

The Heir?

CHAPTER XXXIX.

(Concluded.)

The Popular London Dry Gin is



'No,' replied Lain; 'he knows no-6 The HO is he?' he asked, 'Of course you'll state your case fully-you won't keep anything back? I must know the worst, if | children,'

worst it is; for I'm hoping you're 'Oh, I'm not mistaken,' said White, identity,' said Sidney, with a su den the earl had always disliked him, and with an air of confidence that struck rush of hope.

home. 'The heir is Mr. Edmund Bassington's son.' 'He had no children,' said Sidney, ed to run across the boy under what present him, through Mr. Oldham, 'That's where you and the lawyers | And I obtained my documentary ev-

are wrong,' retorted White, coolly. He had a son-had a daughter as well-may have had more for all I know; but the son's enough for me. Sidney, suggestively. I found him while I was out in Australia. Came upon him by accident, like, assented Lane, coolly. 'Anyby a sheer piece of luck,'

'In Australia?' said Sidney, thoughtfully. 'One of those cases rather difficulty to prove, White,'

'They are, as a rule,' assented White, with an air of candour. 'But | Sidney. this one's plain as a . pike-staff. I've traced the boy to his father; I've got case in half a day.' ney. Sidney nodded.

Sidney Started and stared at him. 'Why, the boy's been here!' he cried, involuntarily. White nodded.

That's right,' he said. 'He was

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the boy who I was looking for; and

'That's why you came down here

tain White' was identical with. Henry

NATURE'S WAY

-to look for him?' asked Sidney.

pulled off this little affair.

er Montreal, Can.

Lonic

he was down here.

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which I'm sure I shall, though.' Does the boy know of his claim,

can't know anything, unless I choose to tell him. That's where I come in. ton was rather a queer fish - seems to just to make up for the disappointme all the Starborough family are what ment. How would you like that? wife to criticise. The secret of sucin Australia under an assumed name,

Then I don't understand how you know, how can you prove the lad's glad to get rid of him; he knew that

cidence,' drawled Lane. 'I happen- lo give him even that. The earl might you might call reculiar circumstances, with fifty pounds. Fifty pound idence from him. His father had borough; and this scoundrel, this evil made it up in a sealed packet-'And you stole it?' interjected

'You may put it that way if you how, I got it, I opened it - being naturally curious-and what's more important. I've got it here in my breast-pocket.

With the greatest pleasure in life, responded Lane, cheerfully.

documentary evidence - certificates | He drew out the packet and tossed and all that—no missing links or any- it over to Sidney. With his hand thing of that kind, but so straightfor, sill on the trigger of the revolver ward that a court would decide the which, as if by accident, covered Sid-

Sidney took the papers from the What is the boy's name?' he ask- wrapper and read them over and over again carefully. As Lane had said, presupposing that Ronnie could prove ton, and sometimes he calls himself his identity, a court of law would pronounce him the heir after a

very few hours consideration. Sidney folded the papers and hand ed them back to Lane, who restored them to his pocket, and politely put the revolver out of sight, but in the side-pocket of his coat, from which he could cover Sidney if he wanted

NERVE FOOD , They seem pretty clear,' said Sidney, after a few moments of thought. Now, let me hear what you propose. But first let me remind you that you may not be the only person in possession of this secret. I only say may; I don't suppose there is anyone else; but we must take the chances of it into consideration; so, don't

be unreasonable.' 'There is no one else. I'm th only man who has got a hand in this Lone assented, confidently. 'The boy doesn't know. I broke the seal to the packet. The father's dead. I'm the only man you've got to do business with, and here are my terms: I want fifty thousand pounds the day you come into the old hearldom, and five thousand a year afterwards for my life.'

White nodded, It did not suit him | cocking his head on one side, squintthat Sidney should know that 'Cap-

ed at Sidney. 'All right,' he said, coolly. 'Those Lane,' Mrs. Farren's son-in-law. Time are my terms-to-day. To-morrow enough to declare himself, if he did I shall ask half as much again; the ever declare himself, when he had day after I double it-like the sum about the nails and the horse-shoe. 'That's it,' he said. 'I came after Just you consider for a moment, Mr. the boy. He's slipped away; but I Richards-Bassington, I mean. Sup-

him forward, to proclaim him the heir, do business on the other side, and if I don't come to terms with you, whether I get as much or not, you're

oughs?' asked Sidney.

'Of course that is impossible,' he

said, as calmly as he could. Lane shrugged his shoulders, and

know where to put my hand upon him. pose you decline my terms, what kind In fact, I'm fully prepared to bring of a hole are you in? I go in and

There are no griping pains

or unpleasant after-effects Abbey's Salt regulates Stomach, Bowels and the Its action is mild and m generally with the aid pleasant-but absolutely At dealers

and he died without telling it to his yellow to something like green. The earl help him! He knew only too weil that the earl would be only too regarded him with contempt, One

'Well, it's rather a strange coin- hundred a year! He was not likely against the title and estates of Stareyed, lantern-jawed villain, held the balance in his hand! Coward as he was, I thick if Sidney Bassington could have got hold of the revolver he would have shot his extortioner. At any rate, there was murder in his mind. But he knew that there was no chance of his shooting the man, and that there wa every chance, in fact a certainty, of 'Will you show it to me?' asked the man shooting him if he attempted

> 'You put it very forcibly, White, ne said. 'You see, you've had time to think the matter out. Whereas it

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comes to me suddenly. The term you ask are tremendours ones, but I am afraid I shall have to agree to

'I am afraid you will,' commented Lane, drily, "I don't deny they're a bit stiff, but this is the chance of my life, and I am making the most of it naturally enough. And I'm not only thinking of myself, I've got a daughter; she's the happle of my heye; and when I've made this pile I'm going to settle down as a country gentleman and make her an heiress. She's been we'll brought up and 'ighly educated, and is equal to any position 'owever

igh- But that don't interest you.' He was quite right; it did not in erest Sidney in the very least. He was too much engrossed thinking of himself, of this terrible peril, this danger of losing all that had become so precious to him. He thought not only of the title and the estates and the earl's money, the position and the wealth that would go with it, but of Eva Rashleigh. Perhaps it was this last thought, the desire for her, which assailed him most strongly. Give it all up, the thought of win

ning her! It was impossible! 'Let us cut the matter short,' he said. 'I agree to your terms. B. the way, I have taken these docu ments for granted, I haven't suggested that they are forgeries.'

Lane shrugged his shoulders. 'They're right enough,' he said, indifferently. 'I'm not clever enough to forge them; and I couldn't forge the stamps, you know. Besides I'm not the man to run my neck into a noose. I ve had enough of-' Quod, he was going to say, but he checked

nimself in time, 'I thought you would come to terms, so I brought a little agreement with me. Here it is,' (To be continued.)

#### Harry Laader's Severest Critic.

places the greatest reliance upon his wife's judgement in regard to new songs. "I have got books," he says, "heaps of them, of old music. Some of the books are nearly 200 years old.

I can play the bagpines, and the piano,
Brennan, Miss Mary J., out of it completely-chucked. You I can play the bagpipes, and the piano, lose the title and the estates, and you too, sufficiently well to try over the of his relationship to the Starbor- go back to London as poor as you songs, and when I am putting words came from it; you just sink back to and music together I have just my what you was before, whatever that wife to give me her opinion. She is my critic, and I rely entirely on her Brien, Mrs.,
Mundy Pond Rd thing. And he needn't know anything, may have been. There is no help judgement. When I try a new song for it. I don't suppose the hearl she stands at the back of the stalls would help you - or perhaps he might, to watch me and me to listen, and when Brine, John, General Office The fact is, this Mr. Edmund Bassing- throw you a beggarly hundred a year, my turn is over she gives me her opinion. It is always sufficient for me. Even my patter I submit to my von call heccentric—he lived out there How does that prospect please you?' cessful songs? Well, I believe in Sidney's swarthy face went from tunes the audiences can easily hum, for they cannot all sing the words. You get such tunes among the old Bools, J., retd. old melodies of the people, and I an

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