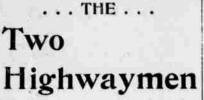
THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE-MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 4, 1895.



By DAVID WECHSLER.

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CHAPTER I.

I began at last to think that the ball would never come to an end. I had 'Beauty unadorned is best adorned.' 1 looked forward to it with absolute dread, for I was well aware of the plan which my uncle and Madam Trelawney had devised between them. I had already recognized that the lady's son was charming in his boyish frankness. but I had seen from the first that i was intended he should propose to m before the night was ended-this night of all nights in the year!-and I was resolved on my part that he should do

nothing of the sort, Truly, he was a gallant boy; I can fancy (for an old woman may surely fell her grandchildren she once was beautifub that we made a pretty couple as we danced together; I know that madam treated me with quite un usual consideration, and once 1 caught her watching us with an altogether delightful air of satisfaction. Frank, too did his dutiful best to offer me such attentions as are proper in a lover; and though I was resolved to thwart his mother, and to keep him from courting rejection. I could not but enjoy the litthe play in which I was acting. I pletured the surprise of all the good folks who were now watching me, when the news of the morrow should reach them. And, though I longed for the end of the ball, and the more serious adventure which was destined to follow, I

found the situation vastly amusing. Perhaps it was this fact which chiefly helped me to keep poor Frank at a dis-

"You are always laughing at a man." he said, reproachfully, during an interval between two dances; and upon my soul I was hard put to it to find an answer. I could scarcely say that for him I had only pity; and yet this would have been the truth, even though I was well aware that his disappointment would be only for a week or two.

At any rate, when the hour of our departure had come, his devotion was still undeclared, and madam looked upon me a shade less kindly, I thought, when I went to take farewell of her. But, in truth, I was by this time too completely overcome by excitement to notice little details in the comportment of these people. They were all conspirators against my happiness and Dick's, I knew they would be checkmated within the hour, and already I could have laughed in their faces.

My uncle was a great gamester, and never known to lose his coolness. On this night he had gained a large sum at



npowder, and is worth about \$89 a tor wasted. There were others who must use this road in returning from the ball, and there was the risk of their coming to the rescue of my dear uncle, and spoiling the plans on which so much depended. Moreover, I conceived that my uncle would be hugely angry when he discovered how prettily he had been deceived; it was possible he might be carried by his resentment as to make it appear that this mock robbery was real, and so bring Dick to serious trouble. It

was with great relief I saw that it was ended. The highwayman spoke again. "You have a lady in your company," he said. "I must trouble her-"

"Scoundrel!" said my uncle, angrier than he had been at all. "Do you rob helpless women also?" Oh, but you quake shall hang high!"

"Beauty," quoted the highwayman-'and I am sure the lady is beautiful-



How Well I Knew It.

must ask the lady to step from her carriage a moment and give me the jewels of which she surely has no need."

My uncle would have hindred me but I was past him in a moment, and stepped out of the carriage. "Your necklet," said the highway-

man, holding forth his hand. I took the pearls from my neck, and pressed his hand in passing it to him. 'Be quick!' I said, in a whisper

Where is your horse?" He paused a moment, "I saw the gleam of a bracelet," he said. "I must relieve you of that, also,"

Again I obeyed him, but the fear that others would come while he still stopped fooling became more urgent. "I'm ready," I whispered, so eagerly that I wonder my uncle did not hear. 'Why do you wait?"

Again there was a pause. He ap peared a little disconcerted. "And I think you are wearing a ring," he went I took the ring from my finger; as I

gave it to him I clutched his hand, secure in the protecting darkness, "Take "Take mel" me!" I said

lighted laugh. "Dost mean it, sweet?" he cried.

"Come, then "" I gave a scream of alarm (a portion

f the play we had arranged together) is he caught me round the walst and landed me upon his horse. A moment later I was clinging to him for dear llfe as we dashed headlong into the

The dryness of the South African climate supposed to account for the richness of latest find, which, it is stated, will reduce the price of the mineral one-half. FROM BEYOND THE SEA.

Brazil has ordered arms and war material to the amount of \$5,069,000 from the Armstrongs, of Newcastle-on-Tyne. General Pape, governor of Berlin, has been relieved, and General Baron von Loe been relieved, and General Baron vo has been appointed to succeed him. The seamen and dock laborers who are ut on strike at Buenos Ayres are grow

ing turbulent. Acts of violence have been reported. Emperor William, of Germany, has sent \$2,000 for the inhabitants of Calabria and Sicily who suffered by the recent earth

> Siam has sent a consulting engineer to India to inspect the irrigation and water-works with a view to inaugurating a system at home.

> Fetes have been fixed for the coming season at Monaco, Battles of flowers will be held on Feb, 19 and April 15 and an international regatta on March 17 and

Lord Lorne has been appointed judge in the thousand guineas competition of the Statiet for the best plan of customs union between Great Britain and the colanles. At the fete of Reveillon in Paris on Christmas eve 55,000 dozen oysters, 2,250 kilos of fish, 100,090 kilos of fowl, 65,090 extract food.

plates of tripe and 75,000 kilos of meat were In connection with the failure of the potato crop in Ireland, the local government board has offered to advance money

without interest for the purchase of seed polatoes for poor tenants.

Car Nicholas has made reductions in the establishment of the police charged with the safe custody of his person, but has not, as recently reported, decided to entirely abolish the secret police.

During a recent hunt at Castel Poziano, King Humbert killed seventy odd wild boars. Two were sent as a present to Signor Crispl, one to every other min-ister of state, ambassador and foreign minister, and the rest were given to civil and military officials of the royal house.

A light and heat exhibition is to be opened in London next May. All means of lighting and heating, civil, naval und military, will be illustrated. Photography will also be represented, and a historical gallery will furnish examples of lighting from the exhibit area in to the present from the earliest ages up to the present

Thirty-three fatal accidents occurred in the Alps last year. Three were caused by lightning, two by the fall of ava-lanches, two through the descent of heavy stones, six from exposure and exhauston after snow storms, fourteen from falling down precipices, six from pursuing dan-gerous paths and the other eight in the

course of ordinary elimbing. The number of divorce cases in the Scottish courts during 1894 is returned as 138, a decrease of twelve on the preceding year. Relatively to population this number is much higher than that in the Eng-lish courts, which is explained by the fact that Scottish law places the sexes on a footing of equality and also grants divorce on the ground of desertion,

A bust in memory of the late Emile de Laveleye, the celebrated Belgian economist, has been placed in the Salle de Par Again he was silent for a moment. Perdus of Liege university in which he When he spoke it was in a curiously altered voice, and with a little de-was announced that the balance of the subscriptions, amounting to \$4,000, ha-bee handed over to the Academy of Bel glum for the purpose of founding a prize in honor of M. de Laveleye.

In several of the towns of Istria, Austria-Hungary, the authorities have struck from the jury lists of this year the names of all Italians who only know their mother tongue and have entered those only who can speak the Slavonic languages as well. The inhabitants of the towns of

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I Caught Her Watching Us

the cards. But, for all that, I fancy he had taken a goodly quantity of liquor during the evening. I noticed that his voice was a little thick. No sooner ere we seated in his coach than he lay back in a corner and slept peacefully. Soon he was snoring.

I was thus left alone. Indeed, I could not have talked with him had it been otherwise; yet I now wished f were compelled to try, for the excitement I was in came near to being unendurable I could see nothing through the windows of the coach, nothing but the dim reflection of my own pale face against a background of utter darkness. Had I been able to take note of the landmarks as we passed them, 1 might have been calmer; as it was, we had hardly been gone from the house five minutes when I began and continued to feel passionately assured that the very next moment would be productive of the event to which I looked forward so eagerly.

The drive appeared interminable. I began to think that Dick must have come early and grown tired of waiting, and I knew that if he did not keep tryst, my heart would simply break. And then, frightening me despite my eager anticipation of it, came the first

I saw a sudden blackness move past the window. A pistol cracked, and as the carriage ceased to move I heard a man's voice speaking sternly to the coachman and his companion on the box. It struck me the sternness way singularly well acted; for the coachman had been in the plot from the first. He happened to have a fancy for my mald Genefer, and Dick's bride was a superfluity once she had undertaken to make sure of him.

My uncle stirred in his corner, muttering incoherentiy, but he was still more than half asleep when the door of the coach was opened, and a tall, low graceful figure thow well I knew it?) stood dimly outlined against the darkness. The newcomer was masked, and put a pistol to my uncle's head.

"You ride late, sir," he said; and I wondered at the skill with which he disguised his voice. "I presume voi carry firearms, and must ask that you will trust them to my keeping."

I can hardly report my uncle's words Indeed, they were not coherent, so great was his indignation. But he gave up his pistols and the highwayman straightway flung them far into the darkness.

"Your purse," he continued, politely Then when he had received this also "Sir Richard Courtney's luck at the cards has passed into a proverb. Tell your friends, ser, that you have given

recent exchange of courtesies between kind in England which has done so, him and President Caldwell, of the Its conditioning-house, which and been Nickel Plate, now also general manager of the Lake Shore, President Newell would give a man a \$100 bill and never think twice about it. When it came to giving passes over the Lake 220,000 officers and men on the regimental roll, a number in excess of that provided for in the army estimates. Of these Shore he was adamantine in his refusal. Those he did give were so limited to special trains that a number of the officials of the company have

never yet ridden on the limited or fast and the remainder in the Channel Islands mail trains. -38,000 in the colonies and Egypt and 78, 000 in India and Burmah. Canada has the It is the custom for all railroad presidents to interchange annual passes, and services of about 1,509 imperial soldiers on a recent New Year President Newell made up his list of exchange passes and

sent them out. Across the end of the one he sent President Caldwell was printed in red ink the words:

- Not Good on Limited
- Fast Mail Trains. By return mall came President Caid-

well's annual pass on the Nickel Plate for President Newell, Across its face in flaring red ink and in the bold handwriting of President Caldwell were

written the words; Not Good on Passenger

Trains.

This recalls the story of the general passenger agent in Philadelphia, or somewhere, who was wont to limit excursion tickets so closely that the passengers had to be on the alert in surrendering the return coupon as soon as they entered the car on the return journey, lest it turn to dust and ashes in their hands. One day the general passenger agent's fish dealer got stuck with one of those tickets (the conditions being printed in very fine type) and he determined to get even. So the next fish delivered was carefully selected for its very evident lack of freshness, and, of course, the cook reported it to the general passenger agent; but on close inspection the wrapping paper was found to bear, in small letters, the fol-

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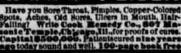












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