An Historical Romance of the Times of Queen Elizabeth.

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After breakfast, Father Weston

In the afternoon of the same day

rode back to London with Bab-

"The dies is cast !" I said to

"May you never repent it !" he

seemed glad to hear my decision,

pected, and said some kind things

done to himself. He asked when I

thought of Going to Chartley, and I

replied it was for him to determine

after "Cantate" Sunday, and said if

I had no objection his nephew St.

hat we must both go to Court, and

ous a manner. A fortunate child is

hat, he said, to have found favor

with the Queen at so early an age;

be within his grasp. Thereupon he

Whatever the cause of weak-

it and set the matter right.

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CHAPTER XVIII .- (Continued.) tained, lest a ray of light might be-He kept silent for some time, then tray us; trusty servants were stationed at the doors and on the stairhe questioned me concerning our design, the means whereby we pro- case, lest the pursuivants should posed to execute it, and particularly again surprise us. The priest said about the qualifications of the per- a Requiem Mass; the old lady, uncle sons who had pledged themselves to Barthy, Miss Mary and myself, rethis undertaking. When I told him ceived Holy Communion. Afterthere were six young men of good wards Father Weston recited the "Libera," sprinkled the coffin with family, ardent Catholics, about my own age, he sighed, and again for a holy water, scattering in it a handwhile said nothing. I thought he ful of consecrated earth, in order that was seeking to know the will of God the departed might not be entirely in this matter. Presently I broke the silence by inquiring whether he Church. The duty of interring his did not think our enterprise permis- mortal remains in the family vault sible? To me and my friends it in the desecrated churchyard must appeared chivalrous and meritorious be left to the Protestant minister. in a high degree. He replied that A few words of consolation and admonition were addressed to us by in itself the release of an innocent Father Weston; then he unvested, person from unjust imprisonment, and cautiously concealed the sacred provided no unlawful means were vessels in a hiding place constructed employed, was certainly a legitimate in the wall; we meanwhile said the and laudable action, and this princi-Rosary for the soul of the departed. ple held good in the case of Mary Stuart, whose captivity for eighteen took little Frith with him into the years on account of her faith was an room where I had made my confesopen violation of justice. But even sion the night before, and kept him a good deed may become wrong, if there some time. On his return he it could be forseen that it would be attended with disastrous conse- said it was much to be wished that the child should leave the country at quences, for prudence was one of the once, but as this might bring us into Cardinal virtues. And in the event trouble, he would not oppose his goof the attempt proving abortive, I ing to Court for a short period, trustmust be aware that the results would ing that he would be preserved from be fatal not only to those who had harm. He had told him what he taken part in it, but to the captive must do and whither he must fly if herself; nay, to all the Catholics sorely pressed by temptation. Thus cf England, who already groaned the question was settled. under a cruel persecution. And what I told him of the youth of the conspirators augured ill for the success ington, and on the way told him of their project. But what caused what Father Weston had been sayhim the most apprehension was the ing to me. He made very light of attitude Walsingham had assumed : it, and said not long before he had there was no doubt he had got wind consulted the Tesuit about the same of the plot, and the wily statesman thing, and received a similar answer. thought to throw us off our guard by his friendly advances, in order These learned theologians were not present juncture; let it once be carblow, and the Queen of Scots perried out and crowned with success, chance with it. He begged us for God's cake to have nothing to do they would be ready enough to give it their approval. In general, Babwith a man who was so infinitely ington had not a good word to say superior to us in cunning. I then of Father Weston, because, as I afterexplained that I had sworn to stand wards learnt, he had advised him by my friends in their attempt to to put all thought of the enterprise deliver Mary Stuart, and unless he out of his mind, telling him to his authoritatively assured me that it face that he was not the man to conwas sinful. I should not depart from duct it, and he did not see in what my word. Moreover, I thought the manner he could ever escape out of plan would succeed; we had agreed Walsingham's snares. I also disto ask the consent of the prisoner cussed the matter with Tichbourne; herself, so that she would be prehe too inclined to the Jesuit's pared like ourselver, to bear the conopinion. For one more day I postsequences of possible failure. And in speaking of the evil results that poned the decision, then, weary of continual pro and con, I made my might be anticipated, one must not forget the good results that would follow upon the release of the Queen; Tichbourne. "I am going to-day and considering the flagrant injustice to Walsingham to accept Chartley." of keeping her captive, one might reckon on the help of God in so good answered, and gave me some counsel

as to how I was to keep behind When the good Father saw that Walsingham. They were of little my mind was made up, and that I or no use. The Secretary of State was fully convinced of the lawfulness of our enterprise, he no longer which was evidently what he exdissuaded metrom it, but only asked whether any attempt on Elizabeth's about my brother, Lord Windsor, life was connected with it? He was who, he hoped, would consider my evidently relieved by the emphatic appointment to this post as a service denial I gave. I then asked him what he thought about my accept ance of the post Walsingham offered me, for that was the point on which that. Then he fixed the Monday I was most anxious for his advice. He replied that it was quite evident that such an extraordinary proposal Barbe would accompany me, as he on Walsingham's part was a trap of bad some messages to carry to the some kind, but what his particular Queen and to Sir Amias, Before design was, was not so equally apparent. Perhaps her enemies meant take thither the funny little fellow, to administer poison to the prisoner, who had lately made acquaintance and the appointment of a Catholic with her Majesty in so unceremoniphysician was intended as a blind. He had heard on good authority that hints of her assassination had been given to Sir Amias Paulet, but the highest honors and dignities will he, despite his hatred of Catholics, had repudiated them indignantly. On the other hand it was obvious that my presence at Chartley, even for a few hours, would greatly facilitate the execution of our project He must leave the decision to me, only imploring me to be continually on my-guard, and bear in mind with how artful and determined a man had to deal. If I embarked in this perilous undertaking, it was doubly others strong. imperative upon me to keep my conscience clean, as I might be called at any moment to appear before the judgment seat of God. I must be prepared for a violent death, and so must my frierds. Then in a touchsmall and weak. ing exhortation, he pointed out to me that it was not by means of political plots and intrigues, but ly Child weakness often means her listen to me. Again I asked her prayer and suffering, yes, by the starvation, not because of lack if she would accept my nosegay blood of her martyre, that the Church must hope to prevail in Eogland. does not feed. And when he had awakened me to contrition and repentance for all the sins of my past life, he gave me ab-

It was about two in the morning ness and failure to growwhen we all assembled in the upper chamber where Richard Bellamy had died, and where he was laid out. The windows were carefully cur-

took leave of me as kindly as at the close of our first interview, so that I said to myself Father Weston had perhaps been somewhat hasty in his judgment of the man's intentions. Nor did his sending his nephew with me awaken any suspicions, for I thought from the first that he appeared an honorable sort of man.

When I left Walsingham I took my way home through St. Catherine's Docks, for the purpose of paying Bill Bell's daughter a visit. I found her much better, wonderfully better, so much so that I would have backed her to live through the summer. This seemed to me an indication of Providence that I did well to go to Chartley, so ready are we to

in the same direction as our own CHAPTER XIX.

see the finger of God, when it points

The next few days were wet and heerless, days whereby April is wont to check the too rapid advances of spring. By me they were spent in making preparations and concerting our plans of action; for I had deermined to give my friends advice mmediately, should I find the royal captive willing to make her escape. as soon as a favorable opportunity for the attempt presented itself. Salisbury and Barnewell forthwith set out on the way to Lancashire, for the ourpose of gaining a knowledge of the route, bespeaking a relay of horses, and making terms with the skipper of a fishing smack, who would transport the fugitives to Normandy. Babington was to leave London the same day that I did. He was going to his estate at Dethick, in the neighborhood of Chartley to make the necessary arrangements, but not by the direct road, for fear of

Now it happened that on the Saterday before "Jubilate" Sunday he weather changed, and nature once more rejoiced in the bright spring sunshine. I rode to Woxindon in Now, notwithstanding much outthe afternoon. The hope of hear- door life, they are little if any strongerng a Sunday mass there was sufficient than they were. The tan on their excuse for my reappearance, after so faces is darker and makes them look short an interval; besides I had bealthier, but it is only a mask. They promised to fetch Frith on the fol. are still nervous, easily tired, upset owing Monday, as we were to take by trifles, and they do not eat nor nim to Richmond to be presented to sleep well. What they need is what the Queen on Tuesday. I had also tones the nerves, perfects digestion, made up my mind to profit by the creates appetite, and makes sleep first suitable occasion to plead my refreshing, and that is Hood's Sarcause with the young lady whose saparilla. Pupils and teachers genwhen the right moment came, to capable of any daring stroke, such charms, as I could no longer con. erally will find the chief purpose of ceal from myself, had completely enslaved my heart and my fancy.

awakening suspicion.

As I rode slowly through S John's Wood, I noted the change that the last few days had effected The tender green of the beeches had burst through the brown sheaths, and the young leaves glistened in the sunlight, while a light wind gently shook to the ground the pearly drops left by the recent rain. Even the showed signs of awakening life. The his corn, birds warbled and twittered as they littered among the branches, already intent on the business of nest-building. In a sunny sheltered spot the first wild flowers of the year caught ny eye; I dismounted and gathered my

legant nosegay.

I was riding onward with it in my as ever. hand, when suddenly I was startled out of my reverie by a joyous shout. It was Frith's voice : the Carriage maker, St. Antoine, P.Q. ittle fellow came running to meet me. And who did I see somewhat further on, sitting under the beech trees, but his sister Mary, a quantity of flowers y her side, which she was dexterusly weaving into a wreath.

I sprang from the saddle and wen up to her. She shook hands with me in a very cordial manner, and exgreat oak, to her father's memory. But I see," she added, "you too by doing so. have been gathering flowers. How tastefully they are arranged !"

" Do you like the little posy, Mis Bellamy?" I answered. "I meant it for you when I made it up, if you will do me the honor to accept it, as a token of the great esteem and can know just what other people affection," I feel for you."

Every farmer knows that She looked up at me with a height some plants grow better than ened color. Then to my vexation others. Soil may be the same she called to her brother, who was and seed may seem the same running off in search of more flowers: but some plants are weak and "Stop here, Frith, we have plenty of flowers; we will go home directly And that's the way with with Mr. Windsor." It was evident children. They are like young that she wished to avoid being along plants. Same food, same home, with me, whereas that was exactly same care but some grow big what I was wishing for. Was it and strong while others stay maidenly modesty that prompted her, or did she wish to prevent a de Scott's Emulsion offers an claration on my part? At any rate easy way out of the difficulty. I was resolved to speak and make of food, but because the food She replied: "Oh certainly!" The sweet flowers could be put with the others in the wreath she was making Scott's Emulsion really feeds But perceiving that this was not what and gives the child growing I wanted, she said with some embarranged, might she take it home for Scott's Emulsion seems to find vided she would at the same time tell

had to say to her presently.

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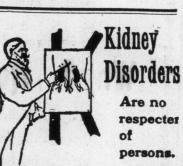
> Yours truly, A. E. ROY.

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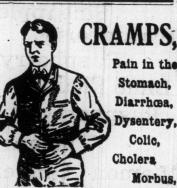
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