TWICE MISTAKEN. Christmas Eve. Half-past nine

Crumms comes into my room to clear "I suppose, sir," he says, as though it were a subject not admitting of a doubt —"I suppose you don't dine home to-

morrow. Both the tone and remark are unfortunate. I have not an invitation to dine out, and I cannot insist upon dining at home, as my arrangement with the Crummess provides for dinner on Sundays only. I had intended to put my difficulty to my landlady, who is good natured and easily presuaded. I find, instead, I have her husband to deal with, so I close my book slowly and say, "Weil," as if I were thinking, and bot online certain. and not quite certain.

hear what I had to say; not so her husband. He looks surprised at my heatation, and quickly puts in a cleucher.
"Most gentlemen dine out on Christmas day," he says, staring at the wall some feet above my head; "and Mrs. Crumms always expects a holiday on

that day." I feel after that statement the only thing to be done is to surrender gracefully. "Of course; quite right. O yes! I shall

"Yery well, sir," he replies, in a tone as if he never had raised the question, but was simply taking an order in his own capacity of hotel waiter, "Anything else, sir? Good night, sir."

Then Crumma rose down stairs tri-

Then Crumms goes down stairs tri-umphant, and I doubly regret having stayed in town instead of going home, since I shall have to get my solitary Cristmas dinner at a London hotel. Christmas-day. Mrs. Crumms this time brings in my breakfast. She has a large apron pinned over the front of her dress and her sleeves are tucked up which mean, with her, cooking. As I hope you'il enjoy yourself, sir," she adds; "for I am sure you want a holl-

day, with your sitting here reading to all hours of the night." She means it kindly and notat a hint. I pay for my own coals and candlesfor the former particularly, they being supplied by the Crummaes so I thank her for her good wishes. I don't action pate much enjoyment; on the contrary, I am at a loss to know what to do with myself, and heartily wish the day was

One o'clock. I see through the window, as I come back from church, that the Crummses are at high dinner. Crumms himself is in his shirt-sleeves and on his legs, and looks very much as if he were making a speech. There are cries of "Bravo, pal" and a great deal of laughas I knock. One of the smallest of the No restrictions on residence or travel in any small Crummses comes to the door, with her little cheeks and chin bearing un-mistaxable signs of pudding. She just peeps out to see who it is, and then simpers away, as if afraid of losing some of the good things in the pariot. For this want of respect to the lodger I hear her mamma rebuke her sternly, and then Crumms says, "Never mind, mother; nobody is naughty on Christmas day." Rounds of applause. I go up stairs, and "pa" proceeds with his

Two o'clock. I ring the bell for some ho water, and Crumms answers it in full waiting dress, white tie, dress coat, and a low-cut waistcoat, showing a large amount of shirt-front with an elaborate frill. He walks into the room as, if he is very proud of himself, and is more waiter-like in his manner than usual. "Hot water to wash with, air. sir." Disappears and reappears with the Jug, which he sets down on the table. Why, Crumms," I sek, "where are

minute, then becomes less majestic and more confidential. "I always go out waiting on Christmas day, "he adds," and I have been to the same house for the last fourteen years. The gentleman and lady are a couple as came to the Crown at Newford the year I married Mrs. Crumms. We were both at the hotel, you know, and were just leaving to come up here. The lady took a great liking to Mrs. Crumms, and one day she said to me, "So you and your wife are going up to London, Crumms, Now you must come and wait at my house when we want help." And I have when we want help." And I have been there every Christmas day since then—not missed one. I go on other days"—he says this quickly in an off hand manner, as if the other days were of no importance—"but they ain'i regu-

"You go there and help wait, I sup-"Well, I do most of the waiting; all of it, you may say," he replies. "They don't keep a man, and there are only the female servants. They ain't much good, not like Mrs. Crumms. She could walt, she could. She was wonderful

handy. That's what first made me look "And where do you go?" I inquire. "Bedford Square. Domville is the gentleman's name." On the spur of the moment, just to They are really what their name indicates, see what Crumms will say, I ask, "Will sure in the market, and for

you take me with you to day?"

"Yee, sir!" he replies in surprise.

"Weil—really, sir, I don't think Mr.
Domville would—though I have known him these fourteen years, I am afraid he'd think it rather presumptuous of me to introduce a gentleman into his

"I suppose so," I answer; the idea of the waiter introducing a friend as a guest at the dinner being certainly very abourd. "But I didn't mean that. Take

"and I could go as a young friend of yours, who is just beginning and wants to learn his business."

"Lord, sir," pants Crumms again,
"you slo't serious."
"By Jove, I am, though, I say, I
don't know what on earth to do with
myself all day. I should like to go out

Crumms' laughter, which is very protengud and loud, and accompanies with
a great deal of coughing and wheeling—
for he is rather stout—brings his wife
up the stairs and finally into my room.
She begs my pardon for the intrusion,
and then turns to her husband.

"Crumms," she says, "you mustn't
excite yourself. Remember you are going out waiting."

"Yes, yes, my dear; I remember," he answers as soon as he recovers his breath. "But here is Mr. Herbert wanting to go out waiting."

"Mr. Herbert!, says my landindy, surprised in her turn.

"Yes, Mr. Herbert," repeats Crumms; and his laughter bursts out again like a semoniding fire.

I immediately began to enlist Mrs. Crumms on my side. She is a marry, good-natured woman, with rather a partiality to "wild young gents," as she calls them, and is lond of telling tales about the young fillows round here foul when she was at the Grewn hotel. There isn't anything particularly wrong

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"Out waiting, sir." He pauses for a A. J. JONASSON, Local Agent for Utah, minute, then becomes less majestic and Office in Hooper, Edward and Co's Bank, more confidential. "I always go out

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"You! You go out waiting!" says
Crumms, holding his breath.

"Yes; if you will take me."

"Weil! I do call that a good joke," he gasps out. "Lord, sir, what an ideal?"
Then, dropping his waiter-like manuer altogether, and becoming theroughly human, he bursts out laughing.

"I had only intended to chaff Crumms, but it strikes me that going out with him will be more lively than spending Christman day by myself, and I begin to hope that he will take me."

"I date say Mr. Domville would have

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