

Lady Ethel's Rival

CHAPTER XXXI. FOR HER SAKE.

He stands, his white face working with the struggle that is tearing his heart between love and jealousy; his eyes watching the sweet figure, graceful and weird in its utter abandon, stricken into nothingness by the lightlistening to the sobs that shake her, ning of fate. Scene: The coffee room as a sapling is shaken by the wind; of the Beverley Hotel. Dramatis perhe stands motionless for a moment. then he goes up to her and sinks on that hostelry, fat, warm, and anxious;

tered and hoarse that his fond, doting possessed. Let the weather be what mother—the stiff old Calvanist who it may, at freezing or fever point, Mr. sits at her window worrying about Sydney Calthrop is never discomfited. him-would not know it-"Kitty!" he Now, in the middle of summer, when says, laying the cold, trembling hand all the world is flocking to Switzeron her shoulder, "forgive me! forgive land or the sea, the quiet, dried-up me!" he repeats, clearing his throat, town of Beverley, baking in the sun, but withuot success, for his voice is denuded apparently of vitality, is thick, wild, hoarse, though calm-too scarcely the most enticing spot for a calm-now. "I have been cruel and man of fashion, but Mr. Calthrop is as God help me! I have been mad these regards the respectful and anxious Mr.

like; I will never say one hard word under the circumstances, were to sleep of him, or against him, again while I and breakfast at the Beverley Hotel. live! Do you know why I say this,

effort to raise her head, but by a gen- thing before you went in?" tle, almost impalpable pressure, he "Quite comfortable, thanks," said Oberland early in the week." motions her to remain as she is, as if Mr. Calthrop. "And what have you he could not hear to see her face, or as if he would spare her the sight of his.

"I know now that it is so," he says; "and, Kitty, I-I-pity you! Yes," he continues, stopping her as she tries to speak; "but I love you, too-and too well to care—to think of myself when your happiness is at stake. Kitty, did not think that when I made you promise me what you promisedthat," with a sudden break in his voice-"that you were pledging yourself to do what was out of your pow er. We cannot give our love where we will-God help us! and you have given yours to.him! I might have known that it could never be mine, or -or-surely such love as that I have for you would have won it, would have forced it from you long, long ago! Well. I must bear the disappointment Such love as mine should not think of self-shall not think of it! See, Kitty, you shall never hear a word more of it while-while I live. I swear that. I hury it here-all the hope and de-I cannot help you. Heavens! I cannot who had driven him from the station, were all life, and spirits, and happiyour sight. I have caused you all this the Lombe and the landlord's opinion Mr. Trevelyan is very particular—at misery, you say; well, you must tryyou will try," imploringly, "to for-

the only thing I can do is to get out of your sight, and—and I will do that, As for him-well," as she shrinks and shudders, "I will not speak of him. If he loves you-one-half, one-tenth as I love you he will come back." She moves her head and moans, "If not, then he is not worth your love, and I pray God that you may live to forget him." He rises as he speaks, with a mechanical, spiritless gesture, and draws his hand away with a slow, clinging reluctance. "Good-by Kitty," he says hoarsely-"good-by!"

She does not move, and he bends dow nand touches her dress-only her dress-with his trembling lips. Then he turns slowly away with his head powed upon his breast, and the rain

that day, goes down the valley and out of sight.

> CHAPTER XXXII. A DEVOTED ANGLER.

A week since the thunderstorm in which Kitty's dream of happiness was sonae: : Mr. Sawyer, the landlord of and a certain gentleman, Mr. Sydney "Kitty!" he says, in a voice so al- Calthron by name, thin, cool, and selfplacid and self-contented as ever, and last few minutes, I think! Kitty, I Sawyer-who has been kept awake a greater part of the night by the heat from the Hall is under his roof-with as cheerful and impassable a countenance as if the best things in life,

> "I hope you slept well and comfortwindow was left open till the last

got for breakfast?"

"A little fish, sir, deviled kidneywhich you ordered, sir-a poached

"Add a bottle of claret—the best in the cellar-and I am satisfied," says Mr. Calthrop pleasantly.

Mr. Sawver goes about his errand, disturbing the repose of his waiters on the way, and returns with the claret. "Chateau Lafitte, sir-eighteenseventy-four vintage."

"That will do admirably," says Mr. Calthrop. "And the papers-not as

Mr. Sawyer, glancing at the clock, and

Mr. Calthrop nods contentedly and goes on with his breakfast, with the air of a man whose sole object for that this?" had brought the gentleman down to ber two or three copies used to reach ly suggested fishing; for Mr. Calthrop had strolled into the hotel on the preceding evening, followed by the flyman stand by and see you suffer; you, who carrying a small hand bag and a neatly cased fly rod; he had also asked ness! No! I will go away-out of one or two questions as to the state of upon the spots suited to the wily pur- least, Mr. Tapley is." poses of the angler. Mr. Sawyer had, think-that I have not done you harm | man, one of the recent visitors at the wittingly! I would do anything, Kit- Hall, had come down for a day's sport; ty, I love you so; but it seems that and certainly nothing in Mr. Cal-

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throp's appearance-in his easy, placid face and light-tweed suit, in the in dolent manner of a man who has an idle day before him-tended to impress an observer with the idea that the most important day of Mr. Calthrop's life had arrived, and that he knew it. Nevertheless, he ate his breakfast with leisurely enjoyment and then, and not till then, opened the Times, which Mr. Sawyer had been airing at the window, and laid out on the chair beside his guest.

Mr. Calthrop took up the paper, and with a yawn which barely concealed the expectant gleam of his small eyes turned to the political news

"It is stated that Lord Elliot Sterne has definitely decided to form a ministry, and that Mr. D'Aubeny has been sent for by her majesty the queen. Lord Elliot Sterne started for the

Then, a little lower down, came the intelligence:

"We understand that the Earl Rosedale and Lady Ethel Rosedale are contemplating the regular Swiss round; they left town on Monday last. It is rumored that an alliance between the two houses of Sterne and Rosedale s in contemplation."

Mr. Sydney Calthrop read these in teresting scraps of fashionable gossip with as much enjoyment as had been afforded by his breakfast, then he sipped his claret, rustled his paper, and addressed Mr. Sawyer, who, under pretense of arranging the battered cruet stand on the sideboard-why are the cruet stands in all hotels and inns, respectable or otherwise, always babtered?-still remained in attendance with this careless question:

"Always get the Times as early as

"Yes, sir, generally about this time." "Ah, I suppose the news agent sends the Hall when I was staying there."

them over. There ain't many to deliver. There's the Hall, of course, and to be very particular with the Lawn Times, and to see that it's a nice clean copy and folded even-the Honorable

"Ah!" said Mr. Calthrop, with smile of satisfaction, for he had obtained the information he wanted without asking a direct question.

"The Lawn is deserted, I suppose?"

"No, sir," said Mr. Sawyer; "both Mr. Trevelyan and Miss Catherine are at home. I did hear as Miss Trevelyan hadn't been very well."

lifted his claret glass with a quie "Indeed!" he said; "I am sorry to hear that. I will call and inquire.

am to take a holiday, and try the fish-

Mr. Calthrop flushed slightly, and

Then Mr. Sawyer bustled with the od, and the waiters bustled with the fishing basket, and nearly choked Mr. Calthrop in the obsequious efforts to

yer suggested with anxiety, born of the heat, that the gentleman should be driven down in the pony trap to the river; but the gentleman declined the the waiters, and deposited the white imbrella in the huge stand at the

door, and sauntered out. At six e'clock he returned, ratheronly rather-hot, with no fish, and his rod case looking suspiciously neat He was not quite so cheerful as a breakfast time, but serene, quite plac id and serene, and although he did not seem to be very hungry, he drank an other bottle of Lafitte, and with a cigar in his mouth watched Beverley room window.

"I think, sir, if you're not too tired," said Mr. Sawyer, who seemed as disappointed at the angler's ill success as that gentleman himself, "I think you'd be more likely to take a trout or two now, in the sunset, than you have been all day."

"Yes," said Mr. Calthrop, musingly; "she might come in the cool-I mean the fish are more likely to rise in the cool of the evening. Thanks, a very good suggestion of yours, Mr. Sawyer: f you will give me my rod and-" "Shall my boy James go with you

"By no means," replied Mr. Caling; "he seems very happy with his cricket on the green yonder. No.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

IN THE POSE OF DEFENDER. HALF an hour afterward he was beside the Lombe—now looking as innocent as a mountain streamlet, and really quite incapable of ever drowning a man-whipping in the eddies and sworts round the rocks with great perseverance; but for so devoted an angler, Mr. Sydney Calthrop seemed to pay extraordinary attention to the meadows on each side of him, and es pecially to the road that leads to the Abbey. Indeed, once or twice he allowed a palpable "rise" to pass his fly unnoticed, and did not appear at all annoyed by the results of his inattention; but rather, as the evening grew on, his gaze swept the road and the fields with more anxiety in it than when his eyes rested for a moment or the water, and at last he flung his rod, his brow to wipe away the perspiraiton which had gathered there. In quick eye caught sight of a speck of an expression of hope he dashed for

(To be Continued.)

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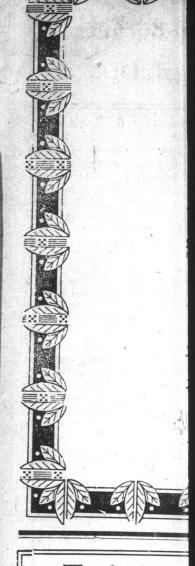
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