

HOW RAOUL WAS MARRIED.

My friend Raoul was married day before yesterday at Sainte Clotilde.

I arrived at the church; there was an immense crowd, and the ceremony had already commenced.

The priest had his old and used it by this sentence: "Be therefore united on this earth until you are finally united in heaven."

I was unable to keep back a little exclamation. Raoul was not wedding a young girl. He was marrying the pretty little Countess Jeanne de Charmelain, the widow of my friend Gaston de Charmelain. This lovely woman was destined to make my friends happy—Raoul after Gaston.

On the earth nothing would be more simple—Gaston having withdrawn himself, there remained Raoul; but there above, in heaven, for the final union there will be two of them—Gaston and Raoul, the first and the second husband.

I fear the priest will be in a difficulty. That sentence of the priest of Sainte Clotilde probably made a part of all the little discourses he delivered in his marriage ceremonies. He had most likely made the same promise to Gaston five years before. He had probably told him if he lived and died in a Christian manner he would meet his little Jeanne again among the angels, the archangels, the thrones and the rulers.

In the meanwhile there was great confusion on all sides of me. The large organ pealed out Mendelssohn's wedding-march. I followed the crowd, which took me to the vestry-room. My hand was shaken by the bride and by the bridegroom, but I did not speak a single word to either of them. I don't think I should have been able to resist saying to Raoul, "Did you not really comprehend what the priest said about the final union? There will be two of you for your final union."

"This kind of thing," I said to him, "must often happen. Women who have had two husbands are not at all alike."

"Grantor, but what is new, absolutely new, is this fashion of two men disputing about one wife. Ordinarily, in the same circumstance, the question is, which one would not take back his wife?"

"And when the situation is reversed, when there are two wives and only one husband?"

"Oh! then it is entirely different. The question among the women is which one will be able to get back her husband. Women are wild for husbands, even in Paradise. We had, however, an odd incident on the day Napoleon I arrived."

"Ah! He is in Paradise, Napoleon I."

"Oh! he had a little while in Purgatory; and, frankly speaking, it was justice. Look at his history with Pius III, at Fontainebleau! He was still in Purgatory when, in 1852, after the coup d'etat, Napoleon III. behaved so handsomely to Pius IX. that it was thought that they could not decently keep the uncle of such a nephew in Purgatory any longer. So they opened the gates of Paradise to him. He arrived, and his first words were: 'And my two wives?'

"Have you any preference?"

"Yes, certainly. I will most willingly take back Josephine."

"They immediately run to Josephine. 'He is here, and he wants you.' I am very sorry," answered Josephine dryly; "but, after what happened in 1809, never, never, never."

"They go immediately to Marie Louise, who screams, 'I see Napoleon again! I who live so peacefully with the General! Don't speak to me of Napoleon. Let him take back Josephine. Neither of us will change her position. Napoleon remained standing alone, feeling rather vexed, when Mme. de Staél came up."

"Napoleon," said she, "give him to me. I will take charge of him; and they have annoyed the sainted Father a little in these last few years, and he has had a little air of persecution put in the religion which has warmed up the liquefied atmosphere of the mind."

"The council is an excellent thing and does us a great deal of good. In short, we are very well contented indeed."

"There has been for several months a constant increase in the number of passengers for Paradise. Every day when the trains leave the earth it is necessary to put on more cars. I will let you judge of things for yourself. Ten minutes after 7. * * * The express is about to arrive. Certainly, we have express trains from the earth—don't you hear the whistle? We have taken the French organization because it is the best. But our communications with the other countries are not at all complete. Look well now, the train arrives. We have as you see carriages of three classes—first, second and third—a van for baggage, and a compartment for dogs. The people are getting out; give good attention and remember that, no great people go second-class."

"The small shopkeeper goes a little. She is generally a partisan of Voltaire's philosophy. A free thinker and a critic is the little shopkeeper. In the third-class there is a great crowd; either bad or all good. There is also a crowd in the first-class. All one must know that the rich have the greatest opportunity for getting their salvation. They have all their time to themselves, and, even admitting that they give the greater part of it to Satan, they can always find, at great intervals, an hour or two to get in with their religion. God is not so black as He is thought to be. He contents Himself with very little. Just stay here two or three days and you will see at least fifty trains, and in them you must assuredly see some one you know. You will yourself perceive that one can gain Paradise very cheaply."

"He is a gossip, this Saint Thomas. He talked, talked, but I had not been listening to him for several moments. My widow of Sainte Clotilde! The wife of Gaston! The wife of Raoul! It was she! I had seen her pretty head."

"I had seen her pretty head, and then I was making her get into her place again. Her widow of Sainte Clotilde! The wife of Gaston! The wife of Raoul! It was she! I had seen her pretty head, and then I was making her get into her place again."

"She replied, 'you will allow me to make an arrangement to become the wife of M. de Lericourt, who is over there in that little cloud, and who has been making signs to me for the last fifteen minutes.'

"I turned my head and I perceived Lericourt, who, in his little cloud at the left of us, was making the most expressive and gallant gestures. Yet another friend, Lericourt! This charming woman was, I repeat, called to contribute to the happiness of her friends."

"And gave him the stocks and low diet."

"Very well," says the Eternal Father, "what could be more simple? Madame is here as a reward for her Christian sentiments and her religious conduct. She has a right to the greatest possible happiness. Let her decide it is for you to decide."

"In your infinite goodness, Seigneur, she replied, 'you will allow me to make an arrangement to become the wife of M. de Lericourt, who is over there in that little cloud, and who has been making signs to me for the last fifteen minutes.'

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"Why did you not say so immediately?" answered the Eternal Father. "This will harmonize everything. Make your arrangements with Monsieur de Lericourt. What I wish for is that you may be happy in Paradise, since you have been a good Christian."

"And you had not a cent when I, in my turn, had lent you your dot?"

"Remember," said Gaston, "that when I married you you had only 300,000 francs for a dowry."

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"Perfectly correct; you can pass. Here is the entrance to Paradise."

My little friend made a pretty bow

The Democratic Sentinel.

RENSSELAER, JASPER COUNTY, INDIANA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1883.

NUMBER 1.

THE DEMOCRATIC SENTINEL.

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RAILWAY HORROR.

Terrible Accident on the Southern Pacific Road.

Many People Crushed and Roasted to Death.

A telegram from Tehachapi, Cal., says:

Shortly after midnight Friday night the overland express on the Southern Pacific railroad stopped near here to take on an extra engine to assist in pulling up a grade of 120 feet to the mile. While making the change by some means the train, consisting of express, mail and baggage cars, two sleepers, one coach and a smoker, became free and started to run full speed down the grade. The air-brakes had been taken off, and the men who should have been tending hand-brakes were away from their posts, one attending to switching the extra engine, and the other relighting his extinguished lamp. The train gathered up away quickly and was soon down the grade at the rate of a mile a minute. At a sharp curve in the road the couch and smoker, which were attached to the engine, were torn from the train and started on their voyage Thursday afternoon.

Friday morning, in a thick fog of Boron, the cause in collision with the steamer Climbria, disabled in collision went to the bottom of the North sea last Friday. Hundreds

of passengers, mostly German, were lost.

The Hamburg-American steamship Climbria, in a collision with the French

and having exclusive appellate jurisdiction in all civil cases of less than \$500 except where the title of real estate, construction or a ship's cargo is involved.

This is the second collision of the year.

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