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THE TRAGEDY OF THE CEDARS

CHAPTER XL.

No pen is sufficiently powerful to the wife and children of Morden were describe the actions, the emotions, all happily dead." strangely reunited to wife and child. An hour was spent in explanations, "I cannot underestand Esther Marsh's "And all these miserable years we suffering uselessly," said soon," Lord Morden said; "but I am

Lady Morieu. "Not uselessly," replied her husthat you were dead, and later that which had grown ten years younger our daughter was gone, too. He drove in the space of a few short hours. | row," said Mr. Clifford, me from the house with curses, and was ably assisted by Esther Marsh. smiled, "So like what her mother pening to glance at the wan who ruined our lives, I changed my am five and twenty instead of five enough.

name, and went abroad to evade her and forty. Locksley, you have been persecutions, I dropped my identity mainly instrumental in bringing us was settled, Sir Ralph never refusing and had but one wish, and that was together, and have amply atoned for anything his idol proposed. to die. Then I met Locksley's father your father's folly, which, after all, Exactly at ten the next day. me for dead. The doctors had de- braced his daughter, saying: clared that life was extinct, but I "It does not often fall to the lot of ness now, when the second rallied, and lived! I am here to make a young lady to be in the position of She listened to his instructions with I woed and won your gentle heart we will have another marriage, and est anxiety. I had forgotten the incident; but it this time there shall be no interrupcunning creature had a legal hus- by he father." Sand living at the time, and several

other fools, such as I had been, to Edmund's adventure that had so and the pitiful scoundrel greeted practice later?" nearly amounted to his murder and them in his cringing, cowardly way. "Now, she said, "after I have conconnected it with the abominable "I have not come to hear anything sulted Mrs. Williams." scandal which had already been from you," the barrister said. "Your

copied into several newspapers from the society journal. Edmund's cheeks fushed, and an ingry light blazed into his eyes when

he saw the shameful story in print. "I never dreamed that I had an enemy until now," he said. "And it seems that I have one-or perhaps more, whose nature is deadly. Why should this be?"

He thought of Marlowe, and his lips curled, contemptuously.

"We will waft until the coming of my friend, Fairfax, and my trusted Rogers," he told Lord Morden. "And then you must come with me and meet my unhappy father. He has aiready given up all, and I leftebin on that night-which almost proved tatal to me in a mean little house on the Surrey gide of the Thames. He was riding away, under an assumed The Pangs of Remorse name, and dreaming of prison walls. He has sinned, but he has suffered. Let me say this much in his favor. He made inquiries for Dora, and the re- A Complicated Tangle. port from Captain Deene was that



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there is an easy-chair."

He approached the firelight, and Lillian saw him. She started

"I-I am so glad to see you recov red," she said, in a very low voice. "Thank you, Miss Melville; I am ery grateful for your kind wishes,"

"You must be tired of your rooms ow and then at the tutor's wan face.

am not. It would take more than an ordinary life to grow tired of River

"My ill-advised father has much to "Not quite, I think," said Sir Ralph. answer for," Lady Morden observed. that you should try a little sea air. say Brighton, for a week or two; "All things will be made clear

piness is. Your father swore to me feasting his eyes upon her sweet face would say that I should feel happier

"And there is my second Dora," he

-I had a severe illness, and made was but the weakness of a moment." Clifford and his pupil set to work, If debt which mainly accounts for the him my executor. Finally, he left. Then he stepped forward, and em- she were all caprice and impudence growth in our population and our ac once, she was all docility and meek-

amends for the past. I was tricked neither wife nor widow, and soon-as downcast eyes and eager ears; she into a marriage when a boy. When soon as you please, young people- followed every word with the great-"And that is the end of the lesson

was no marriage after all, as the tion, for the bride will be given away is it?" she said; "and I am sure you are tired to death"-and she looked into his face that were a new, wistful, troubled look

"No," he said, "not at all. Shall Marlowe at the Mansion House jail.

Mrs. Williams appeared confederate is dead; but before dying tray of wine and jelly. Mr. Clifford looked, if anything,

Marlowe paled, and his lips twitch- annoyed: "Miss Lilian's orders, sir," said "I refer to Viscount Melville," re- Mrs. Williams, timidly. "She said I more than ever bound up with the

was to bring it when she rang." "Dead! dead!" murmured Mar-He took the wine and drank "You will not let me forget my rope; but we do not wish ever to be "You will learn as much as you de- weakness, Miss Melville," he said; "I forced into doing this through Brit-

sire to know from the newspaper re- assure you it is past." ain's loss of her present position. The Lilian said nothing, but walked New Zealander does not want to think Fairfax remained in thought for a from the room, and he followed her. the Union Jack. of existence otherwise than under short time, Marlowe anxiously watch- She chose the piece and she played fit, looking round at its finish to ask "I understand," the barrister said. for his criticism.

presently, "that you persecuted Miss He picked out one or two phrases, Deene, having the knowledge that she adding:

(To be continued.)

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(To be continued.)

CHAPTER XLL

he confessed everything."

ed nervously.

sumed Fairfax.

very sudden."

ter and heiress?"

ports."

CHAPTER I. Mr. Clifford was better and was coming downstairs to-morrow. It was a happy thought for Lilian, a strangely happy one, notwithstanding that she had a right to feel happy at the recovery of the man who had dared and suffered so much for her. He had been up, but confined to his own rooms for some days past; to-morrow he was to journey down to the drawing room, and to-day

To-morrow came and with it the convalescent.

seemed long passing to the beautiful

They were seated, Sir Ralph and Lilian, before the fire in the drawing room, when a quiet tap at the door nnounced his arrival. Sir Ralph arose and opened it himself, and Mr. Clifford entered.

He was changed, fearfully changed hin and worn, pale and haggard; he wore, in addition, a wistful, t



"No," said Mr. Clifford; "indeed, I The Real Mind of New Zealand

A VERY CANDID ARTICLE.

(By M. C. Keane, Editor of "The

Press," Chrustchrurch, N.Z.) New Zealand is grwing fast. 1875 its population was 300,000; in 1900 it was 750,000; to-day it is a million and a third. But we have beis next to no change in the one great fact which oppresses us, namely, our

Twenty years ago it troubled us little that we were 13,000 miles from Great Britain. War could not come nearer to us than the North Sea, and the Navy could attend to that; we could always sell all the wool and meat and butter that we could produce, and we could borrow all the money we needed

To-day our old sense of perfect security is gone, although we can still sell our produce to Britain and can still raise loans there, adding to the tivities. We are entirely dependent. that is to say, upon Great Britain, and

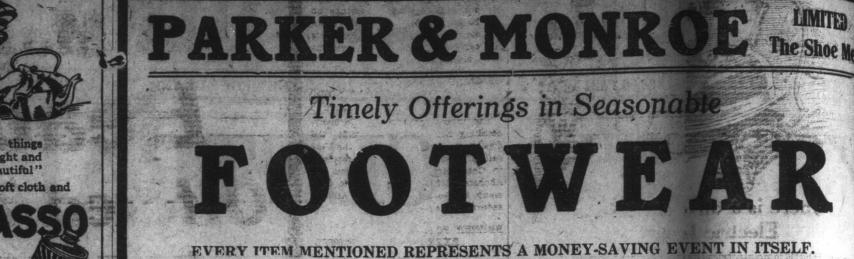
kinship with any of the other States of the Empire. Their problems are thinking of her forward nationalism and her great southern neighbour. Australia jars upon us very often, fact that the compound word "Australasia" is no longer seen in print n New Zealand, and has been condemned tacitly and expressly by the Press, and even by some of the large a with its Herizog and its incalculable Labour Party, merely makes us uneasy. We have not yet reached the stage of slightly agonised wondering what will become of us, but we do realise very acutely that our future is future of the British Isles. We might a borrow money from America; we lowe. "It must have been sudden- glass and ate a spoonful of the jelly, might sell all our produce, instead of some only of it, to America or Eu-

LOYALTY TO ENGLAND.

All this is not the result of mere self-interest. New Zealanders love and respect the spirit of England, and was Lord Morden's legitimate daugh"I cannot play them, unfortunatetent of the oversea Dominions' efforts in the Great War, including their own, they understand just as clearly the magnitude of Britain's sacrifice and the great courage and unselfishness of her policy since the ending of

"Britain is good enough for me," is a phrase I heard from the late Mr. dassey many a time, and it is the senliment of most people in this Dominion. The late Mr. Seddon used to these facts out, for we have not crises speak in thrilling tones of the Emhere. This is a very placid country pire; Mr. Massey preferred to speak prosperous, industrious, humdrum, of the Mother Country, which still ignorant of most of the troubles that injury from a Labour Government in means more to us than the Empire does. One doubts whether Mr. Macthe Dominion is sound; politically it although the most extreme anti-Improved continuous. kenzie King or Mr. Stanley Bruce faces no more serious difficulty than perial sentiments are held and exwouldt ever say. Britain is good enough for me" unless with annihilating qualifications. And here, I think, is a fundamental difference besoild front to the Socialist challenge. ween New Zealand and the other But that challenge is serious, and our ites of the Empire.

We should like a measure of tariff reference from Britain that would nefit us, but there is no New Zea. nder who will not admit that the alance of obligation as between ritain and New Zealand is heavily on our side, and that our moral and material debt to Britain is and will ong remain beyond our means of reent. It is not alone of ourselves cing the spectre that has vanished om the North Sea to reappear in the actific, that we are thinking when support the Singapore plan. In erything that concerns international airs and the affairs of trade Brit-a's interests and our own are by



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