to enjoy the jest more hugely.



SIMON DALE.

A NEW STORY BY ANTHONY HOPE.



(Convergat. 1857, by A. H. Hawkins.) before my lord could rejoin me, crying:

"What did he say to you?" "The king? Why, he said-"

"No, no. What did my lord say?" pointed to Arlington, who was walking off with the king.

"He asked me whether I were a good churchman, and told me that I should hear from him. But if he is so solicitous about me of it. the church, how does he endure your religion?"

Darrell had no time to answer, for Lord

Quinton's grave voice struck in: "He is a wise man who can enswer a question touching my Lord Arlington's

opinion of the church," said he. Darrell flushed red and turned angrily on

the interrupter. "You have no cause, my lord," he cried "to attack the secretary's churchmanship."

"Then you have no cause, sir," retorted Quinten, "to defend it with so much temper. Come, let me be. I have said as much to the secretary's face, and he bore it with patience than you can muster on his

By this time I was in some distress to see old friend and my new at such variance, and the more as I could not understand the ground of their difference; the secretary's suspected leaning toward the popish religion had not reached our ears in the country. But Darrell, as though he did not wish to dispute forther with a man his superior in rank and age, drew off with a bow to my lord and her. He was caught, for I knew that he a kindly nod to me, and rejoined the other had been fully acquainted with my purpose. gentlemen in attendance on the king and his

You came off well with the king Simon. enemy who will do him that service. But what did Arlington pay to you?"

When I repeated the secretary's words he grew grave, but he patted my arm in a friendly fashion saying: You've shown wisdom and honor in this

first matter, lad. I must trust you in others. Yet there are many who have no faith in my Lord Arlington, as Englishman or churcheither." ut," cried I, "does not Lord Arlington

do as the king bids him?"
My lord looked full in my face and an-

Since you have seen the king, your business at Whitehall will wait. Let us turn back to the coach and be driven to my house, for, besides my lady, Barbara is there today on leave from her attendant, and she will be glad to renew her acquaintance with you." It was my experience as a young man, and back to mine.

perchance other young men may have found ing a comely damsel, and, however greatly her displeasure and scorn were to be dreaded yet the meeting was not foregone, all perils being taken rather than that certain calamity. Therefore I went with my lord to his handsome house in Southampton square, and found myself kissing my lady's hand be-fore I was resolved on how I should treat Mistress Barbara, or on the more weighty question of how I might look to be treated by her.

I had not to wait long for the first test. After a few moments of my lady's amiable and kindly conversation, Barbara entered from the room behind, and with her Lord Carford. He were a disturbed air that his affected composure could not wholly conceal. Her cheek was flushed and she seemed vexed but I did not notice these things so much as the change which had been wrought in her by the last four years. She had become a very beautiful woman, ornamented with a high-bred grace and exquisite haughtiness, tall and slim, carrying herself with a delicate dignity. She gave me her hand to kiss, carelessly enough, and rather as though she acknowledged an old acquaintance than found any pleasure in its renewal. But she was gentle to me, and I detected in her manner a subtle indication that, although she knew all, yet she pitied rather than blamed. Was not Simon very young and ignorant, and did not all the world know how easily even honest young men might be beguiled by cunning women? An old friend must not turn her back on account of a folly, distasteful as it might be to her to be

reminded of such matters.

My lord, I think, read his daughter very well, and being determined to afford me an opportunity to make my peace, engaged Lord Carford in conversation and bade her lead me into the room behind to see the picture that Lely had lately painted of her. She obeyed and having brought me to where it hung, listened patiently to my remarks on it, which I tried to shape into compliments that



should be pleasing and yet not gross. Then, taking courage, I ventured to assure her that I fell out with Lord Carford in theer

'I don't understand," she said, with a quick dance. "What have you done?"
In wonder that she should not have been a long to them."

In wonder that she should not have been to have been a long to them."

In wonder that she should not have been to have b

in the last hour past. It was strange that Jonah groaned as woefully for The king's immediate party was no sooner be, who had known my intention and com-gone than Darrell ran up to me eagerly and on it. I looked in her eyes. I think she to court to the extreme peril of his soul, but followed my thoughts, for she glanced aside, grudence at last stepped in and bade me spare and said in visible embarrassment: myself the cost of a rich livery by leaving

"Shall we return?"
"You haven't spoken on the matter with
my Lord Carford, then?" I asked. but must tell it: "Yes, but he said nothing of this.

So I told her in simple and few words what I had done.

faced laugh.

"I didn't mean the king," said Barbara, It was my turn to color now. I had not seen long enough at court to lose the trick. "I have seen her," I murmured.

Barbara suddenly made a courtesy, naying bitterly: wish you joy, sir, of your acquaintance.' When a man is alone with a beautiful oman, he is apt not to love an intruder, yet on my soul I was glad to see Carford in

the doorway. He came toward us, but be-fore he could speak Barbara cried to him; "My lord, Mr. Dale tells me news that will interest you," "Indeed, madam, and what?" "Why, that he has begged the king's leave to resign his commission. Doesn't it

surprise you?"

He looked at her, at me, and again at He gathered himself together to answer

'Nay, I knew," he said, "and had ventured said my lord, taking my arm again. "You to applied Mr. Dale's resolution. But it did made him laugh, and he counts no man his not come into my mind to speak of it."

"Strange," said she, "when we were de ploring that Mr. Dale should obtain his commission by such means." She rested her eyes on him steadily, while her lips were set in a scornful smile. A

pause followed her words. "I darcsay I should have mentioned it, had we not passed to another topic," said he at last and sullenly enough. Then, attempting a change in tone, he added, "Won't you 'I am very well here," she said.

He waited a moment, then bowed and left is. He was frowning heavily and, as I though he had raid enough, or even too much, he went on: "Come, you needn't grow too old or too prudent all at once, that I should be cured from the first on. peace till he was gone; then I said to Barbara:

"I wonder he didn't tell you." Alas for my presumption. The anger that had been diverted on to Carford's head swept

"Indeed, why should he?" she cried. "All the like, that whatsoever apprehensions or the world can't be always thinking of you embarrassments might be entailed by meet- and your affairs, Mr. Dale."

"Yet you were vexed because he hadn't."
"I vexed! Not I!" said Barbara haughtily. "You bade me describe her," said I lamely. "I do not know whether others see as I do,

but such is she to my eyes."

A silence followed. Barbara's face was not flushed now, but rather seemed paler han it was wont to be. I could not tell now it was but I know that I had wounded her. Is not beauty jealous, and who but a clod will lavish praise on one fair face while another is before him? I should have done better to play the hypocrite and swear that my folly, not Nell's features, was to blame. But now I was stubborn and would recall not a word of all my raptures. Yet I was glad that I had not told her who Cydaria WAS.

The silence was short. In an instant Bar-"Small wonder you were caught, poor Simon. Yes the creature must be handsome enough. Shall we return to my mother?" On that day she spoke no more with me.

CHAPTER VII.

WHAT CAME OF HONESTY.

started on our way again.

"Only whether you shared my supersti-on." answered Darrell with a laugh. "They're all mighty anxious about my ligion," thought I. "It would be no harm if they bestowed more attention on their

It leaped to my lips to cry, "Aye, you have even her!" but I did not give utterance to the words. Barbara had seen her in the park at Hatchstead, seen her more than once, and more than once found sore offense in what she saw. There is wisdom in stience; was learning that safety might lie in de-eit. The anger under which I had suffered would be doubled if she knew that Cydaria was Nell and Nell Cydaria. Why should she know? Why should my own mouth betray me and add my bygone sins to the offenses of teday? My lord had not told her that Nell was Cydaria. Should I speak where my lord was silent? Neither would I tell her of Cydaria.

"You haven't seen her?" I asked. "No; and I would learn wheat she is like." It was a strange thing to command me, yet Barbara's desire joined with my own thoughts to urge me to it. I began wildly enough, with a stiff list of features and catalogue of colors. Yet as I talked recollec-tion warmed my voice, and when Barbara's lips curled scornfully, as though she would say, "What is there in this to make men fools?" There is nothing in all this," I grew more vehemest and painted the picture with What malice began my arder perfected, until, engrossed in my fancy, I came near to forgetting that I bad a listener, and ended with a start as I found Barbara's limits to his duty and his services?"

"BUT YOU DID HIM NO HARM." SHE my eyes looked out on a merry world with a anxious frown. regard none too ausiere. Against these things even love's might can wage but an equal battle. For the moment, I must confess, my going to court, with the prospect it opened and the chances it held, dominated my mind. "Saving." I proceeded, thinking it my duty that I fell out with Lord Carford in theer ignorance that he was a friend of her family, and would have borne anything at his hands had I known it. She smiled, answering:

"But you did him no harm," and she glanced at my arm in its aling. She had not troubled herself to ask how it did, and I, a little neitled at her neglect said:

"Nay, all ended well. I alone was hurt, and the great lord came off safe,"

"Slice the great lord came off safe,"

"Slice the great lord was in the right."

said she, "we should all rejoice at that, Are you satisfied with your examination of the little of the kingdom and the safety of the reformed religion."

I felt Arlington's hand drawn half way, but in an instant it was back, and he smiled no less pleasantly than before. But the duke less able or less careful to conceal his mood, or should all rejoice at that, Are you satisfied with your examination of the and the great lord came off safe."

"Since the great lord was in the right." said she, "we should all rejoice at that. Are you satisfied with your examination of the picture, Mr. Dale".

I was not to be turned aside so casily.

"If you hold me to have been wrong, then I have done what I could to put myself in the right since," said I, not doubting that she knew of my surrender of the commission.

"I den't understud," she said, with a quick glance. "What have you done?"

"Since the great lord came off safe,"
"Since the great lord was in the right." said In patiently. "Reservations. Kings are not served with recervations, sir."

He made me angry. Had the duke said what he did, I would have taken it with a dutiful bow and a silent tongue. But who have the proving the same of my surrender of the commission.

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"I den't understud," she said, with a quick glance. "Simon Dale's new born desire for fashion made imperative, however little Mr. The patiently:

"Reservations. Kings are not served with recervations, sir."

"Reservations. Kings are not served with recervations, sir."

"He made me angry. Had the duke said what he did, I would have taken it with a dutiful bow and a silent tongue. But who have this private to rate me in such a style? What he did, I would have taken it with a dutiful bow and a silent tongue. But who was this priest to rate me in such a style? What he did, I would have taken it with a dutiful bow and a silent tongue. But who was this priest to rate me in such a style? What he did, I would have taken it with a dutiful bow and a silent tongue. But who was this priest to rate me in such a style? What he did, I would have taken it with a dutiful bow and a silent tongue. But who was this priest to rate me in

"I have obtained the king's leave to decline his favor."

The celor which had been on her cheeks when she first entered had gone before now, but at my words it returned a little.

"Didn't my lord tell you?" I asked.
"I haven't seen him olone this week part."

expense of them.

The truth is that Mistress Barbara's behavior quirred me on. I had no mind to be set down a rustle. I could stomach disapproval and endure severity. Pitted for a misguided, befooled clod, I would not be, and the haughtily and coldly, and taking no more

myself the cost of a rich livery by leaving

him behind.

Now, heaven forbid that I should imitate my Lord Carford, then?" I asked.

She hesitated a moment, then answered, as though she did not love to tell the truth, or find anything to blame in the pomp and It was the king's whim that on this night "Lord Carford said nothing of it," she said the quicker disbursing of their money, aswhen I ended. Then she said: "But although you will not accept the favor, you have rendered thanks for it?"

men should, for no reason whatsoever, except the quicker disbursing of their money, assume Persian attire, and they were one and all decked out in richest Oriental garments, in many cases laylehly embroidered with "I couldn't find my tongue when I was with the king," I answered, with a shame-

"Well done, well done; I'd have given thousand crowns to see their faces." I sprang to my feet in amazement and conusion, bowing low, for the young man by me was the duke of Monmouth.

seemly spiendor of a royal court. Yet the profusion that met my eyes amazed me. himself, his friends, and principal geotlemen should, for no reason whatsoever, except with were little less magnificent, foremost among them being the young duke of Mon-mouth, whom I now saw for the first time, and thought as handsome a youth as I had set eyes on. The women did not enjoy the me.



to the last!

WELL DONE, WELL DONE! I'D HAVE GIVEN A THOUSAND CROWNS TO HAVE SEEN THE IR FACES."

we friends, then?

or the duke of York.

"But, indeed, I will not," he percisted

the safety of the reformed religion. Area

"Mr. Dale," he cried, "there needed but on-

"I am listening to the most ridiculous speeches in the world for your grace's sake,"

said Barbara with a pretty curresy and a coquettish smile.

bara!

favor.

"Is love ridiculous?" he asked. "Is passion

thing to smile ut? Cruel Mistress Bar

"Won't your grace set it in verse?" said "Your grace writes it in verse on my

Then Barbara looked across at me, it may

he accidentally, yet it did not appear so, and she laughed marrily. It needed no skill to measure the meaning of her laugh, and I did

not blame her for it. She had waited for years to avenge the kiss that I gave Cydaria

The duke fell to his protestations again and Carford still listened with an acquiescence that seemed strange in a suitor for the lady's hand. But new Barbara's modesty took alarm; the signal of confusion flew to her cheeks and she looked around, distressed to

see how many watched them. Monmouth cared not a jot. I made bold to slip across

to Carford and said to him in a low tone:
"My lord his grace makes Mistress Barbars

too much marked. Can't you contrive to in

He stared at me with a smile of wonder But something in my look banished his smile and set a frown in its obace. "Must I have more lessons in manners from you, sir?" he asked. "And do you include a liscourse on the interrupting of princes?"
"Princes?" said I.
"The duke of Monmouth is—" "The king's son, my lord," I interposed, and, carrying my hat in my hand, I walked

"Your grace does me infinite honor

sheer wonder whence came all the woulth that was displayed before my eyes. My own poor preparations lost all their charm, and I had not been above half an hour in the place before I was seeking a quiet corner in which to hide the poverty of my coat and the plainness of my cloak. But the desire for privacy thus tred in me was not to find fulfillment. Darrell, whom I had not met all day, now pounced on me and carried me off, declaring that he was charged to present me to the duke of York. between fear and exultation, I walked with him across the floor, threading my wey through the dazzling throng that covered the space in front of his majesty's dais. But before we came to the duke a gentleman caught my companion by the arm and asked bim how he did in a hearty, cheerful and rather loud voice. Darrell's answer was to pull me forward and present me, saying that Sir Thomas Clifford desired my ac-

the treasurer seemed disappointed. How ever, he bade me farewell with cordiality, How-Suddenly turning a corner, we came on a group in a recess hung on three sides with curtains and furnished with low couches in the manner of an Oriental divan. The duke of York, who seemed to me a handsome. I could not make that out; she had seemed angry with him. But because I spoke of her anger she was angry now with me. Indeed, I began to think that little Charles, the king, and I had been right in that opinion in which the king found us so much of a mind. Suddenly Barbara spoke.

"Tell me what she is like, this friend of yours," she said. "I have never seen her."

"What did he ask you?" said I, when we we want in the same of the light from Worcester. I was examining his features with the interest that an unknown face belonging to a well known! "What did he ask you?" said I, when we an unknown face belonging to a well known

of all such." I stammered out an assurance of devotion.

Arlington rose and took me by the arm, whispering that I had no need to be embarrassed. But Mr. Huddleston turned a "I keep and searching glance on me, as though he would read my thoughts.
"I'm sure," said Arlington, "that Mr. Dale

s most solicitous to serve his majesty in I bowed, saying to the duke: "Indeed, I am, sir; I ask nothing but an apportunity."
"In all things?" asked Huddleston

abruptly. "In all things, sir?" He fixed his heart," said he. keen eyes on my face, Arilingtor pressed my arm and smilled pleasantly; he knew that kindness binds

rrore sheaves than severity.
"Come. Mr. Dale says in all things," he observed. "Do we need more, sir?" temper than of the minister's.

"Why, my lord," he answered, "I have never known Mr. Huddleston to ask a question without a reason for it."

"By serving the kins that I gave Cydario in the manor park at Hatchstead, but was it not well avenged when I stood, humbly, in deferential silence, at the back, while his grace the duke sued for her favor, and half the court looked on?

grace the duke sued for her favor, and half the court looked on? I will not set myself down a churl, where nature has not made "By serving the king in all things, some mean in all things in which they may be pleased to serve the king," said Huddleston me one; I said in my heart, and I tried to say to her with my eyes, "Laugh, sweet mistress, laugh!" For I love a girl who will laugh at you when the game runs in her

eye fixed on mine, while she stood motiontess before me. My exaitation vanished,
and confusion drave away my passion.

I should sin against the truth and thereby
rob this, my story, of its solitary virtue were
I to pretend that my troubles and perplexities, severe as they seemed, outweighed
the pleasure and new excrement of my life.

I could not tell, but Darrell, who stood behind
Ambitica was in my beat youthin my virtue. "I would obey the king in all things," I

when she first entered had gone before now, but at my words it returned a little.
"Didn't my lord tell you?" I asked.
"I haven't seen him alone this week past."
"The duke rose to his feet, "I have found no fault with Mr. Dale," said he haughtly and coldly, and taking no more heed of me, he walked away, while Huddle-ston, having bestowed on me an angry glance, "In have in showing myself as reckless a gallant and as fine a soldler as any at Whitehall. So I dipped freely and deep hato my purse till dipped freely and deep hato my purse till "Mr. Dale," Mr. Dale," whispered Arlington, "In we found no fault with Mr. Dale," said he haughtly and coldly, and taking no more heed of me, he walked away, while Huddle-ston, having bestowed on me an angry glance. "In showing myself as reckless a gallant and as fine a soldler as any at Whitehall. So I dipped freely and deep hato my purse till "Mr. Dale," said he haughtly and coldly, and taking no more heed of me, he walked away, while Huddle-ston, having bestowed on me an angry glance. "In some found no fault with Mr. Dale," said he haughtly and coldly, and taking no more heed of me, he walked away, while Huddle-ston, having bestowed on me an angry glance. "Glowed him." "In some found no fault with Mr. Dale," said he haughtly and coldly, and taking no more heed of me, he walked away, while Huddle-ston, having bestowed on me an angry glance. "Glowed him." "In some found no fault with Mr. Dale," said he haughtly and coldly, and taking no more heed of me, he walked away, while Huddle-ston, having bestowed on me an angry glance. "Alas' your grace knows how poor a ston, having bestowed on me an angry glance." "Alas' your grace knows how poor a ston, having bestowed on me an angry glance." "Alas' your grace knows how poor a ston, having bestowed on me an angry glance." "Alas' your grace knows how poor a ston, having bestowed on me an angry glance." "Alas' your grace knows how poor a ston, having bestowed on me an angry glance." "Alas' your grace knows how poor a ston, having bestowe

straight in my face. I am happily somewhat wooden of feature, and a man could not make

me color now, although a woman could. He took nothing by his examination.

him. Darrell obeyed with a shrug of despair.

I was alone—and, as it seemed, ruined. Alas,
why must I blirt out my old lessons as
though I had heen standing again at my
father's knee and not in the presence of
the duke of York? Yes, my race was run
before it was begun. The court was not
the place for me. In great bitterness I flung
myself down on the great bitterness I fl

myself down on the cushions and sat there, out of heart and very dismal. A moment passed; then the curtain behind me was drawn aside, and an amused laugh sounded in my ear as I turned. A young man leaped over the couch and threw himself down beside me, laughing heartily and crying:

"Well done will dear L'A have given "Well done will dear L'A have given "Well done will accept the laughing heartily and crying:

"Well done will dear L'A have given "Well done will accept the little, sir."

"Indeed, I fear I can boast of little, sir."
"You shall boast of none, and thereby show
the more, Simon. Come, there's the king." And he darted on, in equal good humor, as it seemed, with himself and me. Moreover, he "Sit, man," said he pulling me down again.
"I was behind the curtain and heard all.
Thank God, I held my laughter in till they were gone. The liberties of the kingdom and the safety of the reformed religion! Here's a story for the king." He has been her of York, all chance of stopping him was

a story for the king." He lay back, seeming of York; all chance of stopping him was

"For the love of heaven, sir," I cried, "don't tell the king. I'm siready ruined."
"Why, so you are, with my good uncle," said he. "You're new to court, Mr. Dale?" face. At this moment the king was alone, save for ourselves and a little long-eared dog, "Most sadly new." I answered in a rueful tone, which set him laughing again. "You hadn't heard the scandalous stories which lay on his lap and was incessantly caressed with his hand. He heard his son's story with a face as unmoved as I strove to that accuse the duke of loving the reformed religion no better than the liberties of the render mine. At the ehd he looked up at me,

"What are these liberties that are so dear "And my Lord Arlington? I know him! you, sir? My tongue had got me into trouble enough He held your arm to the last, and he smiled for one day, so I set its music to a softer

> "Those which I see preserved and honored by your majesty," said I, bowing. Monmouth laughed and clapped me on the back, but the king proceeded gravely. "And this reformed religion that you set, above my orders?"

"The faith, sir, of which you are de-"Come, Mr. Dale," said he rather surfily, "if you had spoken to my brother as skillfully as you fence with me he would not have been angry.'

I do not know what came over me. I said it in all homest simplicity, meaning only to excuse myself for the disrespect I had shown to the duke, but I phrased the sentence most vilely, for I said: "When his royal highness questioned me sir, I had to speak the truth."

Monmouth burst into a roar, and a mo-ment later the king followed with a more subdued but not less thorough merriment. When his mirth subsided, he said: "True, Mr. Dale, I am a king, and no man is bound to speak the truth to me. heaven-and there's a compensation-I to any

"Nor woman," eaid Monmouth, looking at "Nor even boy," added the king, with an amused glance at his son. "Well, Mr. Dale, erm you serve me and this conscience of

'Indeed, I cannot doubt it, sir," said I. "A man's king should be his conscience, said the king.
"And what should be conscience to the

ng, eir?" asked Monmouth, "Why, James, a recognition of what evil things he may bring into the world, if he doesn't mind his ways." Monmouth saw the hit and took it with

pretty grace, bending and kissing the king's "It is difficult, Mr. Dale, to serve two masters," said the king, turning egain to Then he suddenly grew grave as he said: "Your majesty is my only master," I

began, but the king interrupted me, going on, with some amusement: "And am I no good friend? Is there no value in the friendship of the king's son—the king's eldes; son?" He drew himself up "Yet I should like to have seen my brother. "Let him serve me, sir," cried Monmouth.

with a grace and dignity which became him "For I am firm in my love of these libertles, aye, and of the reformed religion."
"I know, James, I know," nodded the king. wonderfully. Often in these later days I see him as he was then, and think of him with tenderness. Say what you will, he 'It is grievous and strange, however, that made many love him even to death, who would not have lifted a finger for his father you should speak as though my brother were not." He smiled very mallelously at the young duke, who flushed red. Then the king Yet in an instant-such slaves are we of suddenly laughed and fell to fondling the our moods—I was more than half in a rage little dog egain.
with him. For as we went we encountered "Then sir" s with him. For as we went we encountered "Then, sir," said Monmouth, "Mr. Daie Mistress Barbara on Lord Carford's arm. shall come with me to Dover."

that Sir Thomas Clifford desired my acquaintance, and adding much that erred through kindness of my parts and disposition.

"Nay, if he's your friend, it's enough for me, Darrell," answered Clifford, and putting his mouth to Darrell's ear he whispered. Darrell shock his head and I thought that the treasurer seemed disappointed. How which witnessed more admiration than respect. She bud treated me as a boy, but she did not tell him that he was a boy, although he was younger than I; she listened with heightened color and sparkling eyes.

| Darrell's good offices which the secretary of state would serve me to that end had vanished, Now I was full of joy, although I watched the king's face anxiously.

| For some reason the suggestion seemed to occasion him amusement, yet, although for

glanced at Carford and found to my sur- the most part he laughed openly without rise no signs of annoyance at his uncere-monious deposition. He was watching the over his little dog, as though he sought to pair with a shrewd smile and seemed to mark hide the smile, and when he looked up it with pleasure the girl's pride and the young hung about his lips like the ghost of mirth. duke's evident passion. Yet I, who heard something of what passed, had much means. Mr. Dale can serve you and me and ado not to step in and hid her pay no heed his principles as well at Dover as in London." to homage that was empty if not dishon-

I bent on one knee and kissed his hand for the favor. When I sought to do the like to Suddenly the duke turned round and called Monmouth he was very ready and received my homage most regally. As I rose the king was smiling at the pair of us in a whimsical,

manner has for us, when the duke addressed me with a suave and lofty graciousness, his manner being in a marked degree more ceremonious than the king's.

"Mr. Dale," he cried, "there needed but one thing to bind us closer, and here it is! For you are, I learn, the friend of Mistress Quinton, and I am the humblest of her slaves, who serve all her friends for her slaves, which has a strong her friends for her slaves, which has a strong her friends for her slaves, which has a strong her fri Do what you will and God forgive your sins." And he lay back in his great chair sake?" asked Barbara.
"What wouldn't 1?" he cried, as if transperied. Then he added, rather low, "though I fear you're too cruel to do anything for

and with no more than that, although still with a smile, he slipped his arm out of mine and left me, beekening Darrell to go with im. Darrell obeyed with a sbrug of despair. I had supposed Lord Carford thought so, I was alone—and a shrug of despair.

"God save your malesty." "God is omnipotent," said the king gravely. "I thank you, Mr. Dale."

Thus dismissed we waiked off together and I was awaiting the duke's pleasure to relieve him also of my company when he turned to me with as mile, his white teeth gleaming: The queen sends a maid of honor to wait on madam," said he.
"Indeed, sir, it is very fitting,"

"And the duchees sends one also. If you could choose from among the duchess"—for I swear no man in his senses would choose any majesty's-whom would you choose,

Mr. Dale? "It is not for me to say, your grace."

answered. "Well," said he, regarding me drolly. would choose Mistress Barbara Quinton." And with a last laugh he ran off in hot pursuit of a woman who moment and cast a very kindly glance at

Left alone, but in a good humor that the gone.
"Now I'm d-d indeed," thought I; but I watching the scene. The play had begun now on a stage at the end of the hall, but nobody seemed to heed it. They walked to and fro. talking always, ogling, quarrelling, levemaking and intriguing. I caught sight here of great women, there of beauties whose faces were their fortune-or their ruin, which you will. Buckingham went by fine as galley in full sail. The duke of York passed with Mr. Huddleston; my salute went unacknowledged. Clifford came soon after; he bowed slightly when I bowed to him, but his heartiness was gone. moment later Darrell was by my side Ill-humor was over, but he lifted his hands

in whimsical despair.
"Simon, Simon, you're hard to help," said "Alas, I must go to Dover without you, my friend! Couldn't you restrain your

tongue?" "My tongue has done me no great harm said I, "and you needn't go to Dover alone. "What?" he cried, amazed.
"Unless the duke of Mommouth and my Lord Arlington travel apart."
"The duke of Monmouth? What have you

to do with him?" "I am to enter his service," I answered proudly; "and, moreover, I'm to go with him to Dover to meet Mme. d'Orleans." "Why, why? How came this? How were

you brought to his notice?" I looked at him, wondering at his eagersaid, laughingly: "Come, I am teachable, and I have learned

my lesson."
"What lesson do you mean?" "To restrain my tongue," said I. "Let those who are curious as to the duke of Monmouth's reasons for his favor to me ask

He laughed, but I caught vexation in his "True, you're teachable, Simon," said he,

(To be Continued.) Mrs. Abble N. Lord, senior member of the Phil H. Sheridan Women's Relief corps, en-tertained many of her neighbors of Salem, Mass., upon her 80th birthday a few days ago. Mrs. Lord was born in Tuftonboro, N. H., and fifty-nine years ago wedded the late Calvin Lord of Peabody

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