THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE-FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 17, 1896.

THE COST OF HIS HEAD. By MRS. ALEXANDER.

Author of "The Wooing O't."

(ci yright, 1896, by Bacheller, Johnson and Bachellin

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SYNOPSIS.

SYNOPSIS. Tolonel Capel, an English officer, sent ho hak command in the Cork district of life-ind during the troublesome times of the hird decade of the century, arranges to pon Mis way from Dublin and visit Mr of the sepecially charged in the sepecial of the Fenians. Capel ar-hird healt of the Fenians. Capel ar-hird healt of the Fenians. Capel ar-hird friend, Nelly O'Grady. As Grace, who her friend, Nelly O'Grady. As Grace, who h

PART IL

Capel found himself installed in a arge, luxuriously furnished bedroom. Capel found himself installed in a large, luxuriously furnished bedroom. To be sure everything that could be worn out had been considerably used, not to say frayed. Still, there was an air of luxury about the apartment which made it pleasant to the eye, and Capel dressed for dinner in a very cheerful mood. Whatever Miss Digby's first impression on his appearance had been, she was really glad to see him. What eyes she had! And how they moke. She was a good deal his junior. Yet he was a young man still. Indeed, fince he had left boyhood behind, he had rarely felt so young as at present. In a way, too, Grace Digby was not young for her nineteen years—there

In a way, too, Grace Digby was not young for her nineteen years-there was a wealth of womanliness about her that raised her above mere girlhood, and suggested heavenly ideas as to what her love would be. When Capel descended to the draw-ing-room he was cordially greeted by the master of the house, who was in possession of the hearth-rug, before a large turf fire. Digby was a tall, handsome, white-halred man, with a clear brown complexion and healthy color. There was a keen look in his dark eyes and a humorous curl in the corners of his somewhat full-lipped Digby taking the chief part, being well supported by the ex-governess. She spoke English with a decided Irish accorners of his somewhat full-lipped mouth, which suggested an all-pervad-

ing sense of fun. "Begad, I am sorry I wasn't at home to receive you." he said, when he had inducted his guest into a comfortable armchair. "But I am sure Grace took



"MY DEAR MADAM . . . THIS IS A REAL PLEASURE."

care of you! And tomorrow I'll show you a bend in the stream where you'll find trout galore. Are you a lover of the rod? It's the only sort of sport to be had thus " be had at this time." "I can't say I am much of an angler. I prefer shooting, and still more hunt-

bility they incur, and the misery they

"Yes, well content," murmured the sufferer, stretching out her hand and adding some words in French, which no one heeded, for the bearers lifted the . chair and its occupant, and went away upstairs, followed by all the women present. "Come back and have another glass "claret, Capel," said the host, "This

of claret. Capel," said the host. "This is rather an unlucky turn. A wrench of that kind is bad for a woman of madame's years.' "She seems remarkably vigorous," re-turned Capel. "I observed that when the servants let her go, to place the chair behind her, she stood quite firm for a moment, holding on to the ban-Massarene would not have parted with nister

you, especially as we looked for you yesterday in vain." A little more talk, another glass of

yesterday in vain." "Ab, mon ami!-my var' goot friend! I am obliged to hasten my steps! Mon son, my Victor, is ill. He needs the presence of his mother, and I must hasten to him. But you, dear Mr. Digby, you look well, and these dear children," a wave of her fan toward Grace and her cousin, "they bloom like the fair flowers a vary fartdhuahrdhun "Chi's and they were interrupted by the entrance of Grace. "Well," cried Digby. "Oh! she seems easier. Nurse has bound up her ankle loosely, with some of the famous lotion, and put her to had. Nell is going to stay with her and bed. Nell is going to stay with her, and I have come to give you your tea, which is ready in the drawing room." the fair flowers a very fatrdluahrdluu the fair flowers they are!"

The gentlement followed her, and after the "cup which cheers," etc., Capel asked for a song, "Come into the next room," she said. He obeyed, and found its chief fur-niture was a harp and a plano, a guitar and stands full of music books "I fear you have had a very fatigu-ing journey, madame." "Mo fol, it was a trying one! the last I shall make in this green isle of "Pray do not say so! Let me pre-sent my friend, Colonel Capel, to you, a gentieman of Somersetshire whose acquaintance we had the pleasure of making in Bath last winter." and stands full of music books. Grace Digby drew the harp to her, and proceeded to tune it. "Is it not unlucky?" she said. "It will be some days before madame can

"I am very pleased to know you, sir," and she made him an enormous come downstairs, but nurse says it is not a bad sprain." "What a useful person," snid Capel. courtesy. "If you please, miss, the dinner is

"I should have liked you to see more of Mme, de Suresne; she is a most agreeable companion." Served, said the cranky, nowing but-ler, with a discontented snift, "Come, madame. It is a long time since 1 have had this pleasure," said the host, offering his arm, "W'il you take Nelly?" said Miss "Yes; it is unlucky all around; but you are to sing, are you not?" Grace looked smilingly into his eyes.

"You shall have an old Irish ditty. I want to steep you in things Irish. Then you will understand and like us." "Like!" he echoed, "You have taught he more than liking!"

me more than liking!" Grace shook her, head at him with coquettish warning, and stretching her white arms across the chords, began the sweet, wild, pathetic bailnd, "Sa-vourneen Deelish," while Capel listened attentively. (To Be Continued.)

BUSINESS BREVITIES.

cent, but frequently lapsed into French, with which her host was fa-MARCH EXPORTS .- The Bureau of Statistics in its monthly statement of imports and exports shows that the ex-portation of domestic merchanidse dur-ing March amounted to \$73,950,296, 29 Capel found his young hostess most gracious and charming. She asked him if he would ride with her the following day, as she was afraid her fa-ther had some magisterial business to transact in the town. "We call Bal-Bnager a 'town,' Colonel Capel. I do not fancy it looks like one to you." gain of more than \$10,000,000 over March, 1895., For the last nine months there was a gain of over \$51,300,000. The hm was a gain of over \$51,300,000. The m-ports of merchandise during March amounted to \$66,383,938, of which about \$31,000,000 was free of duty. The loss for the month as compared with March, 1895, was about \$3,000,000. There was, "Oh, bedad, it thinks itself a fine town!" cried Digby. "I haven't been down there this week past, so I must however, a gain for the nine months of about \$72,100,000; the excess of the ex-ports for the month over the total im-ports was \$9,144,016. In March, 1895, "Pray do not trouble yourself about

me," Capel was beginning, when De-lany, the butler, who had just lifted ports was \$9,144,016. In March, 1895, the imports of merchandise exceeded the exports by \$4,133,646. The exports of gold coin and buillon during March aggregated \$354,080, and the imports \$677,733. The silver coin and buillon ex-ports during March amounted to \$5,014,-726, and the imports to \$1,355,526. Ex-ports of general merchandise from the port of New York for the week ended vesterial an aggregated \$7,128,554 against the cover from a pair of roast duck-lings, put in his contribution to the with the odd familiarity which formely existed in Ireland with nearly abject respect for "The Masther" and the "fam'lly." "A' then I'm glad nayther yourself

nor the young ladies were down in the own today, anyways." "How so, Delany?" "Sure, I thought the sight would lave

served." said the cranky, looking but-

Dig'r, with a laughing look at Capel. "Why not both?" remarked Nelly.

"Certainly," he returned, offering an

arm to each. "Madame," of course, sat on Mr. D'g-by's right, and Grace placed Capel on the same side opposite Miss O'Grady.

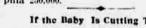
The dinner was good and abundant, and conversation flowed freely, Mr.

yesterday aggregated \$7,138,554 against \$6,721,132 the preceding week, and \$7, 553,987 the same week last year; since January 1, \$113,235,688, against \$103,035.-920 hat year. "Sure, I thought the sight would have me eyes this eventh', when I went down just to say a word to Finigan's mother— she dying, an' making a beautiful end, rest her sow!!—what should I see but the polls sticking up a play card, offer-ing five hundred pounds for that illi-830 last year. CASH RESERVE OF BANKS .- Th proportion of cash held to deposits of all the national banks in this country all the national banks in this country iast September, when full report was made to the comptroller of currency, was 28.68 per cent. In Pennsylvania it was 28.65 per cent. In the three central reserve cities it was 28.40 per cent., and in the other reserve cities it as 30.04 per cent. In all reserve cities it was 29.18 per cent. and in the banks of the coun-try outside the leading cities it was 29.18 ant boy's head, young Valentine Cos-tello's—the cruel murdering devils! Five hundred pounds no less! and" (with a glance at his master's military guest "what is be but a boy that's not come to his right sense yet? Sure, in a year or so, he'll know better!"

a year or so, he'll know better?" "In the meantime he may do a lot of mischief," said Capel, gravely. "That's true!" cried Digby, "if only young fellows and enthusiasts would stop and think of the awful responsi-

try outside the leading cities it was 28.19 per cent. Under the law the banks of this country must keep their cash re-serve above 25 per cent. of their de-north posits.

smaller population than New York. smaller population than New York, has 10,000 more residence houses. In the second-class cities of the West, such as Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Detroit, Kansas City, etc., the



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ing." "I hope we shall be able to show you "I hope we shall be autumn! I only "I hope we shall be able to show you some sport in the autumn! I only heard the day before yesterday that you were to take command of the south-west district. I hope you'll stay over the winter. We count Cork next door. It's not much more than thirty-five miles."

Here Ellen, or more commonly Nelly O'Grady came in, and, joining her uncle on the hearth-rug, passed her

arm through his. "What is only thirty-five miles off, dear?" she asked. dear?" "The beautiful city called Cork, darlin.' Faith, our horses ought to know the way there! My girls have the devil's own duck of a milliner there. a French woman no less, and no matter, what wars and blockades and scrimmages are going on, she manages to have the latest modes from Paris. it's my belief she invents them all in her own back parlor, and fixes her price, too."

The more to her credit, uncle,

"The ladies can hardly go and re-turn that distance in a day." "No, nor the horses, either; but mad'moiselle is most accommodating She has elegant lodgings to let, over the shop, where her favorite customers may try on from morning till night, and empty the pockets of mankind in these parts,"

"Come, uncle! Grace and I are the most prudent young women in Munster

"Faith, you are, my jewel! Why, here's madame."

The door opened as he spoke, and Grace Digby entered. She wore a dress of delicate gray, the long plain direc-tone skirt belied out at the bottom with several narrow flounces; and a with several narrow nounces; and a lace fichu crossed over the bosom be-came her well. Capel could hardly turn his eyes from her to the figure which leaned on her arm, though it

was sufficiently remarkable. A tall, stiff old lady, clad in a gor-geous brocaded silk of many colors, looped up over a quilted petticoat, long lace mittens over her hands and arms

-very white hair piled on the top of her head-and a large, half handker-chief of costly black lace thrown over it and tied loosely under her chin, a small diamond star fastening the point of her hair in front. Her checks were highly rouged, and in striking con-trast to this effect of youth she wore large blue spectacles. She was angu-in figure and held herself very up-right. Crace hastily. A pause followed which was broken by the old French lady who observed: "Ah, yes, I well remem-ber him, he was what you call one imp of mischief!" As soon as the cloth was removed the ladles left the room, in spite of Mr. Digby's gallant remonstrance. The door semed scarcely to have closed upon them, and Mr. Digby was in the act of drawing his chair nearer to -very white halr piled on the top of her head-and a large, half handker-

"My dear Mme, de Suresne," cried her host, advancing with empressment, and bowing over her hand. "This is a real pleasure. We feared that the surest pleasure is a sure that the sure that the surest pleasure is a sure that the surest pleasure is a sure that the surest pleasure is a sure that the sure the sure that the sure that the sure that th real pleasure. We feared that my lady



ause, they would see 'tis better to bea COAL TRADE REVIEW .- The anthe ills we have." "And I seed that informin' American

Jeff'ries along with the polis, an' his pocket stuck out with the bills, an' a paste pot in his hands. He'll be havsome night," put in the footman. "Howld your tongue, Watty," said Delaney in a loud bitter aside. "A long legged blundering gosson of your sort has no call to prate with the gentry!" Capel listened in amused astonish-

ment to this unheard of mingling of ment to this unneard of minging of mentals in the talk of their masters, while he noticed that Grace's cheeks grew pale. "This barbarous country is not fit

for so tender a soul," he thought. "Five hundred pounds for Val Cos tello's head! I never thought it would be worth so much!" cried Nelly, with a slightly hysterical laugh.

"Probably he never knew its value before," said Mme, de Suresne, "Did you know this rebel?" asked Capel in much surprise,

"As children we played together, but he went to France, and we have not seen him for many years," replied

CAPEL LIFTED HIS HAND, EX-CLAIMING: "WHAT'S THAT?"

"I did not hear anything," said the other,

"Some one called. I fancled it was

"Some one called. I fancled it was Miss Digby's voice." Her father rose at once, and went out of the room followed by Capel. In the hall they found a group of servants, with Grace and her cousin, gathered around Mme, de Suresne, whom the butler and the footman were in the act of raising from the narounded floor.

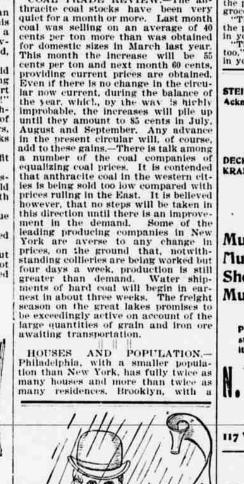
of raising from the parqueted floor. "What is the matter?" cried Digby. "Oh! It's so unfortunate!" cried Grace: "dear Mme. de Suresne slipped and fell. I fear she has sprained or dis-located her ankle. See, she is in great pain " A low mean large from the sufpain." A low moan broke from the suf-

"Send for nurse!" cried Nelly, As she spoke, a stout, square, well-dressed woman came to them quickly, tollowed by a man in a striped waistcoat, car-

rying a cane chair. "Here!" cried nurse. In authoritative tones; "put the dear lady in this, and you and Watty can carry her upstairs-no! Mr. Delany, you are not fit to try. Stan' out of the way, Miss Nelly, Alannah!"

Alannan!" "Send for Dr. Stokes!" cried Digby. "Not a bit of it!" said nurse, stoutly: "I'm as good as any doctor for a sprain or a strain. Lave her to me, av your ladyship will be content with me?"

New York.





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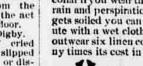
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