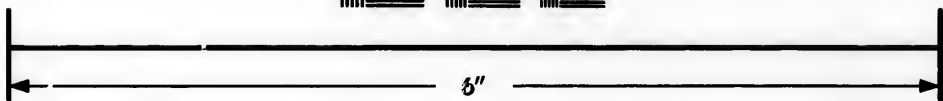
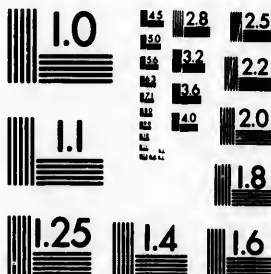


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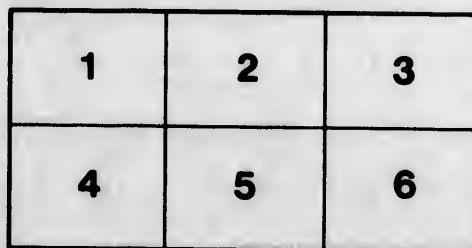
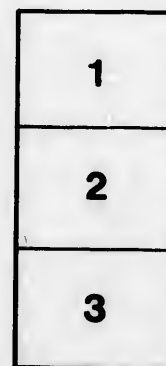
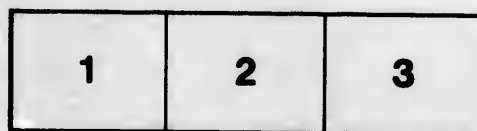
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THE
TERRIBLE DEEDS
OF
GEORGE L. SHAFTESBURY,

WHO KILLED HIS OWN MOTHER AND SISTER,
FLED FROM JUSTICE BY LEAPING FROM THE PALISADES, SWIMMING
THE HUDSON RIVER, AND TAKING REFUGE IN NEW YORK CITY,
WHERE HE WAS JOINED BY THE

FEMALE MURDERER, MARIE LAVINE,



EXECUTION OF G. L. SHAFTESBURY AND MISS LAVINE.

WHOM HE DETECTED IN THE ACT OF DRAGGING TO THE RIVER THE BODY OF A MAN
WHOM SHE HAD MURDERED IN ONE OF THE DENS ON WALNUT STREET, IN
THAT CITY; AND THEY, AFTER PASSING THROUGH THE MOST

DARK AND UNPARALLELED CAREER OF CRIME,

WERE FINALLY
BOTH EXECUTED IN QUEBEC, JUNE 7, 1850.

FOR THE
MURDER OF LORD AMEL AND FAMILY.

By J. ELLIGEN, Queen's Attorney.

ST. LOUIS, MO.:
PUBLISHED BY E. E. BARCLAY & H. M. RULISON.
1851.

THE

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GEORGE L. SULLIVAN

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"YOUNG SHATTERBURY, FINDING HIMSELF LIKELY TO BE OVERPOWERED, AND BEING CLOSELY FOLLOWED BY THE SERVANTS, MADE DIRECTLY FOR THE RIVER, AND THREW HIMSELF DOWN THE FALLS IDEAS."—P. 16.

THE

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CAREER OF CRIME

OF

GEORGE LAMPANAS SHAFTESBURY,

AND HIS FEMALE ACCOMPLICE

MARIE LAVINE.

GEORGE LAMPANAS SHAFTESBURY, one of the subjects of the following narrative, was born of English parents, and on the day on which those parents embarked from their native land, which was on the fourth of July, might be seen standing out from the port of Liverpool a vessel whose ensign—the star-spangled banner—floating gracefully from the main top, denoted her as belonging to the United States of America. The beating of the drum, and the soul-stirring fife, as the sound fell upon the wave, told the tale, that even there, on that distant sea, near the coast of the ancient enemy, the anniversary of American Independence was not forgotten. The crowd on shore, also, gazing after the departing vessel, seemed to say, that there were those on board who were dear to the hearts of those remaining on the land,—and as they listened to the music, wafted by the gentle breeze from the deck of the vessel, it seemed as though they were riveted to the spot. The splendid equipage, also, and the servants in livery, indicated that those who had bid adieu to their friends, and were now on their way to the transatlantic world, belonged to the upper ton.

The individuals on whose account this crowd was gathered, and who were being wafted from their native homes, were no less personages than Lord and Lady Shaftsbury.

For a long time the crowd continued to gaze after the vessel as she stood gracefully out towards the Island of Anglesea. The shades of night, however, fell upon the wave, and the stately ship was lost to the sense of vision. The sound of the brass drum, as it fell upon the ear at intervals, was all that was now left to give evidence that all was well. At length even that ceased to be heard, and then the separation of friends was complete.

Lord and Lady Shaftesbury had from their infancy up to the present time resided in England, except as business or pleasure led them by times to travel on the continent. They had lived under the patronage of royalty, but, weighed down with sorrow at the oppression of the people, they had concluded to resign the title which their country gave them, and to adopt the Republic of the West as their future home.

GEORGE LAMPANAS was born of the parents above-mentioned. There are circumstances attending the career of this man, which, according to his own account, partake somewhat of the nature of the marvellous. We feel bound, however, as a true recorder of events, to state the occurrences precisely as they were given to us by him, without exaggeration, and then leave them to the reflections of the reader.

The ship in which they embarked from Liverpool was the *Ade-laide*, of New York, bound to the latter port with a cargo of merchandise.

Mr. Shaftesbury, after his arrival at New York, as a matter of course dropped his title, and enrolled himself among the citizens of the country. His first object after the arrival was to select some location as a permanent place of residence. He finally chose a spot on the west bank of the Hudson, a few miles above the city of New York. To this spot, after suitable preparation, he retired with his wife and son.

The incidents occurring between the time of the location on the Hudson, and the school-boy days of George Lampanas, not being of any great moment when connected with his subsequent notorious career, for the sake of brevity, we shall pass without notice.

When George had arrived at the age of six years, Mr. Shaftesbury employed a teacher to superintend the education of his son, and for the accommodation of his neighbours he received their children into his house as day scholars—to be educated in connexion with his own. It was now that the evil disposition of George

Lampanas Shaftesbury began to manifest itself. Having hitherto been indulged in all his foibles, merely because there had been no necessity for putting him under restraint, he could not brook the regulations of the school, and he showed an absolute disposition to rebel against all discipline, as though it were a matter of tyranny. He not only rebelled against the discipline of the school, but in all his intercourse with his playmates he demanded absolute obedience.

The self-will of George Lampanas at length manifested itself so strongly that the people of the vicinity were compelled to withdraw their children from the school.

Mr. Shaftesbury, with pain and anxiety saw the evil propensity of his son, and endeavoured, by every means in his power, to soften his disposition. His teacher was dismissed and another procured, under the impression that a change might prove beneficial. The neighbours were again solicited to send their children, in order that George might have companionship.

The school was again established, but matters did not assume a more pleasing aspect. George sought every opportunity to play off his tricks upon his fellows, and even the teacher did not escape him.

On one occasion, when the more advanced of the pupils, in company with the teacher, were making a geological survey of the palisade bank of the Hudson, for the purpose of facilitating their operations, they made use of a rope fastened to a staff above, that they might be enabled to maintain a foot-hold below the brink of the precipice: George watched his opportunity, and when several of them were engaged in this way, he slipped the rope from the staff, and precipitated them into the river below. The result was, that one got a fractured arm, and another a fractured leg, besides being exposed to the danger of drowning.

Years passed on without any apparent improvement in the disposition and habits of George Lampanas. His father, finding that his son was not fitted for any of the finer occupations of life, concluded to give him a chance in the military profession. He therefore sought and obtained a situation for him at West Point.

For a time young George seemed pleased with this situation, and his father had strong hopes that he would yet become a useful member of society. But, alas! he was doomed to a bitter disappointment. With the love of military life came an increased thirst

for pleasure,—and a desire to be considered the most generous of his associates induced him to make heavy drafts upon his parent. When these drafts were not immediately complied with, he was accustomed to indulge in the most abusive language, and threats were not at all uncommon.

The society, also, of the young man was not the most unexceptionable. He had become accustomed to the gaming table, and houses of ill fame were his frequent resort. He quaffed the sparkling cup, and whiffed the prime Havana. His speech was seldom considered as finished, unless polished by an oath.

Although the youth indulged in all sorts of profanation, he was mild in his appearance, approaching to effeminacy. His stature was small,—as yet, also,

“Smooth as Hebe’s, his unrazored lips.

Mr. Shaftesbury saw with pain and mortification, the evil courses of his son. He at length considered it to be his imperative duty to check his career, let the results be what they might. He, therefore, on the first subsequent interview which he had with his son, informed him that for the future his allowance would be limited to one thousand dollars per annum, and that he should receive his remittance monthly.

The young man at the time of announcement made no objection to this arrangement, but when he subsequently found that his father was firm in his determination, his anger knew no bounds.

After much cogitation and reflection, he finally concluded to exercise his military calling on the members of his own family. In order to make things more sure, and to prevent the possibility of giving alarm, he took the precaution to provide himself with a quantity of chloroform. Being intimately acquainted with all the arrangements about his father’s house, he had formed the plan of entering the mansion after the family had retired to rest, and while they were locked in the soundness of sleep, to murder them each successively.

The plan being matured, and all the necessary preparations made, he proceeded to put his diabolical scheme into execution.

Intent upon the fulfilment of his purpose, he left West Point on the night of the 25th of September, 1846. As if to favour his design, the sky was overcast with clouds, and a thick fog covered the face of the country.

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"HE PROCEEDED FIRST TO THE CHAMBER OF HIS SISTER; THE BOWIE KNIFE WAS THEN DRAWN FROM ITS HIDING-PLACE."—P. 15.

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He cautiously entered the house, and having ascertained that all was still, he proceeded first to the chamber of his sister. With a stealthy step he entered the apartment. He listened a moment, and her heavy breathing told him that she slept. He approached her bed, turned aside the curtain, and the flickering light from his dark lantern fell across her face. The swollen appearance of her eyes gave evidence that she had been weeping. Her stifled sobs, also, as she slept, indicated that she was not a stranger to sorrow. Involuntarily she pronounced the name of the being who was gazing upon her. Often, although she had not yet attained to the age of womanhood, had she remonstrated with her brother on the evils of his way—and it was no doubt on his account her present slumber was disturbed by unpleasant dreams. Little did she suppose, however, that that brother, on whose account she evinced so much anxiety, was then standing over her, about to separate the mortal from the immortal part.

What brother, gazing upon an only sister, and that sister sweet and lovely, lying with her auburn ringlets scattered in neglect, and having wept herself to sleep in prayer for him, would not have exhibited some sign of emotion?—and yet the demon smile was all that sat upon the countenance of that fiend in human shape, George Lampanas. Calmly and deliberately he applied the stupefying drug. She inhaled the deadly odour, and the powers of sense and motion were lost. The bowie knife was then drawn from its hiding-place, and the jugular veins and carotid arteries were deliberately separated, or cut asunder,—and the spirit of Susan Shaftesbury was insensibly and unceremoniously dismissed from its earthly tenement.

The murderer next proceeded to the room occupied by his parents. The door was cautiously opened, and making sure that they also slept, he entered. The drug was first submitted to be inhaled by his mother, and then the bowie knife again brought into requisition,—the “nice young man” complimenting himself upon his gallantry in giving the lady the preference, and in waiting upon her first.

Having disposed of his “second customer,” as he expressed himself, he next prepared to operate upon him whom he technically termed the “Old Cock of the Walk.” But, unluckily for himself, as he was about to commence operations, a gust from without closed with violence a window shutter of the bed room. The old man was

awakened by the sound, and the faint light from the dark lantern instantly told him that all was not right. Quick as thought he sprang from the bed and seized the bell pull. The young man made a lunge at his father with his bowie, which the old gentleman successfully parried, and the shout of murder instantly followed.

The servants had been already alarmed at the ringing of the bell, and hearing the cry and the noise in the old man's sleeping room, they unceremoniously rushed into the apartment.

Young Shaftesbury, finding himself likely to be overpowered, made a precipitate retreat. He was closely followed by the servants, and being hard pressed, he made directly for the river. He threw himself down the palisades, and, fortunately for him, he escaped uninjured. Leander swam the Hellespont for love, thought he, and I will try the Hudson for life,—so saying, he plunged into the river. Boats were immediately shoved out, and although the night was dark, his pursuers were enabled to follow him, and they overtook him near the middle of the river. After coming up with him he apparently sank. They searched awhile, and being unable to see him again, they concluded he must have drowned. They therefore returned to the mansion. But what a sight was there!

Mr. Shaftesbury, immediately on the flight of his son, examined the apartment, and the condition of his wife was discovered. On examination he found that the veins and arteries of the neck were severed, and that life was, or soon would be, extinct. He next repaired to his daughter's chamber, in order to summon her attendance,—but, judge of his horror, when he discovered that she too had been the subject of the assassin.

Petrified with astonishment, he sank down for the moment on the nearest apology for a seat. He remained for some time in silence, with his face covered with his hands. At length a flood of tears came to his relief. He then groaned in agony. He had lost his family at a blow, and that blow had come from the hand of one who should have been the foremost to protect them.

When the servants returned, he pointed to his daughter's chamber and wept aloud.

Busied in attending to the funeral duties of the murdered family, the further pursuit of young Shaftesbury was for the present suspended. Meanwhile, he had not sunk, as his pursuers supposed, but had dove beneath the water to elude pursuit. Having gained the opposite shore, he made the best of his way to New York.

Being arrived there, he scarcely knew whither to bend his steps, as he felt confident that the officers of justice would soon be on his trail.

Undecided as to what he should do, he strolled about town until he found himself at the foot of Walnut Street. It is presumed that his natural propensities led him to that part of the city: Walnut Street, commonly called "The Hook," being one of the chief places of resort for women of ill-fame.

Here George Lampanas Shaftesbury lounged until the following night. Having spent the former part of the night in carousing with the inmates of one of the brothels, he made his exit about half past twelve o'clock, with the design of secretly leaving the city. As he approached the wharf by one of the narrow streets in that section, he discovered a female occasionally peering forth from one of the dark dens, looking up and down the street, as if anxiously watching the time when all should be quiet. Lampanas determined to watch her movements. He therefore stepped into the shade of an alley, where he could remain perfectly unobserved. After remaining in this position about an hour, he perceived the female drag something from the door, and make her way towards the wharf. Lampanas passed through the alley to the next street, and came round so as to meet her at the corner of the lower block. As they met the female let go her charge, and made an attempt at flight. Lampanas was too quick for her, and catching her by the dress, detained her. After he had secured her he gave her assurance that he intended no harm, and her struggles ceased.

An explanation then followed as to what she intended to do with the body—for it was nothing else than a human body that she was dragging to the wharf. At Lampanas' suggestion she concluded to leave it where it was, and she returned to her house, with Lampanas in company.

Lampanas now made it his business to find out the circumstances leading to the death of the man whom Marie Lavine (for that was the girl's name) had taken from the house.

The information he was enabled to gather was, that the man had been in the habit of visiting houses of ill fame, and when he visited Marie on this occasion, it was ascertained that he had considerable money in his possession; and Marie determined, by some means, to turn said money to her own account.

To accomplish her design, she managed to get her victim to par-

take freely of alcoholic drinks, and when she had got him in a state of inebriation, she abstracted the money from his pocket.

When he had slept off the fumes of the liquor, he began to feel about him for his property, and not finding it, he accused Marie of having robbed him. Marie denied the charge, and a quarrel ensued. He seized her by the throat, and swore that if she did not restore the money he would kill her.

Marie was not unprepared for self-defence. When she was assailed by the man, she drew a dirk from her bosom, (a weapon which she always carried,) and plunged it deep into the heart of her assailant.

The man on receiving the blow reeled to a settee on the rear side of the apartment, from which he never again had the strength to rise.

When Marie Lavine saw that he was murdered, she closed the windows of her house, and kept herself locked up during the remainder of the day. She did not again make her appearance until she was observed by Lampanas, as we have already described.

After obtaining the above information, Lampanas did not hesitate to relate the circumstances of his own case.

The similarity of the two cases naturally drew the two individuals together, and they mutually resolved that henceforth their career should be one.

It now only remained to fix upon some rule of action. After a variety of suggestions, it was remembered that a whale-ship was lying at the dock at the North river, at the foot of Fulton Street, the captain of which was advertising for whale-men.

Marie was in stature equal to that of Lampanas. It was therefore resolved that Marie should dress herself in a suit of Lampanas' clothes, and that then both should seek employment on board the whale ship, which was expected to clear from the wharf on the following morning.

Lampanas accordingly disguised himself in such a manner as to conceal his identity, and the next morning found the pair at the captain's office, on board the whale ship Sally Powers. Their services were accepted, and ere noon the murderer and the murderess were passing down New York bay to the wide expanse of the Atlantic.

Lampanas, however, had no idea of submitting to the dictates of a captain. His design was, on arriving at sea, to make himself

master of the ship, and then turn her to the best account. Accordingly, as soon as they were outside the Narrows, the intrigue was commenced. The crew were sounded on their sentiments of piracy, and those sentiments were distinctly noted by Lampanas and Lavine.

When the crew had been fully sounded, and Lampanas knew in whom he could most likely confide, he began to open his plans.

Those plans being sufficiently concocted, the first object of the mutineers was to get possession of the armory, to effect which it was necessary that some one connected with the conspiracy should possess himself of the key. This duty was assigned to the second mate of the vessel, who manifested himself one of the most willing members of the gang.

He accordingly suggested to the captain the propriety of keeping the muskets &c. in proper condition for use, in case they should find it necessary on any occasion to resort to them for defence.

The captain admitted the propriety of the suggestion, and at the solicitation of the second mate consented that the arms should be inspected and cleaned up. The key was therefore delivered to the conspirators, with orders to examine the weapons and put them in proper order—the captain very naturally thinking the present to be the most suitable time for attending to business of that nature, as the leisure time was greater than it would be after they should arrive at the theatre of their operations.

The second mate proceeded, therefore, to inspect the gun room, and taking such weapons as were sufficient to arm the mutineers, he passed them to his accomplices, with the significant orders that they should be properly cleaned.

The door of the gun room was then made secure, and the mutineers assembled forward under the pretence of executing their orders. The guns were immediately charged and primed, the cutlasses girt to the waist, and the pistols inserted into the belt.

The second mate now contrived to send a great portion of the crew who were not engaged in the conspiracy, on some errand below. The mutineers then walked deliberately aft in a body to the quarter deck, where the captain and first mate happened to be at that moment,—the captain promenading the deck, and the mate looking intently to the windward,—neither of them, up to that moment, suspecting but that all was right. A volley from the mutineers sent them both into eternity.

The remainder of the crew were now alarmed at the report of the musketry, and simultaneously they hastened upon deck—but before they could concert any mode of action the mutineers had reloaded their weapons, and were prepared for any movement which might take place. Each party stood for awhile gazing at the other in silence. The mutineers were well armed, and outnumbered the other portion of the crew,—besides, the now only surviving officer, the second mate, was among them.

Presently the second mate turned to Lampanas with an inquiring look, and the latter, immediately stepping forward towards the unarmed portion of the crew, addressed them to this effect :

“Shipmates, you see that your captain and mate have paid the last debt of nature. You see also that we are armed, and that we outnumber you. We will give you five minutes to decide whether you will join our party, or whether you will compel us to send you on the journey which your captain and mate have just taken.”

A consultation was immediately held by the unarmed portion of the crew, but at the expiration of the five minutes assigned there did not seem to be a unanimity of opinion. Some were for resisting at all hazards, others thought that prudence dictated that they should join the mutineers till a favourable opportunity of escape might offer,—while the remainder could form no conclusive sentiment.

When the allotted time had expired, Lampanas again stepped forward, and ordered such as were willing to join them to move to the right,—upon which order the majority moved as directed. He then ordered a plank to be extended over the gunnel, and one by one those who were unwilling to unite with them were compelled to walk the narrow path, and make their *debut* among the inhabitants of the deep,—Lampanas alleging this to be the most economical way of disposing of them, as it was prudent to save the ammunition,—and also, when people were drowned there was no blood shed.

Having cleared the ship of all except his own party, Lampanas again addressed them :

“Shipmates, we have sent to the lower locker the cowards who were willing to oppose our liberty; I am now your captain, and you will be guided by me. I appoint John Shepard my first mate.”

(Here the reader should be apprized that “John Shepard” was the assumed cognomen of Marie Lavine.)

On hearing this short address from Lampanas, the crew were convinced, by his energetic manner, that his position was not to be disputed.

Lampanas therefore took command of the ship, with Marie Lavine as his second mate.—*Marie Lavine, now Mr. Shepard.*

The first object of the pirates on obtaining possession of the vessel was, to ascertain what amount of valuables were on board. On searching the cabins, it was ascertained that there were only about five hundred dollars in gold, which the Captain had brought on board for his own private use. His gold watch was valued at one hundred and fifty dollars. A watch was also taken from the pocket of the mate, valued at about one hundred dollars.

The object of Lampanas on this occasion was not the booty which he expected to obtain, so much as to free himself from the restraint in which he was placed,—and, to change the destination of the voyage. The vessel contained nothing further than that already discovered, except the clothing which had been laid in store for the sailors, and the ordinary ship provisions.

It was now necessary to determine the future course to be pursued. Accordingly, Lampanas summoned his crew for a council.

After considerable deliberation it was decided that the ship was entirely too clumsy for piratical purposes, and that the best policy would be to run her sufficiently near the coast to enable the crew to disembark with safety, scuttle her, and leave her to her fate.

The next important point was, the part of the coast to be approached. It was finally concluded that the banks of Newfoundland should be the point of destination, and the ship was kept away in that direction.

It was the opinion that the crew could easily pass themselves off as fishermen on arriving at the island of Newfoundland, and by representing themselves as having lost their vessel by shipwreck, remove all suspicion which might be attached to them.

When they arrived within sight of the Banks, the destruction of the ship was immediately attended to. Each man took as much of the clothing which was on board as suited his purposes; a scanty supply of provisions was lowered into the long boat, and then the work of scuttling commenced. Several planks were started from the bottom, the masts were cut away, and every thing done to give the vessel the appearance of a perfect wreck,—nor did they leave her until she was well settled beneath the water.

The whole crew were now embarked on board the long boat, and pursued, or rather continued, their course to the island for which they had set out.

Having arrived on the coast of Newfoundland, the pirates separated, each to take care of himself, except Lampanas and Marie, who still adhered to each other—Lampanas being the only one who knew the sex of his mate.

Lampanas and his consort immediately betook themselves to the town of St. Johns, on the south-eastern part of the island. Here they sustained themselves for awhile on the small amount of funds which they had brought from New York, in connexion with what they had obtained from the whaleman. But these funds at length began to grow short: it was therefore necessary for them to look about them and fix upon some method for their support.

The most feasible project was that of a gambling house.

St. Johns is a great resort of fishermen from the vessels which frequent the Banks. Many of these fishermen are fond of tipping, gaming, and carousing.

Lampanas rightly thought that he might reap a rich harvest by preying upon them. He rented a suitable tenement, in which he was soon installed as landlord.

Marie took charge of the domestic concerns, and thus was established one of the most damnable hells in the city.

An apology for liquor was dealt out at three cents per glass, and when a customer happened to be out of change he received a horn gratis.

The hospitality of the new host, and the beauty of the new hostess, were the prominent subjects of comment among the fishermen. All resorted to the new porter house, and the health of Lavine was drunk in many a bumper.

A private room was set apart for the purpose of gambling, which soon became not only the resort of the common sailors, but that of the captains and the most distinguished individuals of the town. No one could resist an invitation from Lampanas to pay him a visit,—an invitation which he always gave in so bland and affable a manner.

Millions were bet, lost, and won, at his tables.

Things were going on swimmingly, and little occurred to mar the happiness of Lampanas, except occasional apprehensions that he might be discovered by some one sent in search of him for the

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“ AS HE APPROACHED THE WHARF BY ONE OF THE NARROW STREETS, HE DISCOVERED A FEMALE DRAGGING THE BODY OF A MURDERED MAN, AND MAKING HER WAY TOWARDS THE RIVER.—P. 17

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murder of his mother and sister. He had, however, no real cause for fear. The servants of his father, when they left him in the middle of the river, and relinquished the pursuit, were confident that he had gone to the bottom, and no future tidings of him having been obtained, it was agreed on all hands that he must have drowned, either accidentally or designedly. Pursuit, therefore, had been stayed.

Whenever a "Fat Fish" presented himself at the "New Porter House," the landlord was always on hand to obtain a share of the spoils. In fact, he could hardly be excused from the table on such occasions, as his suavity of disposition, his gentlemanly deportment, his nice sense of honour, and his supposed incapacity of committing a fraud, rendered his presence very desirable.

Many was the man who entered that house with pockets well filled, that was obliged to depart with countenance woe-begone and fallen. Yet "it was all luck, that landlord was such a lucky chap." Besides, his was always the parting treat; and then there was always such a polite assurance that he should be happy to see them again.

Fathers were robbed of their earnings, and mothers and children deprived of the necessary means of subsistence.

On one occasion a seaman having a family at St. Johns was discharged from his vessel with the sum of one hundred dollars. He immediately repaired to the "New Porter House," and in a few hours he was minus the whole.

The destitution of the wife caused her to prefer a charge to the police, and the matter was immediately taken in hand. The character of the house was inquired into, and the gamblers were routed. To make sure that there was no mistake in the matter, several police officers entered the house in the disguise of gamblers, and when the company had assembled, and the games were in full operation, they discovered themselves and made several arrests.

Lampanas jumped from the second story window, and Lavine scaled the wall from the back yard. Thus ended the "New Porter House."

The *final* result was, that Lampanas and Lavine found it rather expedient for themselves to leave the place with all possible speed. They took passage on board the schooner Anthony, which was then about clearing for Quebec. Nothing of note occurred during the passage to Quebec, and immediately on the arrival they took pas-

44 AS HE APPROACHED THE WHARF BY ONE OF THE NARROW STREETS, HE DISCOVERED A FEMALE DRAGGING THE BODY OF A MURDERED MAN, AND MAKING HER WAY TOWARDS THE RIVER.—P. 17

sage on board the steamer Emma Sands, for Montreal. The passage to Montreal was perfectly quiet, and our pair of young refugees soon found themselves in the heart of that city, each dressed in the masculine attire.

George and Marie concluded it best not to wait for another exhaustion of funds before commencing business. The *finale* to the affair in Newfoundland having been so disastrous they resolved to change their profession. The proximity to the line between Canada and the United States opened a new field for their operations. The constant importation of ponies from Canada into the United States, induced them to enter into the horse trade, and in order to advance their interest, they deemed it proper to change their characters, that is, transform themselves from male into female. The day after the formation of this resolution was spent in making arrangements to carry it into effect. Female dresses, and all the paraphernalia of a female wardrobe were obtained. Being thus prepared, they took leave of the boarding house which they obtained on their arrival in the city, and established themselves, or, rather, took rooms at the Hotel de Pierre. At this place they appeared as females, the male attire being reserved to be used on suitable occasions.

It was resolved that Lavine should procure the horses, and that Lampanas should dispose of them,—and that they might the more securely screen themselves from detection, they also resolved to have no accomplices. Lavine, whenever engaged in collecting horses, was to assume the character of a man, and on other occasions to return to her female garb. Lampanas, owing to the circumstance that he was somewhat known at New York, (the designed mart for the horses,) was in all cases to assume the character of a woman, and when travelling with, or selling horses, to be accompanied by a trusty servant, who should transact the business according to the direction of Lampanas. This servant was not to be in attendance at the residence of Lampanas, as it was desirable not to let him into the secret proceedings. He was to be under constant pay, but to reside in a different section of the city, and when his services were wanted to be sent for.

The plan being matured, operations were immediately commenced.

Lavine, accoutred in male attire, set out on her first journey of exploration, and Lampanas procured a private stable for the recep-

tion of such ponies as she might bring in. Lavine, on leaving Montreal, travelled in a westerly direction as far as Bytown, making such observations on the road as were necessary to insure success on her return. On her first excursion she returned with six horses, having met with opposition only in the taking of one of them. Her plan, when she took possession of a horse, was, before removing him from the stable, to rub him thoroughly with a preparation similar to the East India hair dye, which preparation had the effect of immediately changing the colour, so that the owner could not possibly recognise him. With the horse coloured, the only remaining thing essential to safety was the removing of him from the stable without interruption.

The one case in which Lavine met with opposition, was that received from a farmer who happened to return from a journey just as she was in the act of committing the theft.

The farmer did not hesitate to assault the thief, and he seized her by the collar for the purpose of securing her.

Lavine remonstrated with him, told him that she was a traveller, that she had stopped for the purpose of passing the night, and that she was then in the act of taking care of her own horse.

This remonstrance led the farmer to apologise, and not recognising the horse with which Lavine was engaged as belonging to himself, he asked her forgiveness, and begged that she would remain and partake his of hospitality.

Lavine feigned to be offended at the treatment she had received. She swore that she would not allow herself to be thus insulted, and leading the horse from the stable, left the old man to himself.

The most of the owners who lost their horses followed on her trail, overtook, and conversed with her. But the frankness of her manner, and the impossibility of identifying the animals, placed her beyond suspicion.

The horses on being received by Lampanas, were cropped, docked, and trimmed, in a such a way that even after the colouring began to fade they could not be recognised. The animals after being rightly prepared, were taken by Lampanas (dressed in his female attire, and accompanied by his servant) to the Bull's Head, in the city of New York, at which place they were sold.

Lampanas and Lavine conducted the business of horse stealing successfully for about the space of one year, when it was terminated by the following circumstance.

Lavine had been confined for some little time to the house by sickness, and therefore excursions into the country had been necessarily delayed. This suspension of business caused the pockets of Lampanas (to use his own expression) to be "rather too extensively occupied by emptiness." He therefore concluded it would not be amiss to commit a small depredation in town.

Being familiar with the premises of one of the neighbours who owned a fine pony, he thought it prudent to make the animal available to himself.

Acting in accordance with these sentiments, he one night managed to enter the stable, and commenced the operation of colouring.

It chanced that the stable was so situated that the owner could see the door from his bed room window, and at the same time the attempt at robbery was made, although past the hour of twelve, and the night dark, he thought he indistinctly saw the stable door open and a man enter. To make sure, he slipped on a pair of gum shoes, went quietly down stairs, and cautiously approached the place.

On ascertaining that the door was open he did not enter, but went immediately in search of an officer. Having found a watchman, he related the circumstance, and retracing his steps in company with the watch, they entered the stable together.

The sudden appearance of the two men surprised Lampanas, and they themselves were no less surprised to find what they supposed to be a woman engaged in rubbing the horse.

The apology of Lampanas not being satisfactory, he was taken into custody.

On the next morning Lampanas was arraigned before a magistrate for examination. During the examination his sex was discovered, and although nothing could be elicited which went to prove that he intended to *steal* the horse, yet on account of the mystery of his having assumed the disguise of a female, he was detained until further inquiry could be made.

On the same day of his examination several officers went to search his rooms at the hotel, but they made no discoveries tending to his further crimination.

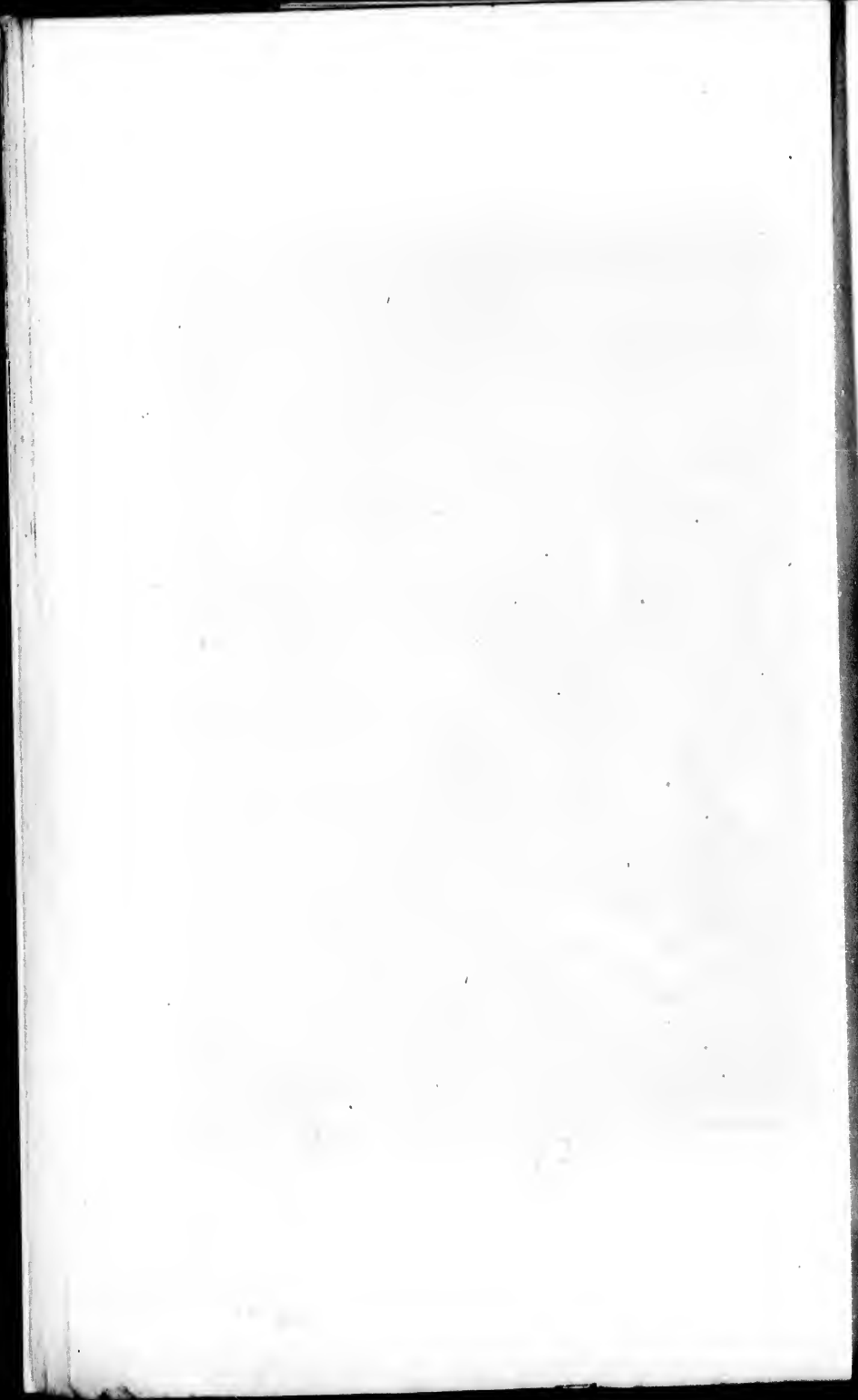
After having been detained for the space of two or three weeks, and no further evidence appearing against him, it was concluded on the part of the magistrates that it had only been his design to

"YOUNG SHAFTESBURY, FINDING HIMSELF LIKELY TO BE OVERTAKED, AND BEING CLOSELY FOLLOWED BY THE SERVANTS, MADE DIRECTLY FOR THE RIVER, AND THREW HIMSELF DOWN THE RAISED BANK."—P. 16.

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play off a trick on the owner of the pony, by changing the animal's colour.

Lampanas therefore received a severe reprimand on the impropriety of engaging in such matters, and he was also told that for the future he would find it to his welfare to assume the garb belonging to his sex. With this reprimand and injunction he was dismissed to concert measures for the future.

It was impossible for Lampanas longer to continue his disguise in the town of Montreal. It became, therefore, a matter of necessity that his theatre of action should be changed.

A consultation was therefore again held between himself and Lavine. Quebec was considered the most eligible place for future operations, and thither our couple repaired without delay.

In that part of the city of Quebec called the Upper Town, stood the mansion which had recently been occupied by the Amel family. This family consisted of Lord and Lady Amel, their two sons and three daughters. It was known through the town that this family was possessed of immense wealth. In fact, Lord Amel was considered the most wealthy citizen of the place. He had established a bank of his own, and his banking office was located in one part of the mansion.

Lampanas and Lavine, on arriving in town, soon became acquainted with the circumstances of this family. They therefore resolved, that by one bold stroke they would place themselves above want, and then retire from the world.

It was resolved, also, that they should make themselves acquainted with the private affairs of Lord Amel, by introducing themselves into his family as servants. After repeated applications and solicitations, Lavine was finally admitted.

It is perhaps necessary for us to mention, that in Quebec Lampanas and Lavine had concluded to pass for man and wife.

Lavine was therefore admitted as a female servant into the family of Lord Amel. Her husband claimed the privilege of visiting her, as a matter of course. In short, the house of Lord Amel soon became almost as much the home of Lampanas as it was that of Lavine.

No opportunity was omitted on the part of Lampanas and Lavine of becoming thoroughly acquainted with every part of the mansion, and with the vaults of the bank, and the passages leading thereto.

When they considered the necessary information to be obtained, they prepared to bring matters to a close.

The plan adopted to finish their scheme was this: That they should murder the family, remove the treasure from the bank, apply the incendiary torch, and leave the country for ever; and, as Lampanas could not consider himself entirely safe in the United States, it was determined that the Atlantic should separate them from the scene of their final act of villainy.

Prudence dictated that they should be in no haste to leave Quebec after the commission of the deed, as a precipitate flight would inevitably lead to suspicion. No provision was therefore taken to secure a passage across the ocean.

Such was the plan fixed upon by *John* and *Mary Stuart*, the names which Lampanas and Lavine had assumed in Quebec. The night of the 3d of December, 1849, was fixed upon for putting the scheme into execution.

On the night of the 2d of December the Amel family retired to rest, totally free from the suspicion that any machinations had been hatched against them. At about two, or half-past two o'clock, Lampanas and Lavine proceeded to the execution of the plot. Lampanas had determined not to be foiled on this occasion, and therefore both himself and Lavine were well armed.

The first chamber entered on this occasion was that of Lord Amel. It was also thought expedient to dispense with the "*galantry of waiting on the Lady*" Amel "*first,*" as her husband might prove the most dangerous in case of accident, as had occurred in the case of Lampanas' father. Lavine applied the chloroform, and Lampanas followed with the bowie. Lord and Lady Amel were successfully despatched. The sons then shared the fate of their parents, and the murder of the daughters closed the scene of assassination.

The coin from the bank, and the valuables from the house, were now removed to a place prepared by Lampanas.

The mansion was next closed, and the windows and doors bolted and barred, so that no ingress could be had from without. A lot of combustibles were then placed in the centre of the hall, and the match applied. Lampanas and Lavine now made their exit, carefully securing the door after them.

In about an hour after the application of the match, the fire was discovered: the close state of the building not allowing the flames

to progress very rapidly. When the flames *were* discovered, the alarm ran through the city, and the firemen were instantly on the spot. The flames were soon extinguished, but not until the whole interior of the building was consumed.

On examination after the fire was extinguished, the remains of human bodies were found within the walls, and the members of the family were all missing.

The police were soon on the alert, and the keen eye of justice was searching every corner of the city. No surviving members of the family could be found, and no former inmate of the house, except the servants. These were examined, but as none of them had been accustomed to sleep in the mansion, except Mrs. Stuart, and she not having been found, no information could be elicited.

Lampanas and Lavine had changed dresses, thereby changing their appearance in such a manner that they could not be recognised. For some days they thus lived secure from apprehension.

It being sufficiently evident that robbery, arson, and murder, had been committed in this case, and on so distinguished a family, every good citizen, independent of the police, took it upon himself as a matter of duty to be on the keenest look-out.

One day Lampanas went into the street for the purpose of procuring some milk, inadvertently taking with him one of the small silver pitchers formerly used at the mansion. The milkman noticed the pitcher, and thought it did not precisely accord with the appearance of the dwelling from which Lampanas came. The circumstance was mentioned to one of the police, and a search was immediately instituted. One or two articles were discovered bearing the name of Amel. Lampanas and Lavine were consequently arrested, and it was ascertained that neither was dressed in the appropriate garb of the sex. They were compelled to exchange dresses, and lo! they were immediately recognised as Mr. and Mrs. Stuart.

"The murder was out," and Lampanas and Lavine were fully committed.

The prisoners were manacled and placed in the carriage with the officers, who conducted them to jail.

Not a word was exchanged between the prisoners and the officers as they passed along, until Lampanas, suddenly raising his fettered hands, exclaimed, "See! see!"

"See what?" inquired the officer.

“The steed! the steed!” again exclaimed Lampanas.

It appeared that the imagination of the prisoner had conjured up to him a fiery black steed, harnessed in front of those attached to the carriage, rearing, plunging, and exerting himself to the utmost to hasten them forward to their destination.

It may be well here to remark, that Lampanas in his disordered imagination supposed the black steed to be the shape assumed by the EVIL ONE, who had thus come to give him personal attendance.

At the next session of the Court the two prisoners were indicted, convicted, and sentenced.

During their incarceration we had frequent conversations with them in their cells, and from Lampanas the substance of what we have related was obtained.

The 7th day of June, 1850, was fixed upon for the day of execution.

On the day preceding the execution, we entered the cell of Lampanas for the purpose of making a final effort to cause him to realize the peril of his condition, and, if possible, to bring him to repentance.

To all our entreaties, the only reply which he made was—“The black steed! the black steed!”

The phantom of the black steed had not left his imagination, and he considered it a sure omen of his destruction.

We were present at the execution, — and as we saw them struggling in their last agonies, the following lines suggested themselves to our mind:

Dark and foul were the deeds they did,
The couple there suspended—
The only son of a noble sire,
To have his life thus ended!
That sire in sorrow now is sunk,
Nor joy to him is returning,
He weeps in prayer for the wilful son,
Whose spark has ceased the burning.
May God have mercy on the youth,
Whose bloody hand was uplifted,
Against the Amel and Shaftesbury house,
The noble and the gifted.

CONCLUSION.

We cannot bring our subject to a close without saying a word by way of admonition to the young.

Our youthful readers will notice that Lampanas, one of the subjects of the foregoing narrative, was brought into this world under the most favourable circumstances. His family was of the first standing, and his parents were both possessed of the kindest dispositions. He had wealth and every thing at his command—every comfort which this earth affords—and yet we see that he ended his days upon the scaffold.

Reflect, my young readers, that his ignominious death was the result of adhering to the paths of vice, and totally deserting those of virtue. Had he given ear to the admonitions of his parents, or listened to the dictates of conscience—or had he listened to the teachings of Divine wisdom, how different would have been his life! how different would have been his death! His friends, under those circumstances, would have mourned his loss, instead of now having to mourn his dissolute life, and his ignominious death.

Marie Lavine, also, becomes a subject for the hangman. How solemn, how awful the scene, when we behold one of the softer sex terminating her career in such a manner!

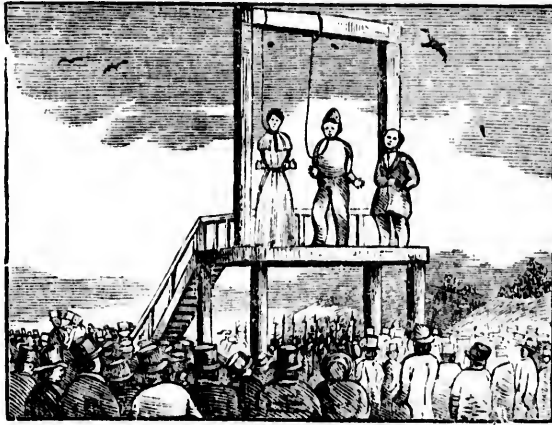
We have omitted to mention the origin of this female, it being of no material import to our narrative. She was of French descent, born of respectable parents, possessing beauty, education, and wit, and all those requisites which were necessary to make her happy. In an evil hour she listened to the tale of the seducer, and then that brightest gem of the female character—virtue—was no more.

Her fate should operate as a warning to the bright and blooming of her sex. Listen not to the whisperings of the flatterer, but remember, that one slip, and you affix a stain which time cannot

efface. Make it a custom to kneel daily in humble supplication to that Being who is able to protect you, both now and for ever.

In conclusion, we would remind the youth of both sexes, that, had Lampanas and Lavine lived a life of honesty and integrity, they would have been happy in this world, and departed hence with the prospect of a happy eternity.

Remember, that vice can only lead to present and eternal misery,—that, although the forbidden fruit may be sweet to the taste, to partake thereof is the precursor of eternal death.



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"YOUNG SHAFTESBURY, FINDING HIMSELF LIKELY TO BE OVERPOWERED, AND BEING CLOSELY FOLLOWED BY THE SERVANTS, MADE DIRECTLY FOR THE RIVER, AND THREW HIMSELF DOWN THE FALSADES,"—P. 16.

