GAMMIDGE'S GHOST.

Published by arrangement with the publishers from advanced sheets of Chambers's Journal,

CHAPTER II.

The housekeeper led the way up a long flight of stairs, down two or three great corridors, all sounding empty and hollow, to a door which, being opened, disclosed bright fire in a pretty room. A bedroom opened off through another door.

"Does any one sleep near this room?" asked as Mrs. Johnson turned to go. I was somehow struck with a sudden sense of loneliness.

"Well, not very near," she began. "Oh, it doesn't matter at all. It looks very comfortable, and I'm not nervous, so I shall be all right."

"These are Captain Penrose's rooms. put you in them, thinking you would be comfortable.'

"Very good of you Mrs. Johnson. Oh, I

shall be all right. "I don't know whether you smoke, sir," cigars of the captain's in that little cupboard gazed. As I became accustomed to the ma'am. Come and see." by the fire which I am sure will be good. | strange light, I saw that here and there And so I'll say good-night; and if you should happen to want anything, you'll please to

"Yes; thank you. I shall not want anything-Good-night, Mrs. Johnson."

As soon as I heard her last heavy footstep die away at the end of the long corridor, I locked the door; then I took one of the candles and went into the bedroom, which, as I have said, opened into the sitting-room. I now found that it also had a door opening into the corridor, so I locked that, and then | sitting-room, was old-fashioned as regards furniture and appearance. The walls were hung with some sort of tapestry stuff of peculiar pattern. I swung this aside here and there, and found the walls to be panelled in very black oak, the panelling reaching up to the ceiling. The bed, a huge fourposter affair, was also tapestried, and looked solemn enough to lay a king out in. I went back to the sitting-room and examined that. It was hardly so funereal as the bedroom: there was no tapestry; but it, heavy material, no newspapers; nothing to while an hour away before retiring.

"The Captain doesn't have very lively quarters down here," I said to myself. "However, I'll see if I can't find his cigars."

I looked for the cupboard which Mrs Johnson had spoken of, and found it at last in the oak panelling by the side of the fireplace. Inside reposed two or three boxes of cigars, which melt particularly fine; and above the boxes lay a couple of novels, which I seized on eagerly. I looked at all three boxes before choosing a cigar. You see, I didn't often smoke cigars in those days, and one gains a lot of pleasure in dallying with rare delights. I looked at them all, and smelt them with the air of a judge, and finally I lighted one, and made myself comfortable in an easy-chair with one of the novels in my hand. You may guess I felt quite luxurious, and blessed the chance which had brought me to such grand quarters. If only Alicia had been nearer, I should have been perfectly happy.

So an hour passed away. The cigar was splendid, the novel but so so. I have not read many novels in my life, and when I do read, then I like them strong, that is to say, sensational. This novel was not very sensational, and at the end of an hour it ceased to chain my attention; so I lighted another cigar and began to think of Alicia. What was she doing? Asleep, probably. Then, was she dreaming of me? Was she dreaming of that little house which we were to take at Clapham when I had saved some money and she was twenty-one, and where we were to be as happy as the day is long? Dear Alicia! What an angel she was, and how-When I had got as far as that, a great clock somewhere about the Abbey began to strike the hour of twelve.

Now I have said already that I am not nervous. I was not nervous then, but that clock made me jump. It had a deep sepulchral sound which reminded you of hobgoblins and ghosts and all manner of unpleasant things. I confess that at its first stroke I dropped my cigar and started up from my chair inwell, in something like a fright. When it died away, the silence was really awful. "I'll go to bed," I said. "There is some-

thing decidedly queer about the place." I went into the bedroom and locked the door. In five minutes I was between the the sheets, with the candles out and the moonbeams struggling in at the diamondpaned windows. I suppose I must have been tired, for I was soon sound asleep and oblivious of anything in the material world. How long I slept I don't know: but what I do know is that in the course of the night I found myself sitting up in bed, looking at something which stood at the bed-foot lookat me! I felt a cold perspiration steal over me and perhaps my hair grewerect. The moon was hid behind a cloud when I woke, and I could only see the outline of the thing that was in my room. Suddenly the moonlight flashed

in again with redoubled radiance, and I saw standing at the foot of my bed a tall figure clad in sable robes, whose eyes shone brightly from under a heavy cowl. It was

the Black Friar! What happened next I don't quite remember ; but I know that I got out of bed and went after the Friar, who receded towards the tapes tried wall, beckoning me to follow. There was no doubt about his being there. I rubbed my eyes, and saw him more clearly. He had on long sable robes and sandals ; a large cowl hid his face ; but I could catch glimpses now and then of his bright eyes. He went with a strange gliding motion towards the wall and brushed the hangings aside; then he placed his hand on the panelling, and, to my astonishment and surprise, I saw a door open and disclose a flight of stairs which led down into dark-The Friar turned, beckoned, and began slowly to descend the staircase. Somehow, though I struggled against giving way, I had to follow him. I was in scanty attire, and the nights were chilly, and I remember how I shivered as my bare foot touched the first of the worn stone steps. They were so worn that they dipped in the middle. The Friar went down, down, and I followed. Very soon the moonlight from the window above ceased to give any light, and we were in darkness. Yet even then I could see the dark figure

as a ghost's hand should be.

we traversed it, the Friar still going before, a bedchamber supposed, in common with the and I, attracted by some strange magnetism, rest of the house to be haunted. I was not following dutifully behind. Suddenly a in a very particularly nervous state of mind, door opened in front and a half light, nor had I drunk too much wine or smoked half mist, broke upon us. The Friar too many of the Captain's cigars. I had passed through, and I followed and looked dreamed dreams, or seen visions, or had a about me. We were in a vast church, light. | nightmare. I had wandered in my dreams ed by I know not what strange means, but through underground passages; and when I with neither windows nor sunlights that I dressed in the morning, one of my slippers could see. The great pillars supporting the was gone. Ergo, somewhere in my dream roof were lost in the mighty blackness over- the bounds of the unseen world had been head, great aisles stretched away into dark- broken in upon by the rude foot of reality, ness on every side. But in the channel there glimmered in the misty light a few tapers, and right in the middle a blood-red lamp swung to and fro, as though with eddying gusts of wind. I leaned against a pillar and were placed enormous tombs--tombs of crusaders in their armour, knights kneeling in prayer, fine ladies with enormous ruffs, and children in curious formal-looking dresses. While I gazed, I saw another Friar, habited like the one who had conducted me, enter from the door we had opened. As he came in he threw back his hood from his face and even if I have to fetch a carpenter." head and bowed profoundly towards the chancel. Others followed in rapid succes- ling," she said. "If there is a passage, sion, till at length the chancel was full of dark-robed Friars. Presently they began to open it." had a look round. The bedroom, like the sing. One of them had a magnificent tenor voice, and as it went vibrating into the to feel amongst the curious knobs and provaulted roof above, with the voices of the jections of the carving for anything which others answering it, the effect was really delightful. The singing was a somewhat lengthy performance. One psalm succeeded ing every little angel's wing, every little another, till, despite the charm of the voices, I got tired. I looked round me for a seat. A stone bench was placed a little distance away, and towards this I moved. I sat

down, and -- " Well, I was conscious of falling down, down, down through apparently limitless too, was panelled in dark oak. There were | space. I yelled out something in my horno pictures, two or three books of somewhat | ror, and suddenly awoke. The Friar, after all, was only a dream-or rather a nightmare! But the strange thing was that I cry of joy as I saw a goodly portion of the felt cold, as if I had been out of bed.

I got up, lighted my candle, and looked round. I confess that the dream had left | ed a little scream. such an impression on my mind that I extraces of the staircase. I found none; so I turned in once more, and was soon again

dress, at the same time thinking about my and picked the object up. It was my red nightmare or vision of the previous mid- slipper! night. "Hillo," I said to myself, "where's my slipper?" For of the slippers that I had left standing by my bedside the night bewas no where in the room!

an hour later, "that ghost of yours is no wedding soon after, at which Alicia and I

imaginary personage. Mrs. Johnson stared at me, and a faint Alicia's mamma insists to this day that the was burntalive. flush rose to her already rosy cheek.

"Indeed!" she answered. "You don't Penrose's will. mean that—that"—— "That I've seen ?-Yes; I do. I saw

him last night.' "The Black Friar?" " Not only one, but two, three, ten, per-

haps twenty Black Friars—a whole monastery of them. Fine voices they had, too, all at one time higher than you are. Mrs. Johnson looked at me suspiciously. should be barkrigged. "Now, you're joking," she began with some-

thing of a reproach in her voice. "You say ing reaper goes against the grain this hot you saw him?"

"Yes, I can't come to any other conclu-

I didn't believe in ghosts; but Alicia's mamma did, and I had heard so many spiritstories from her in intervals when Alicia was making herself tidy or putting on her hat and shawl, that I had come to look upon them as being something familiar.

"You see," I continued, "the Friar not the point of disregarding the summons of only appeared to me, but he proved himself | the medium it doesn't care "a rap." a burglar into the bargain; he prigged one

"Now," said the hous keeper indignantly "you are making fun! Who ever heard of a ghost stealing slippers !"

all about it, Mrs. Johnson. You mustn't cate has turned out a complete fizzle. condemn me unheard."

So I told her all I could remember—and there was precious little that I couldn't-of my nocturnal visitor. I never saw a woman so completely flabbergasted in my life anything to say is a public benefactor.

as when I came to the slipper business.

"Now, ma'am," I said in conclusion, "I'm a plain sensible young man; I'm engaged to as nice a girl as ever you saw, and if I can find that will, it will be probably be a long step towards our marriage. I don't believe in ghosts, whatever you do. But I'll tell you what; I do believe I got sleep-walking last night, and left my slipper behind in some cold passage. The question is, do you know of any secret passage leading from

that room where I slept?" Mrs. Johnston considered. "Well," she said at length, "I can't deny that there are secret passages in the place. There are in all these old houses. At Lord Plantagenet's place in Devonshire there were several. I had my first situation there, you know, sir,

"Yes, yes," I said; "I know. But this

"My late mistress knew them all," she replied, "and I know that she used to wan-

der about them now and then." "Ten to one, she's hidden that confounded will in some of them !" I said. "We may hunt for a month or a year and never find

"Miss Penrose used to spend a deal of time in the Captain's rooms when he was absent," remarked the housekeeper, after a

"Did she? Then perhaps she hid the will somewhere there."

"You see, said Mrs. Johnson confidentially, "when my poor mistress was dying, she tried hard to tell us where she had put before me in a sort of luminous haze. Every the will that you speak of. At least so we now and then he turned and beckoned with | thought-Miss Stanley and myself. It was mentioned afterwards, and we were laughed a white hand that looked just as transparent at-by the other side."

"The long and short of it is, ma'am," I said rising from the creakfast table, "I'm going to look for my slipper and Miss Pen-

"I hope you may find them," said the housekeeper.

I hoped so myself; and it was because I Well, we reached the bottom of the stair- was so very much in earnest that I deter-It was a very long one; there must mined to make the search a thorough have been nearly a hundred steps in it. We one. I put my line of attack on went along a paved passage, the walls and a good basis. To begin with, I had roof of which I touched with my hands as gone to sleep on the previous night in cased in a scarlet slipper.

"There is a secret passage in this room, I said to Mrs. Johnson, as we stood in my bed chamber, "and we must find it." "Hurray!" I said there's something here,

Mrs. Johnson came to my side and tapped the panelling. "It certainly does sound hollow," she said. "But you see there's no knob, or any indication of a latch or

anything, so I don't see how we can get in." "There's no indication of a door at all, for the matter of that. But as long as this is hollow, I'm going to see what lies behind,

"It would be a pity to spoil the panelthere is sure to be a door and a spring to

"Then we must find it," I said, beginning would prove an open sesame.

We worked on for quite an hour, examindemon's body, screwing, or trying to screw them about to see if they concealed springs or door handles; but all with success. labour, I leaned against the panelling and fairly groaned. "It's no good, I'm afraid. We'll have to try somewhere else, ma'am. This -- Hillo !" There was a faint click behind me, and the wall seemed yielding to the weight of my back. I uttered a wainscoting turn slowly inwards, revealing a dark cavernous recess. Mrs. Johnson utter-

"Here's something, at anyrate," I said amined the wainscoting rather narrowly for | triumphantly. "Quick, ma'am - those candles! Hold a light."

She held the light up, and I went boldly in. I soon found that the place was a sort When I woke it was morning, and the of closet, a few yards square, and evidently sun was shining brightly through the win- intended as a hiding-place in the old times. dow. I sprang out of bed and began to My feet slipped oversomething; I stooped,

Well, to cut a long story short, I may as well say that in that little box of a place we found a small chest, in which the ancient fore, there was only one left. I hunted Miss Penrose had deposited papers of round the room for the other with no result; immense value, not to speak of the and then I suddenly remembered that I had | missing will. The Captain got his slipped them on, with admirable foresight, rights, and he and Miss Stanley were soon | unparalleled. when I had followed the Friar. I laughed afterwards married. I think it was on to think of it; but, laugh or not, that slipper | the morning of their wedding-day that I received an envelope containing a cheque for "Mrs. Johnson," I said, three-quarters of two thousand pounds. There was another assisted, doing the principal parts. And Black Friar influenced my search for Miss

THE END.

SUMMER SMILES.

The man you meet going down hill was Quimby thinks that an ocean greyhound

Even the patent labor-saving, self-bind-

weather. A new play for next season is called "The their towns. Oath." Without much doubt the hero is a

"Charity begins at home" remarked the father as he gave away his daughter at the marriage altar. It is presumed that when a spirit gets to

Tomdik—The women of the present day can't make such pies as our mothers did.

McClammy-No, it's a lost tart. The great soda-water trust in the United

"Stop, stop!" I cried. "Let me tell you States contemplated by an English syndi-We suppose a beaming smile is one that

> is drawn from the wood. The man who keeps still when he hasn't

Debtor: "I want to pay that little bill of

yours." Creditor : All right, my dear boy. Debtor: "But I can't." Mother: "What makes you look so sober

after fishing all day ?" Johnny : "Because

I caught nothing but pouts." Book agent (returning) after having been fired down one flight, to irate broker): "Bu

now, joking aside, won't you take one copy?'

Too Heavily Lade !.

Prisoner-Yer Honor, would you be kind enough to discharge me. I want to go off into the country. Judge-I am afraid to discharge you Sullivan. You are too heavily loaded.

Wanted Proof.

Tommy (down in the street)-O, pa, put your head out of the window a minute. Pa (putting his head out of the window) -What is it, Tommy?

Tommy-Nothing, except I have got a be with Johnny Jones that your bald place is bigger than his pa's bald place.

Confirmed and Explained.

"So she is. She belongs to the Decorative Art Society."

Last Words.

"What were McGinty's last words?" "I don't know. 'Drop me a line,' guess."

A NEW BRITISH CRUISER.

New Use for Electricity. BRAVERY AT SEA.

Extraordinary Eurgical Operation.

The Paris dinner hour is now 8 o'clock. enlivened croquet.

the performance of "Macbeth" with the soldiers clothed in the Austrain uniform.

The general manager of the Magazins du Louvre in Paris gets a salary of \$30,000 a year, with a percentage on the profits. "Carnot, Organizer of Peace," is the title

bestowed on the President of the republic

by the French colonists settled in Mexico. newspapers for the support of the Govern-

and romantic character."

A gentleman who drew out his pipe for an after-dinner smoke in the Grand Hotel, Paris, was immediately told that the rules Deputies, 14 professors, and the rest bankof the house did not allow pipes.

The employees of the British Admiralty, War Office, and Post Office have begun the formation of a union of Government workmen, for strike or other purposes.

cult as his task is he carries it on.

the king of cruisers. She is of 9,000 tons displacement, 20,000 horse power, 22 knots other small arms.

A search light now costs about \$10,000 and weighs 1,000 pounds. A new search light weighing 130 pounds, of 4,000 candle power, and said to be able to penetrate the thickest fog for the distance of one-eighth of a mile, costs less than \$500.

serious accident. An enthusiastic artist, the in the effect to give intelligence to a poor head master of Harrington School, while little idiot. The child, a little girl, 4 years. trying to photograph a rustic bridge from a considerable height, fell to the rocks below third the size of an ordinary little one of her and was killed on the spot.

shown to the Chamber of Deputies, invent- stand. The Doctor became convinced that ed by M. Cassagnes, by which shorthand the condition of the little creature was due reports of speeches can be sent any distance to the abnormal narrowness of the head, as they come from the stenographer. The which hindered the natural growth of the speed of this instrument is also said to be brain. About the middle of May last he

At Neuendorf, Prussia, the lightning fired the gable end of a barn where a pair of storks | left' side of it, without injuring the dura built their nest for years. The flames soon | mater. The result of this operation was caught the nest in which the brood screaming, but the mother stork, refusing to leave, spread her wings over the young ones and

The use of electricity is offered to the lion tamer in the form of a light wand, with an insulating grip for the hand, connected by a flexible wire with a battery of which the power can be varied at will. An experiment | English engineer, has devised a plan for with this form of applied science has been successfully made.

In Brussels there is soon to be a meeting of the "Giants of the North." Malines, Dunkerque, and Douai will be represented. Gagaut and Papa Reuse and Janneke and Mieke will meet and embrace each other in imperial fashion. It will be a great affair. coverings to be filled in for the most part The giants are the mythical founders of

The Roumanians have completed the erection of a statue at Jassy in honor of a journalist named Asaki, who was the first to bring out a newspaper in Moldavia, and who also founded the first theatre and the first music school in Jassy. He was a civil engineer, an architect, a painter, a mathematician, and a dramatic author.

total abstinence at home and abroad from while in the opinion of their proposer the liquor, tobacco, and opium, and for "dissem- submarine tubes would have all the merits inating a knowledge of the anti-Scriptural character of the Church of Rome."

and can walk abroad as it likes, the other possibility that the tube might be broken hallucination."

A French company has been formed for the purpose of setting up a second Monte Carlo on the Bosporus, at Scutari, which will be paved, beautified, and electric lighted. The Sultan has always, in response to diplomatic pressure, refused to allow gaming tables at Constantinople, but there exists hope that he will relent for the other side of the Bosporus.

Berlin has a stenograph with a unique specialty. He attends all funerals of prominent persons, and takes down verbatim the England and France. addresses of the officiating elergymen. Then he prepares highly ornamented copies of the addresses and sells them to the friends of the eulogized dead. His business is so good that he has taken one assistant and has advertised for another.

By the English law heirlooms are exempt from probate duty, so the Duke of Hamilton paid nothing on the treasures of his palace when he came into possession in 1863. But when he sold them they ceased to be heirlooms, it appears, and the Board of In-Palace sale.

ed from thirteen to almost 600 in the last carcerated after coming here.

four years, while the number of resorts where Late Foreign News. four years, while the number of resorts where "saki" is sold has fallen off. Years ago the Japs were wont to drink 130,000,000 gallons of "saki" annually.

A cheer is due the Dutchmen. When the Prinz Frederik collided with the English ship Marpessa on June 25, the commander of a detachment of Dutch colonial troops which happened to be on board immediately ordered the assembly sounded, and the men fell in on the deck like clockwork, in the face of certain loss of the ship. Their conduct was an invaluable example to the passengers and crew, for although the entire company were then transferred to the boats A new lawn game entitled "cozzare" is an | with perfect quiet and despatch, the Prinz Frederik went down as the last boat left her The stage censor at Prague has forbidden | side. She carried with her six Dutch privates and an officer, who doubtless had been overwhelmed by the waters rushing in at the point of collision.

In the years 1879-1889 there were 2,759 duels in Italy, 2,489 of which were fought with swords, 179 with pistols, 90 with daggers, and I with revolvers. Fifty duels resulted fatally, 1,060 in severe wounds, and 2,541 in mere scratches. Nine hundred and The latest revelation is that France pays seventy-four duels were caused by newspa-\$400,000 out of the public funds to subsidize per and literary quarrels, 730 by oral quarrels, 359 by political differences, 183 by secret dissensions, 278 by premeditated insults The Athenœum has this advertisement: 29 by religious discussions, 19 by trouble "Writers of fiction (ladies especially) may at games, and 162 by unknown causes. The be supplied with new materials of exciting greatest number of duels was fought in August, 326, and the smallest number in December, 62. In 1885, 165 of the principals were authors, 64 lawyers, 156 officers, 14 ers, Judges, and one singer.

The Reverend Spurgeon advances a somewhat radical view in Sword and Trowel: "In the matter of faith healing health is set before us as if it were the great, thing to be desired above all things. It is so? The only Jewish daily paper in the world I ventured to say that the greatest earthly is said to be the St. Petersburg Hamelitz, of | blessing that God can give to any of us is which Mr. Zederbaum is the editor. Diffi- health with the exception of sickness. Sickness has frequently been of more use to the Some practical but inartistic German has saints of God than health. If some men that made up a compound of sugar and condensed I know of could only be favored with a milk and tea, from which a cup of tea month of rheumatism, it would mellow At last, tired with the unwonted can be had by simply pouring on boiling them marvellously by God's grace. Assuredly they need something better to H. M. T. Blenheim, just launched, will be preach than what they now give their people, and possibly they would learn it in the chamber of suffering. I would not wish any speed for four hours, unarmored, with steel man a long time of sickness and pain, but a deck 61 inches thick, two 22-ton guns, and twist now and then one might almost ask for him. A sick wife, a new made grave, poverty, slander, sinking of spirit, might. teach lessons nowhere else to be learned so. well. Trials drive us to the realities of re-

> Probably the most extraordinary surgical operation on record is reported from Paris, Dr. Lannelongue, an eminent specialist in An amateur photographer has met with a the Children's Hospital, has just succeeded old, had a deformed head, only about oneage. She never smiled, never took notice of A system of steno-telegraphy has been anything, and she could neither walk nor made a long and narrow incision in the centre of the skull and cut a portion out of the s mething astounding. In less than a month the child began to walk. Now she smiles, interests herself in everything around her, and plays with a doll. A tolerably bright li tle child has taken the place of the idiot.

A Railroad Under the Channel.

Sir Edward Reed, the distinguished running a railroad under the English channel which he believes has all of the merits of the tunnel without its defects. What he proposes is to lay on the sea bed on proper supports two parallel tubes, similar in construction to the double bottom of a large ship, the space between each of the double solid with Portland cement, which preserves iron and steel for a long period. These tubes are to be sunk in sections of about 600 feet, and to have strength to withstand the tidal action. The bed of the channel is said to be sufficiently smooth to admit of this construction, which would require, in the opinion of Sir Edward, a period of five years' time, and involve an expenditure of about \$75,-000,000. The merit from a national point. of view that the tube has over the tunnel is. John Hope, a well-known and rich gentle- that, in case of war, a dynamite torpedo. man of Edinburgh, has executed a trust deed | could be let down upon these tubes and enconveying £84,459 to trustees of which he tirely destroy them, so that there would be. himself is one, for advancing the cause of no danger of their use by an invading army, in carrying two lines of railway track that would be possessed by a tunnel. There The St. James's Gazette makes the state- is a possible defect, however, which does ment that there is a schism in the English not seem to have suggested itself to church as to what one's ghost is, one side those in England who have been comholding that it has an existence of its own, menting upon this plan, and this is the party thinking that it is begotten by the in the case of a railroad accident. relation between the minds of two living If the train, through some defect in machinpersons-that it is, in fact, a "cooperative ary, the breaking of a wheel or axle, should run off the track in a tunnel, the accident might result in some damage to the passengers of a train, as a similar accident under ordinary conditions, though, in all probability, of a less serious character. But it is to be feared that an accident of this kind taking place in one of these proposed tubea would lead to the rupture of the enclosing covering, its prompt filling with water, and the immediate death, not only of those who happened to be on the wrecked train, but those on any other train which was at that time going in the same direction between

Gross Exaggerations.

OTTAWA, Aug. 6.—A sensational interview with a Mrs. Rigby, who claims to be the immigrant girls' friend, is telegraphed here from New York. The attention of Mr. Lowe, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, was to-day called to the despatch. "I am satisfied," said he, "that Mrs. Rigby's statements are gross exaggerations. The allegations in this article are mere generalization and they do not contain a single specificaland Revenue has shocked his Grace with a tion on which an enquiry or test could be sudden demand for £18,000, or 3 per cent. on made. The statement that the church of "Why did you say she was a designing the \$600,000 realized from the Hamilton England clergymen are leagued with benevole: t societies to send out immoral girls is a A revolution is taking place in the drink- libel and is not sustained by one specif o ing habits of the Japanese. The rice brandy fact." He would not say but that gir! called "saki," which has long been their whose character was not as perfect as could national beverage, is being supplanted by be wished might have come to this country, beer brewed after the German method. In but he knew of none who were sent from Osaka the number of beer saloons has increas- any criminal institution or who were in-