THREE ETON BOYS.

BY W. R. MORLIS.

After I was left alone, I spent some five minutes of my valuable time in wondering why Lady Bracknell had asked De Vieuzac to spoil poor Beauchamp's aftersoon. Were I a lady of great personal attenctions, I abould, I dare say, enjoy having several admirers; but I should certainly prefor to take them one at a time. That a second may be found useful as a means of stimulating the arder of the first I can understand; but the object of keeping them together after that result has been fully obtained is not so easy to discover.

has been fully obtained is not so easy to discover.

I did not go out shooting with Bracknell and the others that morning, nor was I able to put in an appearance at the lunsheon hour. I had to finish my admirable
essay upon "Proportional Representation" for The Eelectic Review, and, gotsing my arguments into a knot toward
the last pages (which, I am sorry to say,
as no uncommon experience of mine when
composing admirable essays), I was
shained to my desk until the afternoon
was far advanced, struggling to reconcile
eertain irreconcilable statements to which
I had committed myself, and which I was
unwilling to retract. Having at length
made up my mind to throw one of these
everboard for the sake of burmony, I
wound up my task and sallied forth to
take the air.

The house in which I was staying stood
to the midst of one of those wild, undulating parks which are more frequent in the
northern than in the southern counties,
and which look like a survival of the England of 300 years ago. It was very beau
Will in its way under the gray autumnal

and which look like a survival of the England of 300 years ago. It was very bear siful in its way, under the gray autumnal sky, with shafts of pale sunlight falling upon the gnarled oaks and the withered bracken, and upon patches of gorse and heather here and there. I had walked some distance across it and was wondering whether De Vieuzac's unpleasant prophecy would over be fulfilled—whether the land upon which I was standing would ever be purceied out among peasant proprietors, and whether, in that case, the peasant proprietors would not find out that they had made an uncommonly had bargain, when the thud of approaching hoofs interrupted my musings, and presently Lady Brackuell, riding between her two cavaliers, hove in sight.

ently Lady Bracknell, riding between her two cavallers, hove in sight. They were pleased to draw rein on recognizing me, and Hilfa said they had had a delightful ride; which assertion was received with emphatic silence by her companions. In all probability some bickering had taken place during the course of 2; for the two men were looking daggers at each other, and it struck me that De Vienzav was not quite as cool as he had been earlier in the day. A short distance ahead of us was an inclosure, surrounded by a high fence of posts and rails, like a large cattle pen. It may have been insteaded to serve that purpose, or possibly, at certain seasons of the year, to confine the red deer, of which there was a herd in the park.

the park.
"There," said De Vieuzac, pointing to
it with his whip and looking at Beau-shamp, "would be a pretty leap. You
sould take it, perhaps; you who hesitate

at nothing."
"Oh, do, Mr. Heauchamp!" exclaimed
Hilda, enthusiastically.
"My dear Lady Brucknell," I remonstrated, "what are you thinking of? The
thing is absolutely impossible."

thing is absolutely impossible."

I am not sure that it was impossible; I am an indifferent judge of matters of that kind, and I have read wonderful accounts of the high jumps accomplished by Australian horses. But I should certainly be very sorry either to attempt such a feat myself, or to see any friend of mine attempt it. Hilds did not seem to have beard my.

heard me.
"Oh, do try!" she repeated. "I know
you would get over all right."

Beauchamp's reply was highly creditable to his good sense and salf control. "Imight get over," he said. "Whether I could get out again is another question. But, anyhow, I couldn't think of risking it with another man's horse."

De Vieuzac smiled, and Beauchamp turned upon him at oucc. "What's that you say?" he asked, sharply. "I assure you," answered the Frenchman, with exaggerated politeness, "that I did not utter one word."

"You were thinking something, though."

"You were thinking something, thought."
"Oh, for that, yes. I was thinking something, I admit. I was thinking that something, I admit. I was thinking that sometimes it is very convenient to be riding a friend's horse."

The words amounted to a studied insult, and would unquestionably have been so accepted in De Viennac's own country. In France speeches of that kind are permissible, their consequences being, of course, well understood; but neither in France nor elsawhere is it customary to offer such direct provocation in the presence of a lady, and Beauchamp went up several degrees in my esteem when he answered grees in my esteem when he answered quietly: "We'll discuss the question after-ward, if you like. We may as well ride on now."

quietly: "We'll discuss the question afterward, if you like. We may as we'll ride on now."

Hida suddenly broke into a short laugh, touched her home with the whip and galloged away. The two men followed her. I confess that I hurried back to the house as fast as my lens would carry me. I dislike and deprecate quarrels above everything; still, if quarrels must needs take place, why should I not be there to see After De Vienzae's inexensable conduct, I felt that if would be a real satisfaction to me to see him knocked down, and I thought that if I made great haste, I might just manage to arrive in time. As it turned out, I reached the front door with several minutes to spare. From the flight of stops which led up to it I could descry the riders, who, perhaps, had made a delour, approaching at a foot's pace, and presently I had the honor of assisting Lady Bracknell to dismount.

She stood for a moment, tapping her foot with her riding whip, and looking with an odd, satirical expression at the rivals. "An revoir," she said, nodding to them. I am going to lie down till dinner t. "Then she made a scarcely perceptil sign with her hand to Heauchamp, who i an up the steps after her and accumpanted her into the house.

The Vienzae and I remained where we

were. I suppose we both knew that Bean-champ would be out again directly. And indeed the horses had hardly been led away to the stables before he emerged and made straight for us. "Monsieur de Vieuzac," said he, "you hinted just now that I w. a coward. May I ask whether that w. what you meant?"

meant?"

The Frenchman straights of his back, brought his back together, twirled his mustache, and replied: "You are at liberty, sir, to place any construction upon my words that may suit your pleasure."

"In good English, I suppose that means that you want to fight. If you had been an Englishman I should have hit you straight between the eyes, and it would have done you a lot of good; but as you're a foreigner, I'm afraid we can't settle it that way."
"The prefered," observed De Vienzac.

a foreigner, 1 in array we that way."

"The method," observed De Vienzac eweetly, "seems a little barbarona. For me, I confess that I have not learned to box, but with the sword or the pistol I shall be charmed to hold myself at your disposition. You do not, perhaps, use those weapons?"

"Oh, don't we, though!" returned Beauchamp, with a short laugh. "I shall be

"Oh, don't we, though!" returned Beath-champ, with a short laugh. "I shall be happy to prove the contrary to you when and where you please; citly, of course, it san't be in this country. If it's the same thing to you, I should prefer to stay out my time here; but next week I will meet you at Ostend or any other place you choose to name."

The Frenchman bowed. "It is usual,"

choose to name."

The Frenchman bowed. "It is usual," said he, "to leave all details to be arranged by the seconds in these affairs. Will you then be so kind as to mention two gentlemen whose names and addresses I may give to the friends whom I shall sake to represent me?"

Beauchamp rubbed the back of his head. "I don't want this talked about all over the place, you know," he said. "Maynard, you've heard it all; perhaps you'll be good enough to act for me, and find some other fellow who can hold his tongue. And look here, "he added, urning to De Vieuzac, "we had better pretend to be friends for the next few days. Don't you think so?"

"Sir," replied the Frenchman, magnificently, "I shall withdraw. I should be desolated to be the occasion of embarrassment, and I will leave for London to-morrow."

With that, he took off his hat, bowing low. Beauchamp stared, looked rather thelined to laugh, then nodded and turned back into the house. And so this sau-guinary encounter was agreed upon.

As a matter of theory, it has always seemed to me that the duello is, upon the seemed to me that the duello is, upon the whole, the best means that can be devised of wiping out a mortal affront or injury. Such being my sentiments, and Beauchamp, having been most unequivocally and grievously insuited by De Viewzac, I could not but appland the course taken by the former. However, it is one thing to approve of a given quarrel, in the abstract, and quite another to allow one's self to be mixed up in it; to see one's name mentioned and one's private charante mentioned and one's private charante mentioned and one's private charanter mentioned and one's private charanter in the second of the course of the second of the course of the cou approve of a given quarrer, in the acstract, and quite another to allow one's
self to be mixed up in it; to see one's
name mentioned and one's private character discussed in all the newspapers, and
even, perhaps, to be hauled before the authorities and cast into prison. Deep,
then, would have been my consternation,
when my young friend so coolly noninated me as his second, if I had thought
that there was any probability of my actually figuring in that capacity; and the
genial alacrity with which I accepted the
greatness throat upon me was, I allow,
due solely to the circumstance that I had
not the remotest intention of permitting a
hostile meeting to occur.

The line of conduct which I adopted
with a view to avert bloodshed was simple, and, as I flattered myself, likely to
prove effectual. I slipped away from the
dinner table that evening, a little before
the other men, and, hurrying into the
drawing room, seated myself beside Lady
Bracknell, who was recluing in an easy
chair apart, and was doubtless waiting
for one or other of her victius to join her.

"Allow me," said I (for I was resolved
not to spare her), "to congratulate you
upon your energy and determination. If
you could have been very nice. You
would have been an immensely rich woman at this moment, and probably nobody, except my unworthy self, would
have suspected you of being a murderess,
in addition to your other claims to notork
etc. But the wretched creature wouldn't
jump, and so you had to fall back upon
your original plan of inducing that Frenchman to challenge bitm and kill him. I am

jump, and so you need to fail back alpoin your original plan of inducing that French-man to challenge bun and kill him. I am sorry to disappoint you, but that plan of yours will have to be abandoned. You must try to cook Beauchamp's goose in what the cookery book calls 'another way.'"

way.

Hilda burst into scornful laughter.

"What in the world are you talking about?" she asked. "Have you lost your

"Not at all," I replied: "I retain pos-session of them and place a modest reli-Not at all, I replied. Thetan persession of them and place a modest reliance upon their evidence. But surely yours were not quite an acute as usual when you east yourself for the part of Lucrezia Borgia. Tragely, believe me, is not your forte, and as often as you attempt it you will break down. Fon't you see that if this rather dishifical plot of yours had succeeded, you would never have been able to show your face in an absolute a society again? Bo you really amagine that there would have been the slightest doubt in anybody's mind are who had instituted the duel between two men whom you have been openly endouvering to set by the cursever since your ferrival here? The best thing that you can do now is to get your fire eating Frenchman to make an apology, which you will instruct Beauchamp to accept."

Hilda's face was not ordinarily an ex-But sorrely

accept."

Hild's face was not ordinarily an expressive one; but as she turned it toward me now, there swept across it a look of such vindletive malice that I inwardly resuch vindletive makes that I inwardly re-canted my criticism upon her trastic capa-bilities. However, she soon authorized that passing enotion and laughed again. "I don't in the least understand you," she declared; "I know nothing of any duel, and how san I belp it it a couple of foolish young wish choose to quarrel! It appears to me that you have been drinking too much wine, and I should be much obliged if you would go away for the present."

"With pleasure," I replied, rising. "Do

you absolutely refuse, then, to be a peace-

you absolutely retuse, then, to be a peace-maker?"

"I refuse." she answered somewhat definantly, "to be diestried to by you. I don't believe what you say, and I shall not make myself reflections by trying to smooth down a quarred which most likely exists only in your imagination."

That was all that I obtained from her; but in truth I had not expected more; and in addressing such plain spoken remarks to her I had been actuated rather by enricistly as to how she would like them than by any bope that they would divert her from her purpose. The person whom I did hope to influence was De Vienzac. Him I waylaid an hour later, as he was entering the smoking room, and drew him away into the billiard room, which adjoined that apartmant, and which, fortunately, was unconstite.

"Monsieur de Vienzac," I began, "it is quite out of the question that you should light young Besnehamp, and I think you will admit as much when I have given you my reasons for saying so."

He interrupted me with snave courtesy, observing that the subject was no longer one which he could properly discuss. Any remarks which I night have to make must be addressed to his friends the Count de Something and the Marquis de Something else, who would not full to call upon me had be course.

else, who would not fall to call upon me

in due course.

I replied that it would be needless to give his friends that trouble. "Of course," I continued, "you will not pretend that the ostensible cause of your quarrel is the well one."

"The cause of quarrel," returned he, "is of perfect simplicity. I have used words which I decline to withdraw, and by which Mr. Beauchamp conceives himself to be wounded. And permit me once more, sir, to tell you that this conversation is most freegular.

fregular."
"I dare say it is," I rejoined, "but you
"I dare say it is," I rejoined. The

"I dare say it is," I rejoined, "but you had better listen to me all the same. The lady who is at the bottom of all this".

"Mr. Maymard, "interrupted De Vienzac, "it is impossible that I should listen to you. You scandalize me—positively you scandalize me! What! you speak of a lady!—you would perhaps in another moment go so far as to mention her by name! It is unheard of! I must beg of you, sir, to excuse me." And he made for the door.

"Very well," said I, "have it your own way, then, if you are determined to bring

"Very well," said I, "have it your own way, then, if you are determined to bring about an explosion. Since you insist upon it, your friends shall talk the affair over with me and with Lard Bracknell, who will be my coadjutor."

De Vieuzac paused upon the threshold and pulled his mustache. "Lord Bracknell!" he cjaculated. "Is that Mr. Beauchamp's choice, may I ask?"
"Oh, no; it is my choice. You heard him give me leave to select a colleague, and such is the selection that I propose to make."

This brought the Frenchman to his bearings. He returned slowly and consented, under protest, to hear me. "What is it that you have to say?" he inquired. "Why, simply this, I replied. "Mr. Beauchamp, as you are probably not aware, is the present holder of very large setates, which, in the event of his dying without issue, would pass to his cousin, Lord Bracknell. Consequently, if he were to die suidenly within a short time, a certain hady whose name we won't mention would be snatched from the brink of hankruptey and raised to a position of great wealth. Now, suppose that, by a misadventure which I am sure you would be the first to deplore, but which you might not be able to avert, you were to kill that young man. What do you think would be said of you and of the unuanced lady? Or suppose, without going so far as that, that you only wounded him. Is it not certain that everybody would declare that you had done your best to kill him? To me, at any rate, it is very evident that the insaid which you offered him to day was a mere pretext, and that you had deliberately made up your usind to fasten a quarrel upon him."

The Freechman's countenance, while I was speaking, exhibited various phases of emotion: but now he blazed forth with sudden fury and sprung at me like a wild cat. "Sir," he hissed out, "do you dare to accuse me of being an assassins."

"Certainly not," I replied, drawing back a few paces as a precautionary measure, "but I then! you are in assue danger of incurring that, accusation from others." Then, as he eyed me in a suspectious manner and appeared to be hesitating, I continued: "Allow me, as an insular barbarian, to speak the irrath to you without phrases. The fact is that you have been made a cat's paw of by the most thoroughly unserupations woman of my acquaintainee. I venture to think that it would be mare consistant with your honor and diguity to applogize to Beauchamp, whom you can't really believe to be a coward, than to fight him for the sake of Lady Bracknell, whom I have shall not allow our m

sanction such a meeting, even it he water, what I am convinced is not, as infam-ous a wretch as his f. e. " "Keep silence!" whispered De Vieuzac, hurriedly.

But his caution came too late. In my anxiety to bring conviction home to the hurriedly.

But his caution came too late. In my anxiety to bring conviction home to the mind of my interlocutor, I had not noticed the entrance of a third person, and how, when I look bround and saw Bracknell standing close to my chow, I percovived that the cut was out of the bag.

"You don't mince matters, Maynard," Bracknell observed. "After that very frank expression of opinion, I dare say you ston!t object to my asking what you are talking about."

"Our conversation was strictly confidential," broke in De Vicunze, with science agerness. "Neither Mr. Maynard nor I have the right to repeat it."

Bracknell glanced at him for a moment, as a big dog glances at a little one, and then turned to me again. "Conge," he said, "I am waiting to bear in what respect I am less infamous than my wife."

Pro ME CONVENCED.

Some of the English pumping engines perform work equaling the raising of 20,000,000 gallons one foot high by the consumption of 100 weight of coal.

A LOVE SONG

The bird in its nest at morn.
Looks out through the leafy space.
And sonds a weed little song
From its hidden place—
Only a note or two,
Only a faint "Cool Cool"
But some other little bird will hear
And soon draw near.

The whispering leaves repeat.
The story they off have heard,
For oh, there's nothing so awout.
As the song of the bird.
A love song, it is true,
Only a raint "Cool Cool"
But some one calls out a cosen.
"Swertheart, I am here!"

"Cool Cool" says one from the ness, A sky little warbler she: "Cool Cool" comes the answer back in a lower key. And then answ song is begun— Are these two birds or one? And with thrills and twittrings sweet. The low song they repeat. —Josephine Pollard in Godey's.

Not in His Line Exactly A man with an armful of hand bills went into Mr. Schoppenheim's restau-rant and asked permission to tack a hun-dred or so to the wall. "Vot yos dose?" asked Schoppenheim.

"Circulars advertising a railroad ex-

cursion." "You goes away off mit a week or den days and you goes sheaper as to stay home?" asked Schoppenheim.

"Unt you vants to hang dose cirgular

"That's it."

"Unit you vants to hang dose cirgulars mein restaurant in?"

"You've got it."

"Got vot?"

"The idea."

"Den mein gustomers would read dose cirgulars?

"Unt go avay den days or two veeks?"

"Yea."

"Unt go avay den days or two veeks?"

"Yea."

"Unt go avay den days or two veeks?"

"Yea."

"Unt don't eat dinners here vile dey vee avay?"

"Well, they could hardly do that, you know." said the hand bill man hesitatingly.

"Dot's vota I dinks meinself. Neim, I guess I von't have any of dose pills hung mein restaurant im. Good day, mein friendt." — Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

When a Dog Sarrenders.

It is evident that a man who will seriously understake to put himself en rapport with other animals can exchange communication with them at least as satisfactorily as he could with another man who was confined to an entirely different language. My dog, who has had no special training, understands some half dozen of my gestures, and himself uses the turning aside of the head to indicate dissent, accompanied often by a plain look of digust at being misunderstood, puts up a paw to deprecate punishment, turns on his back to express submission, sticks up lest tall—the warrior brandishes his weapoor or waves his flag: the dog has no weapon—by way of deflance, lowers it for shame or alarm.

That turning on the back, by the way, is well understood among dogs as a gesture of surrender. If two strange dogs meet on the street and one shows ight, if the other turns on his back he well mot, as a rule, be molested.—Cor, New York Times.

For Cancer and Skin Foisoning.

Cancerons growths are the most difficulty of the minutes of that what an election of that with the ekpiration of that which the ekpiration of that which the ekpiration of that when the care in the street of the street and one shows ight, if the other turns on his back in expression of the plant and the way in the care of the street and one shows ight to the street and one shows ight to the street and one shows ight to the should be preserve her conscious

New York Times.

For Cancer and Skin Poisoning.

Cancerous growths are the most difficult skin discusse to control. The knife in generally the only thing that will answer satisfactorily, but the drug called pyokitanin has been used with considerable success. As a local dressing on painful cancers that could not be removed by an operation it gives considerable relief, and in many instances has decreased the size of the growth. For poisonings of the skin various druge are used, but for ity poison there is none better than permanganate of potassium, which makes an excellent wash for the poisoned skin. In Russia it has been found of great value in frost bites, relieving the itching and burning sensition at once. For slight burns of the skin it is also of great use, but severe burns are not to be treated by it.—Yane kee Blade.

Cannibals and Shaved Heads.

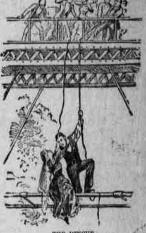
On the upper Conyo the matives give a great deal imagination and labor to the arrangement of their headderses. Some of them, however, like the Bangalia forp they head so losely shaved, except the life that it is also one of the same of their headderses. Some of them, however, like the Bangalia forp they head so losely shaved, except dor little tufts of hair on top and at the sides. On the middle Mobangi river the natives also shave their heads. This is natives also shave their heads are substituted in an any stery. She was taken to abuse the poisoning form the rest in the author of the same control of the same of the same

I knew any more respectable young men who would be likely to marry your five staters if properly coaxed.—Harper's

RESCUED BY A PREACHER

The Strange Accident and Stranger Good-Luck of an Old Lady.

A number of delegates to the Fan-Pres-byterian council, recently in sension at To-tonto, went on an excursion to Niagara-falls the other day, and one of the minis-ters had a chance to show his pluck and nerve. The international bridge is re-served for look and carriage traffic and affords an excellent view of the river and



THE RESCUE

sides. On the middle Mobangi river the natives also shave their heads. This is a very general custom among cannibal tribes. Not all cannibals on the Congo shave their heads, but it is certain that all tribes which follow this practice are cannibals.—New York Sun.

As Original Asswer.

A youth in one of the Sunday schools connected with one of the city missions, without meaning to be sacrilegious, but with visions of his own missioning that had received deserved punishment, to the question, "Why was our Saviour sent to this earth?"—answered, "To save sinners"—answered, "Oh! I suppose we sinners"—answered, "Oh! I suppose we street as bad they had to send him."—

New York Tribune.

*Welconsed by the Old Mass.

*Sue Desering—I am afraid paps was angry when you asked him for me, wasn't be, Jack, love?

Jack Hilow—Kot at all. He saked if Iknew any more respectable young mass.

Mrs. Gadds—That new minister ain't much on visiting, is he?

Mrs. Gadds—That new minister ain't much on visiting, to he?

Mrs. Gabb—No. I guess maybe his wife is a parry good cook herself.—New York Wenkly.