Came Too Late.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

Conclusion.

Before ten months had passed Olivia without troubling him, dear? Hehad received as many offers. One from a well-known nobleman, of so high a rank that he must be nameless in these pages, threw good Aunt Amelia generous!" he said, gently. into a flutter of excitement, which was turned into the agony of despair by ily, or with an affectation of weari-

"My dear," she exclaimed, with tearful indignation, "do you want to marry think we have troubled him enough." an emperor? Is that what you are waiting for?"

"I don't want to marry any one," re- their daughters' heart-moods. turned Olivia; "and I am not waiting for any one."

"Well, I'm glad of it!" exclaimed Aunt Amelia, driven snappish by her room before you go upstairs, and I to mutter: disappointment. "Because if you are will bring you a glass of wine." waiting for-for-"

"Well?" demanded Olivia, her eyes stopped with a start. beginning to flash and her little foot to beat the carpet: by which sign the intelligent reader will understand how outstretched hand, and her name upperfectly restored she was.

"Well, my dear, don't look as if you meant to eat me. All I meant to say was that he doesn't seem as if he were coming, or as if-if he meant to come.' "I-I don't know what you mean!"

exclaimed Olivia. Then she burst into tears, which seemed to indicate that after all she had been inkling whom Aunt Amelia

She dried her tears very quickly, and went to dress for a ball; quite "a quiet affair," with only about two hundred guests.

She had never looked more lovely than she looked that night, and had never shone more brilliantly. The remantic story, the more than humored proposal of the prince, attracted all personages there-begged for an introduction to the beautiful, young English girl.

Suddenly she grew tired, and sent her rejected suitor-who could not tear himself away from her, notwithstanding his rejection-for her father. "Take me home, papa," she said in a low voice.

"Yes, yes; certainly, my dear," he said; and he took her upon his arm down the great staircase.

All the way home in the carriage she lay back silent and with her eyes closed.

"Are you tired, dear?" he asked. "You are not ill?" and he looked anx-

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"Not 'ill, dear, only tired," she said iling at him lovingly. "I-I think

"We'll go to-morrow," he assented at once. "Er—that is, I'll write and

"Lord Clydesfold!" she finished; and there was something like bitter-She paused for a second. "Why should

ne care where or when we go?" "He is all that is good, and true and

"Yes, I know," she assented, wearness. "I know there is no one in the world to compare with him: but I He looked at her with a puzzled stare; fathers seldom understand

They remained silent until they reached the hotel, then he said: "Go in and rest in the drawing-

She opened the door listlessly, and ture!"

For some one had risen from a seat, and was advancing toward her with on his lips.

"Olivia!" The cloak dropped from her shoul-

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der, and revealed her graceful, girlagainst which her white skin shone like ivory faintly flushed with rose and her lovely face went pale and then flushed, and her eyes dilated.

He came forward in his sable-lined traveling ulster, his handsome face no onger haggard and careworn, as she had seen it last, but eloquent of youth and strength, and-ah, of love and

"Olivia !" She could not move for a moment then, panting, she held out her hand "You! When-when did you come! "To-night. I have been waiting."

"Papa-I will fetch him," she breathed. His hand gripped hers, his eyes easted on her face.

"No, I can wait a while." She felt that she must go on speak ing or-what? Fall into his arms Throw herself at his feet?

"I hope—I hope you had a pleasant journey? "Very! It snowed all the time, 1

have been ten months on the road." Her eyes drooped. "Have-have you come to stay?" she

faltered. "No," he said; "I am going on to the South."

Her heart suddenly seemed to grow

old, and heavy as lead. "Why-why did you come?" "I came for you!" he answered.

bing of her heart as it beat wildly and nately against his own, coul

"Oh--oh, let me go!" she panted; out-was it fancy?-she seemed to

CHAPTER I.

The Dread Messenger. "I did not know any one was here,"

"Stop-I beg-" he said, with should like to leave Paris for a little flurried bow, whereas she was perfectly calm and self-possessed

"You are Miss-Frere?"

"Yes," assented Norah, with a faint nesitation

"I-I thought so," he said, struggling bravely to suppress all further signs of surprise. "Yes! My name is Petherick-Petherick & Gregson, of Gray's Inn. and I-er-in fact. Mis Frere, I have come down to see you "To see me?" said Norah, and th

beautiful eyes grew larger. "Yes-ahem," he drew a chair for ward for her. "Will you not sit down?

hands clasped loosely on her lap looked at him with grave patience. "It's-it's nothing to be alarmed at," he hastened to remark, for the swee

gravity rather discomposed him. "I am not alarmed," said Norah, faint smile sweeping over her face like sunlight, causing the old lawyer

"Heaven! The most lovely crea

"I'm-I'm glad to hear it." he sa aloud. "Ladies, young ladies, especially, are generally frightened at the very sound of the word," and he laughed uneasily.

"Yes." she said, thoughtfully. "But know nothing of business, and

"Just so, just so," he broke in, with little cough, his eyes still seeming lazzled by her beauty and her seren ity. "You have never heard of me Miss Frere?"

"I am afraid not," said Norah, after moment's pause. He coughed again.

"I thought perhaps that you might have done so, that Mrs. Hayes-" Norah's lips quivered, and her eyes were veiled for a moment, and he slight wince upset Mr. Petherick ter ribly.

"I-I beg your pardon!" He gland "You feel your loss—yes, yes; dear me, yes! Ahem! You were ver much attached to her, Miss Frere?" Norah made no reply, and he hurried

"Of course, of course. Yes. Poo yoman! Most devoted to you, Mrs.-Mrs. Jordan tells me. Sad loss, very,

Norah waited in silence as he fin ished his condolence.

"And she never mentioned me t

"No," said Norah, quietly.

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"And-ahem," he coughed again. I vas evident that he experienced som difficulty in proceeding to the business he had alluded to. "And she did no

tell you anything else?" "Anything else?" repeated Norah gently. "I don't understand-"

Mr. Petherick wiped his forehead with a perplexed and embarrassed air. "I thought that she might have made some communication to you before she-died," he suggested.

Norah shook her head. "No," she said: then as she recalled -ah, how vividly!—the dead woman's last words, she added, "No, she tolme nothing. I-think-" she pause moment-"I think that she wishe to tell me something, and that sh

tried, but she did not" "Dear me: yes. ves." said Mr. Petherick. "And a message now? Did she give you any message to deliver tosay, any one?"

me to post a letter which she had written, that was all."

"A letter, yes," he said, seizing the opening thus afforded, and bending forward with a little less embarras ment. "A letter to-"

"To the Earl of Arrowdale," sai Norah, seeing that he waited. "Ex-actly," he murmured. "Now have you any knowledge, and idea c the contents of that letter?"

Norah shook her head. "No, no idea at all." "Hem," he commented. "I think ought to tell you at once that I am Lord Arrowdale's solicitor, Miss Frere."

"Yes?" said Norah, quite simply She was only faintly curious.

went on as if he had done with the subject. "And may I ask, Miss Frere, if you have formed any plans for your future?"

"Any plans?" repeated Norah, and have formed no plans: I-I did no know that any were necessary. thought that I should go on living here as I have done, and-" She stopped He nodded.

"You are quite happy here?" he sked.

"Oh, yes, yes," she assented, with little sigh. "Quite happy." "Mrs. Jordan is kind and-ahem-

all that?" "Yes," said Norah; "I have always to any address on receipt of 10 cents

ved here since I was a child." "I see; and have grown attached t he place. It is very quiet."

"Yes, and very beautiful," she said, more to herself than to him, and her eyes wandered to the open window. "I see; attached to Mrs. Jordan and fond of the place. Upon my word is a pity."

The last sentence was not intended and she turned her eyes upon him with surprised questioning that made him cough again.

"I mean-dear me!-that-that perhaps it would be as well to let well alone. Certainly for your sake." Norah still looked at him, puzzled

and uncertain, and he hurried on. "This-this life is a life of change, Miss Frere, a life of changes and surprises. You would say that you had not found it so, but yours is an exceptional, a very exceptional case, believe me. And you do not know the Earl of Arrowdale, to whom your nurse, Mrs Hayes, wrote?" he asked, with sudder abruptness.

"No," said Norah, still more astoshed by the question and its abrupt ness. "Until I saw his name upon the nvelope of the letter, I did not know | WILLIAM WILSON & SONS uch a person existed."

(To be Continued.)

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A defensive, not on tw three fronts, added to a d Turkey, is a situation which man prophet of The Next oldest flights of speculat possible. It is for the ene tentous as it is novel, and no reflecting German can satisfaction of the political tary management of the war brought it about. The drift main offensive of the Allies June has been to throw more of the weight of the strug Germany alone. Austria, for had then sixty divisions in She has now at the ver twenty; ten on the Italian more or less, strivin tain themselves along the Carpathians. Behind them nothing. They represent wasting remnants of an arm two years ago was actually, pctentially, numbered by Nor is Bulgaria in better proportion of Bulgarian los field has been undoubtedly i but the resources are far m er. There is nothing behind garian forces either. In bot instance and the other Ge far as she can, must suppl lacking. Bulgaria is a very link, and all the probabilit she will snap first. A camp without reserves of men is different thing from one serves still exist, even th may be limited and have t banded with great care. Di tion is more swift, more repair, morally more depress immediate aid as Germany v render in Bulgaria was em on the counter-offensive i bronia-excellent if the surr have been brought off, there was any serious risk The check was met with. crippled the enemy's abili with the Allied advance from it has left the Roumanians velop their operations in Tran and by misapplication, as ev

proved, of the German aid, h the Bulgarians back upon the sources, reduced still further losses in this adventure. The Bulgarians need money and men. The Tu most of all equipment and They have little of the one of the other. The war is already passing into its final that of guerilla fighting. simply these demands for and money which Germa meet from each and all federates, but in the case them the demand for men. seven-eighths of the enem the field are already Ger eighth only are those of allies. The time is not ve

when the enemy forces in

will be Germans alone.

Pressure Always Increas These demands, however, incident with a pressure, a creasing, which is wasting t of Germany herself at a equalled before even in t What the wastage is on the can all of us fairly guage. the German divisions on the V already passed through the battle. There is a consisten age. If the offensive were slo might be time to re-form th tered masses. But the terror fect of the offensive is its spe ever hurried re-formation m cannot keep pace with the ne Outwardly the enemy front on the whole where and what Actually during these las nonths it has undergone a s hange. The strain grows I ively. A point exists at w stretching out must come to That point is the breaking po And on the East, though we the meantime much less abou same thing is going on, and, for geographical differences,

equal speed. In these circum

remembering the demands

many's confederates, it is ap

glance at the expedients wh

