by robert Louis Stevenson.

Author of "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde."



will fall in again bandsomely for Alar's marriage."

ry day this absorption of the man's nebecame more observable, with many
ing and some very blameworthy pairra. Soon the child could walk abroad
him, at first on the terrace hand in
and afterward at large about the poliand this grew to be my lord's chief coion. The sound of their two voices
ble a great way off, for they spoke loud)
me familiar in the neighborhood, and for
art I found it more agreeable than the
of birds. It was pretty to see the pair
ning, full of briers, and the father as
of and sometimes as bemuddled as the
; for they were equal sharers in all
of boyish entertainment, digging in the
a, damming of streams, and what not;
I have seen them gase through a fence
with with the same childic contempla-

was one walk I never followed myself ut emotion, so often had I gone there uniserable errands, so much had there en against the house of Durrisdeer. But sth lay handy from all points beyond uckle Ross, and I was driven, although against my will, so take my use of it ps once in the two months. It befell Mr. Alexander was of the age of 7 or 8 I some business on the far side in the ing, and entered the shrubbery on my ward way, about 9 of a bright forenoon, is that time of year when the woods are in their spring colors, the thorns all in r and the birds in the high season of singing. In contrast to this merriment, thrubbery was only the more sad and I more oppressed by its associations. In this situation of spirit it struck me disagreeably to hear voices a little way in front, and to recognize the tones of my lord and Mr. Alexander. I pushed ahead and came presently into their view. They stood together in the open space where the duel was, my lord with his hand on his son's shoulder and speaking with some gravity. At least, as he raised his head upon my coming, I thought I could perceive his countenance to lighten. "Ah," says he, "here comes the good Mackellar. I have just been telling Sandie the story of this place, and how there was a man whom the devil tried to kill, and how near he came to kill the devil instead."

ame to kill the devil instead."

I had thought it strange enough he should

actually be discoursing of his act, passed measure. But the worst was yet to come; for he added, turning to his son: "You can ask Mackellar; he was here and saw it." "Is it true, Mr. Mackellar?" asked the child.

"And did you really see the devil?"

"I have not heard the tale," I replied, "and I am in a press of business." So far I said a little sourly, fencing with the embarrassment of the position; and suddenly the bitterness of the past and the terror of that scene by small little teached in more of that scene by of the past and the terror of that scene by candle light rushed in upon my mind; I be thought me that, for the difference of a second's quickness in parado, the child before me might have never seen the day, and the most in that always fluttered round my tar' in that dark shrubbery burst forth in words. "But so much is true," I cried, "that I have met the devil in these woods and seen him foiled here; blessed be God that we excaped with life—blessed be God that one stone yet stands upon another in the walls of Durrisdeer! said oh, Mr. Alexander, if ever you come by this stott though it was a hun-

Durrisdeer! and oh, Mr. Alexander, if ever you come by this spot, though it was a bundred years hence, and you came with the gayest and the highest in the had, I would step aside and remember a bit prayer."

My lord bowed his head gravely. "Ah," says he, "Mackellifr is always in the right. Come, Alexander, take your bounet off." And with that he uncovered and held out his hand. "O Lord," said he, "I thank thee and my son thanks thee for thy manifold great mercies. Let us have peace for a little; demy sen thanks thee for thy manifold great mercies. Let us have peace for a little; de-fend us from the svil man. Smite him, O Lerd, upon the lying mouth!" The last broke out of him like a cry; and at that, whether remembered anger choked his utterance or whether he perceived this was a singular sort of prayer, at least he came suddenly to a full stop; and after a moment set back his hat upon his head.

of prayer, at least he came suddenly of a funstop; and after a moment set back his hat
upon his head.

"I think you have fergot a word, my lord,"
mid I. "Forgive us our treepasse as we forgive them that trespass against us. For thine
is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen."

"Ah, that is easy saying," said my lord.
"That is very easy saying, Mackellar. But
for me to forgive! I think I would cut a
very silly figure if I had the affectation to
pretend it."

"The bairn, my lord," said I, with some
severity, for I thought his expressions little
fitted for the ears of children.

"Why, very true," said he: "this is dull
work for a bairn. Let's go nesting."

I forget if it was the same day, but it was
soon after, my lord, finding me alone, opened
himself a little more on the same head.

"Mackellar," he said, "I am now a very
happy man."

"I think so indeed, my lord," said I, "and
the sight of it gives me a light heart."

"The property of the same o

"I think so indeed, my lord," said I, "and the sight of it gives me a light heart."

"There is an obligation in happiness, do you not think so?" says he, musingly.

"I think so indeed," says I, "and one in sorrow, too. If we are not here to try to do the best, in my humble opinion, the socuer we are away the better for all parties."

"Ay, but if you were in my shoes would you forgive him?" asks my lord.

The suddenness of the attack a little graveled me. "It is a duty laid upon us strictly," said he. "these are sent to the suddenness of the attack."

"Huti" said he, "these are expressions! Do you forgive the man yourself?"
"Well-no!" said L "God forgive me, l

"Shake hands upon that!" cries my lord,

with a kind of joviality.
"It is an ill sentiment to shake hands upon," said I, "for Christian people. I think I will give you mine on some more evangelical occasion."

cal occasion."

This I said, smiling a little; but as for my lord, he went from the room laughing aloud. For my lord's slavery to the child, I can find no expression adequate. He lost himself in that continual thought; business, friends and wife being all alike forgotten or only remembered with a painful effort, like that of one struggling with a posset. It was most notable in the matter of his wife. Since I had known Durrisdeer, she had been the burden of his thought and the loadstone of his eyes; and now, she was quite cast out. I have seen him come to the door of a room, look round, and pass my lady over as though she were a dor before the fire: it would be

knowledge.

What troubled us most, however, was the great and growing danger to the child. My lord was his father over again; it was to be feared the son would prove a geoond master. Time has proved these fears to have been child exaggurate. Certainly there is no more worthy gentleman to-day in Scotland than the seventh Lord Durrisdeer. Of my own exodus from his employment, it does not become me to speak, above all in a memorandum written only to justify his father.

[RDSTOR'S NOTH.—Five pages of Mr. Mackellar's MS, are here omitted. I have gathered from their perusal an impression that Mr. Mackellar, in his old age, was rather an exacting servant. Against the seventh Lord Durrisdeer (with whom, at any rate, we have no concern) nothing shaterial is alleged.—R.L.S.]

-R.L.8.1

But our fear at the time was lest he should turn out, in the person of his son, a second edition of his brother. My hady had tried to interject some wholesome discipline; she had been giad to give that up, and now looked on with secret dismay; sometimes she even spoke of it by hints; and sometimes, when there was brought to her knowledge some monstrois instance of my lord's indulgence, she would betray herself in a gesture or perhaps an exclamation. As for myself, I was haunted by the thought both day and night; not so much for the child's asks as for the father's. The man had gone to sleep, he was dreaming a dream, and any rough wakening must infallibly prove mortal. That he should survive its death was inconceivable; and the fear of its dishonor made me cover my face.

It was this continual preoccupation that serowed me up at last to a remonstrance—a matter worthy to be narrated in detail. My lord and I sat one day at the same table upon some tedious business of detail; I have said that he had lost his former interest in such occupations; he was plainly itching to be gone, and he looked fretful, weary, and, methought, older than I had ever previously observed. I suppose it was the haggard face that put me suddenly upon my enterprise.

"My lord," said I, with my head down, and feiguing to continue my occupation—"or But our fear at the time was lest be should

said I, with my I

"My lord," said I, with my head down, and feigning to continue my occupation—"or rather let me call you again by the name of Mr. Henry, for I fear your anger, and wast you to think upon old times"—

"My good Mackellas!" said he; and that in tones so kindly that I had near forsook my purpose. But I called to mind that I was speaking for his good, and stuck to my colora. "Has it never come in upon your mind what you are doing?" I saked.

"What I am doing?" he repeated. "I was never good at guessing riddles."

"What you are doing with your son," said I.

aid I.

"Well," said be, with some defiance in his tone, "and what am I doing with my son!"

"Your father was a very good man," says I, straying from direct the path. "But do you think he was a wise father!"

There was a pause before he spoke, and then: "I say nothing against him," he replied. "I had the most cause perhaps, but I say nothing."

plied. "I had the most cause perhaps, but I may nothing."
"Why, there it is," said L. "You had the cause at least. And yet your father was a good man; I never knew a better, save on the one point, nor yet a wiser. Where he stumbled, it is highly possible another man should fall. He had the two sons".

My lord rapped suddenly and violently on the table.

should fall. He had the two sons"—

My lord rapped suddenly and violently on the table.

"What is this?" cried he, "Speak out?"

"I will, then," said I, my voice almost strangled with the thumping of my heart. "If you continue to indulge Mr. Alexander, you are following in your father's footstepa. Beware, my lord, lest (when he grows up your son should follow in the master's."

I had never meant to put the thing so crudely; but in the extreme of fear there comes a brutal kind of courage—the most brutal, indeed, of all—and I burned my ships with that plain word. I never had the answer. When I lifted my head my lord had risen to his feet, and the next moment he fell heavily on the floor. The fit or solvare endured not very long. He came to himself vacantly, put his band to his head, which I was then supporting, and says he, in a broken voice: "I have been ill," and a little after: "Help me!" I got him to his feet, and he stood pretty well, though he kept hold of the table. "I have been ill, Mackellar," he said again. "Something broke, Mackellar," as was going to break, and then all swam away. I thigk I was very angry. Never you mind, Mackellar, never you mind, my man. I would use hurt a hair upon your head. Too much has come and gond. It's a certain thing between us two. But I think, Mackellar, I will go to Mra Henry—I think I will go to by the sound of the with punitence.

go to Mrs. Henry," said he, and got pretty steadily from the room, leaving me overcome with pentience.

Presently the door flew open and my lady swept in with flashing eyes. "What is all this?" she cried. "What have you done to my husband? Will nothing teach you your position in this house? Will you never cease from making and moddling?"

"My lady," said I, "since I have been in this house! have isad plenty of hard words. For awhile they were my daily diet, and I swallowed them all. As for today you may call me what you please; you will never find the name hard enough fer such a blunder. And yet I meant it for the best."

I told her all with ingenuity, even as it is written here; and when she had heard me out she pondered, and I could see her animosity fall. "Yes," she said, "you meant well, indeed. I have had the same thought myself, or the same temptation, rather, well, indeed. I have had the same thought myself, or the same temptation, rather, which makes me pardon you. But, dear God, can you not understand that he can bear no more! He can bear no more!" she cried. "The cord is stretched to snapping. What matters the future, if he have one or two good days."

What matters the future, if he have one or two good days?"

"Amen," said I. "I will meddle no mora. I am pleased enough that you should recognize the kindness of my meaning."

"Yes," said my lady, "but when it came to the point, I have to suppose your courage failed you; for what you said was said cruelly." She paused, looking at me; then suddenly smiled a little, and said a singular thing: "Do you know what you are, Mr. Mackellar! You are an old maid."

No more incident of any note occurred in the family until the return of that ill starred man the master. But I have to also been



"Faith," says I, "if there is a white man to be seen, I will have a look at him; for the

up in muslin like two natives; and yet one of them was not only a white man, but a man very well known to me and the reader; being indeed that very master of Ballantrae of whose gallantry and genius I have had to speak so often. Word had reached me that he was come to the Indies; though we had never mot at least, and I heard little of his occupations. But sure, I had no sooner recognised him, and found myself in the arms of so old a comrade, than I supposed my tribulations were quite done. I stepped plainly forth into the light of the moon, which shone exceeding strong, and halling Ballantrae by name, made him in a few words master of my grievous situation. He turned, started the least thing in the world, looked me fair in the face while I was speaking, and when I had done, addressed himself to his companion in the barbarous native dialect. The second per-

done, addressed himself to his companion in the barbarous native dialect. The second person, who was of an extraordinary delicate appearance, with legs like walking-canes and fingers like the stalk of a tobacco pipe, now rose to his feet.

"The sahib," says be, "anderstands no English language. I understand it myself, and I see you make some small mistake—oh, which may happen very often! But the sahib would be giad to know how you come in a garden."

"Ballantrae!" I cried. "Have you the damned impudence to deny me to my face!" Ballantrae never moved a muscle, staring at me like an image in a pagoda.

"The sahib understands no English language," says the native, as glib as before, "He be glad to know how you come in a garden."

"He be glad to know how you come in a garden."

"Oh, the divil fetch him!" says L. "He would be glad to know how I come in a garden, would he! Well now, my dear man, just have the civility to tell the sahib, with my kind love, that we are two soldiers here whom he never met and never heard of, but the cipaye is a broth of a boy, and I am a broth of a boy myself; and if we don't get a full meal of meat, and a turban, and slippers, and the value of a gold mohur in small change as a matter of convenience, bedad, my friend, I could lay my finger on a garden where there is going to be trouble."

They carried their comedy so far as to converse awhile in Hindoostanes; and then, says the Hindoo, with the same smile, but sighing as if he were tired of the repetition: "The sahib would be glad to know how you come in a garden."

"Is that the way of it?" says I, and laying my hand on my sword hill I bade the cipaye draw.

Ballantrack Hindoo still smiling suited.

draw.

Bailantrae's Hindoo, still smiling, pulled out a pistol from his bosom, and, though Ballantrae himself never moved a muscle, I knew him well enough to be sure he was pre-"The sahib thinks you better go away,"

knew him well enough to be sure he was prepared.

"The sahib thinks you better go away," says the Hindoo.

Well, to be plain, it was what I was thinking myself, for the report of a pistol would have been, under Providence, the means of hanging the pair of us.

"Tell the sahib I consider him no gentleman," says I, and turned away with a gesture of contempt.

I was not gone three steps when the voice of the Hindoo called me back. "The sahib would be giad to know if you are a damn low Irishman," says he, and at the words Ballantrae smiled and bowed very low.

"What is that?" says I.

"The sahib say you ask your friend Mackellar," says the Hindoo. "The sahib he cry quits."

"Tall the sahib I will give him a cure for the Scots fiddle when next we meet," cried I. The pair were still smiling as I left.

There is tittle death come flaws may be picked in my own behavior; and when a man, however galiant, appeals to posterity with an account of his exploits, he must almost certainly expect to share the fate of Casar and Alexander, and to meet with some detractors. But there is one thing that can never be laid at the door of Francis Burke—he never turned his back on a friend.

(Here follows a passage which the Chevalier Burke has been at the pains to delete before sending me his manuscript. Doubtless it was some very natural complaint of what he supposed to be an indiscretion on my part, though, indeed, I can call none to mind. Perhaps Mr. Henry was less guarded, or it is just possible the master found the means to assume my correspondence, and himself read the letter from Troyes, in revenge for which this crual jest was perpetrated on Mr. Burke in his extreme necessity. The master, for all his wickedness, was not without some natural affection. I believe he was sincerely attached to Mr. Burke in the beginning; but the thought of treachery dried up the springs of his very shallow friendship, and his detestable nature appeared naked.—E. McK.)

CHAPTER XVIL THE ENEMY IN THE HOUSE

IT IS a strange thing that I should be at a stick for a date—the date, besides, of an incident that changed the very nature of my life and sent us all into foreign lands. But the truth is, I was stricken out of all my habitudes, and find my journals very ill read up, the day not indicated

generations inote, and staid the matter of a week, telling often in a tongue that signified sothing to the hearers; and went again as she had come, under sloud of night, lawing not so much as a name behind her. A little fear I had, but more curiosity; and I opened the hall door and entered.

The suppor things still lay upon the table; the shafters were still closed, although day peoped in the divisions; and the great room was lighted only with a single taper and come herehing reverberation of the fire. Close in the chimney set two men. The one that was wrapped in a closk and were hoots, I knew at once; it was the bird of ill come back again. Of the other, who was su close to the red embers, and made up into a bundle like a mummy, I could but see that he was an alles, of a darker line than any man of Europe,

May morning.
"Ha!" said I, "is this you?"—and I was
pleased with the unconcern of my own voice.
"It is even myself, worthy Mackellar,"

"Hat" said I, "is this you?"—and I was pleased with the unconcern of my own voice, "It is even myself, worthy Mackellar," says the master.

"This time you have brought the black dog visibly upon your back," I continued.

"Referring to Becundra Dass?" saked the master. "Lee me present you. He is a native gentleman of India."

"Hum!"said I. "I am no great lover either of you or your friends, Mr. Bally. But I will let a little daylight in and have a look at you." And so mying, I undid the shutters of the eastern window.

By the light of the morning, I could perceive the man was changed. Later, when we were all together, I was more struck to see how lightly time had dealt with him; but the first glance was otherwise.

"You are getting an old man," said I. A shade came upon his face. "If you could see yourself," said he, "you would perhaps not dwell upon the topic."

"Hut!" I returned; "old age is nothing to me. I think I have been always old; and I am now, I thank God, better known and more respected. It is not every one that can my that, Mr. Bally. The lines in your brow are calamities; your life begins to close in upon you like a prison. Death will soon be rapping at the door, and I see not from what source you are to draw your consolations."

Here the master addressed himself to Secundra Dass in Hindoostanes, from which I gathered (I freely confess, with a high degree of pleasure) that my remarks annoyed him. All this while, you may be sure, my mind had been busy upon other matters even while I rallied my enemy, and chiefly as to how I should communicate secretly and quickly with my lord. To this, in the breathing space now given me, I turned all the forces of my mind; when, suddenly shifting my eyes, I was aware of the man himself standing in the doorway, and to all appearance quite composed. He had no sooner met my looks than he stepped across the threshold. The master heard him coming and advanced upon the other side; about four feet apart, these brothers came to a full pause and stood exchanging steady looks

briskly away.
"Mackellar," says he, "we must see to breakfast for these travelers."

It was plain the master was a trifle disconcerted; but he assumed the more impudence of speech and manner. "I am as hungry as a hawk," says he, "Let it be something good, Henry."
My lord turned to him with the same hard

nile. "Lord Durrisdeer," says he.
"Oh, never in the family," returned the

"Oh, never in the family," returned the master.

"Every one in this house renders me my proper title," says my lord. "If it please you to make an exception, I will leave you to consider what appearance it will bear to strangers, and whether it may not be translated as an effect of impotent jealousy."

I could have clapped my hands together with delight; the more so as my lord left no time for any answer, but, bidding me with a sign to follow him, went straight out of the hall.

"Come quick," says ha, "we have to sweep.

with delight; the more so as my lord left no time for any answer, but, bidding me with a sigu to follow him, went straight out of the hall.

"Come quick," says he, "we have to sweep vermin from the house." And he sped through the passages with so swift a step that I could scarce keep up with him, straight to the door of John Paul, the which he opened without summose and walked in. John was to all appearance sound salesp, but my lord made no pretense of waking him.

"John Paul," said he, speaking as quietly as ever I heard him, "you served my father long, or I would pack you from the house like a dog. If in half an hour's time I find you gone you shall continue to receive your wages in Edinburgh. If you linger here or in St. Bride's—the old man, old servant and altogether—I shall find some very astenishing way to make you smart for your dialoyalty. Up, and begone. The door you let them in by will serve for your departure. I do not choose my son shall see your face again."

"Fam rejoiced to find you bear the thing so quietly," said I, when we were forth again by ourselves.

"Quietly!" cries he, and he put my hand suddenly against his heart, which struck upon his bosom like a sledge.

At this revelation I was filled with wonder and fear. There was no constitution could bear so violent a strain—his least of all, that was unhinged already; and I decided in my mind that we must bring this monstrous situation to an end.

"It would be well, I think, if I took word to my lady," said I. Indeed, he should have gone himself, but I counted (not in vain) on his indifference.

"Ay," says he, "do, I will hurry breakfaste we must all appear at the table, even Alexander; it must appear we are untroubled."

I ran to my lady's room, and, with no preparatory cruelty, disclosed my news.

"My mind was long ago made up," said she. "We must make our packets secretly today and leave secretly to-night. Thank Heaven, we have another house! The first ship that sails shall bear us to New York."

"And what of him," I saked.

"We leave him Du

for that thought! All shall be left in your hands. If we must go into a savage country, I bequeath it to you to take our vengeance. Send Macconochie to St. Bride's to arrange privately for horses and to call the lawyer. My lord must leave procuration."

At that moment my lord came to the door, and we opened our plan to him.

"I will never hear of it," he cried; "he would think I feared him. I will stay in my own house, please God, until I die. There lives not the man can beard me out of it. Once and for all, here I am and here I stay, in spite of all the devils in hell." I can give no idea of the vehemency of his words and utterance; but we both stood aghast, and I in particular, who had been a witness of his former seif restraint.

ormer self restraint.

My lady looked at me with an appeal that went to my heart and recalled me to my wits. I made her a private sign to go, and, when my lord and I were alone, went up to him where he was racing to and fro in one end of the room like a half lunatic, and set my hand armly on his shoulder. "Common report, however"- began the

"Nothing will change me," he answered.
God forbit I should refuse to hear you; but
othing will change me." This he said
raily, with no signal of the former violence,
rhich already raised my hopes.
"Very well," said L "I can afford to waste
sy breath." I pointed to a chair and he sai
own and troked at me. "I can remember a
me when my lady were might members.

took a hand of each of us and laid them both upon his boson. "I have had two friends in my life," said he. "All tife comfort ever I had it came from the one or the other. When you two are in a mind, I think I would be an ungusteful dog"— He shut his mouth very hard and looked on us with awinning eyes. "Do what ye like with me," says he, "only don't think".— He stopped again. "Do what ye please with me. God knows I love and honor you." And dropping our two hands he turned his back and went and gased out of the window. But my lady ran after, calling his name, and threw herself upon his neck in a passion of weeping.

passion of weeping.

I went out and shut the door behind me, and stood and thanked God from the bottom of my bears.
At the breakfast board, according to my At the breakfast board, according to my lord's design, we were all met. The master had by that time plucked off his patched boots and made a toilet suitable to the hour; Secundra Dass was no longer bundled up in wrappers, but were a decent plain black suit, which misbecame him strangely; and the pair were at the great window looking forth when the family entered. They turned, and the black man (as they had already named him in the house) bowed almost to his knees, but the master was for running forward like one of the family. My lady stopped him, courteeying low from the far end of the hali, and keeping her children at her book. My lord was a little in front, so there were the three counts of Durrisdeer face to face. The hand of time was very logible on all.

I memed to read in their changed faces a mammente mori; and what affected me still more, it was the wicked man that here his years the handsomest. My lady was quite transfigured into the matron, a becoming woman for the head of a great tableful of children and dependents. My lady was quite transfigured into the matron, a becoming woman for the head of a great tableful of children and dependents. My lady was grown slack in his limbs; he stooped; he walked with a running motion, as though he had learned again from Mr. Alexander; his face was drawn; it memed a trifle longer than of old, and it were at times a unite very singularly untigled, and which (in my eyes) appeared both bitter and pathetic. But the master still bore himself creet, although perhaps with effort; his brow barred about the

peared both bitter and pathetic. But the master still bore himself crect, although perhaps with effort; his brow barred about the center with imperious lines, his mouth set as for command. He had all the gravity and something of the splender of Satan in the "Paradies Lost." I could not help but see the man with admiration, and was only surprised that I saw him with so little fear.

But indeed (as long as we were at the table, it seemed as if his authority were quite vanished and his teeth all drawn. We had known him a magician that controlled the elements; and here he was transformed into an ordinary gentleman, chatting like his neighbors at the breakfast board. For now the father was dead, and my lord and lady reconciled, in what car was he to pour his calumnies? It came upon me in a kind of vision how hugely I had overrated the man's subtlety. He had his malice still; he was false as ever; and the occasion being gone that made his strength, he set there impotent; he was still the viper, but now spent his venom on a file. Two more thoughts occurred to me while yet we sat at breakfast; the first, that is was abashed—land almost said distressed—to find his wickedness quite unavailing; the second, that perhaps my lord was in the right, and we did amis to fly from our dismasted enemy. But my poor master's leaping heart came in my mind, and i remembered it was for his life we played the coward.

When the meal was over, the master followed me to my room, and, taking a chair (which I had never offered him, asked me

When the meal was over, the master followed me to my room, and, taking a chair (which I had never offered bim), asked me what was to be done with him.

"Why, Mr. Bally," said I, "the house will still be open to you for a time."

"For a time?" says he. "I do not know if I quite take your meaning."

"It is plain enough," said L. "We keep you for our reputation; as soon as you shall have publicly disgraced yourself by some of your misconduct, we shall pack you forth again."

"You are become an impudent rogue," said the master, bending his brows at me dangerously.

"I bested in a good school," I returned. "And you must have perceived yourself that

"And you must have perceived yourself that with my old lord's death your power is quite departed. I do not fear you now, Mr. Bally; I think even—God forgive mo—that I take a

certain pleasure in your company."

He broke out in a burst of laughter, which I clearly saw he assumed.

"I have come with empty pockets," says he, after a pause.

"I do not think there will be any money going," I replied. "I would advise you not to build on that."

going," I replied. "I would advise you not to build on that."

"I shall have something to say on the point," he returned.

"Indeed?" said I. "I have not a guess what it will be, then."

"Oh, you affect confidence," said the master. "I have still one strong position—that you people fear a scandal and I enjoy it."

"Pardon me, Mr. Bally," says I. "We do not to the least fear a scandal against you."

He laughed again. "You have been studying repartee," he said. "But speech is very easy, and sometimes very deceptiva. I warn you fairly, you will find me vitriol in the house. You would do wiser to pay money down and see my back." And with that he waved his hand to me and left the room.

A little after my lord came with the law-

A little after my lord came with the law-yer, Mr. Carlyle; a bottle of old wine was brought, and we all had a glass before we fell to business. The necessary deeds were then prepared and executed, and the Scotch setates made over in trust to Mr. Carlyle and myself.

myself.
"There is one point, Mr. Carlyle," said my "There is one point, Mr. Carlyle," said my lord, when these affairs had been adjusted, "on which I wish that you would do us justice. This sudden departure coinciding with my brother's return will be certainly commented on. I wish you would discourage any conjunction of the two."

"I will make a point of it, my lord," said Mr. Carlyle. "The mas—Mr. Baily does not then accommany you!"

Mr. Carlyle. "The max—air. Bally does not then accompany you?"
"It is a point I must approach," said my lord. "Mr. Bally remains at Durrisdeer under the care of Mr. Mackellar! and I do not mean that be shall even know our destination."

"Ah, but Mr. Carlyle, this is to be a secret quite among ourselves," interrupted my lord. "None but you and Mackellar are to be made soqueinted with my movements."

"And Mr. Dany sunys never quite so,"
mid Mr. Carlyin. "The powers you leave"—
Then be broke off again. "Mr. Mackellar,
we have a rather heavy weight upon us."
"No doubt, str," mid I.
"No doubt," said he. "Mr. Bally will
have are ration!"

"No doubt," said he. "Mr. Bally will have no voice!"

"He will have no voice," said my lord, "and I hope no influence. Mr. Bally is not a good adviser."

"I see," said the lawyer. "By the way, has lir. Bally meaner!"

"I understand him to have nothing," replied my lord. "I give him table, fire, and caudle in this house."

"And in the matter of an allowance! If I am to share the responsibility, you will see how highly desirable it is that I should understand your views," said the lawyer. "On the question of an allowance!"

"There will be no allowance," said my lord. "I wish Mr. Bally to live very private. We have not always been gratified with his behavior."

"I wish Mr. Bally to live very private. We have not always been gratified with his behavior,"

"And in the matter of money," I added, "he has shown himself an infamous bad husband. Glame your eye upon that docket, Mr. Carlyle, where I have brought together the different sums the man has drawn from the estate in the last fifteen or twenty years. The total is pretty."

Mr. Carlyle made the motion of whistling. "I had no guess of this," mid he, "Excuse me once more, my lord, if I appear to push you; but it is really desirable I should penetrate your intentions: Mr. Mackellar might die, when I should find myself alone upon this trust. Would it not be rather your lordship's preference that Mr. Bally should—ahon—should leave the country?"

My lord looked at Mr. Carlyle. "Why do you ask that?" said he.

comfort to his family," says the lawyer with a smile.

My lord's face became suddenly knotted.

"I wish he was in hell," cried he, and filled himself a glass of wine, but with a hand so tottering that he spilled the half into his becom. This was the second time that, in the midst of the most regular and wise behavior, his animosity had spuried out. It startled Mr. Carlyle, who observed my lord thenceforth with covert curiosity, and to me it restored the certainty that we were acting for the best in view of my lord's health and reason.

the best in view of my lord's health and reason.

Except for this explosion, the interview
was very successfully conducted. No doubt
Mr. Cariyle would talk, as lawyers do, little
by little. We could thus feel we had laid the
foundations of a better feeling in the country, and the man's own misconduct would
certainly complete what we had begun. Indeed, before his departure, the lawyer showed us there had already gone abroad some
glimmerings of the truth.

"I should perhaps explain to you, my lord,"
and he, pausing, with, his hat in his hand,
"that I have not been altogether surprised
with your lordships dispositions in the case
of Mr. Bally. Something of this nature
coused out when he was last in Durrisdeer.
There was some tall of a woman at St.
Bride's, to whom you had 5-haved extremely
handsome, and Mr. Bally with no small degree of cruelty. There was the entail again,
which was much controverted. In short,
there was no want of talk, back and forward;
and some of our wiseners took up a strong
opinion. I remained in suspense, as became
one of my cloth; but Mr. Mackellar's docket
here has finally opened my eyes. I do not
think, Mr. Mackellar, that you and I will
give him that much rope."

CHAPTER XVIII. THE PARILY PLEES SEPONE THE ENEMY'S



ensibly declined.
What chiefly daunded me was the man's singular dexertity to worm him

self into our troubles. You may have felt (after a horse accident) the hand of a bone setter artfully divide and interrogate the muscles, and settle strongly on the injured place? It was so with the master's tongue, that was so cunning to question, and his eyes, that were so quick to observe. I seemed to have said nothing, and yot to have let all out.

Before I knew where I was the man was condoling with me on my lord's neglect of my lady and myself, and his hurtful indulgence to his son. On this last point I perceived him (with panic fear) to return repeatedly. The boy had displayed a certain shrinking from his uncle; it was strong in my mind his father had been fool amough to indoctrinate the same, which was no wise beginning; and when I looked upon the man before me, still so handsome, so apt a speaker, with so great a variety of fortunes to relate, I maw he was the very personage to captivate a boyish fancy. John Paul had left only that morning; it was not to be supposed he had been altogether dumb on his favorite subject, so that here would be his master like a diabolical Æneas, full of matter the most pleasing in the world to any youthful ear, such as battles, see disasters, flights, the forests of the west, and (since his later voyage) the ancient cities of the Indies.

How cunningly, these balts might be employed, and what an empire might be so founded, little by little, in the mind of any boy, stood obviously clear to ma. There was no inhibition, so long as the man was in the house, that would be strong enough to hold these two apart; for if it be hard to charm serpents, it is no very difficult thing to cast a glamor on a little chip of manhood not very long in breaches. I recalled an ancient sallorman who dwelt in a lone house beyond the Figgate Whins (I balieve he called it after Portobello), and helv the boys would troop out of Leith on a Baturday, and sit and listen to his swearing tales, as thick as crows about a carrion; a thing I often remarked as I went by, a young student, on my own more medit

who should conceive the fancy to entrap him; and, the influence gained, how easy to employ it for the child's perversion?

I doubt if our enemy had named Mr. Alexander three times before I perceived which way his mind was aiming—all this train of thought and memory passed in one pulsation through my own—and you may say I started back as though an o,en hole had gaped across a pathway. Mr. Alexander; there was the weak point, there was the Eve in our perishable paradise; and the sergent was already hissing on the trail.

I promise you I went the more heartily about the preparations; my last scruple gone, the danger of delay written before me in hugo characters. From that moment forth I seem not to have sat down or breathed. Now I would be at my post with the master and his indian; now in the garret buckling a value; now sending forth Macconochie by the side postern and the wood path to bear it to the trysting place, and again snatching some words of counsel with my lady. This was the verse of our life in Durrisdeer that day; but on the recte all appeared quite settled, as of a family at home in its paternal seat; and what perturbation may have been observable the master would set down to the blow of his unlooked-for coming and the fear he was accustomed to inspire.

Supper went creditably off, cold salutations passed, and the company trooped to their respective chambers. I attended the master to the last. We had put him next door to his Indian, in the north wing; because that was the most distant and could be severed from the body of the house with doors. I saw he was a kind friend or a good master (whichever it was so his Secundra Das; seeing to his comfort; mending the fire with his own hand, for the Indian complained of cold; inquiring as to the rice on which the stranger made his diet; talking with him pleasantly in the Hindoostanes, while I stood hy. my candle in my hand, and affected to

master observed my signals of distrem perceive," says he, "that you have all yes ancient habits—early to bed and early to rise Yawn yourself away!"

Once in my own room I made the customary motions of undressing, so that I might time myself, and, when the dycle was complete, set my tinder box ready and blow omy taper. The matter of an hour after war. I made a light again, put on my shoes of he that I had worn by my lord's sick bed and or forth into the house to call the voyagers. All were dressed and waiting—my lord, my lady, Miss Katharine, Mr. Alexander, my lady woman Christie—and I observed the affect of secrecy, even upon quite innocest persons.

country.

I never knew before the greatness of that vault of night in which we two poor serving men, the one old and the one elderly, stood for the first time described; I had never for the first time described.

eavedropping; and without doubt it withrough his stealth and my security that a secret reached the master.

It was one very wild night, after suggested when we had been making more the usually merry, that the blow fell on me.

"This is all very fine," may the mast "but we should do better to be buckling a value."

"but we should do better to be buckling to value."

"Why so?" I cried. "Are you leaving?"

"We are all leaving to-morrow in the morning," said ha. "For the port of Gingow first; thence for the province of Res York."

I suppose I must have ground aloud.

"Yes," he continued, "I boasted; I said week, and it has taken me near twenty day But never mind; I shall make it ap; I will go the faster."

"Have you the money for this voyage?"

asked.

ger on the point with your usual good some. I never fight with the inevitable."

"I suppose it is useless to appeal to you," said I.

"Believe me, perfectly," said he.

"And yet if you would give me time I could write"— I began.

"And what would be my Lord Durrisdee's answer!" asks he.

"Ay," said I, "that is the rub."

"And, at any rate, how much more expeditious that I should go myself!" says he. "But all this is quite a waste of breath. A? to-morrow the chaise will be at the door, for I start from the door, Mackellar. I do seekulk through woods and take my chaise upon the wayside—shall we say at Bagies!"

My mind was now thoroughly made "Can you spare me a quarter of an how set. Bride'a!" said I. "I have a little measury business with Carlyle."

"An hour, if you prefer," said he. "I cont seek to deny that the money for you seat is an object to me; and you could always the first to Glasgow with eaddle horse. "Well," said I, "I never thought to had old Scotland."

"It will brisken you up," says he. "If will brisken you up," says he. "This will be an ill fourness for some one I said. "I think, sir, for you. Somethespeaks in my bosom; and so much it seeplain, That this be an ill omened journey."

"If you take to prophecy," says he, "limit to that."

There came up a violent squall off the consolver.

"Do you ken what that bodes, warlecht."

Solway, and the rain was dashed on the windows.

"Do you ken what that bodes, warleds said he, in a broad accent; "that there'll in man Mackellar unco sick at sea."

When I got to my chamber, I sat the under a painful excitation, hearhaning to the turmoil of the gale which struck full use that gable of the house. What with the pressure on my spirits, the eldritch origin the wind among the turret tops, and the potual trepidation of the manusch has sleep fied my eyelids utterly. I sat by a taper, looking on the black parse of the window where the storm appeared continuous on the point of bursting in its entruses; of upon that empty field I beheld a persent of consequences that made the heir to tupon my scalp. The child corrupted, in home broken up, my master dead or without darkness; and the outery of the window on the darkness; and the outery of the window on the darkness; and the outery of the window.

Continued next features.