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# The Snake

## Justice Done.

CHAPTER XXIV. (Continued.)

Her hand trembled so that the er instead.

"Of course, we sha'n't make a fortune; but we ought to do not the port. A tall, gravevery well and be very happy, faced man entered. He was eh, Ada? Eh, Miss Veronica?" dressed in a dark tweed suit,

in Big Man's fairy 'tories," said ed to smack of an official uni-Ada, with tremendous gravity. form, and he looked round the

her hand stole out, as stealthily other with a quick and compreas her glances had done, and hensive glance which seemed to sought and found Ralph's, which take everything and everyone closed on it with a passionate in

which such a blissful prospect seemed to defy denial. caused her, she hurled herself into the conversation, and, Marthey were soon all talking together, making plans for the life of freedom and happiness promised them in that ranch in Australia, which seemed to be the

# SICK, DAUGHTER

Mrs. C. Cole Tells How Her Daughter Was Restored to Health by Lydia E. Pinkham's Compound.

Fitchville, Ohio. - "I take great pleasure in writing to thank you for what your medicine has done for my daughter. "Before taking



your medicine she was all run down, suffered from pains in her side, could not walk but a short distance at a time, and had severe pains in head and limbs. She came very near having nervous prostra-

tion. She had begun to cough a good deal and seemed melancholy by spells. She tried two doctors but got little help. "I cannot find words to express my gratefulness for what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has done for my daughter. She feels and looks like another girl since taking it, and I shall impression on the mighty earl always feel that I owe you a great debt. You can use this letter for the bene-

Hundreds of such letters from moth- he had deemed buried for ever. ers expressing their gratitude for what As he sat this afternoon listudia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has accomplished have been received by the Lydia E. Pinkham Mediand wondering what had become cine Company, Lynn, Mass.

Young Girls, Heed This Advice. Girls who are troubled with painful or irregular periods, backache, headache, dragging-down sensations, fainting spells or indigestion, should immediately seek ion to health by taking Lydia E. only piece of moss Mr. Saints bury had managed to retain

through all his toiling. But though man proposes Providence disposes.

While they were talking and laughing hopefully and happily there came a knock at the door. "That is the man with Ralph's

port," said Veronica. "It's ridiculous, buying port for me!" he said, indignantly "Why, anyone would think I wa an invalid! And I walked quite a couple of miles to-day!"

"First rate!" remarked Mr needle wouldn't go into the pro- Saintsbury, approvingly. "But per place, but ran into her fing- we'd better take it in, hadn't we? Come in!"

The door opened; but it was "Vewy happy, like the people | which, ordinary as it was, seem-Veronica said nothing, but room and from one person to an-

"Mr. Ralph Farringdon?" he Then, to hide the confusion said, quietly, but in a tone that

"I am Ralph Farringdon," said Ralph, with surprise, as Veronica's hand slid from his and he rose from his chair.

### CHAPTER XXV.

The earl was sitting in the library, his great chair drawn close to the fire; his head was bowed, his thin hands clasped to the arms of the chair, and his whole attitude was one of melancholy. Though he would not have admitted it to himself, Veronica's absence was weighing upon him; the solitude of the vast house, the loss of her beautiful presence, her sweet, musical voice, were almost unendurable. He rarely went out, and spent nearly all the day sitting thus, gazing at the fire with heavy brow and brooding eyes.

With Veronica had gone the one gleam of brightness in the life made sombre by how many dark memories!

And it was not only of Veronica that he sat and thought gloomily; for, much to his sur- afraidprise and annoyance, he could not dismiss Ralph Farringdon from his mind. There had been something in the young fellow's personality which had left ar and every time Lord Lynborough "You can use this letter for the benefit of others if you wish, as I shall always recommend your medicines for female troubles."—Mrs. C. Cole, Fitchwille, Ohio.

> tening to the wind in the trees of Veronica—what had become of Ralph—the door opened and the butler entered.

"Mr. Whetstone, my lord," he said, grayely. "Can he see your MINARD'S LINIMENT FOR SALE

"No." said the earl, grimly 'Ask him to write."

"Mr. Whetstone bade me say that it was important business-'

"Then why didn't you say Mr. Whetstone insists upon seeing me?" said the earl, with a snarl.

"Show him in." As Mr. Whetstone came in the earl shifted in his chair uneasily and glanced at him under bent brows. He rarely saw Whetstone, and when he was compelled to do so, always made the interview as short as possible; it almost seemed as if the presence of the prematurely broken and white-haired man was an embarrassment to the earl. Whetstone stood with his hand on the table, and Lord Lynborough saw that he was much agitated; the man's thin voice shook as he said:

"I am sorry to trouble your ordship, but-but something terible has happened, and the rebear alone."

The earl glowered at him. "One of the roofs of those ottages you are always worryng me about fallen in, I suppose," he said.

Sydney Whetstone ignored the heartless sarcasm.

"Burchett - Burchett," went on, tremulously, "was clearing away some faggots in the western wood this morning and-and he made a discov-

"Has he found a gold mine?" said the earl. "Nothing half so useful, I'll be sworn; some

"He found a grave, my lord," said Whetstone, solemly. The earl peered at him grim-

"A recent grave in which the body of a man had been buried. lordship's inspection, and th We think—we fear there has earl looked at it. been foul play. Burchett sent for me, and I thought it better to come at once to your lord- Collection of

The earl's usual calmness did not desert him. He frowned at the fire for a moment, then he

"Will you order a carriage, with my outdoor things."

They drove almost in silence a small crowd gathered round some object over which a couple bent. A lane was made for the earl and his steward, and the two men passed through it. Something covered with a rickcloth was lying on a hurdle Whetstone saw it and shuddered, and drew the earl back.

"No, no, my lord!" he said. "It is not necessary—it is too horrible!"

But the earl signed to the policemen; they drew the cloth aside, and he looked at the gris-"Who is it?" he asked in a

low voice. "A man as was stopping at the inspector; "a sort of tramp. He was a rough kind of fellow, my lord, and up to no good. I'm

stopped suddenly, for there had come the sound of other wheels; a station fly had driven up, and Mr. Talbot Denby alighted and approached the group. He was very pale, but as calm as the earl as he said: "Talbot! I did not expect

There is a terrible busi-Talbot Denby looked round

enquiringly. "I heard at the house that something had happened, that you had come here, and I followed-naturally. I feared that some accident-"



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The inspector shook his head "It's no accident, Mr. Talbot," e said in a low voice.

As he spoke he was about to draw the cloth aside again, but suddenly Mr. Talbot Denby uttered a cry.

"No, no!" he said, in a strained voice; then, as if ashamed ponsibility is too great for me of his lack of nerve, he made a gesture of assent and, going up slowly to the corpse, looked down at it. They who were looking at him saw him shudder and wince-but they had all shuddered and winced at the gruesome sight. He turned his head away and passed his hand across his brow with a very natural gesture of horror. "Does anyone know the man

-had he any friends here?" asked the earl. There was a general shaking

of heads. "He appeared to be quite stranger, just come here on the mare's-nest with which you chance, on the tramp, my lord," think it necessary to trouble said the inspector. "How the man came to be murdered-it was murder, my lord; you saw the mark of the stab? And, be

sides, there's the knife!" "What knife?" asked the ear The policeman held it for hi

(To be coninued.)

## Historic Crystals.

In Mr. Morgan's rock crystal collection is a shrine enriched with gold and enamel work by Adam Van Vianen. In the centre of the shrine i Whetstone? I will go with you. carved a niche in which stands a fig-Please tell them to send Welford ure of the Virgin holding the Holy Child. The costume is a robe of gold enriched with black enamel. Upon the head is a white cap with gold stars and to the woods. As they neared silver and gold and white decoration the spot they heard the hum of is about the square cut neck of the many subdued voices, and found dress. It is a Flemish work of the Seventeenth century, and was former ly in the Fritz Gans collection. A small reliquary of enameled gold and rock of policemen were mounting crystal is portable and in the form of guard. Burchett stood a little a monstrance composed of a rock cryapart, his arms folded, his head stal cylinder flanked by two small columns of gold enameled in blue and white and surmounted by the figures of children holding shields. Above the cylinder is a small niche or shrine re presenting the crucifixion and two figures which are supposed to repro sent the Virgin and St. John.

Of historic interest is a bowl of rock erystal with scroll work, borders of fruit and embellished on each side with a figure of a Nereid with strings of pearls about her neck According to the chroniclers the howl at one time was in the possession of Queen Chris tina of Sweden, for whom it was said to have been mounted. A rock crystal vase of Italian workmanship of the Sixteenth century is in the form of a monster with two wings. The creature is represented as scaled like a fish the wings being similarly scaled, with the Dog and Owl, my lord," said curly tail. Its eyes are formed by two rubies, each set in gold. A mount of gold surrounds the mouth and extends around the head. At one time this specimen was in the collection Lord Hastings.



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