

## **Lord Cecil's** Dilemma

## The Picnic **WoodallForest**

CHAPTER XI. (To be continued.)

with a species of fascination. In some for you if need be." music of his eloquent voice.

Cecil moodily gnawed at the ends of his mustache, and the young lawyer through the engagement of her eldest daughter to Sir Charles Hastings; still she was a little dubious concerning the young lady's remarks about Lord Cecil.

Seizing the first opportunity which ordinary civility permitted, Stanhope escaped from the drawing-room and took Gardner with him.

makes me sick. I don't mind Flossie, felt a trifle nonplused.

the cigars, and for a while they days since, speechless. He met with a

"We'll run over to Swinford Abbey to-morrow," he said at last. "The one." earl has been ill for some time, but there are hopes now that he will soon

this affair of Hastings' will be a fresh blow, for she thinks all the world of

Gardner looked at his companion through the wreaths of smoke that

know that I haven't been particular- white lily on a shield. After dinner Flossie played and ings; it never was one of my disto magnificent houses; but the splentered for the better, it is simply ownot going to talk business until I and now I'm out of it, partly because with her. I'm sorry for her, and partly because I mean to be quits with somebody

A vindictive gleam shot into his cant," he said. "Lady Craythorne eyes, and for a space the barrister

it so wparent to the world when she's offer no opinion until I am relieved of in love with a fellow. Come into my this mystery. I will say, though, that He produced several brands of of Sir Charles. I left him but a few shooting accident, and was too weak to move, too feverish to recognize

you'll know hereafter!"

"Of course," he observed, "I can

"I knew nothing of this. I only hope recover. I want you to comfort Lady that it is not true, for Lady Gladys' Gladys, if you can. She is bearing her sake. I am on the stool of penitence,

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vo come together again."

"And yet, Ada Craythorne is I he girl to spread a baseless report of hat kind," Gardner said, reflectively. She is strong-willed, passionate, a ittle unscrupulous, where her insts are at stake, but too proud to roulate stories of that kind, and then have to face a humiliating de-

"She's a fine girl," remarked Lord Cecil. "And no fellow can help adniring her."

Gardner had to admit this.. He could not help thinking about her, and called himself a fool for it. He had begun by distrusting her, he had determined to expose her, but now he was resolved to shield her.

(To be continued.)

## LADY IRIS'

CHAPTER I.

The motto of the family was, "Held with honor." The crest, chosen by the same king who had created the earldom, was a lion with a white lily on a blue shield. In olden times the cry of "The lion and the lily!" had scattered the foe and made bolder the All round Chandos there still re-

mained the trace of royal residence. prowsed was called the King's Forest, and the nearest town was Kingsdene. which were magnificently decorated, opened upon a noble entrance-hall, in which was a broad oak staircase with superbly-carved banisters, "Stanhope," he said, suddenly, "I leading to a picture-gallery that had think that I can trust you. Let me no equal in the country. The great tell you that you are like, and yet un- staircase and the hall were flecked like, the Stanhope of old. You have with rich color, for the large winlost much of the objectionable ar- dows were fitted with stained glass. rogance that I remember, and it Over the grand entrance, above the surprises me that I consented to be large windows, and round the pillars your adviser. I am glad now that I was the motto-"Held with honor." Gardner watched Lady Stanhope came, and I will work heart and soul On the great iron gates over the hall "I am much obliged to you," was tel pieces, over the doors of the the somewhat surly rejoinder. "I principle rooms, were the lion and the

ly considerate of other people's feel- Mrs. Bellew had been accustomed ing to impending adversity. But I am sumed a splemn aspect; she was to have consulted with Lady Gladys. I of this grand old place. As she walknearly forced her into a marriage, the ed up and down the broad terraces thought of which she detested, mere- she wondered what Lady Iris would

Mrs. Bellew herself was fair and knew, were everything, and she wish-

and ease-a girl with a face that was peerless in its dainty high-bred loveiness, and Mrs. Bellew was saying to her-

"You are wonderfully like the about the Ladies Fayne?"

"No, I have never heard!" replied

he girl, interested at once. "It is an old saying. I used to hear my mother sing it; she was a Fayne

"All the Faynes are fair of face, All the Faynes are full of grace, All the Faynes are proud and cold— They their name with honor hold!"

"The last line is the only one I care for," said Lady Iris. "The others are full of flattery."

"Do you think it flattery to be called 'proud and cold'?" asked Mrs. Bellew.

"Yes, decidedly I do. I like cold people, and I like proud people. Above all, I like people who hold their asmes in honor, as we Faynes do." And that little conversation gvae the anxious chaperon some faint idea of the character of Lady Iris.

(To be continued.) is lean and dry, place pieces of butter over it when you put it into the ove

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