Crooks That Had Arranged

so Far as Nelly Curzon Was Con

out to the End.

sa dog's hing leg just at the last ert Errol has arrived."

ened William John.

hands him the paper, and for

and assist butler. Only those with good references need apply Sandilands Hall, Egham. The very thing," says he. I

sed to know something of Sandilands plate is worth a small fortune. What

ne you, I'll write you half-aafter a long talk I parted

the private sanctum of the head ler, whose name was Bloxam, and at worthy gentleman was busily testimonials look all right," s he. "and I like the look of you,

He pushed a decenter of port and a

tes with the message that he was to ske me to Miss Curzon at once. retty? I should think she was and so this is the man?" savs

John Higgins; very much at your she put me through a rare rough-

of questions, but I was well primed and scraped th rather neatly. You may come a month on trial,

Thank you, miss," I answers, and the out with Bloxam. wat back to Bloxam's den, and a sociable old chap, profresh bottle of port and lat to celebrate, as he put it. would do a little

company here ? 'I asks. Company! Bless you, the place ure. There's nobody but Mr. Rupert comes home. Quite quarrelled with his father, and mean us to leave England?" to say it was all about Miss thim off to foreign parts. Mr.

il his father gave his consent. for three years we had occasional of him, and then came the silwhich has lasted five years. and Rupert he grew remorseful, ted her and brought her to until Rupert should turn up

as to have everything ready when

my departure, ostensibly er. and listened attentively to

the news I had gathered.

"It is loot, Bill Jack, but not a marrel, all except the horses." emmy and darkiantern job. We are

med the Program Was Carried suppose I must do a little sleight-of- thought of Bob's smartness. hand in a crowd to get that.'

"You go back to Sandilands Hall. and Bob were down on our luck Today is Wednesday. On Saturday membered his instructions not to way. Bob knew what he was about, sion of blood.

Venued a few years ago for the use of fairly districtions and I must not spoil his game.

Venued a few years ago for the use of fairly districtions and I must not spoil his game. A diver's dress is very heavy, from divers, one can end of a lange of the lange of

tw of his lordship's beastly vate conversation with Rupert Errol my mind, only complicating things. a hand-shake the bride handed each tion from the fumes. I worken away members of the Admiralty were pres until he asks you for information; The next day the lawyer turned up of us a cheque. and a week after Rupert Errol disaplast a bit, Bill Jack," says Bob. pears from Sandilands Hall Beautiful ways called me Bill 'Sack 'cos I Bob will be awaiting you here with your share of a fortune. "You you can never do it,"

suddenly he says, "Listen to "Pooh! there is now my skill in disguises, and You know my skill in disguises, and ATED, a man to wait at table Rupert Errol, just come from abroad will be sure to have a heard, and I

"But, Miss Curzon?"
"She will never suspect; she was when Errol went Hall, when old John Errol was the box of it, but the old chap died abox-ax months ago, and I don't difference in a man; besides, I have how who lives there now. But if got to know enough of her young the Errol tamily still live there, the days to convince her that I am her beloved Rupert."

That night I went to my new situ-That night I went to my new situ set send the news to me."

out enough," I says. "And ert Errol was on its way to Beautiful Bob. Errol was not a bit like Bob except for the nose, and they ch one more flattering than were almost as similar as two peas. ther, and no two in the same but I knew my chum's skill in make up and felt no fear.

At eleven o'clock on Bob, and after dossing myself morning I saw a telegraph boy enter the grounds, and then I prepared for some excitement, and I was not dismy way to the side entrance of appointed. The news flew over the slands Hill and asked for the place like wildfire, and all I could hear for the next hour was "Mr. Ruprenty minutes later I was seated ert is coming this afternoon." And smiled all by lonesome

At five o'clock Miss Curzon grouped us all on each side of the porch, while she herself stood on the steps to give him a royal welcome.

Almost to the minute the carriage I'll just see Miss Curzon and get and the pair of greys which had been opinion. She's the lady of the sent to the station swung up the drive, amid our cheers of welcome, a handsome, brown-beared man stepped to the ground.

With hardly a look at the servants other instant, before us all, he had Miss Nelly in his arms, kissing her moon.

Nelly in his arms, kissing her moon.

Red was received a cheque for £100; and as of the surface with me he says, months afterwards.

We shall be seeing you again short. and—well, I didn't think Beautiful Bob was ready to receive Mr. Wood ly," and I thought he gave a wink, been trained from boyhood at Whit- cigar was lit and placed in his mouth Bob had it in him.

That evening I waited on them at dinner. I always knew Bob was a bit of an artist in the way of romancing, but his conversation at that meal was an eye-opener. He told her of his travels all over the world, his tuck at the gold-diggings be prepared at once. This was £10,-000 each for Bob and me. in California; the tremendous estates be had purchased out there; and the plete in every particular save one. "And what is this one thing that

is missing, Rupert?" she asks-inno- completely knocked me into silence. cent like. "A queen, my darling," he answers, until Bob came near the end, then "and as soon as my palace was ready they got a staggerer. I set out for England in the hope

Let's see-it's to share my throne."

She was the daughter of are alone in the world, and with you will be a great blow to many of you, te then, and Mr. Rupert by my side the place in California as it will mean the loss of a life spanning of the marry her, but old Squire will be a Paradise. I propose to sell long situation. But in order that the logs. I came out this morning; '... 'Then who who came to Sandi-

ways under the impression that Bob ceive a cheque for five years' wages; to the paragraph in today's paper. I and we would look the place com- the term you have served." ing of selling the place so audacious- the stuffing of the goose, and when was Beautiful Boh?" Curzon's father died ly, well, my breath seemed a bit he finished they gave cheers for both and brought her to tight on my chest.

into the drawing-room, and I didn't us, but I was worried. I did not see at any rate. see Bob again that night, but just any necessity for the wedding, and I "But, oh I ass that I after breakfast the next morning Miss determined to risk it and speak to thought it was your bogus cheque Curzon told me to send a man over Bob. come to Sandilands at once.

"Woodrow! He's the family lawy- horses, and I tollowed them out. I her happiness; but many a time, when

It though Bob was playing a very ing a cigar.
The lawyer turned up about "Well, my man, what is it?" midday, and after the three had had "I say, don't run it too hard, window isn't opened know I shall die." a long conversation they started on guv;nor,"

I was waiting, of course, and the lawyer did most of the talking.

"Couldn't have happened more convenit." he said. "Lord Sandpipe can loot the place at our "Couldn't have happened more convenit." he said. "Lord Sandpipe comett." he said. "Lord Sandpipe cometains special so you must be succeeded by the comes out and the second Ditto-"Who opened that window? If it is not shut I shall die, I'm sure.

"I don't know. This man says comething about being too hard." comething too hard." comething to hard. The said that the matter is the matter. The said that the said, 'No, not that I was aware of,' a few days, and, of course, the tunity to quit this vale of tears."

"Why, want's the game, if it ain't he replied that is it was he would cheques your promised the servants buy it as it stands, lock, stock, and will not include him."

going to pull enough this journey to horses can be sent to Tattersall's." low-how would you care to come to that profession for the last eighteen fee is greater. For instance, on some

I tried to have a word or two with out."

"What hard lock; answay, we must and physical strength to be a diver, pumps, and an assumdance is and and physical strength to be a diver, pumps, and an assumdance is and and physical strength to be a diver, pumps, and an assumdance is and the diver, pumps, and an assumdance is and physical strength to be a diver, pumps, and an assumdance is and the diver, pumps, and an assumdance is and physical strength to be a diver, pumps, and an assumdance is and physical strength to be a diver, pumps, and an assumdance is and physical strength to be a diver, pumps, and an assumdance is and physical strength to be a diver, pumps, and an assumdance is and physical strength to be a diver, pumps, and an assumdance is and physical strength to be a diver, pumps, and an assumdance is and physical strength to be a diver, pumps, and an assumdance is and physical strength to be a diver, pumps, and an assumdance is and physical strength to be a diver, pumps, and an assumdance is an arranged in day. When the work is dangerous the

good; if not, that is your own look into the sea for the first time are de- It is possible now for a man to r

'What hard look; anyway, we must and physical strength to be a diver, pumps, and an attendant-is £5 a years to the writer, when questioned wrecks I have received as much as

cidedly strange. There is invariably main five or six hours underwater Bob, but he always seemed to frown I thanked him, of course, and de-when I approached him, and I re-termined to let things take their cases this is accompanied by an effu-ine submaring lamp, which was in-

for a diver with his assistants | Contract of the contract of A man must possess good nerves namely, two boys to work the airgoing to pull enough this journey to last a lifetime. Now, listen first 1 "And you will send my jewels over want a photograph of Rapert Errel, if it is to be had."

"Then I must have a fiver to pay my fare to Southampton and back. I monds, and I smiled broadly as I thought of Rob's specifies."

"And you will send my jewels over to calliornia?"

"And you will send my jewels over to calliornia?"

"I would follow Miss Nelly any set to the writer, when questioned to that profession for the last eighten years to the writer, when questioned as to the qualifications necessary to set me decked in the family diamonds."

"Good judge," he laughed. "Well, you shall have a cheque for £100 and up address in California. If you make a second descent into the water.

I had heard a lot about those diamonds, and I smiled broadly as I thought of Rob's specifies.

The sensations one feels in descending the world.

It is possible now for a man to re-

a bit troubled about Miss Nelly. I arrived at Sandilands, and at ten weighs 56 lbs. In the water, how- some few years ago Halloram, a well-We had worked for near a "Well?"

thought Bob was going a bit too far. o'clock we all drove to the church ever, the whole dress does not weigh known diver, in one of the docks and Rupert Errol was quietly marrismore that 50 lbs. to 60 lbs. I once when they first came out, at a depth of the docks and repert errol was quietly marrismore that 50 lbs. to 60 lbs. I once when they first came out, at a depth of the docks and repert errol was quietly marrismore that 50 lbs. to 60 lbs. I once when they first came out, at a depth of the docks are thought Bob was going a bit too far. o'clock we all drove to the church ever, the whole dress does not weigh known diver, lit one of these lamps, dee Lord Tallport of his plate, assemble to servants will assemble to servant when you want a bit of inthe shriff didn't walk in and colthe whole blooming lot just to make love to a whole blooming lot just to make love to a whole blooming lot just to make love to a whole blooming lot just to make love to a went up to said the time came we all ship amongst some broken barrels of was perfectly audible to those above
the whole blooming lot just to move the cargo without such protection. Some

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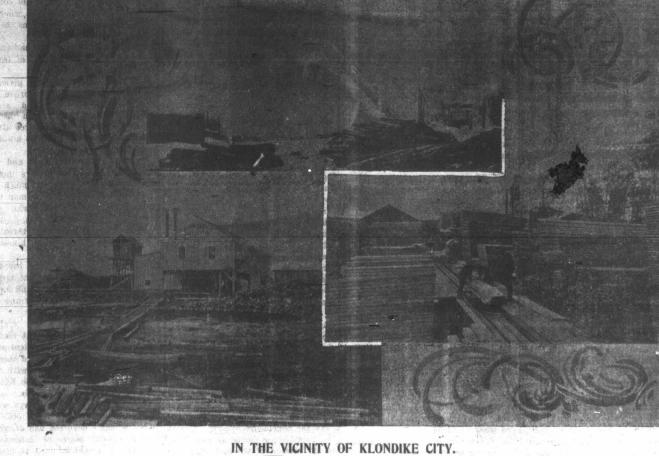
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in time for dinner, bringing with him When my turn came I went up and ing no water to take off the weight very daring individual, and the only he dashes up the steps, and in an-

row, and as they discussed a prelim- which I returned. Rupert, Rupert! come back at my chum did look a regular dook, Bob went on his honeymoon. All

toice like a silver bell.

Is complete."

Then he kisses her again. Oh! he got them from, I don't.

Then he kisses her again. Oh! he was having a real good time, was sails Miss Nelly. Lord! the blaze Bob will be awaiting you here with of twinkling light. Oh! the diamonds, the sarphires. I shut my eyes, turned away, and gasped. And these were all to be ours, mine and

Bob's ! However, I learned something at the dinner. Lord Sandpipe had agreed to purchase, and called £20,-000 dirt cheap. The deeds were to

Then after dinner Bloxam was askand where's Nelly ?" beautiful palaces he had built. A ed to assemble the servants in the wonderful place it seemed to be, com- hall. I wondered what was up, but gode daft?" I was soon to know.

And then Bob made a speech.

"And so, Miss Cutzon and myself fortune, and I want my share." that I could bring you back with me are to be married next Saturday, and when we leave Sandilands Hall seem drunk, but you talk like it. I "Oh! Rupert, do you do you it will be to return to it no more, have not been near Egham, and as we sail to our new home across have not nicked a fortune. I tried to "Why not, my darling? We two the sea in far-off California. This pinch a purse to provide the neces-

would come to me some fine night, in fact, you will all be paid for half saw an account of his marriage and fortably; but when I heard him talk- There was a lot more, but this was did you really think Rupert Errol

Dinner was over and they strolled Things were going splendidly for "Good, good, that puts us in funds

"Who's Woodrow?" I asked Blox- tunity. Bob and Miss Nelly had gone since. I sometimes feel rather glad to the stables to say good-bye to the that Miss Nelly was not deceived in found Bob standing by himself light- things look blue, I think remorsefully

"We shall be seeing you again short- Most of the professional divers have Kingstown Harbor. Of course, the

mond steal. Goodness knows where peating my chum's words

or Bob at the place appointed. He was not long in making his appear-

"Quod,' he answers. I says, surprised. "Why-"Quod /

ooking object I have seldom seen.

"Nelly! Who's she? Have you It ed at Egham church last week." The servants all listened and cheered, week

"Now, look here, Bob, you can't

bluff me like this; you nicked the sary funds for our enterprise, but I

we can."

We'll, I was so flabbergasted that I of you who have been in the service dropped a bottle of fizz. I was al-

and lit my pipe with it.' to Richmond to ask Mr. Woodrow to It was not until Tattersall's men I will not repeat what Bob said, to said to said to said the said to said

of that lost fortune.

window? If it is not shut I shall 4

stable, and earn from £4 to £7 a before his helmet was put on. inary sherry and bitters I tell you I came to London that night and day when at work. The ordinary fee We fit glasses. Pioneer drug store. "At last," he says "my happiness with his evening togs and his dia-

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