

**SQUIRE
SILCHESTER'S
WHIM, VOL. III**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649293018

Squire Silchester's whim, Vol. III by Mortimer Collins

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

MORTIMER COLLINS

**SQUIRE
SILCHESTER'S
WHIM, VOL. III**

SQUIRE SILCHESTER'S WHIM.

SQUIRE SILCHESTER'S
WHIM.

BY
MORTIMER COLLINS.

VOL. III.

THE
MURDER OF
THE
MURDERER.

LONDON:
HENRY S. KING & Co.,
65, CORNHILL, & 12, PATERNOSTER ROW.

—
1873.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY

(All Rights Reserved.)

PF
4489
C 55
V. 3

CONTENTS OF VOL. III.

	PAGE
CHAPTER I.	
LILY LE LACHEUR CONFESSES	1
CHAPTER II.	
DINNER AT SILCHESTER	11
CHAPTER III.	
TWILIGHT, MOONLIGHT, MIDNIGHT	21
CHAPTER IV.	
THE OLD WOMAN	31
CHAPTER V.	
THE SUMMONS	44
CHAPTER VI.	
SUPPER AT THE RECTORY	57
CHAPTER VII.	
ON THE BEACH AT MOUNT ST. NICHOLAS	64
CHAPTER VIII.	
ANOTHER MIDNIGHT	72
CHAPTER IX.	
MUSICAL WILLIE'S RESOLVE	85
CHAPTER X.	
ON SILCHESTER BOWLING-GREEN	92
CHAPTER XI.	
E.C.	106

155104

	PAGE
CHAPTER XII.	
MONSIEUR SIMONET'S CORRESPONDENTS	114
CHAPTER XIII.	
THE EXODUS OF AURELIA AND KITTY	123
CHAPTER XIV.	
FRIENDS IN COUNCIL	135
CHAPTER XV.	
BISCLAVERET	149
CHAPTER XVI.	
IN THE WOODS AT MIDNIGHT	166
CHAPTER XVII.	
PLOT AND COUNTERPLOT	179
CHAPTER XVIII.	
THE LADY'S TURRET	192
CHAPTER XIX.	
SQUIRE AND MARQUIS	205
CHAPTER XX.	
IN EDINBURGH	220
CHAPTER XXI.	
HYMENEAL	228
CHAPTER XXII.	
LE CHÂTEAU DE LA ROCHE SIMONET	238

SQUIRE SILCHESTER'S WHIM.

CHAPTER I.

LILY LE LACHEUR CONFESSES.

“ Would you cross-examine
A lily ? try to pluck the passionate secret
Out of the red heart of the July rose ?
Torture the hairbell till it told its story,
Why on a hair, in some old mythic time,
A bell was set ?

Then why cross-question *me*;
Plague me and torture me, and with inquisitive
Eyes mark my mode of answering ?”

Old Play.

LILY LE LACHEUR was not treated like the lady whose remonstrance is quoted above ; but she grew in a day or two very remorseful, quite of her own accord, after resi-

dence at Silchester. The Squire consoled Achille Gilet for the disappearance of his balloon much more easily than he could console himself for the up-tearing of some of his finest trees. The Squire treated Gilet with the courtesy due to a gentleman. Rightly, since never was there man of genius without gentle blood. Still, there was in this man's character an obvious warp, whereof the Squire could of course know nothing.

Silvia and Louisa held counsel one fine morning on these fresh arrivals. They were loitering in a rose garden which Silvia and Silvester had managed between them. *Rosa flos florum*. Nothing in the world can touch the perfect odour of the rose.

"I don't quite know what to make of this young woman from Guernsey," said Silvia. "She pretends to be wonderfully modest and quiet, but there is a kind of odd look in her eye which makes me doubtful about her. She admits she is only a shop-girl; may she not be