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## **Better a Peasant** Than a Peer.

CHAPTER XXIX.

SYMPATHETIC CONFIDANTE. ingly. 'But boys have their feelings. If you mean do I love her, why, yes, 1 do. What next?

"Have you seen her to-day? When did you see her last?" asked Jeanne. "Three days ago, and then only to that her people, perhaps the count, Hal, nervous, embarrassed, fighting don't approve of our acquaintance, for she has not taken her usual ride, nor been down by the stream, and the last time I saw her she looked pale and strange, and her companion stuck close by her side, and walked on so that she couldn't stop. Perhaps I have seen the last of the Princess Verona, and the best thing, too, un der the circumstances.'

He speaks lightly, but Jeanne's loving eyes are sharp, and she sees the twitch of pain which passes over his handsome young face. "Ha!-Hal!" she says, with a sigh

"I am sorry, very sorry; I wish you had never met her. "That do not I!

"Perhaps not," she says, with sigh. "As Tennyson says:

"'Tis better to have loved and lost, Than never to have loved at all.

"That's rot." says Hal, with calm ingratitude. "It's all very well for you to quote poetry of that description, Hal. lucky in every way." Jeanne looks up with a sudden tella and I."

"Do you think so?" she says, with a sudden yearning to tell him all: another moment and she would have

told him, and how much would have been spared to her and others! But before Hal can invite confidence, an interruption comes in the at Baden?" asks Hal, going around to shape of a low pony-carriage, which the companion. "Any books, music, approaches them around the bend of ribbons? I'm good at matching ribthe road. A lady is driving with an bons." he adds, forgetting that she is other by her side, and Jeanne, whose not likely to carry her wardrobe or

eyes are sharp, utters a low exclama- work in the pony-carriage. "Hal, what a beautiful girl! Who are they? Do you know?"

Hal looks up and starts; then he

ST. JOHN'S

"It is she-the princess," he whis-

pers, hurriedly, "and that confounded

Jeanne's symmathetic heart beats lmost as fast as his. "I don't wonder, then, Hal," she

says, earnestly. "She is perfectly

CHAPTER XXX

"Yes," says Hal. "This is my sis

"Jeanne, the Princess Verona, Ser

'Help me down, Hal," she says, and

Hal lifts her from her high perch.

"Don't get out," she says, as the prin-

cess, courtesying, offers to do so. "I

couldn't shake hands all that way up.

"I should have known that,"

Then Bell is introduced

Jeanne nods and smiles.

was talking of you last night."

Jeanne smiles graceiously

ona. "We shall be at home."

"Will you come?" she says to Ver

"Then I will come," says the prin

"Is there anything I can do for you

The companion smiles coldly.

smiles, and backs around to the other

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pale faced companion.

cess, simply.

going to Baden?"

murs the princess

ora Titella.

child out of her reach. Hal, that wo A VISIT FROM THE PRINCESS. man is set to watch her!" There is no time for more; the princess raises her face, an exquisite Hal's lips tighten. "You think so, eh?" carmine, and bows with a little smile "I am sure of it," says Jeanne, dethat goes straight to Jeanne's heart. With a sudden impulse, she leans "Certainly, she is very differentback and pulls up the great bays the princess, I mean," says Hal, mus-Verona hesitates a moment, then

how to I far.cy—mind, it is only fancy brings the ponies to a standstill, and ing. "She used to laugh and talk like -like a girl to a school-fellow, and now she is shy and reserved. Watches for self-possession, leaps from the her, you think?" phæton, and goes up, hat in hand. "I am certain," says. Jeanne. "Did The princess holds out her hand shyly--where is the old childish

you notice how the woman looked when the princess said she would frankness?-and smiles. call? I saw her thin lips compress, and "Good-morning," she says, nusical, hesitating English; "are you her eyes go down." "But she can't understand Eng

lish.' says Hal.

Jeanne shakes her head "I don't believe it." Hal nods assentingly.

"You are getting sharp, Jeanne, he says, approvingly. "I don't believe t either, but what does it all matter? he adds, with a sigh. "You know what is to happen. Besides-a princess!" For the first time, Jeanne remem- on slowly. bers her title

side again, where Jeanne is saying

"You will come? Be sure!" she adds, in a lower tone. "May I say

what I feel?—that we shall be

"I hope-I am certain," says Verona, with such a sweet, confiding look

in her dark eyes that, as Jeanne says afterward, she can scarcely help kiss-

Then, just giving her tiny hand to

Hal for a half-moment, the princess gathers her reins together, and, wait-

ing till Jeanne climbs to her perch

Barely is she out of hearing before Jeanne, with her face all aglow, and

'Hal, she is the loveliest, sweetest

"And it is a shame and a disgraceful

piece of cruelty!" says Jeanne. "An

old man, and ugly, and a Russian!

Oh, shame, shame! And, Hal, did you

"Her face, so cold and set, made me

feel as if-as if I could drag that poor

notice that woman with her?"

"I did," says Hal.

Jeanne sets her teeth

ittle creature I ever saw in my life!" "That's exactly what I think, unfor-

her eyes sparkling, exclaims:

tunately!" says poor Hal.

again, drives on.

"You are a Bertram," she says, with a slow hauteur, "and the brother of an English marchioness!" I am so glad to see you! My brother "And as poor as a church mouse, says Hal. "Don't talk about it, Jean-

A smile, soft and shy, creeps over the princess face, and she glances at ne; I can see only too plainly that ters; he is on his feet, presenting a "I was coming to pay my respects to, can't be. But you are a good girl English 'squire, in a tourist's suit of this afternoon," she says, "Senora Ti- to think about me in the midst of broad and startling checks, Maud and your own happiness. Isn't there an Georgina, dressed in elaborate travelold proverb in our family that no Bertram can be happy in his love? I tle of wine and a tray of biscuits. suppose fate is satisfied with disprov ing it in one instance—you are happy it is not until Hal, in his free-and enough for all the family put to-

"Hal," says Jeanne, trembling. "Hal.' also says Bell, leaning for ward, "there's Baden!"

And once more Jeanne's confidence

s nipped in the bud "Better give me the reins," Hal; and he changes places. "Now for the herds and flocks. Have you arranged where to stop? No? Then we'd "I do not speak English." she says. better go to the principal hotel. Let's "That's a lie, I'll be sworn!" thinks see, you have been polishing up your Hal, but, of course, he only bows and German, haven't you? If not, we shall lady? This impudent rascal pretends have to shove old Bell forward." Jeanne laughs remorsefully; they and won't bring us some pale ale-

have both forgotten that faithful, de- and how's the marquis, my lady?-

At the principal hotel, the appear ance of an elegantly-appointed carriage and the beautiful young English tle of Bass. Here, waiter, bring some milady create an excitement which is raised to fever heat when it is learn- | ale, Mr. Lambton." ed that other cariages are to follow and both Jeane and Bell are required to explain that all they need is some light refreshment for themselves and aley"! Meanwhile, Jeanne has been

"Call for some beer and Johannis berg." says Hal; "they're sure to have em. And mind, if you ask for any- marchieness—has a castle in Gerthing to eat, they'll bring you veal. It is the only meat they go in for; that's the reason why you don't see any cows or bullocks about—they kill them when they are calves!"

Great tankards of beer and a bottle of wine are brought; a glass of the latter Jeanne just sips, and, leaving word that they are gone to the celebrated gardens, they start for a walk. "Here's a fine opportunity for you to moralize, Bell," says Hal, as they enter what used to be the gaminghouse. "Now, then, for a sermon or the evils of gambling."

But Bell merely expresses his admiration for the magnificent apartment in which so many thousands have met their ruin, and they go into the gardens. "Evening is the time," says Hal;

there's a band and a regular promenade concert, and the whole place is lit up with these imps, and-hullo, what's the row?" he breaks off to inwhat's the row?" he breaks off to inquire. for as they walk down one of
the grand paths, lined with tables,
they hear voices raised in dispute.

A group of persons is seated around
a table at a little distance, and a confused waiter is hovering to and fro,
laboring to explain something which laboring to explain something which some one of the party will not allow f explanation.

"English." says Hal, sententiously. I pity the poor waiter," and he turns pon his heel.

But good-natured Bell hesitates Perhaps we can help them; let us Co., Toronto, Ont.

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go and see." he says, and they walk But suddenly Hal utters an ex

clamation. "By George!" he says, "it's old Lambton, and Maud and Georgina!

Hal is right. It is Mr. Lambton and his daugh what I want, and you would help me fine specimen of the angry, irascible

All are talking fast and furious, and easy way, puts his hand on Mr. Lamb ton's shoulder, that they notice ou party's approach

"Maud!" cries Georgina, "here is Jeanne-I mean the Marchioness Ferndale! Papa, look!" Mr. Lambton turns-he is as red as

a turkeycock-and takes off his hat the girls clasp Jeanne's hand, and cling to it: all talk at once. "What's the row?" asks Hal.

"This impudent rascal-but who ever thought of seeing you here, my that he don't understand English. voted friend, as faithful, devoted and we've asked him a dozen, a hunfriends are forgotten until they are dred times! - and where are you staying. Lady Ferndale?" "A'll right," says Hal, "I know

enough of German to ask for the botpaley aley. That's what they call pale

The waiter, with a grin of intelligence, darts away, and brings the ale, and it is a fact, they do call it "paley talking to the two girls. "Staying at your own castle!" says

Maud. "Papa, Jeanne-I mean the many! Isn't that delightful?" (To be contiuned)

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