The Old Man Settled the Question. BY HENRY HARRIMAN. by st in her cushioned chair,

leving away on her gum;

ading and curls were so tight in her hair

ading and curls were so tight in her hair the pain was too awfully some.

sere she expected her lover to come, la lossened the bangs of her hair; from her sweet mouth sae ejected the gum ud tossed it aside on a chair.

were he came as the twilight fell indimiled on the maiden so fair;
indimiled on the maiden so fair;
indimiled her and held her a good little spell.
Then sat himself down in a chair.

webver waxed warm and warm waxed the is be drummed a te doodle de dum.

Indhe drummed a te doodle de dum.

Indhe drummed a te doodle de dum.

Indhe drummed a te doodle de dum. Te WIB stuck on that horrible gum !

thus the youth reasoned, with mind all a adhis thoughts all mixed in a whirl: reste his best pants with the girl?

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# at feed upon di be boiled a

CHAPIER I. - OUR MYSTERIOUS NEIGHBORS in the little tewn of Spanners, in a semienched villa, lived my Aunt and I. My relession was that of a doctor, my pracbeing large for a young man of only menty five. The next house had been long pecupied. Weeden palings divided its arden in the back and front from ours, In garden, however, was totally uncared The grass, uamown fer many months, w long and straggling, and overstrewn ith decayed leaves, which no one ever hought of removing. Near the gate was plack beard supported on a pole, en which painted in large staring characters, To be set, Farnished or Unfurnished, or di Irquire at Mr. Bleggs, House gent, 15 Cern Rew." The same informaon was exhibited in the cebwebbed win-The ewner had been abread for ame time, and possessed a few other houses buides this in the town. At first the rent fifty pounds per annum. No ene rould give that for it. It was then lowerd to ferty, and lastly to thirty-five pounds. fee er three times I noticed people stopand at the gate; but the outward appearme of the villa was so unprepeasessing and utidy, that no one cared to take it, and has it remained unlet for upwards of twe mars. It was an eyesere to me and to my unt: for our side being so neat, and our little garden so flourishing and gay, the the centrast was all the more painful, One pring merning, as I was gathering some violets for the breakfast-table, to my agreeable surprise I observed a gardener clearing way the leng unawept leaves, and prepar-

A pleasing change was soon visible in the mtward appearance of the place. The winlews were cleaned and made bright and hining. Behind them were hung new green venetians, and the deer was freshly painted. The dust within the building, the accumulatlen of many months, must have been reat. Indeed, in hyperbelic language, the charweman teld our cook, who teld my mengh to bury a man. I can imagine that the statement could not have been far from the truth. I should not like to be the unpid fer her trouble. About a week after, ul was in my surgery, at eleven o'cleck at aight, I heard a cab step. I went to the windew, and shading my face against the panes, locked out; but the darkness was too great to permit me to observe the new-

ing to mew the leng neglected grass. He

tenched his hat en seeing me. I asked if

the house was let. He replied that it was,

and that the new comers would take posses-

den in a few days. They had purchased

the eld furniture for a song—se he had

heard-and had taken the house by the

their compliments, asking us to lend them a | him. But she said nothing, nor did I. few ceals, which my good aunt gladly did. quiries. Several people called and left | ever it? Please, say so." these places where every one knews every replied, that it was impossible to say. one, and every bedy's affairs are canvassed general. Miss Colebrooke was a new inhabitant; no one knew her, ner anything about her; and so fe ks were curious, and being curious, talked. It thus happened that before I saw her, I felt a kind of interest in her. For about three weeks she never went out at all. What a lonely life hers must be, I thought, knewing nene, except one old servant. Such a strange thing too it." it was, for a young girl to live thus by hernever left a letter at her door. What a let te be left thus friendless and desolate in the wide world !

I caught my first glimpse of her from our breakfast reem window as she was walking in the back garden one morning. I was at ence struck by the elegance of her ferm. But her face—when I saw that, I felt drawn to her at ence, it was so sweet and pure; and there was such a depth of sadness in her seft, liquid, dark gray eyes! She could not have been more than eightteen or nineteen, as far as I could judge. When she caught my eye, she blushed vividly, and quickly turned away her face, u if net caring to be seen.

The next time I saw her was in church; but she were a thick black veil, and it was net pessible to see her features distinctly. ebserved many people eyeing her inquisitively. She had taken a seat with her heusekeeper, at the end of the church, amongst the free seats, and behind pillar; so these who were rude enough to the had to turn round. Den't think I did I glanced at her when I entered the she was embarramed by the ourlestly of her fellow-wershippers.

Several weeks passed away, but we and our neighbours became no better acquainted. Occasionally, but that was not often, I saw her either in the garden or at the window; but she never walked out except on Sundays to church. Every merning the housekeeper went into the town to purchase the feed for the day. I never netleed any tradesman call at the deer; readymoney was paid for everything bought, This circumstance only increased the inquisitiveness of the Spannersites. I persuaded my Aunt to call one day, but she had no better luck than others who had done so. The servant told her that her young mistress received no one. The act of courtesy was unreturned.

Some weeks after this, when my Aunt had gone to bed, and I was preparing to do the same, I heard a faint, hesitating ring at the night-bell. Thinking it might be a summens to a patient, I epened the door myself, and was surprised to see Miss Colebrooke.

"You are the Doctor, I think?" she said rather timidiy. "Yes. Can I be of any service to you?" I required.

"My servant has been taken very ill with bronchitis. Will you kindly come and see her?"

I said I would come immediately; and putting en my hat, fellewed her down the steps and into the house. The servant was indeed seriously ill; and the attack was sharp and dangerous. I prescribed the necessary remedies, and left the room, premising to return in the merning.

Miss Celebreek fellowed mate the deer. "Is it very serious?" she asked anxiously. "In such cases," I replied, "there is al ways a certain amount of danger; but hope, with care, that she will recover."

"I hope so, tee, Dector. I den't know what I should do if anything happened to her;" and the tears rose to her beautiful "Would it not be as well," I said,

"that you should have a nurse to attend her? I could recommend you ane." "Thank you; but I must nurse her myself," she said quickly, "But, yes; forgot," she added after a mement, as if recollecting something. "I must have some one to attend to the house and go to

the town for me." "Just se. Then I will send you a servant to-merrew. Mrs. Stenewall, my Aunt, can recommend her highly."

"You are very kind, sir; but"-I waited for her to continue. "Yes? said, seeing she did net conclude her sentance.

"I was thinking," she answered hesitatingly, " that she cannot sleep at her

This struck me as strange, as there were enough rooms in the house-which was built on the same plan as ours-fer visiters

as well as servants. But without questioning her, I said I would

house, and departed. Mrs. Thempsen-which was the housekeeper's name-was worse the next day. Her mistress was in a state of feverish anxiety about her. When the woman recommended came, she was told that she need not attend to the top rooms, as they were lecked. While I was there, Miss Colebreeke went to one of these rooms, and I fancied I heard her say something in a low remenstrating tone. Could she be speaking to herself? I wendered. But later in the day I found the reems above had an inhabitant, and one whom no one guessed could be there. In the afternoon, as I was passing to the hall deor, I leeked aunt, who teld me, that there was dust | up on hearing a swift movement above me. I wendered to see looking at me over the balustrade on the top landing the face of a man, beardless and whiskerless, with only fertunate charwoman; I hope she was well a thick black moustache on his lip. He withdrew his head hastily when he saw had neticed him. Who could he be? resolved not to raise Miss Celebreeke's suspicions by asking questions, but during my visit that evening, she looked at me very uneasily and inquiringly as if she expected me to question her about the man, who I The next morning, our neighbors, sent | fancied must have teld her that I had seen

For the next three days Mrs. Thempsen We ascertained that the fresh arrivals were | continued in a very critical condition. young orphan lady, and her sele servant, | Oa the fourth I saw an imprevement, and a housekeeper. The former's name, we on telling Miss Celebrocke se, had the were told, was Calebrooke. This was the pleasure of seeing the first bright smile on only information my good aunt could give her pretty face. "I am se glad," she said our acquaintances when they made in hepefully. "You think then she will get said.

cards; but nere were admitted, and so my I said so, but added that the patient aunt thought it would be useless for her to | must be very carefully attended, and every call, especially as we learned that the lady | precaution taken to prevent her catching returned ne visits. This gave eccasion for | increased cold, which would certainly much speculation and gossip among the prove fatal. She asked when I thought chatterbexes of Spanners, which was one of Mrs. Thompson could leave her room. I

"You are looking tired with watching," and commented on by the community in I added. "I hope you allow the new maid to take turns in watching by Mrs. Thompson ?'

"She does a little in the daytime." "But why not let her take turns in watching at night?" I pursued. "It must, I am sure, fatigue yeu. Want of sleep always exhausts the human frame," "Oh, I am strong, Docter, I can de

"Well, take eare then," I said as I went | you a brother, Miss Colebrecke?" self. Had she no relations? The postman | to the door, "that I do not have to doctor you as well as Mrs. Thempsen; and then

we must have a regular hespital nurse," "I hope net," she returned smiling. "That would be a misfertune." I told my aunt what I had said to Miss

Celebreeke, and with her never failing kindness, she effered to help in the watching, and I gave Miss Colebrooke the message the next time I saw her.

"How very good of your aunt," she said gratefully. "I feel her kindness very much. the more se, as we are quite strangers;

"And," I cencluded, "I may therefore | man." tell her that her proposal is accepted. You will knew her at ence, and ne ene knewing her could help liking her. She would be a friend to you.'

"She must be a charming person, Dec-

"Well I will tell her then that she can come this evening."

"Oh, please de not ! I"- She speke quickly, in an embarrassed tene. "But I must watch by Mre. Thompson myself at night. De tell Mrs Stonewell how very church, but not again, I could perceive | much obliged I am to her."

"Then, Miss Colobrook, if you would rather watch by night, you must let her take turns with you in the daytime. I assure you it we?'t put her out. It will be a pleasure to her.

This was more favorably received. After some hesitation she concented; and during the day, I brought my aunt in and introduced her. I saw they took a mutual fancy to each other, of which I was glad. My Aunt pitied the apparently friendless girl, who seemed to have no one to care for her but the sick housekeeper. She felt drawn towards her, as I had been, when she saw the gentle, beautiful face, and divined as I had done, that the young heart hid a sorrew the nature of which we did not know. And on her part—and who could not help it?-was attracted by my dear Aunt's kindly smile, her sweet sympathizing words, as well as by her dear loving eld tace, pretty still, in spite of sixty summers, and many cares and troubles which had furrowed the brow, that had once been the smoothest and fairest. She stayed the whole afternoon with Mrs. Thompson, and gently insisted upon the young girl taking rest while she did se.

#### CHAPIER IL -- IS HE MAD ?

Several days passed away, and Miss Celebrooke seen became quite fend of my Aunt. Mrs. Thempsen improved; and I rejuded at this, especially for her young mistress's sake. Twice during the next week the mysterious stranger made his presence knewn. Once I caught sight of him at one of the upper windows at the back of the house, peeping stealthily behind the blind; and another time, the halldeer having been by accident left sjar, had walked up stairs without giving netice of my arrival, when I again saw him suddenly disappear up the stairs. It was in the evening, after the maid had gone home. But still I said nothing to Miss Celebrook about it. I thought it was not my place to question her, being a comparative stranger; but I felt extremely inclined to do so That there was some mystery connected with her, was evident enough. What it was, I could only conjecture. It might be that she had made a runaway marriage, abetted by Mrs. Thompson, and which circumstances rendered necessary should be kept secret. I could not bear to think of this; but an incident that occurred a few days later strengthened my suspicion.

My last evening visit had been paid to the patient. It was past eleven; and I was standing at the open window of my bedreem, leeking out on the night, which was very starry, but meenless, when I heard voices below in the next garden, and distinguished two dark figures.

"I must take a walk out to merrow. tell you, Ida, I shall die meping up in that reem all day, and you being obliged to be so much with Mrs. Thempsen makes me lenelier than ever. I want exercise."

"Hush! Den't speak se leudly; you will be heard. Listen to me. For my sake, de remember ;" and here her velce request the person to sleep at her ewn sank, so that I did not catch the conclusion of her speech. It was Miss Colebrooke who spoke. They could not see me, though I saw them. I waited for more.

"Yes, yes," he replied to whatever it gently. was she had said to him. "I know that, my darling. Have they said anything about having seen me?"

I did not hear her answer. But preseently I heard her seb, and he put his arm round her and kissed her, and then drew her gently into the house.

That was all; but it was enough to confirm my ideas. I cannot describe what felt. No one could have known her for a fertnight, as I had, without having their peace of mind disturbed. I need not say that I slept very little that night; and did not wonder at my Aunt telling me at

breakfast, next merning, that I was not leeking well. Before paying my next visit to the housekeeper, I had made up my mind te tell Miss Celebroeke what I had seen. It would put my suspense at an end to knew the truth. "Miss Celebreeke," I said to her rather

abruptly as she was walking down the hall passage with me, "you are married, I be-

She started, and stared me in the face in complete astonishment, and then burst into a lew musical laugh.

I had never heard her laugh before, and I liked to hear it; it gave me a certain hope tee. "Why de you laugh?" I asked. "Am I net right?"

" How can you think I am married?" she

"My thought is wreng, then ?" "Indeed, it is. If I am married, I den't knew it myself. But why do you ask, Decter ?"

"Well I will tell you. If you were to see a man put his arm round a young lady and kiss her affectionately, -what would you think ?- That they were married or at anyrate engaged to be married?" She gave a slight voluntary exclamation.

but did not reply. I repeated my werds and leeked straight inte her eyes She turned them away, with an uneasy expression on her face.

"The people you saw," she replied presently, "need not be husband and wife, or even lovers. They might be brother and

"I de net," she said, drawing up her pretty head with dignity " understand why you want to know, or why you should ask me se many questions especially when \_\_\_\_\_"

She stepped. "Then the gentleman I saw was your

"You will not mention-" she began, "You den't think," I interrupted, "that I gossip about what I may learn during my visits to patients. You must consider \_\_\_\_" "I did not mean to effend you," she interposed. "I was only going to ask you not to mention that you have seen this

"I understand," I said quietly. "I cannot tell you new," she continued. "who the gentleman is, the sight of whom

has naturally roused your curiesity. I may perhaps tell you seen-not that I am bound te de so, but you and Mrs. Stenewell have been so very good and kind, that I should net like you to think unkindly of me." I went away with a lighter spirit. I felt

happier, I had ascertained at least that she had not passed the gates of wedlock. The next day I learned from her that the mysterious stranger was her father ! Bo- | just."

to tolling me she had made me selemnly promise not to reveal the information to any one. This extreme caution surprised me very much. Why should she object to it being known that he was her father? I jumped to the conclusion that he had done something wrong, or why was this strict cencealment necessary ?

She perceived in my face the doubts in my mind. I frankly avowed them. I asked her why he was hiding himself from the world.

was so evidently distressed and troubled at my question, that it made me vexed that I had asked it.

"De not inquire, Doctor. There is a sad reason for it. I will speak to him. He may like to see you, new you have found out his being in the house."

"I should like to know him. Will you introduce me ?" She paused a moment, pendering. "Well

I will tell him," she said, "so that you promise not to reveal to a single soul his presence in this place." "You have my word for it. It is a word.

that has never been broken." Next time I called, she teld me that her father had consented to see me, then led the

way to his room, "Papa," she said, as she epened the deer "this is Dr. Aylmer, who has been so kind to me, and to peer Thempson. I have

brought him to see you." He was sitting at a deak with his head bent ever some writing. As seen as he saw me he rose and bewed. He was a tall, wellfermed man, and gentleman-like in appearance. He had strongly marked features, with eager eyes, capable, I thought, of flashing with flery passion, when he was vexed. His manner with me was cold and suspicious, at first. He watched me attentively, but after a few minutes he became more at ease. I soon saw he had something on his mind. He did not attend to my remarks, for he centinually begged my parden, and asked me to repeat what I had been saying. He leeked unhappy and wretched, except when his daughter speke to him, end then what a change came across his face! He smiled brightly and seemed

for a moment to forget his troubles. "I see Ida very seldem now," he said "her time is so fully taken up with Mrs. Thompson. I feel very dull when she leaves me. It is a lonely life—shut up here.

den't like it, and yet ---" "But why stay up here, then?" I asked. "There are many families in Spanners in whose society you would find pleasure." "It cannot be, Dr. Aylmer. You de not

knew my unhappy circumstances." "That is true.

"Well then, these circumstances compel me te keep myself away frem my fellowcreatures.

"I am serry to hear you say so," I remarked. "Welk at anyrate I have reason enough in all conscience to be serry for myself." He spoke se strangely that I began to fear

that his brain was affected. "De you knew?" he centinued "but for her!" peinting to his daughter-"I would wish I were dead-rather, that I had never been born." "Oh, dear papa," remenstrated Lia

"Unhappiness makes yeu despend," remarked.

"Yes, sir; and misery caused by-by

"I had rather not hear it," I said, "if it pains you to tell me."

"It would shock you, Doctor. You and your Aunt have been very kind to my child, and I feel I can safely confide in you; but I will not burden you with a secret, that you might not think right to cenceal, and which would endanger me if it were pub-

His words made me wender whether his brain was affected by some strange mania, or whether, as I had thought at first, he had committed a crime that was imperilling his liberty. Whatever the dread mystery was, I knew it was a frightful load on his conscience, and that the knowledge of it was saddening the life of his innecent young daughter. Even now as he speke, the tears rose involuntarily to her eyes. He noticed this.

"Ida, dear child, come to me," he said tenderly. "Kies me, my darling. You are unhappy. Oh, hew cruel I am! If I were dead, you would get over my less, after a time, and be cheerful again, and lead a brighter and a freer life. Shall I die? Say the word."

" Papa, dear, what are yeu saying?" she cried in a distressed voice.

Peer man, I thought, he must surely be insane. I rese to take my leave. "When shall I have the pleasure of seeing you again favour me?" I am so dull, never seeing any one."

I willingly promised, and left the reom feeling wretched at the thought that Ida's father was the victim of some dread form of menomania,

### (TO BE CONTINUED.) The Indians Disappearing.

## The Bay. Dr. Barrows has recently pub-

lished his views on the Indian question as derived from a thorough investigation made in the West in the summer of '85, This investigation goes to prove that the Indians, instead of increasind in numbers, as "Well, yes; so they might be. Have lately reported by the United States Indian Commissioners, are "wasting and disappearing." In 1820, it was estimated by a gevernment efficial that there were 425 766 Indians within the boundaries of the United States, and to this amount must be added the number of Indians in the territory since asnexed. According to the census taken just then, the sum-total of all the Indians within the present boundaries of the United States at that time was 526 592. The last census puts them at 255 938, Alaska not included. The decrease, then, would seem to be 260,554. These figures, especially the eriginal estimate, are extremely uncertain. Dr. Barrows proves that among the civilized and semi-civilized Indians, the falling off | tien. is 2 000 per annum for the last eighteen years. Allowing these figures to be true, the increase, if indeed there be such, of the savage Indians, who number only 50,000, could not balance the less among the other 200,000. He therefore concludes the Indians are wasting away. This result may have been inevitable; but one cannot but think that with our present civilization, the showing should have been better. "I tremble for my country," said Thomas Jefferson, "when I remember that God is

#### LATE DOMINION NEWS

Ose hundred Sootch operatives have just been imported by the St. Oroix Cotton Company to work in their mills at St. Stephen,

It is reported that Mrs. Lewis Stillwell, and Ransom Ferbes, who steed their trial together for the murder of Lewis Stillwell, have been married.

The dead body found in a hay mew at Copetown turns out to be Arthur Todd, Hamilton man, who was fermerly employed in the Grand Trunk Railway shops in that city.

A little child named McMullen, aged I year and 7 menths, while sitting on the rails of the Grand Trunk city branch, at Belleville, was struck by an engine and cut

A young man named Spiers, of Tobermory, had leaded a shot gun with an ounce ball to shoot bear, and while he stood with his arm resting on the muszle the gun discharged, shattering the limb so that amputation will be necessary.

A visitor to the machinery hall at the Toronto Exhibition the other evening had a narro w escape. His rubber coat caught in the shafting and held him pinned until the garment was cut from his back, A few abrasious was the only injury he received.

A cat belonging to Mr. Wm. Berbridge, of St. Thomas, was stung to death by hernets a few day age. A number of boys disturbed a nest of hornets in the born, and the insects settled down upon the cat in scores, covering his entire body and stinging him to death.

Misses Lizze and Jennie Lumsden were driving from Amprior to Sand Point with a young man named Wm. Ashby, when the herse took fright at a passing train. Miss Lumsden, in attempting to jump from the buggy, received such injuries as to cause her death in a few hours.

Early last Sunday morning the vault in the office of the Terento Street Railway Company was burglarized. The burglars dug a hele through from the adjoining building, by means of which they gained access to the company's vault. They stele \$600 in silver and made good their escaps.

In a frelic at Orangedale, Cape Breten, two young men named McLennan and McDenald got into a quarrel. A fight ensued, during which knives were drawn and McLennan was stabbed to death. McDonald was arraigned at Port Hood and committed for trial in the Supreme Court.

Frederick Madill, of Lakefield, 15 years of age, werking at Hazlitt's mill, Peterbere, went for a swim in the river above the mill with a dezen other boys. Madill jumped off the boom into four or five feet of water and never rose to the surface. The beys gave the alarm, and the bedy was recevered in an hour.

A sailer named Jas, Glass, of Cerunna, Ont., about 18 years of age, shipped on board the barge Menekaune the other day for Oscoda, Mich., thence for Chicago, and when eff Glant Peint, about 3 a.m., he fell everbeard and was drawned. Every effort was made to recover the body, but so far unsuccessfully.

The first frost occured in Winnipeg a few nights age, but tee late to cause any less. Harvesting is all ever, and threshing is geing on all ever the Prevince. The previous estimate of the crop is more than correct, Wheat will be a good two-thirds crop, and eats and barley about the same; new wheat is selling at 55c. and 60c.; eats, 30.; bar-

A white girl employed in a Kingston hetel has fallen in leve with a colored barber and is determined to marry him whether he will or not. He, it seems, manifested symptoms of a desire to escape the engagement, and on Saturday he received a legal communication intimating that he must marry or be sued for \$500 for breach of premise. He will marry.

Two raftsmen left Britannia, about seven miles up the river from Ottawa the other afternoon, te come down to Hull en a crib of timber. When about a mile above Chaudiere Falls their crib became unmanageable, and they gave themselves up for lest. The crib ran aground, however, en ene of the recky ledges above the Falls, and there the two men spent the night in constant terror lest they should be floated off and swept over the Falls. The next merning their perileus pesitien was observed, when two other raftsmen, named Gee. Kempt and Jas. Kennedy, courageously went to the rescue in a small beat. The twe men were taken off the ledge in an exhausted condition and broughteafely ashore.

The ether afternoon a Canadian Pacific Railway train was running up to the gravel pit two and a half miles east of Peterberough, As the pit was approached the brakes were put on to slacken speed. Dennis McCarthy. one of the brakemen, placed himself at his wheel, and in order to get a greater purchase, applied himself to turning it with a stick. As he was forcing the wheel round the stick gave way and he fell from the cars. He went head feremost, striking against a steep bank, made by a small out. As his head struck the bank his feet went backwards to the track. He was so stunned by the shock that he did not drag his feet away. Thirteen cars passed over them, The train was stopped, the man was lifted on board, and taken to Peterberough. As the left feet was hanging by shreds of the muscles and pieces of the integuments it was decided to amputate and dress that part of the injury first. He was placed under the influence of chloreform and the eperation was commenced. But before it was near ever the patient died.

## A Liberal Offer.

A Chicago weman advertised for a lady's maid.

"How much de you pay a menth?" asked one of the applicants for the posi-

"Ten dellars."

"That's not enough." "Yes, but whenever I get married I always give my maid two dellars, You should take that into consideration."

"I accept the pesition. Why, that will amount to more than the wages. That's the most liberal effer I've ever had."

A correspondent asks : "Would you or any of your many readers inform a comstant reader how to learn to play the flute?' Not If we know ourselves.