

LADY IRIS'

Hero of 'Surata'

single encouraging word, one sign of things were going in town," she depreference from her would probably clined the proposal. lead to quarrel between these men.

of seeing you again before the day is will stay at the 'Royal.' " Colder and prouder grew the face of

Lady Iris Fayne, and Sir Fulke saw

"Will you please make the survey Sir Fulke?" she asked. "I am tired." Tired, and the walk was only just

ing," she said. "The worst of all is Mrs. Bardon. "People who would perreturning to the lawn."

He had lost her good graces and favor-and all through John Bardon! Could it be possible that she cared for

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him? Sir Fulke wondered. The bare dea was enough to madden him. Yet

He had to bear his disappo He took her back to the lawn, where aughing, and listening to the strains of the band. Lady Iris dismissed him fort to him that fair faces smiled upon him and bright eyes grew brighter for his coming. Violet Blakewell was there, looking her prettiest; but her Sir Fulke had eyes only for Lady Iris, and she was now talking to-John Bardon!

CHAPTER VII.

The day came when Lady Iris Fane was to leave the lovely woodland shades of Chandos for the excitement of a London season. She was half sorry, half delighted. Her grand old ome had a wonderful attraction for her, and she thought there was no place equal to Chandos. Still she was young and beautiful, and she knew that many triumphs were in store for her. Lady Clyffarde and Sir Fulke were both going up to town, but not Richard Bardon and his wife. In the country they reigned royally, but in In a moment she saw how matters and Mrs. Bardon declined to be a "no-

"Am I intruding, Lady Iris?" re- never be known. I would rather be "You are not intruding, Mr. Bar- fered, Richard. I have gone out many don. There can be no question of in- a time with an Indian shawl worth if she had made that promise she must for me! I have been presented, and that is enough. Lady Caton has

"Which costs more than a house," said Richard Bardon,

"You never mind the cost-I am sure I do not," rejoined bis wife, "Here everybody knows that we are the Bardons of Tyne Court, and we of the grounds as short as possible, are respected accordingly. Amongst all the guests ladies of London, who

"It is all that man's fault!" he said millionaire," said Richard Bardon. your character—interested in your 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust dear. There shall be no season in town if you object to it. But the

should be in town without us," said haps not invite us will invite them." And her husband smiled at the unusual humility.

Sir Fulke was content. From the fact that Lady Clyffarde was in town he felt sure that he should see Lady Iris very often, and he desired nothing more. He had made but little progress in his wooing, and he foresaw that he would have many rivals in London; yet he was hopeful.

John Bardon however was growing desperate. In the country, where he could see Lady Iris when he was out riding or driving, all was well; but in town what chance would there be for him? On the day after the gardenparty he rode for hours round Chandos. It did not matter to him how long he waited if only he could catch a glimpse of her. At last his patience was rewarded by seeing her riding slowly down a green lane. He followed her at once—it was useless waiting to reflect, for he would have lost all courage and she greeted him with

a bright smile. "Is it true that you leave Chandos to-morrow, Lady Iris?" he asked.

"Yes; and I leave it with regret," she replied. "I shall see no such flowers and trees in London. Chandos

looks best in the spring." "You will have more to do in London than think of trees and flowers," he said. "Those who know tell me that in less than a week you will have the whole fashionable world at your

"Then I shall find the fashion world very much in the way," she re athetic look on the dark face which ched her with pity.

the had drawn up under the shade of a great chesnut tree. He was looking at her with and longing eyes.

of God Liver Oll

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"I will, if I see that compassion

"I need it"-there was a humility father's wealth could not buy for me a place in the circle that will welcome Iris. You will be within the golden portals while I shall stand outside

"No," he replied: "for your world of that kindness, do not forget me

"I never forget old friends," she

"It would be presumptuous of me to expect you to consider me one, I know," he replied; "but let me imagine that I am, Lady Iris!" She looked at him in perplexity.

do not see how there can be any friend Taffeta and knitted fabrics are also "Everybody notices the wife of a ship between us. I am interested in

> She stopped abruptly, for the change that came over his face startled herthe light that flashed into his eve

> gesture. "Pray do not say anything more! You have changed my whole terested in my character and in my career! Such encouragement and joy do the words give me that I can hear no more! I will make you proud of my character since you design to take an interest in it. I-feel like one dazstrange that a man's hopes should be

passion and earnestness.

"Do not misunderstand me. I mean -" she began; but again he held up his hands with a warning gesture. "Do not take away the music from

those words! They will accompany me through life. I must not detain you, Lady Iris," he broke off. "May I ride by your side through the green

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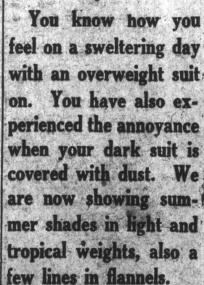
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