

The Cruise of the "Kingfisher."

CHAPTER XII.

"We'll leave Lady Mary out of the discussion, if you please, Greyfold, said the old lawyer, stiffly. "Yes, noticed that Lord Hatherlev was verfavourably impressed by the young man." And then he shut his lips close and Mr. Grevfould knew that his old friend would say no more.

After his guests had gone, Ralph stood on the terrace listening to the band which was playing merrily for the dancers in the marquee. His heart was beating fast, the blood was coursing through his veins. He was trying to realize that he was ina fifth-rate actor out of an engage ment, and now he was a peer of the realm, with wealth and power at his command! It seemed incredible, a wild and fantastic dream! He paced up and down the hall, his hands gripping each other behind his back his heart beating thickly, chokingly Then by degrees he grew calm, and as he went over the incidents of the evening, he thought of Lady Mary How beautiful she was! How love ly! She was just like the exquisite women he had read of in novels and plays, but he had never even ventured to hope to see. And this exquisite adorable creature was a neighbour, a friend of his-an equal! Think of it! He was no longer a fifth-rate actor but the possessor of an historic title and untold wealth. An equal! And this perfect creature, more beautiful and lovable than anything he had ever dreamed of, might be his-if he were free! He ground his teeth as he thought of the squalid room in the Nita, the ballet-girl, his wife. If only he were free. This wife of his was the fly in the amber, oh, my brothers! know a millionaire who is a helpless sound legs-there is always this ity honour.

nobody, spoiled Lord Ratton's per-

ions, and, half unconsciously, he

local band, and the dancing, had exand Ralph, as he entered the tent. was for a moment unrecognized; then, as they who were near the en-'The earl! Lord Ratton!"

The dancers hesitated and paused. the music faltered, a voice cried: "A speech! a speech! his lord-

e put his arm round her waist and egan the dance with her.

e could not have done anything more likely to make him popular. It nost favourable moment: and that sound which is more significant than cheer rose in the heated marquee Ralph danced well; it was part of is education as a strolling player. and he and the girl out-danced the other dancers, to the delight of the party: and a loud cheer arose as, the and stopping for want of breath. Ralph and his partner ceased in the middle of the floor with every eve up-

"You waltz very well," he said. What is your name? You know know nobody here by name." "Mabel Bray, my lord," the girl 1e

plied, panting a little. "Mabel Bray. I shall not forget it," said Ralph, graciously. "Shall we dance this next one? What is it-a

the fly in the amber. There is always ed, choosing partners at hap-hazard, is a mental or physical defect. I they said one to another, a Ratton cripple, and who would willingly name; and as Ralph left the marbarter his millions for a pair of quee, a deafening cheer rose in his

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By his conduct that night, in the narquee the new Earl of Ratton had on the hearts of his tenants and abourers, and the Ratton tradespeople; but the hearts of his neighours and equals, the county people mong whom he would have to move nd live, had yet to be won.

County families are exclusive and articular. They knew very littlenost of them nothing-of this new Earl of Ratton, and they-well, wait-

But Lord Hatherley came forward s a god out of the machine, and inrited the county to meet the new earl at dinner, at Hatherley Court.

"We must stand by him, Molly," he aid to Lady Mary. "It is the least ve can do. We know more of him han anyone else does, and I think ou will agree with me that what we know is favourable to him. We'll inroduce him."

So Lord Hatherley called what may e described as a gathering of the on was to be made known to his neighbours and fellow-countrymen; nd, so curious were they, scarcely refusal was sent the invitation.

It was indeed a great gathering. had married when he was worse than ty lord and squire can appreciate the significance of such a function a that which was held at Hatherley narquee broke in upon his reflec- Countess of Downshire; the Dowager Duchess of Lathrom, with the young ook his bowler hat from the stand Duke and Duchess: Viscount Paron the hall and sauntered towards the del; Sir Gilbert and Lady Bryan-ir. a word, the county was fully repre

Ralph, the earl, was rather nervou now to take a leading part: and l knew that some of those who would trance saw him and recognized him, be present would not be lenient in natured Lord Hatherley. 'He would be the mark of every curious ev fixed upon him with the scrutiny which the county aristocrat bestows upon all claimants to social position They would mark how he dressed and fying for that night, and, with a moved and talked and spoke; even wave of the hand, he signed to the his manner of eating and drinking band to continue playing, and look- would not escape their attention; and than most of the people who were -thousands of acres-and untold ing round, saw a dark-haired girl like most men who have risen from going to stare at and criticise him wealth. Only the other day-how standing near him. Without a word "the pavement," as the French say, fully, morbidly conscious of the dif-

> women with whom, by right of birth ne should be on an equality. concealed his nervousness from Par once did he give himself away, and that was when, in a moment of ex treme depression, as he reflected up on the ordeal before him, he said i would-be casual way:

"In this part of the country do you ever give your right or left arm to the lady, Parkins? It's not of much conequence, of course, but the custon varies in different countries."

Parkins, who was a perfect-mannered youth, did not permit his respectful gravity to relax for a single instant as he replied:

"The right, my lord." Ralph's heart sank; for he remem bered that he had given Lady Mary his left on the occasion of the dinner the other night; and Parkins, who was as acute as he was well-manner

"But I've seen gentlemen offer the left, my lord. Lord Forfield always

ed, added, with quiet respect:

Ralph nodded and drew a breath

"And-er-it is usual here to remain standing at the table till the ladies Parkins?" "Yes, my lord; it is generally

"Ah, yes; thanks. I've spent so much of my time-er-abroad, that

"Quite so, my lord; very natural," said the discreet valet. "You will have your lavender gloves, my lord?" "Yes-yes-thanks. Now, shall I

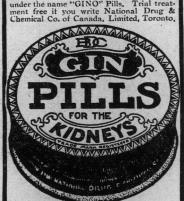
put them on? It's—it's warm."

With undisturbed gravity and respect, Parkins gave the required tip. wear them; and no doubt your lordship will carry them in your hand."

CRIPPLED BY RHEUMATISM

434 N.Y. Ave., Whiting, Ind. Jan. 20th "Will you please send me a box of Gi ills? When I sent for the last box, I wa I crippled up with Rheumatism and my fac-as so badly swollen, that I could hardly sen

or bladder is affected. You will have bains in the small of the back, gro , your urine will be high sits will show in the morning, you o inactive kidneys which Gin Pil



pecially in a brougham, would be

"The brougham, my lord?" he said. almost reverentially. "I am sorry, I did not order it, thinking your lord-

"Ah, yes: I think I will walk," said Ralph, languidly, as if the matter were of no consequence. "By the way, I sha'n't wear that morning suit

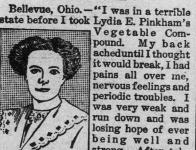
"Thank you very much, my lord," aid Parkins, gratefully, and congratulating himself upon having got in exceedingly warm berth.

Ralph fought hard with his ner ark to the Manor. After all he was is good as, in many instances better

and he entered the crowded room. ause in the conversation, as he er ered, that they had been talking o cause for his suspicion and fear They were men and women of birt and breeding, and had not been disussing him ill-naturedly; indeed hev had been listening to Lord Hath rley's favourable, almost enthusias ic, description of the new earl. (To be Continued.)

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silver or stamps 1293.—A CHARMING GROUP OF



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lower edge and the sleeve, with band cuff at wrist length, or in cool short length, with a neat cuff facing. A smart sailor collar, trims the neck edge, cut with deep front opening. Blue galatea, with collar, belt and

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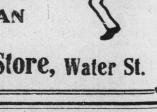
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our most valuable water land, and it means an opolistic control nation of this country. it too much already, an objectionable from this v wretched state of the way in which the country ed fairly, the freights Reids are the only carri to a port is another, and ment has shown its ha accepting the help of th last election, and it is that the Reids spared ne money to elect Sir Ed Some officials were days at the time and e that could be brought used. Now is this the r hove been paid for bui way branches but have one, and now comes act. . The Nfld Produc Reid Co. The resoluti hy a Director of the P whom the concessions drawn by him at the the Premier? Can that Reid preferred E. P. Morris to deal land prosperity, and perity has been sha years. Newfoundland landers-let that be should we sell ourse labour? And what barter away not onl rights but the rights tion to be. In fifty year fifty years' time, co changed and monor domination will have and what a heritage

our children. I consider this measu as important to the peo bition, but yet we do n thing of letting the peopl I repeat that the conces and water powers should to a monopolist, no matte lions are spent in labou Reid. Let us rememb pened to Ireland and ho pecame almost exiled

birthplace. PROTECTION.

Apart from the main ob should the Nfld. Products empt from taxation fore return is the Colony to ge Reid-Nfld. Products Co. 1 to buy from local indust matter of fact do we fin Nfld. Co. encouraging our tries? Make enquiries ar find that only when force buy locally, and in this c suspect it is largely the fa own system of giving the purchasing to one individu veritable "Chief." Does the provide that the nails u struction should be made l the local made paint should Not one word about it. way to stop this outrageo from being ratified by the Is Party to be put befor We are at the crisis. Ar rushed into this last ditch going to exert all the "Newfoundland for Newfou defeat the measure, overtu ernment, and rise at last a ple, with a Government of for the People and by the

SAVAGE LAND LA It is peculiar that the he past, whom we term s incivilized, had views abou show a spirit vastly in adva nodern ideas, and a more way of dealing with land t this Christian era. Tak

lowing instance: "The white settlers of Ne ound themselves unable to the Moaris what the latter a complete title to land, be hough a whole tribe might sented to a sale, they w claim with every new mong them an additional pr he ground that they had with their own rights, and ell those of the unborn. The ent was obliged to step i tle the matter by buying ihal annuity, in which e hat is born acquires a shar And in these day it is po me man to own a contine clude the rest of the world! only live by his permission