his eyes turned steadfastly on his accuser,

As the last word rang through the roo

of annovance, "See what it is," he said.

Sir William Trumball rose and went,

glances toward the door, he returned,

it please you, sir," he said, "a witness de-

my honor

"SHREWSBURY"

By STANLEY J. WEYMAN.

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CHAPTER XLIV.

About 10 on the morning of November 3 of that year eight gentlemen of the first rank in England were assembled in the galin power; notwithstanding which a curious observer might have detected in their manner and intercourse an air of reserve and constraint unusual among men at once so highly placed and of the same opinions. A little thought, bowever, and a knowledge of the business which brought them together,

would have explained the cause of this. While the duke of Devonshire, the marquise of Dorset and Lord Portland formed a group apart, it was to be noticed that Lords Marlborough and Godolphin and Adtogether, never suffered this arrangement to last; but either effected a temporary change by accosting the lord keeper or Mr. Sir Edward Russell's loud voice and botsterous-manners wrought a momentary fusion of the company.

"By the eternal, I am the most unlucky fellow,"-the admiral cried, addressing the fable, sir," he said. whole company, on one of these occasions, Sir John had lied about me only, I uld have given it him back in his teeth, and so fair and square; it is a poor cook does not know his own batch. But because he drags in the duke and the duke chooses to get the fantods and shirks him, I stand

"Sir Edward," said Lord Dorset, speaking gravely and in a tone of rebuke, "No one supposes that the duke of Shrewsbury is aught but ill. And, allow me to say that

under the circumstances you under the circumstances you to put it on him."

"But, d—n me, he has no right to be ill!" of your head shan, cried the seaman whose turbulent spirit was not coally put down. "If he were here I would say the same to his face. And that is flat!" He was proceeding with more, but, at that moment, the door of the royal closet was thrown open and a gentleman usher apwas thrown open

cussing the king's crossing and the speed of his new yacht; another, the excellent health and spirits in which his majesty had returned, until a door at the lower end of the room being opened a murmur of voices and stir of feet were heard, and after a mo-ment's delay Sir John Fenwick entered, a dissatisfied face, and Sir William retiring, prisoner, and with a somewhat dazed air in a moment returned with the duke advanced to the foot of the table.

"the king will be presently here."
"I am obliged to your grace," Fenwick

answered, and stood waiting.

His gaunt form, clothed in black, his face always stern and now haggard, his eyes, in which pride and fanaticism at one momen overcame and at another gave place to the the hunted beast-these things should have made him a pathetic figure at any time and under any circumstances. How much more when those who gazed on him knew that he stood on the brink of death; and knew, too, that within a few moments had insulted and defied and in whose hands his fate now lay.

That some, less interested in the matter than others, harbored such thoughts, the looks of grave compassion which Lords Devcashire and Dorset cast on him seemed to prove; but their reflections-which doubt less carried them back to a time when the ost brilliant and cynical of courtiers played the foremost part in the Whitehall of the restoration-these, no less than the mutterings and restless movements of Russell, who in his enemy's presence could scarcely control himself, were cut short by the king's entrance.

came in unannounced and very quietly at a door behind the lord steward, and all rising to their feet, he bade them it, a for-eign accest "goodday," adding immediately: "Be seated, my lords; my lord steward, we will proceed.

His entrance and words, abrupt if not awkward, lacked alike the grace which all remembered in Charles, and the gloomy majesty which the second James had at his command. And men felt the lack. Yet, as he took his stand, one hand lightly resting on the back of the lord steward's chair, the stooping somber figure and sallow withered face staring out of its great peruque had a dignity of their own. For it could not



"THIS IS THE PRICE AND THE PARDON

be forgotten that he was that which no king of England had ever been-a soldier and a commander from boyhood, at home in all the camps of Figures and the Rhine, familiar with every peril of battle and breach; at his case if anywhere where other mea blanched and drew back. And the knowledge that this was so invested him with a certain awe and grandeur even in the eyes of courtlers. On this day he wore a black suit relieved only by the ribbon the garter; and as he stood he let his chier so low on his breast that his which could on occasion shine with a keen

and almost baleful light, were hidden. The lord steward, in obedience to his command, was about to address Sir John, when g, with a brusqueness characteristic intervened. "Sir John," he said, in he said, in harsh, dry voice, and speaking partly French, partly in English, "your papers are altogether unsatisfactory. Instead of giving CHAPTER XLV.

That the vilial expected nothing so little as to see the man he was prepared to rule without place, about noblemen and gentlemen with whom you do not pretend to have had any intercourse. In short, your composure. I have heard that after slow appears to be a contrivance intended to streen those who are really engaged in designs against us, and to make me suspect and decard this good rear to place confidence. If you look for any us an account of the plots formed by you and your accomplices, plots of which all the de-

favor from me, therefore, you will give me

lery at Kensington, awaiting a summons to nerious and compassionate, "bis majesty in-the king's closet. With the exception of vites your confidence and will for good rea-Lord Godolphin, who had resigned his office some show you his favor. But you must describe three days earlier, all belonged to the party you conclude nothing from the fact that you

"On the contrary," said the king dryly, "I see you, sir, for the sake of my friends. If, Otherwise, to make a full and free confession of what you do know."
"Sir," said Sir John hoarsely, speaking for

the first time, "I stand here worse placed than any man ever was. For I am tried by those whom I accuse." The king slightly shrugged his shoulders. "Fallait penser la when you accused them,"

he muttered. Sir John cast a flerce, despairing glance miral Russell, who seemed to fall naturally into a second group, and though the movements of the company constantly left them stantiate nothing against three of those persons," he said, wherein some of those who listened breathed more freely.

"And that is all, sir, that you have to change by accosting the lord keeper or Mr. say?" said the king ungraciously, and as if Sec Trumball, or through the medium of he desired only to cut short the scene. "All," said Sir John firmly. "Against those three persons. But as to the fourth, the duke of Shrewsbury, who is not here— The king could not suppress an exclama-

tion of contempt. "You may spare us that

fable, sir," he said. "It would not deceive a child, much less one who holds the duke high in his esteem."
Sir John drew himself to his full height, and looked along the table, his gloomy eyes threatening. "And yet that fable I can prove, sir," he said. "That I can substantiate, sir. To that I have a witness and a witness above suspicion! If I can prove that, sir, shall I have your majesty's favor? "Perfectly," said the king, shrugging his shoulders, amid a general thrill and movement; for though rumors had gone abroad

"He is so ill, sir, as to be very unfit to be abroad," the secretary answered. "Yet he came to be in readiness if your majesty needed him. Sir John Fenwick persisting,

looked, his face betrayed signs of disturb-ance, after which, his eyelids drooping, it fell into the dull and sphinx-like mold which t assumed when he did not wish his houghts to be read by those about him. That the duke's paller and wretched ap-

pearance gave rise to suspicion in other minds is equally certain; the more hardy of those present, such as my lord Maribort ough and the admiral, being aware that nothing short of guilt and the immediate respect of detection could so change them selves. And while some felt a kind of admir ation, as they conned and measured the stupendous edifice of skilful deceit, which my ord had so long and perfectly concealed be h'od a front of brass, as to take in all the world, others were already busied with the offect it would have on the party and how this might be softened and that explained, and in a word snether man substituted with as little shock as possible for this man. Nor were these emotions at all weakened when my lord after saluting the king took his seat, without speaking or greeting the gen-

"Now, sir," said the king impatiently, when all was quiet again, "the duke is here Proceed.

"I will." Sir John answered with greater hardiness than he had yet used. simply to repeat to his face what I have simply to repeat to his face what I have said behind his back; that on the 10th of last June, in the evening, he met me at Ashford in Kent, and gave me a ring and a message, bilding me carry both with me St. Germains."

My lord looked slowly round the table; then at Sir John. And it startled some to see that he had compassion in his face. "Sir John." he said—after, as it seemed. weighing the words he was about to speak, 'you are in such a position it were barbarous to insult you. But you must needs, as you have accused me, before his majesty and these gentlemen, hear me state, also

his voice sounded sincere.

the duke continued with dignity, June," the duke continued with dignity, or on any day in that month. I never saw you clearly. "I had seen him with him occasionally." there and I gave you no ring."
"Mon Dleu!" Sir John muttered again. and, his jaw fallen, he seemed to be unable to this meeting?"

take his eyes off the other. Now, it is certain that whatever the maority of those present thought of this-and the demeanor of the two men was so steadfast that even Lord Marlborough's acumen him," Sir John added with a flash of bitter was at fault—the king's main anxiety was to meaning, "as well as I know you, Lord Marlbe rid of the matter; and with some im- borough!" patience he tried to put a stop to it at this point. "Is it worth while to carry this farther, my lords?" he said fretfully. "We know our friends. We know our enemies

also. This is a story pour rire and deserv-ing only of contempt."

But Sir John at that cried out, protesting bitterly and flercely and recalling the king's less, and even favorable to the duke, be ig-promise, and the duke, being no less urgent nored or mistaken. Three out of four who though, as some thought, a little unsea-sonably for his own interests—that the mat ter be sifted to the bottom, the king had he would be incognito, and moreover, the no option but to let it go on. "Very well," use of even that flimsy disguise cast a sort he said ungrachusly. "If he will have his of even that flimsy disguise cast a sort witness, let him." And then, with one of those spirits of poevishness, which sood in time the balance of credit and probability strange contrast with his wonted magna- swung against my lord, a fact subtly indi nimity, he added to the duke of Shrewsbury,

blame me. The querulous words bore a meaning which all recognized; and some at the table started, and resumed the calculation how they should trim their sails in a certain event. But nothing ever became the duke better than the manner in which he received hat insinuation. "Be it so, sir," he said h spirit. "My choice and desire is that John have as full a share of justice as I with spirit. claim for myself, and as fair a hearing Less than that were inconsisient with your majesty's prerogative and my honor."

The king's only answer was a sulky and areless nod. On which Sir William Trumbull, after whispering to the prisoner, went out, and after a brief delay, which seemed to many at the table long enough, returned with Matthew Smith.

CHAPTER XLV.

ruffling blate about town, who had grown sober, but not less dangerous, with age and the change of the times, he had still saved some rags and tatters of a gontleman's reputation, and he dressed almest accordingly; in this man has said that in '22 he present, and the duke of Shrewsbury, with whom alone you have to deal, I will make a line on the take and steadfast bearing made an impression not unfaverable at the outset.

Nor, when bidden by the king to speak and say what he knew, did he fail below the expectations which his appearance had created, though this was probably due in some measure to my lord's self-control, who heither by word nor sign betrayed the astonishment by word nor sign betrayed the astonishment in six months, as it were, proceeded to recount with the utmost fullness and partieutiantly every detail of the journey, which, as the second which has a personal proceed to recount with the utmost fullness and partieutiantly every detail of the journey, which, as the second which has a personal process of the second with the utmost fullness and partieutiant of the second with the utmost fullness and partieutiantly every detail of the journey, which, as the second with the utmost fullness and partieutiant of the second with the utmost fullness and partieutiant of the second with the utmost fullness and partieutiant of the second with the utmost fullness and partieutiant of the second with the utmost fullness and partieutiant of the second with the utmost fullness and partieutiant of the second with the utmost fullness and partieutiant of the second with the utmost fullness and partieutiant of the second with the utmost fullness and partieutiant of the second with the utmost fullness and partieutiant of the second with the utmost fullness and partieutiant of the second with the utmost fullness and partieutiant of the second with the second second with the second with the second with the second with the seco larity every detail of the journey, which, as gesture. 'It was, my lords, to take a lowe he said, they two had taken together to Ashlay, by what road they traveled, where they was pat; nor did he stop there, but went on to relate with the same case and exactness the heads of talk that had passed believed. the heads of talk that had passed between Sir John and his companion at the inn. Nor was it possible that a story so told,

with minutiae, with date and place and cir-cuinstance, should fall on ears totally deaf. The men who listened were versed in deceptions and acquainted with affairs—men who knew Oates and had heard Dangerfield; yet they listened, they shut their eyes and reopened them, to assure themselves that this was not a dream! Before therefore, you can substantiate the charges his appearance, even Lord Portland, whose you have made, it behooves you to do it. had been inclined to ridicule Sir John's story as a desperate card played for life; and this even in the teeth of my lord's disorder, so incredible did it appear that one of the king's principal ministers should stoop to a thing so foolish. Now, it was a sign pregnant of meaning that no one looked at his neighbor; but all gazed either at the witness or at the table before them. And some who knew my lord best and had the most affection for him felt the air heavy and the stillness of the room oppressive. Suddenly the current of the story was broken by the king's harsh accent. "What was the date?" he asked, "on which you

eached Ashford?" "The 10th of June, sir."
"Where was the duke on that day?" Wiliam continued; and he turned to the lord



YOU LIE," HE CRIED VEHEMENTLY, "YOU LIE IN YOUR TEETH."

steward. His tone and question, implying sires to be heard. And with that his facthe most perfect contempt for the tale of expressed so much surprise that the king advanced to the foot of the table.

The lord steward rose and gravely bowed to him, and this courtesy, in which he was followed by all except the admiral, was remuch of a coup de theatre, a thing he hated.

The lord steward rose and gravely bowed to his entrance use and a hint of displessare in his manner, thicking, probably, that this savored too much of a coup de theatre, a thing he hated.

The lord steward rose and gravely bowed to him, and this courtesy, in which he was thicking, probably, that this savored too much of a coup de theatre, a thing he hated.

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The lord steward rose and gravely bowed to him, and this courtesy, in which he was thicking, probably, that this savored too at him, and this courtesy, in the suburbs; and thereon at him to savored too at him, and the lay those two names at him to savored too at him, and the low the lay those two names at him to savored too at him, and this courtest that the lay those two names at him to savored too at him, and this courtest that the lay those two names at him to savored too at him, and the lay those two names at him to savored too at him to savor of Devonshire, turning to my lord for the answer, got only that he lay those two nights twenty witnesses can confute this!" as if the answer satisfied him and was all he expected but that others were at gaze and in doubt was as noticeable as that these who looked most solemn and thoughtful were the three who had themselves stood in danger that

> At a nod from the king Smith resumed his tale, but in a moment he was pulled up short by Lord Dorset, who requested his majesty's leave to put a question. Having got permisame to take you with him?" the marquis "To take me, my lord?"

"Yes. "Must I answer that question?"

said Lord Dorset with grimness "Well, simply because I had been the dium of communication between his grace and Sir John," Smith answered drily. as on former occasions I had acted as agent etween his grace and Lord Middle My lord started violently and half rose Then, as he fell back into his seat: "That sir, is the first word of truth this person has spoken," he said with dignity. fact that in the year 1892 he twice brought rukes, and trimmed and combed by one

"Precisely," Smith answered with effront-"as I arranged this meeting." lord's self-On that for the first time my entrol abandoned him. He started to his feet. "You lie." he cried vehemently. "You lie in your teeth, you scoundrel! Sir-pardon "You ne, but this is-this is too much. I cannot sit by and hear it.

By a gesture not lacking in kindness, the king bade him resume his seat. 'Pesto!" he said taking snuff with a droll expression of chagrin. "Will any one cise ask a question. My lord Dorset has not been fortunate. As the Advocatus Diaboli, per-

and these gentlemen, hear me state, also before them, that there is not a word of truth in what you coy."

Sir John stavel at him. Sir John stared at him and breathed hard, as he likes. How did you know, Sir John "Mon Dieu!" he exclaimed at length, and that it was the duke of Shrewsbury who met is voice sounded sincere.

'I was not at Ashford on the 10th of there?"

"I knew the duke," Sir John answered "I had seen him often, and spoken "How often had you spoken to him before

'Possibly on a dozen occasions." "You had not had any long conversations

"No; but I could not be mistaken. I know "He gave his title?"

"No, he did not," Sir John answered, 'He

"We gave the name of Colonel Talbot. Someone at the table—It was Lord Port-land—drew his breath sharply through his teeth; nor could the impression made by a statement that at first blush seemed harm sat there were aware that my lord had used that name in his wild and boyish days, when ity, he added to the duke of Shrewsbury, cated by the silence which followed is your own choice, my lord. Don't statement and lasted a brief while, no at the table speaking or volunteering a farther question. For the time Matthew Smith was forgotten-or the gleam of insolent triumph in his eye might have said somewhat. For the time Sir John took a lower seat. Men's minds were busy with the duke, and the duke only; busy with what the result would be to him and to the party, were this

had not slept.
"Duke," said the king, "you had better raised and strident, was heard above the tu-

speak sitting. The words were meant in kindness, but they indicated a subtle change of attitude: they indicated that even the king now felt the need of explanation and a defense, and my lor1, seeing this and acknowledging the

which he was listening, to an extent broke the spell, and had the reply been satisfacture. "A witness?" said the king; and pinhed and fidgeted in his chair. Then "this is not a court of justice," he continued psevishly.

"We shall have all the world here presently But-well, let him in." Sir William obeyed and went and returned under the eyes of the council, nor will the reader who has perused with attention the earlier part of this history be greatly astonished to hear that when he returned, I. Rich-

aid Price, was with him. I am not going to dwell on the misery through which I had gone in anticipation of that appearance; the fears which I had been forced to combat, or the night watches through which I had lain, sweating and awake. Suffice it that I stood there at last, seeing in a kind of maze the sober lights and dark rich colors of the room, and the faces at the table all turned toward me; and stood there, not in the humble guise befit-ting my station, but in velvet and ruffles, mirrors before which I had dressed had as sured me, of my noble patron. This at Mr. Vernon's suggestion and by his contrivance. no more than ground for a nudge and a joke among the servants. Now, dressed once more, as Smith had dressed me, in a suit

and peruke, the very double, as the While I had lived in my lord's house, and just been exposed. moved to and fro soberly garbed, in a lie wig or my own hair, the likeness had been of the duke's clothes, and one of his pe me a note from Lord Middleton, and ar-ranged a meeting between us." knew him, the resemblance I presented was so remarkable that none of the lords at the table could be blind to it. One or two, in sheer wonder, exclaimed on it; while Sir John, who, poor gentleman, was more cerned than any, fairly gasped with dis

It was left to the duke of Devonshire to break the spell. "What is this? Who is this?" he said, in the utmost astonishment. 'What does it mean?"

The king, who had noted on an occasio

hat very likeness, which all now saw, and was the first to read the riddle, laughed "Two very common things, my lord, ne said. "A rogue and a fool. Speak, man," ne continued, addressing me. "You were in the duke's household awhile ago? N'est-ce pext moment he was gone. pas ca? I saw you here?"

'Yes, your majesty," I said, hardly keeping my fears within bounds. "And ye, have been playing his part, I appose? Eh? At-how do you call the are-Ashford?" uppose? your majesty-under compulsion,

"Ah! compulsion of that good gentleman at the foot of the table, I suppose?" The words of assent were on my lips, when a cry, and an exceeding bitter cry, stayed their utterance. It came from Sir John. Dumfounded for a time, between astonishment and suspicion, between wonder what this travesty was, and, wonder why it was assumed, he had at length discerned its full scope and meaning, and where it touched him. With a cry of rage he threw up his hands in protest against the fraud; then in a flash he turned on the villain by his side. "You d-d scoundrel!" he cried.

said trembling.

Before he could be held off his fingers were Smith's neckeloth and clutching his roat, and so staunch was his hold that Admiral Russell and Sir William Trumball bad to rile and drag him away by force. "Easy, easy, Sir John," said the admiral with rough sympathy. "Be satisfied. He will get his descria. Please God if I had him on my ship an hour his back would be worse Please God if I had him on

You have destroyed me! You have mur-

than Oates' ever was!" Sir John's rage and disappointment were painful to witness and trying, even to men of the world. But what shall I say of the fury of the man a, bay, who, denounced and the realm. convicted in his moment of triumph, siw, white-faced, his long-spun web swept easily aside? Doubtless he knew, as soon as he saw me, that the game was lost, and could have slain me with a look. And most men would without more ado have been on their knees. But he possessed, God knows, a courage as rare and perfect as the cause in which he displayed it was vile and abominaproved; while most, perceiving dully and by instinct that they touched a great tragedy, shrauk from the denouement.

At last, in the silence, the duke rose, and the room rang with congratulations, ble, and in a twinkling he recovered himself and was Matthew Smith once more. While swaying blindly on his feet, caught at the tions, answers and exciamations, and I had table to steady himself. For two nights he much ado to answer one-half of the noble lords who would examine me, his

> mult. "Your majesty is easily deceived!" cried, his very tone flouting the presence in which he stood, yet partly out of curiosity partly in sheer astonishment at his audacity they turned to listen. "Do you think it is

torted fiercely. And so set was he on this last card he was playing that his eyes started from his head, and the veins rose thick on his bands, where they clutched the table before him. "It is his hand at the foot. That I swear!"

"Truly, my man, I think it is," Lord Portage.

land answered coolly, "Shall I read the let-"What is it?" asked the king with Irri-

tation. "It appears to be a letter to the duke of hand among the lace of his steinkirk tie and Berwick Berwick at the late bishop of Chester's house in Hogsend Gardens, bidding him "for this which that man, presuming on an old fault and using his knowledge of it, would foist on me. I know nothing of it! I know look to himself, as his lodging was known," Lord Portland answered, leisurely running his eye down the lines as he spoke. It was wonderful to see what a sudder

nothing of it. It is some base and damnable practice. At this moment and here I cannot practice. At this moment and here I cannot refute it, but at the proper time and in au-other place I shall refute it. And now and gravity fell on the faces at the table Thi touched some home, this was a hundred times more likely as a charge than that which had fallen through. Could it be that. here I say, that as to it, I am not guilty, on he sat down, looking round him with a kind of vague defiance. There was a silence broken presently by the lord steward, who Russell by a sudden flash, Godolphin by the attention he paid to the table before him. rose, his voice and manner betraying no lit-tle emotion. "His grace is right, sir, I think," he said. "I believe with him that this is some evil practice, but it is plain that Nor was Smith behindband in noting the short, but with great patience, offect produced. For an instant he towered the price. This is the price. high his stern face gleaming with malev-olent triumph. He thought that the tables were turned.

It has gone so far that it cannot stop here. I would suggest, therefore, that if your majesty sees fit—" Then "In whose hand is the body of the paper?" the king asked. A knock at the door interrupted him, and "Your majesty's," Lord Portland answered, with a grim chuckle, and, after a pause long he turned that way impatiently, and paused. The king, too, glanced round with a gesture with a grim chuckle, and, armer, onough to accentuate the answer. "It was the "I thought so," said the king. "It was the Friday the plot was discovered! I remember after a brief conference, during which the lords at the table continued to cast impatient you must impeach me with him." lords at the table continued to cast impatient

At that there was a great roar of laughte which had not worn out before one another began to press their congratulations on the He, for his part, sat as if stunned, answering with a forced smile where it was necessary, more often keeping silence. He had escaped the pit dug for him, and the net so skilfully laid. But his face betrayed no triumph.

Matthew Smith, on the other hand, brought up short by that answer, could not believ it. He stood a while like a man in a fit then the sweat standing on his brow, ded that they were all lengued against him, hat it was a plot that it was not his majes ty's hand, and so on and so on, with oaths and curses and other things very unfit for his majesty's ears or the place in which he

ne knew what to do, each looking at his eighbor, until the lord steward, rising fro his chair, cried in a voice of thunder, "Take that man away! Mr. Secretary, this is you business! Out with him, sir!" On which On which Sir William called in the messengers, and they laid hands on him. By that time, however, e had recovered the will and grim compos

CHAPTER XLVL

That was a great day for my lord, but vas also I truly believe, one of the saddest of a not unhappy life. He had gained the battle, but at a cost known only to himself though guessed by some. The story of the old weakness had been told, as he had foreseen it must be told; and even white his friends pressed round him and crying, Salve Imperator! rejoiced in the fall he had given his foes, he was aware of the wound bleeding inwardly, and in his mind was already orne out of the battle.

Yet in that room was one sadder. Sir John, emaining at the foot of the table frowned along it, gloomy and downcast; too proud to on him, and with it the chance of life-life with its sunshine and air, and freedom, its which even his enemies allowed that sovereign. But William had other views on this asion; and when the hub-bub, Smith's removal had caused, had completely died away, he addressed Sir John, advising him to depend rather on deserving his favor by a frank and full discovery than on ingenious contrivances as that which had

"I was no party to it." the unhappy gentleman answered.
"Therefore it shall tell neither for nor against you," the king retorted. "Have you anything more to say?"

"I throw myself on your majesty's clem-"That will not do. Sir John." the king "You must speak, or-the alteranswered. native does not lie with me. But you know

"And I chose it." Sir John cried, recovering spirit and courage.
"So be it," said his majesty slowly and solemnly. "I will not say that I expected anything less from you. My lords, let him

e removed.' And with that the messengers came in and Sir John bowed and went with them. It may have been fancy, but I thought that as he turned from the table a haggard shade fel on his face, and a soul in mortal anguish looked an instant from his eyes. But the

I never saw him again. That night the news was everywhere that Goodman, one of the two witnesses against him, had fled the country, and for a time it was believed that Sir John would escape. How, in face of that difficulty, those who were determined on his death, effected it, how he was attainted, and how he suffered on Tower hill with all the forms and privileges of a peer—on the 28th of Japuary of the succeeding year—is a story oo trite and familiar to call for repetition. On his departure the council broke up, his majesty retiring. Before he went a word was said about me, and some who had greater regard for the post factum than the poenitertia were for sending me to the compand leaving the law officers to deal with me. But my lord rousing himself, inter-posed roundly, spoke for me and would have given bail had they persisted. Seeing, how-ever, how gravely he took it, and being in-

very gladly consented to do. Nor was it the only kindness he did me or the greatest; for having heard from me at length and in detail all the circumstances leading up to my timely intervention, he sent for me a few days later, and placing a paper in my hands bade me read the gist of it. I did so, and found it to be a free pardon passed under the great seal, and granted to Richard Price and Mary Price bis wife, for all acts and things done by them jointly or separately against the king's excellent majesty, within or without

It was at Eyford he handed me this; in the oak parlor, looking upon the bowling green, where I had already begun to wait upon him on one morning in the week to check the steward's accounts and tallies. The year was nearly spent, tumn was fine, and the sunlight which lay on the amouth turf blended with the russet splendor of the beech trees that rise be yond. I had been thinking of Mary and the quiet courtyard at the hospital, which the bowling green somewhat resembled, be-ing open to the park on one side only, and when, perusing the paper, my lord, smiling at me, I came to her name—or rather to the name that was hers and yet mine-I felt such a flow of remembrance, love and grati-ture overcome me as left me speechless, and this directed not only to him, but to heragement that had brought me against my

right hand yew-hedge, where my lord some-times smoked his pipe—I saw a girl seated, with her shoulder and the nape of ther nock turned to us. She was making marks on the turf with a tick she held, and poving over them, when made, as if the world held noth-ing clae, so that I had not so much as a glimpus of her face. But I know that it was mose of her face. But I knew that it was

'Come," said my lord pleasantly. "We will go to her. It may be she will not have the eardon after all. Seeing that there is a condi-"A condition?" I cried, a little startled and

"To be sure, blockhead," he answered in high good humor. "In whose name is it?" Then I saw wheat he meant and laughed. foolishly. But the event came nearer to prov-ing him true than he then expected. For when she saw the paper she stepped back and put her bands behind her, and would not which had fallen through. Could it be that after all, the man had his grace on the hip? touch or take it, while her small face cried Lord Marlborough showed his emotion by a face more than commonly serene. Admiral face more than commonly serene. does not thrive. If that is the price-"
"My good girl," said my lord, cutting her the price. This is the price. And the par-

don goes with him. I believe that I have now told enough to discharge myself of that which I set out to do; I mean the clearing my lord in the eyes of all judicious persons of those imputations which a certain faction have never ceased to heap on him; and this with the greater assiduity and spite, since he by his single conduct at the time of the late queen's death was the means under providence of preserving the Protestant succession and liberties in these islands.

That during the long interval of seventeen years that separated the memorable meeting at Kensington which I have ventured to describe from the still more famous scene in the queen's death chamber, he took no part in public life has seemed to some a crime on and how ill-qualified they are to follow the workings of that noble mind, will appear in the pages I have written, which show clearness that the retirement on which so much stress has been laid was due not to guilt but to an appreciation of honor so del-icate that a spot invisible to the common eye seemed to him a stain non subito de lenda. After the avowal made before his colleagues of the communications, I mean, with Lord Middleton-nothing would do but he must leave London at once and seek in the shades and retirement of Eyford that peace of mind and ease of body which had

He went and for a time still retained office

Later, notwithstanding the most urgent and

for the moment abandoned him.

flattering instances on the king's which yet exist, honorable alike to the and the recipient—he persisted in his resolution to retire, and on the 12th day of December 1698, being at that time in very pour he had recovered the will and gith the balth to retire, and on the 12th day of the will be used to the man's best character-cember 1698, being at that time in very policities, and with a last malign and descarcing bealth, the consequence of a fall while hun look at my lord, he suffered them to lead him ing, he returned the seals to the king. I the autumn of the following year he were abread, but though he found in a private life —so far as the life of a man in his princely station could be called private—a happiness often denied to placemen and favorities, he was not to be diverted when the time came from the post of danger. Were I writing an eulogium merely I should here enum erate those great posts and officen which he so worthily filled at the time of Queen Anne's death, when as lord treasurer of England, lord chamberlain and lord Heutenant of Ireland-an aggregation of hono's I believe with out precedent-he performed services and controlled events on the importance of which his enemies, no less than his friends are agreed. But I forbear and leave the task to a worthler hand. This being so, it re-mains only to speak of Matthew Smith and ask or earn the king's favor, yet shaken by the knowledge that now—now was the time; that in a little while the door would close. Smith would have been whipped and pilloried, and in this way would have come suddenly and by a short road to his deserts But the duke held himself too high, and the with its sunshine and air, and freedom, its whirligigs and revenges. Some thought that in consideration of the trick which had been played upon him the king might properly view him with indulgence; and were encourview him with indulgence in the courview him with the to raise a fresh charge against the duke, but gained no credence, and rapidly sinking lower and lower, was to be seen two years later skulking in rags in the darkest part of the old Savoy. In London I must have lived in hourly dread of him; at Eyford I was safe, and after the winter of '99, in which

year he came to my lord's house to beg, looing broken and diseased, I never saw him. I was told that he expected to receive rich reward in the event of the duke's dis grace, and on this account was indifferent to the loss of his situation in my lady's fam-ily. It seems probable, however, that he still hoped to retain his influence in that in this by that evil woman's dismissal, was no better disposed to her than she was to bim. They separated, but before he went the Flour. Meal, Feed and Bran, 1912-15-17 North ruffian revenged himself by beating her so ruman revenged himself by beating her so severely that she lay long ill in her spartments, was robbed by her landlady and finally was put to the door penniless and with no trace of the beauty which had once chained my heart. In this plight, reduced to the drudge of a tradesman's wife, and sunk to the very position in which I had found her at Mr. D-'s, she made a ladesperate effort to the duke for assistance. He answered by the grant of a pension small but sufficient, on which she have ended her days in a degree of comfort But having acquired in her former circum-stances an unfortunate craving for drink which she had now the power to gratify, she lived but a little while, and that in great squalor and misery, dying, if I remember rightly, in a public house at Cattlefields, in the year 1703.

THE END. Four well known architects have been requested by Bishop Wigger of the Roman Catholic dlocese of Newark, N. J., to prepare plans for the \$1,000,000 cathedral to erected on the Heights of Newark





Mothers! Mothers!! Mothers!!!

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