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AMUSEMENTS.

kicked off both his slippers (which the added: "But, mind you, I haven't yet Nubian of the fan impassively restored promised I'll take her. My system got

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## By JULIAN HAWTHORNE.

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## CHAPTER III.

took his cigarette case from his pocket, | and exalting her by a union with myselected a cigarette and said to the Nubian of the nargileh; "Boy, a light." After obtaining it he drew in a whilf or two with a thoughtful air and then turned gravely to his host.

"Prince," he said, in a tone of icy dis-tinciness, "it is fortunate for you that I did not take your bravado in earnest. If I thought," he continued, with a stern and keen look, "that you actually meditated violence to me and thereby to the all-powerful nation which I represent-if I believed that, within three months your kingdom would have been wiped from the map, and you and your subjects would be on your way to New York to become waiters in the public restaurants?"

There was a silence. Both smoked. Meryon with long, servere inhalations, his highness with short, sharp puffs At last he said: "Your statement, Mery-on Pacha, seems improbable. I have indeed heard that your nation is great, and I know that the ways of Allah are



## 'And It's Your Fault.

unfathomable. Injustice dwells not in my heart. You will admit that you have been hospitably entertained-' Meryon stiffly inclined his head, at the same time slightly lifting one eyebrow and shrugging the opposite shoulder-"but it has come to my ears that you have ventured to look upon and even I caused word to be sent to her that, on to address communications to the princess, my daughter, apparently presuming her capable of deigning-Once more Meryon interrupted, "Prince, you employ words which I was my whim to lay aside the cares of this out-of-the-way little corner, for a while, as a mere traveling artist. But in birth, station and power you're simply not in sight, beside me, not to mention your interesting family."

Nublan defuly caught and replaced.

higher strains with humbler blood, and Meryon did not at once reply. He I have had thoughts of bonoring you

> A dozen things rushing at the same instant to get uttered at his highness' single mouth, naturally got wedged, like people trying to escape from a burning theater, and the prince became crimson, but said nothing at all. Meryon west on:

> "But a serious objection has arisen, for which you are primarily to blame, and which you must remove if I am to go on with the scheme. Terah-though I'm confident she is a good little girl and personally incapable of cvil-is, nevertheless, conventionally speaking, damaged goods. And it's your fault." The novelty of his sensations was hypnotizing the prince. His eyes rolled utward, and his breathing was sten-

orious. But he no longer attempted to fore, and somebody must be killed, but address the meeting. have spoken of Hatipha; it shall be! "Qui facit per allum, facit per se." the American continued; "you are to blame for the crimes of your head his hide in strips an inch wide. I will unuch, for you ought to have known burn out his eyes with hot needles. 1 setter than to instruct such a clumsy

beast with such delicate responsibili- hands and feel. I will rub his carcass with red pepper and sirup, impale himties. Either from brute carelessness or upon a stake ten feet long, and set him vorse, this fellow, Hatipha, the other day, suddenly sprung Terah on me with her countenance in a condition which I Yea, by the beard of the prophet, he shudder to describe. It-she-I-in shall be taught etiquette?" Meryon mused and shook his head, short, her yell was down!" Here Mer-

on bowed his head upon his knees, and "The punishment is too light," he finalremors shook his frame. ly said. "Ordinarlly, I might be satis-Inarticulate gurglings came from the d with it, for I am more forgiving

and tender-hearted than a woman, But rince's lips. Drops of sweat formed senenth the rim of his turban and ran this dog's offense demands some really down into his beard. This was a great adequate penalty. I think I must have day for him, never to be forgotten! him boxed up and sent to New York to be naturalized and run for mayor on "Anyone less magnanimous and char-

itable than I would have turned his his record. It is necessary, too, that back upon her and you forever," the my honor is vindicated. I will think it artist went on presently. "Such an over. In the meantime let him be outrage upon an unsuspecting guest shadowed."

"Is the penalty you made a very ter-rible one?" asked the prince. can hardly be too severely resented. But compassion for Terah-who was

"Merely to really as much shocked as I was-and Meryon smiled wearily, read the account of it in the newspafriendship for you, led me to forbear. pers is punishment enough for most certain conditions, I would try to over- crimes," he replied. "I hate to inflict it; look the matter. And I am now here, but mercy is one thing, weak indulgence prince, to tell you what the conditions do sin, such as your proposition would amount to, is another. And from the are.

His highness, with eyes goggling reputation of the woman I marry every won't take from you. 'Deigning!' Does the tom-tit condescend to the eagle? It front of him and rapidly closed and ex- "As to that," said the prince, whose was my whim to lay aside the cares of sovereignty (which I must resume on my return home) and masquerade in to catch hold of an elusive word, or of and your nation is true, still I could way it was expressive. Either casily-very easily-have your head cut off, and say to your people (when

"What I require," said Meryon, with they came to ask that you had been stern impressiveness, "is your straight-out apology; and to prove its sincerity, am tender-hearted, and what you say The prince, by a nervous jerk of the it must take the form of delivering up about the princess is certainly true, elbow, upset the nargileh, which the Hatipha into my hands, to be annihi- for Hatipha himself told me so-and lated as I see fit.' Having thus deliv- other things! So I should like to have "I've been studying your little princi-pality," resumed the other, "with a garette from his case, signed to the Nu- would benefit my kingdom. But how friendly disposition to do something to improve it. I heard you had a daugh-ly: "I have spoken!" "Well, looking at it strictly as

improve it. I heard you had a daugh-ter, and it struck me she might be the The spell upon his higness was financial measure, I should say it would improve it. I heard you had a daugh-ter, and it struck me she might be the means of my helping you. I'm unmar-ried, and though I could get a wife worth a dozen of her in New York or I believe in occasionally crossing the I believe in occasionally crossing the

him, receiving in acknowledgmen a bad shock that day, and I may never a violent kick in the stomach), and be-trayed other symptoms of strong feelget over it." The prince was silent for a long time. ng. Gradually the waves of emotion doing more thinking than was perbecame less agitated, and allowed him haps good either for him or Meryon. and feel exhausted and ner-

"Meryon Pacha," he said, "I have "Allah is great. Man knows little, heen indignant. I heard reports of you and sometimes lies. Your words, Mer-which made me wish to kill you. You yon Pacha, may be truth or not. You have spoken, and made things look difwish to live; you also wish, I think, to marry my daughter; but whether



"Oh, Well, I Don't Care if I Do." ferent. I am more indignant than be-

## injure you, you have nothing to fear, I will give you a message to my ally which will tell him that you are my friend and are to be my son-in-law, and that my kingdom is in danger. Now, I am willing it should not be you. You Meryon Pacha, will you do this thing to win the princess and save the kingdom?

you desire the good of my kingdom is

as yet hidden from me. But there is

"Yes. This morning I have news that the prince, my nearest neighbor,

propared and need help. Beyond the country of my enemy lies another king-

senger from me could reach him in three days from now I should be safe.

he would be stopped and slain, for his

speech and features would betray him.

But you, Meryon Pacha, could go in

safety, for there is no war with your country, and since you are a sovereign,

a you say, and able to destroy all who

a way, if you choose, to prove it."

lifferent tone.

The American reflected a moment. will tear out his tongue, and cut off his hands and freed. I will use his comments threat of war was probably a fact; but the secret embassy was devised as a means of getting rid of him without seeming to do so. On the other hand he could not, after his late magnilo-quence, decline to do his future fatherin-law so ostensibly facile a service. There was but one weak point in his highness' argument. He put his finger

on that. "The letter which I am to take to your ally will make me known also to your enemy, if he searches me. He would treat me as a spy and 1 should have no ground of complaint."

The prince smiled an oriental smile. 'You are prudent and far-seeing, Meryon Pacha," said he. "But if I protect you from this peril, will you accept the adventure?"

"Oh, well, I don't care if I do," replied the other, twisting his red mustachios. He already had a glimpse of an expedient for making the affair serve his own purposes.

"It is well," said his highness. "Return to me at sunset today and I will give you the final directions."

"All right," returned Meryon, briefly, and the interview ended.

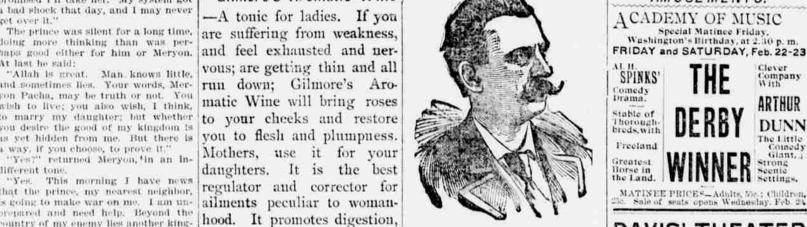
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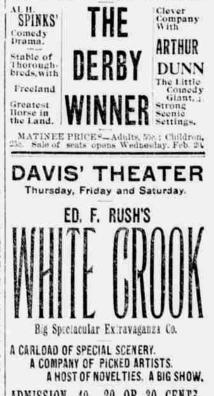
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