

the following additional particulars. Sir Hugh's eldest son, Captain Desborough—"

"Right; he was Captain in the —th Lancers, and threw up his commission when he chose to live abroad. It was said he entered the Austrian army, and attained the same rank in that service," interrupted the General.

"He did so," resumed Lewis, who spoke in the same calm unimpassioned voice which he had used throughout the interview, though to any one who knew him well, it would have been perceivable that he did so by the greatest effort; "but those who believed that he died abroad, and without male issue, were misinformed; he died in England, in the spring of 18—, and left (besides a daughter) one son, who is still living."

"Left a son! why, he would be heir to the title and estates instead of Walter. Where is he, sir? who is he?" exclaimed the General impetuously.

Lewis rose, drew himself up to his full height, advanced slowly till he stood face to face with the General, and then, fixing his piercing glance upon him, said, "He now stands before you, General Grant, and asks you whether, when he has established his rights before the eyes of the world, you will again refuse him your daughter's hand?"

Reader the only little bit of mystery in our story (if indeed it has presented any mystery at all to your acuteness,) is now cleared up; and, the interest ended, the sooner the tale itself arrives at a conclusion the better. But for the satisfaction of the unimaginative, the strong-minded women and practical men of the world, who cannot rest assured that two and two make four till they have counted it on their fingers, we will write a few more last words, winding up the various threads of this veracious history.

In his interview with General Grant Lewis had only stated that which he was fully prepared to prove; and when the lawyer and his blue bag, (not that lawyers ever do carry blue bags anywhere but in farces at the minor theatres, or those still more "unreal mockeries," the pages of modern novels,) were called in to assist at the conference the following facts were elicited:—

The packet of letters which Lewis found amongst Hardy's papers and which gave him the first intimation that he, and not poor Walter, was heir to the title and estates of Desborough, had been written by Captain Arundel, or, as his name really was, Desborough, to his younger brother, Walter Desborough (the father of the poor idiot, who was, in fact, first cousin to Lewis); the object with which these letters were written being to bring about a reconciliation between Sir Hugh and his eldest son—Walter Desborough having undertaken the office of mediator. In order to do this, it was first of all necessary to disabuse Sir Hugh's mind of an idea that Captain Desborough's marriage was not valid, and that the children were