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PURCELL A TALE OF THE IRISH REBELLION.

BY WILLIAM H, MAXWELL.

What says the married woman? You may go;
Would she had never given you leave to come.
ANYONY AND CLEOPATRA.

In the spring of 1795, Stephen Purcell was entered asfellow-commoner in the Dublin university. He was just eighteen-a fine strapping lad; with an athletic frame, a black eye, hair dark as ebony, and a rich flush of health and vigor coloring a cheek as brown as a gypsy's. He was then five feet eleven inches "without his shoes;" and his foster-brother, who accompanied him as valet, boasted "that his master had an inch or two to grow before his height would be upon his head !" Purcell would have been popular in any college; but he was the man particularly adapted for that of othe noly and undivided Trinity." The heir resumptive to a rich uncle, his allowance was most liberal. Alis rooms, on the first floor of a best were handsome liveries—he kept two horses and a buggy-and, after commonst gave the best wine procurable in the city of Dublin.

Thus far circumstances; rather than character. might have gone to recure Purcell the popularity he enjoyed; but Stephen was calculated by nature to be distinguished. He was a spirited and generous youth, well tempered in his cups; and in a row, which was then the common event of every evening, he was brave as a lion; and, as his best man, Jack Dillon, added, 4 mighty bandy with fist or cudgel." Purcell kicked football wrestied well, jumped the haha, and hucled, as if he had been born south of the Shannon. - No won der if, in a year's residence, he became the pet of the University. He was even respected by the republicans, and tolerated by the few Romanists he knew, who, on divers occasions, from personal regard to the host, had actually submitted to drink the clorious memory " in his apartments.

In one thing Stephen Purcell was remarkable.-He was a zealot in politics, a devoted supporter of and constitution, an uncompromising orangeman, and the favorite leader of all those who protested ultra loyalty.

The rebellion was on the eve of breaking out, and the classic courts of Alma Mater rather bore the appearance of a military post than the chosen The college was in its zenith,-and for strength, ress, and discipline, held a proud place among the no doubt, possessed many a more experienced delender of his crown and dignity; but a more devoted soldier and servant than Stephen Purcell, never were a shoulder-knot.

The times had become awfully interesting; the conspiracy was matured, and the government were streets. prepared for an immediate explosion. It was ascertained that the arrival of a celebrated leader in the metropolis was momently expected, and that unprotected woman??. event would be the signal for the insurgents to nse and take the field. Fresh proofs of imminent tal deadly treason were honely discovered. It has disclosed by a treacherous feader of the reb. the pri-oner appeared most anxious to retain. els, that the day for a simultaneous insurrection taroughout the kingdom had been appointed, and that many internal plans of private assassination were on the tapis. The mail conches were to be dercepted after they had quitted the metropolis, and their non-arrival was to be a signal that the riand that the remoter dise's should take the field. In the city, the lampthers were corrupted; the public lamps were to be exanguished by the trainors; and while univer sal darkness overspread the streets, and favored ar plans of the insurgents, the rebel drums were beat, and the yeomanry, as they hurried to their carm pasts, were to be cut off in detail before they hald unne with their comrades. Added to these epoils the frequent discovery of pikes and firearms proved that a deadly preparation was going orward; and the sun of each succeeding day was

exiected to rise upon a scene of slaughter. When the disaffected- impatiently awaited the arrival of the chief conspirator in the city, the go emment were employing every possible means to discover his retreat. In vain every engine in their power was set to work; public researches and secret suspicions failed; and a reward of one thousand pounds with assurances of unbounded patronage, were offered to the fortunate person who should denounce and apprehend the celebrated Lord Fitzgerald.

The paforturate nobleman we have named was descendant of the Geraldines, and uncle to the present Duke of Leinster. From having borne arms with distinguished reputation in the British imy, he became a dangerous and deadly enemy othe state. It was said that he was a disappoint ed man-a professional slight had irritated him gainst the government beyond the possibility of eing propinated; another officer had been preerred for promotion to himself; he left the service disgust, repaired to the French capital, where a iose intimacy with the leading Jacobins; and a narriage with the daughter of the Duke of Orleans confirmed his bad feelings towards the English goenment, and his dislike to monarchy in any orm. His talents were considerable, his populary unbounded. The dignity of his birth, joined a just reputation for military skill, made him an of with the republicans, who had unanimously appointed him their leader, and only waited his appearance in the metropolis, to direct the explocion of that extensive conspiracy which was to

choly spectacle of fear and preparation. Had it ton bore, "But (hiccop) thou art mine ancient, I "I live near Thomas street. Will your password had placed upon his finger. It was a brilliant of house-tops, and the wind came rowing in hollow been blockaded by a hostile force there could not mean sergeant, (hiccup)—and I obey thee." have been more anxious apprehension discernible in the capital than it everywhere presented. The entrances from the suburbs were barricaded, and night and day jealon-ly guarded; the bridges had their respective pickets; the pickets were regularly patrolled, and the doors of every house bore the was very different from that which the late hour and names of the inhabitants on asplacard; arrests of strange circumstances of their meeting had first ledsuspected persons occurred hourty; a discovery of him to imagine. sincealed weapons became frequent; rumors of . They had now removed some distance from the public alarm, while assassination on one side, and irresolute as to what future course of proceeding cause of these additional precautions. It is known diamond rings, straw bunnets, and the incognita of Purcell ascertained that the house was a tavern of military executions on the other, rendered the inernal state of the Irish capital, frightful and por-

It was late in the evening of the 1st of March that Stephen Purcell, who had dined in Merrion Square, was returning to his chambers in the university. The peril of the times had superseded much of that attention usually paid to dress; and the costume of the young collegian, although several titled personages had been guests at the table where he dined, was the simple uniform of a nonhis arm which denoted his subordinate degree of acts and words are those of a high-minded and building, were comfortably furnished—his servants rank, were dear to the youth, and regarded by him honorable soldier. Look at me beneath you lamp, his shape with studied accuracy, displayed a form moulded for activity and endurance. His light-infantry wings rested on a pair of broad and muscu- have insinuated!" lar shoulders; the sash bound a waist which isquired no assistance to compress it; a bayonet was filent in youthful strength, and a bold heart, he sauntered leisurely down Grafion street humming gance, were presented to his view. The dress bean orange ditty as he passed along.

It was a calm and lovely night. The drums had beat the tattoo, and the hour was past when any but the military and police were permitted to remain in the streets. A proclamation had been issued by the chief magistrate of the city, cautionng the citizens to keep within their houses after a their operations, in the event of the expected inprovided with the password and countersign, few the evening dram had beaten.

The gallant sergeant had passed the provost's house, when a short distance from him, a woman's neated, and Purcell hurried to the centre of the tion?" street, before the college gate; where a woman Stephen Purcell was but twenty. He was alone of the times had called into existence. In this insisted on removing her to their guard househonorable body, exclusively composed of gentle. The fellows who had the female were intoxicated: men. Purcell bore the rank of sergeant. The King and the young collegian would have avoided what appeared a common street brawl, had not the tone of the female voice, and the language uttered in her alarm, appeared at variance with her appearance, as well as inconsistent with her being, at this late and unsafe hour, a wanderer in the public

"For the sake of Heaven let me pass! You

"How tinder she is, Barney! grab the bundle; we'll try if there's any thing under the cloak;" and did not oppose his scratiny. The effect upon him as he spoke he laid hold of a small parcel, which and his course of conduct, was immediate; he re-

"Hold!" said Purcell. "What is the matter? Who is this you have stopped?"

"Who the devil are you?" was the reply .-Christ, we'll stick ye in the crib along side wid the lady."

But, neither intimidated by threats or numbers he student threw the fellow aside, while the poo girl spring forward, and clinging wildly to his arm. exclaimed-" stranger, God bless you! Will you save me from these savage men?. Can you-will

vou protect me?" There was no time allowed for reply; the watchnen, who were numerous, hemmed in the solitary stranger, who seemed, on his part, determined on fierce resistance, as he drew his bayonet, and with deep imprecation warned them to keep off. At he moment two men in uniform came up; and one of them exclaimed in mock heroice, "My comrade's voice! I can protect thee still!" unsheathed his weapon, and calling or his companion to draw, sprang in the crowd, and ranged himself beside the protector of the alarmed female. "Stephen, I knew thy voice," continued the new ally How now! whose mare's dead?—what's the matter 1'7

"The matter, a simple cause of quarrel enough -watchnien and a woman." Without stopping to comprehend any thing further, the friend of Purcell, withse brain appeared wonderfully confused with Spakespeare and attack punch, called to his companion-"Out with thy rapier, boy; away, variets! Draw Bardolph, cut me off the villain's head; throw the queen in the channel."

" Stop, Jack, let's avoid a row if possible " and the guardians of the night having fallen back, seemed far from anxious to commence hostilities. "Who is the gentle Desilemona?"-(hiccop).-Is she a spirit of health, or goblin damned?"-I beg her pardon, be her intents wicked or charitable-for, by the by, Stephen, we cannot be too particular, (hiccop). Let's overhaul Rosalind in the guard room. Treason is abroad in linsey. woolsey, and treachery meets you (hiccup) under the cover of a calimenco petticoat,"-(hiccup). Ha! ha! ha!" teturned the first speaker; what a pass are we not come to ! . Has this poor girl a double-barrelled blunderbuss in her pocket; with a plan to surprise the Castle in the paper cases

of her liquisewile ! For shame lack; let me speak With her apart."

Shull I Sie Pandamus of Troy become

"Will you protect me?" said the poor girl, in tones of agonizing distress. "Oh! yes, yes; you

will-you can." The deep pathos of her voice, and her evident agitation, assured Purcell that the young woman

an intended descent from France added to the watchmen, who still lingered near the place, as if they should adopt. The young protector addressed his companion-" Lady, what tempted you to venture through the city at this dangerous and naseasonable hour of the night? Surely the business must have been urgent. Speak fearlessly, our conference is on honor; speak-was it love? I cannot believe Jack Middleton's suspicions, that your wild excursion has treason for its object."

"Neither suspicion is true, stranger. I rest my hopes on you; you must, for you can, save me .-Your influence over these tearful men was naracommissioned officer. But the three chevrons on mount, and the others obey you as a leader; your with as much pride as if they had been the aiguil- and say whether my appearance warrants the imhave delivered me. I have been improdent-mad -but. God knows, I am not the guilty thing they

Stephen Purcell's curiosity was excited; they approached the light, and throwing aside the coarse suspended in his belt, and reckless of danger, con- grey cloak which connected her person, features of a striking beauty, and a figure of sylph-like eleneath the homely disguise she had assumed, was both rich and fashionable; and Purcell was thoroughly persuaded that she was far more removed from that class of life and society which the extraordinary time and place of their meeting had originally led him to inter.

"You say truly, lady; I can liberate you from stated hour, that the troops might be unimpeded in vour present danger, certainly; but I free you from one difficulty only to expose you to others equally surrection occurring during the night. These or- imminent—that is, unless your home be in the imders were directed to be rigidly entorced; and un- mediate vicinity of this place. It I ventured to a distance, I should be detained by the guards and would venture to traverse through the streets after pickets, who suffer none to pass their posts without the countersign:"

"Then I am lost, indeed !" she murmured in a voice of honeless anywish "My home is in nice. scream was heard. Thinking that the cry was mote part of the city. Oh, stranger, can you not from one of those wretched outcasts whose drun- save?—can you not protect me? What would bribe retreat of those gentle goddesses who are supposed ken quarrels so frequently disturbed the town, it you? Your dress and manners make a pecuniary to pre-life over science and the belles letters. - passed unnoticed; but again the scream was re- offer an insult; yet what can secure your protec-

> his nower, and was commencing that jargon of love which men will sometimes use, when an appeal from his lovely suppliant arrested it.

"Stranger, I am at your mercy, I cast myself on you for protection. Save me from insult by others, and spare me from it in yourself."

Purcell hesitated. Again he led her to the light -again he removed the hood which concealed her features, and gazed upon her beautiful countenance; her bright blue eyes were filled with tears. mistake me-indeed you do-will you injure an her tips trembled with apprehension; and terror, far from dimming her surpassing beauty, had made her loveliness more exquisite and irresistible. She placed the cloak and hood respectfully. "How beautiful!" he murmured. "Ludy, fear nothing; with my life I will guarantee your safety." Then calling to his companion, who was standing a Come, pump it, young man, or by the crass of some distance, he whispered to him for an instant, and left the unknown female in his custody.

This movement was far from satisfactory to the lady; she would have followed him, had not the gallant corporal peremptorily, but gently opposed it. Although tolerably drunk, he was perfectly alive to the charge he had undertaken or being her profector. "Cheer up!" he muttered, while a frequent biccup impeded his speech deplorably .-Fear nothing, Dulcinea del Toboso! Courage, most incomparable princess!-thou lady of the bleeding heart! Jack Middleton, an unworth corporal of the third company, is " your own wor thy knight, by day or night, or any night," as the bard of Avon has it. Stephen Purcell is thy Magnus Apollo, and Stephen Porcell is my approved friend-ergo, sun, moon, or star, shall not get a glimpse of thy charms till Stephano returns. He's as true game as ever man relied upon. On Sunday fortnight I was caught alone by half a score of cuckoldy citizens, who had just been lalopped within an inch of their lives, by a few of our lads who were on the ramble. Gad? they twigged me, and had commenced prompt payment, for past ci vilities, upon my poor carcass, when honest Stephen flew to my relief, and bestrode me like a Colossus; and there I lay, safe on my mother earth, till the boys came to the rescue. Purcell's skull was faid open by a paving-stone, and from lips to hers, which were not withdrawn from his hour could be more tavorable to examine the place heel to head he was as black as your own eye .--Keep off!" he exclaimed, fiercely, to a watchman who had approached nearer than Middleton considered prudent. "Keep off! or, by the foot of Phaeton, I'll put tour inches of as bright steel in your bread-basket as ever came from a cutter's :" and a flourish of his naked weapon in the twilight proved that in act and word he was equally deci-

After a painful absence of some minutes Purcell returned. He removed the grey mantle from the shoulders of his fair protege, and replaced it hood for a velvet foraging cap, he gave those dis-hood for a velvet foraging cap, he gave those dis-hood for a velvet foraging cap, he gave those dis-hopen what would, to visit the spot again; and A passage running parallel with the well extendcarded articles of dress into the charge of Jack happen what would, to visit the spot again ; and Middleton, who, with a long extract from Cymbeline, took his leave, and left them together.

"Lady, we are alone. Whither shall I conduct you? I have got the necessary pass and counter-

bring us thither 177

"We'lf try it;" and he continued with a smile. one, whether he to in uniform or not, will be per- ed the night's adventure from its commencement. He reached, with some difficulty, a lone and ru-You of course, lady, are unacquainted with the dressed, went to bed, was restless, and dreamed of through the crevices of the window-shutters; and that the arch-traitor, Lord Edward, is actually with- Thomas street. in the city. One thousand pounds are on his head, And the deep drawing of his breath showed how desperate was his hostility, towards the devoted no-

"Do you know his Lordship personally?" said the temale, in a timid voice, as they passed the equestrian statue of the third William, which stands in College Green.

lettes of a staff officer. His uniform made to fit putations of the savage persons from whom you that if I met him in Kamschatka I could challenge the traitor, and tax him with his double perfidy, as man, who delivered it and went away. She asked the atrocious smells, combined with spilt liquors a soldier and a subject."

While he spoke, the fierce and vindictive feeling things to mind, God help her !" &c. &c. which blazed forth, alarmed his companion, who trembled as she clong to him for protection. He fair triend. I trust his presence in the city will but crush them! If they heattate, ere a week passes, their leader's head shall top some pinnacle, and lesser villains in hundreds shall dangle from the amp-posts."

The female shuddered. "Who goes there?" cried a sentinel in advance of the Castle-gate. "A riend," was the reply. "Advance, friend, and give the countersign.

Purcell dropped the lady's arm for an instant, and communicated with the sentinel in a whisper. middle of High street a cavality patrol approached them. The officer rode out and challenged them. and conversed in an under tone with the dragoon. "Good night!" he said; ' you dine with us on Friday, Stephen-forward!" and the party rode off. They crossed the corn-market, and after repeated turned, " a sadder," but not " a wiser man." interruptions from the enemies, at length reached

Thomas street in safety. " We part, my kind and generous protector; how

shall I prove my gratitude?" " Impossible!"

"Tell me, then, your name, and your residence, and suffer me to enquire for you in the morning." "Alas! I cannot. I have not the power; and passionately.

"It cannot be," she answered, with some emotion. "In better times we may renew our acqua:ntance: but now, fortune and circumstances beyond control alike forbid it. Give me your adfrom the recollection of her who is bound for life to bless him."

Purcell gave his card.

"And now," continued the unknown, "as there s danger in even a momentary delay, ask me for any proof of my gratitude, and it shall be freely, heartily given."

" It is hard, lady, to part with you thus," said the tudent, with considerable warmin; "but I subsake, to your home, and I shall not, unauthorisedly repeat my visit."

"Then be it so, lady! I shall not urge my request. I have been serviceable to you, but I shall not be importunate. Farewell! one kiss, and pro- and a stout heart, were his protectors; all else he hand at the bellows," as he expressed the increasbably we part forever!"

As he spoke he passed his arm around the waist of the unknown female; but, starting from him, she exclaimed, "Ask it not," and pressed a ring upon his finger.

The student drew himself up to his full height. and carelessly returning the gem, while he coldly remarked,-" You mistake me, lady; I am no mercenary. Keep your ring; farewell! God bless

von !!! 🗸 The unknown one paused; she seemed to be iresolute. Next moment, in a tone half reproachful and half jesting, she added,-

Be it so; the kiss or the ring is yours; but be advised, and choose the latter." " Forgive me, lady, if I reject your counsel:"

" Foolish boy! Must you then have, a choice!

sálute. "Are you in perfect security? Do not dismiss

your guard rashly." " I am now in perfect safety; for my, sake, keep this ring; but as you value me, follow me not .-Assuredly we shall meet again, and I may yet ren-

der good service for the debt I owe you." She said, and spring from his side into a deep and covered alley. No lamp was there to light it and dark and narrow as it was, in a moment no door. Judging from appearances, the space within cell stackered his pace, allowed the viban to come trace of his companion was visible. Purcell linger. was a garden, for the tops; of trees were visible: ed for a time about the place. He carefully observed a brass plate was on the door; but the dim light with a light military cleak; then exchanging her ed the opening of the alley, and having noted the prevented him from reading the name engraved od speed, left his pursuers easily. His escape was

wards the university and the first When he reached his chambers, his servant was gone to bed, and the fire extinguished. He struck that an extensive brewery, or some such be a light; and for the first time, remarked the extraladeed, the city of Dublin presented a melan. exclaimed the corporal for such rank Juck Middle.

"Heaven be praised to ship or dinary beauty of the ring, which the unknown exclaimed the corporal for such rank Juck Middle."

"Heaven be praised to ship or dinary beauty of the ring, which the unknown exclaimed the corporal for such rank Juck Middle."

ning is such as called for double vigilance; and no ed this unknown female. Stephen mentally retract the spot from which its intermitting sparkle came. mitted to keep the streets without the countersign. to its close, summed it all up in one deep sigh, und inous dwelling. The light which guided him shone

He slept longer than usual ; and when his serand every effort of the government is strained to vant awoke him, he produced a sealed parcel, len proper y. Here, however, he might glean some insure his arrest. By heaven! I will give the re- which had been left early that morning in the rooms information; the severity of the night made any ward, and this left arm from the shoulder, to him by a porter. He found his cloak and forzging cap, shelter desirable; and, after a moment's presoluwho will bring me vis-a-vis to this rebel peer!"- neatly folded up; and a little billet in beautiful Italian characters, returning him thanks for his protect mittanco. tion on the preceding night, and expressing a hope that he had found no difficulty in gening home, as noticed it from within. At last a coarse voice dethe streets had been unusually distorbed. The note inanded his name and business. "He was a strat was written on embossed paper; the language, the ger, and wanted some refreshment." After much folding, the seal, were all expressive of good taste whispering, and a considerable delay, the door was and elegance; but the billet bore neither address cautiously opened. "No, I never saw him; but I have every mark nor signature. His eager enquiries were unattendof his person so deeply registered in my memory, sed with any information. The old college women or of the mansion. A finthy counter was covered knew nothing, but that "she had received from a with pewter measures and foul dram glusses; and no questions; why should she? she had other and the smoke of bad tobacco, were overwhelming

Purcell had indulged in the hope that the return of his cloak might lead him to some knowledge-of by the host into an inner apartment, where, in a remarked it, and continued-" Fear nothing my the fair one who had worn it the preceding night : but now, that chance of discovering her had failed. hurry on events. Let the traitors rise—we shall He sat down, professedly to breakfast, but soon lost himself in reverie over the tea-cup. After an hour's rumination, he sprang up, fidgeted about the room, took a half a round of the park, came back, dressed, ordered his horse, and rode off towards the Lib-

there was not a division of the town which had not ploit. For two long hours he traversed every street of porter. adjacent to the place where the fair one vanished "Pass on," said the soldier; "all's well" In the He pushed through courts and alleys, where a horseman had soldom ventured, discovered lanes tion was i destinct, and confined to cant and whisonly known to washerwomen, back passages to pers. The pseudo-sailor, to all appearance, discus-"Halt, who goes there?" Purcell lett the flags breweries, tan yards, dyeing-houses, and the end- sed his porter at his ease; but he was very far from less variety of appurtenances belonging to the busy being comfortable; and as he stole a side-glauce multitude who inhabit that mixed abode of penury at his companions in the corner, he clenched his and opulence; and, after a tiresome research, re- black-thorn stick beneath the table, and collected

Evening came. For a wonder, the student was the college park, he drank his wife in unsocial stowing, as they passed, a most ominous sidesolitude. The daily papers were on the table, but glance on the unsuspecting sailor-as he scemed fair object excluded all other thoughts. After ma- utes with the landlord, then leaving the house, the ture deliberation, Stephen at last concluded that he door was carefully locked after they departed.

where, under such mysterious circumstances, he had lost sight of his handsome incognita.

As a preparatory step, Purcell laid aside his unimit. Let me conduct you, for your own safety's ments for disguise; but nevertheless he selected a the landle d manifested decided reluctance to local for the night, he bent his course towards the Lib- en windows and shartered doors.

It was now dark, and the night threatened to be inclement; the wind was rising, the dust whirled sent ruffians, whom he naturally suspected to have round in eddies, presently large drops of rain tell, and the appearance of a coming storm increased. creaked, the windows rattled, the sentiles kept flickering light; and when the young college man teached the alley in Thomas street, the rain fell in torrents, and the storm raged violently.

The entrance of the alley was covered over, and there the student paused to consider what course he jed to rush into the lune. The landlord immediateshould pursue. The severity of the night, and the Lly threw himself across, but with his left hand peril of the times, had cleared the streets of passen. Purcell knocked him down, and unburt by a blow and placing the ring gently in her hand, he bent his gers, and no one was abroad but the pickets. No levelled at him with a bludgeon by a ruftam webwithout observation, and Stephen Purcell went carefully on.

The alloy was extremely narrow : some wretched houses rose at either side, and their ruinous exterior, and the poles and cords suspended from the upper windows for dying linen; showed that their occupants were of the meanest order of the community. At the bottom of this passage there was a wall of extraordinary height; with a small wicket-

ings. From these appearances, Purcell concluded

large size and exquisite lustre. From it his eye gusts through the confined passages, there reigned turned to the bonnet and cloak, which Jack Mid- around a dea h-like stellness. The public lumps "The reputation of the Liberty is any thing but dieton had left upon the table. The one was coarse had not then been extended as far as this remote complimentary to its toyalty. On any other night and considerably worn; the other of common mand cheerless district; a colliary light entitled its level trave conducted you without delay to your terials and vulgar fashion. How inexplicable late feeble rays at a considerable distance, and, directdestination, for I am tolerably well known to the value of the gem so much at variance with the ed by its irregular flashes, which scarcely pierced police and military; but the information this eve- coarseness of the dress. A strange mystery involve the dense atmosphere, the collegian approached

the lowest kind : or, as was more probable from its lonetiness, a tlash receptacle for vagabonds and stotion, he struck the door, and boldly demanded ad-

His knock was thrice repeated before any one

Nothing could be more wretched than the interito any organs but those of the night-birds who infested this infernal cabaret. Purcell was conducted boxed recess, sat four men of very villainous pres-

Bold and reckless as the student was, he would have retreated had escape been practicable; but the outer door had been jealously closed the very moment that he passed it. No choice remained, but to wait patiently for a favorable opportunity to retire. The host, in anything but an enconcaging No one knew the st of better than Stephen Purcell: tone, demanded what he would please to drink. and the college-man, assuming as much indifferbeen the scene of some old adventure or wild ex. sence as he could, in a rough voice asked for a pot

Every eye was bent upon the stranger by the ruffian group in the remote box; and their conversahis strength and courage for the struggle which he concluded would be inevitable. Meantime two of alone; and seated at a window which overlooked the party left the room; not, however, without be-

was in love! and what the devil else could ail | Purcell after some little delay, resolved to ascerhim? He kissed the ring, re-read the billet, ex- tain whether he would be permitted to leave the believe me, the knowledge would not serve you." amined the bonnet, and, for the first time, detected house without opposition. He suspected that he "Let the proof be with me," said the youth, the name of "Ann Brady," badly written in the should be waylaid by the villains who had left the room; but they were but two, and, without, he Had he now discovered the unknown one? "Ann thought his chances of escape were better than if Brady!" Pshaw! the letters were like hedge- he waited an at ack within. Purcell in resolve and stakes; and could that beautiful hand, which he action was equally prompt; saizing the pewter had pressed last night at parting, indite villainous measure, whose contents were but lightly dimindress; the name of my preserver shall never fade | characters like those? No, no; she was as much | ished, he struck upon the table, demanded what the Ann Brady as he was Prester John! He sprang reckoning was and flung a shilling to the host. The from the table in a frenzy, strode for five minutes | landlord lifted the silver and with a meaning took up and down the room, and, unable to control his observed, as he handed the change, 'that " porter impatience, determined once more to visit the place | had but one price-he was in an honest housedid he mean any offence !"

Purcell easily perceived his object, but determined to leave him no excuse to commence a quarrel. form, and assumed the jacket, trowsers, and straw He suited his answer accordingly, and rising from hat, of a sailor. Doubtless he chose these habili- the table made a step or two towards the door; but most becoming one. No dress shows a well-made his guest. What hurry was le in? He kno kman to more advantage. Stephen had probably as- | ed loud enough to get in; nobody wanted him; if "No, no, no; I am on the very point of leaving certained the fact; and, in his frequent rambles, he pupile had pains, people should have profit. Was adopted this as a favorite costume. Perilous as the he to be disturbed for a shabby pint of porter : Not times were, he carried no secret weapon on his he. The night too, was as had as ever; the rain person; a well-tried black-thorn, a vigorous arm, was falling in buckets till, and there was a fiesh left to fortune, and having obtained the pass word i ing storm, which came moaning through the brok-

The student had anticipated the result, and determined to force an egress before the return of the ableft the house on no good errand. The fellows in the corner arose while the landlord was speaking; Purcell walked quickly forward. The sign-boards but at the instant a knock was heard at the door, followed by a low and peculiar whistle. "All's within their boxes, the lamps gave an unsteady and right, boys," sa'd the host to the "ruffian twain;" and leaving the room, Purcell heard the front door open.

"Now or never !" the student mutered between his teeth, and springing into the tap-room, attemptout he leaped over the prostrate lost and followed by the remainder of the gang, fled towards the narrow alloy which had conducted him to this villain-

Of escape he had now had little doubt : the first movement was the parilous part of the attempt, and it had succeeded. Once in the narrow alley, he might bid defiance to his pursuers; and if he gained Thomas street, he should be within call of the picket. One of the party gained upon him : Purup, then turning with amazing quickness, felied him to the earth; and rusning toward with increasgullantly managed and the alley was beside him. Proud of his bold adventure, he sprang into the with this resolve, he slowly retraced his steps to- ed to the lett, and in that direction several large- daik entrance, and found himself in the grasp of anzed and loffychimneys rose above the other build- several men who disarmed him in a twinkling bound his arms with a cord, and his even with a that an extensive brewery, or some such building, handkerchief, and in a determined whisper told him to be silent, or his life should be the rentity.

[CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.]