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The Anna Continue of the control of

BIG TREMAINE

By MARIE VAN VORST

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SYNOPSIS

CIFTEEN years before the story opens, young John Tremaine, a hotheaded, impetuous youth, was sent to Richmond to cash a check for \$10,000. He sends a letter of farewell to his mother and is heard of no more. His mother and brothe make good his shortage with the bank, and through their influence only the family lawyer and the president of the bank know of his disgrace. Bad times come to Riverside, the Tremaine home, and just as it is about to be sold at auction, just as it is about to be sold at auction. John Tremaine unexpectedly returns. Coldness from his mother and frigid politeness from his former friends greet him and his plans for restoring his home and developing its resources.

CHAPTER V.—(Continued)

HEY did not, this evening, play chess, but he took a chair at the breeze there was came to him, heavy ber very well the occasion-as well with the smell of honeysuckle. It was as though it happened yesterday," he

"Isobel tells me that her father will be home next week."

John said to himself: "I dare say it will not be easy to avoid him."

As he spoke, his mother's loyalty was roused for the first time and she resented the fact that there was any one in the world that could give him pain to meet. Neither she herself, nor her husband, nor Judge Tremaine had ever been afraid of any man, and now John dreaded to meet his neighbor. It was bitter. She said slowly:

"Redmond tarely ever comes over. Since he lost his fortune, he has shut himself from us."

After a second, in which she watched acutely his expression, she was surprised to see that he was smiling.

"Malvern is the only man who ever gave me any advice." He knocked window, through which what the ashes from his cigar. "I remem-

Send a Christmas Message

Co-operation and Neighborhood Improvement Special, December 25.

LIOW would you like to send a Christmas message to 200,000 neighbors and have it reach them on Christmas morning? You can. There are no finer Christmas tidings than those of cooperating with neighbors and neighborhood improvement. The Progressive Farmer is going to devote its Christmas issue to this subject, and we want you to send your good word along to the farmers of the Southland.

Cooperation is the big business issue before Southern farmers. Shall we do team work and win?

If you have been working with your neighbor in selling or buying something, tell other farmers about it through the columns of The Progressive Farmer on December

25. That will be a fitting way to show your good will to man.

There is an example of neighborhood improvement in your community. Maybe you have never thought about it as such, but we are willing to predict that it's there. Think it over, and write us briefly of it. If you prefer to combine the two and write us of cooperation and show how it has improved the neighborhood, for it does improve neighborhoods wherever it goes, be sure and get your letter in by December 10.

Our usual cash prizes of \$7.50 for the best letter, \$5 for the second and \$3 for the third will be given. All other letters used will be paid for at space rates.

full moon, and in the warm summer said, still smiling. "Big men don't night the lamps had not been lit, and Mrs. Tremaine saw her son plainly in the white light. She could study I am not a Big man, of course, but him, and it was impossible, she in South Africa I have been rather a thought, that a man such as John figure of a certain kind for the last should not please the most fastidious woman. On this night he wore white trousers and a dinner coat; his black tie and coat and his dark, sleek head were distinct spots in the moonlit room. He was brown as an Indian, ing when I stood before the presi-Already his mysterious past was beginning to be indistinct in the mother's mind; John was emphatically connecting himself with Virginia. How glad she would be to wipe away. from her remembrance the blot upon his name! She cried to herself mentally a thousand times, looking at him at moments in a way she would never let him see: "Oh, John, how could you do it; how could you do it?" And at those times even his charm spoke against him. She called him weak, blamed him bitterly, and hardened her heart.

This night she was longing to ask him the result of the afternoon's prospecting, but she could not bring herself to put direct questions.

John smoked for a little, then asked abruptly:

"When does Malvern come back?" He had shown no interest in the neighborhood, had never asked for any one, and she was surprised.

realize the impression they make on young chaps." He laughed. "Now few years. At all events, no end of people have sought me for one reason or another. Whenever a young fellow came in to ask my advice, I remembered that hot summer morndent of the little bank here.

He saw the keen attention given to him by his listener; he felt the emotion with which his mother heard every word that told of his career.

"I was a hero worshiper, and Malveru was one of my heroes. He had been awfully decent to David and me, but I had never spoken with him in business hours. It is hard to believe that a great big six-footer of a country chap could shake in his boots before the president of a little bank in his own town, but my hands were cold when I handed him the paper he asked me for and waited for further orders."

John smoked. Down in the orchard to the left the nightingales began to sing. Both mother and son listened, and he remembered how often in the heart of Africa he had seemed to hear again that divine music.

He continued: "Malvern, for some curious reason, had done me the honor to observe me, and strangely