Mr. Byrd," emphatically repeated

"It is impossible! No disguise could make blue eyes black. This

"I have seen him by daylight only."

"It is Byrd; I have his letter here

"Letter or no letter, black eyes o

blue, the man who calls himself Mr.

Degraw's valet and an officer of your

The detective gave a sly wink a

the ferule, as if it were with that and

not with the artist he had been car-

rying on this dispute, then buried it

with the secrets he had been impart-

ing to it, deep in the pile of the rus

upon which he stood, and turned to

"Let us make a few inquiries," h

work, followed his steps with reluct-

"Whither are we going?" he asked

"First, to your landlady or landlerd

or whoever it is who keeps this house

going. I want to find out if any one

sits on the front porch. He is always

there and would be sure to see an

So they asked the old man who wa

still sitting in his favorite spot

though the night dews were fallin

and cosy-looking lights welcomed his.

He answered that he had seen tw

strange men admitted, besides the el

derly gentleman now addressing him

One came quickly, passed him rudel;

and went in without waiting for hi

hurried ring at the door to be answered

He had a book in his hand. The other

came immediately after him, stepped

quietly by his chair, and did not sto

to ring at all. Both went toward De

The artist looked amazed. The de

tective turned up his ferule and nod

"And when did these men com-

"Why, they have not come," the ol

man answered. "I have sat here o

purpose to watch. I was going to as

"A fine watch-dcg, that," murmure

Mr. Gryce, sarcastically. Then wit

kindly bow: "They were both youn

"Oh, yes, young fellows, not Mr. D

"I see; I see. Come, Mr. Degraw

our business takes us further." An

Mr. Gryce descended the two step

leading to the walk while saying

Your window points towards th

west, I see. Probably the latter ma

fellowed the first out of it into the

skirting of trees that leads up the

hill-side. We will let them take car

of themselves. We have other mat

To be continued.

English Xmas Numbers

ters on hand just now."

graw's kind, but well enough."

one who came in by the door."

"Very good."

graw's room.

again.'

men, I take it?"

fellow has black eyes."

"Lights deceive."

"Black I assure you."

written in his own hand."

The artist grew excited.

force is not Mr. Byrd."



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Give it a trial.

Give it a couple of trials. Your oven or yeast might not be just right the

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Ask your store-keeper about this guarantee. He knows. He will tell you. Try a barrel.

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CHAPTER XXIII.

Welcome and Unwelcome Intruders 'Have any of those canvases and things been moved?' he inquired.

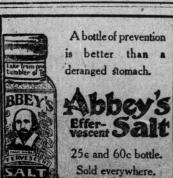
'Yet a man has passed amid them

The exclamation was caused by the sudden discovery of a small and glittering object lying on the floor under the lounge. Drawing it out, he showed it to the artist with a quiet and peculiar smile.

'A detective's badge,' he cried. 'The indentity of your visitor is explained. He was no one else than my colleague.

The artist, with his eyes flashing from the empty decanter to the still moist ashes, changed color.

'You are right,' said he, 'and by his visit he has probably saved my



What's that?'

He warned me. He told me that ferule. was in danger from this adventurer's

jealousy, and-

"The other Degraw. You knew himself 'Hamilton Degraw,' did you

"Well, he passes for a gentleman. He is perhaps a gentleman, but, for seeking. He came with recommendations from Cleveland, and was received into Miss Aspinwall's house, and immediately began to make love to Signorina Valdi, whose real name, Rogers. He has dark hair, grav eves and a persuasive manner. He has been in New York, and if not the gentleman you seek, certainly answers ed." to all descriptions of him as fully as

"Very good, I will see him."

Your man-that is, the detective ou sent here-is not in favor of his mmediate arrest. He wishes to wait till this mysterious Degraw commits himself. But I, who have so much a stake, feel this to be cold-blooded. pe you will agree with me.",

"We will see; we will see."

offspring of his, he having seen fit to ell her of certain mutterings uttered Degraw, which he, in his character of valet to that gentleman, bad been fortunate enough to overhear."

Mr. Gryce, who had been studiously considering the head of his

shifted his gaze, at this point, to the

"Please repeat that," said he. The other did so.

"I begin to be interested," muttere the detective to the impassive object there's another man here who calls he was considering. Then, in his

usual colloquial manner, he observed: "So that fellow of ours has been playing the part of this gentleman's val-

"And has talked with Miss Rogers?

"Yes."

"Humph! And yet you speak him in a careless way as my man!" "I do not know him by name." "You do not know him by name?"

Whooping Cough

With Beautiful Presentation Plates Holly Leaves, the Xmas Number of the Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News, with large Black and White Supplement — Balaclava, "The Charge of the Six Hundred."

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he Lady's Pictorial with Sepia pre sentation plate—"Swift and Stella." lustrated London News Xmas Num ber with large Sepia supplement-"Wake Up! It's Christmas Morning. Black and White Xmas Number with

black and white presentation plate "Ways of Wooing." coloured pictures and good Xmas The Art Journal Xmas Number

The Gentlewoman Xmas Number with pretty satin supplement, entitled—the "Three Christmas Roses." Xmas Windsor. Xmas Pearson's. Xmas Royal. Xmas London Xmas Strand. Xmas Cassell's. Xmas New.

Xmas Everybody's. Xmas Pall Mall. CARRETT BYRNE

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