

(Continued from last week.)

I was taking a turn or two outside the shed-for the sight of Jack Dawson hugging poor Moll to his breast and trying to soothe her bodily misery with gentle words was more than I could bearwhen a drawer, coming across from the inn, told me that a gentleman in the cherry room would have us come to him. I gave him a civil answer and carried this message to my friends. Moll, who had stanched her tears and was smiling piteously, though her sobs, like those of a child, still shook her thin frame, and her father both looked at me in blank doubt as fearing some trap for further discomfiture.

serve us no worse within doors than without, so let us in and face this gentleman, whoever he is."

drabbled as we were, went to follow the drawer up stairs, when the landlady cried out she would not have us go into her cherry room in that pickle, to soil her best furniture and disgrace her house, and bade the fellow carry us into the kitchen to take off our cloaks and change our boots for slip shoes, adding that if we had any respect for ourselves we should trim our hair and wash the grime off our faces.

you again if by nothing but this piece of generosity," replies Dawson, with his cheek full of pasty, "for I remem-ber both times you set down a coin and So we enter the kitchen nothing loath, where a couple of pullets browning on the spit, kettles bubbling on the fire and a pasty drawing from the oven filled the air with delicions odors that nearly drove us mad for envy. And to think that these good things were to tempt the appetite of some one who never hungered, while we, famishing for want, had not even a crust to appease our cravings! But it was some comfort to nge our blue, numbed fingers into a tub of hot water and feel the life blood creeping back into our hearts. The paint we had put on our cheeks the night before was streaked all over our faces by the snow, so that we did look the veriest scarecrows imaginable, but after washing our heads well and stroking our hair into order with a comb Mistress Cook lent us we looked not so bad, and thus changed, and with dry shoes to our feet, we at length went up stairs, all full of wondering expectation, and were led into the cherry room, which seemed to us a very palace, being lit with half a dozen candles-and they of wax-and filled with a warm glow · by the blazing logs on the hearth reflected in the cherry hangings. And there in the midst was a table laid for supper with a wondrous white cloth, glasses to drink from and silver forks all set out

says the drawer, and with that he makes a pretense of building up the fire, being warned thereto very like by the landlady, with an eye to the safety of her

" 'tis that outlandish and uncommon. But for sure he is some great foreign grandee."

He could tell us no more, so we stood there all together wondering, till presently the door opens, and a tall, lean gentleman enters, with a high front, very finely dressed in silk stockings, a long waisted coat and embroidered waistcoat, and rich lace at his cuffs and throat. He wore no peruke, but his own hair, cut quite close to his head, with a pointed beard and a pair of long mustachios twisting up almost to his ears, ing by reason of his beard and muslined with wrinkles about the eyes more, has each its history of varying passions, known only to himself and secret phases of his life!

He saluted us with a most noble bow, and dismissed the drawer with a word in an undertone. Then turning again to us he said, "I had the pleasure of seeing you act last night, and dance," he adds, with a slight inclination of his head to Moll. "Naturally I wish to be better acquainted with you. Will it please you to dine with me?"

I could not have been more dumfounded had an angel asked me to step into heaven, but Dawson was quick

The other bowed his head and set a air at the end of the table for Moll, which she took with a pretty courtesy, but saying never a word, for glee did

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as if she would fain begin at once, but CHAPTER II. she had the good manners to restrain herself. Then his worship (as we called him), having shown us the chairs on either side, seated himself last of all, at the head of the table, facing our Moll, whom whenever he might without discourtesy he regarded with most scrutinizing glances from first to last. Then, the door flinging open, two drawers brought in those same fat pullets we had seen browning before the fire and also the pasty, with abundance of other good cheer, at which Moll, with a little cry of delight, whispers to me: 'Tis like a dream. Do speak to me,

Kit, or I must think 'twill all fade

away presently and leave us in the

Then I, finding my tongue, begged

his worship would pardon us if our

manners were more uncouth than the

"Nay," says Dawson. "Your worship will like us none the worse, I warrant, for seeing what we are and aping none."

Finding himself thus beworshiped on

"You may call me senor. I am a

Spaniard—Don Sanchez del Castello de

Castelana." And then to turn the sub-

ject he adds, "I have seen you play

'Aye, senor, and I should have known

Don Sanchez hunched his shoulders

cavalierly, as if such trifles were naught

to him, but indeed throughout his man

And now, being fairly settled down

to our repast, we said no more of any

moment than I can recall to mind till

we had done (which was not until naught remained of the pullets and the

pasty but a few bones and the bare

dish), and we were drawn round the

fire at Don Sanchez's invitation. Then

the drawers, having cleared the tables,

brought up a huge bowl of hot spiced

wine, a dish of tobacco and some pipes.

Then don then offered us to smoke some cigarros, but we, not understanding them, took instead our homely pipes,

and each with a bottle of hot wine to

his hand and roasting before the fire,

scarce saying a word, the don being si-

lent because his humor was of the re-

flective, grave kind (with all his cour-

tesies he never smiled, as if such dem-

onstrations were unbecoming to his dig-

nity), and we from repletion and a feel-

ing of wondrous contentment and re-

pose. And another thing served to keep

us still, which was that our Moll, sit-

ting beside her father, almost at once

fell asleep, her head lying against his

shoulder as he sat with his arm about

her waist. As at the table, Don San-

chez had seated himself where he could best observe her, and now he scarcely

once took his eyes off her, which were

half closed, as if in speculation. At

length, taking the cigarro from his lips,

he says softly to Jack Dawson so as not

(To be Continued.)

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to arouse Moll:

and Ankles, etc.

society to which he was accustomed.

both hands, our good friend says:

would take no change."

ner was most high and noble

"Nay," says Jack stoutly. "Fate can

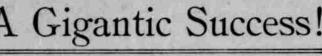
So in we go, and, all sodden and be-

"His worship will be down ere long,"

"Can you tell me his worship's name, friend?" I whisper, my mind turning at once to his worship of Tottenham Cross. "Not I, were you to pay me," says he;

but his appearance was the more striktachios being quite, black, while the hair on his head was white as silver. He had dark brows also, that overhung very rich black eyes. His nose was long and hooked, and his skin, which was of a very dark complexion, was closely while a deep furrow lay betwixt his brows. He carried his head very high, and was majestic and gracious in all his movements, not one of which, as it seemed to me, was made but of forethought and purpose. I should say his age was about 60, though his step and carriage were of a younger man. To my eyes he appeared a very handsome and a pleasing, amiable gentleman. But, Lord, what can you conclude of a man at a single glance, when every line in his face, of which he had a score and

enough to say something.
"That will we," cries he, "and God
bless your worship for taking pity on
us, for I doubt not you have heard of



price and with the privilege of having his