

## A Mistaken Identity

By F. A. MITCHEL

Aruoid Tucker, aged nineteen nd wooed Allce Braimard, aged six teen. Both belag too young to marryso their parents thought-consent was Eiven to the match only on condition that they part, not to, see each other ror two years. If they were then of the same milad no objectlon would be mised to their union They were not to corruspond excent during the Iast
 hath then they woull need to mat whetr time they thro moed to emomer meeting. One morming Albert Tucker (not Felathe nor even un acquaintance the satid Arnold Tucker, was banded a letter by a postman addressed in feminine band and asked if it belong ed to bitm The writing was so indls thet that Tucker coatd not be sure but replled by taking it in with other letters handed tifm it the same time (a) aponin: it he rond the simple an nonncement:
t with be at the Grant hotet on Tuesday and shail be pleised to see you that evenins Fou witt find me in Farlor E, second
Albert Tucker knew a great many strls, a number of whom he had made love to for the purpose, as he expressed it, of passing the time, and was not consclons of any of them neceptling hls atientions throngh any more serlous
particular Allice, nor did he recognize the chirography. He simply made a mental note of the appointment and when the evening came around reached the Grand hotel at 8 o'clock and went to Parlor B
A young lady whom be had never seen before rose from her seat with a happy smile to meet him, but the smile faded into a look of perplexity.
"I never believed." she said, "that two short years could have so changed you."
If Albert Tucker was anything be was gallant.
"Two long years, you mean.
"Have they been long to you?" some thing of the smite returning with a faint blush
"Each has been an eternity."
The lady looksd up tenderly ont of a pair of heaven's blue eyes. Bert did not mistake; it would have been brutal for hlin to mistake-at least so he considered it He bent forward and kissed her lips.
Meanwhille he was racking his brain to place the girl among those to whom he had on some previonsly forgotten occaslon made love He conld remem. ber a' Betty, a Loulse, an Ethel, but no Alice As for the last putronymic he could rememhor ontr two of them Mis Bratnull resembated Bratnard resmember mirl he had met at a housp party at the home of his frtend Chartes Pente it cuuple of years before and bad become "spoons" with He susperted that she was this girl. but was not sire the determined to take some riok to find out
"I would not suppose," he safd, "that so much would hampen sfrice that deIlghtful period we spent at Charlie's." "Charlle! What Charlle?"

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 white. espectally when parted from one we love Events berome confused."
onp parsons hare not become onfused In your case. Whs there some Girl with whom you remember to bave bad a delfghtful period?
"Not at all Now I remember; it was a stag purty "
"A vtag party! Do men have delight ful remethbrances of stag partles? But this is not pertinent to onr teeet Ing The question with us is, Havin been parted for two senrs, havin sTown older, do we wish to accept the romise made us when we separated? Fert would finve given worlds to know what that promise was; indeed, ke must EnWT what it was or give up hits struggle at pretense
"1 bate forsutten," he stammered. fust what that promise was,
Had an tce bolt been shot between the two it could not have effected a Erenter change. The girl started, then recoiled from hlm
What have I done?" he gasped.
"What have you done? You bave stabbed me to the heart. While 1 have counted the months, the weeks, the days till we might take advantage of that promise, you have forgotten what

## It was Oh, heavens! What shall 1

 do?"She threw herself on a sofa and bur led her face in the ctishions.

There is something wrong here, sald bert in desperation. "Are you sure $1 \mathrm{am} \mathrm{am}^{-}$

She started up "You are Arnold?"
"I am not I am Tucker."
"Amoirl Tucker, and you have for gotten"
"I'm Althert Tucker."
"Albert?
Commonly called Bert. And now for heaven's sake. do tell me who you are! I must admit I can't place you." Tucker never forgot that withering look.
It was some time before Miss Brain urd deligned to inform him who she was and there was an explanation Tucker was a cool chap. He apolo gized for his share of the mistake. adding:

I can onty offer to return the one thing you bave siten me
"What is that?" asked Miss Brain and.

The kiss"
A smile broke into a laugh. The real Tucker never appeared, and the sparlous Tucker eventunlly married the girl.

