





Makers of Superior Varnishes



## For Value Received

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23.

neither she nor the bank had the least idea of the true state of affairs. Idea of the true state of affairs. As it so happens the policy has paid, be-cause you see, at the present moment, I have Lady Courtfield's jewels in my possession, and our clever Russian friend has had all his scheming for his pairs."

his pains." "But how did you know?" Kitty burst out.

"Oh, the purest accident in the world," Forsyth explained. "The world," Forsyth explained. "The Count has been suspected for some time, for various rumours from the Continent have reached us from dif-Continent have reached us from dif-ferent quarters. Of course, it was quite natural, feeling so very secure, that the thieves should try and dis-pose of their property to the best ad-vantage. They felt absolutely cer-tain that Lady Courtfield had not dis-covered her loss and here was a tain that Lady Courtheld had not dis-covered her loss, and here was a chance of making about three times as much as if the gems had been dis-posed of through the ordinary legiti-mate channel. And when my cousin here told me about her patriot and the sacrifices he was making for the benefit of his struggling country, then I was suspicious enough to have my I was suspicious enough to have my own views on the subject. That is why I invited myself here to-night, and why I came just in the nick of time

"But that card?" Mrs. Hammers-leigh asked. "How did the man man-age to get warned and slip away just

age to get warned and slip away just at the moment—" "Oh, I did that myself," Forsyth said, coolly. "Unless I am greatly mistaken the card is lying in the fen-der still. I bribed your footman to bring it up in ten minutes' time, be-cause, you see, I didn't want to have a fuss here. I felt convinced that directly he read my message on the card he would throw up the sponge without the slightest hesitation. If you look at the card you will see that I merely volunteered to take the cus-tody of Lady Courtfield's diamonds off his hands, and invited him to take himself out of England without de-lay."

"It should never have been al-lowed," Mrs. Hammersleigh protested hotly. Perhaps she was regretting the loss of the diamonds to a much greater extent than she was regret-ting the unfortunate occurrence. "I

ting the unfortunate occurrence. "I cannot understand why you should choose to let that man off in such an easy fashion. In my place——" "In your place, my dear lady," For-syth said, as he dropped his card into the fire, "I am quite certain that you would have acted in a precisely simi-lar fashion. The Count has high connections in the Russian Court, and —— Well, after all said and done, the thing has ended favourably enough. But I don't think that my cousin here will be taking much stock in patriots for the future."

in patriots for the future." "That indeed I shan't," Kitty laughed unsteadily. "And now, if you please, let me try and forget all about it."

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