the author of "What He Cost Her, "Gwendoline's Harvest," and other popular novels.

CHAPTER XIX.

MR. STEVENS.

"Mr. Stevens," said the lieutenant, as he and the visitors from Pampas Cottage introduce you to Mr. and Mrs. Hepburn. People." mermaids themselves. There could not want to see the coast-line hereabouts. Now, have been a more fortunate meeting for your if you are going to make any stay here, I you so good a guide had I pressed half the the fact is, I shall be from home the and encourages by every means in her for the summer." power; and he is an idle man is Hepburn.

"With the exception, I am sure our galsaid the stranger, with a smileless bow.

have been here to have heard what Mr. again."

Stevens says." Perhaps Mr. Stevens will be kind enough | brance to Mr. Hepburn." with much more fervor of affection than is overworked either." were a score of years away as yet. But her afloat .-- Ahem, ahem." chief charm was in her voice—so gentle, so "What en earth does Carey mean?" lieutenant did, heartily wished him

unmarried. and your husband will share with us our the Downs." midday meal, it will be very kind of you."

"Well the fact is, I am afraid of a storm," replied Raymond. "It would not "I am vain enough to think that time will do for my wife and child to be caught in one hang heavy on her hands in my absence. of your sou'westers. What do you say, oh most weather-wise mariner? Come, tell us the truth; though I own nothing would give us greater pleasure than to dine with such kind friends, and especially to-day."

"There, if we didn't clean forget it, that," observed Mr. Stevens, gravely. Marion," exclaimed the lieutenant. "Upon my word, this is to bad. And to call ourselves old friends, too!"

"Nay, Mr. Carey, your wife didn't forget it," observed Mrs. Hepburn reprovingly; * she whispered to me her congratulations when she kissed me."

" I assure you, my dear Carey, nothing of that sort happened to me," remarked Raymond with mock gravity. "I have inhospitable, you have only half an hour cumstances they certainly appear morose the guardianship of little Milly, committed mond, Raymond, they are breaking in the received no congratulations; and I thought or so to get home with a dry skin. The it a piece of great unfriendliness and neglect storm is brewing apace yonder. One of

"Pooh, pooh," answered the lieutenant merrily. "I don't care about you at all. I was only thinking of your dear wife." "Upon my word!" ejaculated Raymond,

"but this is very pretty." "She is not only very pretty, but very

good," continued the lieutenant enthusias. tically "and I was a stupid old sea monster not to remember. My dear Mrs. Hepburn, I wish you many happy returns of the "You hear that, Mrs. Carey?" cried

Raymond; "he wishes my wife a widow, and more than once! Because he is married himself, and cannot have her, he maliciously desires the death, not only of myself, but of any person who may happen to take Mrs. Hepburn's fancy after my decease."

"It is possible?" asked Mr. Stevens blandly, while the laughter still broke like running-fire from Raymond and the two ladies; and the lieutenant stood smiling, but shaking his head, as though they were much too hard upon him. "Is it possible guest into the garden, " for it is not right that Mr. Carey has wished this lady many that either she or the child should be happy returns of her wedding day?"

Marion used to be, and wishing her joy of that she would rather be at home, alone from other quarters that 'a run' is to be she feel in such another night of storm, girl, the pair of them, do they not?"

Stevens has guessed it—guessed the very dryly; "but we are southern folks our- is no concern of ours, but of the Revenue. upon her life ever since she had heard of time that you two were made one. Now, I selves.—Good-bye, Mrs. Carey; good-bye, So long as we are in these parts, I have his intention to go to Marmouth, and had should never have guessed it—never. Indeed, dear lieutenant." my private opinion is, that it's all nonsense still. They're not married, bless you; you," whispered the old gentleman, " for yard of lace or a bottle of brandy since we now two years since she had escaped from they're only children playing at being mar. being so civil to that lubber; he has taken have been here, although I doubt if those that dread slavery-from the woman who

that the child was easily frightened, or it for the first time when I introduced him to but Mildred scarcely smiled. Again and | Suddenly and yet with the naturalness

may have been that his own countenance, yourself. I am pretty confident he is the again her husband rallied her upon her peculiar to the situation, for nothing that being morose and stern, was not calculated Inspector." to inspire an infant with much confidence; Without much, belief in the surmise of he toasted her lovingly in a full bumper, strange or to demand inquiry as to how it

Although a comparatively new comer into "My dear sir," replied Raymond, much the neighborhood, Mr. Hepburn knows distressed, "there is no need for such con-

"I tell you what," exclaimed the lieu-"Very good; very true; bravo!" lies along the most magnificent part of the responded the lieutenant, rubbing his coast, over the East Downs, and then-if she to her husband. "that the cavern is motionless limbs irresistibly remind us of riveted upon Raymond? And why did the

"Thank you," returned Mr. Stevens, "Well, my dear John, I am here now. dryly; "but perhaps I should be an incum-

emerging from the little trellised porch, Raymond, earnestly; "I shall be delighted to the last moment, in hopes of madam's so little, and when the best comfort that very strength and courage made him carealmost the only decoration by which the to have your company. I am quite grieved lieutenant's residence was distinguised from | that you have come at so unprepitious a those of the men under his command. | time; for the fact is, I have generally noth-Then, without waiting to listen to the ing at all to do; and indeed, our friend remark in question, she greeted Raymond here-when he does not happen to be ex-

mothers. Mrs. Carey was very comely and that," broke in the lieutenant; "I have even youthful still. Hers was a face indeed, plenty to do, and I hope to do my duty, and rest a little?" which does not lose its youth even amid although it is not so agreeable to me as gray hairs and wrinkles, and both these that which would fall to my lot if I were

tender, so confidence-inviting to all who thought Raymond. "Why does the good seemed to be worthy of her esteem—and soul boast himself after this fashion, and she was very charitable in her estimation of then cough as if he was ashamed of it? that worthiness—and yet so dignified, so It is evident, however, that he wants to get sir, and madam." calmly courteous, distant as a star, when this fellow off his hands. With regard to addressing those who repelled the trusty the Mermaid's Cavern," addded he, aloud, meedle of her heart. Among the flock of "I have thought how an opportunity may rough fellows beneath the lieutenant's be afforded Mr. Stephens of seeing that. command, most of them would have laid Is it not the day after to-morrow that your bowing in their turn, "good-bye until todown their lives for her sweet sake; but a provision boat comes in from Marmouth? few black sheep, conscious that she knew Well, why should it not drop this gentletheir characters far better than the simple man at the cavern on its return voyage?"

"A capital idea!" quoth the lieutenant, thoughtfully. "But then it's a weary way "Now, pray come within doors, my dear round the cliffs, back again, unless there is Mrs. Hepburn," cried she; "and if you somebody to show him the short cut over

> "Well, I dare say my wife will show him," answered Raymond, good-naturedly. to the Mermaid's Cavern as anywhere else; while I know little Milly will be delighted with the sea flowers."

> "I will ask it myself, my dear sir," returned Raymond, with cheerfulness, and let you know to morrow."

"And I thank you, too," quoth the lieu-

my men shall go with you with a couple of rather than we. A couple of walks with the fear of being unable, in such a case, the shoulder. The next instant he had boat-cloaks, and an umbrella also, if you this Mr. Stevens is the limit of our self- alone to support the child, which struck a leaped from the bed, and snatched someplease; although I doubt whether an sacrifice; but to have such a wet blanket chill to her mother-heart; but the sense, thing from beneath his pillow. umbrella can live in such weather as is for a guest in one's own house, in weather should Raymond be removed, of the utter promised by those clouds."

do something in return for the trouble I am about to give, and in reparation for the mischief I have involuntarily committed. Moreover, by that means I shall learn where your house is, at which I conclude I am to call to-morrow morning in order to accompany you on your journey."

"I am sure you are very polite," returned Raymond rigidly, not altogether relishing, perhaps, the addition of the selfinvited stranger to their their little party in the walk on that particular day, " Here is my wife, I see, all ready, warned of her danger by prudent Mrs. Carey, I have no doubt."

"I have turned her out of doors," laughed that good lady, as she followed her caught in the coming storm. If she could "That's just it," said the lieutenant; have dined and slept here—and we have "but there, I own always to forgetting that both bed and board to spare, although of Mrs. Hepburn is married at all. I thought the humblest—that would have been an that I was talking to a young school-girl like excellent plan : but she said very rudely

"Mr. and Mrs. Hepburn are very young," ing guest,' is a motto that we think highly Stevens in the enemy's camp would be now, and cry, "Raymond, I fear;" and tree. It was not so dark but they could returned the stranger coldly, "the happy of in the north," observed Mr. Stevens, invaluable." day, of which this is the anniversary, can- gathering the boat-cloaks, which the lieu- "I should have thought Mrs. Carey was Her husband had never left her for a not be very far distant. Two years ago, I tenant had brought out in the meantime, too sensible a woman to entertain such farunder his arm .- " I believe that Hepburn fetched apprehensions," answered Ray. absence beyond measure, although she "By the Lord Harry!" cried the is a northern name, by the bye, is it not?" mond, carelessly, "but whether this could not explain her fears even to herself. little Pharos above Lucky Bay; a cheering Stevens has greeced it message has greeced it message and the message and the sage of the

ried—although, to be sure there's Milly quite a fancy to you, it seems, and declines commodities are to be got anywhere else so had claimed her very heart to dispose of to let me accompany you, and help to cheap as in this little hamlet of Sandby; as her own—and began to breathe an atmos-The consciousness of having said some- carry the cloaks. Do you know, between upon the other hand, it is not my business phere of liberty and love. For two years, thing indecorous here struck the lieutenant you and me, I can't help thinking he may to tell Carey that Simon Reeves has got a her former task mistress had been foiled dumb; like that figure head of the good be the Inspector himself; that's why I cellar under his hearthstone, or that in her schemes of vengeance, for that ship Fame, which reposed in his own look stopped you just now when you were Walter Dickson's boat has a false bottom. schemes she had was as certain as that the out, his cheeks grew red and swollen, while, saying that I wasn't overworked. I have That was the new parson's great mistake thunder cloud holds the lightning. But for want of a trumpet to blow, they emitted told him that I haven't a moment I can here, and which has entirely destroyed his was it always to be so? Was not this precall my own. Now, do you go on being usefulness. A priest of our religion would sent happiness too great to be enjoyed, not-"For Mildred, sir," returned Mrs. Hep- for doing which you would give a man a whisper, from the clerk's desk beneath, mond and she were temporarily separated? burn courteously. "She is named after round dozen on board ship. But there was really nowhere else to put Upon whom would the blow first fall? that's all a matter of opinion. When the them for a day or two, and requesting his An intermission longer than usual was "A pretty name, and a pretty child," Admiralty has once got its eye upon a reverence to preach from where he was taking place in the elemental war without; instead of shifting!" Raymond roared mutterings only were to be heard, as though

but certain it was that Miss Mildred Hep- the good lieutenant, the expression of his and made her drink a glass herself to the got there-suddenly, Mildred's thoughts burn here set up such a wail of dissatisfac- wish was quite sufficient to make Ray- health of little Milly, she did contrive to reverted to Mr. Stevens. Why did Mrs. tion as caused her removal within doors, mond more than courteous to his new com- cast them off for a while; but afterwards, Carey dislike him so? A good woman, if which, of course, compelled the secession panion. He walked a little in advance of as the evening drew on, and the storm ever there was one, was the lieutenant's his wife and Mr. Stevens, for the child he increased, her vague forebodings once wife; sincere and pure, and with a marvel-"I am extremely sorry, Mr. Hepburn," carried in his arms was still curiously im- more seemed to take possession of her, lous faculty for discernment of character, observed the stranger apologetically; "I patient of the latter's presence; but while and after one or two attempts to win which the pure sometimes possess—even ought to have remembered that I have a he did so, he managed to converse about her to cheerful talk, Raymond himself grew the simplest, such as children—as though very repulsive exterior, although within, I the locality and its wonders in a manner silent. came up with that gentleman, "let me trust I am not less well meaning than other that seemed to interest the stranger Conversation, however, was by that time as the Venice glass shrinks and proclaims greatly; so much so, indeed, that he rendered almost impossible by the violence the presence of the poison. As for herself, rarely interrupted him, except with some of the rain, shuddering against the Mildred was aware of the want of foundainterjection of admiration or agreement; windows, and beating with monotonous tion in her own suspicions; she suspected more about the coast than the coast-guard, trition. No one can calculate upon a baby's nay, even when Hepburn pointed out some thud upon the straw-thatched roof. After every stranger of boding them no good. more about the Mermaid Cavern than the whims and fancies. Carey was saying you object of interest within view, Mr. Stevens they had retired to rest, and Raymond had That very Lieutenant Topsell, whom Raywould bestow but a passing glance poon it, fallen asleep, and the waxen lids of the little mand had spoken of that afternoon, she and then his keen gray eyes would flash child in the cot by her side were closed in had identified in some manner with their purpose than is this. I could not have found shall be delighted to be your guide. But back again upon the speaker, and riveted slumber, Mildred lay wide awake, con- enemies; and indeed his merciless and upon him as fixedly as before. Ere they sumed with shadowy fears. To be in the brutal character seemed to have fitted him rascals in Sandby—smugglers mostly, by next two days. I have to go to Marmouth parted, it was quite settled by the two same room with one who sleeps, is, in for the ally of her she feared. But she the bye, whom this lady tends in sickness, to-morrow about engaging a sailing boat gentlemen that their purpose of walking some respects, to be more lonely than if had been mistaken in that case, and had together towards Marmouth the next morn- quite companionless. There is something done the poor wretch wrong, who had since "And those are the only two days I have ing was to hold good, no matter what should awful in the thought that, though the body then met with his end, and not discredit-No inspection to attend to, no superior to at my disposal," replied the stranger be the weather; while Mildred, upon her is there, the soul of our companion is probably for that matter, fighting against overpart, promised to take her walk on the day bly far away; that the reins of his own whelming odds in his lawful calling. But after in the direction of the Mermaid's Cav- being are out of his control; that he is this Stevens, who had given no evidence of lant friend must mean, of Mrs. Hepburn," tenant; "you could walk with Hepburn ern, if the expected storm should abate suffi- separated from us as though he were dead. an evil disposition, why did she shrink as far as you please upon his way, which ciently to make such an expedition feasible. The quiet breathing may indeed assure us from him in spite of herself? Why had

hands. "My dear Marion, you should you didn't mind-you could walk back only open for two hours, even in these low that time when those eyes will never open threatened absence of her husband on the

drown." drowned this afternoon before you get back worldly minded—the merest slave of scrip While her mind indulged itself with this to the station," observed Raymond. "The and share—to weave, under such cir- ghastly apprehension, she was by no means and his wife, and began to caress the child, pecting a visit from his superior—is not rain is beginning already; see how the mist cumstances, the same gross web of contri- insensible of the extreme inprobability of comes on like a wall. Yonder is our little vance that solely usurps his thoughts by the event her imagination thus foreshadowusual with women who are wives, but not "Don't say that, Hepburn-don't say cottage; we, for our part, are quite safe day. He does not surely lie on his sleep- ed; but the idea grew upon her neverthe-

very cordially; at all events the reply was one thought of Him who made him and the would accompany his guest in the proposed in the negative.

"Not to-day, Mr. Hepburn. I will do stars which no accountant can number. myself the pleasure of calling for you tomorrow, however at the hour you mentioned. I wish you a very good e ening, been solemn now had it not been terrible. tory-and she knew that the gallant coast-

He did not offer to shake hands, and as if to prevent their doing so, stepped backwards as he bowed his farewell.

"Good-bye, sir," replied the Hepburns,

"Ay, good-bye until to-morrow for one," muttered the stranger, as he set his face against the driving mist; "good-bye until the next day for the other. If this be not killing my two birds with one shot, it is bringing them down with a double-barrel."

CHAPTER XX.

A NIGHT OF STORM. cottage.

"Yes, I do know it, my love," returned together as before. seaman's superstitions, I should think he riage, and while her husband was all in all Did you call?" would consider Friday next, which rids to her, she was not thus troubled. From him of his friend, a lucky day."

inspector," observed Mildred thoughtfully. that the endeavors to discover their where-"for I never saw her behave so frigidly to some terrible vengeancewould be attempted, Topsell, threw that poor, half-drowned the very worst that could happen-suppose off our heads." Newfoundland back into the surf last they slew her Raymond-well, let them winter, and she declined to sit down to slay her also. It would not be difficult for was about to leave the room, when he felt

about this Stevens?" very well with the lieutenant, but, as she feel, then, when he should, in reality, have that great tempest. thinks, without much reason. He has left her? She did not venture to picture but his informations are always laid a had passed unbidden athwart her brain; little late. At the present time it seems but how would she feel to-morrow, when he

It may have been, as Mr. Stevens said, Stevens' looks, though it only struck me occurred but lately in the parish church; should next direct their fury.

silence and melancholy; at dinner, when occurs to our minds at such a time seems

"I suppose Mr. Stevens knows," said that he lives; but the shut face and she shuddered to see his cold gray eyes to gladden us more, or those lips bless us morrow seem to lower more menacingly "Yes, I have been informed of that," with gracious speech-when we shall be because he was to be accompanied by this returned the stranger. "The tide will alone indeed, and all the sympathy that man upon some portion of the way? She had leave it free on Thursday between 2 and men can heap upon us will not avail to no fear but that her Raymond was a match, to say it again," said the lady in question, "Far from it, my dear sir," returned 4. If the weather is fine, I shall stay there fill up the aching void in our hearts by ever and more than a match, for him, but his coming; so I hope she will not leave me to God himself can give us-or so it seems to less and unsuspicious; and, besides, what our poor stricken souls-is to let us die too. could the strongest arm avail against a "I am afraid you will be well-nigh I doubt if it is usual for even the most deadly weapon?"

> At all events, such was always a solemn ceaselessly—the awful dipason of the sea! "Raymond, dear, do you know I don't Then, again, at the bidding of some soli-

her husband, laughing. "You looked at Mildred was no coward; but oppressed as made what had preceded it seem but as "I cannot venture to ask such a favor as him when he frightened little Milly with as she now was by premonitions of evil, the the light winds that diversify the calms of his ugly face, very much as you would look viewless war that was raging without summer. Were her companions drugged, at an ogre sharpening his teeth before a appeared to have some affinity with the that they slept through it? She took the baby-feast. He is, however, only one of vague dangers that seemed to threaten her child into bed with her and hugged it close, those uncomfortable persons who take even and hers. Mechanically she stretched her as though in fear that the whirling eddies "Thank you very much," cried the their pleasure sadly. It is only charitable arm over her unconscious child, as though which thundered down the chimney, and to suppose that there is something really to protect her from some imaginary foe. estimable lying deep hid within such If Heaven should see fit to take her hustenant, slapping his young friend on the undemonstrative folks, which would exhibit band from her, what would become of their back. "But let me tell you one thing, itself, if an opportunity of sufficient magni- child? She might not herself die-as she close outside their very chamber-room win-Hepburn, although it may seem somewhat tude should occur. Under ordinary-cir- would wish to do-having that sacred trust, dow? or a falling brick? or a -- "Rayand disagreeable enough. But it is the to her; but how should she be able to fulfil house-door!" At the top of her voice she poor lieutenant who has cause to complain it. It was not the apprehension of poverty, shrieked, while she shook her husband by

> what she knew, indeed, of the implacable "But Mrs. Carey doesn't think he is an disposition of her aunt, she was well aware door off its hinges." "Well, I hope not," laughed Raymond, abouts never flagged, and that, when found,

made up my mind to mix myself up with even saddened as we have seen, the anniver-"Good-bye, Hepburn; and God bless neither side. We have never bought a sary of their marriage day. Ay, it was

regarding it with attention. "But, be quite sure he is genuine. There is cerwith laughter at the picture he was draw-the powers of the air were counselling tainly something underhand in this ing of a circumstance that had actually together as to the point against which they tainly something underhand in this ing of a circumstance that had actually together as to the point against which they

now. But you, sir-will you not step in less pillow while his true wife slumbers by less, until she had made up her mind to his side, calculating still, like some horizon- send Mrs. Carey a private note in the Perhaps the invitation was not given tal triumph of Professor Babbage, without morning to entreat that the lieutenant hushed world rotating without, and the excursion. She knew that the wife would sympathize with her terrors-doubly unreasonable though they must seem to her, who time to Mildred Clyffard, and would have knew nothing of the Hepurns' former his-The world was far from hushed, nor were guardsman would run the risk of losing the stars shining. The elements were at a promotion to a line of-battle-ship, no matdeadly strife as we mortals say, when rain ter how imminent it might seem, rather than and wind are only fulfilling God's word; let her suffer the heart-ache. As for meetand except that the forces employed were ing Mr. Stevens herself in the Mermaid's far from prodigious, it was wonderfully like Cave, on the ensuing afternoon, that might a battle among men. There were pauses be considered afterwards; sufficient for the when the powers of the storm seemed next day was the possible evil therof. In gathering themselves together as after a the meantime, she had mentally arranged repulse, only to make a more tremendous for Raymond's safety. Thus relieved from outset. Then the skirmishers-the sharp her more immediate fear, and the rain and thin, driving rain-were pushed forward in wind keeping an armed truce, if not subsidcountless thousands, and then the tempest ing, tardy sleep touched her exclids, as it came rolling up behind them, column upon | had long ago sealed those of the other two column, while the heavy guns thundered occupants of that little room. Mildred's spirit, too, was freed from the transmels of the flesh, and roamed, only God knows like that man?" said Mildred, earnestly, tary blast, which might well be taken for a how, through space and time. How long She and the nurse might just as well walk as they sought the shelter of their little trumpet sounding the recall, the legions of she slept, a minute or an hour, she could the air would grudgingly retire, and gather not tell, but she awoke with a spasm of terror, amid the raging of such a tempest made the night lamp flicker and flare, should snatch her from her side. Was that a step upon the balcony outside-

"Let them beware," he cried; "their like this, with the idea, too, which Carey defencelessness of their position, and of the blood be upon their head." Then pressing "Permit me to carry the boat-cloaks," has got hold of, that he is a coast-guard unswerving resolution of their mortal his left hand to his forehead, he added, entreated the stranger, earnestly; "let me inspector in disguise-why, with all his enemy. During the first year of her mar. more calmly, "I am not myself, Mildred.

"They are in the house," said she; "do you not hear them? They have torn the

"I hear the rain beating and the wind roaring, Mildred. The door must have been blown in. I must get it shut, and put nybody since that scoundrel, Lieutenant and perhaps perepetrated. Still-suppose up the bar, or we shall have the roof lifted

Putting on some garments hastily, he dinner with him. What does she think one like her to die, having nothing left to a hand on his shoulder. Mildred, ashy live for. But now, with little Milly, pale, and in her dressing gown, with the "She scarcely knows what to think; although Raymond was no dearer to her still sleeping child clutched in her arms, but she has a half suspicion that, instead than before—for that he could not be-yet was standing beside him, making signs of his being a coast-guard official, he is upon how infinitely more precious was his life! that she would go too. Terror had deprived quite the other side. The landlord of the Even this deep sleep of his filled her with her of the power to raise her voice to the Crown is an obliging person, and stands the sense of separation. How would she pitch necessary to make herself heard in

"I am not going to take the lamp with endeavored to show himself a friend to the the loss of him, though a sudden shrinking me," cried he, smiling at the tone he was Revenue upon more than one occasion; of her heart told her that such a thought obliged to use. "Never fear, love; I shall not leave you in the dark."

But she, like one stone-deaf, only shook the Lucky Bay people have received a hint | would in reality be absent? How would her head, and followed him down-stairs to the little passage where the wind was soon attempted upon a large scale, and, when there should be no protector beside pouring in like a deluge through a broken "'Welcome the coming, speed the part- of course, if this be so, a spy such as her, whom she could wake with a touch, as dike. The whole cottage rocked like, a see what had happened—the door was off were fellow-creatures there, up and about their usual task, and even counteracting to some extent the awful effects of the storm: perhaps, too, it reminded her of that eye which, although we may not care to look for it in fair weather, watches us always, and in the storms of life beacons us to a haven, and in the night of death is a star of hope. "Hold this, dear Mildred: nay, your

hand shakes; let me leave it on this step." Raymond put down the thing he carried. and shouldering the wainscot, while his wife watched him from behind the angle, advanced step by step. Twice he essayed "Milly is rather an uncommon name," civil to him—there's a good fellow. It's have been more adroit. And yet, to find withstanding that it was thus marred by position, and twice was borne back with it what embarrassing silence. With some just the sort of device the government himself blocked out of his own pulpit, on her fears? Would not those fears one day against the wall and bruised. The third what embarrassing silence; "it is the would adopt in order to see if a fellow's the very first Sunday, by kegs of cau de vie! be realized? And at what time was this time, taking advantage of a moment's luli, doing his duty; just the sort of thing, too, Can't you fancy old Reeves explaining in a more likely to take place than when Ray. a lucid interval in the mad fury of the storm, he managed to close the door, and put the bar up. Then they went over the little house, seeing that all was safe. The cook and the house-maid were sitting up in their respective beds, with their night-caps tucked behind their ears, as though the storm was an oratorio of which they would not have missed a note upon any

(Continued on seventh page.