

miration and attention could have the questions fast and thick, as Edna. made a young girl happy, then Edna catching Aunt Martha's arm, held should have been the happiest of her tightly by it, and hid her face in her sex. Last night the great Arleigh bands. "What is it?" repeated Lord Mer- ball, that assemblage of haut ton tosey, anxiously. "What has frightened ward which the select of the upper ten thousand regarded as the great

you, Miss Weston?" gathering of the year, had been a Edna shuddered slightly, and raised her face; it was very pale, but she scene of triumph for her; if there had smiled as she lifted her small, white been any doubt as to her position behand and pointed to the portrait of fore, last night settled it forever, and it was rumored that before the season Str Cyril.

closed, Edna Weston would have her "Look!" she said. Every head turned, every eye was choice of two, if not more, coronets: fixed on the picture, and an exclama- one of them, it was loudly rumored, tion burst from nearly every lip, sav- being that of the heir to Portfield. "And how is our dear girl?" reing Mr. Burion's.

"Good God!" ejaculated Edward peated Mrs. More. "Quite worn out More, "some one has cut the face and exhausted by last night's work, I suppose. I think she sat out only one put!" one had. But who, dance, and then there was quite a and for what reason? None could feeling of disappointment." tell, none could even "guess-they Aunt Martha looks up rather anxcould only gaze at the picture made jously.

And the Worst is Yet to Come-

The captain was as seren chalant, as handsome and fresh as wife, be beyond suspicion-do not ever, and as confident, although the misunderstand me"-the dark eves were lifted to his-"should have no weeks had stretched into months secret in her life-should be as free since he had declared to Edward from any under-current as the virgin More his intention of marrying the neiress, and Edna was still uncaught. mountain rill. Ours-because-He too as he came forward. eves were lifted to his questioningly. ticed the expression on Lord Mersey's "You love her-you vould marry face and interpreted it as Grace

her yourself?" Bromley had done, and as he glanced The captain inclined his head with cound the room covertly, and ascer tained that Edna had not yet made sudden lowering of his lids.

"Why do you not-why do you conher appearance, he breathed a sigh of ceal it?" relief and made a sudden resolve. "Because I am not a viscount with Between rivals, whether in ambian earldom in the future. Because I tion, wealth or love, there must alam not certain of my ground as yet ways be a certain distrust and cool-

--because to tread on ice half formed ness, but anyone would have said means destruction. So much for mythat such uncomfortable prejudices self-for others-shall we say for were entirely on Lord Mersey's side. VOI ?" for the captain's manner to his lord-

ship was the pink of courtesy and pale and shrinking. well-bred amiability. He came up now with his teacup, and stood chat-The captain smiled. ting in the window addressing Grace thing to save an old friend like Lord and Lord Mersey alternately by turns, and succeeding, as he always

did, in interesting them both: then with an air of sudden recollection, he save him

aid: "By the way, I have succeeded in etting the list of these poems, Miss Bromley, if you care to see it," and alking a she went on he walked toward a small inner room which was partially divided from the larger by urtains. Grace turned her dark eyes on him and met a glance which seemed too

insignificant to be disregarded, and with all a woman's deference to the mysterious, followed him into the other room. He had taken a piece of paper from his pocket by the time she had reached his side, and as he held it toward her, bent over it with

a careless air, and said, in a low roice: "Can you come into the window eat, out of earshot? Do not start!" ut Grace had started perceptibly, hough she followed him obediently and seated herself in a low chair in the window furthest from the other room. The captain seated himself be-side her, paper in hand, and pointing Scott's brings a wealth of rich

to it as if he were saying something concerning it; murmured in his sweetest voice: "Miss Bromley, am I not

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Mersey from a great mistake. If tell you, you can do something to LONDON DIRECTORY Grace Bromley looked irresolute.

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