A DIPLOMATIC HASH

Lady Whichels was thinking. A let ter lay in her lap, and her correspond ent was her son-not the baronet, bu his brother Bertle- who had written to say that he meant to run down to see her the same afternoon.

She knew what he was coming fo perfectly well. Rumors of his infatua tion had already reached her. He was coming to tell her that he was engaged to marry Miss Daisy Dornton, who saug for a couple of weeks in the cho rus of the Coronet theatre. Lady Whi chels groaned, and her lips were pursed in annoyance.

Your brother is an idiot, Philip." she said sharply to a young man who entered the room a moment later, "He is the worst kind of an idiot-for he is not only idiotic, but he is pig

Sir Philip Whichels twirled his mous tache and grinned.

"Has the climax arrived?" he asked

"What is the matter?" "Bertle will be with us today. He wants to see me on 'a matter of im portance.' The matter is, of course that he has proposed to that creature and has been accepted, and now he is coming to try and win my consent,"

"Well," said the baronet, "and shall you give it? They say she is a very ladylike girl, thoroughly respectable lives with her mother, and that sort of thing. Her father, I think, kept s large drapery shop in Bermondsey Bertle might easily have done worse not being overburdened with brains,"

"You need not joke," said the mother; "it is not a joking matter Have you ever seen the girl?"

"I suppose I have seen her on the stage, but her name does not figure or the program, and I can't identify her She is simply one of a crowd of damsels who troop on and off in a pose, 1 have never seen her outside the then tre, if that is what you mean."

"That is what I did mean, So her father was a linen draper, and Bertie wishes to make her his wife. Really this is horrible! It only remains for you to fall in love with a barmaid Philip, to complete my happiness," "Oh, I?" said Philip. "I'm not a

marrying man, mether." "Advise me, Philip, how to bring this

ninny to his senses,"

"I'm sure I don't know what you can do," replied Sir Philip. "If you bully him he'll marry her tomorrow. It you cajole him, he'll try to bully you I don't see what you can do, upon my soul. It is a cul-de-sac."

The lady, however, was not disposed to be beaten so easily. It was ton o'clock, and Bertle might be expected at the Firs by the express which reached Three-gates at four-fifteen She had six hours for meditation, ir which time an idea might occur to her The post lay on the table beside her, unheeded, as she sat glaring at the lawn with puckered brows. The baro net lounged out to see his dogs. Presently my lady uttered an exclamation. and sent a servant to fetch him,

"Philip," she said, "I have a notice at last. Miss Dornton is, of course, impossible. There can be no question about that. It is only necessary to make Bertle see it."

Philip had been amusing himself out side, and did not relish having been brought in so summarily, marked shortly:

"To make Bertle see it is the original difficulty, is it not?"

"I know that!" impatiently; "but I know also how to do it now. She is, of course, awkward and ignorant as she can be. He has seen her with the glamour of the footlights on her, and in the poky lodgings where she lives. Now we shall see her here, I shall invite her down to stay with us, and ask a lot of people to meet her. Bertie is not brilliant, but he is as sensitive as a girl. When Miss Dornton has committed half a dozen solccisms, and he feels that people are ridiculing her, he will be as anxious to break this engagement as I am."

"By Jove!" said Sir Philip, "You ought to have been a diplomatist,

"It is good, isn't it?" said Lady Whichels, complacently. "I felt that there must be a way out, and now I've found it. I think your brother will be rather astonished by my reception of his news this afternoon.

So, the vexed question being settled, mother and son went to luncheon.

Bertie arrived at the hour expected, He certainly was astonished at his mother's demeanor. He had looked for remonstrances, threats and tears, and been doggedly prepared for all Instead of these he was met with smiles and cordiality. He could not understand !t.

"I had heard something of the mat-ter," said the mother. "Well, it is a democratic age, and if you are satisfled nobody has a right to complain. Her father was a linen draper, I hear, and her mother is quite a respectable person, who lives in, or lets, lodgings,"

"Er-they live in apartments, yes," said Bertie, "But-er-she is charming. I am sure you can trust my

"Emphatically I can, and I am not going to be so absurd as to raise any objections, my dear boy. You want to marry Miss Dornton-marry her, You have my full and free consent, and I should like to be introduced to her. When am I to see her?"

"I-I really don't know," stammered the boy; "whenever you like."

The question was so entirely unexpected that he was almost speechless, "Well, the best way would be to ask her down here for two or three weeks.

Can she come, do you think?" "It could be arranged oh, yes, She is at the theatre every night, but I want her to leave the stage, and-oh, yes, she could come as soon as you

"Then I will write and ask her fo the first of next month," said my lady conclusively. "And now you must tel me all about it-how nice she is, hov pretty, and nobody ever loved a girl s madly betfore in all the world."

Lady Whichels dispatched he charming letter to her prospective daughter-in-law on the morrow, and or the day after came the answer, thank ing Bertie's mother for her kindness and gladly accepting the invitation.

The company, sipping tea and nib bling cakes, struggled to hide their cu riosity and impatience. Then there was the sound of an arrival, and the guests fixed their eager eyes on the door. As it opened Miss Dornton came in and advanced to be presented to the

Lady Whichels started, and the bar onet's eyebrows went up. Nothing could have been in better taste that the manner of the girl who crossed the big room under an ordeal which migh have shaken the composure of a society belle of half a dozen seasons. Her cos tume was perfect, and her words were all that the most fastidious could have desired. She was not pretty, but bear tiful, the most beautiful girl present The fact could not be disguised; it Miss Dornton's first appearance was to be taken as typical of her, Lady Whi chel's plot had failed. That night when she sat in her dressing room be fore the fire talking to her favorite son the mother came nearer crying that she had done for years.

"She isn't vulgar at all, Philip," she moaned disconsolately; "she is prepos sessing and really good style. Where does she get it from-the daughter of a linen draper? It is awful! They im itate our clothes, these people, and our very phrases; and now they even man age to acquire our style. Nothing is left us-nothing!"

"She is a very charming girl," said the baronet; "that is the truth. What on earth she saw in Bertie beats me!"

For ten days Bertle had been feeling less sure of himself than he had done Opposition was the breath of life to him, and, with the course of true love running perfectly smooth, he began to ask himself whether it were true love after all.

In the meantime the baronet's first impression of his brother's flancée had been more than confirmed, and, fickle on the young lady's part as it may look, she appeared to find more pleas ure in Philip's society than in Bertie's

Well, one night when the brothers were alone together in the smoking room, the younger man unbosomed himself. He told the baronet that his engagement had been a mistake, and he wished to goodness that he had never blundered into it. Sir Philip who had been mixing himself a whis key and soda, dropped the glass, which shivered into fifty pieces in the Abbots ford stove. As a man not given to dropping things, the accident was note worthy, and suggested that his nerves were not properly under control.

"You have treated the girl damned badly!" he said, sharply. "You think that I ought to marry

"I think that you oughtn't to have asked her if you weren't sure of your-

self. What are you going to do?" "I am going to jilt her," said Bertie, sulkily. "That's what I am going to do-and I don't fancy it will break her heart, either. I don't believe she likes me as much as she did, Philip."

"A good thing for her, if she doesn't!" opined the other.

It was on the morning of the next day but one that Sir Philip, who had spent the previous afternoon in London, disturbed his mother's repose in the fashion alluded to. He told her that he was going to be married. Lady Whichels wrapped in a dressing gown listened to him with ashen cheeks.

"To Miss Dornton, mother. Bertie has jilted her, and I proposed yesterday. I don't suppose you'll be pleased, but she is the nicest girl I ever met in my life, and I mean to make her 'Lady Whichels,"

"Bertle has filted her!" gasped the widow. "And you-you-"

"Yes, even I! Last month I scoffed; today-I fall. Perhaps it is a judgment on me. Perhaps it is a judgment on you for plotting her downfall as you did. I certainly should not have had the opportunity of falling in love with her if you hadn't. Anyhow, I worship the ground she walks on, and we are

And, what is more, he married hera fact from which an interesting moral may be drawn by ladies who fancy they have abilities for diplomacy. The deposed dowager never forgave him nor herself, and when she reflects that it was all entirely due to her own brilliant interference, she feels there are certain emotions which language is wholly inadequate to convey,

Noteworthy Advice.

"Pay as you go, William," said the grocery man to his assistant, "It's a good motto." "Yes, sir."

"And, by-the-way, you needn't both er so much about Mr. Jaykins. He always pays cash, and when he takes anything he knows he can't get his money back, But be very careful about Mr. Fnykins. See that he gets the best of everything. He owes us \$27."-Washington Star.

Plants Near the Sea.

Plants that grow near the sea have thicker leaves than those growing inland. Apparently the sea salt is the cause of this phenomenon, as plants cultivated in artificially-saited soil yield thicker leaves.

An Appreciative Malden. "Belinda, how do you treat a stupid

man who admfres you?" "Really, I don't know; when a man admires me I never do myself the injustice to consider him stupid."-Chicago Record.

QUAINT MRS. YANG.

THE WIFE OF THE CHINESE MIN ISTER AT WASHINGTON.

Unlike other Representative's Wives from China She Accompanies Her Husband to Official Functions, Also Attends In formal Gatherings.

No woman in Washington attracts more attention than or appeals so much to the curiosity of the ordinary observer as Madame Yang, the wife of the Chinese minister. With her quaint appearance and native dress she suggests a civilization as widely different from our own as it is possible to imagine. She is a bit of Oriental col oring and personality amidst our mod ern lights and shades,

When the present Envoy Extraordin ary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Mr Yang Yu, first came to this country it was said that he had more advanced ideas upon the political and social questions of the day than any of his prede cessors. Mr. Yang is as progressive in his ideas as Li Hung-Chang, whom General Grant called "the Bismarck of China," and the late Chinese minister to London, the Marquis Tseng. Following the precedent of the last-mentioned official, Mr. Yang has introduced a number of innovations which were unknown at the legation before his coming.

His family were the first to occupy the new and imposing house leased by the Chinese government out on Columbia Heights, over which the long yellow flag of China, with the black dragon, floats.

The social gayeties of the Washington season were at their height when the new minister and his family were first installed as residents. The first appearance in public of the new representative from China was at a state dinner given to the diplomatic corps at the White House early in January 1893. On the occasion a brilliant assemblage of foreigners had gathered in the East Room, where dinner guests are received by the President and the first lasly of the land.

When the Chinese minister was announced he entered the room not alone, as had been the invariable custom of his predecessors, but accompanied by his wife, who was announced as "Mrs. Yang." The demure little woman, who followed her husband after the subservient fashon of her countrywoman, stood abashed in the presence of so many strangers, until she was reassured by the cordial and kindly greeting of Mrs. Cleveland, who advanced to meet her. This was the first time in all our diplomatic relations with China that the wife of a minister from that country had appeared with him at an official entertainment at the White House, but Madam Yang is entitled by virtue of her rank to accompany her husband upon occasions of this kind.

Since the residence of the family in Washington, Madame Yang has been seen very frequently at official functions; and not only at these, for many of the residents of the city have invited her as guest to more informal gatherings.

Notwithstanding the fact that the minister and his family have become more or less known here, there is still a very decided code of etiquette maintained at the legation, and those who call there must do so by previous appointment. These appointments are made through one of the secretaries, Mr. Sze or Mr. Chung. Both of these attaches are exceedingly well educated, and very proficient in the use of our language. Their replies to notes of request are remarkably correct, as well written and expressed as though the writers were of native birth. Their stationery, of heavy linen paper, is stamped at the top, in red embossed

> CHINESE LEGATION WASHINGTON.

Even the most casual visit to the le gation is always invested with a great degree of ceremony. The interpreter enters the room first. There are several attaches who act in this capacity. They are bright and well educated young men, as different from the ordinary laboring-classes by which Americaus are apt to judge the Chinese as possible.

The governing and better classes of the Chinese are descendants of the Manchu Tartars. The Emperor is a Manchu, and belongs to the Tartar dynasty, which, with its soldiers, took possession of the country two three centuries ago. family of the minister are from the best and most intelligent of the people of North China. They are bright and spontaneous, and revere knowledge. The entire family, Madame Yang and her children included, are studying our language. One or two of the officials attend the high school in their district, and take private instruction besides.-Harper's Bazar.

War Getting Out of Date. "It won't be long," said the thoughtful man, "before all possibility of war among civilized nations will vanish forever.

"I quite agree with you," returned warmly. "We have unquestionably done noble work." "You!" exclaimed the thoughtful

man. "What have you done?" "Not very much personally, perhaps, but as a member of the peace-commis-

"Peace commission nothing," interrupted the thoughtful man. "The thing that is going to end all war is the fact that they have reached that point in the construction of mammoth cannon where a new national debt is created every time one is discharged."-Chica-

Fainting Spells and Dizziness Follow La Grippe.

WE HEAR LESS ABOUT THIS DISEASE THAN FOR-MERLY, BUT IT IS STILL VERY PREVALENT.

From the New Era, Greensburg, Ind.

A noteworthy instance of the fallibility of even the most skillful physicians h furnished in the case of Mrs. J. E. Smith, of Greensburg, Ind.

For four years Mrs. Smith was afflicted with a nervous affection that finally left her almost completely helpless and which the physician who first aftended her said positively could not be cured. Subsequently, a number of physicians in this and other cities, declared her case to be hopeless.

To-day in spite of the verdict of the doctors, and without their aid, Mrs. Smith is perfectly well. To a New Era reporter she told the story of her extraordinary recovery.

"Five years ago I liad a severe attack of la grippe, followed later by another. During the four years following, my health continued to decline, until finally I was hardly able to move.

"After having the grippe," said Mrs. Smith, I was able to be about for awhile, and to do some work. But in a short time after the second attack, I began to experience nervousness, and often had fainting spells, my trouble being similar to hystories. I gradually grew worse, and in a short time after the second attack, I began to experience nervousness, and often had fainting spells, my trouble being similar to hystories. I gradually grew worse, and in a short time after the second attack, I began to experience nervousness, and often had fainting spells, my trouble being similar to hystories. I gradually grew worse, and in a short time after the second attack, I began to experience nervousness, and often had fainting spells, my trouble being similar to hystories. I gradually grew worse, and in a short time after the second attack, I began to experience nervousness, and often had fainting spells, my trouble being similar to hystories. I gradually grew worse, and in a short time after the second attack, I began to experience nervousness, and often had fainting spells, my trouble being similar to hystories. I gradually grew worse, and in a short time after the second attack, I would lie awake alghte, my muscles twitching continuousl

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Human Ignorance.

FOR SALE BY

The conductor of a train running between Washington and Philadelphia is quoted as telling a story which illustrates the pitiful possibilities of human ignorance that still exist, despite the schools that are scattered so thickly over all parts of the country, and the migratory habits of a majority of its inhabitants. "On my last trip," says the conductor, "I found a young colored girl in the train who, when I Charleston and wanted to go to Easton, Pa. She said she knew no one in Philadelphia, and she had no money

"I felt sorry for her, and when we a little skeptical and questioned her tentiary. closely. She said she had paid her fare on the train all the time, and the receiver asked her why she hadn't and bowels. Never sicken, weaken ys bought a ticket at Charleston. She gripe, toc.

said she had. 'Where is it?' asked the receiver. 'Here it is,' she replied, untying another corner of her handkerchief. There it was, sure enough, good for all the way from Charleston to Easton, and hadn't been punched once. The ticket was redeemed, and there were quite a few dollars left after the girl bought a ticket for Easton." -New York Times.

JEALOUS RIVALS-Cannot turn back approached, hurriedly untied one the tide. The demand for Dr. Agnew's little Pills is a marvel. Cheap to sented money to pay her fare to Phila- buy, but diamonds in quality-banish delphia. I counted it out, and she had just enough. When I told her pain after eating, sick headache, the member of the peace commission. there was no change, she began to never gripe, operate pleasantly. 10 cents. Sold by C. A. Kleim.

> James M. Wall, ex-cashier of the Farmers' National Bank, of Portsmouth, O., pleaded guilty to making arrived at Philadelphia I took her up talse returns to the Government of to the ticket receiver to see if he could pass her on to Easton. He was

> > Cascarets stimulate liver, kidneor