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THE THREE GUARDSMEN

BY ALEXANDRE DUMAS

CHAPTER VI. The Interior of "The Musketeers."

having often sees him smile, but had never heard, him laugh. His words were brief and expressive.

Although Athos was scarcely thirty years old and was of great personal beauty, intelligence of mind and noble bearing, no one knew that he had ever had a mistress. He never spoke of women. His reserve, his roughness and his silence made almost an old man of him. He had then, in order not to disturb his habits, accustomed Grimand to obey him upon a single gesture or upon the mere movement of his lips. He never spoke to him but upon most extraordinary occasions.

Porthos, sa we have seen, was of a character exactly opposite to that of

character exactly opposite to that of Athos. He not only talked much, but he talked loudly and filled the ante-chamber of M. de Treville and the guardroom of the Louvre with the ac-counts of his loves.

An old proverb says, "Like master, like man." Mousqueton, the valet of Porthon

Mousqueton, the valet of Porthos, was a Norman. Porthos had doublets for Mousqueton cut out of his old

for Mousqueton cut out of his old clothes and cast off cloaks, and, thanks to a very intelligent tailor, Mousqueton made a very good figure when attending on his master.

As for Aramis, who intended to enter the church some day, his lackey was called Bazin. He was from thirty-five to forty years of age, mild, peaceable, sleek, employing the leisure his master left him in the perusal of plous works, providing rigorously for two a dinner of few dishes, but excellent. For the rest he was dumb, blind and deaf and of unimpeachable idelity.

in two steps of the Luxembourg. His apartments consisted of two small chambers, very nicely fitted up, in furnished house, the hostess of whi still young and still really handson cast tender giances uselessly at him. Some fragments of great past splender appeared here and there upon the walls of this modest lodging. A sword, for example, richly damascend which belonged by the company of the c ed, which belonged by its make to the times of Francis I., the hilt of which alone, incrusted with precious stones, might be worth 200 pistoles and

which nevertheless in his moments of which nevertheless in his moments of greatest distress Athoe had never pledged or offered for sale. Porthos lived in apartments large in size and of a very sumptuous appear-ance in the Rue du Vieux-Colombier. But he was never to be found at home, and he never invited anybody to go up with him.

to go up with him.

With regard to D'Artagnan, we know how he was lodged, and we have already made acquaintance with his lackey, Master Planchet.

As to Aramis, he dwelt in a little lodging composed of a bonder, an est-

ing room and a bedroom, which room, situated, as the others were, on the ground floor, looked out doon a little fresh, green garden, shady and im-

"A musketeer for a time, my friend as the cardinal says, a musketeer against my will, but a churchman at eve me. Athos and Porth heart, believe me. Athos and Porthos dragged me into this to occupy me. I had at the mement of being ordained a little difficulty with— But that would not interest you, and I am taking up your valuable time," said Aramis.

"Oh, not at all; it interests me very much," cried D'Artagnan, "and at this moment I have absolutely nothing to do."

peat," answered Aramis, "then some verses to compose which Mme. d'Al-guillon begged of me. Then I must go to Rue St. Honore in order to pur-chase some rouge for Mme. de. Che vreuse, so you see, my dear friend, that if you are not in a hurry, I am." And Aramis held out his hand in a cordial manner to his young compan-

ion and took leave of him.

Notwithstanding all the pains he took D'Artagnan was unable to learn any more concerning his young friends.

He formed, therefore, the resolution of believing in the present all that was said of their past, hoping for more certain and extended revelations certain and ex from the future. In the me looked upon Athos as an Achilles, thos as an Ajax and Aramis as a

As to the rest, the life of our four As to the rest, the life of our four young friends was joyous enough. Athos played, and that generally unfortunately. Nevertheless he never horrowed a sou of his companions, sithough his purse was ever at their service, and when he had played upon honor be always awakened his creditor by 6 o'clock the next morning to pay the debt of the preceding evening. Forthos played by fits. On the days

purse.

As to Aramis he never played. He was the worst musketeer and the most unconvivial companion imaginable. He had always something or other to do.

Sometimes in the midst of dinner, when every one, under the attraction of wine and in the warmth of conversation, be lieved they had two or three hours The Interior of "The Musketsers."

HEN D'Artagnan was out of the Louvre and consulted his friends Athes advised him to order a good repast at the Pomme de Pin, Porthos told him to engage a lackey and Aramis advised him to provide himself with a suitable mistress.

The repast was carried into effect that very day, and the lackey waited at table. The repast had been ordered by Athos and the lackey furnished by Porthos. He was a Picard named Planchet, whom the glorious musketer had picked up on the bridge De is Tournelle, making his rounds and spitting in the water. The servant of Porthos was named Mouqueton.

Athos, on his part, had a valet when Athos, on his part, had a valet when and the ward of the reversible when the glorious musketer than the many his friends. On their side the three musketeers became much attached to their young comrade. In the meanwhile the promises of M. de Treville went on prosperously. One said around the lackey when the glorious musketer than the midst of a world quite new to him, fell easily into the habits of his friends. On their side the three musketeers became much attached to their young comrade. In the meanwhile the promises of M. de Treville went on prosperously. One said a valet when the grown and the lackey waited to their young comrade.

him into some snare."

"But you have seen him?".
"Yes, my wife pointed him out to mone day."

"Has he anything remarkable about him by which he may be recognized?"
"Oh, certainly! He is a noble of very

lofty carriage, black hair, swarthy com-plexion, piercing eye, white teeth and a scar on his temple."

"A scar on his temple," cried D'Ar-

"A scar on his temple," cried D'Ar-tagnan, "and with that white teeth, a piercing eye, dark complexion, black hair and haughty carriage! Why, that's my man of Meung! Have you no in-formation respecting his dwelling?"

"From whom did you learn the ab-

fuction of your wife?"
"From M. Laporte, and I have re-

"What?"
"I fear I am committing a great in

prudence."
"You still keep harping upon that,

"I do not retreat!" cried the bour-

name is familiar to me."
"Very possible, monsieur. I am your

landlord. And as it is three months since you came and, engaged, as you must be, in your important occupations, you have forgotten to pay me my rent.

As, I say, I have not tormented you a single instant, I thought you would ap-

The bourgeols took a paper from his

ocket and presented it to D'Artagnan "A letter?" said the young man.
"Milch I received this morning."
"Do not seek for your wife," read
D'Artagnan. "She will be restored to

you when there is no longer occasion for her. If you make a single step to find her you are lost."
"That's pretty positive," continued D'Artagnan, "but, after all, it is but a

"Yes, but that threat terrifles me. I am not a man of the sword at all monsieur, and I am afraid of the Bas-

monsieur, and I am afraid of the Bas-tille. I have depended upon you on this occasion, monsieur."

"Seeing you constantly surround

by musketeers of a very superb ap-pearance and knowing that these mus-

were consequently enemies of the car-dinal, I thought that you and your

friends, while rendering justice to our

poor queen, would not be displeased

poor queen, would not be impleased to having an apportunity of giving his minence an fil turn."
"Without doubt."
"And then I thought that, owing me

three months' rent, which I have said nothing about"—
"Yes, yes; you have already given me that reason, and I find it excellent."

"Reckoning still further that as lon

as you do me the honor to remain in my house I shall never name to you

your future rent. And adding to

this, if there be need of it, meaning to offer you 50 pistoles if against all prob-ability you should be short at the pres-

"Admirable! But you are rich, then

"I am comfortably off, monsieur, that's all. But"— cried the bourgeels.

"In the street, fronting your win-flow, in the embrasure of that door—a

"It is he!" cried D'Artagnan and the ourgeois at the same time, baving

ach recognized his man.
"Ah, this time," cried D'Artagnan,

springing to his sword—"this time be

loss not escape mer.

Drawing his sword from the sheath, the rushed out of the apartment.

On the staircase he met Athon and

Porthos, who were coming to see him. They separated, and D'Artagnan rush-ed between them like lightning.

"Where are you going?" cried the two musketeers in a breath.

"The man of Meung!" replied D'Ar-tignan and disappeared. D'Artagnan had more than once re-lated to his friends his adventure with

lated to his friends his adventure with the unknown. When they entered D'Artagnan's chamber it was empty. The landlord, dreading the conse-quences of the encounter which was doubtless about to take place between the young man and the unknown, had judged it most prudent to decamp.

T the expiration of half an hou D'Artagnan returned. He had this time again missed h

While D'Artagnan was running through the streets and knocking a doors Aramis had joined his comparions, so that on returning home D'A

as if by enchantment.

D'Artagnan returned. He had this time again missed his man, who had disappeared

"What!" demanded D'Artagnan.

"Whom do I see yonder?"

an enveloped in a cloak."

"By the word of Bo

"Besides, by the word of Bo

"None."

ceived"-

he had trained in his service in a perfectly peculiar fashion and who was named Grimand. He was very tellurar, was Athos. During the five or six years that he had lived in the strictest inthings with his companious, Pothos and Aramis, they could remember having often seen him smile, but had never heard him laugh. His words were brief and expressive.

Although Athos was scarcely thirty

le Treville went on prosperously. One find morning the king commanded M. le Chevalier Dessessart to admit D'Artagnan, with a sigh, donned his uniform, which he would have exchanged for that of a musketest at the expense of ten years of his existence. But M. de Treville promised this favor after a novitiate of two years, a novitiate which might, besides, be shridened to the promise of M. de Treville went on prosperously. One find morning the king commanded M. le Chevalier Dessessart to admit D'Artagnan, with a sigh, donned his uniform, which he would have exchanged for that of a musketest at the expense of ten years of his existence. But M. de Treville promises of M. de Treville went on prosperously. One find morning the king commanded M. le Chevalier Dessessart to admit D'Artagnan, with a sigh, donned his uniform, which he would have exchanged for that of a musketest at the expense of ten years of his existence. But M. de Treville promises of M. de Treville went on prosperously. One find morning the king commanded M. le Chevalier Dessessart to admit D'Artagnan, with a sigh, donned his uniform, which he would have exchanged for that of a musket-eer at the expense of ten years of his existence. But M. de Treville promises of the morning the king mo

ised, this favor after a novitiate of two years, a novitiate which might, besides, be abridged if an opportunity should present itself for D'Artagnan to reader the king any signal service.

The 40 pistoles of King Louis XIII., like all other things of this world, after having had a beginning had an end, and after this end our four companions began to be somewhat embarrassed. At first Athos supported the association began to be somewhat embarrassed. At first Athos, supported the association for a time with his own means. Porthos succeeded him, and, thanks to one of these disappearances to which he was accustomed, he was able to provide for the wants of all for a fortnight. At last, it became Aramis' turn, who performed it with a good grace and who succeeded as he said, by selling some theological books, in procuring a few pistoles.

They then, as they had been accustomed to do, had recourse to M. de Treville, who made some advances on their pay, but these advances could not go far with three musketeers who were already much in arrears and a were already much in arrears and a guard who as yet had no pay at all.
D'Artagnan fancied himself a burden to the society, forgetting in his perfectly juvenile good faith that he had fed this society for a month, and he set his mind actively to work.
One afternoon he was thinking alone and seriously reciting his brain to find

and seriously racking his brain to find one tapped gently at his door. D'Arta-gnan desired Planchet to go and see who was there. A man was introduced of a commo mien, with the appearance of a bour

Planchet would have liked to hear the conversation, but the bourgeois de-clared to D'Artagnan that, that which he had to say being important and confidential, he desired to be left alone with him.

with him.

D'Artagnan dismissed Planchet and requested his visitor to be seated. There was a moment of silence, during which the two men looked at each other, as if to make a preliminary acquaintance, after which D'Artagnan bowed as a sign that he was attentive.

quaintance, after which D'Artagnan bowed as a sign that he was attentive. "I have heard speak of M. d'Artagnan as of a very brave young man," said the bourgeols, "and this reputation which he justly enjoys has determined me to confide a secret to him. I have a wife who is seamstress to the queen, monsieur, and who is not deficient in either good conduct or beauty. I was induced to marry her about three years ago. although she about three years ago, although she had but very little dowry, because M Laporte, the queen's cloak bearer, is her godfather and patronizes her." "Well, monsieur?" asked D'Arta

gnan."
"Well," resumed the bourgeois. well, monsieur, my wife was carried off yesterday morning as she was coming out of her workroom." "And by whom was your wife car-

ded off? "I know nothing certain shout the

"And who is the person you sus "A man who pursued her a long time ago. But allow me to tell you.

eur, that I am convinced th there is less love than policy in all "Less love than policy," replie

D'Artignan, with a very serious air.

"and what do you suspect?"

"I do not know whether I ought to
sell you what I suspect, but I will
place confidence in you. I believe,
then, that love has nothing to do with
the carrying off of my wife as regards the carrying off of my wife as regards heralt, out that it has been done on account of the amours of a much greater lady than she is."

"Ah, ah! Can it be on account of

the amours of Mms. de Bois-Tracy," said D'Artagnan, wishing to have the air in the eyes of the hourgeois of be

'Higher-much bigber."

"Of the"— D'Artagnan stopped.
"Yes, monsieur," replied the terrified courgeois, in a tone so low that he

"With whom can it be if not with the "The duke of"-"Yes, monsieur," replied the bour cois, giving a still lower intonation t

"But how do you know all this?"
"I know it from my wife, mousier from my wife herself."
"Who knows it—she herself."

"From M. Laporte, who placed her near her majesty in order that our poor queen might at least have some one in whom she could place confi-dence, abandoned as abe is by the king. dence, abandoned as she is by the king, watched as she is by the cardinal, be-trayed as she is by everybody. Now, my wife came home four days ago, monsteur. One of her conditions was that she should come and see me twice a week. She confided to me that the devis in person. He am disappeared like a phanton, like a shade, like a specter. His flight has caused us to miss a glorious ariar, gentlemen, an affair by which there were 100 pistoles

and perhaps more to be gained."

He then related to his friends, word for word, all that had passed between him and his landlord and how the man who had carried off the wife of his queen at this very moment entertained great fears."
"Indeed!"
"Yes. M. le Cardinal, as it appears. worthy landlord was the same with whom he had had a difference at the hostelry of the Franc-Meunler. "Your affair is not a bad one," said pursues her and persecutes her more than ever. And the queen believes that some one has written to the Duke of Buckingham in her name."
"In the queen's name?"
"Yes; to make him come to Paris and when once come to Paris to draw

"Your affair is not a bad one," said Athos, "and 50 or 60 pistoles may be got out of this good man."
"But please to observe," cried D'Artigana, "that there is a woman in the affair, a woman carried off, a woman who is doubtless threatened, dearning replana, and all because she

woman wao is doubtiess threatened, tortured perhaps, and all because she is faithful to her mistress."
"Boware, D'Artagnan, beware," said Aramis, "you grow a little too warm, in my opinion, about the fats of Mme.

"Her devotion to the queen is known, and they wish either to remove her from her mistress or to intimidate her in order to obtain her majesty's secrets or to make use of her as a spy."

"That is all very probable," said-D'Artagnan, "but the man who has carried her off-do you know him?"

"I do not know him save that he is a creature of the cardinal's—his agent." At this speech of Aramis the brow of Athos became clouded, and he bit his

Athos became clouded, and he bit his fips.

"It is not Mme, Bonacieux about whom I am anxious," cried D'Artagnan, "but the queen, whom the king abandons, whom the cardinal persecutes and who sees the heads of all her friends fall one after the other. If I knew where the Duke of Buckingham was I would take him by the hand and conduct him to the queen were it only to enrage the cardinal."

"And did the mercer." rejoined Athos, "tell you, D'Artagnan, that the queen thought that Buckingham had been brought over by a forged letter?"

een brought over by a forged letter?"
"She is afraid so." "Gentlemen," cried Aramis, "yester-day I was at the house of a doctor of theology whom I sometimes consult about my studies." Athos smiled.

profession require it. Now, at the mo ment that I left his house'

ment that I left his house"—
Here Aramis stopped.
"Well," cried his auditors; "at the
moment you left his house?"
"This doctor has a niece," continued.
Aramis. "She comes sometimes to see
her uncle, and by chance was there
yesterday at the same time that I was,
and I could do no less than offer to

and I could do no less than offer to conduct her to her carriaga."

"Oh, oh! Then this niece of the doctor's keeps a carriags, does she?" interrupted Porthos, one of whose faults was a great incontinence of tongue. "A very nice acquaintance, my friend!" "Gentlemen, gentlemen," eried D'Artagnan, who began to get a glimpse of the result of the adventure, "the thing is serious; endeavor, then, not to joke, if possible. Go on Aramis, go on."

"All at once a tail, dark gentlemanjust like yours, D'Artagnan, came to

"All at once a tall, dark gentleman-just like yours, D'Artagnan, came to-ward me, accompanied by five or six men, who followed at about ten paces behind him, and in the politest tone 'Monsleur the Duke,' said, he to me, 'and you, madame,' continued he, ad-dressing the lady who had hold of my arm, be so kind as to get into this car-riage, and that without offering the slightest resistance or making the least noise."

"He took you for Buckingham?" cried D'Artagnan.
"I believe so," replied Aramia.
"But the lady?" asked Porthos.

"He took her for the queen!" said

"Just so," replied Aramis.
"The fact is," said Porthos, "Aramic is of the same beight and something of the shape of the duke, but it never-theless appears to me that the uniform of a musketeer"—
"I wore a very large cloak," said

Aramis.
"In the month of July," said Porthos. "Is the doctor afraid you should be recognized?"
"I can comprehend that the spy may have been deceived by the person, but the face"...
"I had a very large hat on," said Aramis.

"Oh!" cried Porthos. "What precsutions to study theology!"
"Gentlemen, gentlemen," said D'Ar-

lo not let us l jesting; let us separate and let us seek the mercer's wife. That is the key of

ength to listen.



"It is hel" oried D'A

place make a bargain with the mercer and a good bargain too," "That's useless," said D'Artagnan "for I believe if he does not pay us

At this moment a sudden noise of footsteps was heard upon the stairs, the door was throw releasily open, and the unfortunate mercer rushed

rormos and Aramis arose.

"A moment!" cried D'Artagnan, making them a sign to replace their half drawn swords. "On this occasion we don't require courage. We must exercise prudence."

At this moment the four guards appeared at the door of the antecham-

peared at the door of the antechamber, but, seeing four musketeers standing and their swords by their sides, they hesitated to advance farther.

"Gentlemen, you will not oppose our executing the orders we have received?" asked the one who appeared to be the leader of the party.

"On the contrary, gentlemen, we would assist you if it were necessary."

"But you promised me." said the

"But you promised me," said the poor mercer in a very low voice.
"We can only save you by being free ourselves," replied D'Artagnan in a rapid, low tone, "and if we appear inclined to defend you they will arrest

inclined to defend you they will arrest us with you."
"It seems, nevertheless"—
"Come in gentlemen, come in!" said D'Artagnan. "I have no motive for defending monsieur. I saw him teday for the first time, and he can tell you on what occasion. He came to demand the rent of my lodging. Is not that true, M. Bonacleux? Answer!"
"That's the very truth!" order the "That's the very truth!" cried the mercer, "but monsieur does not tell you"—

"Silence with respect to me; silence with respect to my friends; silence about the queen above all, or you will ruin everybody without saving your self. Now, gentlemen, you are at liberty to take away this man!"

And D'Artagnan pushed the half stupefied mercer among the guards, saying to him:

"You are a shabby old fellow, my dear. You come to demand money of me, of a musketeer! To prison with him! Gentlemen, once more, take him to prison and keep him under key as long as possible. That will give me "Silence with respect to me; silence

long as possible. That will give me time to pay him."

time to pay him."

The guardsmen were full of thanks and left with their prey.

"And now, gentlemen," said D'Artagnan without stopping to explain his conduct, "all for one, one for all, that is our device, is it no?"

The four friends represented with one

The four friends repeated with one voice the formula dictated by D'Arta-

voice the formula dictated by D'Artagnan.

"All for one, one for all."

"That's well! Now let every one retire to his own home," said D'Artagnan as if he half done nothing but
command all his life. "And attention!
For from this moment we are at feud.

"th' the servicul."

For from this moment we are at four with the cardinal."
When in a house of whatever kind it may be an individual suspected of any crime be arrested the arrest is held secret. Four or five men are placed in ambuscade in the first apartment, the door is opened to all that knock, it is closed after them and they are arrested, so that at the end of two or three days they have in their power almost all the familiars of the establishment. And that is a mouse trap.

The apartment of Master Bonacieux

And that is a mouse trap.

The spartment of Master Bonacleux became a mouse trap, and whoever appeared there was taken and integrogated by the cardinal's people. It must be observed that as a private passage led to the first floor, in which D'Artagnan lodged, those who called to see him were exempted from this.

Besides, nobody came thither but the three musketers. They had all

the three musketeers. They had all been engaged in earnest search and inquiries, but had discovered nothing. As to D'Artagnan, he did not stir from his apartment. He converted his chamber into an observatory. From his windows he saw all come who were caught; then, having removed some of the boarding of his floor and nothing remaining but a simple ceiling between him and the room beneath, in which the interrogatories were made, he heard all that passed between the in-quisitors and the accused.

"Has Mme. Bonacleux sent anything to you for her husband or any other

thing they would not question people in this manner," said D'Artagnan to self. "Now, what is it the had or is not to have some interview

with the queen?"

On the evening of the day after the arrest of poor Bonacleux a knocking was heard at the street door; the door was instantly opened and shut. Some one was taken in the mouse trap. D'Artaguan flew to his bole and laid of down on the floor at full

Cries were soon heard and then means, which some one appeared to be indexvering to stifle. There were no nterrogatories.
"It's a woman. They are searching her. She resists. They use force. The secondreis!" said D'Artagnan to him-

"But I tell you that I am mistress of the house, gentlemen! I tell you I am Mine. Bonacleux! I tell you I belong to the queen!" said the unfortunate

agnan. "Can I have been so lucky as to have found what everybody is

Is to never the seeking for?"

The voice became more and more indistinct. A tumultuous movement shoot
the wainscoting. The victim resisted

"They are binding her, they are go ing to drag her away!" cried D'Arta

"Monsieur."
"Run and seek Athos, Porthos and kramis. One of the three will certain. y be at home; parhaps all three are Tell them to arm, to come nere, and ne quick! Ah, I remember. Athor is at d. de Treville's.' "But where are you going, mor

where are you going?"
"I am going down by the window order to be there the sooner," cris order to be there the somer," cried D'Artagnan. "On your part put back the boards, sweep the door, go out at the door and run where t bid you." The knocker had scarcely sounded under the hand of D'Artagnan than

the tumuit ceased, steps approaches, the door was opened and D'Artagnan, sword in hand, rushed into the apartment of Master Bonacieux, the door of which, doubtless acted upon by a spring, closed after him.

Then those who dwelt in Bonacieux's sunfortunate house, together with the

Then those who dwelt in Bonacieux's unfortunate house, together with the nearest neighbors, heard loud cries, stamping of feet, clashing of swords and breaking of furniture. Then, a moment after, four men clothed in black flew out of the door.

D'Artagnan was conquerer without much trouble it must be confessed, for only one of the policemen was armed and defended himself for form's sake.

On being left alone with Mme. Bonacieux D'Artagnan turned toward her. The poor woman reclined, where she had been left, upon an armchair in a half fainting state. D'Artagnan examined her with a rapid but an earnest glance. nest glance.

nest giance.

She was a charming woman of about twenty-five years of age, with dark hair, blue eyes and a nose elightly turned up, admirable teeth and a complexion marbled with rose and opsi. There, however, stopped the signs which might have confounded her with

which might have confounded her with a lady of rank. The hands were white, but without delicacy; the feet did not bespeak the woman of quality. While D'Artagnan was examining Mine. Bonacieux and was, as we have said, close to her, he saw on the ground a fine cambric handkerchief, which he mechanically picked up and at the cor-ner of which he recognized the same cipher that he had seen on the hands. cipher that be had seen on the ham kerchief which had nearly caused hi and Aramis to cut each other's threat



Send for sample copies. From Tast time D'Artagnan flad bee

cautious with respect to handkerchiefs with arms on them, and he therefore placed the one he had just picked up in Mme. Bonacleux's pocket. At that moment Mm

At that moment Mme. Bonacleux recovered her senses.

"Ab, monsieur," said she. "You have
saved me. Permit me to thank you."

"Madame," said D'Artagnan, "I have
only done what every gentleman would
have done in my place. You owe me no
thanks."

Oh, yes, monsiour; oh, yes, and I hope to prove to you that you have not served an ingrate. But what could these men, whom I at first took for robbers, want with me, and why is M. robbers, want with me, and why is M. Bonacieux not here?"
"Madame, those men were much more dangerous than any robbers could have been, for they are the agents of M. le Cardinal, and as to your husband,

person?

"Has M. Bonacleux sent anything to be was yesterday evening taken away

flided over the still

of the young woman.
"What has he done, madame?" said D'Artagnan. "I believe that his ouly crime is to have at the same time the good fortune and the misfortune to be your husband." "But, monsieur, you know then"-

"I know that you have been carried off, madame."
"And by whom? Do you know? Oh "By a man of from forty to forty-five years of age, with black hair, a dark

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

First Housewife-I hope you never nag your husband.
Second Housewife—Only when he's
beating the rugs. When thoroughly irritated he makes a much better job of tt.-Pathfinder.

Little drops of nonsens Little grains of verse,
Little grains of verse,
Keep the pessimistic world
From growing any worse,

—Judge.

"How well you are looking! Yes. I am a vegetarian. "That settles it. I shall never ea neat again. How long have you beet

"I begin tomorrow,"—Meggene

"Saw two famous bad men come "Both killed?" "Both killed?"
"Nobody killed. You can't talk a man to death."—Kansas City Journal

Maude—Did you say I painted? Marie—No; I said you powdered. Mande—Ah, well, that puts an complexion on the matter—Tetler

Wareham Long-Wot's a germic Tuffold Knutt—He's a man wot kill a German. Your blamed igneranc makes me tired.—Chicago Tribune.

The manager, with seanty gles. Had heard the prima donna t

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