

**ALL FOR GREED. IN
TWO
VOLUMES. VOL. II**

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All for greed. In two volumes. Vol. II by Marie Pauline Rose Blaze de Bury

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MARIE PAULINE ROSE BLAZE DE BURY

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IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

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ALL FOR GREED.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE BRIDEGROOM.

TIME wore on, the winter passed over, and early in the spring Monsieur de Vêrancour had been brought to regard as admissible the event which had at first appeared in his sight so enormously ridiculous;—the possible marriage of his eldest daughter with Richard Prévost.

It must not, however, be supposed that this was easily accomplished. Félicie did

not find it sufficient to gain one or two isolated battles; she had a complete campaign to undertake, and her final victory was due only to her patience and consummate good generalship. She never lost her temper and never lost a point; but let what would be the insignificance of her gain of the previous day, she always contrived to add some small gain to it on the following one, so that, in the course of a month or two, by dint of clever treatment, the Vicomte got quite accustomed to his new position, and, in the prospects of her future wealth, consented to lose sight of the fact that his daughter would become the wife of a valet de chambre's grandson. One thing was settled at the very outset, and that was, that the matter should be kept secret; that no word of the future engage-

ment should transpire; and that not until Monsieur Richard had left D——, and taken rank in the department as Monsieur de Châteaubréville, should he be presumed to have aspired to the honour of Mademoiselle de Vêrancour's hand.

What principally disposed the Vicomte in favour of the coming mésalliance was, that, besides the wealth of the bridegroom, the whole proceeding had about it a character of barter that was serious and satisfactory. There was nothing sentimental in the whole concern. All was business-like and full of calculation. Had the unfortunate Monsieur Richard put himself in the light of an aspiring lover, of a man who, for the sake of becoming Félicie's husband, would sacrifice every other earthly consideration in life, it is probable that