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With Edged Tools

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Lady Cantourne was meant for hap piness and a joyous motherhood. She had had neither; but she went on being "meant" until the end-that is to say she was still cheery and capable. She had thrown an open letter on the little table at her side—a letter from Jack Meredith announcing his return to England and his natural desire to call and pay his respects in the course

"So," she had said before she laid the letter aside, "he is home again and he means to carry it through?" While she still sat there the bell rang. When Jack Meredith came into

the room she rose to greet him with a "Before I shake hands," she said. "tell me if you have been to see your father."

"I went last night-almost straight from the station. The first person I spoke to in London, except a cabman." So she shook hands. "You know," she said, without look-ing at him-indeed, carefully avoiding doing so "life is too short to quarre

with one's father. At least it may prove too short to make it up againthat is the danger." "The quarrel was not mine," he said. I admit that I ought to have known him better. I ought to have spoken

to him before asking Millicent. It was a mistake." Lady Cantourne looked up suddenly. "What was a mistake?"

"Not asking his—opinion first."
She turned to the table where his letter lay and fingered the paper pensively. "I thought, perhaps, that you had found that the other was a mistake-

the engagement" "No." he answered. "Millicent will be in presently," she said; "she is out riding." They talked of his life in Africa, .

his success with the simiacine, of which discovery the newspapers were not yet weary, until the bell was heard in the basement, and thereafter Millicent's voice in the hall. Lady Cantourne rose deliberately and went downstairs to tell her niece that

he was in the drawing room, leaving him there waiting alone. Presently the door opened and Milli-cent hurried in. She threw her gloves and whip-anywhere on the floor and ran to him.

"Oh, Jack!" she cried. It was very prettily done. In its way "And, Jack, do you know," she went on, "all the newspapers have been full of you. You are quite a celebrity.

And are you really as rich as they

"I think I can safely say that I am not," he answered. Lady Cantourne left them there for nearly an hour, in which space of time she probably reflected they could build



by a full sized footman bearing tea. She was too discreet a weman, to deeply versed in the sudden changes of the human mind and heart, to say anything until one of them should give her a distinct lead. They were not shy and awkward children. Perhaps she reflected that the generation to which

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hey belonged is not one heavily handiapped by too subtle a delicacy of

Jack Meredith gave her the lead be-"Millicent," he said without a vestige of embarrassment, "has consented be openly engaged now."

Lady Cantourne nodded compre-"I think she is very wise," she said. "I know she is very wise," she said.
"I know she is very wise," she added, turning and laying her hand on Jack's arm. The two phrases had quite a different meaning. "She will have a good husband."
"So you can tell everybody now," chimed in Millorent in her silvery way.

himed in Millicent in her silvery way. Lady Cantourne was not very com-municative during that refined little tea a trois, but she listened smilingly to Jack's optimistic views and Mil-licent's somewhat valueless comments. "I am certain," said Millicent, at length boldly attacking the question that was in all their minds, "that Sir John will be all right now. Of course,

it is only natural that he should not like Jack to—to get engaged yet. Esecially before, when it would have made a difference to him in money, I mean. But now that Jack is indeendent-you know, auntie, that Jack

pendent—you know, auntie, that Jack is richer than Sir John."
Lady Cantourne was rather thoughtful at that moment. She could not help coming back and back to Sir John. "Of course," she said to Jack, "we must let your father know at once." The news must not reach him from an outside source." "I will write and tell him," said Jack

Even funerals and lovers must bow mealtimes, and Jack Meredith was not the man to outstay his welcome. He saw Lady Cantourne glance at the cleck. Clever as she was, she could not do it without being seen by him.
So he took his leave, and Millicent went to the head of the stairs with

CHAPTER XXI. F late Sir John had felt a singuiar desire to sit down when-ever opportunity should offer, but he had always been found standing on the hearth rug by the butler, and, hard old aristocrat that he was, he would not yield to the some-what angular blandishments of the stiff backed chair.

He steed for a few mements with his back to the smodering fire, and, being quite alone, he perhaps forget to stiffen his neck, for his head dreeped, his lips were unsteady; he

was a very old man.

A few minutes later, when he strode into the dining room, where butler and feetman awaited him, he was erect, mperturbable, impenetrable.

At dinner it was evident that his

keen brain was hard at work. He forgot one or two of the formalities which were religiously observed at that soli-tary table. He hastened over his wine, and then he went to the library. There he wrote a telegram, slowly, in his-firm, ornamental handwriting. It was addressed to Gordon, Loange, and the gist of it was "Wire where-

'At half past 8 Jack arrived. Sir John was awaiting him in the library, grawwaitting in his high backed chair, so carefully dressed as for a great recep-

He rose when his son entered the room and they shook hands. There was a certain air of concentration say more than they had ever said before. The coffee was a revival of an old custom. The coffee was duly brought. In bygone days Jack had frequently come in thus and they had taken coffee carriage to one of the great/social funcons at which their presence was al-est a necessity. Jack had always boured out the codes tonight he did not effer to do se.

will not be very welcome. Millicent and I have decided to make our engagement known."
"You know," said Sir John gravely,

that I am not much given to altering my oplains. I do not say that they are of any value; but, such as they are, I usually hold to them. When you did me the honor of mentioning this mater to me last year, I gave you my opinion."
"And it has in no way altered?"
"In no way. I have found no reason

"Will you, at all events, give me our reasons?" he seked. "I am not "I think," he said, "that it would be advisable not to ask them."
"I should like to know why you object to my marrying Millicent," persist-

Chyne, and his son know that that was the last word. She was a heal woman. From that point he would never move. There was a long silence, while the two men sat side by side gazing into the fire.

the fire.

"I am getting toe old to indulge in the luxury of pride," said the father at length. "I will attend your marriage. I will smile and say pretty things to the bridesmaids. Before the world I will consent under the candidion that the coremony does not take place before two months from this date."

"I agree to that," put in Jack.
Sir John rose and stood on the hearth rug, looking down from his agreeatheight.

ect right to marry whom you choose

So Jack took his leave.
"In two months' time," repeated Sir
John, when he was alone, with one of
his twisted, cynical smiles—"in two
months' time—qui vivra verra."

There are some places in the world there a curse seems to brood in the tmosphere. Msala was one of these.

Could the trees—the two gigantic ms that stood by the river's edge— puld these have spoken, they might could these have spoken, they might perhaps have told the tale of this little inland station in that country where, as the founder of the hamlet was in the habit of saying, no one knows what is

going on.

All went well with the retreating column until they were almost in sight of Masla, when the sotilla was attacked by no less than three hippopotamuses. One canoe was sunk and four others were so badly damaged that they could not be kept affect with their proper complement of men. There was nothing for if but to establish a camp at Misala and wait there until the builders had repaired the damaged canoes.

The wails of Durnovo's house were still standing, and here Guy Oscard established himself with as much comfort as circumstances allowed. He caused a temporary roof of paim leaves to be laid on the charred beams, and within the principal room, the very

Oscard was too great a traveler, to experienced a wanderer, to be put ou of temper by this enforced rest. The men had worked very well hitherto men had worked very well hitherto. It had, in its way, been a great feat of generalship, this leading through a wild country of men unprepared for travel, scantily provisioned, disorganized by recent events. No accident had happened, no serious delay had been incurred, although the rate of progress had necessarily been very slow. Nearly six weeks had elapsed since Oscard with his little fellowing had turned their backs forever on the simiacine their backs forever on the simiscine plateau. But now the period of acute plateau. But now the period of acute danger had passed away. They had almost reached civilization. Oscard

When Oscard was content he smoked a slower pipe than usual, watching each cloud of smoke vanish into thin air. He was smoking very slowly this the third evening of their encampment at Mssia. There had been heavy rain during the day, and the whole lifeless forest was dripping with a continuous, ceaseless clatter of heavy drops on tropic foliage, with an amalgamated sound like a widespread whisper.

Oscard was sitting in the windowless room without a light, for a light only

room without a light, for a light only attracted a myriad of heavy winged attracted a myriad of heavy winged meths. He was seated before the long French window, which, since the sash had gone, had been used as a door. Before him in the glimmering light of the mystic Southern Cross the great river crept unctuously, silently to the sea. It seemed to be stealing away surreptitiously while the forest whispered of it. In its surface the reflection of the great stars of the southern tion of the great stars of the southern hemisphere ran into little streaks of silver, shimmering away into darkness. All sound of human life was still. The natives were asleep. In the next

room Joseph in his hammock was just on the barrier between the waking and the sleeping life, as soldiers learn to be. Oscard would not have needed to alse his voice to call him to his side. The leader of this hurried retreat had seen sitting there for two hours. The slimy moving surface of the river had entered into his brain; the restless silence of the African forest alone kept ilm awake. He hardly realized that the sound momentarily gaining trength within his ears was that of sleeping man. It came so slowly, so ently through the whisper of the drip-ng leaves that it would enter into is slumbers and make itself part of

(To be continued) SURE

"If there were four flies on the ble and I killed one, how many wo he left?" inquired the teacher. "One," answered a bright little gir LOST HER HAIR

Her Ladyship-"Have you got

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FORTY-FOURTH

Ald Spence Intro Meeting for an School Affairs

Brantford ratepayers will opportunity of voting on ple of an elective board of for the entire city at t election in January. At Council meeting last nig received two readings, and payers approve of the same given the third reading by cil of 1914 and come into

The by-law sweeps asi school hoards of the city, iate Institute and Publ Board, and amalgamates the one body. Under the new hy wards but by the city A tenth member is appoint seperate school board, he only in the consideration pertaining to high school Five of the nine member elected for two years and fo year. These in brief are t of the by-law. 'Ald. Spence introduced

long been urged in munic and Ald. Spence was gene mended by the aldermen the ratepayers an opportu of passing their opinion by the new scheme. The o of the council who did board of education would economy was Ald. McEw pointed out to him that the derable overlapping which would be done away board of education. Ald. Spence's contention ratepayers should vote upset, in view of the great the city is carrying in it Ald. Spence explained

Business

ank Clawsey, a resid nedale, faced five court this morni es of theft, the evi stantiate the charge, onorably acquitted. On ing drunk while on t plea of guilty was ent ine of \$10 and costs v and having liquor in his plea of not guilty was e the cases were adjourne

Found Blanket On a charge of stealing of blankets, the prope

Slingsby Mig. Co., Cla a plea of not guilty, court that he had found near the Slingsby prope A local young man of to the effect that he ha sey near the Slingsby fac occasion, and the prison him to come and see found. Clawsey took the illing back a big showed him a roll of blankets were still in th two weeks later, when took the police to invest Clawsey claimed that covered the blankets by dent, and informed the

> Some Ir Of City

The secretary of the gation into the collapse Street Methodist Church sired to find out where bility for such a collaps The warden of Oxi presentatives of the c

Tuesday to consider the establish a prison farm. ton, Suddaby, Minshall, and Ward were named a tee and they left this mo conference. The Ontario Motor pressed a desire to the outskirts of the ci to outside motorists speed limit was 15 n The idea was to avoid cidentally fines and though it was not so

'Ald, Ward moved, see Spence that the towns written regarding cor ust south of city on reaks through thousa worth of property will seless. Ald. Suddab received solemn assurt