THREE ETON BOYS.

BY W. E. MORLIS.

This proposed borrowing of the enemy's transport in order to reach the hattlefield was a stroke of humor which I appreciated, but I could not, of course, sanction it. It was not, however, until I had assured my mother that she should only leave the house over my prostrate body that she yielded, with a very bad grace, saying: "So be it, then; but please to understand, Henry, that I see my duty plainly marged out for me, and that I shall not be detorred from doing it. You must bring this Mr. Heauchamp to call upon me."

must bring this Mr. Heauchamp to call upon me."
When my mother addresses me as "Heary," it means that she is in no mood to be trified with. Accordingly I walked up to Staines Court the next morning, asked for Beauchamp, told him what a pleasure it was to meet him again ta pleasure in which he did not appear to participate, and mentioned that my mother, who lived hard by, was most anxious to make his acquaintance. He was a polite young man, and, though evidently much surprised by this sudden development of friendliness on my part, he made no difficulty about returning home with me.

ome with me.

My mother received him in that bright My mother received him in that bright little upstairs sitting room where so much of her lift has been spent, and about which there always cliugs a faint, old fashioned smell of potpourri. She is a very beautiful, refined looking old lady, and it is my belief that she is perfectly aware of the fact. I noticed that she was wearing a little of the treasured Mechlin lace which belonged to her great grandmother, and as soon as she opened her lips I perceived that she had put on her very best manner, which, like the lace, is only assumed upon occasions of importance.

only assumed upon occasions of impor-tance.

She made ms place a chair for Bean-champ beside her sofa and smiled gra-siously upon him over the top of a large fan, which she swayed gently to and fro-while she spoke. "It is very good of you, sir," she began, "to visit a bed ridden old woman whose conversation can have few attractions for you. Indeed, I should not have ventured to put you to so much inconvenience, had I not had a special motive for doing so."

I suppose Heanchamp had never heard arything like this before in all his days.

He was quite unaccustomed to being

anything like this before in all his days. He was quite inactioned to begin and consecuted to, and it evidently flustered him.

"Oh, but you really, you know, Mrs. Maynard—tipon my word—delighted, I'm sure!" said be, with all the graceful eloquence of the age.

"You are so kind," resumed my mother survely, "as to say so, but I must not flatter myself that your presence here is due to any other came than to courtesy, which, as I have always understood, is national to you."

She went on in this strain for some lit-

She went on in this strain for some lit-She went on in this strain for some lif-time, gradually working up to her point, and anything funnier in its way than the contrast which she presented to her bewildered interfection? I have soldom with seed. At length she shot up her fan with a snap, exclaiming, more in sorrow than in anger.

"And can what I have be true Mr.

with a sing, exclaiming, more in sorrow than in anger:

"And can what I hear be true, Mr. Beauchamp? Can it be that you, a gentleman and a man of honor, are not only forcing your attentions upon a lady to whom they are distasteful, but that you have actually made her acceptance of your hand the ambject of a pecuniary hargain with her father?"

He assured her earnestly that it was not true; sike had been mininformed. Nothing would induce him to force his attentions upon anytedy who—who—in short, who didn't want them. "And as for a bargain, there never really was any bargain at all—at least, not in the way that you mean—there wasn't indeed! I'm sure I shall be only too happy to oblige you, Mrs. Maynurd, if you'll tell me what you wish me to do, and if you won't be—excuse me—quite so wfully polite about it."
Thus adjured, my mother consented to unbend and make her meaning plain. Without mentioning Jim's name, she gave it to be understood flust Lady Middred's affections were engaged; after which, she discreetly insimated that although, m.

if to be innerstood had bely surried a affections were engaged; after which, she discreetly insinuated that although, un-der such circumstances, Mr. Beauchamp must feel that it would be out of the question to take advantage of her filial submissiveness, yet, in some ways, too altright a withdrawal on his part was to be degreented.

abropt a withdrawal on his part was to be deprecated.

"Lord Staines," said size, "is an old man and in broken health. From what the doctor tells me, I fear that he may not be with us much longer, and we should all wish to spare him, I possible, the shock of a sudden disappointneant."

"I see," broke to Beauchamp, with a knowing nod. "After what you've told me, I wouldn't fer the world marry poor little Mildred. In fact, to tell the truth, I never was very keen about it. And we'll manage to humbug the old boy as long as he lives."

My mother drew herself up and looked severe. "You surprise me, Mr. Beauchamp," she said. "Surely you do not suppose that I am advising a course of deception!"

Here I judged 2 opportune to put in my.

deception!"

Here I judged if opportune to put in my our. "Nobody," quota f, troth the background, "could suppose anything so unwarrantable. You will not be called upon to use deception, iny dear Beauchising, only a little diplomacy, a little tack."

only a little diplomacy, a little tact."

"Harry," sald my mother, "I am quite ashamed of being so troublesome, but would you mind going down stairs and seeing whether by kniffing is in the library. If it is not there it may perhaps be on one of the chairs in the drawing room. Or possibly it tally have become-entangled in Sarah's aktric, as it sometimes does, and been swipt down into the kitchen. At any rate, I feel sure that it must be somewhere."

If there is one thing for which I am more remarkable than for my humflity I suppose it is my obstience. I was absent for exactly five and twenty minutes, and when I grame back to say that the knifting—was nowhere to be found. I was not at all surprised to find my mother tranquilly occupied with it, nor was there any need to inform me—that the two complicators

and arrived at a perfect mutual under-

abding.
Upon the morality of the compact thi
atered late I made no comment at the

con use morality of the compact thus entered late I made no comment at the time, and forlear from making any now; but I will say for my pother that she had the grace to feel thoroughly—shamed of herself, as was shown by the hortness of her manner during the rest—the day and by the vindictive determination with which, she insisted upon reading a is ag eermon to me and the servants that evening after prayer, although it was the middle of the week.

CHAPTER XVII.

CHAPTER XVII.

If I were asked to mention the man of my acquaintance whom I consider the least fitted, by nature and by habit, to impose upon a child of average acuteness, I should unhesitatingly same Jim Leigh. Yet such is the power of love, and so prone are the best of us to listen to cassistical arguments, that he embarked upon the career of duplicity suggested to him by his friends with a readiness, not to say a zest, of which he aught certainly to have been incapable. That he and Lady Mildred and Beauchamp were actuated by the best of good motives in behaving as they did I don't deny, but, as a more or less impartial looker on, I felt my sympathies veering round, while I watched them, to the side of the unsuspecting old man who was so completely taken in by their manicurers. Lord Stalnes, I believe, looked upon his daughter's engagement as being to all intents and purposes an accomplished fact. He saw that she walked or rode every day with her supposed lover; he did not know that as soon as they were out of sight of the house they were joined by Jim, and that Beauchamp then prompsy hurried away to smoke a cigar with me, thereby interfering considerably with my daily labors. He seemed to be satisfied that all would now go well; but in truth the apathy which had fallen upon him after his grandson's death was hardly to be stirred by any event, great or small.

One event, for which be, and indeed all

spon him after his granuson's death was hardly to be stirred by any event, great or small.

One event, for which he, and indeed all London, must have been fully prepared, took place at this time and created no little excitement in the neighborhood; for we do not study the "society" journals much in our parts, nor does the gossip of the clubs reach us. I say that the financial collapse of the Bracknell establishment can have surprised no one who had lived in or mear the fashionable world during the foregoing year or so; yet, if her statement was to be believed, it fell with all the cruelty of an imexpected blow upon the person who, one would have thought, should have been best aware of its imminence. Late one evening, Hilda, bringing with her a stupendous pile of baggage, arrived at Staines Court to east herself, somewhat dramatically, upon the protection of the bead of the house. I happened to be dining there and witnessed her entry upon the scene, which was of a nature to melt the hardest heart. In a voice broken by emotion she told her lamentable tale. She had—so she assured us—no longer a husband, for to Bracknell's wherealouts sine was unable to obtain any clew. On her return to even she had no longer a husband; for to Bracknell's whereabouts she was unable to obtain any clew. On her return to Wilton place, after paying a round of visits, she had found the minions of the law in possession, and her personal prop-erty seized. "They have taken every-hing-everything!" she cried. "Even my Rible and Prayer Book are in their hands!"

my rates and Prayer Book are in their hands?"

At this an unfeeling member of her small audience had the bad manners to laugh; but she treated this inserruption with the contempt that if deserved, and went on to enlarge upon the pitiable pight in which she found herself. She had nothing left but the ciothes she stood up in—those and a few others which she had taken with her to the country. Not a word of warning, not a single direction or suggestion had been vouchasfed to her. After being neglected for years, she was finally abandoned. "And now," she concluded in a tragic tone, "what am I to do?"

concluded, in a tragic tone, "what am I to do?"
"I should think," answered Lord Staines, rather peevishly, "that you had better go and wash your hands and face, and then have some dinner." The advice was more practical than sympathetic, but such as it was she acted upon it. She may have had some fear that her father in-law would recommend her to go straight to the rectory (which was certainly what I should have done in his place), and no doubt she preferred remaining where she was to seeking that refuge.

refuge.

Staines Court is a large house, but one Stainss Court is a large nouse, one one of its temperary immales decided without delay that it was not large enough to contain him and Lady Bracksell at the same time. "I shall be off the first thing tomorrow morning," Beauchamp informed me in confidence after he had beat a precipitate retreat from the drawing room, taking me with him. "Called away on urgent business don't you know. That woman has bress senough for anything, but I'll be hanged if I can trust myself to seem to be the first myself to seem to be the contract of t

hat I'll be hanged if I can trust myself to speak to her."

Beauchamp, who, as I have already mentioned, had latterly favored me with a good deal of his company, had, in the course of our conversations, taken occa-sion to express his opinion of Laty Prack-nell in the most unsupervised terms. There is no iconoclust so rathless as an ex-devoter; and indeed, it must be very un-plement to discover that a womm whom you have been disposed to worship has not only made a fool of you, but done her best to roly and nurder you into the bar-gain.

So Beauchamp took wing; and whether Lady Bracknell was annoyed or relieved by his light I campot venture to say. She was in some respects so sharp and in others so dolly inschalled that, for aught I know, ahe may still have flattered herself that she might be able to lure him back into her net. Be that as it may, it was hardly to be expected that her lady-ship's humor should be of the best at such a time, and from the lastform when a minutility which she displayed toward Lady Midred, I felt pretty sure that her heart was full of cursing and bitterness. Also, although upon the whole she was civil group to me, she favored me with a look every now and then, which I understood to mean, "Wait a little longer, my friend. I haven't for So Beauchamp took wing; and whether

gotten your fussy interference with my schemes, and I mean to be even with you

schemes, and I mean to be even with you yet."

Now, so far as I myself was concerned, I accepted these silent and smiling threats with a good deal of equantimity, for I really did not see how it was in her power to do me any harms but of course it was open to her to indict vicarious trouble upon me, while at the same time serving Lady Mildred, whom she hated, an ill turn, and the stone which she ultimately picked up, wherewith to slay this brace of birds, was one which lay, so to speak, at her feet. It would have been very unlike her to overlook it; nor was I at all surprised when Jim sought me one day, and informed me, with a very long face, that his machinations had been denounced to Lord Staines.

"It was Lady Brucknell's doing," he said. "It seems that she would not begin to see him hoodwinked, that she felt it her duty to open his eyes—and all that—and she opened his eyes. But J don't think," adiled Jim pensively, Jooking down at the ground and their glanding quickly up at me for a moment—"I don't think that her sense of duty had much to say to the matter."

"I will venture," I remarked, "to go along with you as far as that I don't think her sense of duty had much to say to the matter."

"On." answered Jim, with a slight shrug of his shoulders, "the result of the house. I couldn't expect anything else, could IP What annoys we is to think that that I have been turned out of the house. I couldn't expect anything else, could IP What annoys we is to think that that that annoys we is to think that that the stane of the Norse. Now, so far as I myself was concerned,

shrug of his shoulders, "the result has been that I have been turned out of the house. I couldn't expect anything else, could I? What annoys me is to think that I have deserved it. Lord Staines really behaved uncommonly well. He sent for me at enge and told me that I had been accused by Lady Bracknell of systematically decelving both him and Beauchamp. He sain he thought I ought to know what she asserted, though he himself didn't believe her, and was sure that neither Mildred nor I would take advantage of Beauchamp's absence in the way she described. Well, of course, she hadn't got it quite right, still, when he put it in that way, I had to tell him the truth. I never foit he small in my life, and I couldn't get him to understand why Beauchamp should have assumed a false character. The end of it was that he sent for Mildred. It was very hard upon her, poor dear; but she came out of it splendidly. I must say that Mildred is "—

"Oh, yes; I know—an angel," I interrupted, rather rudely. "I don't doubt it; only, if I were in your place, I think I should prefer her being a woman. Filial affection is all very line, but it seems to me that, having made up her mind to marry you, she ought to say so."

"But, my dear fellow, that's exactly what she did," returned Jim. "There

me that, having made up her mind to marry you, she ought to say so."

"But, my dear fellow, that's exactly what she did," returned Jim. "There was no persuading poor old Staines that Beauchamp wasn't in earnest, and be wanted her to promise that she would give me up. That she refused to do, so then he said he was very sorry, but that, under the circumstances, he must forbid me his house. I couldn't complain of that. I said I was very sorry, too, which was true enough. I shouldn't have minded so much if he had flown into a rage; but he was quite quiet all the time, and I'm afraid he was a good deal hurt, poor old chap! Mildred says he is getting flogely about Bracknell too. They haven't a word from him, mid the lawyers wrote the other day to say that he had put his affairs into their han is, and that he spoke of leaving England. I won-ter where he is and what he is going to do".

Hardly were the words out of his mouth

is going to do."

Hardly were the words out of his mouth when the door of my study, where wa were sitting was flung open, and in walked Bracknell himself. He married

were sitting was flung open, and in waited Bracknell hitself. He marched straight up to Jim, laid a hand on each of his shoulders, and said: "Well, you dear, solenn eld Jim, so you're going to have your own way at last, are you! About time, too. I saw Beauchamp in town, yesterday, and le told me that it was all right between you and Midred. I'm heartily ghad of it."

It was the voice of the Bracknell of our school days that spoke, and indeed when I looked at him it seemed to me that his eyes, too, had recovered something of their old boytah light. "Give me a cigar, Mayman! "said he scatting himself astride upon a chair," and we'll have a folly hour together, we three; it's quite on the cards that we may never spend another hour together; for I'm off to the Soudan to fight those black begans, who seem able to give a pretty good account of themselves. We haven't always been quite as good friends as we once were, but that has been my fault, and as I'm going away now, perhaps you'll forgive and forget, eh. Jim!"

Jim silently stretched out his big brown hand, which the other took; and Then!

Jim!"

Jim silently stretched out his big brown hand, which the other took; and finen I produced my best eights and rang for brands and soda. But Bracknell declined that refreshment.

that refreshment.

"No drink, thanks," said he, with a laugh. "I've given up drink and sards and exerciting else that ought to be given up, and I'm geing to be a good boy for the future."

He was to good

and everything else that ought to be given up, and I'm going to be a good boy for the future."

He was in wonderfully high spirits. He told us how he had discharged all his debts of honor rehich may have had something to do with his inability to discharge the others); how, by working his interest in high quarters, he had managed to got appointed to some queer corps—whether it was the mounted infantry or the discharge the was a continued to a subject of the former and his best in the had been forbidden to show himself at Staines Court, without specifying the viagin of this decree of bandament.

"Oh, that il be all right." Bracknell said airily; "the governor will some round if you give luin time. Now that the pan has goose through Beautenamp's mane, there's authing but you in the race that I can see"

Pro BE CONTENUED.

sumed Beniveda, Governor of the Morocco, is persecuting the Jews s piace in a most barbarous mancity of M

CUNNING CREATURES.

RHETLAND PONIES ARE RAISED IN THIS COUNTRY TO SOME EXTENT.

Captain Turner's Bunch of Lilliputian Horses at Marietta, Mo., Is a Curios Ity-Interesting Facts About the Little Fellows and Their Home.

Fellows and Their Home.

St. Louis county lays claim to the only head of Shetland ponies in this part of the rountry. The owner of the herd is Captain Thomes T Turner, and the Lilliputian horses are a familiar sight to the many St. Louisans who have visited the Turner homestead at Marietta, near Normandy. The breeding of the Shetland pony in the United States has been brought about only within recent years, and, though it pays well, the breeders are not numerous, and a collection of the animals anywhere outside a circus is still a enricaity. Mares are very scarce, and buyers from the United States come in competition with the eager search of horsemen from Scotland, Germany, South America and even Australia.

The entire annual pony preduct of the Shetland islands is estimated at about 400 head, and this scarcely supplies the de-

The entire annual pony product of the Shetland islands is estimated at about 600 head, and this marcely supplies the demand. However, the business in the United States has assumed such proportions as justify an association of breeders, and Captain Turner is on the list of local vice presidents of the American Shetland Pony club.

The ponies at Marietta live in cloverfiguratively. That is, they live on blue grass, and blue grass is to the stomach of the shagegy Shetlander what lark's tongues were to Lucullus. On his native heathunless he happens to be on terms of ancestral equality with the Marquis of Londonderry's Intert—the Shetlander has a hard time of it. Like his hardy broncho cousin of the American prairies, he must "rustle" in winter, and under greater disadvantages. The barren Shetland islands afford scant sustenance, and when snow covers the beather on the hillsides the native pony will not turn up his nose at seawest!

The Marietta herd was started in 1875.

The Marietta herd was started in 1875, when Captain Turner paid more attention to farming than he does now. In that year his first importation—ten mares and a stallton—were obtained through a Canadian, and later he purchassed twenty-three more on board ship at New York. The stallton that accompanied this second draft of mares was from Lord Londonderry's laiand herd and cost \$100. Though 5 years of age and full grown, he measured but thirty-four inches. About two years ago Captain Turner, having less time than formerly to devote to the raising of blooded live stock, put up at anction on the St. Louis market forty-two head of Shetland ponies. The Marietta herd was started in 1875.

This sale attracted many people This sale attracted many people who were on the lookout for bargains, and who expected to get at auction for about twenty-five dollars each ponies that had either commanded several times that sum or were not for sale at all. These bargain hunters were disappointed, and the owner himself was much surprised at the result. Buyers had come from a distance, and the average price paid for each pour under the suctioneer's hammer was \$307.50. One spotted mare named Queenette fetched \$607, and the cheapest of the lot was a bless abelianced out that sold for \$60.

Queenette fetched \$607, and the cheapest of the los was a bisculance out that sold for \$60.

There are now about thirty ponies roaming the wooded lawn at Marietta. The farm of some \$70 acres is all pasture land, but the Shetlands stamping ground is chiefly the seventy acres of shaded grass surrounding the house. No lawn mower or sythe is required to keep this lawn in order. The ponies attend to that. They ent close to the ground, much in the manner of sheep, and their constant nibbling keeps the grass well trimmed. Concerning their care there is not much to relate. Practically they take care of themselves. In summer their only food is the bline grass. In winter they are allowed some hay, which they munch at the stocks on a hill that overlooks the Massissippi and Masouri rivers, and is the highest point in St. Louis county.

Under these conditions the Shetland pony yields his owner a reasonable broome without any especial outlay beyond the original investment. These ponies are not afflicted with the diseases that make sheep raising a unisance, nor do they, like sheep, fall a prey to savage dogs. The mare rarely fail to foot, and their offspring when yearlings and of sverage merit are worth from \$75 to \$100, while the spotted mares and horses command twice these prices.

The ponies in Captain Turner's herd,

The ponies in Captain Turner's herd, though of fine extraction, are not conventhough of fine extraction are not conven-tional in appearance. Their manes and tails are not of that producious growth which one sees pictured in the circus post-ers, but when groomed and in working condition for saidle and harness their as-pest undergross a change. Bounded up for the inspection of visitors, they are interest-ing in variety of color and size. Conspicu-ciant to the interest of the land.

head, will no doubt cheapen the precious pet. As yet his rearing in atill looked upon by some men of means as a profitable pastine. McKee Rankin, the actor, has a herd on an island in New York, state, and Stilson Hutchins, the editor, is stocking an island in one of the great lakes.—51. Louis Republic.

No Novelty for Him.

Priend-Doctor, the you ever fight a duel!
Doctor—A duel? No, indeed / What nonsky would it be for me to kill a mant—Texas
liftings.

TO THE IONIC PRIESTESS

Ah, priesters of an unknown shrine, By what sail process Hast thou in some long bygone time Lost thy probescis?

Was there beneath that grave, sweet h A mouth for klasing? Alas! we cannot know, for now Thy lips are missing.

And yet a subtle, nameless grace
Around thee lingers:
As there thoustand'st with tranquil face
Sans nose, lips, lingers.

The outline of thy matchiess form, Thy grace revealing. Thy flowing draperies adorn Without concealing. Ah, could be look upon thy fate
Whose hand once wrought these
And see to what a sad estate
The years have brought these

For him would live again that hour Of inspiration. When burned his sout with newborn power

For thy creation:

And he would see thee now as then In thy perfection: Time's accident could not again Mar recollection.—Hritish Museum.

The Use of Cream

Very few housekeepers can realize the Very few housekeepers can realize the nutritive value of cream, and understand its superiority to any other solid fats in permitting the gastric juice to mix with it in the most perfect manner, and in this way aiding and hastening digestion. It is invaluable in the case of invalids, for itserves as nutriment in a very available form. It is superior to butter because it contains more volatile oil than butter made from it. It is frequently ordered by physicians for peron than outer made from the first requestly ordered by physicians for persons consumptively inclined, for those with feeble digestions, for aged persons, and for those who suffer from impaired circulation, cold feet, and who feel chilly

circulation, cold feet, and who feet chilly from want of nutriment.

No other article of food gives such satisfactory results. It is, however, expensive in large cities, and difficult to get fresh and sweet. On a farm, however, it can be had in its sweetness, and it can be freely used. Whipped, it can be served in dozens of ways, with fresh to stowed fruits as an accommendment. or stewed fruits, as an accompaniment to cake, puddings, and the like, while cream can be drunk nearly as freely as milk. For use in whipping it should be thick and sweet, while for drinking it can be used after the milk has stood, at the most, but a few hours over night.

Jenness Miller's Magazine.

An Unexpected "Water Scene," The Installment Heights Amateur Dramatic society recently introduced a striking bit of realism into their skill-ful rendition of "Engaged and Jilted." It will be remembered that when the become faibts and falls gracefully upon

nerome tames and this gracerally upon the stage the awkward comic servant is required to seize a large pitcher from a small table standing near R. 3 E, and boildly invert it over the prostrate lady, exclaiming as she does so: "Oh, heav-ens! There's not a drop av wather in the place?"

This is a highly humorous effect in its This is a highly humorous effect in its way, but its side splitting features were greatly intensified the other evening when, through some oversight, the pitcher was half full of water when it was placed on the table.

The proper cue was given. The comic servant grabbed the pitcher and fairly delived the purchase the beginning. She

delayed the unexpectant heroine. She sputtered and gasped for breath, and waved her arms wildly in the air, and utterly forgot to wair for the hero's ar-rival before recovering from her "faint." "Geewillisy! Kin she swim?" called

out a small boy in the gallery, and then the appliance was stuply deafening.— London Tit-Bits.

Great Britain's Slaves.

The English people have always had a great deal to say about their aversion to slavery, but no worse system ever ex-isted in the world than that which pre-vails in some of the British colonies where cooly labor is employed. The coolies are indentured in India or China cooles are indentared in India or China — that is, they are practically sold to the agent, who seils them again to planters. For a term of years, usually ten, they become the slaves of the planters; for petry offenses they are fined until they become hopelessly indebted to their owners; they are not allowed to leave the plantation without a pass, or if they do they are liable to arrest as runaways. During the last few years parliamentary During the last few years parliament investigations have greatly reduced the hardships of the unfortunate Hindoos, most of whom were drawn away from their native land by misrepresentations, but much still remains to be done; especially in the mines of South Africa. fore the stigma of slavery can be erased from the British empire.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Curtosities About Languages

Almost a third of the total population of the globe—a round 490,000,000 human beings—speak nothing but the Chinese and allied lauguages. One hundred mil-lion more speak Hindoo only, and 95, 000,000 speak English. The Russian lauguage is fourth on the list, being the mother tongue of 89,000,000 people. The German is a good fifth and is used by 57,000,000 tongues, France coming sixth on the list in which it was once first. Spanish is used by 48,000,000 people in Europe and the three Americas, Louis Republic.

The father of Zwingli, the great, Swiss reformer, was a poor peasant, and the carliest occupation of the future theologian was the gathering of sticks in the forest for the family fuel.