To bring soft influence to bear Upon earth's bitter strife, And strew with flowers of Paradise The beaten track of life.

To make of home a beacon-light In sorrow's stormy day, When tossed and troubled ones will turn Fond thoughts when far away,

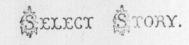
To guide the early steps of youth And childhood's budding years; And, like her Lord, with gentle hand, To dry the falling tears.

Who would exchange these charities For any glittering crowd. Or cover in their place debate, Or plaudits long and loud?

Not in the earthquake nor the wind Was found the moulding power; Twas in the still small voice it came In that calm solemn hour.

Noiseless the rootlets grow apace-We see them not nor hear; The dew falls silently, the sun Shines, and the flowers appear.

Brave hearts, bear up, be patient now, The reaping time will come; Root up the weeds, sow the good seed In that dear field your home.



[CONTINUED. ]

## Chapter X.

LILLY BECOMES A BELLE.

RS. Hamilton had decided that Edith should be brought out in London the next season, and it was arranged with Neville that Lilly should also be with them.

She hoped by that time that Lawrence would have returned, and Neville promised to spend as much time with them as possible.

Lilly and Edith could talk of little

beyond their imagination.

She had heard nothing from her

cousin for some time. She knew that she was not at Ashton

from her old friends there. But before Lilly's introduction to the London world, she met with an adventure which influenced her whole after-

Edith and she had agreed to have a lighted I am to see you! canter on the downs.

They had not gone far before Lilly's beside her. horse became restive.

this made it rear on its hind legs.

a boy suddenly sprung in front of the almost a pleading look in her eyes, as if

at a mad gallop.

Edith was terrified, and prepared to Estelle came up, saidto her not to do, he would ride round cousin Estelle; Estelle, Mr. Hamilton. The cliffs!

Edith had not thought of these be- joyed at the "rencontre."

Lilly would be dashed to pieces! Then she remembered that the groom's were beginning to look coldly on her. horse had only just recovered from Her position was peculiar, especially agination. lameness-it would never be able to to her, a young and lovely woman. reach the spot in time.

he too, gave up Lilly as doomed.

peril way up to the downs by a winding path her reputation.

from below.

er started forward, and backed the horse miring slaves. upon its haunches.

rider, whom he found had fainted.

help he saw a groom approaching. Coombs, you here? That is fortunate. ety for their young daughters. think she is hurt, only frightened.

Lawrence. I little knew, when the freak rence Hamilton judged her. be the means of saving Neville's sister! when he found she was Lilly's cousin. said,-How beautiful she is too ! he murmur- He had no wish for his own pure- Your brother is never to be seen in All Estelle's badinage had been to

But just then Edith rode up, and was woman of fashion as her friend. overjoyed to find her friend safe and Estelle read his verdict of her in his By no means, Estelle. Neville fully thoughts on matters that in no way conher own brother there,

face bending over hers.

Even at that moment of confused had become 'Dead Sea Fruit.' ideas, she became aware that the face was not wholly unknown to her.

Lilly knew who was her deliverer, Thus it was that Lilly became known against her. to her brother's first client.

Estelle's curiosity was roused. She had again taken up her abode in

her former triumphs. But she found that the fickle world

nad set up a new idol. Everyone was talking of the new belle. Estelle was by no means pleased that

mother should usurp her claim. Yet she was curious to behold this star which had appeared on the horizon of her world.

There was much of envy, too, in this desire to see her rival.

The new belle had the "entree" into houses which, in spite of Es'elle's ef- ed. orts, had ever been closed against her. The millionaire's wealth was not ound a passport in every case.

But it was not long before Estelle and relationship with Lilly. the new belle met.

Mrs. Archibald Leighton had the her influence over her cousin. name of gathering together at her parties the most beautiful women in London. Therefore she had spared no pains to ecure the presence of this new belle.

Has madame seen the "petite" beauty of whom men rave? asked a foreign ed. They say she is engaged to that a too great intimacy. is now speaking.

Estelle hardly heard her companion's guard her young charge as much as nected with this girl's family, so she still more tolerant of each other. words. Her eyes were fixed on her rival.

Her back was towards her, but there This, to her delight, she found was vas something in that small, graceful not difficult. figure which appeared wonderfully familiar to her.

Would she never turn her head? presse" in his attentions. You know, much of her cousin. of course, who he is? Narrow escape | Lilly told herself it would have been The delight of a London season was who managed to extricate him. Very in need of her friendship. Lilly often wondered should she meet say the two are like brothers since the who appeared to possess wealth and to think his wife owed everything to him,

her ear, the stranger turned her head, had pained her. no other than her cousin Lillian!

## Chapter XI.

DEAD SEA FRUIT,

ILLY, my dear cousin! How de-Lilly turned, and saw Estelle standing

Her first impulse was to turn from A gun was suddenly fired near, and her, coldly, but her natural sweetness of character. temper overcame this design.

But all would have gone well, had not | Estelle, too, was watching her with animal, whooping and clapping a pair of she would implore her to be friends with

This was too much for the horse's ex- Lilly, therefore, greeted her cousin

She was as utterly alone in society as hard and bitter. The groom also found out this, and though she had been unmarried.

vessel in the river, and had made his ed had Estelle been more cautious of her cousin.

But in her inordinate love of admira- almost wished she could sow discord be He saw that he had not a moment to tion -- for it was nothing worse than that tween her and Lawrence. -she was never content to appear in so- | She hated to hear Lilly even speak of

To be in the train of "la belle" Estelle's hardness. His attention was then given to its telle was sufficient to establish anyone's She was become jealous. Of her husplea to be a man of fashion.

He had her on the ground supported No wonder, then, such earnest, true- But of Neville. in his arms, when looking round for minded women as Mrs. Hamilton looked | Estelle had waited in vain for Lilly coldly upon her, and avoided her soci- to speak of her brother, and still found

Lilly soon opened her eyes, and be- ready her one possession, the wealth for season, but some important business callcame aware of a very handsome man's which she had sacrificed everything, ed him away to Naples. It was a dread- Estelle.

Then there were Edith's congratula. It was not the on: she ardently desired see that Edith has far more right to the on it. tions on her escape to hear, and then to enter-that one, of whom Mr. Hamil-title. Do you not think her charming, She did not understand that her own ton formed a ruling power, was closed Estelle?

\* the thought that Lilly, the unsophisto- cording to my ideas. Your brother's wealth could she but have married Neheart she had despised for her inferior- I knew him, if he admires her. her town house, and was prepared for ity to herself, was a favoured member I think Neville more than abmires consider our romance as marred, Estelle.

Surely she must be dreaming. where she was refused admission. It was as wormwood to Estelle.

Lilly had succeeded, and she had fail-

She knew how great had always been

hands, to be moulded at her pleasure. Sea fruit. So Estelle set herself to regain her supremacy over Lilly's mind.

Lilly to associate with her cousin, ter jealousy. count, who had long been a slave to "la though she resolved to put as many obbelle" Estelle. Pity she is appropriat. stacles as possible in the way, to prevent this new misery; she had never antici-

remarkably bandsome man to whom she | She would not pain Lilly by giving her opinion of Estelle, but she would possible from any contamination with fled all outward signs of jealousy, and

Lilly had lost confidence in Estells-

forgotten. It was, therefore, no great titled for him to give her one I think. Monsieur Hamilton is quite "em-self denial to her, to be prevented seeing

friends in abundance? As the name Campbelle sounded on The little that she had seen of Estelle his life to feel that he was working for

> of her beautiful cousin. Her mind had expanded and her him.

character formed since Estelle had last known her. especially the wise influence which the

to bear upon her, had made Lilly more capable of rightly estimating her cousin's you think Neville's wealth would have lationship to her husband, and the flip | if he were a struggling man, as when | pant tone which her cousin used when he first met with him.

cited nerves, and it immediately set off warmly, and, turning to her companions, cousin, your maivete is enchanting. Do whole family must appear, 'eoleur-deto whom she had been speaking when you think married people are like you rose' to you, since your engagement to lovers, ever billing and cooing? My Lawrence. That must have been soon follow her, but this the groom shouted Mr. Hamilton, Mrs. Hodges-my husban 1 and I are a truly fashionable settled, 'ma belle.' I know he was away for the town house. couple, so instead of going about like from England for a long time. Done and intercept the horse before it reached Both lady and gentleman acknow. Darby and Joan, we each take our own to try and make people forget that very ledged the introduction, but Estelle way, and seek our own pleasure. Do ugly story of his trial for murder-an fancied Lilly's companion was not over- you think your devoted Lawrence will awkward reminiscence for him, I should trouble himself about your society, think. But, come, tell me how you two Estelle was quick to see this—it was after you are married? Get rid of all persons so suddenly became enamoured were they not responded to? not the first time she had fancied people such romantic ideas, 'ma chere.' Mar of one another. ried life is not the Arcadia of your im-

Estelle was beginning to feel very

Lilly had not proved the docile dupe No one ever saw her husband, either she had anticipated, nor had she secur-Some one else had also seen Lilly's at her own house, or at any of her ac- ed through Lilly the entree into the set in which moved Mrs. Hamilton, She This was one who had recently left a This would not so much have matter- was beginning, too, to feel quite to hate

Why should she be so favoured? She

The animal's feet were already on the ciety unless she was surrounded by a her lover, and yet could not resist the brink of the precipice, when the strang- throng of courtiers, who were her ad- temptation of making her talk of him. There was yet another reason for Es-

hand? Oh, dear-no.

his name was not mentioned in any of risks his own life, to save her's, and, of Do you know who this lady is? I do not Mrs. Hamilton considered her a fri- their private 'tete a-tetes,' for Lilly had course, succeeds. Then, to still further volous, worldly woman, whose days were not supposed Neville could be a favorite carry out the romance of it, the lady is why, Mr. Lawrence, it is Miss Campbell. Miss Edith and she were out for a ride, when her horse took fright, and had it not been for you, sir, would have been over the cliffs before this, for I could not reach her in time.

Think she is hurt, only frightened.

Why, Mr. Lawrence, it is Miss Campbell. Miss Edith and she were out for a pleasure.

It was also known, and not in her false in one continual seeking after topic of conversation, and had, therefore, on Estelle's account, avoided speaking of him; but when her cousin herself in troduced the subject, Lilly had no long troduced the subject, Lilly had no long after to remain silent; in truth, whom she heartly despised.

Lawrence, it is Miss Campbell woman, whose days were spent in one continual seeking after topic of conversation, and had, therefore, on Estelle's account, avoided speaking of him; but when her cousin herself in troduced the subject, Lilly had no long after topic of conversation, and had, therefore, on Estelle's account, avoided speaking of him; but when her cousin herself in troduced the subject, Lilly had no long after topic of conversation, and had, therefore, on Estelle's account, avoided speaking of him; but when her cousin herself in troduced the subject, Lilly had no long after topic of conversation, and had, therefore, on Estelle's account, avoided speaking of him; but when her cousin herself in troduced the subject, Lilly had no long after to remain silent; in truth, a ferocious sire—or brother would have been better—who, by fire and sword, should have opposed Neville could be a favorite topic of conversation, and had, therefore, on Estelle's account, avoided speaking of him; but when her cousin herself in troduced the subject, Lilly had no long after to remain silent; in truth, been of him the falls in love with her.

Stelle had become desperate to hear after the product of the subject of the following truth here. Thank God that she is safe! cried It was from his mother's opinion Law something of him, but no one would should have opposed your billing and have judged how eager she was by the cooing. I suppose Neville has not provtook me to come up here, that I could No wonder, then, le howed no joy appearent indifference of her tone, as she ed obdurate, as you are publicly spok-

minded fiancee to have this heartless society, Lilly, Has he forsworn all discover something of Neville. pleasures?

face, and it cut her to the heart. Al- intended forming one of our party this cerned her, if only they referred to Neville.

was turning to ashes in her mouth. It ful disappointment to me. However, I | She was undoubtedly curious to know What was it to her that she still successful debut of Edith, It is non- rence, and yet there was always a vein reigned a queen among a certain set? sence to call 'me la belle;' anyone can of satire running through her remarks

But what was more maddening, was Hamilton is by no means beautiful, ac- ingly have given up all this odious cated country cousin, whom in her taste must have become perverted since ville.

of this select set—was, in fact, the her, Estelle, I rather think he loves Certainly Neville has not proved inflexher. I have heard him say she is a girl lible. Estelle hardly thought she could be whom anyone must love. It is not only And your marriage 'ma fille!' When her beauty which attracts him, but her will that take place? true and noble nature. I heared Neville | Will they ask me to that? thought What, Lilly received with open arms once say, it would be an impossibility Estelle. Mrs. Hamilton has not had for Edith to do an unworthy action, that the decency to invite me to her reunions she was the most noble type of woman though my own cousin is staying with So Lilly had gained all, without an hood it had ever been his lot to know. her! warred in the heart of Estelle.

What was her wealth to her now? Lilly had ever been as plastor in her the price of it. It was, indeed, 'Dead he has been offered a borough.

his love was given to another, Mrs. Hamilton could hardly refuse | Estelle's heart was wrecked with bit- the statesmen of his country,

So Neville despised her, and already

Till now, she had never thought of pated Neville loving another.

But she was feverishly impatient to know every trifling circumstance concalmly enough answered,--

You are not very ambitious for your brother; 'ma chere;' if I have heard rightly, 'ma belle' Edith has no fortune. her treachery to Neville could not be Her brother's property is too strictly en-

You have heard rightly, Estelle, Lawtle a portion on his sister, not that if it they also had become 'Dead Sea fruit.' for him. It was "la belle's" brother otherwise with her had she seen Estelle is as I hope, this will have any effect on Neville, I have often heard him say tude, which overtook her at all times clever man, Monsieur Campbelle. They But what benefit could she be to one his greatest pleasure would be to be able when not actively engaged in some purthat it would sweeten every moment of t e woman he loved. Neville is one of and Estelle saw that the new belle was Lilly was no longer the blind idolater the most unselfish of men. Lawrence would be delighted to give his sister to

Probably!--since, I suppose your brether is considered an excellent 'parti! Intercourse with society; but more He has, I have heard, been wonderfully successful in his profession. He is a rich family at Worthing Priory, had brought man, I suppose?

You little know Lawrence. Estelle, if any weight with him. He would as She was troubled too, at Estelle's re- willingly entrust his sister to his care,

illy inquired why she never saw him You are an excellent champion, Lilly Your new friends should be proud of Estelle had airily answered, my sweet such an advocate of their virtues. The

> I scarcely know, laughed Lilly. believe I was prepared to love him, from Neville's description of him Then, when I knew his family I was sure he must be good and true, if he were like them. But I believe the crisis came, when he saved my life. I told you how miraculously he happened to be on the spot at the very moment. No one knew othis coming, and it was quite by chance he happened to stroll towards the downs. I shudder even now, when I think what must have been my fate, if he had not been there. Really Lilly your love story is worthy

to be ranked with the love affairs of romances in olden times. I thought all such to have died out in this matter-cf fact century of common sense. But yours appears to have been quite 'en regle.' You, the fair maiden in frightful danger; then, at the right moment, there appears the unknown knight-who en of as the 'fiance' of Mr. Han i ton.

She hungered to know even his

Lilly found it difficult to comprehend

hope he will return in time to see the all concerning her engagement to Law-

happy lot made her cousin bitterly re-Really, Lilly, you astonish me. Edith gret her folly—that now she would will-

I am afraid we must be content to

effort, which she had sold herself to ob So you see, Estelle, I have good grounds That is not decided. At any rate, it for my surmises that Neville loves her. will not take place till after the election. Little did Lilly know the rage that Have I told you that Lawrence is about to stand for the country? He was not Estelle resolved to make one great ef- She knew now, that Neville had men- at all ambitious of being an M. P. till fort. She would yet gain admittance tally compared her unworthy nature Mrs. Hamilton and I persuaded him. into the society she coveted, through her with that of this girl, to her disadvan- There is little fear of his not being returned. Edith and I are going to canvass for him. There is some talk of She hated it, and as she thought of Neville being a candate, as well. I know

Some more wormwood for Estelle. Her husband, in spite of his wealth, could never hope to take his place among

The squire, too, had found that his wealth was not all sufficient.

It could not conceal the "parvenu." Both husband and wife found they had made a mistake in their estimation of wealth, which did not make them But Estelle no longer hid the facts

from herself. She was a wretched woman. Her meeting with Lilly had drawn the scales from her eyes. Even her riches she despised.

They had become "Dead Sea fruit." She entered as eagerly as ever into the rence regrets very much he cannot set | pleasures of the "beau monde." but Estelle was aware of extreme lassi-

> suit of pleasure. Her beauty remained, but its freshness

> Her wretched married life was not the best elixer for its preservation. Estelle felt that the time of her tri-

umph was at its close.

All had been disappointment. There were great troubles for her in

Her husband's hate was no longer passive. It had become active. Chapter XII.

THE SQUIRE'S COMPANIONS. HE squire's self-elation was unbound-

His wealth had proved omnipotent! It had procured him a wife of undoubted beauty, secured him a high standing among the leaders of Ashton, and now was to make him great in the world of London. He had given Estelle 'carte blanche'

Was it not all to reflect his greatness —to blaze forth the fact that he was a millionaire. Then when Estelle had sent forth in-

Was not their homes soon the attrac-T tion in the fashionable world? Their dinners were noted for the excel-

vitations to her former acquaintances,

lence of the "cuisine." His wife was the belle. Her beauty, her jewels, and her house were unrivalled. What then did her husband desire

Was not this what he bargained for when he chose a wife, or rather bought her beauty with his gold?

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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