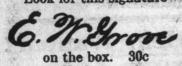
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## The Romance

## Marriage.

CHAPTER XIII.

"Sir Herrick wants to see the arm oury," she says in the most innocent manner, but with rather downcast Hds. "May I show him, dear May?"

May looks up-Bob is standing beside her his hands in his pockets. holding forth, about cows and horses. of course-and turns her gentle eyes dreamily on the downcast face.

"Yes, dear, of course. The idea of asking me! Shall I send for papa-or perhaps your brother; he knows all shout the various suits?"

But Bob does a't budge an inch. "Oh, no-that is, I don't think Sir Herrick cares-"

with a nod: "you know all about it as Bell as any of them. Sir Herrick will Mayo quite as much mediæval history

And Paula, with a graceful glance wards Sir Herrick.

"It is in the next room, behind those curtains," she says,

They pass out-cleverly manoeurvring so that "When I am dead and gone, love" is not interrupted-and enter the armory, which even Mr. Palmer has not dared to interfere with

Just as it was when Sir Herrick ran shout it a child at nlay so it stands now: tall, huge figures clad in steel ranged round the edge of the polished

rapid glance, and then raises her eyes to his to see how the sight of this, the apartment of all others in the Court fect him.

But there is nothing except a quiet. calm curiosity in the expression of showman, and taking up a sword, points to the first man in armour.

"Figure one is the mail suit worn by Rupert Powis at Agincourt. Observe the battle-axe, weighing fiftysix pounds, and the tunic of sliver is to-night. He puts forth all his pow-

chain. This Rupert fell at Agincourt. er of fascination, ransacks his marvel-You may see where the arrow pierced lous memory for little anecdotes suitthe interstices of armour-plate." able to the drawing-room and ladies' Then she breaks off, laughing, as she ears, smiles the sweet, angelic smile looks up at his dark eyes bent upon for which he is justly famous, andher and not upon the historic armour. "How abourd it is!" she says, "You the whole evening, den't care a pin's point about your famous ancestors. You might be the that, if he were a younger man, one Court and inclined to look upon the matrimonial motives; and Mr. Palwhole thing as a bore. You don't care mer, standing against the mantelfor it do you? How strange it is!" | shelf and talking to Bob about the

"There is only one thing on earth crops, wonders what it means. I care for," he says, drawing near to her and putting his arm round her himself, "that he had fallen in love while his eyes seem to sink into her with her, and that nothing would soul. "Only one thing. All the ances- please him better than for Sir Herrick tors and the glory in the world pale to marry her straight off," and he to insignificance for me beside—just stares with his great eyes in stupid one little, dark-eyed girl with red bewilderment.

drooping with passionate languor, anecdotes, and looks wistfully from "They will hear you—someone will under her long lashes at Sir Herrick

"Only one thing," he repeats. "Think of that. That is strange, if you like, the, timid face. that all the things are as nothing to me compared with my own darling, isfled with the state of affairs, and my Paula, Paula, says it once more; plays accompaniment after accomsay 'Rick, I love you!' "

She looks up at him, a quiet smile mental dittles, casting glances up at of ecstatic happiness curving the red him now and again from under her

"Rick I love you!" she says. "But,

with suppressed passion. "I think you ing smile, "or is he wound up like a shall say it every time we meet! And nothing shall part us, Paula. Nothing. Say this, too,"

than the curtains open, and the eleg- Mr. Palmer; "but, alas! the pleasant- is apparently still set Paulaward, and ant figure of the major steps on to the est evening will come to an end. I it is to her and not to Alice that he polished floor.

-figures among the dummy steel-clad the major is keen to the last.

rick's embrace and stands with her pany so far as your inn?" her neck crimson, the major's pink- and nods. and-white face dimples into a charm- "Very well," he says, and though wasted like drops on a sandy desert, ing smile.

memories, and imparting heraldic in- makes his adieux. formation to Miss-Paula. Charming "A most charming evening," he defloor; coats-of-mail and Old-World Pauls will not derive much benefit May overcome by his splendid man- your pardon; perhaps you won't mind may be in wrist or elbow length. refer to for the former history of the this evening has inaugurated."

his handsome face; and Pauls, with the pleasantest tone of harmless rail- sure of meeting you again, and your in peace. a laugh, assumes the attitude of a ery, and yet they fall upon Paula's charming sister, and—if he will perheart as if the painted old beau were mit me to call him so-my friend Rob-

Fate itself personified.

If ever the major was charming, he

"Nothing shall part us," she mur-

clock?"

fear I must quit this charming scene;" addresses a choice selection of re-"The armoury was always a great and he sighs again and shakes his marks upon the moon and the glories attraction for me," he says, evident- head with mournful regret at Paula. | of the heavens. ly addressing someone close behind With many protestations and plead- In fact he is very sentimental in-

He pays her such attention, indeed

It puzzles Paula, too, as she listens

scarcely heeding, to the major's

lounging beside May, who glances up

at him with a look of awe on her gen-

Alice seems the only one gutle sat-

paniment to Stancy de Palmer's senti-

"Will he never go!" thinks Paula,

as the major rattles smoothly on in

But at last the major "runs down."

he sees the two live-very much alive get one word with Sir Herrick. But hears him and anweres at random, "Rick," he says, gently, "I am go-

back to the new-comers, her face and Sir Herrick rises, none too readily, not smile. At last he sees that his

he doesn't glance at Paula, she feels and he says, rather stiffly: "Ah, my dear Rick," he says in the as if he had looked at her regretfully. sweetest of voices, "recalling old With much fuss and stir the major Paula, to-night. Your soul is afar, I

occupation; but I am afraid Miss clares, bending over May's hand-poor aggravating cheerfulness. "But I neg serge or plaid suiting. The sleeve and he taps his padded vest with a dear young lady. I trust you will per- haps," as a happy thought, "Alice This Pattern is cut in 4 Sizes: 4, 6, white foreinger-"I am the person to mit me to retain the friendship which would like to hear them. Alice, Mr. 8 and 10 years. Size 8 will require

Powls family. In fact'-turning to But if his manner is impressive to some verses to the moon;" and Mr. A pattern of this illustration mailed likely to arouse his emotions, will afPaula with a smile that wrinkles his wards May, it is tenfold so to Paula.

Stancy, with a modest blush, is thus silver or 1c. and 2c. stamps. face for all its powder and paint, "you Good-bye, my dear young lady," compelled to transfer his attentions may regard me as its guardian angel." he murmurs, pressing her hand. "I to Alice, who receives them with a Simple words enough, spoken in hope I shall have the extreme plea- sympathetic smile, and Paula is left

> ert. Good-bye." "Good-bye," says Paula, staring at May tripping besides him, now and him, and glancing up at the calm face then glancing up at his face. of Sir Herrick

He has made his adjeux to the rest, and stands now waiting beside ner. He takes her hand within his own and presses it until the blood flies to her face, and, under pretence of picking up his glove, he bends and whis-

"Good-bye, my darling, I shall see

you to-morrow." Paula lifts her eyes to his for the instant, and sends a swift, eloquent glance of love from her dark orbs, and then the brilliant room seems to have grown suddenly dark-for has he not gone?

Then Bob makes a move; and Mr. Stancy, remarking that it is a beautiful night, suggests that he will accompany them to the cottage—that is, with a little, self-satisfied smile at her who accompanies them in their

midly, and with a little blush, and, Mr. Palmer graciously according his permission, May scuddles upstairs

Delicate **Mothers** manages to keep Paula by his side



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Now, usually, on such occasions the magnificent Stancy devotes all his attentions to Alice, and Paula walks "I like to hear it, though," he says, his charming voice and most fascinat- by their side in silence, or lags behind, conversing with her own maiden do to-night. For ah! she has so much and, glancing at the real clock on the to think of; no less than every word, mantel-shelf, raises with a little sigh. every smile, of the king she has on- in silver or 1c. and 2c. stamps. "If one could but stop time in its shrined in her innermost heart; but Scarcely had the murmur died away progress, my dear sir!" he says to Mr. Stancy de Palmer's feeble fancy

him-"always. You, my dear Mr. Pal- ings for delay, Mr. Palmer rings the deed; at any other time Paula would mer, with your strong love for all bell and orders the carriage, and meet his question, as to whether the that is historic and refined, must gath- Paula, with a sigh of relief, is con- moon did not always make her feel er the greatest pleasure from this in- vinced that at last the major will de- sad, with a laugh of good-natured teresting—ahem!-" He breaks off as part, and that—well, perhaps she may mockery; but to-night she scarcely droop of the head, he offers to, and Then, as Paula slips from Sir Her- ing your way. Will you bear me com- actually does, repeat a "little poem" of his own composition. Paula does sentiment and his poetry are being

"Your thoughts are wandering, Miss am afraid."

"Not very far," says Paula, with ham, lawn, linen, repp or poplin, Stancy de Palmer has been composing 3% yards of 27 inch material.

It is Bob and May who lag behind to-night. Bob, with his hands thrust Size .. .. in his pockets sauntering along, and

(To be continued.)

The batiste blouses show wide embroidered frills down the front.

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