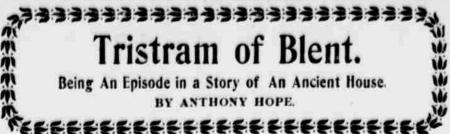
16



(Copyright, 1909, by A. H. Hawkins.)

Synopsis of Preceding Chapters.

<text><text><text>

CHAPTER XIX.

In the Matter of Blinkhampton. Pity for the commander who, while engaging the enemy on his front with valor and success, breaking his line and driving him from his position, finds himself assailed in the rear by an unexpected or despised foe, and the prize of victory suddenly wrenched from him! His fate is more bitter than if he had failed in his main encounter, his self-reproaches more keen

Major Duplay was awakening to the fact that this was his situation. Triumph was not his, although Harry Tristram had fled from the battle. Janie Iver had begun to think flirtation wrong-and there was an altogether new and remarkable self-assertion about Bob Broadley. The last thing annoyed Duplay most. It is indeed absurd that a young man, formerly of a commendable humility, should think a change of de meanor justified merely because one young woman, herself insignificant, chooses, for reasons good or bad, to favor him. Duplay was driven back to the last ditch of consolation-what we could have done if the latest tried plaster for the wound of what we cannot do; it would be wise to try it

sometimes a little earlier. There was another disconsolate person in the valley of the Blent-little Mr. Gainsborough, left alone in the big house, with a note from his daughter commanding him to stay there and to say nothing to anybody. He was lonely and nervous with building-speculations and so on-" Bob the servants; the curios gave him small shook his head again. pleasure, since he had not bought them

from Masters. Iver smiled in a vexed fashion, but was not dismayed: He let it he known that anybody who advanced money to the young men-Sloyd, Sloyd & Guernsey was the firm-would be his enemies. Then he waited for the young men to approach him. They did not come. At last, pride protesting, prudence insisting, he wrote and suggested that they might probably be glad to make arrangements with him. Mr. Sloyd-our Mr. Sloyd -wrote back that they had found a capitalist-no less than that-and proposed to develop their estate themselves, to put up their own hotel, also a row of boarding houses, a club, a winter garden and pos-

sibly an equarium. Youth and a sense of elation caused Sloyd to add that they would jor, too astonished for any preamble. slways be glad to co-operate with other gentlemen interested in Blinkhampton. Iver had many irons in the fire; he could and I have made up our minds exactly laughed a little. "That's one of the penal-

personally to Blinkhampton than Napoleon ould spend all his time in the peninsula.

enough of a victory to soothe the feelings; Something seemed to occur to him. of everybody concerned. must tell him that, in ordinary circum-"I'm expecting the gentleman who is anstances, 1 should propose to call on him

sociated with me. If you'll excuse me, I'll and to come where he was, but-well, he'll step out and see if he's arrived." understand that I don't want to go to Duplay saw through the suggestion, but he had no objection to permitting a consultation. He lit his cigar and waited while Sloyd was away. The major was in greater succeeding, it is perhaps the pleasantest thing to make people regret that you have tram was in his path. not succeeded. If he proved his capacity

Sloyd returned, but instead of coming in ing down Pall Mall?" other to pess in front of him. Duplay in tomorrow." jumped up with a muttered exclamation. What the deuce was Harry Tristram doing there

Harry advanced, holding out his hand. "We neither of us thought we should meet in this way, Major Duplay. The world's full of surprises. I've learned that, coincidence!" anyhow, and I daresay you've known it a

long while." "You're in this business!" cried the ma-Harry nodded. "Let's get through it." he said, "because it's very simple. Sloyd worth buying and I looked into it."

no more devote himself exclusively and what we ought to have." It was the same manner that the major remembered seeing by the pool-perhaps a ness at all." The transaction was important, yet hardly trifle less aggressive, but making up for

car to the telephone. It was an oppor- Duplay had thought of his former success- Besides, this is hardly business. By the by

Blentmouth just now." The implied apology relieved what Duplay had begun to feel an intolerable arro gance, but the major felt aggrieved; he had contentment with himself than he had been been very anxious to carry his first comsince he recognized his defeat. Next to mission through triumphantly and with eclat. For the second time Harry Tris-

Harry rose, "That's all we can do to-Iver would regret what happened more, day," he said. "We shall wait to hear possibly even Janie would come to regret it. from Mr. Iver. Do you happen to be walk-Sloyd's office was to directly, he held the door and allowed an- Mount street. "Good day, Sloyd. 1'll drop

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE: SUNDAY, MAY 26, 1901.

With an idea that some concession might still be forthcoming, not from any expectation of enjoying his walk, the major consented to accompany Harry.

"It was a great surprise to see you ap pear," he said as they started. "So odd a

"Not at all," smlied Harry, "You guess why I went in it? No? Well, of course, 1 know nothing about such things really, but Sloyd happened to mention that lver wanted to buy, so I thought the things must be He ties of a reputation like lver's, isn't it?" "But I din't know you'd taken to busi-

"O, one must do something. I can't vital: besides Iver himself could keep his that by an even increased self-confidence. sit down on four hundred a year, you know.

CRIED SHE. IN ACCENTS OF OUTRAGED DECORUM.

tunity for Bob to win his spurs; Iver pro- ful rival as a broken man. He was not though I ought to be as much surprised to posed to him to go to town and act as that. He had never thought of him as a see you. We've both lost our situation; is speculator in building land. Seemingly that that it, major?" his representative. "I'm afraid you'll lose the game if I play was what he had become.

it for you, Mr. Iver," responded Bob with | Harry sat down by the table, Sloyd stand- | rather pleasant, not a man he would ever a shake of his head and a good-humored ing by him, and spreading out before him like really, but all the same more tolerable smile. "I'm not accustomed to that sort a plan of Blinkhampton and the elevation than he had been at Blent, so Harry's of job, you know." of a row of buildings.

"You ask us," Harry went on, resent-"It would be a good chance for you to fully, almost accusingly, "to throw up this begin to learn something of business." "Well, you see, farming's my business. And I don't think I'm a fool at that. But work tomorrow."

"Come, come, where are you going to get e money ?" interrupted Duplay. He felt

Insensibly the major began to find him

hasn't he?"

now?

haps."

per again.

"O, that's what you mean?"

poleon to come to the peninsula.

"Yes," assented Harry almost gleefully.

"That's what I mean. Only this time it

somewhat audacious reference was rereceived with a grim smile "I knocked you out, you know," Harry

thing just when we're ready to go ahead. pursued. "Left to himself. I don't believe Everything's in train. We could begin old Bob Broadley would ever have moved. But I put him up to it.

"Well, you tried to put me out, you see.

ing as that in which their first days to gether had been spent. Cecily's possible unhappiness did not come home to him. "What?" Duplay had not expected this. After all, she had everything and he nothing-and even he was not insupportab

I know that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound saved my "DEAR MRS. PINKHAM: - It affords me great pleasure to tell

you and others the good I have derived from the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, Sanative Wash, and Liver Pills. When I began their use I thought there was no hope for me. I had had the best doctor in our town and grew worse every day. I gave up the use of his medicine and began using your remedics, and to day I am in better health than I have been for several years. I feel I owe it all to you, and can say that your medicine cannot be praised too highly. I shall always advise all suffering from female trouble to use your Vegetable Compound. I know it saved me from the grave.

"I thank you for your kind advice in regard to my health,"-MRS. ANNIE METZ, Caseyville, Ky.

Gratitude for recovered health makes generous hearts. Women who seak Mirs. Pinkham's advice are promptly helped, and they want all sick women to know about it. Mrs. Pinkham's advice is free. Her address is Lynn, Mass.

MRS. WM. STONE, North Dana, Mass., writes:

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM :--- I have followed your kind and free advice and am to-day a new woman. My last doctor told me I would have to go through an operation before I could be well. I had womb and ovarian trouble. I would suffer something terrible, such pain in my left side, and it seemed as though I was all falling to pieces. Was nervous all the time, and could not sleep nights. I cannot thank you enough for being so kind. I shall always recommend Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and hope that my letter may benefit some other poor suffering woman."

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has made a constant record of oures for thirty years. It acts directly on the female organism and makes it healthy, relieving and ouring all inflammation and displacements,

MRS. IMFELD, 509 Jefferson Place, Union Hill, N. J., writes:

"DEAR MRS. PINEHAM :- I have you to thank for my health and strength. I have taken your medicine for two years. Before I began its use I was so weak that after I had worked an hour in the morning I was obliged to lie down. I had fearful headaches, could not sleep, had palpitation of the heart, was always tired, and suffered in many other ways. Now I am perfectly well and much stronger than I was ten years ago. I am fifty-three years old, and the mother of ten children. I never feel tired since taking your Vegetable Compound."







and if he had they would not have been cheap; for reasons before indicated Blentmouth and the curiosity shop there had be come too dangerous. Besides, he had no sphere?" he asked. money. Cecily had forgotten that detail In her hurried flight. A man cannot spend more than a portion of his waking hours in a library or over pefigrees, Gainsborough found himself regretting London and the little house. combined.

Meanwhile Janie Iver was behaving as a pattern daughter, cherishing her mother and father and making home sweet, exersising, in fact, that prudent economy of willfulness which preserves it for one great important struggle and scorns to fritter it away on the details of daily life. Girls have adopted these tactics from the earliest days (so it is recorded or may be presumed), and wary are the parents who are not hoodwinked by them or, even if they perceive, are altogether unsoftened. lver needed comfort. There is no dis

guising it, however much the admission may damage him in the eyes of that same orthodox sentimentalist. He had once expounded his views to Mr. Jenkinson Neeld. and the present situation did not satisfy them. Of course, a man desires his daugh ter's happiness, but he may be allowed to teel annoyance at the precise form in which it realizes-or thinks it will realize -itself, a shape that may disappoint the aim of his career. Let all be said that could be said-Bob Broadley was a disapfully. pointment. Iver would, if put to it, have preferred Duplay. There was at least a cosmopolitan polish about the major; drawing rooms would not appal him nor the thought of going to court throw him into a perspiration. Iver had been keen to find out the truth about Harry Tristram, as keen as Major Duplay. At this moment of course. both of them were wishing that the truth had never been discovered by them nor made my last suggestion. flung in the face of the world by Harry

bimself. "But, darling, Janie will be happy." Mrs. Iver used to say. She had surrendered very easily.

He was not really an unnatural parent because he growled once or twice. "Darling Janie be hanged!" It was rather his wife's attitude of mind that he meant to condemn.

Bob himself was hopeless from a parent's point of view. He was primitive in his ideas; he had won the lady and that seemed to him enough. It was enough if he could keep hor; and in these days that really depends on herself. Moreover he had no doubt of keeping her; his primitiveness appears again; with the first kiss he seemed down here.' to pass from slave to master. Many girls would have taught him better. Janie was silence. He lost, perhaps because he was not one. She seemed rather to acquiesce, thinking of something else. He liked Dubeing, it must be presumed, also of a some what primitive cast of mind. It was terribly clear to Iver that the pair would stand to one another and settle down in glorious contentment together all their lives. Yes, it was worse than Duplay; something might have been made of him. As for Harry-Iver used to end by thinking how sensible a man old Mr. Neeld was, for Mr. Neeld was determined to hold his tongue. There was another vexation, of a different kind indeed, but also a check in his suc-Blinkhampton was not going quite COSS. Blinkhampton was a predestined the enemy, right. seaside resort on the south coast, and Iver, with certain associates, meant to develop it. They had bought it up, laid it out for building and arranged for a big hotel, with Birch & Co., the famous furnishers. But all along in front of it, between where the street now was and the esplanade was soon to be, ran a long, parrow strip, forming the estate of an elderly gentleman named Masters. Of course Masters had go be bought out, the whole scheme hang-

ing on that. Iver, keen at a bargain, hard in business hours, confident that nobody and he had decided would tempt the young powerful-by forestalling him, had refused | make them content with that. Masters his price; the old gentleman would

The progressi that he must assert himself. the stationary. (We divide humanity again). "You've no desire for-for a broader "Well, I like a quiet life, you see-with or put up new. However, we shall get it. I'm satisfied as to that.' my horses and my crops and so on. Don't believe I could stand the racket." So far

"You've heard my offer?" "Yes," smilled Harry. "The reward for as physique was concerned Bob could have getting ahead of Mr. Iver is. it seems, Broadley. stood penal servitude and a London season £2,000. It must be done pretty often if its "But it's an opening!" Iver persisted, by as cheap as that! I hope he's well?" "Quite well, Mr. Tristram, thank you now actually more puzzled than angry. "If But when you talk of getting ahead of you found yourself at home in the work it

might lead to anything " him-"Well, I put it plainly; that's all. I'm "But I don't know that I want anything," new to this and I daresay Sloyd here would smiled Bob. "Of course I'll have a shot put it better. But my money's in it, so I if it'll oblige you," he added. "But-well, like to have my say." I'd rather not risk it, you know."

Both the dislike and the reluctant re-Janie was there. Iver turned to her in speet of old days were present in the madespair. She was smiling at Bob in an jor's mind. approving, understanding way.

"It really isn't what would suit Bob. "I don't want to be anything but friendly father," she said. "Besides, if he went Neither Sloyd nor I want that-especially toward Mr. Iver-or toward you, major into your business, we should have to be as much in town and hardly ever be at We've been neighbors." He smiled and home at Mingham." went on, smiling still. "Oddly enough, I've At home in Mingham! What a destiny, said what I'm going to say to you once Certainly, Blent was in the same valley. before-on a different occasion. You seem but-well a "scat" is one thing and a to have been trying to frighten us. I am farm's another.

not to be frightened, that's all.' Janie, when she had seen Bob, an un-Sloyd whispered in his car; Duplay repentant cheerful Bob, on his way, came guessed that he had counseled more urback to find her father sitting sorrowbanity; Harry turned from him with a rather contemptuous little laugh. "Oh, I've

got my living to earn now." Duplay heard "Dearest father, I'm so sorry," she said, him whisper-and reflected that he had story to Iver and see if he does," he sugputting her arms around his neck. never wasted much time on politeness even gested. He squared his shoulders to meet facts; before that necessity came upon him. he could always do that. Morever he looked It was strange that Sloyd attempted to Duplay. ahead-that power was also among his

gifts-and saw how presently this thingtake no part in the discussion. He wore an air of deference, partly due no doubt like other things, would become a matter to Harry's ability, yet having unmistakably a social flavor about it. Harry's lordliness "That's settled, Jante," said he, "I've clung to him still, and had its effect on

She went off in distress to her mother, his business partner. Duplay lodged an angry inward protest to the effect that but was told to "let him alone." The wisit had none whatever on him. dom of a woman and of years spoke. Pres-

"Perhaps I'd better say just what ently Iver went out to play golf. But his want," Harry pursued. "We've paid Masheart was still bitter within him; he could ters £20,000; we may be £500 out of pocket not resist the sight of a possible sympa-Never mind that." He pushed away the thizer; he mentioned to the major, who plans and elevations. "You're empowered was his antagonist in the game, that it o treat, I suppose ?" he asked. Sloyd had was not often that a young fellow refused whispered to him again.

such a chance as he had just offered to "No." said Duplay. "But as a final offer Bob Broadley. His prospective relationthink I can pledge Mr. Iver to go as far ship to Bob had reached the stage of being as £5,000 (over or above the £20,000, of assumed between Duplay and him, although course), to cover absolutely everything, you it had not yet been explicitly mentioned. "I wish somebody would try me!" laughed know.'

"Multiply your £25,000 by two, and we're the major. "I'm kicking my heels all day your men." said Harry. "Multiply it by two? Fifty thousand? lver made no reply and played around in **Oh**, nonsense!

"Twenty out of pocket-thirty profit. call it very reasonable."

play, he thought him clever, and, looking Major Duplay rose with a decisive air. back on the history of the Tristram affair, "I'm afraid I'm wasting your time," he he felt somehow that he would like to do said, "and my own, too. I must say good the major a good turn. Were they not in afternoon.

a sense companions in misfortune? "Pray, Major Duplay, don't be so abrupt, Two days later Duplay sat in the offices sir. We've-" It was Sloyd who spoke of Sloyd, Sloyd & Guernsey as Iver's repre- with an eager gesture, as though he would sentative; his mission was to represent to detain the visitor. Harry turned on him the youthful firm the exceeding folly of with his ugliest, haughtiest scowl. their conduct in regard to Blinkhampton. 'I thought you'd left this to me, Sloyd?

His ready brain had assimilated all the he said. facts and they lost nothing by his ready Sloyd subsided, apologetic, but evidently

tongue. He even made an impression on terrified. Harry turned to Duplay. "I asked you before if you'd authority to

"It doesn't do to look at one transaction treat. 1 ask you now if you've authority only, Mr. Sloyd," he reminded the spruce to refuse to treat." but rather nervous young man. "It'll pay "I've authority to refuse to discuss ab-

you to treat us reasonably. Mr. lver's a surdities." good friend to have, and a bad enemy." "Doubtless. And to settle what are

"I'm quite alive to all that, but we have absurdities? Look here. I don't ask obtained a legitimate advantage and--" you to necept that proposal without refer-Sloyd was evidently a little puzzled and he ring to Mr. Iver. I merely say that is the gar, or, at least, regarded as a reproachful glauced at the clock. proposal, and that we give Mr. Iver three supplicant. When he thought about her-"We recognize that; we offer you £2,000. days to consider it. After that our offer is

We take over your option and give you withdrawn." £2,000. This was the figure that Iver Sloyd was biting his nails. Duplay glanced from his troubled fact to Harry's would care to incur his enmity-he was firm; their fear of the great Mr. Iver would solid, composed, even amused, mask.

"And you might add." Harry went Sloyd was half inclined to be content; "that it would be a very good thing if Mr. have to come down. But some young men the firm would make a thousand, the bal- Iver saw his way to run up and have a stepped in, with the rashness of their ance would be a good interest on the capi- talk with me. I think I could make him and invest their renewed acquaintance with after a moment's thought. youth, and acquired an option of purchase talist's £10,000, and there would still be see the thing from our point of view." an atmosphere as unusual and as stimu'at- | down?" He watched her seat herself, ac-

Besides Janie Iver liked him, and she happy Southend was working quietly. Aided by "Never mind. We can get it. Or we can didn't care about you-or me either, for

wait till we do. We shut you out just as that matter. So just before I-well, dis- Jenkinson Neeld, he had prepared an elabbadly, whether you leave the old buildings appeared I told Bob that he'd win if he orate statement and fired it in at Mr. went ahead. And I gather he has won, Disney's door, himself retreating as hastily

as the urchn who had thrown a cracker. A brief nod from Duplay answered him; Lady Evenswood was trying to induce her eminent cousin to come to tea. The Imp. he was still revolving the news about Bob in response to that official missive, was

completing her reminiscences on Heidelberg "I'm afraid I haven't made you like me any better," said Harry with a laugh. and Addle Tristram. Everybody was at "And I don't go out of my way to get mywork, and it was vaguely understood that self disliked. Do you see why I mentioned Mr. Disney was considering the matter-a that little fact about Bob Broadley just least that he had not consigned all the documents to the waste paper basket and the

"I confess I don't-unless you wished to writers to perdition-which was a great annoy me. Or-pardon-perhaps you point gained with Mr. Disney. "No hurry, thought it fair that I should know?" give me time, don't push it, walt, do noth "Neither the one nor the other. I didn't ing, the status quo," all these various do it from the personal point of view at phrases expressed Lord Southend's earnest all. You see, Bob had a strong position- and reiterated advice to the conspirators. A barony had, in his judgment, begun to b

and didn't know it." Duplay glanced at him. "Well," he said, a thing which might be mentioned without 'it didn't help you, though it hurt me, per- a smile. And the viscounty-"Well," said Lady Evenswood, "if Robert were once con-"I told him he had a strong position. vinced, the want of precedents would not

Then he took it. Hulle, here we are in stop him. Precedents must, after all, be Pall Mall. Now you see, don't you, made, and why should not Robert make them?" major?" "No, I don't." Duplay was short in man-This then, the moment when all the wise

and experienced people were agreed that "You don't see any parallel between nothing could, should or ought to be done,

Bob's position and our friend's up there in | was the chance for a Tristram. Addie would tually hoping for the famous attitude. But | breath came quick. Mount street?" Harry laughed again as he have seized it without an instant's hesitaheld out his hand. "Well, you tell the tion; Cecily had blood unavoidably diluted right, her hands clasped on her knees. Her with a strain of Gainsborough, and took air was one of gravity, of tremulous imtwo whole days to make the plunge-two portance. She realized what she was going herself to be understood as she looked at

come to make you do it?"

cried, quickly, "Because it's unendurable,

"You must take it back. Let me give it

He was silent a full minute before he

From anybody else I should front that

is an insult; with you I'm willing to think

absurdity is the same." He turned away

from her with a look of distaste, almost of

"I could do it. In one way I could,

She rose as he turned back to her. "I

want you to have Blent. You're the proper

master of Blent. Do you think I want to

"You have it by law, not by accident,

"You ought to think of it," she insisted

"What informal nonsense" he exclatmed.

You know it's impossible."

it?" he added by the way of climax.

merely ignorance. In either case the

"How in the world could you do

glad," he ended.

might be. It isn't.'

Harry! End it for me!

back to you," she prayed.

have it by accident?"

answered, slowly and coldly:

unendurable!

that delusion.

pllant.

flegust.

days and a struggle, neither of which would have happened had she been Addle. But she did at least reach the conclusion that never have done it at all. immediate action was necessary; that she was the person to act; that she could en- began.

won't hurt you and I think it will help "Oh, I can, I'm all right. I hope you me. You've done all you could, you know. dure no more delay; that she must herself "Well, goodby. Write to Sloyd-unless haven't been worrying?" go to Harry and do the one terrible thing Iver decides to come up. And don't forget which alone suited, met and could save of everything. Oh, I know you did it yourthat little story about Bob Broadley! Bethe situation.

cause you'll find it useful if you think of In his quiet foom in Duke street Harry frightening Sloyd. He can't move without was working out some details of the prome, and I don't move without my price." posed building in Blinkhamton. Iver was "You moved from Blent," Duplay reto come to town next day and Harry minded him, stung to a sudden malice.

"Yes," said Harry, thoughtfully. "Yes, so I did. Well, I suppose I had my price Goodby." He turned away and walked

quickly down the street "What was his price?" asked the major. woman must see him on urgent business puzzled. with the most genuine vexation, but he had But all that was not the question now

Duplay sought the telegraph office and not experienced enough to embolden him to send word that he was out. informed Iver of the uncompromising attitude of the enemy. He added that Harry Such a message would probably have

availed nothing. Ceeily was already at the Tristram was in the business and that door; she was in the room before he had Harry suggested an interview. 11 Was perhaps the most significant tribute done giving directions that she should be that Harry had yet received when, after a few admitted. Again that likeness which had minutes of surprise and a few more of already worked on him so powerfully struck him with unlessened force; for its sake he consideration. Iver telegraphed that he

sprang forward to greet her and meet her would come up to town, and wished (4.7) appointment to be made for him with Mr. autstretched hands with his. There was no appearance of embarrassment about her. Tristram. It was something to force Na-

rather a great gladness and a triumph in her own courage in coming.

CHAPTER XX "You didn't come to me, so I came to A Tristram Way-A Specimen. you," she explained, as though the explana-Harry Tristram had led Lady Evens tion were quite sufficient.

wood to believe that he would inform him She brought everything back to him very self of his cousin's state of mind or even trongly, and in a moment banished Blinkopen direct communication with her. He hampton had done nothing to redeem this implied "Does anybody know you've come

promise, although the remembrance of it 'No," she smilled. "That was part of the Mina didn't know I was going out. You see, everybody's been doing something except me, and-

what?

he answered, curtly. He was growing angry. "Why do you come here and unsettle me?" he demanded. "I wasn't think

ing of it. And then you come here!" smile and shrug-She was a little disappointed to find him She was apologette no longer. She faced him boldly.

the new impression was not strong enough "And-yes, I've come here because i "I've come to tell you I was right for me to como: because can't bear it." she said. couldn't respect myself uniess I came. want you to take back Blent

should present him with his opportunity "On my honor, I dun't know," he admitted "Won't you sit



vermin. It has been in general use in houses, stores, hotels, factories, offices, public buildings, etc., for twenty-five years.

25 cents a box at Druggists and Grocers or sent direct prepaid. STEARNS' ELECTRIC PASTE CO., Chicago, Ilis.

"There's one way in she was too excited for it. She sat up- which it's possible." In an instant he understood her; there was no need of more words. She knew to do; if she had failed to understand its him and for 'a while she looked steadily, very unusual character she would probably but he returned the gaze, so that presently, in spite of her efforts, she felt herself flushing red, and her eyes fell. The room had "I can't bear this state of things," she become uncomfortably quiet, too. At last "I can't endure it any longer."

she spoke. "I suppose you remember what I told you about Janie Iver," he said, "and that's how "Worrying! I've robbed you, robbed you you came to think I might do this. You must see that that was different. I gave self! That makes it worse. How did as much as I got there. She was rich, I was-" He smilled sourly-"I was Tristram "I don't know," he said again, "Well of Blent. You are Tristram of Blent, 1 you seem so in your place at Blent. Some-

am-" he shrugged his shoulders. how you made me feel an interlopef. "Yes, I'm He made no reference to the personal side of the case. She was not hurt, she was enormously relieved. "No, no, you mustn't be glad," she

"I'm not inclined to be pensioner on my wife." he snid.

She opened her lips to speak; she was "To you? It's not to me. I thought it within an ace of telling him that, if this and that went well, he would have so as-"Yes, to me, to me! Oh, end it for me sured and recognized a position that none She was imploring: she was the supcould throw stones at him. Her words died away in face of the peremptory finality of The reversal of parts, strange in his words and the bitter anger on his face. itself, hardly seemed strange to Harry She sat silent and foriorn, wondering what Tristram and it made him quite his old had become of her resolve and her inspiraself again. He felt that he had something tion to give. But her next words shattered

"In my place you would feel as I do," he salit a moment later. His tone was nilder. "You can't deny it." he insisted. "Look me in the face and deny it if you can. I know you too well."

For some minutes later she sat still. Then the got up with a desolate air. Everything seemed over; the great offer, with its greaft scene, had come to very little. Without attempting to bid him any farewell. she moved toward the door slowly and driverily.

She was arreated by his voice-a new ve, very good-natured, rather chaffing, "Are you doing anything particular tonight?" he asked.

She turned round; he was smilling at her in an open, but friendly, amusement, "No," she murmured. "I'm going back

home, I suppose." "To Blent" he asked quickly.

"No, to our house. Mina's there, and -" Her face was puzzled; she left her sentence unfinished.

"Well, I've get nothing to do. Let's have dinner and go somewhere together." Their eyes met. Gradually Cedily's lightened into a sparkle as her tips bent and her white testh showed a mitig. She was almost laughing outright as she answered readily without so much as a show of healtation or a surprise. "Yes, "No," she said. She was calm, but her

(To Be Continued.)

had not passed out of his mind. But he was disinclined to fulfill it. In the first place, he was much occupied with the pursuits and interests of his new life; see 'Everybody doing something? Doing ondly, he saw no way to approach her in "Oh, never mind now. Nothing of any which he would not seem a disagreeable reminder; he might even be taken for a begreal use."

"There's nothing to do," said Harry, with which was very often just now-it was looking so well, so cheerful, so busy. But

not to say that he would never meet her again, he liked her too well, and she was too deeply bound up with the association of to upset the preconceptions with which his life for that; but it was to decide to she had come. postpone the meeting and dream perhaps

"Oh, why did you ever do it. Harry?" of some progress or turn of events which

thought that the more entirely ready they And-" he paused a moment. Iver would be to stop them. It was just 6 o'clock and a couple of quiet hours stretched before him. He heard that a