BEAUTIES OF MARDI-GRAS

MR. RICHMOND DESCRIBES THE NEW ORLEANS CARNIVAL.

The Phantom Government Ruled by the Mystical King Rex Whose Reign Is Absolute for Twenty-four Hours-The Queen of the Carnival. Trade of New Orleans.

Written for The Tribune.

YEW ORLEANS, the carnival city of America, should be seen by the northern visitor in its festive spring attire, at the carnival of Mardi- the cotton presses, the cotton seed oil Gras, the most picturesque and hilarious of the festivals seen in America. It was an education and delight. These mid-day and midnight nocturnal and river pageants surpass anything in the way of masquerades and tableaus we have seen, and the pen fails to describe their splendor. This carnival has grown into international fame and attracts by its novel and enjoyable fea-tures, thousands of visitors from all parts of the globe. The festival commencing the last Tuesday before Lent lasts for three days.

It is celebrated after the style of Venice, Rome, Florence, Cologne and Paris. The chief attractions are the many processions, by day and by night, of comic characters and splendidly decorated floats with living pictures embodying history, tradition, fairy tales and burlesque. A dozen different societies get up these various processions, while the general arrangements are in charge of a committee composed of the best and most public-spirited citizens. The parade of the military, the music and decorations are unexcelled. In fact this carnival is New Orieans' most disfinctive social feature. It embraces a phantom government ruled over by the mythical King Rex, whose reign is absolute for twenty-four hours, during which his flag is alone permitted to fly, and whose edicts are implicitly His power is supported by several secret societies, each independent within itself, but all co-operating to a single end. Outside of Rex's court, there are older secret associations, such as the Mistick Keewe, the Twelfth Night Revelers, the Knights of Momus, etc. Each has its own distinct gala night devoted to its street procession and its tableau balls. Through the influence of King Rex, Mardi-Graswas made a legal holiday in New Or-His first appearance was in 1872, when the Grand Duke Alexis, of Russia, was the guest of the city.

THE COURT OF REX Rex is called the "King of the Carnival" and his court is composed of dukes and peers of the realm. appointed from the best circles of the city. Like all the other organizations. Rex chooses a queen at his ball and i this lady, invested with royal symbols, is known as "The Queen of the Car-

All the forms of royalty are studjously observed. The Rex ball is the popular one, the attendance often CHURCHES, SCHOOLS AND COLnumbering thirty thousand. To be honored with tickets is supposed to

ushion, and thus mangur ate the Mardi-Cras festivities. It is truly a wonderful sight to see the airy perches, the flaring torches, the glittering tableaux, the staring crowd, the hoarse voices shouting orders and above all the marvelous richness and beauty of the costumes which combined, render the scene one to remem-The expense of a single display ranges from \$20,000 to \$30,000; the cost of Rex display was more than this Elach association has membership of 250, generally "club men," who own twenty floats with ladders, lights, disguises for the torchbearers, housing for the draft horses, but none of them are known to an-

penetrable secrecy. Enjoying the acquaintance of Wil-Coyle, the coal baron of the city, who was also "Master of the Mardi-Gras ceremonies," we were assigned desirable quarters in the pilot office of King Rex's steamer during the river parade, and as the honored of Mr. Coyle attended King Rex's ball and reception and paid our respects to the veritable king and his intiful "Creole Queen" and brilliant suite, after which we were royally entertained by our host at the Pickwick days in our history, never to be for-

other organization, owing to an im-

TRADE OF NEW ORLEANS. New Orleans is the great cotton port



overtake us to fate. But for the most part man is the rbiter of his own nen are struck down suddenly as by lightning. verdict is generally

It was fate for him to meet this end. But if we went behind the "weak " heart we should find a "weak" stomach, prob-ably, and back of the weak stomach is careless eating at irregular hours. When the stomach is diseased the organs depending on the stomach for

nutrition are starved. Starvation means weakness of the body and its organs. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures diseases of the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition. When these organs are cured, diseases of heart, liver, lungs and kidneys, caused by the

diseased stomach, are cured also, "In the fall of 1897 I was taken with smothering spells, palpitation of the heart, and a distressed feeling in my stomach," writes Mr. H. W. Kinney, of Knight, Doddridge Co., West Va. "I consulted a doctor and he said I had organic heart trouble. He gave me some medicine but it did me no good. I then tried different kinds of patent medicines, but they only helped me a little. I then sent and got five bottles of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. Before the first bottle was gone I left a change. When the five bottles were gone I began to work. I had not worked any for a year before. "I am well and can eat anything now with

"I am well and can eat anything now with Doctor Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure

of the world, exporting annually nearly two million bales. To receive, store, sell and export this enormous amount requires an army of men and furnishes occupation for nearly two-thirds of the population. The value of this crop anof cotton, rice, tobacco and sugar on sights of the city. Sugar is next to cotton as an export, and is claimed to support half of the population of Louisiana—called the "Sugar Bowl" of the Union. Here is the largest rice market in the world-the product of over 1,500 plantations, employing some 50,000 hands-centers here. Cotton, however, parish alone raises more cotton per acre than any other region in the world. One of the great sights of the city are

will describe in another paragraph. PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

New Orleans has several imposing and historic structures, among them the venerable cathedral and custom house, the cotton exchange, the sugar exchange, chamber of commerce, city hall, the mine, produce exchange, the universities, convents, churches and Masonic temple. The custom house is the principal government building, situated on a square, bounded by three streets, with a frontage of over 300 feet on each and over 80 feet in height; is constructed of Quincy, Mass., granite, and although more than \$4,000,000 have been expended on it, another milllon will be required to complete it. Its marble hall is said to be the finest room in the world, and thoroughly fireproof. This room is 54 feet high and 95x125 feet, with fourteen marble Corinthian columns 41 feet high, each costing \$25,000

Lack of space forestalls a description or the other above named public buildings worthy of any city in the Union, save the mint, which is an interesting place to visit. It is capable of coining \$5,000,000 per month. From the roof of the mint one William Mumford, who tore down the United States flag in 1862, was hung, by order of General Butler, and on the very spot where the fing was torn down.

BEAUTIFUL PARKS.

New Orleans has some twelve squares or parks, improved and unlaproved. The latter left in their natural wild state, have features very attractive to the tourist. Here are groves of gigantic live-oak trees, their branches loaded down with the long, gray Spanish moss, which grows so luxuriantly in the South. In one park called "The Oaks" was for years the favorite dueling ground of the city, and where many desperate conflicts have been witnessed and chivalrous gentlemen have been "killed on the field of honor." To the credit of New Orleans dueling is a thing of the long, dead past. Audubon Park is the largest and finest in the city, containing 250 acres, celebrated for its groves of live oak trees. Here is located the "Louislana state sugar experimental station." In it is the largest conservatory in the New World. This park will interest the tourist.

LEGES.

The public school system and its confer a certain rank not otherwise school buildings are the equals of those of most any city North or South. Here It is customary for the mayor of the are seven universities, eleven convents, city the day previous to Marde-Gras, ten medical colleges, eighteen clubs, to receive a visit from King Rex, and seven theatres, eleven newspapers-six to present him the keys of the city on dailies and five weeklys-of the dailies both progressive sheets, continually leading the way in the advocacy of the various projects for the upbuilding and improvements of the city. Right here. acknowledge my indebtedness to the

Picayune for valuable information. New Orleans has, all told, forty-five churches many of which are elegant structures. The St. Paul (Episcopal) and the First Presbyterian are the most imposing. The latter is a large Cothic structure, 75x90 feet, with a ceil ing forty-two feet high, and a slende and graceful steeple 219 feet from the ground. The pulpit is still tilled by Rev. Dr. Benjamin F. Palmer. Although past the age of eighty, his discourses burn with the same fire as during the Civil war, and later, when it was our privilege, with Dr. R. W. Brady, to listen to his wonderful oratory. No man ever wielded a greater influence among a people than Dr. Palmer, and he stands today preseminent among the Protestant clergy of the South.

WATER SUPPLY-DRAINAGE AND SEWER. The great dewback to the health

and comfort of the city is the lack of an ample water supply, street drainage and a sanitary house sewer system. These were red-letter The system of water for New Orleans is very deficient. At present the water is pumped from the Mississippi (which is often extremely muddy) into a tall stand-pipe and reservoir for distribution throughout the city, but owing to its muddiness it is comparatively little used, except for cleaning streets and extinguishing fires, the people prefering rain water for drinking and cooking. In all yards, large cisterns are seen and on these the city depends for or cisterns are usually built beside the house, resting on stilts connected with the roof, reached by a ladder. These receptacles being built in the air are ess liable to contamination by inanimate insects, and embryo tadpoles. etc., than if placed beneath the sod, where nothing could prevent them house, resting on stilts connected with the greatest river in the land flowing past her doors, water has often been scarcity to the great astonishment of the world. One of the first essentials to health in any city is streets. This essential New Orleans is deficient in. At present there is no public sewer (save here and there a private enterprise like the St. Charles hotel) but cess pools are numerous, the night-soi! being daily carted away. This delightful city, in other respects has a system of open sewerage which is a great discredit to say the least. In certain localities the streets reek with filth, that emit foul odors. The gutters on each side of the street are more or less full of dirty water of varying width and depth-into these gutters the house-drains flow. All this waste water, owing to the flat surface of the ground, has to be lifted from numerus pumping stations into the Mississippi river and through the several anals leading to Lake Ponchartrain. Phough vastly more improved than on a previous visit they are still in a filthy condition and this relie of medieval days, this primitive method of een done away with. The misfortunes of disease from which New Orleans has suffered so disastrously in the past was undoubtedly due to the lack of drainage, sewerage, and a generous water supply. With the inauguration and completion of these three great necessities, New Orleans, now

leans the one deserving special mention is the New St. Charles. It occupies a block—the present is the third

become the model and up-to-date city

Among the many hotels of New Or nually exported is estimated at \$100,-000,000. Here is the center of several large steamship lines, and the loading acterized by a magnificent portico of six Corinthian columns, from which a the levee is one of the characteristics flight of marble steps lead to the rotunda. It resembles more a state capitol than a hotel. Its lofty apartments, its elegant rotunda, its imposing appearance generally, is the admiration of the tourist. It is strictly fireproof, contains 400 parlors and bedrooms, alcoved, single or en suite. It has 120 private bath-rooms with porce is king, and covers about one-third of lain lined tubs, marble floor, tiled walls the cultivated ground of the state. One and the latest hygienic structural appllances. It is heated by steam and lighted throughout by electricity. The most improved "Teleseme system" of electric calls; everything required for mills and sugar refineries, etc., which 1 the comfort of guests. The proprietor, A. R. Blakely, is one of the best allround hotel men we have met in our travels, besides one of, if not the foremost of New Orleans progressive citi-We are indebted to him for polite attention and valuable assistance in securing data pertaining to New Or-BY WAY OF RECAPITULATION.

of the south.

America. She has a population of rice market in the world. The largest coastwise business in the world. The largest marine dry dock in the world. Fiftten miles of river front and more than six miles of wharves. Over 210 miles of paved streets. Track mileage of street car systems, 160 miles. Mile-Railroad company, 114 miles. Car routes of the New Orleans City Rail- put them back again quietly. ending July 1991 reached a total value of \$151,771,538, an increase of \$40,000,eign shipments of cotton was 2,249,223 bales again 1,911,281 bales the preceding ments during the last trade year, some 33,904,482 bushels of cereals, 423,000 into the bottle. barrels of rice, and 1,135,000,000 feet of lumber and 9.434,000,000 staves, besides an immense amount of miscellaneous he was generally by himself. of last year, being over \$15,000,000. Flour effort to look debonair. He had an exports increased by 206,000 barrels and oats by 292,000 bush ls. Pig iron, 9,700 to see through it. That troubled him. tons. While the trade in horses and mules, owing to the British-Boer war. reached 66,919 head, valued at \$6,000,000. Taken altogether, New Orleans ranks is the second exporting city in the United States. It will thus be seen that in all that goes to build up a sea-She is blessed with an exceedingly ictive and intelligent chamber of comsugar exchange, and the people of the ity seem inspired by the motto, "One of her. for all, all for one," Gigantic efforts are being made to improve the sanitary conditions and afford an adequate the dock facilities and to attract railroads, manufacturers and other business enterprises. A port with so many natural advantages, backed by a conntry that is possessed of illimitable wealth in forestry, cotton, sugar and rice, with such an active business population, must eventually win in the long race for sectional and commercial su-J. E. Richmond.

WE TAKE FARES

IN ENGLAND

The Tuppenny Tube-A Plan to Cobweb Britain with American Trolleys.

London, of course, was the first place our promoters reached. They found there a population of six millions content to travel in bus, hansom and deam underground trains, but at great disadvantage. On the former an Amerian business man could not afford to ide unless time were no object, for, though exhibarating as a novelty, constant blockades made speed impossible, The latter is objectionable on account of noxious steam, gas, and ill-lighted

Englishmen, however, would have endured these inconveniences indefinitey had not their eyes been opened by he tuppenny tube. The tuppenny tube, so called, because one may ride under ground any distance in one direction for two pence (four cents) has now een running two years, and is the best thing of its kind in existence. From Kensington, a residential section, its brightly-lighted American cars shoot out into the city through a tube, white, calsomined and clean, within a few minutes. An American news-stand is at each station. Sprague elevators drop its drinking water supply. These vats you from the sidewalk to the underground platform, and brilliant electric lights enable you to read.

But the tube is only serviceable to a small part of London, so Yerkes and his American syndicate bent every effort to get control of the District the Metropolitan Underground Railways. Phese two, with an inner and outer circle, fairly cover London, and for years they have been the pride of Englishmen, forerunners in underground

engineering But London, tired of the wretched accommodations, grime that soiled and gas that choked, was ready for electricity. The Americans knew it Yerkes proposed to install electric cars equipped with the Sprague multiple system, in which each car has a separate motor, so that if one car breaks down the train will still run. Fearing that the Yankees could not be trusted, or perhaps jealous, the English engineers advised the Ganz system. where the current is fed by tremendous voltage and there is no preventive for the contingency mentioned. But good sense prevailed. Yerkes' intention now is to intersect these two cir cles with connecting lines and inaugurate a transfer system, when Lon-

ion's underground will be ideal. Meanwhile, great promoters like Whitney, Widener, Elkins, Cassatt, Blair and Kegan were not idle, but formed a project to cobweb Britain with trolley lines. Their agents bought up right of ways along the canals and cleanliness should long since have any unused tramways that had not heretofore paid the stockholders, the amount of American capital invested in English electric surface roads has reached immense proportions. In order to keep up with the de mands for American equipment the built a new Westinghouse company plant on English soil, where several the greatest unique ancient city, can thousand men are now employed

BY MARY KEEGAN.

RS. MAJORIBANKS' husband was a forgiving man. So everybody said. The remark was often supplemented by a snift which was not flattering to Mr. Majoribanks, But Mr. Majoribanks did not mind; rather, he allowed no one to guess that he might mind.

"For my part, I rather think he is shortsighted," exclaimed a sniffer over a cup of tea. "For no man in his senses could tolerate such peccadilloes!"

So even Mr. Majoribanks was not given credit for his large-mindednessat least, not here. The sniff he brushed from off his feelings as he would a mosquito from his hand. The peccadilloes-well, no matter.

He would watch the larger insects come and look, and sin and drinkdeep often-then go away when they New Orleans is the "Carnival City" of were fed. He smiled upon the insects, nearly 300,000. She has the largest su- one by one-smiled when they came, gar market in the world. The largest smiled when they went. Yet smiling was not his expression habitually. When he was alone his countenance changed materially. No one would have believed him to be the same man. But no one saw that side of him, Sometimes, then, he would unlock secret drawers and take out revolvers, large age owned by the New Orleans City and small. He would examine them carefully, sometimes polish them, then

road company, 150 miles. New Orleans has voted an expenditure of \$14,000,000 away—marked "poison." He poured for sewerage, etc. According to data some out once into a small glass and furnished me by the chamber of com- examined it critically. It looked innomerce, New Orleans: Exports for year cent enough. Once a queer light scintilated on the edge of the glass. It had nothing to do with the light in 000, or over thirty per cent. of 1900, and the room. He looked up quickly. Pah! for the year ending July, 1901, its for- He'd become as nervous as a woman! blind had not been lowered. He pulled ng year. In addition to cotton ship- it down with an impatient jerk, then emptied the contents of the glass back

He spent much of his time alone When he was not entertaining insects products, while its imports are \$16,000.- | Majoribanks was usually out, He really 000. In wheat exports were double that preferred to be alone. It was often an Above all things he wished her to be unconscious of his worries. Her own would come later on perhaps. Why burden her now with his? young, beautiful, lovable. Others saw it-well, why shouldn't they? He was proud of her. If she did not realize port. New Orleans takes high rank the pain she gave him it was only betmong the greatest of American cities, cause she had not learned to suffer yet. When she had learned to suffer she would understand him better-evmers, progressive union, cotton and erything better. Not that she was anything but gentle only-he saw so little

Was that her footstep? Ah! He opened the door quickly. He wanted to take her in his arms, but thought she water supply and improve and enlarge might not like it. He straightened the cushions in a deep arm chair. "I-thank you, George. Yes, I will

sit down. Are you very busy?" She looked round at his books and moved a small hand comprehensively. "No-not busy." "Well, sit down. I want to talk to

"That's good, dear! We don't often have talks now, do we?"

"Not very," she answered coldly, perhaps, but pretty often, if you come to think of it, George. Why," brightening, "we had a talk, it must have been a week ago---"No: two, dear."

"Really? I remember it quite wellomething about golfing, wasn't it, or shrimping, here in this very room? "No. in the garden, dearest-and Evelyn was with us."

"How odd! And it just happens to be Harry Evelyn I want to talk to you thout tonight. "Evelyn." said George, smiling,

must be in the atmosphere." 'Ah! You don't like him! I do!" 'Dearest, I don't in the least dislike Evelyn; but why talk of Evelyn? "Because I want to! I like him-

ove him!" George looked at her a moment gravely.

There she lay back among the cushions, exquisite in her white silk gown, Rossettian head and throat. voice fell soft in cadence. Her lips py? were parted and her breath came eagerly between. A little flush had mounted to her face and gone away again, leaving a spot of pink upon each check, close to the eyes, giving them extra brilliance. "Are you sure?"

George spoke very quietly. She turned her head and looked at um, surprised.

"Of course! "I'm sorry."

nean to do?"

"Aren't you angry?" "No."

"Why aren't you angry? Husbands hould be under such circumstances.' "Should they? Then I am not a patern husband!" he signed. the trouble, possibly." "What trouble?"

"Well-why you are in love Evelyn." A man is usually more at ease with problems standing. At this point Ma-

foribauks rose and walked to the fire-There was no fire, but he turned his back to an imaginary one. "Well?"

George had not been looking at her. fer voice recalled him. "Oh! We were speaking of your affairs, I think?"

"Really, George, you are most ab sent-minded! And such affairs, too! So important!" course! Well, what do you

What can I do under the circumtances?" she asked plaintively. 'Nothing, I suppose.' 'Nothing' Mrs. Majoribanks' voice expressed

onsternation "Didn't I say I love him?" True. Well-what are you going ! "We've arranged to go to Brussels

omorrow. I thought I'd tell you first you've always been so good! George was silent. By that light i would have been difficult to tell he had turned paler. "You have nothing to say, George"

Not even 'Thank you?' We might have gone without telling you anything about it, you know. Most women would been so frank."

surprised! I don't believe you care a

'No-I daresay you're right. "To go?

"No! About most women. * Why don't you say "Oh! something? You're not angry, or ever

Gentlemen

If you knew how hard it is for us to maintain a full range of these swagger overcoats of ours, with the broad military shoulders, the loose but shapely sleeves with turn over cuffs, and the long, graceful, easy fitting body, you would bear with us when we occasionally regretfully admit that the size list is not complete in every number, but today, however, we have all sizes in everything. How long it will remain so we cannot say. Everything depends on how fast the tailoring establishments where our garments are made can turn them out. The few exclusive retail houses they work for are pushed just as badly as we are, and as it takes skilled workmen to make proper clothing, the ordinary slop or ready made clothing worker cannot be called in to help our tailors out, no matter how great the push may be.

J. J. C." CLOTHING

is not found in any other line of clothing shown in this city. If this statement were not an incontrovertible fact, it is likely that we would guarantee every garment bearing the "J. J. C." tab for one year from date of purchase? Oh, no, it takes good clothing—good custom tailor clothing to successfully carry such a guarantee. He will not; he cannot afford to. Why? Because he knows that the clothing he sells is simply ready made clothing.

Will the Average Seller of Ready Made Clothing Do As Much for His Patrons?

There, that sums it all up in a nut shell. This, however, is a case when a word to the wise ought to count for something, for our guaranteed clothing cost you no more this season than the ordinary ready made kind, and, oh! there's such a difference any and every way you like to take it.

A Word on Smart Overcoats.

They left the tailors' hands on Wednesday night and have the latest fashion touches about them-none shorter than 49 inches; some longer than that. Some have yoke shoulders; some are cut without; but there is not a garment in the lot that the practical man would not pronounce at a glance to be the very latest art.

Overcoats for Gentlemen.

Tailored as "J. J. C." CLOTHING ought to be, and properly trimmed at

\$9.00, \$10.00, \$12.00 and \$15.00 Overcoats for Little Men.

Sizes 4 to 16 years and made just like papa's.

\$1.50. \$2.50, \$3.90 and \$5.00

Men's Winter Trousers.

Made from pure wool trouserings and tailored in a way that will bring no regret to the wearer. All the new patterns and effects for the present season are represented in these special values tomorrow at \$1.90, \$2.50, \$3.50 and \$5.00

"J. J. C." CLOTHING

Can be Had Only From

JOHN J. COLLINS, Clothier and Men's Furnisher, 316 Lacka, Ave.

snap of the finger whether I go or stay! I've spent sleepless nights wondering how you'd bear it! I might have saved

myself the pains! Mrs. Marjoribanks dried her eyes

with some energy. "Yes, you might. "What do you mean?" "What I say. It makes little matter

whether you tell me or whether you don't. If you go, you go. If it's my advice you want, it's quite another mat-"What would your advice be?" "Not to go."

You're unkind! What's the object n keeping a woman against her willher better judgment? A woman-who

doesn't love you?" "There is no object. I was not think ing of myself at the moment." 'What? Of me?'

"I can be happy only with Harry Evelyn. Wouldn't you have me hap "Yes" "You sound as if you meant it-yet

you would advise me to give you happiness! I suppose you're thinking of the scandal? Do you suppose I care for anything anyone can have to say of me? The people who'll talk can't make me happy! Harry Evelyn can.' "Are you sure?"

and I think the same on every subject He is an artist; so am I, temperamentally. We understand each other ab solutely. He loves me with all his soul -as I love him. We can never be hanpy apart."

George was silent. "I'm sorry if I seem to spoil your life. George, but, you see, there's no use our both being wretched, and I don't really think when I am here, I fill your life completely. You can divorce me, George, as soon as you like. She looked up at him, a childish pucker between her brows.

'You may divorce me, George.' "Thank you," said George. "I won't protest in any way. "Thank you." "And then you'll be a

ngain!" "Pity you ever married me, dear Twas a bit of a mistake, I think."

She rose and came to him and put her soft, cool arm about his neck like she used to do at first. George looked away. His face quiv- treats me! Would you mind?" ered. He clenched his teeth. He must be a man.

"People - sometimes - make takes," he answered in a strained way. He could not think clearly while she was so near him. He took her arm her hand nervously under his sleeve. gently from off his shoulder. "We will not talk of that now." he said. "These things, no doubt, are palpable. will speak of your affairs. Which boat to you mean to lave by-morning or afternoon?"

"Morning. You might be a little kinder, George, seeing it's the last large person. time we shall ever talk together!" Her voice trembled.

What would you like me to do?" he sked sharply. Well, not take things quite so mat ter of course. I wish you'd be a little

"Why angry? Anger is a thing, and wastes much time." "In your place Harry Evelyn would have lifted the roof."

"Possibly. Take care you do not give him the opportunity." "Now, that's being nasty! You

eedn't be nasty. "If you're leaving by the early boa I would advise your going to bed at once. Has your maid seen to the packing yet!

"No-no: I shan't take much- just a nandbag with a few handkerchiefs and nairpins, and things of that sort." "And the maid?"

"Oh no! Harry's poor. I shall have to do without Harper." Do you think you will like-rough-

ing it?" "I shall love it! We mean to live sort of gypsy life, you know-genuine ohemians. I shall take up painting Harry says I have great talent, and it's a shame to bury it. We can work side by side. He says presently I must go into a studio in the Latin quarter for a time and study the nude. He thinks I'll be a second Marie Eashkirtseff, only more profound.

has very clear insight. "Seemingly." "You needn't hate Harry so!" "My dear child, I think Harry is

oung lunatie, that's all." 'You always hated enthusiasts. know! Crushed every scrap of talent ever had by jeering at it." Mrs. Majoribanks was in tears

"My dear, I think you're quite misaken. I appreciate your talent to the ull. Later on, when you can give yourself a little time to think, you will remember, I hope, that you were omewhat unjust in this."

'Later on! You mean when we have passed out of each other's lives forver? "Quite so When you are famous

and I am-"What? The father of a lot of little Majoribankses? That reminds me-Yes, I wondered whether you would member-

"Oh, I must say "good-by" to her Do you think nurse would let me come up now?" "I can't say:

"She would, of course, if she knew he circumstances, but I can't very well explain-"Shall I?

"You might go up first, George, dear if you wouldn't mind very much, and -and prepare her. Say I'm so dread-fully afraid of her! You know how she "I think we might go up together

She will hardly be able to refuse such deputation. "Very well! Keep close to me!" At the second flight she had slipped

George rapped gently at the nursery There was a wet sheet over it. "How stupid of nurse! If she wants portiere, why doesn't she ask for

Nurse opened, half-undressed, an expression of annoyance prevading her "We want to see the baby, please, nurse." said Mrs. Majorbanks, amiab-

'I'm agraid, m'm, I can't allow it! Nurse spoke with authority. You must allow it," said Mrs. Ma

joribanks, reddening. "or I'll dismiss you this very instant!" Nurse took it blandly, but looked uestioningly at Mr. Majoribanks, who

"Very well, m'm; you take the responsibilities along with it, then. I'm disobeyin' doctor's orders-'Doctor's orders'!" whispered Mrs. Majoribanks. "What do you mean?"

She rushed to the child's cot. 'For God's sake, m'm, don't waken "How red her face it! What's the matter?" She turned appealingly to

nurse. 'She's had scarlet fever, m'm. The crisis is passed, but the doctor says she must be kept quiet and sleeping for fear of a relapse." "Scarlet fever!" she repeated low

coming closer to George; "and you never told me! Did you know?" 'Yes. You'd better come away!' "No-no, not vet!" "But it is not safe for you to stay!"

"I don't mind. I'd rather stay. I'm er mother!" Nurse smiled grimly. 'There's fear of you taking it, m'm.'

"I don't care! I'll stay." "Remember-the first boat row," whispered George. "I'm sorry, nurse, said Mrs. Majori-banks: "I don't dismiss you."

"Thank you, m'm." "Come away, dear!" said George Do as I say.' Yes. Good night, nurse.

"Good night, m'm.

The light on the landing was dim, out George saw tears upon her face. He put his hand on her head gently. "You minsn't fret, dear," he said The child is in good hands." "But she's my child-and yours-and

she's with strangers!" "Nurse is very fond of her," said George. "But she's my child! How is it I

asn't told she was ill?" Well, dear, there was no use disressing you unnecessarily. 'And you knew it all the time?"

And I'd have gone away, I believe, and only thought of her after! What sort of a mother am I?" George smoothed her hair, but said nothing.

"Why are you so leorge? He said nothing, only smoothing her hair very gently.

"Why are you, George?" "Well, perhaps, because I think you weet and good.' "How can you, George? You are the only man I know who thinks me-good How can you?"

George was silent. "Tell me-why are you so kind and gentle with me?

"I love you," George spoke simply.
"Do you?" she asked, stepping back,
thrill in her voice. "I thought you ad outlived that long ago! George shook his head. "Oh, no!"

"The child has grown wonderfully all!" said Mrs. Majoribanks, turning rosy red. "She mustn't be lonely and poilt when she grows older. I was an George-I-want only child. something-little to hold close in my arms! Don't you understand, George-

Her lids were lowered. Her mouth vas wistful. "Say what you were going to say,"

whispered George. "How can I, when you smother me