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An Indispensible **Favorite**

Wealth and Beauty at Stake!

CHAPTER XVI.

"No, I don't," Belle declares, short- if his wife, Yolande, dies without at the scene her romantic fancy conly. "Why are you worried and per- children, he inherits two-thirds of jures up, at the wild hopes that rise If Mrs. Murray annoys you, why don't you get rid of her and he can afford to do without the five the spell. her daughter? They haven't even the hundred a year you have kindly deexcuse of poverty to hang on here prived him of, viscount. In any case." plaintive cheerfulness, "you shall see week after week as they are doing. she adds, decisively, looking up stead- me go through my muscular exercise They can live well on Miss Murray's ily into his angry, unpleasant face.

viscount agrees, with a covetous glit- she may wish it." ter in his eyes. "Why, it is close on seven hundred a year-I know the torts, with the sweet smile and snarlstock it's invested in; and she'll have ing tone he assumes when he is about repeats Lady Maria, as she sits in her her mother's three hundred a year, too, to say something particularly un- swinging wooden chair, pulling at when she dies."

Belle says, quietly-ominously so. "A your enmity to Joyce Murray." disdainful, capricious, flirting beauty in, handsome Dallas, among the num- spiteful emphasis. ber-and provoked you with her girlish insolence a hundred times! Oh, I see why you won't quarrel with Mrs

"I don't want to quarrel with Lady Maria's relatives," mumbles the vis- seys count, confusedly. "And now, at such a time as this, too, Belle, really, families ought to be united-"

"In holy matrimony when there's a good deal to be gained by it." Belle finishes, with a dangerous glitter in her eyes, and a low, sibilant laugh, making his lordship look very uncomshadow as well as the substance. Miss Bella Glover declares, with cool your pocket, as well as poor old Dormer's fifty or sixty thousand, though you have made heaps of money in the city, and though you are going to step into an earldom and seven thousand ate expenses are very large such a good, generous, charitable, pious gentleman as Lord Glynne is!"

The viscount fairly quails beneath the scorn of her piercing black eyes, and her little laugh of mockery.

scheme, my lord, and so it will hever come to anything," she tells him, coolly. "Lady Maria shan't dies these twenty years if I can keep her alive to spite you and Joyce Murray!" "Miss-Miss Glover! I am shocked

-absolutely shocked-at your speaking in such an improper manner about Miss Murray and me! Most improper! Most unwarrantable!" the viscount exclaims, with stern dignity, rather married in effect by his mean, flustered countenance, his very forehead dyed an ugly red, and his eyelids blinking nervously. "What suspicious, jealous laugh. "I'll tell



than ever she is to be yours," inter- houses. Glynne is as madly in love with her as any one but herself. His unfortunate Dallas! If she could but come twenty-four hours in the house."

am glad I have persuaded the earl to treat him as he deserves."

"To cut him off with a shilling?"

and justly"-with a fine Pecksniffian better friends than we are, Yolande?" air of rigid virtue-"if what you say when she would whisper back, "Yes,

"Quite true," she says, coldly, "But 'Miss Murray will never be Countess "I should think so, indeed!" the of Pentreath, however much you or

"Bella, my dear," the viscount repleasing, "I'll tell you what I have dangling ropes and pressing down "A thousand a year, and a beauty," found out about you—the cause of clicking bars like treadles. "This is

and handsome lovers—our dear cous- terath yourself!" he answers, with utes. "Now, these are the extension But Bella laughs up at him as aud-

"So I shall be, if I live long enough,"

gracefully, and disappears through the narrow doorway. Lord Glynne-pious and sedate gentleman—chuckles with half-angry ad-

miration as he looks after her. "What a plucky little demon it is!"

CHAPTER XVII.

Mrs. Murray is gone: but the stin of her bland, obtrusive presence remains, to unhappy Yolande at least. Dallas was asking for her, seeking her, and could not find her. Dallas wished for her company on this long, delightful mountain excursion, repenting perhaps of his coldness and unkindness of the previous evening, and his frigidly careless question this morning whether she would join him or not. She half refused, hoping that he would urge her to put off her visit came to his side, and pressed her with much gracious and pretty condescen-

sion, to go with them. "We are such a small party, we shall be quite dull if you don't give us the pleasure of your company," Joyce said, with a sweetly sarcastic smile, her sunny, blue eyes gleaming with amusement; for the girlish

bride was looking very pale and grave. "Captain, Glynne knows I have an engagement this morning, Miss Murray," Yelande replies, chillingly, and, without another word, turned away, leaving them talking together in low tones in the great, embayed window of the breakfast-room.

She hurried away, indeed, with a miserable, humiliated feeling of not being wanted in either their walks of their talks, gladly seeking the distraction of mademoiselle's society and the rather dreaded visit to Lady Maria in the endeavor to forget them-Dallas Glynne, her husband, and the ginl he loves-to forget the sight of two fair heads side by side, and a pair of bright, blue eyes smiling into a pair of bright, gray-blue eyes, in mutual understanding and confidence.

And now, implicitly believing Mrs. Murray's false words, she thinks perhaps she was too hasty. Perhaps Dallas really wished her to go. Perhaps she has displeased and grieved him by not going; it is "bad form" to parade their wretched married estrange-

And then she thinks of the delights a long, bright, breezy day out on the

ntains and in the green valleys ou, my clever little lady!"

and wooded giens, out among the "Joyce Murray is much more likely heather and the trout streams and the waterfalls and the old-fashioned farm-

as you know, Lord Glynne. Dallas childlike grief. Oh, if she could only ever he was, and she is as much in hurry after them-for miles, if she little wife will die of a broken heart, panting, laughing, victorious, full of naybe—he's treating her coldly and joy in being with him, and hear him neglecting her shamefully already. I chide her and tease her, and then ask ound that out before they had been her gravely why she had come! If "He's a scoundrel, a good-for-noth- arm, and say earnestly and in simple ing, heartless scoundrel!" the vis- truth, putting aside all false pride or count declares, with sudden fury, "I false shame "Because I thought it would please you if I came!"

Might he not be pleased to find her obedient and humble, and reward her my father's will-and most properly did last night, and say, "Can't we be

her property for his life. With that before her in rainbow hues of promand Joyce Murray's fifteen thousand, ise, when Lady Maria's voice breaks

quiesce as pleanantly as she can, with

"One, two, three! One, two, three!" planes." Lady Maria goes on, smil-"You want to be Countess of Pen- has tugged and clicked for five minplanes," LLady Maria goes on, smiling at Yolande's frightened face, and fit into sockets from another swingshe declares, gayly; and, kissing the ing bar of the machine, while she, in tips of her fingers to him, she curt- her chair, is pulled backward and forward in a manner horribly suggestive of the holy office.

(To be Continued.)

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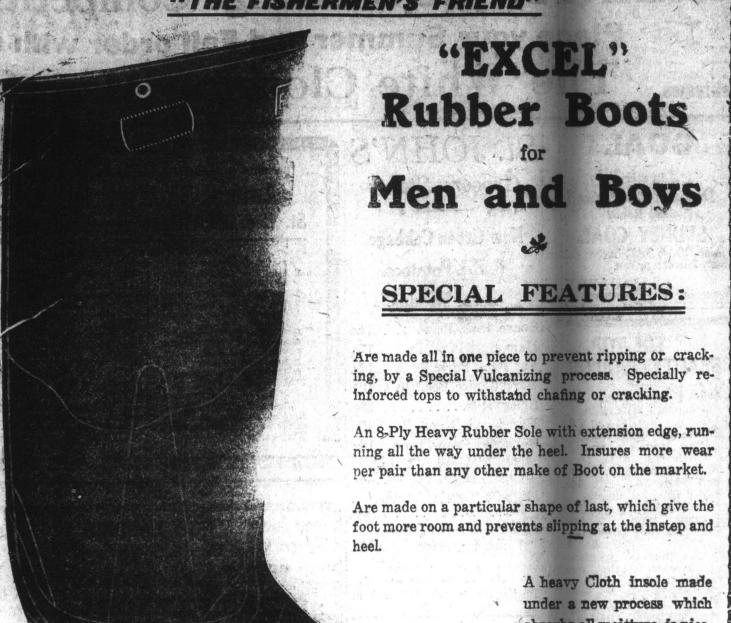
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LONDON. August 8-Major-General Sir Frederick Maurice, who was Chief of Military Operations for Great Britain during the war, declares in an article on the increase in the air forces of France and Britain that "it is high time the question of limitation of armaments is taken up seriously." He says that the British Government's recent decision to nearly double England's present air equipment meant a return to competition in armaments and that such competition is not likely to lead to improved relations

between the two countries. General Maurice emphasizes Great Britain's willingness to enter into a conference on the reduction of air armaments similar to the Washingon conference on naval armaments. But for the present, he says, Britain must, out of self-protection, bring her air strength up to that of France. "France," says he; "in the only country which within the next ten years is likely to be able to consider eriously an attack upon England rom the air. To-day we are not in he most romote danger of invasion which comes by sea. Therefore, for the first time for centuries, the navy has ceased to be our first line of home defence, and that role has deolved upon the air force.

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"Daddy," he said one day, "is today to-morrow?"

morrow," was the reply. Willie

morrow?" asked father. "Yesterday."

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"No, my son, of course it isn't to-"But you said it was," murmured

"When did I say to-day was to-

yesterday, but to-day is today, just as yesterday was to-day erday but is yesterday to-day, nd to-morrow will be to-day toorrow, which makes to-day yesteray and to-morrow all at once. Now, n along and play."

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