Bide A Wee.

- "Laddie. wi' the foot-fall light, A d the glancing ed', Dinne gang sac swiftly by, Laddie, bide a wee."
- "' Stay me na'; I canna bide, Be ye foe or fren'. I am boun' to seek the doer Down yon leafy glen.'
- "Dinna fright the timid doe Frae her rest to flee; Dinna wile her life a va',— Laddie, bide a wee,"
- "Gloaming flush is in the sky, Shadows soon will fa'; Step aside and let me gae, I muss haste awa'."
- "Laddie, by the haunted spring,
 'Neath the rowan-tree,
 Saw I stray a mild-white fawn,—
 Laddie, bide a wee."
- "Hae ye seen my honny fawn, Pure as new fa' n snnw; Stan 1 awa', and stay me not; Hand me nac mair fro',"
- "Laddie, wad ye kerp your tryst, Sp. ir within and see Gin ye wad brak a t usting heart,— Laddie, bide a wee."

L'ESTRANGE

CHAPTER, IV .- (Conclusion.)

Exp sure to the strong air of the ccean began to make me drowsy; I went down to my cabin to get a little sleep. The unhappy boy was very ill, and looked so despondent that he took all thoughts of sleep away from me. I was more grieved by his sufferings than by his folly, and exerted mysolf to the

atmost to comfort him,
After leaving him again, I stood at the
port hole, breathing the soft air. A gentle
touch upon the arm roused me from my contemplation. I turned, and saw one of the stewards with a letter in his hand for me. Greatly surprised, I opened the envelope, and found the contents ran thus: "L Esrange has your money. He is a professional gambler, working with confederates. (to him; declare that you know him and his associates; and that if he does not restore your money, you will bring the police to your assistance, when you reach New York. Be firm, and fear not; for though he is a man of desperate courage, he will not dare to harm you while on this ship If you cannot force him to yield by such arguments as suggest themselves to you, use the words "Hnry Evans."

I read this extraordinary missive over a dozen of times at least, each reperusal adding to my amazement. Who was the writer, and why was I enlightened as to L Estra ege's real cha acter? My suspicions had been right, then—the man was a beast of prey!
No time must be lost. I had an unpleasant scene before me, and had better get it over without delay. I went on deck at once, examining all that met my view from the companion door. L Estrange was not vis-I went slowly round the decks, into the smoke-room; but did not find him. I descended to the salcon; and at the far end he sat writing at the table set apart for that purpose. Near him were several other gen-tlemen, one of them the young man I had Spoken to at the beginning of the voyage. All were writing or eading. As I stood before L'Estrange, the gentlemen lifted their heads and eyed me inquiringly.

"Can I have five minutes' conversation with you, sir!" I demanded from L Estrange.

He started, paled for an instant, looked nurriedly round the table, then smiled. "I should be happy to oblige you, sir," he answered in a level voice; "but I am writing instant." just now.

"Be good enough to suspend it; my busimess is urgent."
"What do you want?" he asked, half

scowling.
"I cannot tell you here; your cabin is

the fittest place for what I have to say."

L'Estrange looked at me searchingly, while he pretended to smile, as if amused at my queer invitation. "Can't you wait for half an hour ?'

" No; not for half minute." Well, you are a very carious person, I will grant your request, though it is inconvenient. I suppose you want to talk about your brother?"

L'Estrange rose up, cast a careless glance apon the people sitting round, and led the way down the saloon. We did not exchange

a word until he had got into the cabin, which was amidships; then he said, bolving the door: "Be quick with your conversation, for I shall not spare more than the five minutes you ask for." He spoke haughtily,

almost threateningly.

"One minute will accomplish my purpose," I replied, looking at him sternly.

"The length of the conversation will depend apon you, not on me. Give me the four hundred and fifteen pounds you have taken from my brother.'

A cool cynical smile was the response to my demand. "Are you a fool or a knave, young man?" asked L'Estrange, after a moment. "I have lost three times as much as your brother; why, then, should I give you money that I have neither won nor stolen."
"Do not assume such an air with me," I

cried angrily. "I know you."
"Indeed! Then, if you know Mr. L'Estrange, banker of Wall Street, New York, you should know that he is a gentleman of nonour. But the five minutes are nearly at an end."
"I care not for time; I am here to obtain

my money; for it is not my brother's; he stole it from my portmanteau.

"Look here, young man," said L'Estrange, coming close to me, and staring hard into my eyes—"look here. I tell you, as a gontleman, that I have not got any money of yours; and, I vow, if you come any of your tricks over me, I will hand you over to the captain as a swindling scoundrel, trying to extort money by threats.—There is the door, sir; leave my cabin." The manner of the man was so imposing, and the evidence of his nature so truculent, that for a few seconds I was almost intimidated.

L'Estrange perceived his advantage, and put his hand on my shoulder to thrust me outside. That touch brought back my courage. "Keep your hands off me!" I cried passionately. "If you cannot persuade me passionately. "If you cannot persuade me to leave this room, you will never put me out by force. Again, I demand the money you have stolen, under the semblance of

A look of savage hatred grew slowly over L'Estrange's sinister features. He remained awhile thinking, though he pretended to wait my resumption of the conversation. A awhile thinking, though he pretended to wait my resumption of the conversation. A flash of resolution at length blazed in his may test them as you like," he added, as I

dark eyes as he said: You may thank my self-command, young man, for not kicking you out of this, as I would a whining hound For your brother's sake, I will not do you any harm. But if I had you ashore, I would give you a lesson that would teach you to behave like a gentleman. Do not provoke me any more. Leave my cabin."

"I will never leave it till you have given me the money; or if you go out, I will follow you, and before all the passengers, I will repeat what I have said. I care not for your scowls, for your hatred, for any harm

your vile ingenuity can devise against me.'
"Then as you declare war to the knife. you mad fool, you shall have it," cried L'Estringe with a burst of imprecations. "I am known on the ship to many gentlemen and to the captain. I shall claim protection from a scoundrel who seeks to fasten a quarrel upon me, to extort a large sum of money; and when we get into the I will put the constables on you. If it costs me a thousand do lars, I will shut you up in juil for the next few years.

I laughed, a scornful, stinging laugh of

L Estrange was nonplussed. cap ain and the saloon passengers. I have only made a formal demand for my money so far. I thought that you would see the wisdom of returning your plunder, when you discovered that I knew you and your profession. I do not want the trouble of prosecuting you when we land at New York. I have urgent busicess to attend to elsewhere, and I would prefer that other hands than mine put you under the jailer's key. Howsince you decide to play the innocent and the respectable, I must join in your comedy. It certainly will be the best for society. You and your confeder mes on this ship are at my mercy. War to the knife, it shall be." I turned to unfasten the door.

"Stop!" said L.Estrange uneasily.

"Are you going to rector, the money?"

"Are you going to restore the money?" "Sit down, and let us talk the matter over. I have a hasty temper, and your request has made me very augry. Let us be friends. I really am a greater victim than your brother; I have lost quite a heap of money. Why did he think I was a professional gambler? Why has he acted so unjustly towards me? I am no pretender to respectability, I assure you. Here is my card. When you reach New York, you will find in ten minutes that I am what I

say I am.' Pray, do not continue this sort of fiction. I know all about you, Mr. L'Estrange. Neither your bluster nor your hypocrisy will turn me from my point. You have only one argument that can prevail with methat is, to put four hundred and fifteen pounds in unmistakable currency into my

He glared at me like a ferocious animal in a trap. Then he assumed an amused smile, saying: "Well, I have had a pretty fair experience of human nature; but I tell you, sir, you are the toughest opponent I have met so far."

"I am a desperate man, Mr. L'Estrange You and your gang have ruined me, and blasted my brother's career at the start. If I had thought that an appeal to your pity would have caused a restoration of all we have in the world, that appeal would have been made. But the professional gambler has no heart and no conscience, except that whichis roused by the policeman. Yet, why am I bandying words with you? Give me

"Upon my honour as a gentleman, I am very sorry about this affair. I will see what I can do to get the money from Mr. Barker and the others who have cleaned your brother's pockets. I give you my promise." L'Estrange rose, as if to end the interview, and looked at me with a reassuring smile.

"I do not take promissory notes in such transactions as ours, I said sternly. "The You shall have it before ten o'clock to

night," quoth L Estrange, putting out his hand to ratify the pledged words.

"I will not wait ten seconds. The mon-

"I cannot give it to you; I swear I cannot; I have lost all my ready cash. since you will not treat me as one gentleman does another, I will give you a draft upon my firm, to be paid upon arrival. I am sick and tired of this absurd row. Go into the saloon; I will write the draft, and follow

"I take no draft from a man of your stamp, Mr. L'Estrange; all your subter-fuges are useless."

"If I had you ashore, I would take the tall talk out of you," exclaimed the man, relapsing into a fury. "Take my draft, or

"Henry Evans!-your last game is play-

I uttered the words very quietly. I had exhausted all other means to get back my own, and followed the advice of the writer of the letter in my extremity. They struck the gambler with utter dismay. His face became pale and distorted, and he reeled t> and fro, as though a storm had suddenly burst upon the sunny sea.

"Who are you!" he asked in a low voice, after he had somewhat recovered. "That is my concern. I know who you

L'Estrange looked at me in a puzzled, expectant manner, as if waiting for me to do

something. As I simply continued to return his stare, he at length said doggedly: "What do you

mean to do ?" "To take four hundred and fifteen pounds

out of this place." He fixed his eyes upon me like a rat upon

its captor: "And afterwards?"
"Take care that you do not get hold of itagain." My answer completely confounded him. Again he looked wonderingly, suspiciously at me. "Look here," he said. "Are you going to hand me over at New York,

if I give you the money?' "Will you promise? Will you swear it?" "I will swear nothing; I will make no compact with a man of your character. I say simply, that if you give me my money, I

leave you to be punished by other hands than mine." His eyes dropped to the floor, and he sat thinking anyhile. Suddenly he rose up, and said half menacingly: "I accept your terms.' Put ing his hand into his breast-pocket, he pulled out a large leather case; from this he took a sheaf of Bank of England notes, and counted four hundred and differences, and counted four hundred and

examined the water-marks and then the touch" of the notes. "They are genuine." "Yes, they are not forged, I perceive.

Now I take my leave.'
"Before we part," said L'Estrange with suppressed passion—"before we part, let me say that if you deal fair and square with me until we get ashere, I will let bygones be bygones. Remember this, however, that I have many friends, and that, if you put me to the necessity to find you, I will have you killed, even if I am in the fastest prison in the world. Even if you are the chief detective of England, you will not escape them that will find you "There was no mistaking the fierce, revengeful nature of the man; evidently, he was capable of plotting the desoliest mischief.

"If you will just suppose that I have no further interest in you, that you are practically non-existent for me, then you will understand that your threats are waste of breath. Allow me to pass out. With these words I quitted the cabin; and thus terminated the most remarkable interview

I was hurrying to tell Theodore of the astounding recovery of the money, and to remove the awful misery of the boy, when "I accept your war to the knife," I said. remove the awful misery of the boy, when "Come, let us place the matter before the thought occurred to me, that such a revelation might not be prudent. Theodore never could keep a scoret, and he would, in spite of my cautioning, divulge the character of L'Estrange; and this might lead to unknown troubles nd delays when we got to New York Instead of going to our cabin, I returned to the deck, and walked for a considerable time, planning a method of telling the story after we had got well on the way to California.

Having settled the matter to my satisfaction, I stood caimly watching the sun, poised over the western waters, for it was now evening. The placid ocean heaved in soft rells, as if it were changed from water to oil. Upon them the effulgence glowed so marvellously that I held my breath in an ecstasy of delight. The world seemed almost too sublime for humanity, with all its baseness and mean contentions. A prayer of thanks and adoration burst from my lips. It was the first perfect sunset at sea that I had witnessed. In the full fervour of my emotion, a female form passed across the deck before me and eclipsed the sun. passed, and the glowing orange fires fell dazding upon my eyes again. But the charm of the scene was gone. The spell of nature's magic was not to be recovered by withing. wishing. Again the female form eclipsed the sun. I turned to leave the deck. The figure advanced towards me. We had almost met, when I recognised the lady with whom I had formed the only acquaintance out of all the passengers. I was about to address her, when she passed me, as if totally oblivious of my presence. Wondering what I had done to deserve this slight, I turned to look at her, and almost collided with L'Estrange. He was pale as only extreme passion can blancha man of full habit and sanguineous temperament. I thought he was irritated at meeting me; but beyond a darkling frown, he did not recognise

me, and passed on.
Dinner had been served for some time, so hat the deck was almost bare of passengers. Not wishing to be slighted again by the lady, I went to the cabin entrance and sat down. A few minutes afterwards, the lady appear ed; she threw an imploring glance upon me from her dark and sunken eyes, and desc nded the companion-stairs with a swiftness that was extraordinary for one so wasted by diseese. Still more amazed by this behaviour than by the other, I stared after the retreating figure, when the burly body of L'Estrange blocked out the light from the doorway; for the fraction of an instant he seemed to hesitate; or, rather, I read the impulse that shot through him as he saw me. But he did not stop; like one following a beckoning haud, he disappeared,

I was astonished at the intensity of the emotion which these simple events caused What was less uncommon than for an invalid lady to desire to have a few minutes' promenade ata quiet interval? If she "cu?' a very distant and chance acquaintance, surely she had the right to do so. Besides, many people behave eccentrically on board whip. But what did her terrified looks mean? Had her illness produced delirium? As for L'Estrange, nothing was more natural than that he should need a walk upon deck, after his excitement and discomfiture. Yet I could not get rid of the shadowy feeling that slowly grew upon me, that some dark link connected the man and woman who had pa sed from me, like living ghosts Against the feeling, however, were the facts that I recalled. Did not L'Estrange say, when he and Theodore had broken in upon my conversation with the lady, that he did not know French? and both he and the lady ap peared to be absolute strangers to each other. I continued to pender over the conflict of our intuitions and the realities, which seemed to destroy their significance, until the thring of people ascending from the diningtable ended my metaphysicial occupation.

I went to see how Theodore was getting

on. It was now dusk, and the lamps were being lit in the corridors. Stewards and other ships' servants were bustling about, passengers were moving towards their cabins and up the stairs. For a little while I could not make my way through the press; while thus fixed, I felt something placed in my hand. In the imperfect light and amid so many people, it was impossible to know who the giver was; and beyond the feeling that the object was a piece of paper, I was ignorant of what I had received. Having got free, I went to my cabin as fast as possible. I had had one mysterious and fateful missive before that day; and my natural cautiousness bade me wait until I was clear of observers, before examining the paper I

Theodore was sleeping in that heavy manner which follows great exhaustion of bodily and mental powers. I was greatly relieved. Gradually I raised the flame of the lamp and turned my eyes on the piece of paper. It was crumpled and damp by the hand that had conveyed it to me. The contents were as follows: "Do not hold any conversation with your fellow passengers for the rest of the voyage. Stay In your cabin as much as possible. When you reach New York, take the first train for the West. Dangerous men surround you. Keep your brother under your eyes constantly. Do not reveal what has taken place to-day, Burn this,

now that you have read it. The last injunction was the most difficult of all. I did not dare to strike a match. I tore the paper in the smallest fragments, and finding the port-hole of the little cor-ridor still open, I threw the scraps away at

Who was this strange correspondent that knew my affairs so intimately, and who was so eager to befriend me? I could not fix upon any one on the ship save the lady, with whom I had had two conversations only. If she was playing the part of guardian angel, why? Further, if she had written the two notes-and they were in the same handwriting-she must be connected with the desperadoes she warned me against! Could that poor, suffering, almost dying woman be one of the vilest pests of the hu man race? The mere idea seemed an insult to one so refined, so gentle, so compassionate. Undiscoverable, however, as the corres, and at might be, I determined to follow the counsel I had received, and to the letter In thirty or more hours we should be at New York; and under any circometances I must keep Theodore constantly under my eye, until we were clear of those who had so many reasons to fear and to hate him, as well as myself.

But the unhappy boy had no wish to leave the cabin, or indeed his berth. Remorse devoured him with relentless tooth He grew pale and haggard, as if in a rapid consumption. His grief was indeed terrible; and if I had dared, I would have told him all. Only the certainty, that in a few hours I could give relief to the anguish that he deemed hopeless, stayed me from saying: "Sorrow no more, dear boy; the lost is found.

At last we reached New York. I shall say nothing of my anxiety regarding Theodore, who had been carried from the ship to a cab, so prostrate and despairing was he. I will only relate the concluding incident of our most momentous voyage, which cleared up the mystery of my unknown friend. It was a final note, hastily given to me as I took my seat beside my brother on leaving the steamship wharf. It was written in French, and ran thus:

"The language in which I bid you added for ever will enlighten you as to who I am. Through you, I have been able to do one good deed before going from this world, in which I have done so many evil ones. I thank heaven for the constraint. thank heaven for the opportunity. I know that I only reach America to die. But I shall leave behind me one, who, though lost in sin and devoted to the injury of his fellow creatures, will yet have to die also. L'Estrange is that one—my husband. Now, I pray you, as I have been good to you, not to take any steps against him; I wish bim to be with me in my last moments; perhaps then I may, by God's mercy, induce him to return to honour and honesty. He once was good and kind, though now a desperately wicked man. But, as I still possess some slight influence over him he has promised me not to harm you. He knows that I revealed his real position to you; for the steward who gave you my first note told him afterwards. L'Estrange will not harm you; he has sworn it, upon what is sacred to him.

Have, therefore, no fears, and proceed to your destination calmly and in peace. If you ever recall my memory, pray for my peace beyond the grave. Adieu."

It was many months before Theodore recovered from the illness which followed his escapade on the Atlantic. Though matters had taken so providential a turn, and though I lavished upon him all my tenderness, he could not forgive himself. The bright, self-confident, self-assertive boy that left Eogland was gone, and a grave, silent, gentle man had taken his place. But he is slowly gaining cheerfulness, as we prosper; and when my mother and sisters join us, I hope he will again be gay, for their dear sakes.

(THE END.)

SCIENTIFIC AND USEFUL.

Lightning is reflected for one hundred and fifty to two hundred miles, and thunder can be heard for twenty or twenty-five miles.

The Mexican Government is to under take a geological survey of the whole country, and for preliminary expenses has appropriated \$10,000**.**

Curled maple is an accidental form of sugar maple, the grain being beautifully sontorted. It is highly valued by cabinet makers, and \$1,000 has been given for a single tree.

Crushed ice mixed in a fine state into a paste with fresh lard is said to be an excellent dressing for burns. Applied to the burn in a thin cambric bag it greatly alleviates the pain.

Paris has less water than could be desired. but in no city are dust and diet more effectually combatted and the gutters oftener washed out. It finds its reward in decreased mortality reports.

A curious relic has been found in South California which is supposed to be a case in which were kept the coloring matters and implements that were used by the old natives for tattooing. Mr. Elmer Y. Judd, of Hartford, Conn.

has invented an attachment to clocks by which the hour and minute can be struck at any time. Mr. J. is a member of the Scientific Department at Yale, Class '85.

Bessemer steel rails can now be made cheaper than iron rails, because of the less expensive process of preparing the metal.

There is a complaint that owing to a smooth surface they do not possess the tenacious grip of iron rails.

The New York Post mentions, as a curious incident, that an immense cloud of butterflies, estimated at many millions, crossed over Lake Erie from Canada on the 25th ult., and settled near Rochester, N. Y.
—a long flight for such small winged pas-

Trial trips at Nice with the submarine boat of the naturalist, Toseli, have indicated that the vessel will render valuable ser. vice to science. It can penetrate to a depth of about eight hundred feet, and its powerful electric lamps make easy a minute inspection of the sea.

The deepest known bore-hole, 4,559 feet, has been made at Schladebach, in Prussia, in searching for coal. It has been driven by hollow diamond-pointed rock-drills and water flushing in three and a half year's time, and at a cost of \$25,000. At the bottom the diameter is 1,872 inches and 11 inches at the top, the thermometer standing at 118 degrees 4 minutes Fahrenheit.

Mrs. Spook, when her pastor called the other day, hastened to find a Bible for him to read. She could find only a few soiled leaves up in the garret, which she handed to the pastor, remarking: "Why, really I didn't know we were so near out."



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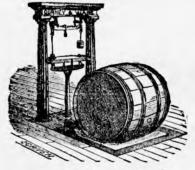
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