THE PHANTOM OF FONTENOY SQUARE.

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"By Jove" murmured Alick, "it's a strange affair. But I don't believe in ghosts. She's some flat-footed body about the neighbourhood who borrows the square key from the gardener."

"Anyhow we followed her. I was going to observe, as we parted, as we paced slowly along in the direction of Great Russell, that you are the 1 poor Miss Lay lived for years in Bloomsbury after her marriage in Fontenoy Square.

"Then, Alick" I cried, in a voice of excited anguish. "What, in the name of all things supernatural, is she? See, she stops at the door. Merciful Heavens, at the door of Vansittart Brown!"

Brown, I exclaimed, Henderson. He was her married name. For a moment we stood as if paralyzed. He spoke first. "Come, we must be civil to the ever-obliging ghost."

The door was now wide open, and a stream of light streamed out upon the dark pavement. As we approached, a tall figure in black, with a pale face and silver grey hair, came out of the house and helped the lady down the steps. We stepped past in a crowd of footmen to hall.

The [illegible] hundred wax lights [illegible] passage, [illegible] expression [illegible] feature [illegible] negro [illegible] Hebe [illegible] Mrs Vansittart Brown [illegible] the house [illegible] "You think your marriage was a mistake, my dear madam?"

"A terrible mistake," she answered.

"You would like once more to be a spinster?"

"So much so, that I would willingly sacrifice the fortune that I brought to Leopold."

"No necessity for that, Mrs Brown. I will be frank with you, and tell you something. You and Brown are both excellent persons, but your tempers don't agree together. Now, Brown has seen a young lady who he thinks would really make him happy. Would you be so cruel as to stand in the way of his happiness?"

"I don't understand."

"I will explain. You say you wish to be single."

"Most fervently I wish it."

"You shall be single then, my dear madam, and, provided you will simply assume the name of Vansittart Brown, the interest of your income shall be paid you every quarter."

The lady was a fine, handsome woman, the second was a much better match, than Mrs Vansittart Brown, the first so, the elderly Dignitary could well afford to suffer one slow way for the sake of another. [illegible] Lay [illegible] Fontenoy Square [illegible] Lay's [illegible] Lay's [illegible] Lay's