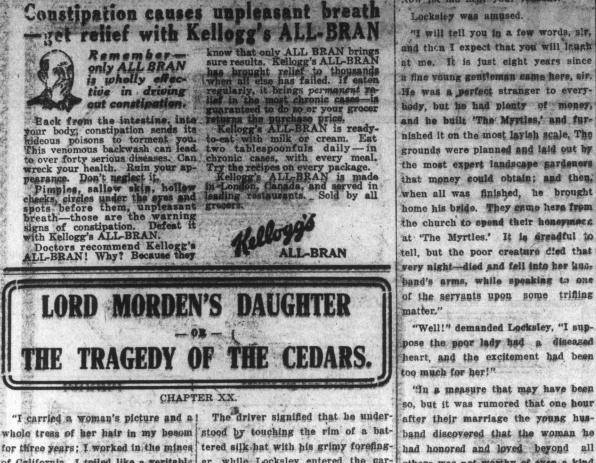
THE EVENING TELEGRAM, ST. JOHN'S. NEWFOUNDLAND, MAY 1, 1925-2



of California. I totled like a veritable er, while Locksley entered the car- others was not worthy of even a kind slave for three yeas for a woman's riage. sake-a woman who professed to love Another moment, and the vehicle ing for his beautiful home-nest, for

me, and who was to be my wife." "Well?" said Locksley, interested in spite of himself. "I came home to find that my faith, the tints from autumn's lavish brush." less despair upon his face was ter

my hope, my happiness, were but a dream of the opium eater!" "She was dead!' whispered Edmund, like it."

This was the one burden of his wishpityingly. "Dead? No! A thousand times es. He hoped or he thought Dora worse!" the other said, with a savage would like everything that he didsneer, and setting his teeth hard, everything that concerned them-that concerned him and herself. "She was false! My love died a cruel At the quaint little post office he death! I am blighted!"

"I am sorry for you," said Locksley. presented a card that Fairfax had giv-And he realized how trifling were his en to him. N troubles compared with the troubles "I wish to look over 'The Myrtles,'

of this man. "The shock must have he said, "I understand that you have been terrible when you had so much the keys." The postmistress was an elderly faith."

"And I am sorry for you," replied woman, and she looked at him a little the other, with an ugly laugh, "You curlously, while handing the keys reminded me so much of myself when over the counter. I saw your rapturous gaze at that "Do you think of renting "The

Myrtles,' sir?" she asked, respectfully. portrait." Locksley smiled. "If it suits me, I may buy the "Your disappointment makes a place. I hope that 'The Myrtles' has

Joubter of you-a cynic I am to be a good reputation!" married in two days. My love is good . He spoke half-laughingly, but he and true There is no cloud on our noticed that the postmistress only

future's horizon." smiled sadly, and made an evasive re-"The old story,' scoffed the strang- ply. er. "A mere conspiracy of nature for "It is a very pretty place, sir. I hope

pairing people off I tell you that that you will like it, and that good mind, and since I have come so far, happiness and truth are but dreams fortune may attend you." dam." of Utopia, invented to accentuate our | He half-turned, then spoke again.

He thanked her and stepped into "You have lived here for a long the waiting carriage.

a fine young gentleman came here, sir. He was a perfect stranger to everybody, but he had plenty of money, nished it on the most lavish scale. The grounds were planned and laid out by the most expert landscape gardeners that money could obtain; and then, home his bride. They came here from the church to spend their honeymore tell, but the poor creature died that very night-died and fell into her husband's arms, while speaking to one of the servants upon some trifling "Well!" demanded Locksley, "I sup-

Now let me hear your reasons."

thought! He had been abroad, fightstarted away, and was soon rolling one who was faise to her vows. The through a delightful country lane, proof he held was indisputable, and whose hedgerows were brilliant with the servant said that the look of hope-

"It is a pretty place," thought rible, when he gazed upon her life-Locksley. "I am sure that Dora will less form." "Heavens!" thought Locksley. "Can that man be my acquaintance in the train, only one short hour since!" "When the ill-fated bride had been

> taken to her last resting place. "The Myrtles' was closed and the furniture sold by auction, piecemeal," the postmistress went on. "For years no one seemed to notice the house, hid den as it was by the trees that sur rounded it, until everybody was sur prised by seeing that it was full of workmen again, and the story soon

leaked out that Mr. Fairfax, had bought 'The Myrtles,' to bring his bride there." "Yes?" questioned Locksley, " know that my friend was disappointed, but he has not told me how." "His wife-to-be eloped on her wedding eve, with another man!" "Great God!" ejaculated Edmund.

N1-24

"One would think the place were haunted by grewsome memories! Still I am not of a superstitious turn of will look over 'The Myrtles,' ma-

"Because there have been two false

strange how fate pursues its way,



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The train stopped with a jerk, and time, madam?" "Forty years, sir." the stranger jumped out without "It is a good neighborhood? I want brides, must there of a necessity be a WALT MATON another word.

misery. Be warned in time!"

"I am sorry for him," repeated you to tell me truthfully and candidly. third?" he thought, a little contem- I, "will make his life blood quicken." from roofs upon a heap of boulders, Locksley. "Poor fellow! He carries I can trust you to do this when I say prucusly. "Even if I could believe it All swathed and bandaged, on his and dislocate a lot of hoofs and colhis misery in his face His is a strong that I wish to bring my wife her- possible for my darling to be other bed, a stricken sight, I found him, larbones and shoulders. And many nature for either loving or hating- my future wife, I should say, for we than an angel-to be influenced one with poultices upon his head, and live in rented homes, with landlords for either joy or woe." shall not be married until the day lota by what I have heard would be plaster casts around him. "Now, by grim encroaching, and oh, the anguish The train was off again, and he had after to-morrow."

half-a-dozen companions until he For a minute the woman seemed dis- little woman on earth! It is certainly "to see you stricken; I've brought proaching! What though my radiator's and 1 Independent. reached Richmond. Still, amid all tressed. their talk, for they were busy discus-"The mortlake road is the most and I shall soon begin to believe that sing the suspension of a great bank- select in Richmond." she said, at the novelist was right when he ac-

ing-house, he could not forget the length, "and near to Sheen Park, cused nature of plagiarizing the wonstranger's unhappy story-he could where members of the royal family derful events and coincidences of ficnot forget that this was the second live. It is one of the healthiest tion." story in one day of woman's frailty places in all England, sir; but 'The

and man's misery. Myrtles' is not a lucky place."

the sunlight, and strode the platform Edmund. "I do not place any reliance and in the slone columns that supof Richmond station. A dozen hack-drivers waved their cepted. If the elevation is right, and

whips at him, frantically shouting: the drains upon the latest scientific "Carriage, sir; carriage!" principles, there cannot be much the

said to one of them "There is a vil- "there is a ghost!"lage near, I believe?"

"Yes, sir. Kew Village. A mile postmistress replied; "but I will tell man.

"Take me to the post office," Locks- and since you have spoken so nicely to follew him. ley ordered, "and from there I wish to me, I advise you not to look at "The to go the 'The Myrtles,' in the Mort- Myrtlas!'"

lake road."

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The carriage rattled along smartly for ten minutes, then pulled up before But he forgot it when he was out in "I do not understand you," smiled a pair of ornamental wooden gates, in mere luck, as it is generally ac- ported them Locksley read.

THE MYRTLES.

'Each of the keys in the bunch had "I want to go to Mortlake road," he matter, uniess," he added, jokingly, been handed to him was labeled, so that Locksley had no trouble in selecting those he wanted.

"I never heard of a ghost, sir," the He opened a small door in the wall and a half from here," responded the you my meaning. I may be a fool- then drew wide the gates that led inish old woman, but I can't help it; to the drive, and told the coachman

> The winding way was flanked on the right by a soff line of magnific-"Come, come! that is too absurd. ent linden trees; on the left was a

high and continuous bank of velvety grass, flowing mess; and lovely ferns. Some two hundred yards from the highway he came upon the house, almost surrounded by a grand stretch of lawn, the borders of which were aflame with many flowers, growing in wild disorder. Beyond was a picturesque pleasure

garden, and a miniature park, that ended in a gentle slope to the river Thames. Locksley was delighted by all that

met his eye The house itself was handsome from every view. There was not an angle or a nook that did not add to its outward beauty.

SYNO

(To be continued.)

"such stimulants as it seems funny, and not a landlord | feated. as these," thought to my door will come, demanding

None of the seats was lost on the boundary question, and the result is generally regarded as an endorsement ing the Free State claims.

The Government, supporters numher 32 and the Opposition of 20 consists of 10 Nationalists, 4 Independent an insult to the dearest and truest the rood, it grieves me sore," I said, in their domes when rent day is ap- Unionists, 3 Labour, 2 Republicans,



