her, and she had been faucying that his manner had changed—that he was in some fashion growing found of her. How wofully mistaken she was ! Her face burned as she thought of those early loves of his. Who were hey? How much had he cared for them? Had he whispered sweet words into willing ears? Had he, who had never once kissed her, kissed the fair faces of those early loves? Her heart beat fast as she thought of it. Then she called herself to account. Was she—an unloved, neglected wife—jealous of the fleeting loves of an hour? She was startled when she word that the pretty yory paper knife she had been holding in her hands

hund that the pretty ivory paper knife she had been holding in her hands was broken.

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"What has come over me?" she asked herself. He had never loved any one. Would he live his life without love?

He had never loved any one. Would he live his hie without lover And, if he ever loved any one, would it be she ? "It is a terrible thing that we have done," she said to herself—" mar-ied without love. Ah me, if ever a girl as young and ignorant as I was comes to me and asks me the same question that I asked my father, I shall ay to her, 'Marry without money, without position, without worldly pros-prets, if you will; but rather die than marry without love ""

A kind of jealously that she could not understand took possession of kt. If, on looking at pictures or photographs, Lord Caraven praised, cne or thought it cetty, she would examine it in detail to find out if possible that he admired in it. If, in speaking of any lady friend or visitor, the arl expressed his admiration of her, a vague unrest would come over his the she would try to understand what attracted him. He had a frank, tareless, easy way of expressing himself. Often, when she heard him, her ce would suddenly grow pale even to her lips. If he loved at all, he nust love her.

Lord Caraven discerned nothing of this, but Sir Raoul was more deeply rersed in human nature, and he saw that the young countess was beginning olove her husband with a passionate love He did not know whether to e pleased or sorry-whether her love would ever be returned. Yet he build not feel surprised.

"He owes everything to her," thought Sir Raoul ; " yet the last thought hat would enter his mind would be to love her."

Sir Raoul also saw another thing, and that was that, despite her noble haracter, her great virtues, her heroism, her patience, her devotion to one the things, and one fault, and that was jealousy. Sir Raoul had noticed it in the things, and once he laughingly told her of it. "You are jealous, Hildred," he said: "there is one weed amongst may beautiful flowers—you are jealous." She stood quite still for a few minutes after he had spoken, and then the beautiful more this theorem.

he looked up at him thoughtfully.

"You are right," she said frankly-" I believe I am jealous." Sir Raoul was amused at her candor.

"It is true," he went on ; " I have noticed it often. You will not allow by one to feed your pet canary; and, if those tame white doves of yours enter round any one else, you do not like it."

There was no smile in the dark eyes raised to his-only an expression of

eplexity and bewilderment. "You are quite right," she said; " but I had not thought of it before— have not been tried. I have had no especial temptation. No one has

ver made me jealous, because, I suppose, no one has ever loved me very uch; but I have the capability in me." "To be sure you have—all dark-eyed women with Southern faces like | ws have a touch of jealousy," remarked Sir Raoul. "How grave you;

ok concerning it, Hildred !"

"I am thinking gravely," she replied. "I am saying to myself that I ope and trust and pray I shall never have anything to be really jealous bout. I feel-well, I do not know how to express myself clearly, but I cleve that I could be madly jealous, and then, if I were, I could do some eat wrong."

"I do not fear for you," said Sir Raoul. "You will never go very far rong, Hildred."

There was a half-scared expression on her beautiful face. "I do hope," she rejoind " " that I shall never be tried. Jealousy has be some strange things. . is as bitter as death and as cruel as the ave. I may comfort myself though," she added with a bitter laugh; there cannot be jealousy without love, and I have none to give and none Iterive."

CHAPTER XXXV.

It was almost autumn, and people were saying to each other smilingly it summer seemed unwilling to go. The wheat was standing now in at golden sheaves, the fruit hung ripe upon the trees.

One morning a letter came to Ravensmere. It was from Lady Hamil-

to a containing a fetter came to reavent the read was from Lady Hamil-n, to say that she was returning from Cowes, where she had been staying me time, and would be glad to pay her promised visit. Lord Caraven's first sensation on reading the coquettish little note was to ne of unmitigated pleasure. They had been spending a very happy ek alone, the earl, the countess, and Sir Raoul—a week that he had provely enjoyed because the counters, and Sir Raoul—a week that he had roughly enjoyed, because the greater part of it had been spent in the en air with his wife and Sir Raoul. They had been watching the builders' gress, watching the improvements; and the earl was more pleased than would have cared to say at seeing once more a smile on the faces around a. He did not feel quite sure at first that he cared for the coming inter-plion. He gave the letter to Lady Caraven. "If she corres," he said, "it is pretty certain we must invite a party to the start.

et her."

The young countess looked up.

(To be continued.)

