

# LOUIS JOSEPH VANCE

(Copyright, by Louis Joseph Vance)

## SYNOPSIS.

After stealing the jewels and the Buzman war plans in London, Michael the thief... After stealing the jewels and the Buzman war plans in London, Michael the thief... After stealing the jewels and the Buzman war plans in London, Michael the thief...

## CHAPTER XX—Continued.

They had to walk as far as the Place de Trocadero before Lanyard found a cab, which he later dismissed at the corner of the Faubourg St. Germain.

Another brief walk brought them to a gate in the garden wall of a residence situated at the junction of two quiet streets.

"This, I think, ends our Parisian wanderings," Lanyard announced. "If you're ready to go, I'll be ready to go with you."

"What are you going to do?" he responded by raising his eyes and that she gasped with surprise, pausing momentarily within a yard of the wall.

"For the last time," Lanyard laughed quietly from the aperture, "I permit me to invite you to break the law by committing an act of trespass."

"Well, it will be. It'll be back as soon as possible, though I may be detained some time. Still, inasmuch as I'm about to break into this house, my motives, which are most commendable, may be misinterpreted, and I'd rather you walked here, with the street at hand."

"I'll wait," she assured him bravely, "but you tell me—"

"With a hand he indicated the mansion towering above them, "I'm going to break in there to pay an interesting morning call and impart some interesting information to a person of considerable consequence and, possibly, less, in fact, than M. Ducroy."

"The present minister of War, we have as yet had no pleasure in meeting other's acquaintance, still I think he won't be sorry to see me. In brief, I mean to make him a present of the Buzman plans and the dignity of an aide-de-camp for us both from France."

"Impulsively she offered her hand when he somewhat diffidently took it, and she gave him a firm, compelling pressure with her own."

"Be careful! she whispered brokenly, her pale, sweet face upturned to his. "Oh, do be careful! I am afraid for you."

"And for a moment the temptation to see her in his arms seemed stronger than any he had ever known."

CHAPTER XXI.

Station and Departure.

paper, to which extraordinarily complicated and minute designs had been transferred—strongly resembling laborious efforts to conventionalize a spider's web.

"But no sooner had M. Ducroy to be started violently, uttered an exclamation and subjected the papers to an examination both prolonged and exacting."

"Monsieur, I do not doubt you called," Lanyard inquired, when his bewilderment no longer.

"Here," Lanyard said, indicating a second cigarette.

"I am, monsieur—simply as concerns the matter."

"I am, monsieur—simply as concerns the matter."

"I am, monsieur—simply as concerns the matter."

"I am, monsieur—simply as concerns the matter."

"I am, monsieur—simply as concerns the matter."

"I am, monsieur—simply as concerns the matter."

"I am, monsieur—simply as concerns the matter."

"I am, monsieur—simply as concerns the matter."

"I am, monsieur—simply as concerns the matter."

"I am, monsieur—simply as concerns the matter."

"I am, monsieur—simply as concerns the matter."

"I am, monsieur—simply as concerns the matter."

"What is your answer?" "A remarkable answer."

"Very well," Lanyard bent forward again, took a match from the stand on the bedside table, and struck it.

"Gone?" he asked. "Mademoiselle? Your sweetheart, eh?"

"Lanyard assented with a disconcerted look, impatiently Ducroy caught him by the sleeve."

"Come!" he insisted, tugging—"come at once into the house. Now, monsieur—"

"Lanyard assented with a disconcerted look, impatiently Ducroy caught him by the sleeve."

"Come!" he insisted, tugging—"come at once into the house. Now, monsieur—"

"Lanyard assented with a disconcerted look, impatiently Ducroy caught him by the sleeve."

"Come!" he insisted, tugging—"come at once into the house. Now, monsieur—"

"Lanyard assented with a disconcerted look, impatiently Ducroy caught him by the sleeve."

"Come!" he insisted, tugging—"come at once into the house. Now, monsieur—"

"Lanyard assented with a disconcerted look, impatiently Ducroy caught him by the sleeve."

"Come!" he insisted, tugging—"come at once into the house. Now, monsieur—"

"Lanyard assented with a disconcerted look, impatiently Ducroy caught him by the sleeve."

"Come!" he insisted, tugging—"come at once into the house. Now, monsieur—"

"Lanyard assented with a disconcerted look, impatiently Ducroy caught him by the sleeve."

CHAPTER XXII.

Enigma.

Lanyard had found no reason to believe that Lucy had left him otherwise than voluntarily.

"Permit me," he said, "to acknowledge the honor of monsieur's confidence."

"Lanyard bowed low and gravely said: 'One knows with whom one deals, monsieur! And now, if you will be good enough to excuse me—'"

"Lanyard bowed low and gravely said: 'One knows with whom one deals, monsieur! And now, if you will be good enough to excuse me—'"

"Lanyard bowed low and gravely said: 'One knows with whom one deals, monsieur! And now, if you will be good enough to excuse me—'"

"Lanyard bowed low and gravely said: 'One knows with whom one deals, monsieur! And now, if you will be good enough to excuse me—'"

"Lanyard bowed low and gravely said: 'One knows with whom one deals, monsieur! And now, if you will be good enough to excuse me—'"

"Lanyard bowed low and gravely said: 'One knows with whom one deals, monsieur! And now, if you will be good enough to excuse me—'"

"Lanyard bowed low and gravely said: 'One knows with whom one deals, monsieur! And now, if you will be good enough to excuse me—'"

"Lanyard bowed low and gravely said: 'One knows with whom one deals, monsieur! And now, if you will be good enough to excuse me—'"

"Lanyard bowed low and gravely said: 'One knows with whom one deals, monsieur! And now, if you will be good enough to excuse me—'"

"Lanyard bowed low and gravely said: 'One knows with whom one deals, monsieur! And now, if you will be good enough to excuse me—'"

"Lanyard bowed low and gravely said: 'One knows with whom one deals, monsieur! And now, if you will be good enough to excuse me—'"

"Lanyard bowed low and gravely said: 'One knows with whom one deals, monsieur! And now, if you will be good enough to excuse me—'"

CHAPTER XXIII.

No Solution.

Because his money was fast ebbing and motives of prudence alone—if to replace the lost money—

Because his money was fast ebbing and motives of prudence alone—if to replace the lost money—

Because his money was fast ebbing and motives of prudence alone—if to replace the lost money—

Because his money was fast ebbing and motives of prudence alone—if to replace the lost money—

Because his money was fast ebbing and motives of prudence alone—if to replace the lost money—

Because his money was fast ebbing and motives of prudence alone—if to replace the lost money—

Because his money was fast ebbing and motives of prudence alone—if to replace the lost money—

Because his money was fast ebbing and motives of prudence alone—if to replace the lost money—

Because his money was fast ebbing and motives of prudence alone—if to replace the lost money—

Because his money was fast ebbing and motives of prudence alone—if to replace the lost money—

Because his money was fast ebbing and motives of prudence alone—if to replace the lost money—

Because his money was fast ebbing and motives of prudence alone—if to replace the lost money—

Because his money was fast ebbing and motives of prudence alone—if to replace the lost money—

Because his money was fast ebbing and motives of prudence alone—if to replace the lost money—

## WOMAN CONVICTED AS LAZY HUSBAND

Mrs. Gaffney for Years Did Not Know That Her Husband Was a Female.



Wife Was Most Surprised of All.

When she was ordered to the stockade, she pleaded that she be given another form of punishment, declaring that the work would be too hard for her. It was then that she admitted that she was a woman.

"I didn't know 'Robert' was a woman," said Margaret.

"Robert," explaining her reasons for marrying her wife, declared that "Mary" had a good share and wanted to give Margaret a home.

Mitchell Gets \$10 From Saloonkeeper for Loss of Partner's Hat.

Cartersville, Mo.—For the loss of the right side of a fine moustache, Mitchell had cultivated for nearly fifteen years and which, it is said, was long enough to brush against the collar.

Mitchell had been in the saloon only a few minutes when a lotterer slipped off his moustache. Mitchell threatened to sue the saloonkeeper.

FIGHTS COYOTE OVER BED

Rancher Saves Wife and Child From Mad Coon's Clutches

Waco, Ore.—Standing on the bed on which his wife and child were sleeping, a rancher, seeing the hind end of a shotgun aimed at the smiling jaws of a mad coyote and stammered: "There, he beat it! He beat it! He beat it!"

Garretted Bank Lost Fortune.