Dark Night's Work BY PAUL INGELOW.

Continued from 1st page

"He will claim that the mortgages ipple him; that he has not sufficient and to pay interest and living expen-a. He will sell the mining property a ruinous sacrifice, the villa, every ing, anything, in fact, to handle out reach; But that will take time."

And time is all I ask!" spoke Letta, with determined eyes. "He ds the upper hand now. Wait!" Britts did not enlighten the law-as to his intentions, nor concerning discovery of the hiding-place of the

The contract of the contract o He wished to investigate that branch of the case alone. More than that, he resolved, in case he found the meney, to vishold it from Durand's hands, if he hall to retain personal secret possession of it until Gladys came of age. He correctly and readily surmised that one motive Durand had in wishing Gladys' return was to learn of the mishing money, and he wondered what Durand's next move would be, when he accertained that the heiress was entirely ignorant concerning it.

The lawyer had arrived at a commonpiace decision that they could only wait until comething had developed, but Le Britts left him with a far more serious and definite thought in his mind.

He had but one hope of ultimately including all the plots of Ralph Durand, and that was based on the recovery of the tramp. In case Doctor Milton brought him through his illness, and in mae, furthermore, the tramp would give the evidence against Durand, the affair was ended.

The stand part person.

The st

"No, he has probably considered that "No, he has probably considered that "" "No, he has probably considered that "" "And we have it—we know where "" "It will be more difficult to trace a man unknown than a person like Ralph Durand. Le Britts. I fear we are at odds with fate. We have lost the game "It looked so. Within an hour the two friends were at the village.

Le Britts came to a sudden standstill, and viewed his friend with a startled look, for the voice and manner of the laster had grown decidedly omnous.

"It was that money—that hidden was the village.

Promised reward spurred the town dicials to send out their men in quest of the tramp as described by the photographer.

All the next day both Le Britta and the doctor personally scoured.

"The money—the hidden treasure?" "Yes."
"Why?"
"It is in danger!"
"The treasure in danger!"
"Decidedly su."
"I do not understand you."

"I do not understand you."

"The patient."

"You mean the tramp!"

"Exactly. You know the condition you left him in—delirious. Well, that next day he got suddenly better. The case perplexed me. One hour he would be rational, the next raving. I encouraged the former mood, even to the taxing of his vitality, and began to administer a strong stimulant. Yesterday evening he was sleeping quietly when I left him. I went to call on a patient. When I returned".—

Doctor Milton paused impressively and sighed—a troubled, anxious sigh.

"When I returned," he repeated, in sonclusion, "the tramp was—gone!"

Gone!" cried Le Britta, with a riolent start and in blank wonderment,

candle set on a rude deal table within a sparingly furnished room, emanated the glow that had been to him, a beacon to safety and shelter.

The dripping caves and the sides of the hut were, however, a shield from the driving wind, and Le Brifta paused there and glanced cariously in at the window A little wood fire blazed in the fireplace. Near it, he head held in one hand

for fire some trace of the man who had cevacied their kindness by carrying away a riyal fortune.

Two nights later, discouraged and haffled, the friends left the vicinity of Hawthorne villa.

The doctor was nettled at being beaten; Jera Le Britta felt discouraged, disheurtened.

As a sudden storm sweeps a hill-top of terdure, in a moment of time or a swooping hreeze changes the whole as spect of a placid pool, so had the past two days disintegrated and demelished tabric of plot, counterplot and complication which had pressuted itself as a family learned that the fact of plot, counterplot and complication which had pressuted itself as a family learned that the fact of plot, counterplot and complication which had pressuted itself as a family learned the fairing of the counterplot and complication which had pressuted itself as a family learned that the fairing with him Gladys Vernon and Sylney Vance.

The tramp had secured the hidden fortune, and was not to be found.

Justice slept; the right had been defeated; wrong and cunning were seemingly strumphant.

All that Le Britta had done in the interest of justice had, it seemed, been of no avail.

Home and its endearments looked dark, with a return signalized by disaster and defeat, and duty half accomplished.

"That is the end of the Vernon case!" sighed Doctor Milton, as the train neared home.

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In a thoughtful, wearled jose, was a tittle girl of about eleven years.

It we had been the control of the control of the control of the table, the pinched wan face of the child.

The train phad secured the hidden force to that of the peaker with a quick, pleased mile.

The bare and of the table, the right is pinched wan face of the child.

The train phad secured the hidden force and the price of a pinched phad been defeated; wrong and cultivation of the control of the co

An advancing figure enchained their

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