# THE MAGIC OF A MASTERPIECE.

told his deep and heartfelt thankful- come to it a redeeming power. As I ness. He was thankful that he had gaze upon it in my day dreams, from seen the picture, and he was more the canvas the face of an angel-of a thankful for the kindly information saint in deed as well as in name-looks that had been vouchsafed. -

ments. His supper had been brought of my master-piece is real!" and eaten, and the lieutenant had The princess gazed at him with

come to carry away the tray. "Signor Zanoni what more can I do of strange alarm in her looks.

for yeu?" cept my gratitude for all your kind- of prayerful entreaty in her earnest,

gin that she will give you joy and fail you! There is safety in flight. Oh, long life with it." And with this the will you not save yourself?" man left the cell, closing and secur- "Isabel! Can there be safety in disand tranquil hour of closing day, he myself before God and man!"

his heart-his Isabel.

felt sure that she was thinking of him. like an aspen. Presently he took her Oh! what must she endure of sus- to his bosom; drew her close, and impense! For him death promised re- printed a loving kiss upon her pure lease from agony! but she must live white brow. on; and he knew she would live to suf- "Isabel! Wait. If you have come fer. He was thinking thus, with the now, can you not come again when my twilight fast deepening toward even- picture is finished-that will be-I will ing , when he was aroused from his re- | call it, on the sixth day from this?" verie by the sound of the bar outside ure emerged from the gloom without come at that time will you do as into his cell, came in, closing the way shall ask?" carefully; and then advanced a few | He paused a moment, thoughtfully night, sweeping the stone floor; the answered: rosary and the ivory cross; the hempen girdle, with the deep hood-like ber, on the sixth day from this. If cowl completely enveloping the head you come, and you shall then open the and the upper part of the face, and way, for my escape and ask me to flee, even the lower part was in such ut- I will do so." ter shadow as to be entirely hidden.

"How now, good father," said the prisoner, always kindly disposed toward those whom he believed to be humble followers of the lowly Nazarene, "hast come to shrive me?'

wailing cry, sprang forward, and in a us You promise!" moment more two white soft arms were . "My darling! I have perfect faith was pillowed on his bosom.

have found you at length!"

Zanoni knew not what he said-knew "Enough! Oh, bless you, my love scarcely, for the time, what he did. In bless you!" And again her head was warm, passionate embrace he held her pillowed on his bosom; his strong arms -his own beloved-his Isabel-and cov- encircled her; and the little time they ered her beautiful face with kisses- had left them was given to the whiseach kiss a prayer and a blessing, holy pering of the deep, enduring passion and pure. And then, when the first that had become part and parcel of wild paroxysm of emotion had passed, their lives. unutterable rapture.

ten you?"

it. It is yourself!-but-how? Oh, my appeared to regard him with a new did you come? For what-for what-" respect and esteem. But no word was

forces. First, the love and esteem you nizant of any occurrence in his dehave won from those on duty here. partment out of the usual course. Next, I had gold. Those who have help- From this time Zanoni worked with

to depart as soon as you are gone. Once | was to remain for all time. ing of Cola Pandolfo is?"

"Go there quickly; and there I will And so, with his picture finished meet you.'

"Do you mean-to-escape?"

"Oh, yes! yes! The way is open. the princess to the prison cell. Flee! flee, sweet love, while there is time and opportunity. I am coming to you."

For a time—he knew not how long face before him like one in a horrible he announced, with regret, that he dream. Then he bowed his head upon had been again called away. his hands and groaned aloud, while will take my place; so you will want artist | could have forgotten his hands and groaned aloud, while will take my place; so you will want artist | could have forgotten his in every limb and at every joint he will take my place,; so you will want artist | could have forgotten shook like a wide riven oak. And so Zanoni saw the hand of the princess he stood until the paroxysm was passing the in the removal of the keeper. Him greater anxiety he forgot the leaser. he stood until the paroxysm was passed. Then he took a turn across the she would not tempt to a breach of and when he came to realize how. ed. Then he took a turn across the she would not tempt to a breach of great it must have been we shall ed the mutilation by offering to perform the task himself, provided it

authority and grant me the time of life I am now possessing—and, I may say—enjoying. He granted it. In return I gave, of my own accord, a soltern promise, and I called God for a witness to my faith. Further, I promised him repeatedly—at the should have the picture finished. Oh! I can not break my word! I can not break my word! I leave another reason. Do his features. Presently he added:

"Isabel! I have another reason. Do not think me superstitious, do not the master who painted this It would be made throw the light the duke had said, it could not have been ight. The effect of the abetic supplies the would be a better light. The effect of the abetter light. The effec

ture, which I am now painting, I mean Pandolfo's looks as well as his words | shall be my masterpiece, and there shall forth and blesses me. Oh, my love !-The day passed. Zanoni had covered my darling! Do not ask me to forup his work and laid aside his imple- sake it !- As true as heaven the magic

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dread mingling of love, of wonder and

"Oh, my darling!" she cried, seizing "Nothing, except to receive and ac- his wrists, and looking up with a world eloquent eyes, "think! think! Oh! "It is a pleasure for me to serve think what must be your fate-what gone and he had not come. What did you, signor. I pray to the Blessed Vir- my fate-should your mystic hope

ing the door behind him. The prisoner honor? Ask your own heart, cast your remembered afterward that he had thoughts forward into the future, to come. heard the strong bar swing into place the time when this present agony shall but that the key had not been turn- have become sanctified to you, and ask ed in the lock. For a time after he yourself, would you not rather rememhad been left alone he thought of the ber me with honor, be able to bless my parting words of Pandolfo and of the memory in your heart, than that peculiar manner in which they had should bear your life-long companionimpulse of the moment. That was all. it certainly would? Oh, my love! You Then as, was his wont, in that calm will not, you can not ask me to perjure later in the day.

gave his thoughts to the darling of He paused at this point, standing firm and strong, though in earnest sup-Where was she at that moment? He plication, while his companion shook

"Oh! Juan!" throwing her hands uphis door. It was being moved. Aye, on his shoulders, and gazing up into and presently the door was slowly, his face with startling eagerness and first. noiselessly opened, and a human fig- hope. "And will you then flee? If I

paces, and stopped. A Benedictine and then with a clear, bright light in monk! the capacious robe, black as his eyes and in his handsome face, he entered.

"Yes, my own, I promise! Remem "The sixth day from this?"

"Counting to-morrow as the first?"

"And then-then-you will flee from your prison, and seek with me a happy, A few seconds longer the dark-robed blessed union in some friendly clime figure stood, and then, with a low, where the laws of Parma can not reach

around his neck, and the cowled head in you-in your love and in your judgment-and I give you my promise that "Juan! My love! My own! Oh! I whatever you shall ask me to do, when next we meet, I will do it."

persons who had aided her in her brave "Juan! Did you think I had forgot- and devoted effort in his behalf our hero could not know. He only knew "Isabel! My love! My life! I can that on the following morning, when not realize it. I can not understand Pandolfo came with the breakfast, he darling I tell me what it means. How interest, and to treat him with a new Juan, I came as I could. I found spoken; no sign was given, from which myself in possession of two strong it could be suspected that he was cog-

ed me will serve no longer here. They a zeal-a new ardor. He had brought will have no need. I have provided for the face of his saint to perfection, savwithout question. I shall be permitted light and every shadow must be as it

I am outside this cell, no one will trou- This done, he went back to the face, ble me. You know where the dwell- and, with patient care, with soul-sent prayerful earnestness, he put upon it the final touches of his brush.

the morning of the sixth day dawned, The sixth, counting from the visit of

## CHAPTER XVIII.

When the keeper, Maraccini, -Zanoni gazed into the eager, lovely brought to the prisoner his breakfast

forth and took her hands. His face duty, but she had found means to not wonder.

great it must have been we shall might be done in the ameer's presence.

Oh, the duke will never allow it, nev- "Signor! Where-where did you ever! He can not accept this divine er see that face?" he asked in a hushmasterpiece of art and beauty, and ed, quivering tone. with the hand that takes it sign the "Why, do you ask, my lord? Is it death-warrant of him who created it!" a face familiar to you?"

the prisoner to pardon him for his im- it? You must have known it to have pulsive expression of feeling, and hav- painted it so truly." ing wiped the moisture from his eyes, "Duke!" answered Zanoni in solemn

face could it have saved his life. It you?" was perfect. More than once the im- "Pleased! Does it satisfy me!" resaint in heaven, the memory of whom searching, eager look. had served him as a model.

This was the day on which he had expected the coming of the duke, and he had looked for him at an early hour, but the forenoon was almost

Noon came, and the dinner was brought. The painter asked Pandolfo, who had taken his chief's place, if he could imagine why his grace had not

upon the point of returning a negative answer, when he chanced to call

As the minutes crept away into hours after this, the painter became painfully nervous and anxious. Suppose it should happen that the duke's for the crew of the ship for two years. coming should interfere with the com- It is the intention to have the Southern ing of Isabel. Or, worse still, suppose the two should, by any possibility, chance to meet at the prison!

Pandolfo, if he was in the secret, would prevent it. He thought of it, nevertheless, and it continued to worry him. Further, he would not, on any account, have the princess come

Another hour passed, and another, and the sun was near to its setting, casting its slanting rays, like bars of half ton of compressed tea and coffee, bright gold, into the prison cell, when 3,000 tins of cocoa, coffee, chocolate, tory of a country was the new the door was opened and the duke and milk, 1,300 tins of Swiss milk, and

kept by a review of our troops, but I the tea and tobacco, but it may help writer sums up the results as for think the light is still good. Is the a man in a cold climate to have the picture finished?"

"It is finished my lord," the painter replied, his voice deep and solemn, which costs \$10,000, sledges, leather, his face a trifle pale, "but you will clothing, portable cabins, and great most impossible to believe that wait a few minutes. As the sun- stores of all things needed amid the natural acuteness and foresight beams now fall they would cast a false light."

and you shall behold it."

waited, a strange thing happened. As 500 Union Jacks. These ought to be envied country in Europe. Had 0 it afterward proved, the keeper in enough to draw a circle clear around bus sailed under the auspices a leaving the door, after the entrance of the Antarctic pole and thus establish land instead of those of Spin the august visitor, had simply swung an unimpeachable lien on that feature whole history of the New the bar without using the key; and of the Southern icescape. The Brit- would have been different, the this was the situation as the princess ishers of the Southern Cross expedias in North and had expected to find it. She had tion are determined to hoist British America would never have had come in with Pandolfo's wife, as she flags if they do nothing else. had done on the occasion of the for- The Antarctic continent has no in- tile countries in the world would acted accordingly.

had scarcely left his lips when the cheer every time a flag goes aloft. door of his cell was again opened, this time giving entrance to the Bene-

For a moment the painter, in his terror in thought of the danger im- How He Metes Out Justice to His pending, came near losing himself; but his natural strength and force of will, together with his inborn powers of self-control, saved himself.

First the duke who stood before the broad canvas, which was between himthat. So, dear love, you will wrong ing only here and there, at self and the door, had not noticed the that. So, dear love, you will wrong minor points, where a new touch further, that the princess, in her som- On "And now," she added, stepping back be needed: and before he could do be robe and cowl, if she had seen that "And now," she added, stepping that be needed; and before he could do he had a visitor, supposed it to be the will put on this robe—this cowl—which this he must put the final touches up-will put on this robe—this cowl—which on all the rest of the picture; every keeper; or, at any rate, some one time might be expected.

were her feelings when she recognized the voice of her guardian can be from him, and in answer to inquiries better imagined than described. However, it was too late then to escape. informed him that he had never work-She could only hold her peace, trust- ed in his life, and had no intention of ing that her disguise would not be doing so. penetrated by the ducal gaze. "Now, Signor Zanoni, the light 18 do without you," and forthwith direct-

ter. Will you uncover the picture?"

was pale as death, but in his lastication with the last that was sublime.

"Isabel! My angel of goodness and mercy! My own! My love! I can not do this thing! Hush! Hear me to the look once more upon the wonderful end. I asked the duke to exercise his end. I asked the duke to exercise his own eye.

"Who knows" ha added "if I shall the last the painter took the ners and threw it over behind the canvas, thus giving to the light the light the last the painter took the ners and threw it over behind the members; then the secretary turned and reminded him the light the last the last that he had never executed this form of punishment before. Would his highness show how much of the ear was to be removed?

"Who knows" ha added "if I shall the light the light the light the light the light the last the light the last the light the light the last the l

be a sin before God! It must not be! ing face, he turned to the artist.

leath-warrant of him who created it! a lace laminate of him who created it. might have said too much, he asked heaven! tell me-where did you know

he gave one more glance at the pic- earnest tone, "you behold there the ture; then took up the tray and left pictured face of the now sainted mother who gave me birth! Yes, my During the forenoon Zanoni looked lord, I have given to your St. Cecilia at his picture from every point of the form and the features of my own view, but could find nothing to im- blessed mother, as I hold them in sacprove. He would not have put the red, loving memory. Are you pleased point of a pencil upon a feature of the with the picture? Does it satisfy

very much from heart troubles at speak, but had to sit and gasp for pulse had been upon him to fall down peated the astounded potentate like She was so extremely nervous the before it on his knees and worship it one struggling out from a wonderful -not the picture his hand had creat- dream. He gazed upon the painter-Frequently she would have to leave ed; no, no, not that, but the true gazed with his very soul in the her many remedies, but they did no

To Be Continued.

#### UNION JACK OF ICEBERGS.

What the Latest British Antarctic Expedi tion Will De.

A British expedition to explore the Antarctic ice continent has just left London in the steamer Southern Cross. The keeper shook his head, and was It is said to be perhaps the best equipped vessel ever sent into the eternal to mind that it was the day appointed winter lands. Even if it be true that for the parade and review of the polar exploration be scientific insanity troops, at which, of course, the duke it must be admitted that the preparapeculiar manner in which they had bear your life-long companions been spoken, but the man was strongly ship, with the remembrance of a brok- his civil office, commander-in-chief. So en faith clouding every hour, which it containly would? Oh my love! You burg Despatch. removing all poisons and

The Southern Cross carries food for a land party for three years and food Cross reinforced by a second ship toward the end of three years to bring plaint. Price 250. He would not think of such a thing. off the explorers. The food is all carried in a greatly condensed form. It is singular that no meat is carried. There is not a scrap of flesh food in any form. The provision cargo consists of one ton of compressed potatoes, one ton of compressed vegetables, oneone-half ton of tobacco. Many scienti-"Signor, I am late. I have been fic men might advise the omission of cheer of tobacco.

The ship carries ninety Arctic dogs,

Among all the elements of the cargo "You can move the easel, signor." | the most curious and yet the most "Wait a moment longer, my lord, characteristic feature is the outfit of volved and the possible results. British flags. On the Southern Cross in supporting him, became the At this moment, while the duke there are 500 bamboo flagstaffs and powerful, the richest, and the

mer visit. They had come at once to habitants to be impressed by the red been spared the blighting curs the corridor of that section without crossed banner. It will simply give which they still languish. The having seen the keeper, and as only vent to the British craving for flag- of the world's progress would the bar was found in place to secure raising. It appears to be an instinct been put on at least a hundred, the door they had taken it for grant- of the race. The bamboo staffs must and Spain, lacking the treasures he held her sweet face away—the cowl What explanation, if any, the prin- ed that it had been left thus for the be erected on the trackless ice and the enabled her to do such an infinite thrown back, and gazed upon it in his cess vouchsafed to the person or the acted accommodation. They had Union Jacks will flap only in view of harm in Europe and the American State of the person of the lacted accommodation. the seals and penguins, but the British would not have been able to en The last words spoken by Zanoni explorers will have an opportunity to herself the legacy of hatred shame which has proved to be only lasting reward of her im

### THE AMEER OF AFGHANISTAN.

Subjects.

Miss Hamilton, an Englishwoman who lived for some time in the ameer's He saw a moment later, two things: palace, narrates some characteristic anecdotes of the cool way in which this semi-barbarous ruler often settles af-

On the rare occasions when Miss Hamilton ventured to appeal for less heroic measures, her patron remindconnected with the prison, from whose ed her that it is not very long since observation her disguise would shield men were hanged in England for sheepher, since the presence of a son of the stealing and poaching, and he never tired of discoursing on the barbarities As for the princess, herself, what of slavery under white rule.

right. I do not think it could be bet- ed that the idler should be hanged. It may seem strange—perhaps im- tery, and could sometimes be cajoled.

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most trivial act that changed

the proposals of Christopher

bus by Henry VII., of England

"Had Henry given Columb

audience, instead of treating hi

mere sailor, out of his mind !

not have revealed to him thetre

ous discrepancy between the n

and some of the fairest and me

able national crimes.

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about 800,000.

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my daughter suffered."

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to do her any good.

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the use of Dr. Ward's Blood and New and I consider them a marvellous and I consider them a marvellous and nerve builder for dyspensia sick and miserable that I seemed to life or energy left in me. I suffer the consider them a marvellous and the constant and the c life or energy left in death would times that I thought death for me. I had tried Doctors and the kinds of medicines, but all failed woman, and have been for months woman, and have been for months using these Pills I was so sick that using these Pills I was so sick that using these Pills I was so sick that under the opinion that dyspissed in the cured, but now I am satisfied it woman and feel better in every woman and feel better in every woman and feel better in ow seign have built me up also, I now seign have built me up also, I now seign with poor digestion to give Dr. Was with poor digestion to give Dr. Was a trial. MRS. L. E. WATSON, Port College

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