CHAPTER XXVII.

Meanwhile in the drawing room Lady Eastwell was, feeling thoroughly annoyed at the failure of the plan which she had cherished all through the week preceding her dinner party. and she showed her annovance by si sister-in-law and sympathize with ous appearance, and Alice brightened and devoted herself to Sir Hugh, rewife's haughty indifference while Ma-

"Oh, pray do! I shall be so pleased," she answered eagerly. "Yes, we have been in London for two years and more

"And you like it?"

You have travelled a great deal

you are aware. Mrs. Fai military career.'

ously; then her sweet face crin had done so, and she glanced at hin in quick distress.

He met the look and smiled reas-

"I regretted it a great deal at first I missed my old friends; but at one



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'He generally keeps his word,' Shirley answered, with her usual icy

"I hope not always. I remember, -" A slight movement which ment: then he went on lightly. " suppose he thinks I did not do him

"No." Shirley answered, with sud den bitterness, looking steadily ou at the lighted streets as they drov

my wife!"

Highest grade beans kept whol

and mealy by perfect baking.

retaining their full strength.

Playored with delicious sauces They have no equal.

could not have borne the restraint

"You find many changes?" Ruby

"No." he replied, smiling, "I fel

so changed myself that I expected to

find every one clse equally so. In

stead of that I find you entirely un-

changed and Oswald, with the ex

ception of being a little stouter, just

"And Shirley?" Ruby said involue-

"She is as beautiful as ever."

ease to love at will.

Watching Shirley furtively with his

grave gray eyes, Guy Stuart felt more

ear her once more and not to be or

be old sweet familiar terms. Not

hough after their first short greet

ngs they did not exchange a word

He noted the languid calm of he

nanner, her haughty indifference, se

nlike the sweet graciousness of old

nd he saw too with a thrill of pair

and pleasure which he could not re

press, the change-perceptible only

Shirley herself never remembered

now that evening passed: it seemed

erself even more proudly than usua

ion of the words she uttered and the

song she sang; but she knew also

that the old sense of rest and peace

and happiness which she had always

feit in Guy's presence was coming

back to her heart, and that she strove

against it in vain. Was it wrong?

much, she was surely justified in

celing a little happy now! And then

the found herself bidding Alice good

y." Sir Hugh said, when he and Shir-

ey were driving away in their lux-

urious well-appointed carriage,

speaking with an indifference which

was assumed in vain for his pur-

pose. "I wonder if he will come to

see us? He said he would."

"Quite. Hers is a lovely face."

given to rouse Shirley into anything fke resentment, into a betrayal of

"Perhaps," assented Shirley, relap sing into her usual indifference. "I wish him joy!" said her husband bitterly; and they were silent

CHAPTER XXVIII. "Major Stuart is in the drawing

"Very well, Cobbett, Ask the Ma for to wait for me one minute.

'Yes, my lady.'

The powdered footman who ha made the announcement disappeared and Lady Glynn put aside the book that no one who had not known her she had been reading as she arose

She was dressed as usual, in pe fect taste and there was no sign (

He was standing by the window of the drawing room when she entered and she was close beside him before he heard her; then, with a start, he turned and saw her standing, slin and graceful, in her dark velve lress with soft old laces at

ence, and equally in silence he took t was so wondrously sweet and melo

"I am very glad to see you. It was

"You thought I would come?" he said, with a kindly smile, "I an

nervously, linking her white fingers together with a gesture f pain. "I don't think the tread

acnotonous at times; but the season s not a very long one, you know." "Not a very long one?" she ques-

"No, certainly not. And every posiion has its duties," he answered.

"You left yours to take care of bemselves for a long time," she said uddenly, looking at him, as they tood at the window facing each other, with quick repreach and pain.

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adway's Evening

I ought not to have said that. Wil vou not sit down?" .

She moved away from him as she spoke, with an uncertain restless movement very unlike her usual languid grace. His eyes, full of wistful pain, followed her, and the thought pursued him whether it had beer wise to come.

"We have met several times." sh said, in a low ill-assured tone, "since that first evening, but I have never had an opportunity of thanking you for your goodness then. Will you let

"You will not do so unless you wish to pain me terribly." he answered "Even if I had not given

The cclor rose slowly and painful

"You promised your uncle?" she said rallying a little. "When?" "On his death bed."

"He died-when?" "He died three days after I left you

He spoke with evident effort, but with perfect calm, although under his 9810. bronze the pallor was deepened to ghastliness.

she said, lifting her eyes to his with "Even then," he replied gently It was hardly more bitter pair

"And you could forgive even then?

not easy for me to forgive," he ad led earnetsly-"not easy-ah. no!" "It is easier new?" she said quick-

"You can see the wrong is not se

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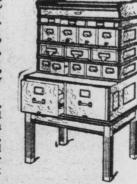
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