THE KNIGHT OF ACHENTHAL A Legend of the Holy Rosary.

BY THE REV. R. J. M'HUGH. The early sunbeams thinly fall Which still lie buried 'neath a pall Of gray September fog,
As dark Sir Otto—dark, indeed, As dark Sir Otto data, In face and heart and thought and deed Toys with the trappings of his steed, And whistles to his dog.

Sir Otto bears an honored name, But foul as stagnant pool his fame, And many a ruthless deed of shame Has made him loathed and His blight is over all the land, His serfs are ruled with iron har His soul, as with a blazing brand,

With sin is burned and sear To-day Sir Otto hunts the boar-His choicest sport, but at his door A moment stands and lingers o'er His palfrey, as though loth To plunge into the stillness 'round,

calm and holy and profound; And now he whistles to his hound, And now he breathes an oath. The while he waits as through the gla

In simple peasant garb arrayed, There comes a fair and modest maid, Eyes cast upon the sod .--Eyes pure as dew that gems the grass And as she comes from early Mass One seems to feel about the lass

And as she comes her fingers tell The beads her young heart loves at A chaplet from Mariazell.

Our Blessed Lady's shrine; For whereso'er the maiden goes-Through woods where first the violet blo Or higher where unshaken snows Forever brightly shine;

Through harvest field or meadow-land, one or with a merry band nions, in her hand Of young companions, in her hand Her well loved beads she keeps No miser ever loved his gold As she that chaplet, worn and old; About it e'en her fingers fold

At night when calm she sleeps. Thou harshly thus Sir Otto cries. The insiden's deep and dark fringed eyes Look quickly up in mild surprise, Her lips still move in prayer. Brat of a beggar ! Dost thou hear! Death o my life! Come up,-draw near What mutterest thou? What dost thou fear And, ha! what hast thou there?

One sudden, angry, stalwart stride, And he is at the maiden's side; The beads she vainly strives to hide He snatches in his heat. Now, get thee to the kitchen, clog; This trumpery shall deck my dog The maiden hears, and like a log Falls senseless at his feet

Come hither, Gluck!" He calls his he The dog comes up with many a bound, And Otto twines around, around His neck the sacred chain In fiendish glee he dares to deck With holy heads the poor brute's neck-Ah. Otto, thou shalt surely reck

This morning's deed profane Now to the chase! Away, away! Sir Otto mounts his champing bay, And soon the forest old and gray Re-echoes to his cries The morn is fair, the sport is keen,

And ne'er before has Otto seen And slain in all his wild demesne, So many a noble prize. And oft he swore by God's own Book, While all his frame with laughter shook

That Mary's beads brought all the luck That followed fast the chase. And, "Certes," said he, "every day ceforth must Gluck an Ave pray And then he trolled a ribald lay, As one devoid of grace.

But noon draws on apace; the heat Is tiercely felt, and sunbeams beat

Through vistas overhead cath the sultry hush of noon All nature lies as in a swoon; The song of birds, the crickets' croon. Alike are sileneed,

Now, tired of sport, with heat oppres The knight quick doffs his hunting-vest, Ties up his horse, and seeks to rest eneath a spreading tree ; But, like a man by serpent stung. With sudden pain, and from his tongue

Roll shrieks of agony. His breath comes hard, with labored gasp His lips are blanched, his fingers clasp His throat with wild, convulsive grasp;

His hair stands up like rends And see, around his neck,-oh see! The flesh is rising curiously,
And forms (ah, fate of blasphemy!)
A chain of horrid beads!

That night they found Sir Otto's corse All cold and stark beside his horse; They buried him without remorse, Nor dropped a pitying tear. He reaped as he had sowed; the tree Lay where it fell !

-O Mary, be Our comfort in the agony That tells us death is near -Ave Maria.

LADY KILDARE

had ne already looked beneath them larged the body with his foot. I had danger is disposed of. An low how to cade and fellow-convert? It must be the convergence of the state, but it was half a mile distant. It would not be possible to with his body. There was a sold expert of the tester, but it was half a mile distant. It would not be possible to drag the body with a was half a mile distant. It would not be possible to drag the body to ji in frond deplifying the work of the state, but it was half a mile distant. It would not be possible to drag the body to ji in frond deplifying the work of the state, but it was half a mile distant. It would not be possible to drag the body to ji in frond deplifying the shold give the state, but it was half a mile distant. It would not be possible to drag the body to ji in frond deplifying the shold give to the shold give the shold give to the shold give the shold give to the shold give to the shold give the s

thrill of hope. The color came back to his sallow cheeks, and he assumed a haughty, supercilious manner, such as he deemed appropriate to the Lerd of Connor Hall.

'Stand back, fellow I' he ejaculated hoarsely and menacingly. 'How dare you intrude like this into private grounds? This is no place for footpads, as you will find to your cost.'

This address, and the domineering air 1 which it was delivered, after the ec. nt evaluent panic of Bassantyne. 'You are alone?' he said.

'This time, yes. Yet not alone, for I am armed.'

'Well, what will you take to keep it truder. He gave a great gasp of astonishment, and opened his small eyes to their widest extent, while an expression of utter bewilderment conditions and expression of utter bewilderment conditions.'

'You own up, then?' he demand-

ulsed his visage.

Then he forced a hoarse laugh.

Scoundrel! Do you know to rhom you are talking? I am Nicol 'Ot Ballyconnor, and so on.

know all that. I know, too, that you are my old pal, Gentleman Bob, and that I can make my fortune a-giving on you up. You've been everything, by turns, Gentleman Bob, count. ord, gentleman of leizure, gambler, torger, thief, convict and fugitive. And fugitive you are now, though you ave fooled one of the noblest ladies n Ireland to make a runaway match vith you. There will be a fine come down to the pride of my lady when he beaks lag you You've been keen o get yourself into this fine nest, but then you come to find yourself in a orison, the change will be too great to be agreeable!"

'I will no longer parley words with ou, wretch. Begone!' cried Bassan-

yne threateningly. Not yet. I called here to inquire fter your vally, Newville, or Murple, or whatever he calls himself this year

dared to linger in his grounds when he had bidden him begone. And

vou, Mr. Bassantyne. And good hand-

Bassantyne took the alarm.

Stay, he said, in a conciliating one. It is evident, my good fellow, hat you have mistaken me for some one else. These resemblances are frequent and merely accidence—'

'Oh yes,' said Lame Bill. Merely accidental, of course. Excuse mimpudence, sir. Good morning.

Again he made a movement to de
dealt his enemy a blow upon the temple that felled him to the ground.

The man fell limp and lifeless.

His face, bruised and swollen, was stained with blood. His eyelids drooped to his cheeks. His arms fell to his side.

Bassantyne stooped over him and Again he made a movement to de
lifted one of his arms, letting it fall.

Bassantyne's alarm increased. The man's apologies and haste to get away were more menacing than the loudest threats. He believed all his bluster-ing to be of no effect. Evidently the

Was all this disguise of beard and wind through the leaves, the squarmer of stained complexion, changed name of waters.

He breathed more freely.

'Dead?' he said to himself, spurning of the wind the sen under them all his old comtade and fellow-convict? It must be so.

The and served deep wind through the leaves, the squarmer of waters.

He had detected foot-prints, not his own, by the side of the hollow-footprints, which he knew must have been made by his enemy.

'He was not dead, then?' he cried.

I had only stunged him! He has to meet this one? What am I to do with his body?'

There was a deep root of mater.

and exclaimed:

'Ha, ha! Pretty well done, Gentleman Bob! You always was good at acting, but this here is good enoughfur the theatre Repair.

net, denuteman Bob! All your high government and the colonial authorities for your capture is three thoudidn't pass so long a time with you in Australy for nothing. No crinkly beard can deceive me. Your disguise ain't deep enough—'

All your high government and the colonial authorities for your capture is three thousand pounds. I bear you no love, Gentleman Bob, and my revenge is worth at least as much more. To forego it, I should want at least three thousand pounds. And then by way and so on-well, we will whom you are talking? I am Nicol of premium and so on—well, we will Bassantyne, the husband of the Lady | call the whole amount ten thousand pounds. Give me that sum down, and a thousand a year, and I'll be as

tenant's tomb.

A dangerous glitter shone in Bas-

orison, the change will be too great to be agreeable!"

The expression of Bassantyne's fact changed slightly, yet enough to be plendor as this,' and again Lame plend

demands or swing!

His face was momentarily averted from his enemy. Watching his chance, Bassantyne sprang upon him with the enp of a tiger, uttering a hoarse cry

He hasn't gone home yet, I understand.

Bassantyne was nearly choking with rage and fury. He longed to throttle the impudent wretch who the impudent wretch who the struck out blindly with his hands, fighting for dear life.

Of rage.

Taken unawares, Lame Bill had not time to draw a weapon. He waited until the great house clock had rung out the hour of mid-night.

All was still in the house. The

the two succeeded.

Bassantyne was heavy, burly and powerful. He had the strength is red to prolong the interview until the conviction of his identy with Gentleman B.b. He forced him-Bassantyne was heavy, burly and to plant his blows to make them gained the front door, and softly uneffective, and he had a way of using did its bolts and bars and complica-

'My valet? I discharged him in Dublin. He was an impudent fellow, whom I had in my service but a few weeks, and whom I did not care to bring down to Ballyconnor. It you want him you will probably find him in Dublin'

''A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush,' said Lame Bill. I do not care so much about the vally no. Excuse the annoyance I've made you, Mr. Bassantyne. And good hand.

'My valet? I discharged him in effective, and he had a way of using his bullet head as a battering-ram—a ted fastenings, and opened the door, and crept out you the porch. Then he giided down the steps and hurried into the shadow of the two men were heard in the little might be looking out at him from the windows of the old hall, he moved ffeetly in the shadow until he had gained the edge of the park.

Now I am rafe!' he said to him. Bassantyne giving him the upper gained the edge of the park.

'Now I am safe!' he said to him

He raised his worn hat in a mocking bow, and sidled away, as if bent my friend!'

We'll see! Let will come out to watch me. I have only to carry that thing to Black Pool, fill its pockets with stones, and sink in the page.'

And with a mocking sneer, he dealt his enemy a blow upon the tem-

transantyne stooped over him and lifted one of his arms, letting it fall. It dropped a dead weight.

Bassantyne's cheek horself in the hollow was empty, Horrifled and frightened, Bassantyne's cheek horself in the hollow with his hands. The hollow was empty, Horrifled and frightened, Bassantyne's cheek horself in the hollow with his hands.

Bassantyne's cheeks began to flush. Struck a light. There was a pine He raised the battered, swollen head, cone on the ground at his elbow. He and thrust his hand into the man's lighted this and flung it into the holbreast to feel if his heart still beat.

'He's dead,' Bassantyne muttered,

Ing to be of no effect. Evidentity the man knew him beyond the shadow of a doubt.

And then a sickening sensation assailed Bassantyne's heart. How long had Lame Bill been hidden in the shadows surrounding the little dell? Had be been there during the more than the surrounding the little dell? Had be been there during the more than the surrounding the little dell? He listened with the lady Kathlana. He listened with the quick start of the surrounding the little dell? had Lame Bill been hidden in the shadows surrounding the little dell? Had he been there during the interlead by the been so bold in your demands.

He listened with the quick start of sed wisage, he searched the hollow guilt for some sound of approaching for some token of Lame Bill's disappearance.

But all that he heard was the latter was alone and unguarded?

The birds had been there during the little dell?

He listened with the quick start of sed wisage, he searched the hollow guilt for some sound of approaching for some token of Lame Bill's disappearance.

Presently he uttered a hoarse cry. Was all this disguise of beard and wind through the leaves, the musinur

You own up, then?' he demand-that there might be some blood stains upon him he had overlooked, or some token of that conflict which had resulted so disastrously to his enemy.
There were a few scratches and

at acting, but this here is good enough for the theatre Royal.'

"Gentleman Bob!' repeated Bassantyne hoarsely. 'What do you mean fellow? But it is evident what you mean. Leave my grounds, thief, it will have you scourged from them.'

Lame Bill crept a few paces nearer. It will have you scourged from them.'

Lame Bill crept a few paces nearer. It will have you scourged from the dark and sinister face of the Lady Kathleen's husband.

'Your grounds!' he sneered. 'You to the live under the shadow of a terrible disgrace. The reward offered by government and the colonial authorities for your capture is three thought of the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the dining room together.

There were a few scratches and bring suices upon him. These he magnified into gaping wounds, and finally trembling and terrified, he returned to the hall.

He spent an hour or so in his smoking room. He took a bath, and dressed himself carefully in a new suit ordered from Dubin, and when the dinner bell rang, he descended to the drawing room ascrupulously dressed, yet pale and worn and haggard. The Lady Kathleen was already in the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing room and the ill-assorted pair descended to the drawing ro

There was an atmosphere of guil love, about Bassantyne, fresh from his crime, that the pure instincts of the Lady Kathleen detected, but could not understand. She shrank from all contact with him, and the meal wa mark that Bassantyne, despite his perturbation, ate a hearty repast.
In truth, he was sufficiently familia

dumb as the effigy on the lord lieu with crime, and hardened by that 'By no means. If you haven't got it yourself, your romantic and arden young bride will give it to you. Not a penny less, Gentleman Bob. If you don't like my offer, you needn't accept it.' 'Ten thousand pounds! Are you lief at the turn affairs had taken onquer them all.

After dinner he went out into the

house, and to his own room. 'I must do nothing to excite sus-'I haven't got the money,' he said picion. he thought. 'Old Delaney And I can't get it. You will have to moderate your demands—'
Not a farthing! A man will give must not stir out until the house is

A quick, sharp struggle between the two succeeded.

'You will betray me, will you?' he self. 'No one has seen me. No one

tyne drew out his match case and

The body was indeed gone.

He had detected foot-prints, not his own, by the side of the hollow-footprints, which he knew must have been made by his enemy.

'He was not dead, then?' he cried.

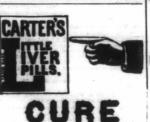
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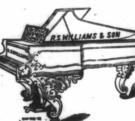
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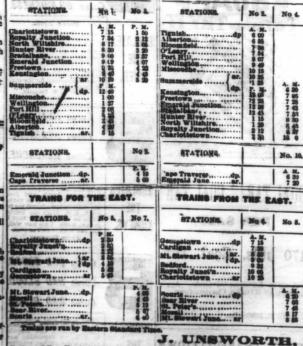
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