The Planter's Daughter OR FATE'S REVENCE

By MRS. ALICE P. CARRISTON

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roundings.

where dense, interlacing trees shrouded in

Sylphide Couramont had secured lodgings

upon the first floor the windows of which

opened upon a wide, dark piazza, that

As the night settled upon the city, she

lounge-to wait. Still attired in the

inky draperies that she had worn dur-

ing the day, the utter ghastliness of her countenance shown out with yet more

shartling effect by contrast with her sur-

She had dispatched her appeal to Lu-

cian Courtlandt, and was awaiting its results with such patience as she could

command; but as the dreary minutes grew to hours she rose impatiently and,

taking a silver-mounted revolver from a

satchel, laid it beside a roll of papers up-

on the table that supported the lighted

"I can have everything in readiness, at

least," she murmured. . "Lucian shall

have no reason to doubt my resolution.

If his heart preserves no flutter of the

past, if all memory of our love is ef-

faced, still the lines I have sent him con-

tain sufficient grief and despair, suffi-

clent threats of scandal to force him to

come to me; fear will impose the power

which love has lost. If I cannot recon-

quer your heart, Lucian Courtlandt, you shall at least give me back my child. Then we shall see whether you will not

follow him. Hark! Some one is mount

She sprang to the window and threw

"Yes, I," replied Gresham, coolly, en-

"He refuses to see me? Why?" she

Why? You know perfectly well."

"It is because he loves that other woman, now, is it not?" she cried, bit-

terly. "Is that keeping his oath with me?

Was that what you promised me, Gresh-

am? You swore to me that she had

With maddening deliberation, Gresh-am drew up a chair and seated himself

"Madam," he began, calmly, "we doc-tors have neither friends nor enemies;

we deal impartially with the whole world.

It is our business to save our patients.

Let us look at it seriously. In a moment of ambition you cherished the hope of becoming Mrs. Lucian Courtlandt; to-

day, you understand, this hope is for-

ever crushed. Now, your wisest course

is to leave the interests of your child

in the hands of her to whom you have

confided them, and let them rest in

"First, the satisfaction of having done

"Then the conditions that you may be

pleased to impose, which I can promise

will be accepted in advance by Mr.

"The only condition that I shall see fit to make," she hissed through her set

teeth, "is the unconditional surrender of

"It seems to me that your maternal

"You have no right to judge me, hay-

ing played the traitor! Oh, you may

spare me the infliction of any moral stric-

tures," she sneered; "if you have been

sent to me as an ambassador, be content

"Very well, then. What do you de

"Has Lucian Courtlandt determined

"I have already answered that ques-

tion. The reproaches contained in your

letter, your merace that you would kill

yourself, have only served to make me

smile. Oh, I'm a borrible fellow! I even

went so far, in order to reassure those

who might be startled by your threats,

as to say that your religious scruples would prevent your doing violence to so

sweet a life. Ah, but I'm a sorry ras-

Goaded by his merciless raillery, Syl-

"Have a care!" she panted. "Your

"On the contrary, they seek to per

phide was upon her feet in an instant,

and bending threateningly above his smil-

people had better not exasperate me be-

suade you to depart in peace, that's all

Now, what do you demand, to go abroad

and settle down quietly? Please name

"What are you paid for your inso

"Much less than the trouble of coming

She accepted the insult in silence, and

"You may return to Lucian Courtlandt

and tell him that unless he comes to me within an hour I shall be dead! There

lies my will. You are at liberty to ex-

roll of paper on the table.
"Humph!" he sneered after a cursory

Gresham rose, and leisurely opened the

scarcely three months to live."

opposite his agonized subject.

tering, and carefully closing the blinds behind him. "We decided that I should

open the blinds; but recoiling as sudden

ly, she gave vent to one stifled word.

ing the steps! It is he!"

do as well."

your duty."

Courtlandt."

my child!"

mand?

love smacks of selfishness

to fulfill your mission."

never to see me again?"

yond endurance!"

here has cost me."

lence?"

amine it."

"And then?"

gasped, feebly.

almost overhung the sidewalk.

had ordered a lamp, had closed

blinds, and thrown herself upon

CHAPTER XVIII.

The shades of evening that succeeded deep shadow the unpretentious houses that eventful day, found the inmates of Sylphide Courament had secured lodgings the Newport villa quiescent. Not that they funcied that they had seen the end of their troubles, not that they dreamed that the raging Nemesis who pursued them would relent and hide her diminished head, but they had arrived at an un-

derstanding and were at peace among

Whatever might happen, Claire had found her way to her husband's heart, and Lucian was at rest, having declared his love. Side by side they sat upon the wide veranda, watching the lurid sunset Suddenly Claire that presaged storm. shuddered and nestled closer to her companion, while his protecting arm encircled her yet more tightly.
"What is it, darling? Are you cold?"

the asked gently. "Shall we go in?" "Not yet," came the whispered re-sponce; "I could not bear the stifling atmosphere of the rooms. Let us remain here as long as we can-until the rain

'As you will, only do not tremble so.' "I cannot help it, Lucian. Do not think me ungrateful, but-but I have doubted your love so long that I-I-"Oh, Claire!" he interposed, reproach-

fully, "that you doubt it still?"
"No, no! Not quite that, but I think of that terrible woman!"

"I do not wish to think of her," he replied, gloomily.

But she boldly boasted that she came here armed with three years of passion-Lucian, is it true?"

'Yes, it is true, but my love has changed; need I tell you so again? Do you compel me to swear it before you can be-

"No, I am satisfied, but do not blame me if I am over jealous of you; I love you so, and I feel my inferiority to that splendid, wicked creature."

He drew her into his embrace, and,

bending his head, pressed a burning kiss upon her brow.
"Foolish little heart!" he murmured,

indulgently. "You are as far superior to her as the sun is superior to the moon, as an angel to a sinful mortal!"

'No, no!" she said, with surprising firmness, "let there be no comparison be-tween us. I believe that unhappy woman to be more sinned against than sinning. She has been the victim of Fate, as we have all been; so let us not blame her, since we know not how we should have acted had we been similarly placed." "I shall never see her," he replied

"Not even if she sent for you and be sought you to come to her?"

Not even then." As though envious fate sought to test his firmness, Dr. Gresham at that moment appeared upon the plazza with a letter in his hand. Though the gloaming peace."

Peace."

And what remains to me in this barthad fallen thickly upon the earth, they both noted the ghastly presence of the gain?" missive, and a minatory thrill of alarm shot through their hearts.

'A letter for you, Lucian," observed the doctor, affecting an unconcern which he was far from feeling; "the messenger who brought it said that it was imperative, so perhaps you had better step inside to the light and read it while 1 have a chat with my patient."

Cleverly planned, doctor, but not quite cleverly enough to hoodwink a woman's instinct. Lucian Courtlandt had risen as Gresham ceased to speak, but ere the could take a step, Claire laid fast hold of his hand.

Lucian!" she cried, warningly. He turned and assisted her to rise. 'Come with me," he said; "in future have no secrets from you."

And in spite of the admonishing glance dealt him by the doctor, he led his wife into the library, where a shaded lamp burned. There he broke the seal, with Ciaire beside him. The missive proved to be a passionate appeal from Sylphide Couramont to come to her, for the Inst. time if it must be, but to come to her for justice's sake.

"I shall not go," Courtlandt said, with measured firmness. "However, there is no reason why Gresham should not go in my place, if he considers it expedient,'

The doctor's cunning eyebrows knitted darkly for a moment; then he exclaimed, with sudden decision:

'Yes, I will go and see her; but I warn you both that if I go I shall not handle her with gloves. I shall state the case so plainly to her that I think she will not occupy a false position in the

His words implied so dark a threat that Claire glided to his side and faid her hand upon his arm as he was about to leave the room.

"Doctor," she said, the purity of her soul within shining in her eyes, "whatever you may deem it best to do or say, bear in mind that she is a woman, that however we may regard the case, she has been wronged, and be as lement as you

began to pace up and down the room to calm her agitation. Suddenly she paused "Depend upon me to be as lenient as the case requires," was the quiet reply; behind her tormentor, and said in a voice "I have managed affairs thus far to my low with intensity: satisfaction; I do not think I shall slip up in the eleventh hour."

And with these words he took his hat and left the villa, while a lurid flash of lightning illumined his slender figure, as it vanished amidst the shrubbery.

In a ratired street of old Newport,

glance, "women are adepts at letter writing, but they require a lawyer to draw up their wills. I would advise you to

"To-morrow my death will be public gossip," she said, stonily.

"I'll stake a hundred on the chances." The last straw had been applied. Sylphide Couramont was livid with rage. Involuntarily she asumed the attitude of a

tigress about to spring.
"Gresham!" she panted. "Do you dare
to take my hife?" she cried.
"Most certainly I do."

"Why should I not kill myself?" "Because that would afford three or four persons of my acquaintance too much satisfaction," came the imperturbable reply; "once more let us return to reason; will you accept two hundred and fifty thousand dollars to go abroad, never to return?"

"I have answered that question once,"
"Very well. I have fulfilled my mission, and now have the honor to wish you good evening."

He bowed profoundly, took his hat, flung open the blinds and vanished into the night. Sylphide stood where he had left her until his footsteps ceased to echo upon the distance; then she sprang to some draperies, tore them apart and discovered Camille sunken in a sodden sleep upon a chair.

"Awake, awake!" she panted hoarsely, dragging him bodily to his feet; "away with you and do as you agreed! Ah, now they shall feel my power!"

(To be continued.)

"PRETTY SPECKLEDY."

Lady Who Had Bought Him.

ed toward a small, poor-looking cottage by the exquisite singing of a thrush. The cottage contained but one room. It was occupied by an aged couple, so poor that their most valuable possession was the thrush which hung outside the door in a wicker cage, and sent forth a perfect stream of melody. In "Mary Boyle, Her Book," the story of this bird is touchingly

We listened for some moment, and then my mother entered the cottage, made acquaintance with the old couple, and asked if they would be willing to sell the thrush to her. At first and ailing, and was persuaded by the arguments of the "missus," who was some little dainty for her good man. So the bargain began; a sum was named, the double of which was paid ducklings are soon on the market, and by my mother, who sent a servant the

next morning to claim her purchase. Then resulted a disappointment, The cage was placed in a large and cheerful window in our drawing-room, but not a sound, not a note, came from the melancholy bird, who drooped and hung its head as if molting. We fed, we coaxed, we whistled; but it re-

mained silent, motionless and moping. My mother felt as much indignation be suspicious, but it looked as if an center, to which the chain is attached. other bird had been palmed off upon On the end of the chain is a grab hook. her in place of the magnificent song- by means of which the front team days' trial, but at length her was exhausted, and she sent for the late owner of the bird.

The door opened and in he came. My mother advanced to meet him; but neither of them was allowed to speak. for no sooner did the old man make his appearance in the room than the bird leaped down from its perch, spread its wings, and broke out into so triumphant a song of joy that it seemed as if the whole room vibrated with that burst of melody.

"What, Pretty Speckledy!" said the man, approaching the cage. "You know me then, do you?" And the thrush kept flapping its wings and moving from side to side, one might almost say, dancing with joy.

There was no doubt about it; it was may be hitched long or short as dethe same bird that had charmed our sired. ears in the lane at Molesey; but, like the Hebrew captives, it could not sing its songs in a strange land.

"Take it back," my mother said. would not part such friends for all the loving pair, "Pretty Speckledy" in full

Sea Serpents Breathe Air.

them to swim in any direction, and it corn flour. Those who tasted the firstfurnished with valves, which secure Cincinnati Price Current. them from being entered by the water in which they live.

skins in small pieces. Their eyes are great falling off in prices paid by the not adapted to see well out of water, packers for hogs and beef cattle is the and thus they cannot when in the air determination of the packers not to take a good aim to bite. They feed on give more. They are not in the packsmall fishes, which they paralyze by ing business for either health or recremeans of their poison, and thus they ation, but for the money they can achave nothing to fear from the spines cumulate. Of course the less they pay of the fishes they eat.

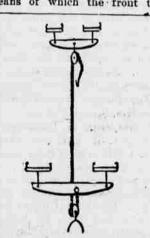
As Others See Us. Biggs-They say that fellow Simson is half-witted. Diggs-Indeed! As much as that?

Stock Ducks. In selecting stock ducks from which to breed your market ducklings, it is less essential to look for clearness of bill and perfection of tint than general suitable conformation. The drake in the accompanying illustration is a perfect type of breeder for market birds. The body is large, but not cumbersome, the carriage of the small head, alert, out not apprehensive, the feathers white and plentiful, but tight Thrush Refused to Sing for the and compact, as though cut from a piece of ivory, the deep full keel and Two ladies who were walking along short, strong legs are all points that an English country road were attract- go to form an ideal breeder, either for

TRIO OF MODEL PEKINS.

rather a blank look came over the old a duck or drake. In choosing breedman's countenance, but he was poor ers, it is also important that the ducks are fully as large as the drakes. The duck in the sketch is in reality doubtless thinking that the price of somewhat larger than the drake, and their favorite would enable her to get won first prize when she was but five months old. Large birds like these Pekins are very heavy feeders, but the the old birds with long, rangey bodies, such as these here shown, will hunt their entire living when allowed to roam at will.-Montreal Star.

Four-Horse Tandem Equalizer. The accompanying illustration represents a very simple form of equalizer for two teams one before the other. Attached to the load is a pulley through which the chain works, a team as was consistent with her gentle dis- end of the chain. The front doubleof two horses being attached to each position. It was not in her nature to tree is provided with a ring in the



POUR-HORSE TANDEM EQUALIZER.

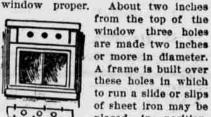
Corn Flour. The high price of wheat and of wheat flour in Bulgaria has led the Minister of Agriculture to suggest the world!" And off together went that use of corn flour, mixed with wheat flour. A Sofia journal says that a committee was nominated by the Mayor of Sofia with a view to alleviating the distress among the poorer classes. Two Like all other serpents, the sea ser- kinds of bread were submitted-one pents, though permanently inhabiting made with three-quarters wheat flour the sea, are air breathers. The lateral and one-quarter corn flour, and the flattening of their tails greatly helps other with half wheat flour and half specially enables them to rise rapidly named bread declared it to be very to the surface of the water to breathe, good, and the Mayor hopes by the That they may do this the more easily extended use of corn flour to furnish and securely, their nostrils are placed the necessitous population of Sofia at the very end of the muzzle and are with its daily bread at a cheap price.—

The Packers' Power. Unlike other snakes, they cast their The only rational cause for the for the animals and the more they get for the animal products the more money they make. This accounts for the high price to consumers of beef, pork, etc., as well as the low price of hogs and cattle.-Farm and Ranch.

Seems as though 'tain't etiket Dowsin' her in water till She's connected with a chill. Seems as though 'twas skursely right Givin' her a dreadful fright, Tyin' rags around her tail, Poundin' on an old tin pail, Chasin' her around the yard. -Seems as though 'twas kind of hard Bein' kicked and slammed and shoose Cause she wants to raise a brood. I sh'd say it's gettin' gay Jest 'cause natur' wants its way. -While ago my neighbor, Penn, Started bustin' up a hen; Went to yank her off the nest, Hen, though, made a peck and jest Grabbed his thumb nail good and stout, -Like to yank the darned thing out. Penn he twitched away and then Tried agin to grab that hen, But, by ginger, she had spunk 'Cause she took and nipped a chunk Big's a bean right out his palm. Swallered it, and cool and calm, Histed up and yelled "Cah-dah!" -Sounded like she said "Hoorah!" Wal, sir, when that hen done that Penn, he bowed, took off his hat, -Spunk jest suits him, you can bet, 'Set," says he, "gol darn ye, set!" -Anonymous.

What Is Success? Many men who have died poor and who have ever been poor have been great successes. Our Savior was a poor man, the poorest of the poor and yet no life was ever such a success as His. The mistake of this age is in judging success by wealth. A man may be worth \$100,000,000 and yet be an absolute failure. That is, he may be rich and yet be a hog. He is successful who goes through the world doing the most good, brightening the lives of his fellow creatures not only. but making life more comfortable for the lower animals, the horses, the cows, and chickens and wild birds.

Stable Ventilator. This plan of ventilating a stable can be put in without interfering with the



placed in position, s shown at the lower part of the picture, between which the sliding board may be run.

Strawberries.

I know of nothing that brings in money quicker or faster than the strawberry, providing the land is adapted to strawberry growing. The strawberry gave me my start when I was a poor man. The longer I grew fruits the more the people around me bought them. I never had a surplus. Boys will easily become greatly interested not only in strawberry growing but black raspberry, blackberry and grapes. My plan was to have an assortment of the various kinds of fruit so if one class of fruits failed for a year the others would bring me in money. Stiff clay soil that bakes is not adapted to the strawberry or blackberry.-Exchange.

Cutting Trees by Electricity. It is reported in the German press that successful experiments have been made in various forests of France in cutting trees by means of electricity. A platinum wire is heated to a white heat by an electric current and used like a saw. In this manner the tree is felled much more easily and quickly than in the old way; no sawdust is produced and the slight carbonization caused by the hot wire acts as a preservative of the wood. The new method is said to require only one-eighth of the time consumed by the old sawing

Wood Ashes.

process.

Unleached wood ashes are rich in potash, varying in value according to the hardness of the wood burned. Hickory ashes are more valuable than basswood. Besides, potash ashes contain lime and a little phosphoric acid. Most clay soils have sufficient potash. Sandy solls need potash more than other soils. Do not mix wood ashes with any kind of manure before applying to the soil.

Common cleft grafting is best for young grape rootings. It is simple,

Grafting Grapes.

easy and nearly always successful if properly performed. Remove the soil from the rooting and cut it low enough to allow the soil to be mounded around the point. Split with a chisel, then insert a scion of equal diameter so that both sides will knit. Cut the scion bevels equal. Be careful to have both sides coincide outside so that bark of both stock and scion is practically of same thickness.