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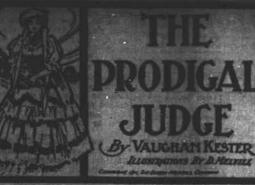
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ioning before Betty heard of the athors exidited and was soon out on
the river road with a groom in her
wake. Betty never free rein until
the reached Tricket Point. As she
sallood into the ward Bruce Carringtox came from the hause.

"How is Mr. Norton?" she saind,
criseding her hand.

"The doctor eays he'll be up and
about inside of a weak. If you'll wait
I'll tell him you are here."
Chirington passed on into the
house. He cutered the room where
Norton lay.

"Miss Mairoy is here," he said.

"Betty t—bless her dear heart!"
cried Chairiey weakly. "Just toss my
a chair. There—thank you,
a thir. There—thank you,
And as Carrington quitted the room,
Norton drew himself up on the plilows and faced the door. "This is
worth several bestings, Betty!" he
exclaimed as she appeared.

He bent to kisa the hand she gave
him, but groaned with the exertion.
These he looked up into her face and
saw her eyes swimming with tears.
"What—tears!" and he was much

CHAPTER XV.

'At the Church Door. Tom found Betty at supper.

"You were over to see Norton, werea't you, Bet? How did you find the"

"The doctor says he will soon be about again."

"Betty, I wish you wouldn't go there again—that's a good gir!!" he said tartfully, and as he conceived it. quickly. Betty ginned up quickly. "Why. Tom, why shouldn't I go there?"

ciliatory in the extreme, he dared not risk a break by any open show of authority.

"You needn't distress yourself, Tom. Indeed know that I shall go there again," said Betty indifferently.

At Thicket Point Charley Norton, greatly excited, hobbled into the library in march of Charlegton. He found him reading by the open window.

"Look here, Brucel" he cried. "It's estied; the's noting to marry me! Charlegton has don't no marry me! Charlegton has doll he hand."

"Carlegton has doll he hand."

"Look here, Brucel" he cried. "It's estied; the's noting to marry me! Charlegton has doll not hand.

"Look here, Brucel" he cried. "It's look not going to take any raise not going to take any raise not going to marry me! No. The fee here away from Belle risk and the state has the state of the state of the hand.

The to be soon, then't Corrington sales our married; it's her what.

"The to be soon, then't Corrington sales our married;"



who seemed to grope strangely among the graves. He had fallen now, fives

"I'm anot—" he said, speakin, difficulty,
"Charley—Charley—" she m slipping her arms about him gathering him to her breast.
He looked up into her face.
"It's all over—" he said, b much in wonder as in fear.

he added in a whisper.

She felt a shudder pass th
him. He did not speak again.

CHAPTER XVI.

The Judge Offers a Reward.
The news of Charley Norton's mur
der spread quickly over the county
For two or three days bands of armed
men scoured the woods and roads
and then this activity quite unpre constituted authorities, named Betts, the sheriff, and his dep No private citizen had greater seal than Judge Slocum One morning he found under hi a folded paper:

You talk too much, you'll go where Norton A few moments later

on Mr. Saul.



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