



T is folly, Ronald; egad, it is forse than folly, it is madness! I swear the liquor has muddled your wits. Gentlemen, gentlemen, I protest! For a man wear-ing His Majesty's uniform it is the mad-dest escapade wine or a wench could hatch! Cry off, Ronald!"
There was a mighty burst of laughter 丹 There was a mighty burst of laughter

in the room, and rappings of the table with sword-hilts, and the noise of it buzzed in my

ars. "Come, Charlie, 'tis a pretty test; a pretty, elegant-

"Of course, if Ronald has no stomach for the en-terprise\_\_\_\_" began my cousin, Sir Mandeville Ulla-brook, in soft, suave tones. I jumped to my feet at that. The lights whirled before me, and I caught a jumble of staring faces.

but of which my cousin's shaped itself distinctly. I saw the sneer of his thin lips, the arrogant lounge of his figure in the oak backed chair, the nonchalant

of his figure in the oak backed chair, the nonchalant way in which he tapped his snuff box and fastidi-ously treated his nose, and these things whipped my blood—already hot with wine—to frenzy. There was already bad blood between us. Sir Mandeville had ever been such a cool, cakeulating fellow as would smile you out of a birthright. He had fastened on me when I first joined my regiment; had taught me all the engaging vices by which a man might lose money; and the upshot of it all was that he tightly held certain papers that would give him my estate in Hertfordshire whenever he chose to foreclose. And, in addition to this, he had entered to foreclose. And, in addition to this, he had entered

the lists against me with Lady Betty Sherrington. "I have all the stomach in the world!" I cried. Sir Charles Vandecker plucked me by the coat-

s. "Don't be a fool, Ronald!" he said, angrily. "Charlie's muzzling the puppy," lisped Ensign

Harker. "Let him go, Charlie!" cried Captain Vane. "Tis

a pretry enterprise, and, gad! why, the Lord Harry, you always spoil sport beats me!" Charlie looked him levelly between the eyes. "If any gentlemtn wishes to question my conduct I shall be proud to refer him to my friend Ronald Graville." Greville

"Lud, how hot you be!" cried Captain Vane, in a vast hurry, for Charlie's barkers shot with rare pre-"No one questions your conduct and if Ron-

ald shies at the game there's an end on't." My cousin opened his mouth to speak, but closed it again, noting that Charlie was waiting for his words. Three men hipped in one season made men chary of differences with Sir Charles Vandecker. I rose again, and this time Charlie sighed and let

"I don't shy!" I shouted. "Zounds, gentlemen, you don't know the Grevilles! Come, come, 'tis a pretty wager, a mighty pretty wager. We are all gentlemen of honor, and the conditions need go no further. Come, you are agreed?" Those half-dozen acquainted with the wager gave

solemn assurances of secrecy, even Charlie joining ruefully with them. "Then. Mandeville, this is the way of it. I alone

"Then, Mandeville, this is the way of it. I alone and unaided, will stop the coach of my Lord Sherring-ton on the King's highway within a month of this date, and bring you here—in the presence of these gentlemen—some token recognizable to you all as be-longing to him, and so persuade you of its accomp-lishment. If I fall to do this or seek help in the stop-ping of the coach, I am to forfeit five hundred pounds. If I win—and, lud, I swear I will!—You, Sir Man-ville Ullabrook, will forfeit to me a like sum, And you, on your part, swear to breathe no word concerning this, or in any way hinder the accomplishment of my escapade."

escapade." ' My cousin smiled a triumphant assent. "The odds should not be so level as that!" cried Charkle. "Lud, Mandeville, you have set a devilen bargain! Come, you hold papers of Ronaid's plaguey notes of hand binding his estates in forfeit. Wager those against the five hundred, and, gad, sir, 'twill be less of a mockery." Mandeville choked with anger. "Mockery!" he hissed. "Damme, this goes," too far!"

"Till go father," answered Charlie, now heated and taking up the oudgels for me right handsomely; "I say it is grossly, monstrously unfair!" "I have made my proposals," Mandeville said

whortly. "They are scurvily unfair! What say you, gen-

"Zounds, Mandeville, Charlie has the right of it! "Zounds, Mandeville, Charlie has the right of it! His conditions are better in accord. In truth, to stop the coach of a Sheriff of a County is unconscion-ably hazardous. It cannot be contradicted that the odds of the wager should favor the doer of the deed." Unsign Harker soberly thought himself a very mas-

Sir Charles, my man Tom (an honest rascal), and my-self. Then I waited. Ten days after the making of the wager Sir Charles called on me in the afternoon and carried me off, willy nilly, to make my compliments to my Lord Sher-rington and the Lady Betty, who were to leave town that evening for their own place in Essex. "Lud, Ronald," he said, "the Fates play into your hand! There is a most convenient heath, some fif-teen miles out, which, they are bound to pass. The vulgarly called Barebones Heath!" Send your man down with Betty as a led hack and let him stable her in the old cottage that stands at the foot of the hill leading to the Heath. I passed there a week agone. The cottage is mostly in ruins, and stands a matter The cottage is mostly in ruins, and stands a matter of forty yards on the left of the high road. He can leave both mask and coat there, and I'll wager 'twill remain undisturbed for a twelvemonth, for the place has an evil name through the murder of an old Jew that lived there.'

Lord Sherrington's town house was in the My Lord Sherrington's town house was in the City of Westminster, and we were late in our arrival. I was ill pleased to observe that my cousin was in close conversation with my sweet Betty. I strode across the room to her side. "I am desolate, Lady Betty." I said, "That we are

to lose so much beauty and so soon." "Indeed!" she answered, lifting her long lashes and glancing merrily at me with a smile in her violet eyes. "This be news. Is Covent Garden to be dis-established, or is the playhouse in Drury Lane to be closed? Come, expound!"

The idle gallantries of a man of fashion are none the following the play-actresses had reached my Lady Betty's ears was too plain, and I laid it to my cousin's

"Ah," I answered lightly, though inwardly discomfited, "that be an old tale that you have caught out of time. When the sky is moonless the stars are mighty pretty, Now I look not at the stars, but at

Sir Charles, drifting courteously among the shallows of flounced petticoats, came to us as we spoke, lows of flounced petiticoats, came to us as we spoke, and led my cousin away to discuss the points of the latest Town Toasi and to quiz her from the van-tage of the doorway. As Sir Charles passed I gave him a look of thanks, and methinks I caught some such glance passing from my mistress' violet eyes

"Sir," she said, when we were thus left, "the air of the room is somewhat heavy. I have a mind to seek the garden. This autumn sunshine is kindly, and I can come to no hurt. Would you take pity on

'I would go with you anywhere, even to the end he world." "Ah, sir, I am not like to put you to such a test of

But I have a command to lay upon you." "'Tis obeyed, I swear," I made answer. "You are rash, sir. Come, let us go!"

She, touching my arm with the tips of the fingers of as dainty a hand as any in the length and bredth of the kingdom, led me to the seat weboth wotted of under the big mulberry tree a short way from the terrace. Here we were so screened as to be observed of none

"Sweet mistress," I cried, all in a heat at the dear encouragement given me by her eyes, "tell me your command that I may set about its accomplishment!" She toyed with a fan with manifest amusement

and delight at my eagerness. "Sir, I like the fashion of your sword-knot hand-somely," she said, coquettishly putting aside my ques-

"That is unfair. I am all anxiety to do your bid-ding, and you dangle the favor of your command be-youd my knowledge." "We ride this afternoon into Essex." "Your father has acquainted me with your de-cision." I made answer, not without some inward am-

"My father has a touch of gout," she remarked ten-tatively.

An Imaginary War

BERLIN correspondent, writing under date of June 25, says: Under the title of "Ban-sai" a writer concealing his identity be-neath the pseudonym of "Parabellum" publishes this morning a most readable romance, which after the manar of "Der -

"I am grieved—but it is no new thing." "No, no new thing," she acquiesced with a sigh. "I love my father most dutifully." "He is happy and to be envied." "I have an esteem for him, and admiration for his head, a love for his heart, but—" She paused and looked at me.

"There is no more troublesome word in the whole of the lexicon than you but," I filled in. "But there is no gainsaying that the gout is a drawback. My father is the most considerate of par-ents until--"

"Exactly," I made answer. "You would have me

"Exactly," I made answer. "You would have me post for his surgeon." "Nay-he goes to his own place in Essex, where Master Boyle is already, and for my part I think a surgeon but harries the evil. But-consider, Ron-ald, we drive the night through, and I shall be alone with an old man who is no longer my father, but a mere testy, irritable victim to the gout." "Monstrously uncomfortable-but why this night journey?" I inquired, marvelling much that my work was so like to be eased. "My father flies to bis own house when he has the gout as a hurt rabbit to its hole, 'Stay another night in this-ahem-London!' he cried, Til be----but I think it were more discret to leave to your im-agination the ending of the sentence."

but I think it were more discret to reave to your im-agination the ending of the sentence." "I might hazard a guess and come near it," I said, smiling at my memory of the old man's outbursts. "You have no fear of these highwayman who are said to haunt the roads?" "It would be a delightful break to the tedium of

life "You have given me no command as yet." I ven-

"Briefly 'tis that you join us in the ride. Not for my pleasure but for the sharing of my father's ill

humor." I looked at her blankly, and though she smiled as sweetly as a spring hedge bursting to bloom I could muster no word in answer. The matter was an impossibility, though her choice of me argued an interest I had labored to inspire. It seemed that I was hedged in all ways, for if I went not with her I should earn her severe displacements and if I wort I her all earn her severe displeasure, and if I went I lost all chance of freeing my estate, and five hundred pounds, which I had not, to boot.

"I regret—I am overwhelmed with despair, for the matter is an impossibility. "Indeed," she said coldly, "I thought your pro-testations were too great." "It wounds me deeply!" I eried. "I am inconsol-able!" ahlat

"Then, sir, I will detain you no longer. Some ur-gent affair will need your immediate attention, and if you come an hour or so before the time appointed I ibt not the wench will put it down to the magnitud

doubt not the wench will put it down to the magnitude of her attractions!" My Lady Betty was yet young, and could not but let her wound peep through her angry words. "What wench?" I asked, bluntly. "I care not to remember the creature's name. But as you have forgotten, hark to my informant. Sir Mandeville Ullabrook, and he will refresh your mem-ory." I cannot hope to describe the mingled bitterness and wounded pride in her voice. "Tis a lie!" I cried, furious at the ingenous dev-ilry of my cousin who had laid his plan so cleverly that

livy of my cousin who had laid his plan so cleverly that I must either lose my wager or the esteem of my mistres,

"Then what calls you forth?" she queried, with hope in her voice. "That I may not tell you," I said. "Sir," she said stiffly, "I would not seek to detain

looked at her. I think Heaven never smiled on Thoused at her. I think Heaven never smiled on a fairer sight. She was like a child, a womanly child. She had a child's face, fair, peachy: long-lashed, big violet eyes; a wee mouth now pouting; a dear slim figure that came not one while higher than my shoul-der eyes with the help of her abnormally high-heeled shoes; but in her eyes, big and innocent, was the mirror of a woman's heart; I bowed to her, and she rose and curtseyed, look-

I bowed to her, and she rose and curtseyed, look-ing beyond me to the fountain plashing merrily in the centre of the green. A smile crept into my face. For my life I could have done nought to stiffe it. I ever had some sense of humor, and the comedy of it lurking beneath the devilry of my cousin caught hold of me. "Farewell," I said. "I go to my appointment. If luck serves me I shall meet tonight the fairest queen in England. In the meantime I leave my heart in your keeping, and am your most humble servant." She turned from me with a half sob of anger, and I noted that her handkerchief suffered woeffully from

I noted that her handkerchief suffered woefully from her straining fingers. Then I went back to the drawing room, and so out. • Charlie followed me into the road.

"You leave early, Charle?" I said. "I have somewhat to do," he answered. "Lud, 'tis wonderful!" I cried. "The laziest man in the Kingdom 'in pursuit of something? What's

mystery?" "Mine own, Ronald, and no less important than vours.

"You will not tell me," I inquired, in amazement for we were wont to be confidential.

"Its nature will not admit of it," he answered. And later we parted. And later we parted. The I rode to the cottage at the foot of the hill lead-

I rode to the cottage at the bot of the hin read-ing to Barebones Heath. I had much time at my disposal, and riding slowly, bethought me gravely of the risk I ran. Then the memory of my cousin's dastard effort to ruin my reputation and belittle my love to the Lady Betty hardened me to a resolve o get through with my undertaking in spite of all

At the cottage I handed over my hack to my man. donned my riding coat, saw to the priming of the pis-tols in my holsters, looked to the girths of Betty, and finally, masked. The night was dark, the stars giving little light for the presence of heavy banking clouds. There was no moon, and the air was very still, a fitful wind now and again waked muffled sounds among the trees. I listened to the clatter of my man's horse and the led one on which I had ridden, and, as the noise grew fainter, wished myself well out of the whole business. Presently two countrymen came riding down the road towards me. Their loud cheery voices were welcome, giving my thoughts a new turn. I stood to my, mare's nead and watched, looking out from the shadow of the cottage. The darkness was now grown so thick that I could make them out with difficulty. They had apparently done some passably good business, and were evidently primed with strong liquors, for they spoke loudly and laughed merrily. They rode easily nothing more laughed merrily. They rode easily, nothing more than a walk, as I could tell by the noise of their horses hoofs. When they were abreast of my hid-ing place my mare grew restless, and moved, the noise of her movement striking sharply on the air. At the same time an owl, disturbed by the noise, flew out blindly with a melancholy hoot. At that the two men groaned out loudly. I remembered the reputa tion the cottage had, and made no doubt they took the noises for supernatural agencies. The idea so pleased my fancy that I shouted with laughter. Evhe to my own ears my laugh sounded most eeric, and the two men with muffled cries urged their horses to a hand gallop, and fled up the hill. In some little while I ventured out upon the road and moved slowly up the hill, so gaining the heath. I made my halting place beneath a little clump of trees not a dozen yurds from the road and at the tar of

not a dozen yards from the road and at the top of the hill where it entered upon a level stretch. Here I opined the coach would nearly come to a standstill, and my work would be all the easier for it. At my back a little used lane ran on to the heath. It might have been an eighth of a mile away. This lane gave me some concern, for once I thought I caught the sound of horses moving. It sounded like the tramp of more than one, but after a while of listening, I came to the conclusion that my ears had played me Presently I caught the crack of a whip, and soon or the sound of a coach lumbering up the hill. I

In Defense of Japan

gathered up my reins and drew out a pistol. The noise came nearer. There was no mistake—it was coach, and the time was about the hour I reckone. to meet with my Lord Sherrington. Now that the meeting had grown so close I felt a strange enjoy-ment of the whole adventure. I edged Betty away from the clump of trees. As I did so the coach topped the hill, and rolled clumsily forward, the horses steaming under the lights of the lamps.

"Stand and deliver!" I cried suddenly, disguising my voice. I rode forward to the edge of the road and showed my pistol. "Drop the reins!" I shouted. The coachman obey-

ed me, and the horses, breathed when their long climb me to a halt.

The window of the coach dropped with a rattle

"Fire, lads, fire!" cried Lord Sherrington, stretch-fng his head out. "Let fly at the rascal!" "Sir, I beseech you have a care! The light in the

carriage is a good guide for a bullet!" The two men in the rumble loosed their pistols at me, but fright and an ill acquaintance with shooting

sent the bullets far wide of their aim, "Drop your pistols or by the Lord Harry my men will fire!" I cried; at the same time turning to the trees that were by the side of the road, "Co them, lads, and when I call-fire and wing "em!

shouted. The footman, fully persuaded that I had a posse of men concealed, dropped their barkers with a clat-ter, and sat shivering apprehensively, staring at the

I rode to the window of the coach. "My Lord Sherrington," I said, bowing, but still peaking in my feigned voice: "It grieves me to show you so apparent a discourtesy, but poverty is a strange master and constrains us to many odd tasks. Sweet mistress, have no fear. No personal harm is

"Sir," my Lady Betty answered, sitting proudly erect, "I have no fear of such cowardly ruffians as

My Lord Sherrington looked taken aback, but in no whit afraid. He stared at me narrowly for a moment during which my heart was in my mouth, and then shrugged his shoulders.

"An the gout had held off I'd have dropped you," he said; "but as it is-what will you? We are at your mercy." "That ivory-headed cane is of some value, and I

have taken a mighty fancy to it," I said. "It is of little moment," he answered, "but it is yours, Hand it to him Betty, for I'm crippled, a plague

take i Lady Betty handed out the trophy with her

My Lady Betty handed out the trophy with her own fair white hands. As I saw her, caim and perfectly fearless, my heart went out to her as it had never done before, long as I had loved her. At this I sat back on my horse and made a show of listening. Then I called to my imaginany con-confederates in the clump of trees. "Save yourselves, lads! Here be the Sheriff's men coming!"

men coming!" This I had planned within myself as an excuse for riding off merely with the cane.

Then an unexpected thing happened. As I row-elled my mare for the feigned flight, I became aware of the noise of hoofs beating on the Heath. I looked up to see some four horsemen riding at us from the direction of the lane upon which I have already made comment.

My mare sprang forward gallantly, but they were too close upon us. Two bullets whistled past my head, and then three men, strongly mounted, hemmed me in, one seizing my mare's reins and bringing her back on her haunches. I laid about me with the ivory-handled cane, but in a trice I was thrown from the saddle, and after a rough struggle was bound hand and foot

Lying as I was upon the Heath with my head was happening.

"Thanks," I heard by Lord Sherrington say, "A thousand thanks. Gad, sirs, you came but in the nick of time! How happened you to be here?" "We be the Sheriff's men, and we had wind of this

affair. We've looked for un this many a noight. 'Cap'en 'Awk will be on the wing tonight,' was the wurd, and 'ere we be." "Ah, 'tis handsome for us that you were so near.

onds of the wager should favor the doer of the deed." Ensign Harker soberly thought himself a very mas-ter of the niceties of etiquette hetween gentlemen. So the conditions were altered in agreement with Charlie's proposals, for the others, despite the evident umbrage of my cousin, hurrled to support them. In the sober light of the next day I realized that I had set myself a pretty task, a task that I frankly deemed impossible. In this view I was upheld by Charlie, who lounged into my room in the forencon. Sir Charles Vandecker was somewhat older than I in years, indeed he held a captain's commission in the same regiment of Dragooms in which I still served as lieutenant; but three years of rough work in Fian-ders and some affinity of taste had knitted our souls together.

ders and some attinty of the devil for a driver, and together. "Ronald, you have got the devil for a driver, and unless I am woefully mistaken I make no doubt that the wager is as good as lost. And, gadi I'll thank the stars if you get out of it with no more than the for-follure of your money!"

I sat up on my couch with some elarm. The five hundred pounds I had wagered seemed to me the worst limit of the rough chance. "Why, what could be worse?" I cried. "I am no friend of your cousin," he answered.

"An you were, you were none of mine?" "He is a crafty, ill-conditioned scoundrel," he went

on. "He is that and more," I said, "He has been com-passing my ruin pretty shrewdly of late, and certain tales of my escapades which have come to the cars of my mistress-and made her none the kinder for the hearing have, I make no doubt, had their start at his lips," "Jady Betty has a fortune of some size," Charile '

paid. "Lud, Charlie, if you insinuate—" "Eounds, what alls you, Ronald! 'Tis none to her distavor that her protity hands are full and I know you well enough to be sure that you gave no thought to one same of her lands. But Mandeville is none so disinteracted."

"Ay, he loves the shiners as an attorney loves

feeg." "So, anxious as he be to win the five hundred from you, his anxiety is deeper that he may disgrace you in the eyres of the Lady Betty and her father." The whole truth of the business flashed upon me, and I groaned. "Lud, Charlie, what a feel I am!" I cried. "Mandeville is a scoundrel, a cuaning scoundrel withal, or I'd have had him hipped ere this. He sees that the Lady Betty has smiles for you and is none so forward with him and the knowledge rankles. I'd plek a quarrel with him and settle is by giving him its the sexton, but that he's too cuaning to take afront."

the person, but that he's too cunning to take """
"Ten must e'en stop the coach and bring us my tord Sherrington's ivery-handled cane, or some such rine. There's the whole matter neatly wrapped up for you. It might be done—lud, these servants have no stomach so the whole matter neatly wrapped up for you. It might be done—lud, these servants have an effect of the server is not for the server will try some sneaking trick for your undoing." "The has swort — I sommensed."
"He has swort — I some sneaking trick for your undoing." "The has swort — I some sneak the word of a perification of the server will try some sone believe in the word of a perificant statement. The has the work of the server will try some sone believe in the word of a perificant statement. The server is not believe in the word of a triangle of the server. The server is not believe in the word of a perificant statement. The server is not believe in the word of a the server it. The server is not believe in the work is the server is th

publishes this morning a most readable romance, which, after the manner of "Der Weitrieg," "Seestern," and several other such works, deals with a great war, the final struggle between the United States and Japan. There is a similarity of style and de-scription between "Seestern" and "Bansai," and this, taken in consideration with the fact that both works are published by the firm of Dieterick, of Leipzig, strengthens the belief that they are the same author. "Bansai," however, is hardly a serious political study of a great problem; it is rather a series of scenes from a modern war, depicted with such a wealth of detail and vivid incident as to warrant the assumption that the author must have gone through recent cam-paigns.

paigns. The scene opens at Manila, which has been with-out cable communication with the mainland for six days. All doubts as to the cause are dispelled by the arrival of a Japanese steamer with the Hong Kong papers, which describe a submarine volcano which has destroyed the cables. It is not until one of the American gunboats running out of Manila harbor is asked by a German steamer for a pilot through the harbor mines that the Americans discover that their iand is at war with Japan, and the Hong Kong news-papers brought by the Japanese steamer were merely a blind. Meanwhile the Japanese steamer were merely a blind. Meanwhile the Japanese steamer has an-chored alongside a small American cruiser in port, torpedoed the latter, and made goed her escape. The news of the war with Japan is the signal for the Filipines, who for months past have been systemati-cally disaffected by incendiary literature, so rise and throw off American dominion.

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The see battle is described with a most lifelike touch, and abounds with little incidents, such as that of the sub-lifeutenant who, driven crazy by the awful slaugh-ter in the turrets, is found singing comic songs at the plano in the wardroom, Admiral Train's fleet is de-stroyed by Admiral Kamimura. The war naturally has a disastrous effect on the financial section, and the author puts the description of the rioting in New York and the destruction of the Chinese quarter in the mouth of a reporter ithe "tear"

the author puts the description of the rioting in New York and the destruction of the Chinese quarter in the mouth of a reporter, the "star" man of a great newspaper. On land there is desperate fighting in Oregon, where the Japanese win a great victory over the American army, largely composed of volunteers. The Japanese finally offer terms of peace. They claim the States of Washington, Oregon, Nevada, and Cali-fornis. These shall be given Japanese garrisons, and be open to Japanese immigration, and under these conditions Japan is prepared to resign the right of immigration into other States. A war indemnity of two billion dollars is demanded, while San Francisco is to become a Japanese war harbor. The Philippines, Gaum, and Hawali are to be annexed by Japan. The United States indignantly reject these terms, Internal dissensions arise between the American-born inhabi-tants and the immigrat races, the latter clamoring for peace. Australia and Canada send regiments to assist the Americans against the yellow invader, and finally the Japanese are defeated all along the line, on sea as on land. And at this point the book abrupt-ly ceases.

## THE NAVY LEAGUE AND SEA POWER

Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, the president, took the chair Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, the president, took the chair at a drawing-room meeting at Grosvenor-house in support of the Navy League. Among those present were Sir John Cockburn, Admiral the Hon, Sir E. R. Fremanile, Mr. Bellairs, M.P., Mr. Pike Pease, M.P., Captain Kincaid Smith, M.P., Mr. Nield, M.P., Sir F. and Lady Pollock, Mr. and Mrs. H. Seymour Trower, Sir L. and Lady Prohyn, Sir Freedarick Young, Arch-deacon Sinciair, Captain Anson, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Burgoyne, Commander Grutchley (secretary), Lady Tryun, the Hea, M. Hicks-Beach, M.P., Colonel Sandys, M.P., Mr. Middlemore, M.P., Mr. Thornton, M.P., and Mr. Lynch, M.F. The chairman said they were holding the meeting

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HE Tokio correspondent of the London Times, writing under date of May 12th, writes as follows: A great majority of the charges which it has now become the fashion to prefer

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Bason justice that they looked for any such treat-ment. There is, however, one charge which is not only tangible, but also has been preferred with such in-sistence as to create very exaggerated impressions, it relates to trade-marks. Any one reading the com-ments of the local press in the Far Bast and the eor-respondence addressed to certain home journals musi-conclude that imitation of foreign trade-marks is a total practice of Japanese merchants, and that the laws of Japan furnish no pretection against such frauds. At the last meeting of the Shanghal pranch onstant practice of Japanese merchants, and that the laws of Japan furnish no pretection against such frauds. At the last meeting of the Shanghal pranch papanese could acquire a tille to use a foreign trade-mark mercely by registering it in his own name in papan, and that he could always register it by mar-ing some slight alteration. Now the fact is that the medels, but differs from the law of Enginad, inasmuch at he former recognises the principle of priority of priority of use. A cursory observer might therefore ion de foreign trade-mark by a Japanese in Japan onfers a title to pirate it with impulity. But such is yn a means the ease. The Japanese law distinctly prevides that no trade-mark which was in use prior by the date of the law's enforcement and which con-tion de the bias it or right inserter is that the priority of use, a cursory observer might therefore priority of use, a cursory observer angle in therefore priority of use, a cursory whether the date of a priority or infers a tille to pirate it with impulity. But such is yn means the ease. The Japanese law distinctly prevides that no trade-mark which was in use prior parameter to be in use can be registered in favor of any person other in and its original evens, whether the lat-ter has sp has net registered is all wade-marks ealeu-lated to deceive us to work fraud upon the public. eive or to work fraud upon the public,

A known man, eh? Gad, the rascal shall swing for it! On the King's Highway—and the King's High Sheriff, too—monstrous! Devilish monstrous! Come, unmask him! Let's look at the villain's fa I heard my Lord Sherrington amble forward, and with him came the rustle of silken skirts. I lay in an agony of shame. One rascal snatched off my mask, and my Lord Sherrington thrust a lantern in my face. I stared up at him.

"Ronald!" he cried in a thick voice. My Lady Betty screamed, and tottered backwards. "Unhappy lad," the old man said, "unhappy lad! I heard rumors of debts and devilry; but this-oh, Ronald, Ronald, that a Greville should come to this!" "Sir," I cried, "tis a mistake!" "Nay, add not lying to't!" he said sternly yet thickly, as though he were in truth greatly grieved. "Indeed, 'twas a wager! I can prove it by wif-nesses!"

nesses!'

"Ay, lying hounds like yourself! This be not the first time either. You know the man?" he added, turning to the first officer.

first time either. You know the man?" he added, turning to the first officer. "Ay, 'tis the 'Awk sure enuff." "And I was traveling with much gold tonight!" "I swear I knew nothing of that!" I cried. "Lads," said Lord Sherrington, "I know this wretched man's parents. For their sakes I would let him go. He shall trouble this country no more." Suddenly there was a shout close to us. Lying as I was I could make nothing of it, but there was a stir among those standing round. "Cut those bonds! There's villainy abroad. But you've got the wrong man! I've got the right one! Here, Harry, cut 'em!" My heart gave a bound! It was Charlie's voice. A form leant over me and a quick knife severed my bonds. I sprang to my feet. By me was Harry Marston, a friend of Charlie's, and with him were two or three others known to me. Charlie thimself was in the saddle alongside my coush. Sir Mande-ville, helding a pistel to the villain's head. "My Lord Sherrington," Charlie cried, "this esca-pade of Ronald's was a follo, a mere wager! But this hound, this white livered dog, who shall be ktcked most handsomely, had nearly worked it to his undoing. The wager was made when we were all somewhat heated with wine," "Come, come, Sir Charles," said my Lord Sher-rington, "these officers have sworn to Ronald being "The Hawk'!"

The Hawk'!"
"These are no officers—they are cut-throat un-hanged dogs, hired by Sir Mandeville! Ask them for their badges. Curs, we have you—own up and you shall go free, Be silent and—""
"We be poor men," the leader snivelled, "and he tempted us, We were to be plaguey well rewarded if we pistolled you," pointing to me, "We were to swear to you being the 'Awk when we unmasked you. It were se plaguey dark it spotled our aim." "Good, lud, 'twas worse than I imagined!" cried Charlis, "I had a suspicion that Sir Mandeville meant foul play so as to win the wager. I ferreted about until I heard of the hiring of rascals to masquerade as Sheriff's men. Then I took the liberty of bringing a few friends with me to see far play. We can all swear to Sir Mandeville being with these men half an hour agone."

"Renald," she said, looking up at me with dewy

"Renald," she said, looking up at me with dewy eyes, "My Lord!" I cried, "I must e'en play my part 4 little longer, I covet another of your possessions." "Eh, what? Lud, lud!" he cried. "Even my Lady Betty, "I said, And my Lady Betty, with one swift look at me, slipped her soft little hand into mine, Be I won much, very much that was dear to me, in my wild frolis, As for the men, we let them ge; and my ceusin, Sir Mandeville Ullabrock, after relinquishing the mort-gages upen my estate—which he did under cen-straint of Sir Charles—left the country for France.

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