

Not until he had lost him, did "You like them he said, with a Geoffrey fully realize how fond he

The Heir?

LIMITED.

CHAPTER XXIV. (Concluded.)

Elastic Side Boots.

Boots and Oxfords.

and Box Calf Lace Boots.

вп ET me put this on over your wedding ring, dearest,' he authors and readers alike, carefully murmured. 'I hope you will avoid the unfortunate and unhappy? L like it.'

on, and she returned the kiss, exclaim- cumstances is not very pleasant and ing rapturously :

"Oh, what a beautiful ring Sidney ! It's really too lovely ! What big diamonds ! And pearls, too ! And they're all the fashion !'

smile. 'My dear Rachel, you shall had been of the handsome, bright, have ropes of them by and bye; and spirited boy, with the heart-winning if I don't buy you exactly ropes now, smile and the musical voice. you can have some more rings and a necklace and bracelet. We will go of the hut, the sense of utter loneand buy them together. We can get liness weighed upon him to such an them quite as well in Brighton as in extent he could scarcely bear it, and London. That reminds me - we he kept out-of-doors as much as poshaven't much time before we start. I sible. And when he was within the thought we'd catch the 7.30; it's an hut he avoided entering Ronald's express. You left your luggage down- room for almost a week, and threw stairs. I'll put this important docu himself down beside the fire as he

Rachel! By Jove! I'm proud o' you !' CHAPTER XXVI.

one; that's another thing you'll want to get at once. By Jove ! we shall have plenty of shopping to do; for I day's long.'

eyes. 'Am I really your wife, Sidney, kind of work. really?' she breathed.

'Eh? What do you mean? Ohyes, yes! Of course you are, dearest. claim. There was still gold enough son?' My dear, beautiful, lovable little wife ! | there to make the work remunerative, Come, you must have a glass of wine and Geoffrey worked at it with a before you start. Oh, but I insist- kind of spasmodic enthusiasm, with

Mrs. Bassington !'

and joy at the 'Mrs. Bassington,' and in the excitement of her success, did eer.

certificate, indeed, forgot all about it. He had slipped it in his pocket on his way to the sideboard.

'But you mustn't call me that, Sidney!' she said, warningly, and holding up her long finger playfully.

'Oh, no, of course !' he said, suddenly grave. 'By George ! we must be careful ! If-if it slipped out, and any one heard it-'

'Oh, I'll be careful !' she said. 'I sha'n't forget ; but, oh, Sidney, I shall whisper it to myself. ' Mrs. Bas ington-the future Countess of Starborough.' It doesn't sound real even yet; it sounds like-like a dream. The Countess of Starborough ! Do you think I shall make a good one-a handsome one, sir? Lood: the Countess of Starborough !'

She drew her sligh figure to its full height and walked across the room with her head tilted back, her eyelids lowered haughtily, and an air of ex-

aggerated importance. He leant against the sideboard with his glass in his hand and laughed is he watched her ; laughed almost sardonically and mockingly-for his fear was slipping away from him now that his villainy had proved successful, and

But one night he inner room and nerved himself to sleep in it. That night he dreamt of want my beautiful wife to be beauti- the boy, and, strange to say, dreampt | fully dressed, and be as happy as the that he was in trouble and needed

'Your wife !' she said, hanging on with the cry of 'Ronnie' on his lips the light of triumph in her red-barred avoid going mad, he must find some

gold that would help him on his carnot notice that she had not seen the . It'll make a rich man of him.' he

> dinner and gazed round the solitude. 'He'll want money. He's a sharp lad, Ronnie, and will make his way in the old country. Wouldn't wonder if he

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