## THE AMERICAN.



BY RUGENE SUE

### CHAPTER X.

#### THE MEETING.

A few moments after, Agricola entered the room; but, al s! the seamstress perceived at the first glance, in the dejected countenance of the workman, the ruin of her cherished hopes.

"Well!" said Dagobert to his son, in a tone which clearly announced the little faith he attached to the steps taken by Agricola; "well, what news ?"

"Father, it is enough to drive one mad-to make one dash one's brains out against the wall!" cried the smith in a rage.

Dagobert turned towards Mother Bunch, and said: "You see, my poor child-1 was sure of it."

"Well, father," cried Agricola; "have you seen the Count de Montbron ?"

"The Count de Montbron set out for Lorraine three days ago. That is my good news," continued the soldier, with bitter irony; "let us have yours-I long to know all. I need to know, if, on appealing to the laws, which, as you told me, protect and defend honest people, it ever happens that the rogues get the best of it. I want to know this, and then I want an iron hook-so I count on you for both."

"What do you mean, father?"

"First, tell me what you have done. We have time. It is not much more than half-past eight. On leaving me, where did you go first ?"

"To the commissary, who had already received your depositions."

"What did he say to you ?"

"After having kindly listened to all I had to state, he answered, that these young girls were placed in a respectable house, a convent-so that there did not appear any urgent necessity for their immediate removal-and besides, he could not take upon himself to violate the sanctity of a religious dwelling, upon your simple testimony; to-morrow, he will make his report to the proper authorities, and steps will be taken accordingly.'

"Yes, yes-plenty of put offs,' said the soldier.

"But, sir,' answered I to him," resumed Agricola, "'it is now, this very night, that you ought round suddenly, and Dagobert hastily raised his to act, for if these young girls should not be pre- head. sent to-morrow morning in the Rue Saint-Francois, their interests may suffer incalculable damage."-" I am very sorry for it," replied he, "but I cannot, upon your simple declaration, or that and advanced to meet the unfortunate woman. of your father, who-like yourself-is no relation or connection of these young persons, act in stooping down to embrace her affectionately. direct opposition to forms, which could not be "Get up, I entreat you !" set aside, even on the demand of a family. The law has its delays and its formalities, to which firm accents, "I will not raise, till your father we are obliged to submit.""

was so much moved, and I spoke with so much warmer."

warmth and conviction, that he became interreturn to my father, who brought them from voice, "I had time to repent." Russia. You will then see if they are not de-

tained against their will-"" "And what answer did he give you, Agricola?" asked Mother Bunch, while Dagobert shrugged his shoulders, and continued to walk up and down.

"' My good fellow' said he, ' what you ask me is impossible. I understand your motives, but I cannot take upon myself so serious a measure. I should be broke were I to enter a convent by force.' 'Then, sir, what am I to do? It is enough to turn one's head.' 'Faith, I don't know,' said the lieutenant: 'it will be safest, I think, to wait.' Then, believing I had done all that was possible, father, I resolved to come back, in the hope that you might have been more fortunate than I-but, alas ! I was deceived !"

So saying, the smith sank upon a chair, for he every state, county, important town was worn out with anxiety and fatigue. There was a moment of profound silence after these words of Agricola, which destroyed the last hopes of the three, mute and crushed beneath the strokes of inexorable fatality.

A new incident came to deepen the sad and cents in stamps or coin the underpainful character of this scene.

#### CHAPTER XI.

DISCOVERIES.

The door-which Agricola had not thought of fastening-opened, as it were, timidly, and Frances Baudoin, Dagobert's wife, pale, sinking, hardly able to support herself, appeared on the threshold.

The soldier, Agricola, and Mother Bunch, were plunged in such deep dejection, that neither of them at first perceived the entrance. Frances Rock Island Station every sminute. advanced two steps into the room, fell upon her These facilities can only be offered by knees, clasped her hands together, and said in a weak and humble voice; "My poor husbandpardon ! "

At these words, Agricola and the work-girlwhose backs were towards the door-turned

"My mother!" cried Agricola, running to praise popery and denounce the patri-Frances

"My wife!" cried Dagobert, as he also rose,

"On your knees, dear mother!" said Agricola,

by a lieutenant. I told him all. He saw that I behind you: you will be more comfortable, and

ested .- 'Lieutenant,' said I to him, 'grant me one ing to smile. "And you to be so kind, after all been confined in prison with so many miserable favor: Let a petty officer and two soldiers go to the ill I have done !" added she to Dagobert, as, creatures. He would have made some attempt to the convent, to obtain a legal entrance. Let disengaging one of her hands from those of her console her on the subject of the painful past, but them ask to see the daughters of Marshal Simon, son, she took the soldier's hand and pressed it to he feared to give a new shock to Dagobert, and and learn whether it is their choice to remain, or her tearful eyes. "In prison," said she in a low was silent

Agricola's heart was near breaking at the thought that his pious and good mother, with "How you both spoil me !" said Frances, try- her angelic purity, should for a momont have

(To be continued.)



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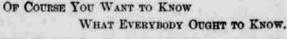
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"Certainly!" said Dagobert. "We must sub- now I know it." mit to them, at the risk of becoming cowardly, ungrateful traitors!"

him ?" asked the work-girl.

much the same manner: "It was very serious; again," added he, assisting his son to raise Franthere was no proof in support of my deposition. A third party had told me that Mdlle. de Cardoville affirms she was not mad; but all mad people pretend to be sane. He could not therefore, upon my sole testimony, take upon himself to enter the house of a respectable physician. But he would report upon it, and the law would have its course-"

"Then I wished to act just now for myself," said Dagobert, 'did I not see all this? And yet I was weak enough to listen to you."

impossible, and you agreed that it would expose Mother Bunch: "Pray, make a little fire directyou to far too dangerous consequences."

"So," resumed the soldier, without answering his son, "they told you in plain terms, that we must not think of obtaining legally the release of left."

Rose and Blanche this evening, or even to-morrow morning?"

no special urgency. The question may not be decided for two or three days."

"That is all I wished to know," said Dagobert, rising, and walking up and down the room.

sider myself beaten. In despair, but believing her: "Your hands dear mother!" and taking that justice could not remain deaf to such equita. those feeble palms in his own, he tried to warm ble claims, I ran to the Palais de Justice, hoping them with his breath. to find there a judge, a magistrate, who would receive my complaint, and act upon it."

"Well?" said the soldier, stoping him.

five o'clock, and do not open again till ten in the most delicate attentions to his poor, pale, tremmorning. Thinking of your despair, and of the bling old mother. position of poor Mdlle. de Cardoville, I determined to make one more attempt. I entered a fetch a pillow, and brought it to his wife, saying: guard-house of troops of the line, commanded "Lean forward a little, and I will put this pillow

"No, my child," said Frances, in her mild, has forgiven me. I have wronged him much-

"Forgive you, my poor wife?" said the soldier, FINE WATCH REPAIRING A SPECIALTY as he drew near with emotion. "Have I ever "Didst speak also of Mdlle. de Cardoville to accused you except in my first transport of despair? No, no; it was the bad priests that I ac-"Yes-but he answered me on this subject in cused, and there I was right. Well ! I have you ces; "one grief the less. They have then restored you to liberty? Yesterday, I could not even learn in what prison they had put you. I have so many cares that I could not think of you only. But come, dear wife: sit down !"

"How feeble you are, dear mother!-how cold -how pale! said Agricola with anguish, his eves filling with tears. "Why did you not let us know?" added he. "We would have gone to fetch you. But how you tremble! Your hands are frozen!" continued the smith, as he knelt "But, father, what you wished to attempt was down before Frances. Then, turning towards ly.'

> "I thought of it, as soon as your father came in, Agricola, but there is no wood nor charcoal

"Then pray borrow some of Father Loriot, my dear sister. He is too good a fellow to refuse. "Yes, father. In the eyes of the law, there is My poor mother trembles-she might fall ill." Hardly had she said the words, than Mother Bunch went out. The smith rose from the ground, took the blanket from the bed, and carefully wrapped it about the knees and feet of his "And yet,"'resumed his son, "I did not con- mother. Then, again kneeling down, he said to

Nothing could be more touching than this picture: the robust young man, with his energetic and resolute countenance, expressing by his

"I was told that the courts shut every day at looks the greatest tenderness, and paying the

Dagobert, kind-hearted as his son, went to

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satisfy the sum of thirty-nine and (\$39.88) dollars costs herein, together \$39.58) doilars costs herein, together coruing costs, according to a judg-endered by the district court of said Douglas county, at its September term, A. D. 187, in a cortain action then and there pending, wherein Robert M. Zug is plain-tiff and Eli H. Doud, Minnie Doud, John S. Doud, Doud, his wife, first and unknown; William G. Sloane, loane, isabell Jones and The k Yards Com

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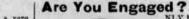
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