

HOME AND FARM MAGAZINE SECTION SERIAL

The Secret of the Night By Gaston Leroux

THRILLING MYSTERY STORY OF RUSSIAN INTRIGUE BY NOTED FRENCH AUTHOR.

RECAPITULATION OF PREVIOUS CHAPTERS.

Joseph Rouletabille, ostensibly a detective of renown, is called to the Tsar to save the life of a young girl...

Rouletabille, who had not spent half a second examining the General's chamber, was able to be certain that the key was on that side, when it took well on that side...

I believe you, on my word, easily. There were only they in the house of attempting that affair of the night. I have thought that all out, and am at ease...

You have seen it, madame, and I have seen it. There is nothing. No one has touched it. I am sure of it. It is what we have thought about it!

floor. My opinion, since I saw Matrena lift the carpet the first time without any real precaution, is that they have definitely abandoned the preparation of that attack...

VI

The Mysterious Hand.

After the departure of Matrena, Rouletabille turned his attention to the garden. Neither the marshal of the court nor the officers were there any longer...

"You ask a frightful thing of me," said the young girl with singular energy. "You understand, Boris Alexandrovitch! It is necessary."

"Your stepdaughter is coming in now. Ask her where she has been, if she has seen the orderlies, and if they said they would return this evening..."

Matrena returned immediately, not understanding what he was doing. "And now, your hatpins. Yes, your hatpins."

"No," she replied, slightly troubled. "Why all these questions?" She flushed still more. "Because I thought it strange..."

hung her hat. Beside this hat there was a toque that Ermolai had brought in. The old servant had found it in some corner of the garden...

So saying, he filled his pipe, lighted it with a sort of sigh of relief, and, after a final order to Matrena, "Go," he went into the garden, puffing great clouds...

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