THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 6, 1896.



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SYNOPSIS.

<text> carried it off, threatening him with death if he betrays them. Prosper, sees that he bishop. He brings the bishop to the desert-ed house, where the dog has been shut up in a closet. All then proceed to the Palais Royal, where the queen regent is about to receive the hags captured in Flanders by the troops of Mazarin, the bishop's rival.

PART V.

Of the bevy of ladies in attendance only half a dozen entered, for a few paces within the doorway the queen stood still to receive my patron, who advanced to meet her. It seemed to me that she was not pleased to see him, and certainly her voice rang loud and peevishly as she crited: "What, my lord! Are you here? I came to re-ceive the trophies from Rorroy, and did not to expect to see you at this han?" "I bring my own excuse, madame," "I bring my own excuse, madame," he answered, unabashed. "Have I your majesty's leave to present it?" he con-timated, with a smirk and a low bow. "I came to receive the colors," she retorted, still frowning. "I bring way matery samathing

"I bring your majesty something equally to your liking," he replied. Then I think she caught his meaning.

dog-" "Your eminence never liked Flore!" the queen exclaimed. "You never made a greater mistake, madame!" the cardinal answered with unusual emphasis, "Flore-but the dog

"Your omniscience is for once at a loss!" the bishop sneered; and at a word

from him one of the ladies came forward, nursing the dog in her arma , The cardinal looked, "Umph!" said. And he looked again, frowning. I did not know then why the queen took heed even of his looks; and I started when she cried pettishly: "Well, sir, what now ?" The cardinal pursed up his lips.

The bishop could bear it no longer. "He will say presently," he cried, snorting with indignation, "that it is not the dog?" His eminence shrugged his shoulders

tinued, sulkily. "But it used to die, at the word of command, 1 think?" "What it did, it will do!" M. de Beauvais cried scornfully. "But I see that your eminence was right in one thing

you said.'

The cardinal bowed. "That I should be envied!" the bishop continued with a sneer. And he glanced round the circle. There was a general titler; a great lady at the queen's elbow laughed out. "Flore," said the queen, "die! die, good dog. Do you hear, m'dieu! die!"

But the dog only gazed into her face and wagged its tail; and though she cried to it again and angrily, it made no attempt to obey. On which a deep-drawn breath ran round the circle; one looked at another; a score of heads

for her proud, handsome Hapsburg face for her proud, handsome Hapsburg face cleared wonderfully and she clapped her hands together with a gesture of pleasure almost childish. "What?" she exclaimed. "Have you--" "Yes, mudame," he said, smiling gal-lantly. "Bonnivet!"

Bat Bonnivet had watched his mo-ment, and before the name fell clear ment, and before the name fell clear of his master's lips was beside him, and with bent knee laid the dog tenderly at her majesty's feet. She uttered a cry of joy and stood to caress it, her fair ringlets falling and hiding her face. On that I did not see exactly what happened, for her ladies flocked round her with cries that eenced hers, the courtiers pressed round them, and all that reached me, where I stood by all that reached me, where I stood by the door, took the form of excited cries of "Flore! Flore! Oh, the darling!" and the like. A few old men who stood nearest the wall and farthest from the queen raised their eyebrows and the officers standing with the colors by the door wore fallen fares; but nine by the door wore fallen faces; but nine-tenths of the crowd seemed to be fairly carried away by the queen's delight and congratulated one another as if

ten Rocroys had been won. Suddenly, while I hung in suspense expecting each moment to be called forward, I heard a little stir at my el-bow, and, looking to the side, saw the knot in the threshold break inward to give place, while several volces whis-pered: "Mazarin!" As I looked he came in, and pausing to speak to the foremost of the officers gave me the opportunity-which I had never en-joyed before-of viewing him near at band; and in a mment it flashed upon me—though now he wore his cardinal's robes and then had been very simply dressed—that it was he whose back I had seen, and whose dazzling ring had blinded me in the surday. blinded me in the garden!

The thought had scarcely grown to a conviction before he passed on, apolo-gizing almost humbly to those whom displaced and courteously to all! and this, and perhaps also the fact that the mass of those present belonged to my patron's party and were not quick to see him, rendered his progress so slow that, my name being called and everybody hustling me forward, I came face to face with the queen at the mo-ment that he did, and saw-though for awhile I was too much excited to un-derstand-what passed.

derstand-what passed. Her majesty, it seemed to me, did not book unkindly upon him. But the bishop was so full of his success and upilfted by the presence of his friends, that he could not contain himself. "Hat the cardinal." he cried; and, be-fore the queen could speak. "I hope your eminence has been as zenious in her majesty's service as I have been." "As zealous, assuredly." the cardinal

"As zealous, assuredly," the cardinal answered, meekly, "As effective? Alas? It is not given to all to vie with your rdship in affairs. But this-though I detected no smack

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were thrust forward, and some who had seemed merry enough the moment be-fore looked grave as mutes now. "It used to bark for France, and growl for Spain?" the cardinal con-tinued in his softest voice, "Perhaps—" "France!" the queen cried harshly; and she stamped on the floor, "France!

CLAIMED.

France! But the dog only retreated, cowering and dismayed; and at a distance wagged its tail pitifully. "France!" cried the queen desper-ately. The dog cowered.

"I am afraid, my lord, that it has lost its accomplishments-in your com-

the cardinal said, a faint smile pany! curling his lips. curing his lips. The bishop let drop a smothered oath. "It is the dog?" he cried passionately. But the queen turned to him sharp-ly, her face crimson. "I do not agree with you!" she replied. "And more, my lord," she continued with vehem-

ence: "I should be glad if you would explain how you came into possession of this dog. A dog so nearly resemb-ling my dog-and yet not my dogcould not be found in a moment nor without some foul contrivance." "It has forgotten its tricks," the bish-

on said. "Nonsense!" the queen retorted.

A great many faces had grown grave A great many faces had grown grave by this time. I have said that the room was falled for the most part with bishop's supporters. "At any rate, I know nothing about it. That man found dit!" he exclaimed, wiping his brow and pointing to me, between an-ger and discomfiture he stammered:

"One of my lord's servants," the cardinal said, easily. "Oh!" the queen answered, with a

world of meaning; and she looked at me with eyes before which I qualled, "Is that true, fellow?" she said. "Are you in my lord's service?" I stammered an affirmative,

"Then I wish to hear no more," she replied, haughtily. "No, my lord, Enough?" she continued, raising her voice to drown his protestations: "I

Liouga. She continued, raising her voice to drown his protestations; "I do not care to know whether you were more sinned against than sinning; or a greater fool and your adviser a knave; pray take your creature away. Doubtless, in a very short time I should have discovered the cheat for myself. I think I see a difference now. But, as it is, I am greatly indebted to his eminence for his aid-and sagacity." She brought out the last words with She brought out the last words with withering emphasis, and amid pro-found silence. The bishop, too wise after the event to persist longer in the dog's identity, still tried desperately to utter a word of excuse; but the queen, whose vanity had received a serious wound, cut him short with a curt and freezing dismissal and incredinceline

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freezing dismissal, and immediately

freezing dismissal, and humediately turning to the cardinal requested him to introduce to her the officers who had the colors in charge. It may be imagined how I felt, and what terrors I experienced during this struggle: since it required no great will to infer that the bishop, if defeated, would break his vengeance on me. Aiready a dozen who had attended his levee were fawning on the cardinal; the queen had turned her shoulder to him; a great lady, over whom he bent to hide his chagrin, talked to him in-deed, but flippantly, and with eyes half

to hide his chagrin, talked to him in-deed, but flippanily, and with eyes half closed. For all these sights, and the more real defeat which they indicated. I foresaw that I should pay; and, in a panic, 1 slid back and strove to steat away through the crowd. I reached the door in safety, and eyen the head of the stairs. But there a hand gripped my shoulder, and the steward thrust his face, white with rage into mine. "Not so fast, Master Plotter?" he hissed in my ear. "If your hide does not pay for this—if you are not lashed like a dog, until life is out of four body? If for this I do not—" "By the queen's command," said a R. LOB 320 N. 15th St., Philads., Pa