

CHAPTER II

For a long second she held the center, of, as I may say, the limelight; and I do verily believe that during that period she was the least perturbed person present. Let me say at once, her personal appearance was such that I give you my word I did not for several seconds even notice her outrageous costume. She was a tall girl, but so well-proportioned that this was not a disadvantage; and the very first thing one noticed was her hair. It was red, a peculiar coppery red, and lay about her face in smooth waves. It was one of those heads of hair which hairdressers often try to mimic with their art, yet seldom succeed. So far, so good. As to hair, she was as well groomed as any woman present.

Below this a pair of level eyes looked quietly at the company. There was