THE MAGIC OF A MASTERPIECE.

CHAPTER VIII.

duenna. She had been, previous to you were." this last visit at the painter's studio, "Mercy on us! Was the dear prinupon her, as she felt it to be, but a her own life?" ed with him, and he had listened to her, | Aha! You don't like it, eh?" not only with respect, but gratefully. The effect of these few simple words

the Marquis Steffano. She knew that It had been upon his tongue to howl the powerful duke. She was resolved speak calmly, and even pleasantly. their visit to the studio.

the evening hours at home was not you will not refuse me." have been more on her guard.

she usually began to think of her of responsibility. night's rest he stationed himself at a In fact, she suffered it to appear that tion, in its deep and solemn tones, propoint in an upper corridor, which she she had given to the painter a vast deal claimed the hour of ten. That was the must pass, and there, upon the stroke of information that she never gave at duke's usual time for presenting himof the half-hour after nine, he met all. She had held her wits wonderful- self at his social receptions, and Stef- feet over the uneven stones, who, ow- present in evidence at Elswick are the her. She saw him and sought to avoid ly at command for her. Up to this fano wished if possible to see and speak

not think to give me the slip in that had been present at the whole inter- "Aye, I have it," he muttered, as he joy the anonymity of his brother peni- training ship, on the stocks, will fashion! I have taken too much trou- view; and she might have carried it turned in the new direction. "Let me tents. The self-imposed penance of the launched in about four weeks; Hai-Tig ble to find you to suffer you to run out to the end with very little thought have his consent to the experiment, and away from me now. My dear, good old and circumspection. But an unfortun- if I do not open his eyes, then call me Madelon, of what are you afraid? If ate moment for her was at hand. tle minute I will convince you that it said, with the deepest touch of feeling ante-room where we have seen the eration of their seed. At least, it is Japanese cruiser, nearly complete is for your own interest that I wish he could show, "I do not so much won- twain once before, in the act of putting true that the traggering youth be- Assama, Japanese armored cruise, beretain the good opinion of the duke." gotten herself. She is young and in- probably overlooking. "You know I would."

truthful. Prove it by proving your- concerned; but you are older; and we tent in the assurance that you were enself a true friend to the Princess have a right to look to you to uphold tertaining my guests." Isabel."

such a thing. As though I needed ly, when Isabel first started to disclose ness unusual to him, "I could not give finally captured, the legend relates, by for Brazil, but bought by United State to prove my friendship for that dear the secrets of your noble master's myself to pleasure until I had seen you

spoke in an abrupt, threatening tone, proper thing to do? Alas! you can "Steffano! what in the world can it chained, he spent many a long and cruiser just launched; Pactolus thing to do? Alas! you can be rect beautiful to some looking her in the eye as though he not have been thinking of the duty- be? Am I interested?" would look into her very soul. "Now, the hearty loyalty-you owed the good "I am only interested for you, my would you like to see the Princess Isa- duke." one of a painter!"

one, and you know it!"

like to see it?"

before, and I answered you."

And I tell you. Madelon, I am serious. -and on a day not far distant, if you was in his power to do.

thing to come to pass?" "I shall not answer you. It is too to the painter"?" ridiculous. You are only trying to "I told you once-yes."

frighten me." "Then answer me this." This time upon the scene?" shrinking, frightened eyes, "What you." were the painter and the princess doing this afternoon? You know very well he was not painting. Don't stop to frame a lie! I want the truth! I want you to tell me just what you ing home to Parma?" know-no more, no less."

The poor old creature was beyond her depth. She could tell a falsehood on a small scale, but she knew not how to carry off a calm, placid decep-Moreover, she was fully persuaded that the marquis knew much, much more than he really did. was in an agony of terror and alarm, found fault with." and the longer she hesitated the more utterly demoralized she became.

"Are you going to answer me?" "Marquis! you have no right to ask me about the private affairs of my mistress. I will tell the duke how you treat me."

"Do so, my dear old madam, and I will tell him that the painter was making love to your mistress under your very eyes.

lie; for he wasn't doing any such thing."

"I swear he was!"

"And I swear he wasn't; there now!" "How do you know that? Remem- he speak of that, eh?" ber! You say you can swear. How can you do so if you do not know what they were doing ?"

"I do know what they were doing, and nobody could have been more innocent of all harm!"

"Oho! Now I understand. The painter was telling to the lady the truly touching and pathetic story of than I claim to be?"

"There's where you are just wrong,

triumphantly. "It was the princess herself was telling the story! Ho, ho A change had come over our good old You are not so wise as you thought

inclined to feel hurt at the slight put cess so long in telling the story of

change had been wrought. She was "No!" fairly shrieked the irritated now in sympathy with her dear young old woman, feeling that her time of mistress, and, moreover, her feelings triumph had come. "It was your toward the painter himself had become story, the story of your life, that she softened and friendly. She had convers- was telling! Now what do you think?

And that, perhaps, might not be all. upon the marquis had been wonderful. Never before had she sat in Signor Zan- He seemed to collapse-to suddenly oni's presence; never before had she wilt, and droop, and quake. His limbs looked squarely and searchingly into shook; his whole frame shook, and the his eloquent, magnetic face. She had terror in his face was startling. But found something in it that had attract- it was only for a little time. He soon ed her-something that had led her to became strong again, and the terrified trust and like him, and she felt in her expression had left his dark visage, heart that she would be his champion. but in its place had come a look of With this feeling she earnestly desir- | vengeance-of dire and deadly hatreded to keep herself out of the way of that boded ill to somebody.

he would question her closely, and she back upon the woman in hot anger and knew too-though she did not to her- gross profanity, but he had restrained self acknowledge it-that she was not himself, for which he was thankful. He fitted to cope with him. She was but did more than that. Being determinan humble dependent, while he was a ed if possible to gain the whole truth, noble of Parma and own brother of he held his peace until he was able to knows it, laid bare. He knows all she

knew his habits; and the spending of tell it? You owe me that, and I know but when they next meet, without the your promise. Be kind and gentle."

the fact that the duke had planned to ! tient questioning, without again los- pare? By heavens! I must open the hold one of his light, friendly recep- ing his temper, and a careful keeping eyes of the duke and set Guiseppe to tions on that very evening she might out of sight of his ill feelings, he suc- thinking. If I can work upon him as ceeded in drawing from her a true ac- I think I can I may bring down my As it was, however, the marquis count of the whole affair. She was two birds at a single shot!" found her. At about the time when careful to take to herself her full share As the last words fell from his lips

"No, no, dear old friend! You must | fication to make it appear that she | private closet.

"Then prove it by being frank and especially where her sympathies are been making myself very easy and con-"Oh, Marquis! How can you say am surprised that you did not instant- marquis, with an earnestness and sober- eyes of Don Juan Tenodio. He was to be delivered; Albany, cruiser but family, make her a sign to stop. Did and put off a load from my mind that is "Madelon!" Answer me this!" He you not realize that it was not the worrying me."

"Steffano Farnese, he isn't a lazarme, and you know it!"

Steffano Farnese, he isn't a lazarme, and you know it!"

Steffano Farnese, he isn't a lazarme, and you know it!"

Steffano's black eyes and become infatuated with the handsome painter?"

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Steffano Farnese, he isn't a lazarme, and you know it!

Steffano Farnese, he isn't a lazarme, and mustn't blame the princess. She meant "You hinted at such a thing once no harm. If Signor Zanoni asked her a look of pained surprise.

to tell him about it, how was she to "Well, you can answer me again. refuse?" "And how, if I may ask, happened Think the matter over. Picture it to you to join them at all?" He asked the dal can be frowned down and made

you, 'Where is the princess?' and you was now lost completely. She answer- bless and save her!" can only answer, 'She is gone!'-aye- ed blindly, without thought, the simple "Marquis, do you not see how I sufyou thought? How does it appear to "I went to tell her that it was time tell me?"

you? Would you like for such a for us to go home."

"How far had she got when you came

threat, with a grip on her wrist and wonderful story he had to tell of the ter, Juan Zanoni!" that same searching look into her princess and her little son. That's

> "Oh, she was telling of my mother?" "Of your mother and yourself, as it afterward turned out, but-" "But she had not spoken of my com-

"Bless you, no. She hadn't said word about you. Your name hadn't

The marquis laughed-laughed as

how curious I am to know what the not like the man; yet I am forced to then, misled by the deceiving echo of painter thought of me. Of course, he admit that he is the handsomest of fea- music, she would turn out of the way, "He didn't say anything that you

would care to hear; not a single thing." "Oh, but he must have said some-"Then you will tell him an awful thing. Did he say I was handsome?" "No, he did not."

"Did he say I was ugly?" "Of course not."

"It was only a word, marquis."

too young to be the long-lost brother. old duenna is never allowed to sit with man in Pratt County, Kansas, on his You are wrong there, Signor. On them—is not allowed in the same the contrary he asked the princess if room." she had never thought that you looked older than you were."

"Did he say older than I am, or older "They had reckoned your true ageyou are satisfied."

ment your eyes fell on the canvas, that she could do this thing it would mean it had not been touched at that sitting! a clinging, forever areas to her own However, that wasn't the princess's born lover in preference to her own devoted kindred. fault."

"It wasn't anybody's fault. And," with a vindictive snapping of her eyes painful time of reflection, "I cannot beand an angry pursing of her lips, "I lieve it. I know you are sincere. I can don't know as it was anybody's busi- see it in your face; but I can not be-

"You are right. It was none of mine, at all events. Thanks once more, my dear Madelon. Good-night!" "It's the most sensible word you

with all my heart. Good-night!" And with that spiteful speech the duenna turned upon her heef and strode away with all possible speed.

until she had disappeared, and still do that? stood, gazing into the vacancy she had last filled. So for a time, and then he cast a quick glance around, to assure himself that he was alone.

"By heavens!" he exclaimed, with a fierce smiting together of his heavy hands, "it has gone further than thought! What were they doing all that time alone together, and not a He would be a fool if he did not. I'd wager my life that they have already talked of flight. Aye, but-"

At this point he caught his breath denly arisen and confronted him.

"San Marco! he has my life, as Isabel matter as you were half an hour ago." duenna to overhear, what notes and one of them. Had she called to mind And thus, by dint of close and pa- data may they not rake up and com-

the great cathedral bell of the Assumphim; but he was too quick for her. | time she had contrived, without falsi- | with him before he should have left his

dunce." you will listen to me for just one lit- "Dear old Madelon," the marquis He found the duke in the same small upon their children unto the last gen- completed, moored in river; Takasan

to speak. I think you would wish to der that the princess should have for- away a lot of papers which he had been experienced, and apt to be thoughtless, "Ah! how is this, Steffano? I have

the honor and dignity of our name. I "My dear Antonio," returned the

brother. But I will not keep you in bel di Varona elope—run away—with But—Marquis! I wasn't there when suspense. You have not forgotten on he made a solemn vow that, should go thirty knots, not ordered, will be the rest. the low-born, poverty-stricken lazar- she began. If I had of been it would what Count Denard has said to you he ever regain his liberty, he would completed before the end of the year not have happened. But—but," she touching his troubles—his fears that walk bare-footed and humbly bearing into stock; another torpedo destroys ladies', and Household Laund

The duke regarded the speaker with ing procession, and, further, he vowed "Brother, you do not mean that any

scandal has arisen?" "It is worse than scandal, sire; scanyourself. Thus it would be: One day question as mildly and pleasantly as it harmless; but this of which I speak do not take care—the duke will ask She had once lost her head, and she far as the princess is concerned. God must be handled delicately, at least so

fer? Out with it! What have you to the old gallant's heirs, and, though the

"And you found her telling our story few moments, as though in deepest of Seville society, he too, did not shrink thought. At length he looked up and from the sacrifice necessary to keep-

the marquis spoke in a low tone, but "She had just told about the coming given her love—the deep and passionate pearance excited much amusement with a deeper and more diabolical of the old priest, Father Paul, and the love of her heart—to the plebeian pain- among the other pollos, whose inheri-

token of astonishment. His look was sight of his bruised and bleeding feet

one of entire unbelief.

possessed you?" The marquis was calm and unruffled.

He faintly smiled as he answered: been mentioned no more than as though | self who is possessed; but I will awaken | little girl of some 12 summers, clothed there had never been such a person in you if I can. Stop! Listen to me for a in her communion robes, weird and existence. So you needn't borrow any moment, and be candid. Will you call ghostly apparel for this the dark hour trouble. I heard every word that was to mind the girl's peculiarities of dis- before the dawn. Her eyes were blindspoken about you-every word, and not position and self-education. You know folded, and, unlike the hoods of the a thing was said that you could have how romantic she is, how prone to hero- Nazarenes, there was not left the worship. You have heard her rhapsod- smallest aperture through which she ies on the heroes of the old crusades. might look to choose and pick her way. though something had greatly pleased Aye, she worships a hero wherever she She carried a golden chalice in one can find him. And now turn to this hand, while with the other she groped "Come, Madelon, you can't imagine painter. Mark you, my brother, I do and felt her way. Every now and must have said something. Now be ture and of form, and one of the most now to the right, and now to the left. intellectual of all the men I ever knew. Once she stumbled and fell, and when And into this man's society the tender- she rose, in her confusion, started to hearted, impressionable girl is thrown, walk back the way she had come; but to sit with him for hours alone, under the Nazarenes caught her by the hand his captivating speech."

"Did he speak of my age? Ah! did on him, "you know that Madelon is althrow off the fear that was coming up- is blind. ways with her."

"Aha! I know. He thought I looked You know perfectly well that the good

Marquis Steffanol" retorted the duenna the age of Giovanni's younger son—and willing to believe that his darling— it in the baggage car.

he meant, older than that. Now I hope the fondly cherished and dearly loved child of the noble Farnese-could have "Yes, good Madelon; and I am grate- given her heart to a plebeian; for he ful, too. I suppose you saw, the mo- had told himself, in the outset that if it had not been touched at that sitting? a clinging, forever after, to the low-

"Steffano," he said, after a long and

"Dear brother, may I convince you?" "How ?"

"Never mind the how. If you will give me permission, I will this very have spoken, marquis, and I repeat it evening convince you that I am right -that the painter is to her all in all." "I will not have her imposed upon,

nor harshly treated. Remember that." "Dear brother, do you not know me The marquis stood and watched her well enough to know that I could not

"But, Steffano, what is it you mean? What course will you pursue?" The marquis gave a few moments to thought, and then replied:

"Antonio, listen. I will speak the painter's name in her hearing. I will speak of him kindly and in a friendly spirit, and you shall mark the effect of the words upon her. If I do not contouch of a brush to his canvas? As I vince you that her heart is given whollive, I believe she loves him! She has ly and entirely to Zanoni I give you given her heart-and will give herself | my word that I will never allude to if she can. And he will grab the prize! the subject again-never. Surely you can have no objection to that." "Is Count Denaro enlisted with you

in this affair?" "Heavens and earth! for what do you and started as though a ghost had sud- take me? I have never breathed it to him. He is as ignorant of the whole

The duke arose from his seat and could tell him. He knows too much. I took a turn across the room. In a far that on the next morning she would "Forgive me, Madelon," he said, with have no time to waste. Shall I put a corner was a small cupboard, the take shelter, at as early an hour as a smile, "if I startled you. But when stop to her visits at the studio? And door of which he opened, and took an possible, in the society of the princess you told me that the princess had been there must be no more conference be- thence a bottle and two glasses, and and not leave her until they had made | telling my story to a stranger-the | tween those two. Luckily, before they | set them on the table. In utter silence story of my unhappy youth-it made had come to my part in the story old the wine was poured out; in silence That he would ask her before the me really angry. But that is past and Madelon was with them, and in her drank. A little later he said, wearily: morrow, she did not even dream. She gone. Now tell me, how came she to presence the man would be guarded. "Be it so, brother. But remember

To be Continued.

A STRANGE VOW.

Penance Paid by Twenty Generations to The Elswick Yard in England the laps

But there is one muffled figure that The capacity of Elswick yard in En. bears the heaviest cross, and walks land is greater than that of any other painfully with unshed and shackled in the world. Among the vessels a ing to the strange and peculiar pen- O'Higgins, Chilean war ship, just onance he performs, cannot hope to en- pleted General Banqmedana, Chiles fathers in Seville would seem even as and Hai-Chi, protected cruisers but the weight of their sins, to be visited to the order of China, sister ship fore us is the twentieth of his name 700 tons, nearly complete; Tokini and line who has done vicarious pen- Japanese armoure! cruiser, sister ance for the sins of his forefather, a above; unnamed cruiser, preparing celebrity of the sixteenth century, who Japan, not quite laid down; Tordens looked "on beauty charming" with the jold, Norwegian battle ship, waiting a Barbary corsair and carried a pris- now plating, launched in three months oner to Oran, where, manacled and Don Carlos I., Portuguese protected weary day wishing that he were dead. alty design, ready in about a month But while he pined hopelessly in pris- torpedo boat destroyer of large size in that he would make the annual accomplishment of this vow a charge upon his estate for all time by providing that, should any one of his male descendants fail in its performance, his portion of the estate should go to enrich the foundation of a convent.

There had been no defaulters among present bearer of the proud name is The younger man bent his head for a a perfumed and scented pollo, a dude said, with a show of heartfelt feeling; ing the money in the family. And I "Antonio, I can swear to you, if you regret to say that, as he came meektance had come to them without so The duke did not start; he gave no unpleasant a condition; and at the much money was wagered on the ques-"Oh, Steffano! what freak is this? tion of whether he would be able to What manner of hallucination hath lead the cotillion at the Duke of Alba's on Easter Monday.

But perhaps the strangest of all the array of silent masters who followed "My dear Antonio, I fear it is your- the Christ of the Great Power was a the influence of his witching look and and directed her on her way again. The little girl in the white commun-"But," said the duke, struggling to ion dress symbolized that faith which

HUMILIATING MISFORTUNE.

honeymoon trip. He has a wooden leg, and on the train he was arrested Antonio was troubled. His love for for some fraudulent transaction. The his beautiful ward was like the love of officer was considerate enough not to a father for his own offspring. It was handouff him, but he prevented the deep, tender and true—the chief source, prisoner from running away, by rein fact, of his domestic joy. He was not moving his artificial leg and storing

A YOUNG

MILBURN'S HEART AND NERVE PILLS.

For the benefit of Canadian motion who have daughters who are weak pa run down or nervous, Mrs. Belange, la Rideau Street, Ottawa, Ontario, made to following statement, so that no one bed suffer through ignorance of the new remedy to use: "My daughter suffer very much from heart troubles at time Often she was so bad that she could be speak, but had to sit and gasp for breat She was so extremely nervous that be limbs would fairly shake and tremb Frequently she would have to leave school and finally she grew so weak that we wa much alarmed about her health. I as her many remedies, but they did not the to do her any good.

Then I heard of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, and got a box of them, they have indeed worked wonders with her. I can recommend them very high as the best remedy I ever heard of the complaints similar to those from white my daughter suffered."

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills Deng fail to do good. They cure palpitation faintness, dizziness, smothering sensitive weakness, nervousness, sleeplessness, and mia, female troubles and general debilin Sold by all druggists at 50c. a borg three boxes for \$1.25. T. Milburn & Co. Toronto, Ontario.

an easy and natural manner. removing all poisons and in purities. They cure Constinu tion, Sick Headache, Billious ness, Dyspepsia, Sour Ston ach, Jaundice and Liver Con plaint. Price 250.

THE BIGGEST SHIPYARD.

class British cruiser, built to admit knots, to be finished this year; named cruiser, 4,300 tons, to be launch ed shortly , not ordered; large tirst class battle ships unnamed, 15,100 tots being built for the Japanese navy. 108 will be the largest battle ship yet com structed, will have a phenomenal spec and, notwithstanding her great size will pass through the Suez Canal.

Can't Sleep.



The weary vigils of the night, anxie hours that drag like days. How offer they come, and how unwelcome they are A system robbed by sleeplessness a natural rest cannot be vigorous strong. The nerves are at fault and must be built up. Dr. Ward's Blood and Nerve Pills are the remedy that cured

MISS EMMA TEMPLE.

HERE IS WHAT SHE SAYS:

At last, after eight months of physic by over exertion and want of rest, during which time I suffered greatly on account the shattered condition of my nerves, and the shattered condition of my nerves, and for which I was unable to find any relief. I have found a medicine (Dr. Ward's Blood and Nerve Pills) that in three months made in weakness and nervous prostration, which I was unable to find any solution found a medicine (Dr. Ward's Blood of Nerve Pills) that in three months made of nerves strong, removed all nervous troubles built up my physical system and made of strong and well. They removed despot dency, and in consequence of taking your dency, and in consequence of taking your valuable Pills I look forward to the future valuable Pills I look forward to the future benefits. hopefully. I have to thank your great of for nervousness and bodily weakness for st present good health and strength. Yours truly,

Signed, EMMA TEMPLE, Hastings, Ost at 50 cents per box, 5 boxes for price of druggists, or mailed on receipt of price of Book of information free.

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