

The Cruise of the "Kingfisher."

CHAPTER XLIII.

There was no sound for a momen or two, then the crowd stirred and nt up a hoarse and impressible shout of amazement: the magistrate sat as if dumbfounded: Stella uttered a cry, and caught Cecilia's arm.

"What-what do you say?" faltered Lord Hatherley. "(Sit still, Ralph!" for Ralph had risen with white face and staring eyes. He sank into his seat, clutching the back of Lord Hatherley's chair. "What do you say? This-this cannot be true! It -it is impossible!"

Mr. Grahame shook his head grave-

"I understand and appreciate your the request on my own responsibility and am fully aware of its gravity. rill add, my lord, that I hold in my at the proper time; but I submit that I am within my right in requesting that my client be described as I

It was useless for the usher to de mand silence; and for a moment or of feet, as the crowd swayed to and fro in its excitement, reigned su- fro heavily. It was Ralph.

Lord Hatherley, rising in his agitation, held up his hand.

"Mr. Grahame"-he struggled for composure—"we have the right to

"Quite so, my lord," said the counsel. "I had thought that the court would have been somewhat prepared for my announcement." He glanced at Rath. "The resemblance to the made a movement with his hands, as cuteness. "My lord, I have here in his father's handwriting-which my is indeed the claimant to this historic title. He is the son of Harold Per-England under family circumstances of a painful character, and was wrecked in the 'Georgia.' He. with

ance of his own name and rank until Wonderful Bilious Remedy this moment; but his claim to the with this statement, but I am only doing my duty in stating that the pris-

Ralph sprang to his feet. He was pale no longer, but crimson with fury, and the hand he extended was clench-

"It is a lie-a conspiracy! I-" Lord Hatherley, trembling, and powerless to check the tumult, rose nd caught his arm.

"For God's sake, sit down!" he ried, agitatedly. "This is not the me-the place-"

Ralph sank down, his blood-shot yes glaring round defiantly; and the

our application, Mr. Grahame," he said, at last. "You can choose any name you please for your client, but ou act on your own responsibility.' Mr. Grahame howed.

"I proceed with the case," he said with splendid calm. "I call Richard

detective forced his way through the dense mass. There was an air of suppressed excitement in his manner and movements, and all saw hat he held a paper in his hand.

"Richard Green, Police Officer, Inelligence Department," he began in official form, after he had been sworn "Do you offer evidence against the

prisoner. Mr. Green?" asked Grahame "No, sir." The crowd stared in absolute si-

"You withdraw the charge?"

"Yes. sir."

Lord Hatherley leant forward. "I-I do not understand!" he said lord, which renders a withdrawal of the charge necessary and just. My of the deceased's-" went on Mr Green, more calmly: but before he could get any farther, an interruption

One of the magistrates had risen and was standing, swaying to and the roof ring again.

"I'm-I'm ill!" he gasped, thickly. Green,

Mr. Green made a strange move

way with perfect clearness.

A man rose from just beneath the witness-box and uttered a sharp cry.

have known all the time that his

into his seat and kept him there; and

western coast of Vancouver, and died claimed the Ratton title. I have

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ing to its tendency to extend to the ses Consumption. Unfortunately people have had faith in sprays. ts and snuffs, which can't pose. Science is advancing every day, fortunately a remedy has been red that not only cures but ts Catarrh. This new treater to kill the germs of Bronchitis, rrh and Asthma. It contains

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where the murder was committed to his private room at the Hall. I am in vore on the night of the murder, and have other evidence which I will lay before your worships when-"

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His voice was drowned by the varley and the other magistrates sat like images of stone Stella, with a sol of relief, ran with outstretched hands towards the dock, and no one sough

"All right Stella!" he said, gently soothingly. "All right! Ah, don't cry. Stella!" for the tears were run ning down her face; and, with the electric sympathy which stirs crowd, the other women in the cour were also weeping. In vain the usher and the police sought to restore or der. Lord Hatherley rose, and some words fell from his lips, of which on ly one-"Discharge"-was audible The two policemen fell away from

Rath, as Lisle and Edward rushed at him, and the crowd pressed about the dock and stared and shouted at him half mad with frenzy and excitement. "For God's sake, get him out-call a carriage!" cried Edward. "Oh, take care of Miss Mordaunt!" for the heavlord, I have discovered the name of ing mass was pressing upon her

> Rath heard the warning, and, bend ing down, but his great arms round her and lifted her into the dock; and at the sight of the two standing there hand in hand, a shout of satisfaction of delight, made the old timbers of

Mr. Grahame forced his way to

"The man-Bannister!" he said

sharply. Green nodded.

langerously.

"He can't get away. I've my eye on him. I want to speak to Workley Ah." He caught his breath. "He's gone! There'll be mischief! Make way there! Make way, I say!" and he fought his way towards the door with a look of apprehension on his face.

CHAPTER XLIV.

Rath and Stella found themselves outside the court and in the centre of High Street, surrounded by a vast crowd, every member of which seemed to have one desire in life-to stare at these two and to shout uproarious-

Most girls would have been frightened to death under such circumstances, but Stella was not at all alarmed. and she could feel his heart beating against hers with the steady beat of as the crowd pressed round them cheering and striving to shake Rath's

disengaged hand. She knew she was quite safe-

It was hard to realize that he was near her, that he, who but a few min-Rath, who stood avove the crow

"I've got the carriage, Rath-it's there, and my father-for Heaven's

The crowd cheered all the more lustily, but they made a lane for Rath and Stella and Edward led them to the carriage, where they were father and by the Lisles. en, they not only correct consti-

pated bowels, but act upon the liver How it happened, Stella never knew, but she found herself in the "good-morning," and they had been separated in the confusion inevitable

Indeed, Stella scarcely realized that ne was not with her, that she had een separated from him again, bestraight to her own room.

"And now you must lie down and est," said Cecilia.

"I don't want to rest. I want to alk and listen. I want to tell you everything-and hear everything. I voman, the next I am throbbing all over with joy at the thought that Rath is free-that he is near me, that hought for me every hour in the day ne. Do you think there was ever iny man like him-so good, so noble,

"My dear Stella, he is a hero, a reek god-no, better than that-a nan!-and I have never seen his like. or fear, though his life appeared to e at stake, and everything was gainst him. You are a very lucky girl, dearest, to have such a friend, to

e engaged to such a man." Stella stopped in her pacing up and lown the room: the blood surged to her face, and she looked with a start-

"I'm-I'm not engaged to him!" she altered, almost inaudibly.

Cecilia stared at her. "Not-not engaged to him!" she exclaimed, almost as inaudibly. "Why

-why! I don't understand. "I'm not engaged to him," re ne has never spoken a word of love to me; he was a friend, a brother-that is all."

(To be Continued.)

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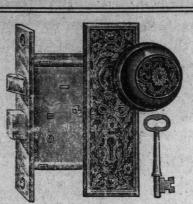
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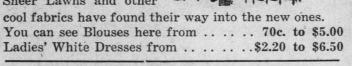
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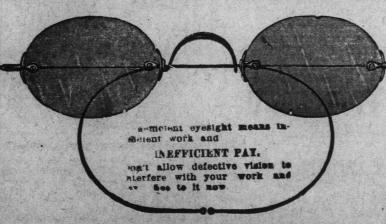
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