called at Stanley hall and proffered her

There were no confidences exchanged

between them. Esther suspected that

Blair's mother vaguely knew, but in

her loneliness, and having no friend

Mrs. Stanley suggested that Hagar be

taken to Richmond for treatment for

her mental affliction. She also insisted

that Esther should go to Richmond

and be introduced into the best circles there by Mrs. Burton Randolph.

It may have been that Mrs. Burton

Randolph stood in fear of her austere

kinswoman, Mrs. Judge Stanley-fear

that was augmented by the fact that

Blair's mother knew the true character

It also may have been that the sweet

dolph's pet diversion to have a protegee.

Esther a welcome guest and protegee

and assisted Blair's mother in securing

the leading alienist of Richmond to

Quabba had been left behind at

treat Hagar for her mental infirmity.

and he followed her to Richmond.

Blair in Richmond.

Stanley desired her son's return, to

consult with that astute private de-

Blake effected a conference between

Blair's mother and Abe Bloom the

Stanley Hall With the Brass Bound

gambling house keeper, who held the

bad check for \$2,000 he had cashed for

Blair, and who was the most pressing

At this conference, although the ac-

cusation was not made, Mrs. Stanley

soon surmised that Blake and Bloom

knew of Blair's guilt of the murder of

Dr. Lee. It was from Blake and

Bloom, through the agency of the inky

thumb print on the bad check, that the

guilt had been established, his moth-

er soon inferred. She also surmised

oblivious of such matters now. The

only two, then, in all the world who

knew were the detective and the gam-

It was not necessary to enter into any

detailed arrangements. Mr. Bloom was

(To be continued.)

Tie at Stratford.

Stratford, Dec. 27.-In an exhibi-

ion game here Christmas afternoon

the Berlin intermediates tied the All-

score of 4 to 4. The game was a fair

the second period and in the third

from close in on Hainsworth.

ges, Boettger and White of the Ber-

lin junior team last year, figured on

periods: 3 to 1, 4 to 2, and 4 to 4. Referee "Toad" Edmunds lined up the

Threatened with the most disas-

trous soft coal famine in the last 20

years, New York and New England

manufacturers are already paying

double the normal prices because of

claimant against him.

obtained her proofs.

bling house keeper.

sententions and explicit.

At any rate, Mrs. Randolph made

of Vivian Marston.

friendship and assistance.

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Whooping Cough

C. P. R. Changes.

quarters at Montreal and W. G. Annable has been appointed general passenger agent of Pacific service, both Montreal, Dec. 23.-According to a with headquarters here.

circular just issued, Captain J. T. Walsh, R.N.R., has been appointed Divorce has been granted to Laura assistant manager of the Canadian A. K. Metz against former Congress-Pacific Ocean Service, with head-man Herman A. Metz, of Brooklyn.

## The Diamond From the Sky

By ROY L. McCARDELL

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pay him for keeping or telling the Stanley secret, but Luke Lovell knew enough of the Stanleys and their feuds to realize his best market would be with Blair Stanley's mother. If Arthur Stanley, so called, was Hagar's son, a gypsy changeling, then Blair Stanley was the real heir to the Stanley earldom, to which, according to the old family tradition, the heir was commanded to carry the diamond from the

But at the portals of the home of Blair Stanley's mother the proud, cold widow would hold no traffic with the sinister gypsy who clamored at her threshold with a secret to sell. She ordered him to be gone and professed no interest in the ware he hinted he had

Ellen Stanley was, in her austere way, as unscrupulous in her family ambition as even her husband, the grim, cold Judge Lamar Stanley, had been: But she would have no traffic with such as Luke Lovell. She realized only too well that once such a creature had her in his power, even as a confidant, his dominion would be, as is always the dominion of the ignorant, brutal and

So Blair's mother dismissed the chagrined gypsy in cold disdain. She would be no confederate and yet the victim of the exactions that she instinctively knew would follow any association

with any secret with him. "If you have any secret to sell take it to some other market," said the Widow Stanley with cold hauteur. "Unless you leave my premises this instant I shall have you arrested and committed for attempted blackmail! Shout your secret from the housetops if you please. I am not concerned."

But Luke Lovell, thwarted and discouraged though he was in his first bold bid for the fortune he had believed was within his grasp, had no intention of shouting his secret from the housetops. He realized its only value was in his keeping it and being paid, and heavily, to keep it.

He must find some one who would pay-this some one would be Blair stanley, he did not doubt.

But if Blair Stanley's mother had refused to traffic with the sinister gypsy she was shrewd enough to surmise the again after lying dormant for eighteen

Why had her husband set off alone to meet his death in the mountains the day after Colonel Stanley had died, eighteen years ago? Why had Dr. Lee adopted the gypsy woman's daughter a few months since? Why had this gypsy woman returned after all these years, in the guise of a woman of means, and taken Stanley hall?

Why had she come with proofs of Blair's guilt of the murder of Dr. Lee and proffered her silence in exchange for social recognition by the proud families of Fairfax for this girl?

And now that this gypsy woman was crazed and all fear of her son's guilt being known had vanished for the time being at least, Mrs. Stanley resolved to take advantage of these situations as she suspicioned them. If this girl was the real heir, the missing heir of Stan ley hall, of which there had been vague whispers for years, why not prepare for and fortify against any possible disgrace that might threaten through her son's rash and dreadful deed-the murder of Dr. Lee?

CHAPTER XX. Wealth From the Desert.

RS. STANLEY resolved to make friends with Hagar's supposed daughter. If Arthur Stanley, so called, was not the rightful beir, Blair Stanley was. But this left the girl heir to Stanley hall, and all could be conserved and all be well if Blair might return and marry Esther.

Even though Hagar recovered her faculties, she must remain silent as to Blair's guilt were he Esther's husband, thought Mrs. Stanley. As for Arthur Stanley, so called, there was slight fear of his returning.

The shrewd mother of Blair Stanley guessed now the true cause of Arthur's flight and continued absence. It was because he also had learned the Stan-

At Stanley hall Esther, made a woman and resolute by all the tragic occurrences that of late had befallen her, resolved it was her duty to examine further into the documents in Hagar's brass bound box. Esther had endeavored vainly to lift the cloud from Hagar's mind by earnest inquiries and kindly beseechings. But Hagar would only moan, "My son, give me back my son, my little babe."

Then Esther read the documents. The proof was plain. She was in her rightful place at Stanley hall, for she was Esther Stanley. But she resolved, through the love she bore for him she had known as Arthur Stanley, that she would take the secret to the grave. She would spare Arthur the shame she

knew his proud spirit would feel. What to her were place and position here in Fairfax among a proud people who, so far as their women folk were concerned had ignored her?

### opes and dreams. Esther's hope and dream was the return of Arthur, the sharing of the secret with him, and his love. Then all would be well. So it was that Esther was not wholly surprised when Blair Stanley's mother

Toronto Riversides Defeated at Berlin and Preston at Waterloo.

save the humble though devoted Quabba, Esther was glad to accept the CORNWALL BEAT proffered friendship of her austere ALL STAR TEAM kinswoman, though neither spoke of

> Toronto Pros. Making Bid for Hyland of the Wanderers.

Berlin, Dec. 25—The Toronto Riversides were defeated here Friday night by the Berlin O.H.A. seniors by a score of 7 to 4 in a game that was fast in spots and loosely played in The visitors were minus Merrick, their speedy captain and the stalwart Noble, and only in the secnature and beauty of Esther and her ond period of the game was the team gentle breeding appealed to Mrs. Ran- able to get in some fast combination dolph more than her fears of Blair's work. The defence played out too far, mother. It always had been Mrs. Ran-dolph's pet diversion to have a protegee. and when the locals pressed them goals usually followed. Berlin's team showed the effects of the game played in Stratford in the afternoon and changes on the line were quite fra-

Hainsworth in goal played a spec-tacular game and his great work prevented the score from being closes than it was. The locals got a good Stanley hall, but Quabba suspicioned that Blair's mother was an old foe start in the early period, scoring four with a new face of friendship. As al- to their opponents' two. In the second the visitors notched only one counter ways, he resolved to guard Esther while in the last period Berlin added three to the Riverside's single score Mrs. Randolph had suggested to The games were satisfactorily handl-Blair's mother, when she found Mrs. ed by Billy Knell. The teams were-Berlin-Goal, Hainsworth; right defence, T. Ruschinski; left defence, Seitective, Tom Blake, in settling the bert and Karger; rover, Boettger; cenclaims that were against the reckless tre, Hiller and White; right wing, Leroux; left wing, Solom

Riversides-Goal, Tisdale; right defence , Murray; left defence, Smith; Collins; centre, Smith; right wing, Applegath; left wing, Dopp and

WATERLOO BEAT PRESTON. Waterloo, Ont., Dec. 26-In an exhibition match on Christmas night the first senior hockey played in Water. loo in several years the local team got away with a flying start by applying the whitewash to the Preston seniors to the tune of 6 to o.

Preston showed the results of having already participated in a number of contests in their combination play but they were not fast enough to hold the locals, who kept the puck well past centre ice throughout. of the six tallies were scored by W. Uffelman.

CORNWALL BEAT ALL STARS. Cornwall Dec. 26-Cornwall defeated the all-stars of Montreal by 3 to 2 in the opening hockey match of the season here on Christmas night. The O. H. A. team delighted the spectators by scoring in each of the three periods the game being close and hotly contested throughout. The Montlers secured their two goals in the last period. The ice was in poor con-

TORONTO WANTS ANOTHER PLAYER. In an effort to strengthen his team Manager Livingstone of the Torontos is trying to secure Harry Hyland the clever Wanderer forward and holdout

this season. President Sammy Lichtenstein of the Wanderers stated Saturday night at the Arena that he would not play Hyland this season, so therefore there is a fair chance of the Torontos se-

HOCKEY GOSSIP.

In Jack Marshall and Walter Smail the Wanderers have two real veterans of the game. Both played good hockey Saturday night, especially Smaill, who after being caried off all in came back and played better than ever.

Cyril Denneny of the Torontos showed the nicest hockey of his career on Saturday night during the first The father of Ernie (Moose) John-

son the star defence player of the that it was from this source Hagar had Portland team, is seriously ill in Montreal, and the Pacific coast player In her present condition Hagar was may be called home at any time. In speaking of Gordon Meeking, an Ottawa man stated Saturday night that no player ever broke into the professional game under harder circumstances than Meeking, as Coach Alt. Smith kept him on the bench tor 40 minutes and until he was numb with

the cold before sending him in before an Ottawa crowd for the first This fellow Bell with the Wanderers, is not very much of a hockey player, but he seems to get the goals
The opinion of the fans is that the Torontos are either not in condition or else they are overtrained. They

have fallen off very badly in the lat-Solider senior O.H.A. team by a ter part of their games this season. Torontos will have their first bye of exhibition and towards the close of the season this Wednesday. Randall and Jack Marshall mixed period the speed and combination dis- it up on one occasion, while on anplayed resembled the mid-season other Roberts tried to cross check

article. Burdette, of last year's juniors Randall, but the latter saw it coming

Northern League champions, was the star of the local septette. Verner and Billy Breen, who is handling the Lavell for the locals also did well, Peterboro team this season, stated on while Schnarr, of the Berlin team, Saturday night that the T. R. and A. was the star, scoring 2 of the team's A. defence composed of McLean and four goals. Capt. Dr. Ramsay Rankin, McLaren put up one of the cleverest the veteran crack Stratford and Mc- games in Peterboro that he had ever Gill player, attempted the come-back seen accomplished by any lefence. In stunt, but was unable to strike the McLaren, Breen thinks the T. R. and A. A. have one of the best defend pace with his younger opponents. A. A. have one of the Lowe scored Stratford's four goals players in the O. H. A.

HOCKEY RESULTS The following were the hock to re-

the visitors' line-up. The score by sults Saturday: N. H. A. Wanderers 6, Torontos 5. Quebec 3, Ottawa 2. EXHIBITION

Waterloo, 6, Preston o. Berlin 7, Riversides 4. Berlin II. 4, All-Soldiers 4. Orono 10, Cobourg 3. Cornwall 3, Montreal Stars 2,

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FORTY-FIFTH

Undoubted C Coming Clos British Pol Life - Lord by's Schen Not a Succe

London, Dec. 28 .- Davi George has threatened from the Government unle ory service is inaugurated. his declaration to Premier yesterday before the Cabir into session to decide one w other the question of cons Last night Great Britain w brink of another Goverme ture. The Cabinet has spl matter of compulsory servi an all-day session, it that certain of the Ministe to be convinced and to give

impossible to arrive at an a the session was adjourned day at 11.30. Lord Derby's enlistment failed. That, at least, appear as a result of yesterday's Ca agreement. His report was the Cabinet, and was the c of discussion. The figures showed that a vast number men have absolutely refused

on Lloyd George's demands

Compulsion or not compul last the clearly cut question the Cabinet. It it fails to compulsion a complete di tion of its membership is all tain. The leading newspape country are crying for it, a jority of the leading politic loing the same.

No one but realizes the se of the present crisis. If Pre with fails to make good that conscription would follure of Lord Derby's enlistr paign his own position, in the

n be formed. Among those who remain opposed to compulsion Ai four figures prominently. are supposed to favor imm pulsion include Lloyd Geor downe, Curzon, Smith, Chi Long and Selborne.

It is understood that Earl and Bonar Law have not their attitude definitely. Premier Asquith desires, stood, to keep his pledge in est sense of the word, and co ly, being unable to secure support from the Cabinet yesterday, adjourned the me til to-day. Before that time isters have agreed to con individual positions and to

The mysterious reappea Winston Churchill, who res post in the Government an the front a month ago, was be highly significant, in vi present Governmental crisis tical commentators do not dicate this fact, and to hi probable appointment to an post if the present Cabinet to agree on conscription solved. Churchill, however to France last night.

PRESS OPINION The Times Parliaments spondent asserts that the undeniably delicate and macritical unless handled with

and decision. The Daily Mail asserts drew Bonar Law, Secretar Colonies, and Lord Kitch War Minister, have not yet position clear, while A. first Lord of the Admiralty ly opposes compuision, in is supported by a majorit Ministers. But David Llos the Marqu's of Lansdowne, con, Sir Frederick Smith, Chamberlain, Wal'er Hume the Farl of Selberne advo

diate compulsion.

Mr. Lloyd George, the
before the sitting of the Co his position clear to Prem a message intimating mr. Ascuith's pledge to member in the strictest sen not continue as a member

The Morning Post, equal Times and the Daily Mail scriptionist papers—sees tity of several Cabinet resign the other alternative, a g

The Morning Telegraph Chronicle, anti-compulsion also app chen we of a c torially protest against and wire-pullers, who conto desperate and mad expedi-general election—a gamble which might entail desast quences," and points out merely withholding its as Parliament and resignatio House of Lords can make unavoidable next month, absence of the Parliament prolongs its life for eight present Parliament woulthe effluxion of time at

January.
Concerning the people of comparison with America Civil War, the Chronicle