> Maud made no further remark. Maud, whose head had gradually seemingly persuaded from her purdropped upon her bosom, raised it pose, and Tom, after waiting a moand looked at him with a dreamy ment, said, suddenly:

> "Would you mind, Miss Chichester, "Thank you," she said, gently. "It keeping this thing? I don't know Mr. is very kind of you to take so much Durant, and I'm likely to lose it, betrouble. You are always very kind,"

Maud hesitated for a moment, then "Is the music still to be heard at the said, quickly: "I will keep it if you wish it, Mr.

Gregson, but I don't think it would be less safe with you." "Oh, yes, it would," said Tom.

And he gave it to her. At this moment she caught up to the two Miss Gregsons, who assailed them say that he could play on the the pair with a volley of questions and playful reproaches.

> Bella. "For it's too cruel of you to keep Miss Chichester all to yourself

> breath, about minding their own business, but looked radiantly happy, and "Mr. Gregson has been very kind, ndeed. We have had quite an inter-

> sting conversation." "Dear me!" said Miss Lavinia aughing, though not ill-naturedly; 'I am astonished; I didn't think you ould be interesting, Tom-did you,

"They're too hard on me, ain't they, Miss Chichester?" said Tom, flushing. 'They're jealous of you keeping with me so long—that's what they are. wish you'd wake the mare up and have a gallop. The girls' horses are not half so fast, and we could-" (To be Continued.)

Bella?"

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Wallace, of Baltimore. GERMAN ORDERS WILL

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