OR, SYBIL BERNER'S VINDICATION

CHAPTER VIII.—(Continued).

"I think it is easy to see through this matter," said Lyon Berners, after a pause; "this robber chief-this Captain Inconnu-this Satan of the band must be, or rather must have been the husband of Rosa Blondelle, and most probably her assassin. The motive for all his crimes seems clear enough. He could never have been a gentleman. He must always have been an adventurer-a criminal adventurer. He married the beautiful young widow for her money, and having spent it all, and discovered another heiress in this poor vagrant girl, he put Rosa out of the way, that he might be free to marry another fortune.

"No devil is so bad, however, but that there is a speck of good about him somewhere; and this adventurer, gambler, smuggler, robber, murderer, was unwilling that an innocent woman should suffer for his crime; therefore he had you abducted to prevent you

think that in having me carried off, he gratefully. yielded to the threats or persuasions of | "Well, then it is all right. That room Gentiliska, who certainly seemed to is unoccupied and has no outlet except know enough of the matter to give her through this. That shall be your prigreat power over him. Indeed, she vate withdrawing-room when the dochinted as much to me. And she certain- tor, or any one else who is not in our ly knew of his presence at my mask secret, happens to come into this room.

effrontery of that man!" exclaimed the captain, cheerfully. Captain Pendleton, in astonishment and "A thousand thanks in words; for, ah, disgust.

in the character of Death?" inquired Mr. should show me some singular favor to Berners.

"Yes," replied his wife, with a shud- ly.

"Ah, then I do not wonder at that poor her expressions of gratitude. woman's great, instinctive horror of "If you either of you, knew how much have suspected his identity." said Mr. exclaimed Clement Pendleton, flushing.

the Pendleton plate and Jewels in the I hope she is quite well," said Sybil. possession of the robbers.

ment, since it gives you a sure clew to voted friends, Mrs. Berners, and she the recovery of your stolen goods,' will regret not to have been home to resuggested Mr. Berners.

do so might seriously compromise the whether I am glad or sorry for her absafety of Mrs. Berners. Our first care sence on this occasion. Certainly the must be for her," answered Captain fewer witnesses there are to your pre-

mous, dear friend," warmly exclaimed you; but she might do it unconsciously, Lyon Berners, while Sybil eloquently in which case she would never forgive looked her gratitude.

At that moment there was heard a dleton. low tap at the door, and a low voice saying:

breakfast things."

The captain stepped to the door, un- requested, smiling sadly. locked it, and admitted Margy with the breakfast tray, and then carefully locked | glad to get the old heirloom, which she

her shoulders.

Pendleton shawl that the captain's the key to prevent the intrusion of any great-grandfather brought away from one who was not to be let into the danthe palace of the Rajah, at the seige of gerous secret of her presence into the some unpronounceable place in Hindostan," smiled Sybil.

"That's it," laughed her host. "My great-grandfather, a captain in the British army, stole it from the Rajah, and Mr. Inconnu, a captain of banditti, took it from us!"

relish such jokes at the expense of her master's family, even from her master's lips. She put the tray upon the stand and arranged the breakfast, all in stately silence.

Captain Pendleton, with old-fashioned hospitality, pressed his guests to their repast; and so Lyon Berners being propped up with pillows, and Sybil sitting in the easy-chair, with the stand placed between them, ate their breakfast together; not forgetting to feed little Nelly, who was certainly the most they are their meals together. famished of the party.

Mr. and Mrs. Berners being left alone house. with their host, the captain began to defor her successful removal to a seaport. their new flight.

"I confess," Mrs. Berners," began the captain, "that when I saw you enter admirably well arranged. They were it was to breakfast. Not wishing to subthis room I was as much alarmed for got up as mulattoes. Their faces, necks ject their disguise to the too-prying eyes your safety as astonished at your ap- and hands were carefully colored with of strangers in broad daylight, they pearance. But since your servant has fine brown umber; Sybil's black tresses took the provisions that they had told me, and you have confirmed his were cut short and crimped; Lyon's brought along, and went apart in the story, that no one recognized you, auburn hair and beard were also woods to eat them, after which they either on the road or in the house until crimped, and dyed black; Sybil was resumed their places on the top of the you reached this room, my anxieties dressed in a suit of Margy's Sunday coach, in time for its starting. are allayed. The prevalent belief that clothes, and Lyon in a holiday suit of At noon, when the coach stopped to Haunted Chapel has caused all pursuit | Serious as the circumstances were, the their hunger. of you to be abandoned for the present. lady and gentleman could not forebear And so long as we can keep you out of laughing as they looked into each other's reached an obscure roadside inn, that already seen you, you will be perfectly "When we introduced masked balls cup of tea. Being darkies, they were

security," interrupted Mr. Berners; "we must rather avail ourselves of this March. lull in the excitement, this cessation of all pursuit, to get as fast and far away from this place as possible."

"Oh, yes! yes! dear Lyon!" eagerly exclaimed Sybil, "let us go as fast and as far away from this place as we can. Let us get to Europe, or anywhere bound ship for a foreign port. where we can have rest and peace. Oh, Heaven only knows how I long for rest and peace!"

"You are both right. I shall not oppose your going; but shall rather speed your departure, just as soon as Berners shall be able to travel. But in the meantime we must contrive some place which Joe was to drive them to the woods on the outskirts of the city, shousand!" exclaimed a harsh, rudeof safe concealment for you in the hamlet of Upton, to meet the night where, by the side of a clear stream, looking man, who the next instant came house," said the captain, as he arose coach for Baltimore. and opened an inner door leading to a small adjoining chamber. Could you live in there for a few days, Mrs. Berners?" he inquired, in some uneasiness.

"Live in there! Why, that is a palace from falling into the hands of the law." chamber compared to what I have been "I do not know," said Sybil; "but I lately accustomed to!" exclaimed Sybil,

At all other times you maye safely take "The daring impudence, the reckless the freedom of both chambers," said

in all else I am bankrupt, and can never "You said, dear Sybil, that he came repay your goodness, unless Heaven enable me to do it," said Sybil, fervent-

And Lyon Berners joined warmly in

that mask! I remember now that, every gratification it gives me to serve you, time he approached her, she shivered as you would not think it necessary to say with an ague fit. And yet she could not a single word more on the subject!"

"And now tell me about my dear, Next Sybil spoke of the discovery of bonny Beatrix. Surely she may see me!

"Trix is always well. She is now at "I am glad of that, at all events, Cle- Staunton. She is one of your most deceive you. But as for myself, great as "A clew that I shall not follow, as to my faith is in my sister, I hardly know sence here, the better. Beatrix would "Always thoughtful, always magnani- die before she would knowingly betray herself," gravely replied Captain Pen-

"Well, I am sorry not to see her. but, at any rate, after I have gone I wish "It's only me, Marse Clem, with the you to send her this shawl, with my love, by some safe messenger," Sybil

"I will be sure to do so. She will be has been bewailing ever since it was As the woman drew nearer to Sybil, lost; and she will also be well pleased she began to stare in astonishment at to owe its restitution to you," replied the Indian shawl that lady wore round | the captain; and then, surmising that his guests might like to be left alone for "You know it, do you, Margy? Well, an hour or two, he arose and retired yes, you are right. It is the celebrated from the room, cautioning Sybil to turn house.

exclusive company the young people en- running away?" objected the agent. joyed, and then Captain Pendleton tap-But Margy was much too dignified to into her withdrawing-room, where she ined before he returned it, saying: remained during the doctor's visit.

ber comfortable and pleasant for the side is full." occupation of Mrs. Berners.

Sybil took hers with her husband at his bedside.

remained at Captain Pendleton's house,

Twelve tranquil days they passed rt

On the thirteenth day, Mr. Berners | Meanwhile the flying pair pursued vise means first for her temporary con- being sufficiently recovered to bear the their journey, almost happy, because at journey, the fugitive pair prepared for length they were together.

idea how long the masquerading would galed with a very hot pot of the bever-la large and crowded hotel, with her last, so far as we were concerned, had age that "cheers but not inebriates." we, dear?" inquired Lyon Berners.

Sybil smiled and shook her head. from their masters to show to the authorities before they could be permitted their journey. to travel.

effect:

Pendleton Park, Near Blackville, Dec. 14th, 18-.

To all whom it may concern :- This is to certify that my man Cæsar, with his | ment. wife Dinah, are permitted to go from "Yes; but we must not trust to their this place to Ballimore to return between this date and the first of next Clement Pendleton.

> This was designed to protect the supposed darkies until they should reach the sidewalk of a crowded street. the Monumental City, where they were under another name in the first outward

with a well-stuffed old carpetbag that afterwards, without detection." "Dinah" carried in her hand, the fugi- And, relieving her of the carpetbag no one of that name here!"

scarcely see each other's faces, much less the road before them.

"Marster," said Joe, in his extreme anxiety, "I hopes you'll pardon the liberty, sir; but has you thought to take money enough for you and the missus?"

ingly toward his lady, "when you're told the hackman to drive to the best over yonder, don't forget poor Joe; but | hotel.

Nelly forget me, neither. I love that into his and tried to warm them. little thing like a child!"

"Nelly will not forget you, Joe."

out crying, and sobbed hard.

Lyon Berners advised.

they rattled over the rocky road for an to be lost before he should make inhour or more before they reached the quiries about the outward-bound ships. little hamlet, where they were to wait So having ordered the morning and for the coach. It was very late, and all evening papers to be brought to their Upton was asleep, with the exception room, he first examined the shipping of the hostlers at the stable, where the advertisements, and finding that the not 'am.' coach stopped to change horses. Here Energy, Captain Strong, was to sail for "In the midst of the controversy the gers retained their seats while waiting passengers as well as freight, he put on deprecatory smile. for the coming of the stagecoach. They his hat, and leaving Sybil to amuse herhad not waited more than five minutes, self with the newspapers during his 'am!' she said." when they heard the guard's warning absence, he left the hotel to see the shiphorn blow, and the huge vehicle rumble down the street, and pull up before the stable door.

Very quickly the tired horses were taken out and led away to rest, and the fresh ones brought forth.

Meanwhile Lyon Berners alighted, and spoke to the agent, to take places for himself and his wife.

"Show your pass, my man! show your pass! We can't take you without Three precious hours of each other's a pass. How do we know but you are

Lyon Berners smiled bitterly to think ped at the door to announce the ap. how near the man had inadvertently proach of the village doctor. Sybil un- approached the truth. He handed up the locked the door, and hastily retreated pass, which the agent carefully exam-

"Yes, that's all right; but you and As soon as the physician departed, the girl will have to get up on top, Aunt Margy came in with fresh water, there. We can't have any darkies inclean towels, and everything else that side, you know. And in fact, if we was necessary to make the inner cham- | could, there's no room, you see; the in-

Caesar helped Dinah up on the top 'f When the early dinner was ready, the coach, and then climbed after her. Joe handed up the little dog; and was about to take a dangerously affecting And from that time, as long as they leave of his beloved master and mistress, when luckily the coachman cracked his whip and the horses started.

Joe watched it out of sight, and then When the breakfast was over, Margy Pendleton Park. Their secret was well got into his seat on the wagon, and went out with the tray, followed by Joe. kept, at least during their stay at the drove back to Pendleton Park, the most disconsolate darkey under the sun.

Soon after sunrise the next morning Upon this occasion their disguise was the stage reached the station at which

dine, they went apart again to satisfy

into this quiet country-place, we had no sent to the kitchen, where they were re own yard.

They were armed with a pass such as their pass before they could be permit- Berners. colored people were required to have ted to take their uncomfortable seats

Our fugitives were not now going to never giving themselves any rest. The on board the next afternoon. Norfolk, where their story and their policy of the first day was continued to Baltimore, where they were perfect took their meals apart from other eign travel with her beloved Lyon, flitpeople, during the broad daylight, deny- ted before her imagination. ing themselves the comfort of a cup of tea or coffee until night, when, in some next day, and then retired to bed, and dimly-lighted country kitchen, they slept well until the next morning. could safely indulge in that refresh-

At the end of the third day they arrived at Baltimore.

They alighted, with knapsack, carpet-, long voyage. bag and dog, and found themselves on

to take the first opportunity of throw- to his wife, as he turned into a by-street. flying toward freedom? ing off their disguises and embarking "Sybil," he continued, when they felt They had reached the great lower themselves comparatively alone in the halls of the hotel, when they were stopless-thronged thoroughfare - "Sybil, if ped by a sound of altercation in the Provided with this protection, and we are to drop our disguises here, we loffice, which was on their right hand with a well-filled old knapsack that must do so before we enter any inn, as they went out. "Caesar" slung over his shoulders, and because we should have no opportunity | "I tell you," said the clerk of the

tive couple took a long last leave of their and carrying that as well as the knap-["And I tell you there is! And there friend, and entered the farm wagon, by sack, he led her by a long walk to the she is now! I'd know her among ten they washed the dye from their faces out of the office and confronted Sybil, The night was very dark; they could and hands, and then changed their saying roughly: spectable darkies, to plain, respectable a dozen!" whites; and "Caesar" and "Dinah" be- And without a word of warning, he "Plenty, Joe! Pendleton, Heaven came in their next phase, the Rev. Mr. snapped a pair of handcuffs upon the bless him, has seen to all that," smiled and Mrs. Martin. The only thing that lady's delicate wrists. could not be changed was the color of | "Villain!" thundered Sybil's husband, "And, marster, sir, I hopes as you're Lyon's hair, which, having been dyed as with a sweep of his strong arm he made some 'rangements as how we may black, must remain black until time and felled the ruffian to the floor. hear from you when you gets over growth should restore its natural color. It was but a word and a blow, "and As the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Martin | the blow came first." been contrived between the captain and carriage, placed "Mrs. Martin" with her insulting bracelets; but he could not pet dog, knapsack and carpetbag in it, wrench them off without wounding and "And, missis," said Joe, turning weep- entered and took a seat by her side, and bruising the tender flesh.

send for him as soon as ever you can." | "For it is our policy now to go boldly | zens to help him execute his warrant. "Indeed I will, Joe," promised Sybil. to the best," he said, as he took Sybil's

And the little dog, that Sybil had in- their names as the Rev. Isaiah Martin sisted on taking with her, even at the and wife; and where they were received for the time being, he was insane. risk of its being recognized as hers, with the respect due to the cloth, and now jumped up from her place at her shown a handsome room on the first mistress' feet, and ran and licked Joe's floor, which was cheerfully lighted by a face, as if to assure him of her con- chandelier, and warmed by a bright coal fire in the great.

At which, for the first time, Joe burst | Here poor Sybil enjoyed the first real repose she had seen since the com-"Come, my man, prove your devotion mencement of her flight. Here Lyon to your mistress by deeds, not tears! ordered a comfortable and even luxur-Drive fast, or we will miss the coach," lous supper; and the fugitive pair sup-

ped together in peace and safety. Joe wiped his eyes with the cuff of his Although it was late when the table coat, and whipped up his horses, and was cleared, Lyon felt that no time was ping agent.

of the day, and occasionally contrasting I'll do me worst They'll never trouble her situation now, in the finest room of you again!

position but a few days before in the Here, also, as they had to change Robbers' Cave. The time passed pleacoaches, they were required to show santly enough until the return of Mr.

He entered very cheerfully, telling her on the top of the vehicle to continue that he had engaged a cabin passage in the Energy, which would sail on the day They travelled both by day and night, after to-morrow, and thet they must be

persons were too well known; but to the end of their journey. They always Visions of perfect freedom, and of for-

They talked over their plans for the

They arose and breakfasted early. The morning was fine and clear, and they wrapped themselves in their outer garments, and started with the intention It was just nightfall when they reach- of going out to purchase a couple of ed the inn where the stage stopped, trunks and other necessaries for their

Lyon was cheerful; Sybil was even gay; both were full of bright anticipa-"This way," whispered Lyon Berners tions for the future. For were they not

house, in an angry voice, "that there is

upper garments. Their knapsack con- "I know you, madam! You're my tained every requisite for a decent prisoner, Madam Berners! And you'll toilet; and so, in something less than not do me, I reckon, as you did Purley! half an hour, they had transformed I'm Jones! And 'tan't one murder themselves back again from plain, re- you've got to answer for now, but half

"Certainly, Joe. A correspondence they walked back to the city. At the He caught his half-fainting wife to his that will be both sure and secret has first hack stand "Mr. Martin" called a bosom, and strove to free her from those

> Meanwhile the fallen officer sprang to his feet, and called upon all good citi-

A crowd collected then. A riot en-"And, missis; please don't let little hands, cold from her outdoor toilet, sued. Lyon Berners, holding his poor young wife to his bosom, vainly, madly, They were driven to the Calvert desperately defended her against all House, where Mr. Berners registered comers, dealing frantic blows with his single right arm on all sides. Of course,

(To be continued).

THE AITCHES AGAIN.

"Once in Banbury," says a writer, "I dined with an English farmer. We had ham for dinner-a most delicious ham, baked. The farmer's son soon finished, his portion and passed his plate again.

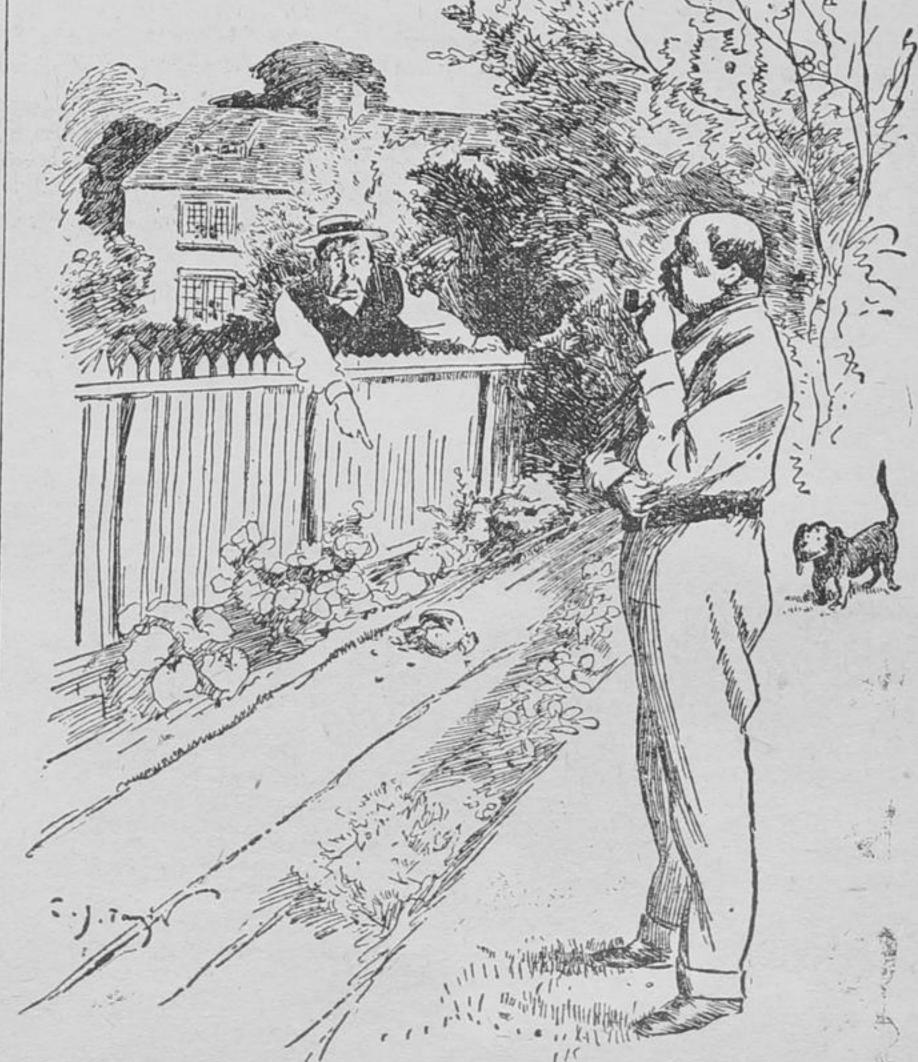
"'More 'am, father,' he said. "The farmer frowned. 'Don't you say 'am, son; say 'am.'

"'I did say 'am,' the lad protested, in an injured tone. "'You said 'am!' cried the father fiercely . 'am's what it should be. 'Am,

Joe drew up his wagon, but his passen. Havre on the next day but one, taking farmer's wife turned to me with a little,

"'They both think they're saying

A strange sense of peace and safety | Mistress: "Now, remember, Bridget, had fallen upon Sybil, and she sat there the Joneses are coming to dinner tobefore her cheerful fire reading the news | night." Cook: "Leave it to me, mum.



First Neighbor-Look here, sir! your dog has eaten one of my chickens! Second Neighbor-Well, sir, do you object to my dog roaming around my