

SERVED HIM RIGHT

By PIERRE VIVANT.

(Continued from last week)

CHAPTER III.

To finish the gayeties of the season Kate had obtained the consent of her father to give a large and brilliant party.

Invitations were scattered far and wide, and great calculations were made by the village ladies for a grand display of wardrobes upon the occasion.

To Miss Jones, the milliner, it was a season of unusual profit. Indeed she had never known a greater demand for the various articles of female adornment.

The expected night at last arrived. The halls were brilliantly lighted, and up the broad oaken stairway guest after guest passed to the dressing rooms.

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ities, but further than as a guest he had not regarded him and therefore looked upon his proposal as but a poor return for those civilities, especially so as he had made it without first consulting him.

success. He then proposed that she had the slightest regard for him to fly at once from "parental tyranny" and make him without further delay the happiest man alive by being joined in the holy bonds of matrimony at a neighboring town, to go thence to Philadelphia, pass the honeymoon there, after which they would return and throw themselves at her father's feet, and obtaining his forgiveness settle down quietly, as married people should do, for the remainder of their natural lives.

To all this Kate gave an attentive ear and then argued very scabily against a compliance with his request, but she

was sufficiently versed in diplomacy to know that such objections would but serve to render him only the more importunate, and after a long discussion she, with apparent reluctance, gave a silent consent and named the corresponding evening of the following week as the one on which the elopement should take place.

CHAPTER IV.

During the week following Augustus complied strictly with Kate's request to meet her only at the house of a friend, and there they arranged all the preparations for the flight.

Happy Augustus—happy in thine ignorance of the snare which is being laid for thee!

Since ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise.

It was decided that on the proposed evening a carriage should be in readiness at the corner of a street one or two blocks distant from the house, and that at midnight precisely our hero should make his appearance under Kate's window, give a signal and then repair to the back piazza and remain in concealment till her appearance.

Accordingly, all preliminaries having been satisfactorily arranged on the proposed evening, the darkness of which was relieved only by a few struggling stars, Augustus Fitz Clarence Boobie, in a bridal suit of the finest of black broadcloth, a vest of snowy whiteness and the other various articles of his toilet in corresponding style—all of which had been obtained "on tick"—Augustus, ecstatic youth, proceeded to the rendezvous under Kate's window and in a low tone gave the preconcerted signal. The window was raised gently, and Kate in a whisper asked him if all was in readiness. Being answered in the affirmative, she as noiselessly closed the casement, and Augustus on tiptoe hastened to the back piazza, at one end of which was a trellis covered with honeysuckles, just behind which a private door led from the hall. Behind this trellis he enconcealed himself, trembling with excitement and the bold step he was about taking and all impatience to be beyond the reach of pursuit.

A few moments only elapsed when the door slowly and silently turned upon its hinges, and a female figure, enveloped in a large cloak and closely veiled, emerged. She said nothing, but silently took his arm and pointed toward the gate at the back of the garden, through which they were to pass. Hurrying on, they soon reached the carriage, and Augustus, having handed his companion in, took his seat beside her and bade the driver hasten on. His directions were obeyed, and they were soon beyond the confines of the village, in which not a light was visible. Augustus' happiness was complete. He had exceeded his most sanguine hopes, and in a delirium of joy he clasped the gloved hand of his companion and pressed it to his lips.

The veiled head soon rested upon his shoulder, and he endeavored to fathom its impenetrability and "look love to eyes" which he fancied would "speak again," but the darkness resisted all his attempts. He could see nothing but a lighter shade where the sky was visible through the coach window. But it was well enough to feel that Kate was beside him, and from her he would not part—at least until she was his wedded wife.

On, on they drove, through woodland

and over plains. Hill and dale were swiftly passed, and just as the old church clock was striking 2 they entered the village of G—. The driver had slackened his speed a little, that no suspicion might be excited in the village, and drove quietly up to the hotel. The carriage door was opened simultaneously with that of the hotel, and the landlord came out to welcome them. He had been previously apprised of Augustus' wishes and led them to a private parlor, where a cheerful fire was blazing upon the hearth. The minister who was to perform the ceremony was also engaged, and the landlord went at once to summon him. Augustus had intended that they should remain as short a time as possible at G— and then hasten on to the railway to take the early morning train for Philadelphia.

The landlord at length returned, accompanied by the clergyman, who, being duly introduced to the parties, commenced an exhortation upon the duties of the matrimonial. Augustus listened impatiently, and perceiving that there was no immediate prospect of a conclusion reminded the good man that his time was limited and desired him to proceed at once to business. He accordingly commenced a prayer by way of preliminary, which threatened to be of equally long duration, and Augustus inwardly muttered anathemas upon the devoted man's head.

At length, however, he drew to a close after taking a census of the world in general and praying "for all sorts and conditions of men" and then requested the candidates for matrimony to make ready for the ceremony. The lady had thus far kept her veil closely drawn over her features, but at the request of the clergyman made preparation to remove it.

The landlord was to be a witness to the ceremony and had taken his seat by the side of the minister. While waiting for his companion to divest herself of bonnet and veil Augustus fell into a reverie and was lost in a brown study, from which he was suddenly aroused by a burst of laughter from the jolly landlord. What could be the matter? He glanced at his dress inquiringly to see if there was anything there to excite these demonstrations of mirth; but, no, there was not a spot or blemish. What, then, could it mean? Another and another peal of merriment caused him to look around, and—oh, shade of Uncle Tom—what think you, gentle reader, met his astonished vision? There stood his "compagnon du voyage," the one whose hand he had pressed to his lips and into whose arms he had breathed such vows of endless love and unchanging fidelity—but, oh, how changed! She to whom in five minutes more he was to have been united for life was metamorphosed into a young negro boy, whose height and figure were the counterpart of Kate's! He was enveloped still in the cloak, but had removed the bonnet and veil and stood shaking his sides and grinning as only a darky can grin, while Augustus stood completely bewildered and horror-stricken.

"Waal, wut's the matter, massa?" quoth Sambo. "I spees you radder not be jined in de bon's ob matrimony now, eh? I golly, I nebber hab a feller kiss me afore. Waal, I guess Massa Lincoln know he cards, and Missy Kate she am up to snuff too."

Like a flash of lightning, it occurred to Augustus that he had been victimized. He raved and swore, and it was with difficulty that the parson and landlord could quiet him. At length his passion cooled down, and he paid his bill—the only one he ever was known to be guilty of discharging—and left the house.

The supposed Kate returned in the carriage the next morning to M—, highly elated with the exploit. The real Kate and her father laughed heartily at the success of their plot and felt that they had relieved the village of a most dangerous character. All the village was agog before noon with a thousand and one different versions of the story, but all praised Kate's ingenuity and rejoiced at the benefit she had conferred upon the community at large.

Then did the creditors of Augustus hunt up their accounts and cry "Sold, sold!" Then was the sheriff consulted, but he only gravely shook his head and said all was in vain, for our hero was beyond the bounds of his jurisdiction. Then did he who rented him the office repair thither to obtain collateral security for past quarters still unpaid.

Vain search! He found a broken, worn-out trunk containing three soiled collars, a pair of false mustaches, an antiquated shoebrush, a well thumbed pack of cards and a dilapidated boot-jack. All other articles had vanished no one knew whither.

Our hero has never reappeared upon the stage of M—. Still he is not forgotten, and Kate has many a laugh over her midnight elopement with Augustus Fitz Clarence Boobie.

THE END.

Recording a Claim.

A former resident of California tells many amusing incidents of the people of the mining district in which he lived for some years. When a person discovers a mineral vein, it is the duty of the mining district recorder, at request, to proceed upon the spot and record a notice of the claim. The recorder of one of the mining districts, having to absent himself for a short time, left, as he thought, a competent deputy in his stead, charging him particularly in recording any "claim" to mention its distance from some other object for future reference and identification. On his return he found that the deputy had recorded only one claim during his absence, and that was graphically described as "located about 300 yards north of an old, broken wheelbarrow."

—Youth's Companion.

The Difference.

"Did you see that young Takoosy had accepted a position?"

"No, I didn't see it, but I heard some one say that he had finally got a job."

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THE PUZZLER

No. 115.—Beheadments.

Behold what is advanced in support of a cause and leave a meadow.

Behold obliquely and leave distorted.

Behold beginning to exist and leave an eminence.

Behold a tract of land and leave a ridge or raised strait.

Behold froth of malt liquors and leave from or toward the sun.

My whole is a plant native of cultivated fields and gardens throughout Europe and North America.

No. 116.—Hidden Trees.

Today I must be as busy as a bee, churning, washing, and if I really feel like it the meat for pie ought to be minced. A really good mince pie should be made several days before it is eaten. I will have to keep them locked up, or Tom will eat them before Thanksgiving. I must give them a plenty of pimento, a kind of spice that every one likes. Those that Ethel made were a great success. Pru certified to that by eating two large pieces, and because Mr. Tabir chanced to tell of it Pru was very angry and no doubt will owe Mr. Tabir a grudge for many a day. They say popcorn is cheap in Eaton store. We shall want to pop large quantities of it for the children. We will let Tom do the popping as penance for running away when we needed his help before.

No. 117.—Double Triangle.

1. A letter. 2. A pronoun. 3. A pronoun, objective case of she. 4. A plant with a succulent stalk. 5. Collection of dried plants. 6. Quiet, peace. 7. A suffix meaning state or quality of being. 8. Latin word meaning in order that. 9. A letter.

No. 118.—A Little Boy's Speech.

Fill the blanks with words that rhyme properly, and you will have a nice little speech for a little boy:

They thought I couldn't make a —, I'm such a little —!

I'll show them whether I can —

A thing or two, or —

Don't be afraid to fight the —

Or stand up for the —

And when you're nothing else to —

Be sure you say "—"

No. 119.—A Picture Puzzle.

The initials of these objects, when placed in their proper order, will give the name of a well known animal.

No. 120.—Progressive Enigma.

O O O O O O O O O O

1, 2, a word in frequent use.

3, 4, an exclamation.

1, 2, 3, 4, a patriarch.

5, 6, 7, the work of an insect.

5, 6, 7, 8, "textile fabrics."

8, 9, 10, 11, a suffix.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, a well known author.

No. 121.—Historic Characters.

1. The promoter of "Clinton's Big Ditch."

2. He who introduced "the new root" and "the new weed" into Europe.

3. He who sank the first successful oil well.

4. "The Little Giant."

5. The outcome of whose famous western journey secured Oregon to us.

6. The Virginia general whose motto was, "Do your duty, and leave the rest to Providence."

The Grape Trick.

The grape trick is a good one. Put three grapes upon each of two plates, and give them and a fork to two people sitting on opposite sides of the table. They are to look into each other's eyes, without moving, and see which one will be able to eat the grapes first.

The Easiest Way to Draw.

Stories are told of great artists who could draw on their thumb nails. Nothing remarkable about that. We know a number of very ordinary people who can draw on their imagination.

Key to the Puzzler.

No. 107.—Blank Rhymes:

There is a stretch of silver sky,

That nightly in the west doth lie

Like some untroubled, radiant sea,

Upon whose bosom constantly

The tinted clouds wave rise and fall,

Obedient to the west wind's call.

Across this ocean, sunset lit,

A tiny craft doth lightly fit,

Usual by rock or reef or bar,

And piloted by one pale star

It slips the ripples through, and

Light freighted with a fairy crew,

No. 108.—The Etruscan Nine:

"Lars Porsena of Clusium,

By the nine gods he swore,"

—Marsullus's "Lays of Ancient Rome."

The gods of the Etruscans were Juno, Minerva, Tinia, Vulcan, Mars, Summanus and Veilus. Saturn and Hercules are added by some writers to make up the number.

No. 109.—Crossword: Enigma: Spring-time.

No. 110.—Rhomboid:

R O T O R R I D E R

S A V E R S A V E S

P A N I C D E C A Y

L E G A L R U L E S

W A G O N B E S I N

No. 111.—Proverb Making: "Strike while the iron is hot."

No. 112.—Double Acrostic: Primals, Empress; Anals, Concord, Crosswords: 1. Ethel, 2. Motte, 3. Eaton, 4. Relic, 5. Samba, 6. Otter, 7. Nomad.

No. 113.—Transposition: Atilla, 2. Seal, 3. Deer, 4. Zebra, 5. Barnoise, 6. Armadillo, 7. Hare, 8. Martin, 9. Tortoise, 10. Polecat, 11. Panther, 12. Leopard, 13. Weasel, 14. Skot, 15. Sable, 16. Wolf, 17. Ichneumon, 18. Elephant, 19. Camelopard, 20. Antelope.

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