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PLAYING A PART. A Story of the War Between the States. By F. A. MITCHEL

When the war between the states opened we were a contented family living on our plantation not far from Nashville, on the south side of the Cumberland river...

insisted on being murdered it could not be helped. So we pursued our journey to my uncle's plantation. I was very much chagrined that Clarice had taken the risk...

"Don't come any farther till I tell you," she said. "The house has been taken for the headquarters of one of the generals. I thought that if I made him believe I was one of the family...

I thought a few moments before replying. Should I turn back and leave her to play her game? I preferred to remain. "I tell you what we'll do, Clarice. You know I'm very dark skinned. I can pass for an octroon. I'll be maid and leave you to go on playing mistress."

Clarice tried to think of some other way out of it, but failed, and I, discomfited, led my horse around to the barn, while Clarice went back into the house. When I had taken off the saddle and bridle I joined her. While passing through the hall I met a young officer, who looked at me with evident surprise...

It was plain to me when I first met Captain Harding that he was pleased with me. A man doesn't usually take pains to conceal his admiration, and till I told him that I was a negro and a slave the captain's eyes were full of light. I thought I saw, when I gave him the information, a look of disappointment in his face, but that might have been imaginary on my part...

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confess I played the game with relish, though outwardly with modestly tinged with sadness—the sadness I took on when I began to feel assured that I was getting my admirer into my toils. I led him to think that it was caused by the taint of blood which separated me from him.

Had not Captain Harding's nature been of a fine texture I should have expected him to treat me for what I pretended to be. But he was as respectful to me as if I had been of the purest white blood. True, he kept a certain reserve, such as would be proper between him and a servant. He would chat with me quite freely, and when I showed an understanding that could only have been developed by education he sometimes forgot himself so far as to treat me like a lady.

"What?" I exclaimed, starting up. "There isn't a soldier on the place. They all went away at 4 o'clock this morning."

Then and there came upon me an awakening different from that after a slumber. Captain Harding had gone! And he had gone believing me to be a negro and a slave! Had he known my true status he might return and seek me. Now this was impossible.

"One of the last battles of the war was fought near us. We were within the Federal lines, and our wounded enemies were brought to us. Seeing a stretcher set down in the yard with a man on it, I went out to learn if I could do anything for him. In his pale face I recognized Captain Harding, and when he looked up at me with his melancholy eyes I saw an involuntary start. As for me, I was both grieved at his condition and delighted that he had returned to me. I dreaded lest he should die still believing me to be what I had represented myself. I wished at once to correct the impression I had given him, but I could not. Nevertheless I did not personate a servant.

All that happened nearly half a century ago. When Captain Harding returned to the north I went with him, and here I have lived ever since. I have often thought what my life would have been had I not had an opportunity to undo what I had done in leading him to suppose that I was a negro and a slave.

Remarkable Performance. By One Time Cripple. James Bailey of Ilford, Essex, was almost crippled with Rheumatism for three years but the other day he succeeded in running a mile in just under six minutes.

COURT OF REVISION. THE COURT OF REVISION OF THE VILLAGE OF WATFORD will be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER ON FRIDAY, MAY 29th, 1914 AT 11 O'CLOCK A. M. to hear and decide any complaints against the assessment of the Village of Watford.

MEDICAL. JAMES NEWELL, PH. B., M. D. R. C. P., M. B. B. A. England. Watford, Ont. OFFICE—Main Street, next door to Marboe Bank. Residence—Front Street, on block east of Main Street.

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