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The Imprisoned Heiress
—OR—
The Spectre of Egremont.

CHAPTER XXVI

For the face upon which they looked was the face of Lyle Indor!

As the earl saw that it was indeed the gentle, feminine face of his wife's nephew, his at first incredulous gaze changed, and he sank back, the blood setting up afresh from his wounds.

There was no doubt about the matter.

As the excitement cooled the fact became apparent that Lyle Indor, and Lyle alone, was the secret enemy of Lord Ashcroft, the same who had thrice before attempted his life, and the Lady Alexina fell from one fainting fit into another, and was borne at last from the room.

Lord Ashcroft soon came to an understanding of the whole case. Indor had thought that he would never relinquish the hand of the heiress, and leave to her her fortune, and had secretly tried to put him out of the way that he might himself possess Alexina and her inheritance.

Afterward he understood how Lyle Indor had found Kepp's gun in the wood, where Kay had deposited it, and how he had seized it, thinking if the act were interrupted, and Lord Ashcroft should escape, the under-forester would be suspected of the attempted crime. He had found the knife Kepp had lost, and he had hidden Lord Ashcroft's watch in Kepp's bed on the occasion of the search of the cottage.

The ghastly remains were carried to the room that had been occupied by Indor, and divested of the disguise he had worn. The coarse gloves were taken from his slender white hands, the disfiguring garments removed from his elegant form, and the heavy boots that had given him increased height were flung away.

All his schemes had failed, and he had perished in the toils he had woven.

The earl grew weaker every moment, and every effort to stop the flow of blood from his wounds proved unavailing. It did not need that any one should tell him that his injuries were mortal, for by the deadly numbness that crept over him he knew that he must die.

I have done. You all know of the late earl's will!"

There was a low murmur of assent, and the countess buried her head in the cushions that pillowed her husband's head.

"It is not needful for me to repeat its conditions," said the dying man, in fltering tones. "You know I was to gain by the life of the infant heiress and to lose by her death. Thus, every inducement was offered me to cherish and guard her. She was a frail, delicate child; and when about three years old, after her nurse had married and gone away, she began to droop, and we feared we should lose her, and with her our present home. About that time she took a contagious fever, and we had no hope of saving her. In our despair an idea came to us, and we acted upon it."

He looked deprecatingly at the two young girls, and then continued:

(To be continued.)

The Heir to Beecham Park

CHAPTER II

She lifted Mardie on to a chair, and was about to give her some food, when the door opened, and, looking up in surprise, she saw a lady, young and handsome, attired in a riding habit, enter the room.

"I must apologize for this intrusion," began the stranger, as she closed the door; "but my errand, I trust, will excuse me."

"What may I do for you?" asked Mrs. Graham, rising.

"Let me introduce myself," said the young lady, with a pretty smile. "I am Lady Coningham, wife of Sir Hubert Coningham of the Weald, Hurstley, a village about three miles out."

And the order was obeyed.

The earl was then laid upon the sofa, to which he had hitherto refused to be borne, and he said:

"Evelyn, bring Almee to me. Bring her, I conjure you, if you would have me die in peace."

Lady Egremont hesitated, but not long. Heart-broken and crushed, it mattered little to her at that moment what the world thought of her. She had not a bad heart, and there had been many times in her life when she would have given everything—even life—to undo a wrong that had begun years before.

She quitted the room, soon returning with the Lady Almee, Toolift, and the former nurse, who had lately come to Egremont.

The Lady Alexina, frightened and sobbing, was already beside her guardian's couch, her hand held in his.

She looked up as Almee entered and regarded her in astonishment, as did also the other occupants of the room, none of whom, with the exception of Lord Ashcroft, had ever before seen the lovely captive.

Lord Ashcroft came forward, with a tender, protecting air, and Almee took his arm, to the infinite surprise of the Lady Lorean, who was charmed and captivated by the young maiden's loveliness.

"Almee, Alexina," said the earl, "come nearer. Lord Ashcroft knows, and he alone, that the haunted rooms of Egremont have been the home for years of this young girl, but even he is ignorant of her history. I cannot die without undoing the wrong that

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To make the best pine cough remedy that money can buy, put 2½ ounces of Pinex in a 16-oz. bottle, and fill up with homemade sugar syrup. Or you can use clarified molasses, honey, or corn syrup, instead of sugar syrup. Either way, you make 16 ounces—more than you can buy ready-made for \$2.50. It is pure, good, and pleasant—children like it.

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King Edward VII Trimmed a Prince

Won 2 Million Marks From Friend of Kaiser.

(By Canadian Press).

Berlin, Jan. 5.—How King Edward VII, when he was Prince of Wales once won two million marks from a son of Prince Radziwill, one of the leaders in Prussian demagoguery and a crony of former Emperor William, has been revealed in connection with the current investigation into the banking policies pursued by the Prussian state bank.

Dr. Karl Van Furchard, the son of former president of the official Prussian bank, is authority for the statement that the Prince of Wales during a visit to Berlin in the middle 90's, won a half million dollars in the course of one night's gambling from young Radziwill. As the debt had to be paid within twenty-four hours the elder Radziwill pledged his vast estates to the Prussian state bank as collateral for the cash covering his son's gambling debt.

Emperor William, who was keen to have the Radziwill family eschewed, spared a blot, intervened and the bank condescended to advance the amount needed to cover the winnings of the Prince of Wales.

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Prevent Eclipse by Raising Noise

There exists, say the Siamese people, an evil spirit, Phra Rahu, who is jealous of the splendor of his brother, the sun, and his sister, the moon, and who, therefore, chafes himself into an enormous black dragon and tries to devour those who give light to the world, writes Information d'Extreme Orient, as translated for the Milwaukee Journal.

The people try to frighten the black monster and to tear its shining prey away from it. For this reason there is a terrific noise as long as an eclipse lasts—kitchen utensils, gongs, shouts, all sorts of musical instruments, broken glass and firecrackers are used to scare the monster away that hides the moon or sun.

All these efforts are crowned with success when the moon or sun reappears.

"Breeze"-Lined Houses

Scottish Professor's Invention—Saving of Bricks.

Brickhouses built with 40 per cent. less bricks than at present is the dream of a Scottish inventor, Professor Arthur Laurie. In view of the alarming shortage of English bricks, his invention is considered by housing experts to be of the greatest importance.

In an interview with the Daily Graphic, Professor Laurie described his scheme, which is being tried out in Edinburgh on a small scale.

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The Shoe Men

theory that mankind has never found any better medium for building than the "brick." He said: "Yet the shortage of bricks is causing all kinds of other methods to be revived."

Solicitor's Downfall

Six Months' Imprisonment For Fraud.

To drink was attributed the downfall of Wilfred James Burton, 57, solicitor, who was sentenced at Birmingham Assizes. He and Frederick Arthur White, 37, signwriter, were charged with fraudulent conversion and larceny. According to the prosecution, accused and a man named Riches conspired to induce people to deposit money with them for the purpose of taking up shares in a new company called Multi Markets, Ltd., to deal in wine and oil, and almost every commodity. It was represented that those who did so would be given positions as canvassers or clerks. Actually there never had been a company formed. Witness told of entrusting to defendants sums varying from £20 to £75, and receiving nothing back. With the permission of the Commissioner, Mr. Hollis Walker, K.C., the charges of larceny were withdrawn. Burton, giving evidence, declared he had nothing to do with the commercial side of the company and knew nothing of the transactions. He merely consented to carry out the legal business in connection with Multi Markets, Limited. The company was not registered because of disension among the directors. Riches, the master mind, received the money, witness receiving payment for work done. He admitted having had no practising certificate as a solicitor since 1921. Mr. Coley, prosecuting: At the time you took £25 from a clerk named Simkins, what chance had you of repaying it? Witness: Lots of chances. Mr. Coley: What! And within a fortnight you had the bailiffs in your office and they sold your furniture, you could not pay £40 on judgment summonses, and you could not take out your practising certificate as a solicitor. I have made £25 on occasions before you could look round. The jury found Burton guilty of defrauding in two cases and conspiring to defraud, and White not guilty of all charges. The latter was then discharged. Burton was sentenced to 6 months' in the second division.

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FINAL SESSION

The final plenary session of the Ministers of the League of Nations for the present year opened at nine o'clock for the preparation of the report on the reparations of the League of Nations. It was attended by 200 delegates.

Well over 700 delegates from 35 nations through the League of Nations on the question of reparations. Having voted on the reparations, the League of Nations will begin its work on the League of Nations.

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