

UNCLAIMED LETTERS REMAINING IN G.P.O. to MAY 17th, 1901

A Andrews, Mrs., Gower St. Antle, Andrew, Field St. Andrews, Peter, Gower St. Adey, Mrs., retd. Anthony, R., Balsam St. Anthony, Harvie	B Blandford, John, Pennywell Road Bradbury, Mrs., Hamilton St. Bainbridge, R. A. Brennan, Miss Mary J., Gower St. Bell, Mrs. J. Brennan, Miss J. Bennett, William Breen, Mrs., retd. Brien, Mrs., Mundy Pond Rd Brien, Master Leo, Waidegrave St Brine, John, General Office Bowing, Samuel Butler, Denis, retd. Burke, Mrs. P. J. card Butler, E. J., Mount Sejo Road Mutton, Selena, retd. Sutler, Miss May, Monroe Street Butt, Maggie, retd. Bools, J., retd.	C Cahill, Mrs., King's Road Cranford, Miss M., care Mrs. Smith, Wood Street Chafe, T. G. Chafe, Miss Annie, McFarlane St. Catigaa, Thomas J., Mundy Pond Duckworth St. Case, Amos Carson, W. Carew, Miss May Clarke, Mrs. C. W. Cheeseman, Mrs. Jas., York Street Cricht, Bertram Chisholm, T. F. Cosy, John, retd. Cornell, Ross E. Cennolly, Miss Ethel, retd. Cooper, Miss Dora, care Miss Crocker Crocker, W. J. Cox, Mrs. Minnie, retd. Cook, A. C., slip Conway, Jas. Patrick Cullen, Miss Rose, retd. Cummings, Mrs. Wm. Curnew, James, Duckworth Street	D Dawe, Isaac Davis, Mrs. Michael Dally, Morris A., care G. P. O. Dalton, Mrs. B., retd. Dwyer, Michael, Mundy Pond Road Doyle, Miss Nellie, retd. Dooley, Bernard Doyle, Miss Bessie, retd.	E Evans, Mr., card Earle, Wm., card Earle, Jacob Ellett, John, Bond St. Farland, K. M. French, Miss Mary E., Peter's Street Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Stephen, Water St. Fitzpatrick, Mrs., Pleasant St. Fitzpatrick, D. J., Brazil's Square Folger, Capt. K. C. Froud, Miss Isabella, Theatre Hill Ford, Miss May, Brazil's Square Fowler, Mrs. Wm., retd. Gatheral, Miss, Adelaide Street Gazatta, Miss Veronica Glasby, Miss Leah Garland, Miss Maggie, retd. Green George Greenstead, Miss Lizzie, card George, Reuben, care General Post Office Gosse, Miss Minnie, Circular Road Golden, Miss E. Jane, Duckworth Street Gambler, Miss M. A., Wood's Street	F Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Stephen, Water St. Fitzpatrick, Mrs., Pleasant St. Fitzpatrick, D. J., Brazil's Square Folger, Capt. K. C. Froud, Miss Isabella, Theatre Hill Ford, Miss May, Brazil's Square Fowler, Mrs. Wm., retd. Gatheral, Miss, Adelaide Street Gazatta, Miss Veronica Glasby, Miss Leah Garland, Miss Maggie, retd. Green George Greenstead, Miss Lizzie, card George, Reuben, care General Post Office Gosse, Miss Minnie, Circular Road Golden, Miss E. Jane, Duckworth Street Gambler, Miss M. A., Wood's Street	G Gatheral, Miss, Adelaide Street Gazatta, Miss Veronica Glasby, Miss Leah Garland, Miss Maggie, retd. Green George Greenstead, Miss Lizzie, card George, Reuben, care General Post Office Gosse, Miss Minnie, Circular Road Golden, Miss E. Jane, Duckworth Street Gambler, Miss M. A., Wood's Street	H Hartley, Eliza Mrs., retd. Hamilton, A. E. Harvey, S. J. Harvey, Mrs., McFarlane St. Hayward, Miss Mary, Military Road Hall, C. H. Henbury, Mrs. Annie, retd. Hepidge, John Healey, Patrick, Blackhead Hearn, Ellen Hogan, John Hopkins, Mrs. Polley, Lime Street Hogan, Miss Ethel, Victoria Street Hutchings, Henry, South Side, St. John's Hartery, Mike, retd. Ingraham, E. A., care General Delivery Johnston, George Jefferies, E. A., Joyce, James Kelly, Mrs. A., New Gower Street King, Walter H., Water St. Kirby, Charles, George's Street Kirby, Mrs., Pearce Avenue Kent, Philip, card Lawrence, Thomas, George's St.	I Isgg, Miss M., retd. Leonard, Harry, Flower Hill Lewis, F. J., care General Delivery Lodge, Edmund, late Bell Island Lowe, L., King's Bridge Road Loveless, Hickman, retd. Lustin, Mrs. John, care G. P. O.	J Martin, Mrs. Dan., Georgetown Malone, Thos., Victoria St. Martin, S. H., card Maloney, Mrs. Annie, Carew Street Mellor, F. C. Mercer, P., Blackmarsh Road Moore, Miss Mary, Forest Road Milley, Miss Lizzie Miller, Miss B. Morrison, W. J., retd. Morrisey, Miss Maggie, card Morrison, Capt. A. J., retd. 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Pike, Miss Mary E., Wood's Street	Pike, Mrs. S., retd. Pike, Mrs. E. W., retd. Pynn, Mrs. retd. Pike, Mrs. Arthur Pynn, Willie, retd. Powers, John Power, Maggie, retd. Power, M. J., late Halifax.	Q Qinton, John, late Grand Falls	R Ralph, Miss Beatrice, card, LeMerchant Rd. Ratus, Mrs. John, Pleasant St. Ryan, Miss Katie, New Gower St. Reid, Miss Mary J., Hamilton Street Reid, Mrs. Lizzie, retd. Reeves, Stanley, Hamilton St. Rose, Joshua, Charlton St. Roberts, Capt. W. T. Roberts, Thomas, tanner Roberts, Eliza, card Roberts, Edward Ryan, Joseph, care G.P.O.	S Sheehan, Patrick, late North Sydney Stamp, John, retd. Stacey, Patrick Speppard, Albert, card Spencer, Martha, retd. Sellers, Herbert, card Sheleton, Robert Smith, Wm. B. Smith, Mrs. C., Blackmarsh Road Snow, George, retd. Snow, Wm. Scroggie, Mrs. Wm. D. Shute, Jas., Long's Hill Sullivan, Miss Mary, New Gower St. Sullivan, Samuel, late Glace Bay, C.B.	T Taylor, J. T. Taylor, Geo. 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G. P. O., May 17th, 1901.

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Which Was The Heir?

CHAPTER XXXVIII.
(Concluded.)

‘BESIDES, Miss Rashleigh may marry,’ said Sidney, softly. Edward nodded rather curiously. He didn't like Mr. Sidney Bassington's reference to his—Edward's—sister; for, notwithstanding that Sidney was the earl's heir, and that Edward had got used to him and had made a kind of friend of him, he could not rid himself of the suspicion and the feeling, that Mr. Sidney Bassington was a bounder.

‘Indeed—I hope you won't be offended, Edward—but the earl spoke of Miss Rashleigh.’

Edward's face darkened and grew red, but he said nothing; and Sidney went on smoothly, insinuatingly, and with a depreciation which was meant to disarm Sir Edward.

‘It was only natural that he should do so. He knows you, knows how beautiful and fitting a mistress of the castle Miss Rashleigh would make. Of course I know he's quarrelled with you; but then he's quarrelled with everybody—all his own family—his two brothers. Anyway, he mentioned her, and it was with his consent, with his advice I came over this afternoon.’

Edward got up and went to the window, so that his back was turned to his companion. The thought of Eva as Sidney Bassington's wife jarred upon him, notwithstanding the obvious advantages of the match.

‘You see,’ continued Sidney, presently, watching him, though appearing not to do so, ‘it's just the kind of marriage my uncle would approve. The two estates join each other, the two families are equal in birth and—all that.’

‘That may be as it may,’ said Edward, under his breath, ‘but we are poor—has the earl forgotten that?’

‘That doesn't matter in the least,’ said Sidney, with a kind of suppressed eagerness. ‘There will be plenty of money from the castle side. Look here, Edward, it's not very pleasant for me to have to put this to you, still I'm bound to do so. If Miss Eva consented to marry me things might be very different here at the Hall.’

‘How do you mean?’ asked Edward, reluctantly and gloomily. But Sidney had come prepared for reluctance, and was not discouraged.

‘Well, you see, if Eva—’ Edward's face grew darker and redder at this familiar use of her name without the prefix, and Sidney, colouring and biting his lips, added the ‘Miss,’ as he went on: ‘If Miss Eva would consent to marry me, of course I'd take up the mortgages—I mean I'd get the earl to do so; and, equally, of course, there would be a proper settlement on her—I'd see that it was a large one. And then, as the earl would be in good humour, I could get some money from him, and I could let you have—’

He had gone a trifle too far. Edward turned upon him with an ominous flash of the Rashleigh eye.

‘Look here, Bassington,’ he said, sternly, and in a low voice, ‘we Rashleighs are not in the habit of selling our women. I've got rather a shrewd idea that I ought to chuck you out of this window, and, by Heaven—’



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Sidney turned pale, and half-rose from the chair.

‘There, I knew you'd be offended,’ he said, nervously; ‘but I like you all the better for it. I know you're fond and proud of Miss Eva. Perhaps I ought to have told you how much I love her and admire her, and of how I've often wanted to say so, but that I felt I wasn't worthy of her.’

‘That's the truest word you ever spoke, Bassington,’ remarked Edward, grimly.

‘I know that,’ assented Sidney, meekly. ‘She's far above me in every way, and that's what have kept me silent. I don't suppose that I should ever have been able to pluck up courage to speak if the earl hadn't spoken to me last night.’

He was taking the right course, and he saw Sir Edward's brow relax somewhat.

‘After all,’ went on Sidney, meekly and deprecatingly as before, ‘what is there against me—I mean as compared with other men? You and I have been friends; you know all about me. I mean’—he stammered for a moment as the remembrance of Rachel and that hideous marriage ceremony flashed across his mind—‘of course I don't pretend to be better than other men.’

He paused for a moment. Should he refer to his past? Perhaps it would be wiser. Then, if Rachel made a disturbance either before or after the marriage, he could say that he had been frank and candid.

‘I may have had my affairs—most men of our class have, haven't they?—but they're all done with. I come with a clean slate—in fact, if I couldn't I wouldn't come at all; for I love Miss Eva, and I want her to be my wife more than I can say. Think what a splendid Countess of Starborough she would make; you know she would!’

There was a pause. Edward flung his half-smoked cigar out of the window and lit another with hands that trembled not a little. Sidney watched him keenly.

‘And think what a good thing it would be for the estates. We could pay off the mortgages; the Hall could be what it used to be, and there would be no more trouble about money—’

Sir Edward laid up his hand.

‘Drop that, Bassington,’ he said, sternly. ‘You don't understand. Money has nothing whatever to do with it. I'd rather see the old place pulled down brick for brick, I'd rather work as a labourer on the land my father owned, than Eva—his voice choked at her name—should marry against her will for money, or to save every acre. I don't say that there is anything against you, except—he coughed and gulped at his whiskey; for he was actually going to say ‘except that you are a bounder’—and as to your having had some affairs in the past—well, if they're done with, I can't complain about that. Most men—worse luck!—are in the same boat. And you will be the next heir to Starborough. I can't forget that. But look here, damn it all! it's for Eva to decide. I won't say a word to influence her. You may speak to her—you did right to speak to me first; I'm her guardian, and it was the classy thing to do; but it rests with her, and I tell you frankly that if

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she's not willing I don't say a word.’

Sidney colored and wiped his brow. This was not what he wanted. His small, mean soul, shrank from the ordeal of pleading his case before Eva.

‘I think—wouldn't it be the correct thing, Sir Edward,’ unconsciously, feeling his inferiority, he gave Edward his title, ‘for you to speak to her and tell her of my proposal? I am afraid if I did so I might make the mistake I made with you, and lay too much stress on the money advantages of the match.’

Edward regarded him dubiously. It struck him that Sidney displayed rather too much ‘scrupulosity’ for a bounder.

‘All right!’ he said, rather curtly. ‘I suppose it is the proper way of doing it. I'll speak to her; but I warn you that no word of money—’

Fool as he was, Sidney Bassington knew that the word about money would be spoken, unwittingly, perhaps, but it would be spoken; and he knew how it would influence Eva, who was so devoted to her brother and the old historic family tradition.

He rose and extended his hand and Edward shook it, but rather absent-mindedly and with a gravity of countenance which was phenomenal with him.

Sidney left the house not ill-pleased. He felt that, to use a phrase of his old lawyer days, he had ‘done a good stroke of business.’ He felt immensely satisfied with himself as he sauntered from the Hall to the castle. He would get rid of Rachel, he would marry Eva Rashleigh, the loveliest, the daintiest woman in the country. He would be the great—the greatest—Earl of Starborough.

And suddenly, in the midst of this rosy dream, of this self-gratulation, he saw a man standing within a few paces of the castle lodge; and his heart sank in his bosom, sank like a lump of lead, and the sanguine color of his face fled and left it white as ashes.

(To be continued.)

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