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CHAPTER XXXVII

THE HARVEST OF SIN



THAT strange interview lasted half an hour longer, and with such consummate skill and effrontery had Lady Lyndon borne herself throughout that, when they left, the simpler minds among them felt somewhat confused, and were inclined to believe that it would be impossible for Brian Lyndon to establish his claim to Ballymore.

"So far as I am concerned," he said, as the carriage rolled slowly down the long avenue, "they are welcome to remain where they are. I have no desire to take possession of the place. It is enough if my title and claim are established; only," he added, significantly, "there will have to be a change in the relations between landlord and tenant."

At these words Captain Byrne and the lawyer exchanged glances which Brian could not misunderstand.

"The first thing to be done, anyhow, is to establish your claim, my boy," observed the captain. "What a woman Lady Lyndon is! Did you ever see such effrontery, Mr. O'Grady?"

"I have known her ladyship for a great many