# THE PAINTER OF PARMA:

- OR, -

## THE MAGIC OF A MASTERPIEGE.

CHAPTER XIII.

We left our hero in his studio, standing before the canvas on his easel. He had worked on the face of the saint until weariness had admonished him that further working might be faulty. He stood back, with his palette still in hand, and gazed upon the features that were coming out into life. It was, as yet-so the duke would have said had he seen it-the face of the Princess Isabel; only it seemed different; in a way impossible to explain. The lineaments were the same; in coutour, in form and in feature it was the same. Yet, for all that, there was something springing to life in this face that was not in the face of the living model.

ward, and started to touch his brush who passed befored him, and was upon | tise you!" to a faint light which he would the point of stepping down into the strengthen. It may have been a great thoroughfare, when on castshadow, which he would make deeper; ing a glance in the direction he had but, be it what it might, he did not thought of taking, he saw the two men,

make the mark.

"No," he said, with a last glance at he would avoid.

painting-the face that he would pic- ed rapidly until he had gained the ture there-had so absorbed and pos- street by which he had planned to sessed his every thought and feeling, reach the river's bank, and there his well known to him; and he knew it that he had, for the time, really forgot- pace become more slow. ten, or had ceased to bear in mind, At the bridge he struck off upon the the calamity imaged forth by old Made- waterside path, well pleased to find it lon's report. But it came to him comparatively deserted. A few pedesnow, and once more he turned his trians were walking here and there, thoughts to his loved one and her sur- here a couple in friendly confab, and froundings.

ed more air and more room. He would own will and pleasure. walk by the river, and perhaps into At the distance of half a mile from

the country. his brushes; then covered his canvas; a beautiful grove of wild orange trees. after which he arranged his garb for They were of the native orange tribe, the public streets. He had donned but on public land and uncultivated. his doublet of black velvet and put Yet they bore fruit, but the predatory on the velvet cap he usually wore, and urchins that invested the locality at all that remained was his rapier. He night never suffered it to ripen. took it from where it stood when not Here he walked still more slowly in use, and threw the baldric over his with his arms folded on his breast and

shoulder. over the room, to make sure that every- wishing he could see through his plotthing was as it should be; and, being ting, for that he was plotting missatisfied with the result of the survey, chief, and mischief against the peace he turned toward the door. As he did of Isabel, he could not doubt. And so, he took hold upon the scabbard of his thoughts of the marquis had anhis rapier to throw it farther back, out other direction. of his way, when he paused and con- "I am not mistaken," he said, speaksidered.

what could have possessed him-what agone. It is not a face one would be could have led him to turn his atten- likely to forget! I know it! I know tion to that rapier? It was a weapon it! Oh, if I could only surely locate he had worn daily for months, and on it. It was in Madrid, and he was in no former occasion had he once hung company with an older man-a man it upon his hip and then thought of who, if I do not mistake the whole exchanging it. But he thought of affair, was arrested by the police, conlight. It was not a weapon that at work on the public thoroughfare, exactly suited his hand. It had serv- with a ball and chain attached to his ed him well enough in his passage with ankle, and escaped. the Marquis Steffano, but suppose he | "What can it all mean? Can he be should be called to defend himself a bold impostor, imposing all these against a better swordsman; or, sup- years on the too credulous duke? Upon pose he should be waylaid and attack- my soul! it appears so to me." ed by highwaymen. Such things had Anon, his thoughts turned upon the been, and were liable to be again.

of the light blade from the loop at discovered it himself. the end of the baldric, and, having put | "He is not so lost to all sense of honit back into the corner whence he had or and decency as is the other; but he taken it, he went to the closet where is not a gentleman. He is not a goodhe hung his clothing, and took down hearted man, nor does he-" from an upper shelf another rapier; So far had our hero spoken his but before he hung it at his side he thought of Count Denaro, when he was

things would have said that it was turned and stood face to face with new; that it had not been in use at all; the count himself, and at a short dis-It was a true rapier, though somewhat | tance was the Marquis Steffano! They heavy-certainly heavier than the rapi- had certainly followed him. The meeters of Italian fabrication. It was a ing, he knew, was not accidental. Toledo blade, of exquisite finish and Did you wish to speak with me, marvelous temper. The hilt was of Signor Count?" gold and steel combined, the grip being fine gold, while the guard and the addicted to drink. Occasionally, as we light basket protection for the back of have before remarked, he would take Could the poor count have looked the Paris Exposition of 1900. the hand were of tempered steel. Its wine to excess, but the occasions were down into the heart of his professing maker had evidently aimed to afford rare. On the present, however, he had friend at that moment, or read aright its possessor protection against the drank freely, though Zanoni did not the diabolical expression on his swart cutlass or broadsword. The scabbard observe it. Remember, the man had face, he would have given up the conwas an artistic and elaborate piece of been a slave to his wrath for a long test at once and trusted to some other Farmer Accen-I don't see what we're work, being a groundwork of silver time. The man whom he had stopped means of obtaining his desire. But he goin ter do, Mirander. The garden with an intricate overlay of gold fili- in a public place, and who now stood could not see, he could not read Stef- crops is all rotted by the rain, the

perty of a Spanish nobleman of high -robbed him of the dearest treasure further attack. rank, who had worn it for many years. earth held in store. But for this man He had given it to the painter, Muril- he might have won the love and the lo; and he, by will, had left it to his hand of the beautiful princess. She friend and pupil, the younger Velas- might have been all his own-his wife. quez; and Valasquez, regarding Zanoni as the pupil of his own, who would Isabel he had not only nursed his hot do him greatest credit and honor, had given to him the priceless weapon in cations upon the plebeian painter, be- city relatives for the last four weeks

painter now hung at his side, having been constantly by his side, whispering winter. He may succeed in frightendone which, he went out, locked his into his ear base and revengeful ing the gratuitous boarders home. door behind him, and descended to the thoughts. street.

and the humble artisans and still hum- know this. He could know nothing of have the nightmare!

bler laborers on the highways were going to their homes or to their places They were abroad late in the dangerous alike to man and beast." morning, and they were tired of "Count Denaro!" returned the ar-

Zanoni looked; he had given a shuddering, sympathetic thought to the ignorant ill-fed, and far more ill-clad, Once or twice the artist moved for- creatures bearing the Maker's image, of all the world, whom at that moment

the picture, "I will not touch it again They were the Marquis Steffano at the same time he drew his rapier until I have slept and dreamed. Who Farnese and Count Guiseppe Denaro. knows what may come to me in the He thought their gaze was turned up- he would have attacked, and that, too, city is the chief mart. The inhabitants visions of my sleeping hours. Some- on him, but was not sure. However, with deadly aim and intent, had not thing tells me-has told me since yes- he must avoid them. If they were go- the object of his blind wrath stepped tails a bright red, and thus adorned of trade between the United States and terday-that I shall not paint the face ing to the river by the route he msual- quickly out of his way, thus giving they look quite comical. of my beloved on that canvas. Aye, ly took he would take another. He con- him time to remember that he was I know it now! Mercy! Had I for- sidered a few seconds, then stepped about to strike an unarmed man. He gotten that my darling may be in down and took his way toward the was not quite senseless enough to comtrouble? The picture must have had north. There were delightful walks in mit downright murder. a wonderful hold on my inner being, that direction and the path by the thus to close my thoughts against the river, not so much frequented by discovery. He had caught sight of the possible catastrophe at the palace." | pleasure-seekers as was the case gen-It was, indeed, as he had said. His early in the other direction. He walk- was a weapon belonging to the mar-

there a lonely man given to contempla-But what could he do? Literally no- tion. Also there were a few soldiers thing. . He could only think, and of the city guard, a portion of whom think, and think, and torture his heart by their sedate and methodical walk, with vain imaginings. The confin- appeared to be on duty; while others, latter made a further movement away ed atmosphere of the studio was be- more favored, were privileged to coming oppressive to him. He want- lounge their moments away at their

the bridge, where he had turned upon He cleaned his palette and put away the river path, our painter came to

his head bent in thought. He was Then he cast a sweeping glance thinking of Steffano Farnese, and

ing, his thoughts audibly. "I have Considered, what? Who shall say seen that face in Spain in the years

count who, he verily believed, was con-However, he did not spend a long | cerned with the marquis in much of time in considering. No sooner had the underhanded work that was going the thought of an exchange occurred on. The princess had opened his eyes to him than he proceeded to put it into | to Denaro's true character, since which execution. He slipped the scabbard he had been surprised that he had not

took it into a stronger light, where he somewhat startled by the sound of a regarded it with a tender, loving look. quick step behind him, and, a second One not used to judging of such later, a smart tap on his shoulder. He

Ordinarily the count was not a man Since his meeting that morning with anger, and breathed continuous imprelieving him to be a demon and very gently to broach the subject of his pro-And this was the weapon which the ghoul; but the plotting marquis had posed visit for a month in town next was here?

So that now, with all the influence Upon the broad piazza of the build- that had been urging him on from hour ing he stood for a few moments to to hour to madness and to vengeance, look around upon the stirring scene brought to a climax in this meeting, open to his view in the Grand Square. Zanoni found himself confronted by a The day was near its close, the sun very maniac, who had resolved to slay dear! being within an hour of its setting, or be slain. But the painter could not

the unfortunate workings of the count's mind. Had he known-had he suspected even a moiety of the truthhe might have found means of avoiding the catastrophe that was to come. "Did you wish to speak to me, Sig-

A few seconds elapsed before the count could gain his breath. The sight of the painter's lofty front, his statuesque form and his marble-like handsome face, and the sound of his the magazine.

"Yes," he shrieked, with lips as white of rest for the night. How many of as death. "I wish to inform you that them had never known the shelter of you are a base, low-born, contemptible a proper home we would not dare to scoundrel, as unfit to live as is the never worked from sunrise to sunset. poisonous reptile that lurks by night says; but there were many. They in its noisome, reeking place of hiding.

work before the day was done. The tist in blank astonishment, and withprice of an American's cigar, and the out the least particle of anger, "will cheapest at that, paid for the day's la- you tell me what is the occasion of bor, and supplied the laborer with the this strange and unwarranted accusfood he ate and the sour, thin wine ation? What of harm have I done to you and yours?"

"Villain! Trickster! Demon incarnate! You have utterly ruined the life of one of the fairest and noblest of women! and for that I intend to chas-

nor Count ?"

you now. But I do not recognize your right to interfere. I shall not attempt to excuse or exonerate myself to you. "By the eternal heavens! but you to the smallest possible space. will!" the count exclaimed, madly; and and made a motion to attack. Indeed,

In that moment our hero made a count's rapier, and had seen that it quis-a Spanish blade, heavier and longer than his own. It was a weapon to be of perfect temper and keen. And then he knew that the pair of villains had sought him on purpose to kill him.

"Will you draw?" Denaro demanded, moving again into a position of attack. "Are you a craven-a coward- at his wife's dinner table. He usually as well as a low-born villain ?"

"Don't let him escape you!" whispered Steffano in the count's ear-but loud enough for Zanoni to hear-as the from his assailant.

"He shall not!" said Denaro hotly, thus admitting the part his compantemper not to be mistaken:

"By the heavens above me! if you sent minded," don't draw, I will run you through where you stand! Ha! Show us your skill! Let us see if you can disarm. point aimed at the artist's bosom.

turned upon the defensive.

"Ha! Now, adventurer! baseborn hound! necromancer! I have thee! orous paper in Madrid have committed thee vet!" And he struck out madly, thought by those opprobrious epithets to drive the painter frantic and careless, he made a mistake. The bleating of a lost lamb would have affected him far more deeply.

"Hold!" our hero cried, when he had seen his enemy ready to draw back and take breath. "Let me have a word. ing me, if you force this thing to a filled in, and thus became his grave. deadly ending.? Should you kill me, no law can touch you to do you harm; kill you, the law will demand my life in return; and no power can save me!'

"Signor Zanoni," interposed Marquis Steffano, at this point, "you are mis- moderating his pace, and lifted taken. I have no fear that you can do mortal harm to my friend, the noble count; but, should you chance to do so, I give you my word you shall not be called to answer for it."

"Your word, Marquis! What power or authority have you?"

"Authority, none !-but power, much," returned Steffano, cooly, and with assurance, "Let what will come, you know you must leave Parma, After discovered-you cannot surely hope that you will be suffered to remain you have so grossly insulted and outraged. Good heavens! do you think the the country. And I can do it."

To Be Continued.

### NEVER-FAILING SCHEME.

It's almost time now for the farmer cousin who has been entertaining his

### HOW IT FELT.

Dolly-O mamma! Something is the malter with my foot.

Mother-Why, your foot is asleep, Dolly-Asleep! Oh, my! It must ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A Few Paragraphs Which Will Be Found Wall Worth Reading.

The Swiss are very thrifty people. Four-tenths of the grown people of Switzerland have bank accounts, and beggars are few.

A German chemist passes a current of electricity through new wines and voice, so calm and so musical, seemed thus, in a few hours, imparts to them to touch the match and the powder in the properties naturally derived from

> were found in several places on the hull of the monitor Wyandotte, which was recently run into dry dock in

> A Scotch physician, whose specialty is the treatment of mental ailments, asserts that he has found bicycle riding of great assistance in the treatment of insanity.

The Columbia has wielded more vast schools of salmon have enriched thousands of men, and given employment to innumerable people.

Condensed eggs are prepared in Pas-"Hold! Hold! Count, I understand san, Bavaria. First the eggs are dried then reduced to a fine powder, which is placed in air-tight cans. Thus a most nutritious food is compressed in-

> Bagdad has long been famous for a breed of white asses for which that frequently dye the animal's ears and There is also a hope that the conditions.

> is used by the inhabitants of the Samoan islands. They confine a snake in a hollow bamboo and the hissing er is in good heart, and is even indulgsound emitted by the reptile is said ing in anticipations that the agitation to quickly induce slumber.

> miles of vaults, hewn out of the solid chalk on which the city is built. These vaults are used chiefly for the storage of wines. One wine house has there would be a chance for the agri-

Rarely indeed is a wealthy Turk seen partner or partners, and his companperhaps some male friends.

A church committee called upon Mr. Edison, to get his opinion as to the deion was acting. Then advancing up- strability of protecting the edifice with on the painter, he again offered at- lightning rods. He smiling said to tack, at the same time shouting, in a them, "By all means put on the rods. You know Providence is sometimes ab-

A schoolboy in Wolverhampton, England, the brightest lad in the class was me!" And he sprang forward with his undergoing examination before a school committee. On being asked to Zanoni had no choice. Stepping light- give a definition of the word 'tithes,' ly and gracefully aside to avoid the he promptly responded, "Things worn deadly thrust, he drew his rapier and by ladies in circuses and pantomimes."

in this conflict.

A strange grave contains the body of Charles Carter, of Russell, Kan. He was cleaning out an old well when the quicksand caved in on him, covering him up to his neck. He lived fifty that now. The blade at his side felt victed to prison, and afterwards set Do you not know that you are murder- sible to remove the body, the well was

> An amazing bicycle feat is credited while, should I be so unfortunate as to a sergeant in a British regiment. Rida battlefield, he leaned over, without whom he threw across his handle-bars and carried safely into camp.

Some years ago, when Wm. E. Glad- ence of the trouble. stone chanced to drop into a little church in a Scotch village, the minister delightfully closed his long prayer what has occurred-after what has been | ing under this roof, in the third pew from the pulpit."

longer in the midst of a people whom which reproduces on a screen an exact picture of objects or scenes many duke would allow you to contaminate miles distant. By its use, combined the air of his capital longer? No, you with the telephone, you can see the \$2.50. must flee; and I will help you. That person with whom you are holding a I promise. If the worst comes for you conversation over the wire. This won--the killing, or seriously wounding, of derful machine is the invention of a Count Denaro-I will help you to leave | Polish school-teacher named Snezeppanik, and will be first exhibited at

### THE LAST RESORT.

before him, had, as he fancied-as he fano's dark face; and, when the latter fruit is all spoiled by the frost, the The weapon had once been the pro- had brought himself to firmly believe had done speaking, he made ready for well water ain't fit to drink any more, and every cow we've got has gone dry-won't have a drop o' milk fer about the business of a corkscrew manthree months.

Cheerful Helpmate,- Never mind, Joshua, we'll get along, I'll take summer boarders.

### FOREBODINGS.

Jimmy, did you tell your sister I

all day that somepin' awful wuz goin' it is expressed in different language. to happen.

HYPOTHECATING EXPECTATIONS.

I suppose Spriggins anticipated a lot of money from his scheme?

What do you mean? strength of what he hopes to make. , one. THE ENGLISH HARVEST.

Said to be Better Than in Many Years Paste

The harvest prospects in England this year are said to be better than for many years. The hay crop is described as the best on record, both as toquantity and quality, and farmers are preparing to increase their stocks of cattle. The wheat crop, although variable in some parts, promises well generally. The area under cultiva-Barnacles a foot and a half, thick | tion for the present year is estimated at 2,150,000 acres, as against 1,936,396 in 1897, and the average yield per acre is expected to be about the same, that is, 29 bushels. This, however, is a good way below that of 1896, which was 33.63 bushels per acre. The total. yield for 1897 was a little over 56,250,-000 bushels, while that for this year is calculated at about 62,350,000 bushels. wealth than any river in the world. Its | The only anxiety is about the price. If that now ruling holds, the farmer will have better results than he has known since 1891; but the fear is that the increased acreage everywhere put under wheat in consequence of the high prices of last year may have a prejudicial effect on those for the present crop. The appearance of India again as a wheat exporter, it was feared, would injure the prospects of the English farmer, but it is now expected that the injury by heat and drought to the Russian crops will more than counterbalance the Indian supply. England may continue such that the A curious remedy for sleeplessness American farmers may be induced to hold their crops for good prices, and so maintain the market.

For the moment the English farmfor the institution of national granaries Epernay, France, is undermined with | may bring him some advantage. Their establishment would act as a bounty on production, which would tend to increase the area under wheat and lead to greater intensity of cultivation, and vaults covering an area of 45,000 acres | cultural interest resuming its old place among British industries. The advocates of a great navy for the protection of England's food supply, however, look dines in a part of the house remote somewhat coldly on anything in the from that occupied by his connubial direction of increasing the self-sustaining capacity of the country, so that ions are generally his elder sons, and the English farmer cannot yet be sure that the present good times will be permanent. But he is content for the present to feel the ground under his

A DREADED DISEASE.

feet again.

More People Are Tortured by the Pangs of Rhenmatism Than by Any Other Cause -There is a Cure for It.

From the Advertiser, Hartland, N.B. Mr. Richard Dixon, of Lower Brighton, is one of the most prosperous and best known farmers of Carleton coun-Two of the editors of a co-cal ad hum- ty N. B. In June, 1897, Mr. Dixon was seized with an attack of rheumatism, and for six weeks lay abed suf-Take that! San Marco! I'll have suicide during the past month. They fering all the tortures of this terfound it very serious business to at- rible disease. He grew so weak that furiously, blindly, never once seeing tempt to say funny things about the he was unable to turn in bed, and his that not a single effort had his op- war, considering the misfortunes which friends almost despaired of his recovponent made to do him harm. If he have constantly pursued the Spaniards ery. At this stage one of his friends, who had been cured of the same disease by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, urged Mr. Dixon to give them a trial, which advice was followed, Almost from the day Mr. Dixon began the use of the pills an improvement was noted. Previously his appetite had eight hours. As it was found impos- almost completely failed and the first sign of returning health was a frequent feeling of hunger, Then the pains began to leave him, and his strength gradually returned and after using about a dozen boxes Mr. Dixon was ing at great speed on his wheel across as well as ever he had been. To a reporter of the Hartland Advertiser, Mr. Dixon said he had no doubt his present health was due entirely to the wounded soldier by the waistband, use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and since his recovery he occasionally uses a box to ward off a possible reoccurr-

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cure by making new blood and invigorating the nerves, but you must get the genuine, always put up in boxes the wrapwith these words: "We pray Thee, per around which bears the full trade Lord, to bless the Prime Minister of mark name "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills this great nation, who is now worship- for Pale People." Do not be persuaded to take any of the numerous pink colored imitations which some unscrupu-The telectroscope is an invention lous dealers say are "just the same." In case of doubt send direct to Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., and the pills will be mailed post paid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for

### POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

In matrimonial engagements men have to face the powder.

Life is short, but it only takes two seconds to fight a duel. A late supper embraces such things

of which dreams are made. It is better to marry and be boss

than never to have bossed at all. A business man always reads the

postscript of a woman's letter first. There's always something crooked

ufacturer.

A girl never acquires a reputation as a vocalist until she begins to rend-

er her songs, Whenever a woman reads of a man

going wrong she always wonders what the woman in the case was like. A man's meaning is the same dur-

Yes, Mr. Tanks, an 'she said she'd felt | ing courtship and after marriage, but The wise man always knows enough to cast his lot with a woman who has

enough money to build a substantial house thereon.

The command to increase and multi-Well, he's trying to anticipate it! ply is a back number. Now the increase is brought about by division in He's trying to borrow money on the | the divorce court, which makes two of