

The Countess of Landon.

CHAPTER XXI.

It was addressed to the Honorable eyes. Royce Landon. It was the first letter addressed to her husband she had

It was still in her hand when Royce came in, a cigarette between his lips, his handsome face bright and happy-

her nearly an hour. "It is from my mother," he said; and

the careless look vanished.

a low voice. "Not-not bad news?"

"No, no," he said, seating himself on the table and reading the letter; "not and smoothing her hair tenderly. his pride in her kept pace with his exactly what you'd call bad news, "Come to that, you are called 'honor- love. Short as the time had been, son, to whom she delivered the money, though it reminds us that our holiday able," too, I believe-not quite sure. it had wrought a change in Madge. is coming to an end."

"What-what does she say?" she es, and I'm almost as-" eyes bent on the street beneath, head. "And the gentleman I saw that the well-formed hands had grown ac- fortune in \$20 bills. though they saw nothing.

minds me that she will expect us the your brother—he is the earl?" past six train, and"-he held up a see." check-"she incloses some money, which she says she would have sent asked Madge, after a pause. before if I had sent her our address earlier. Read it, dearest;" and he held the letter out to her.

took the letter, but she only glanced "Perhaps it's my fault-anyhow, we coat of arms stamped in the corner, hesitated. "I don't know how to ex- as she knelt at the box.

the color rising to her face still turn- after. He was always like that from a You'll find they'll go."

and his brow darkened. "Anyhow, she way that would almost make a door-Lut never mind, Madge!" He jumped 'Royce, I hate you! and then he would off the table and went to her, and put go and tell madame." his arm round her with a world of



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sympathy and pride and protection in his caress. "All in good time! Just you wait until they know you better and love you; and you won't have to wait long, Madge."

"Tell me. Jack." she said, timidly, "why does she call you 'the Honorable,' instead of plain 'Mr.'?"

He took it, kissing her as he did so; belongs to the old school, and sticks contained in such statements made for, you see, he had been away from to the privileges, as they are called, her look like an empress of her rank."

"Oh," he said, slowly, "she just re- voice-"the one they called Seymour, to ache in them, and she felt more

"Look here, Madge: you know al- on the floor beside it. Madge shook her head, then she on together," he continued, gravely, watching her. plain, but somehow, Seymour seems "Does-does it say nothing about different to the rest of us. You never

wrote in a hurry." His face flushed hit back. He would only smile in a Royce's ears. might have sent you a little message; scraper sit up and howl, and say, she said.

"Madame?"

"My mother-the countess," exclaimed Royce. "We all call her 'madame,' or 'her ladyship.' Well, Seyhave got just a smack of truth in them; and then I got punished, and Seymour would smile as if he were happy. That was when we were boys-boys, merry, n rry boys together.' But it was just the same when he grew up. Seymour was always in the right, and I was always in his foot at it carelessly. the wrong. Everybody said so, and everybody says so. He goes in for philanthropy-"

"Philanthropy? Wait. Oh, yes! I know," murmured Madge.

"Yes; and no end of a swell at the business-take chairs at meetings and gives lectures. He's clever, you see; always was; and I was always the dunce and thick-head." He laughed, then grew grave again. "No, Seymour doesn't live at the Towers, I'm glad to say. We should quarrel. Well, you saw, the other night, no mannot I, at any rate could endure him."

Madge laid her head on his shoulder and pressed his hand sympathetically; then, her face hidden, she said in a low voice:

"And—and the young lady—Irens they called her?"

Royce looked straight before him. It was the first time Madge had mentioned her name, and it sounded strangely on her lins.

"Oh, Irene," he said, quietlya "She

is my mother's ward." "She lives at Monk Towers?" said Madge, with almost a troubled tone in her voice.

"Yes. She has always lived there, as long as I can remember. She is like my mother's daughter."

"Like your sister, then?" said Madge, with a little short breath, as it seemed, of relief.

"Exactly-sister," he assented; then his face cleared. "You'll like her, Madge," he said, eagerly. "She is the sweetest, gentlest girl you ever met." "She may well be that," said Madge in a low voice.

Royce colored. "I'm sure you will like her, and that you will get on together. Why, you haven't forgotten ho wshe behaved that-that night?"

"No," said Madge in a whisper. " have not forgotten-I shall never for-

after a pause, and with a sigh. "How quickly the time has passed! I wish I'd stuck out for a fortnight or a She shock her head and battled with month. But never mind. Run and put your things on, dearest, and let us get out. Every hour is precious now."

They went out, and Royce cashed the check and bought some things for Madge. He was always seeing something which, he declared, was "A stupid old custom," she said. just what she wanted; and this morn-"It's because I'm the second son of ing, among other articles, he bought an earl. Nobody take any notice of a fur travelling-cloak for her, which it, and nobody uses it if he can help the young lady in the shop declaredit; but my mother-well, you see, she and with more truth than is generally over \$75,585 to the local authorities.

"The second son of an earl," said the shadow of Monk Towers, which "Nonsense!" he said, laughingly, tense and passionate each hour, and You see, I don't care a rush about titl- The perfectly oval face was less sun- her mother in a wild ride of 130 burned; the dark eyes had lost their miles from Azusa, Cal. The two "Ignorant as I am." She shook her look of wonder and embarrassment; -that night," she went on in a low customed to gloves, and had ceased at ease in the midst of the well-dress-

day after to-morrow-Lord, how the Royce nodded and his face clouded, ed crowds into which Royce took her. open and out tumbled the flood of time has flown!-and that she will "Yes," he said, "Seymour is the Then the time of packing came, the bills, send the carriages to meet the half earl, because he is the eldest son, you hour when the imperial, which she had "I took it from him," Mrs. Brown declared when Royce had bought it explained. "Does he live with the countess?" | was much, much too big, looked as if it could not possibly contain the heap

ready that my brother and I don't get | Royce leaned against the door

"I shall never get them in, Jack!" to give himself up." at the thin, formal writing and a big don't, and we never did. He-" He she exclaimed, looking up piteously

"Try my plan," he said. "Just thing for him to do was to run away. me?" she asked in a very low voice, know where to have him or what he is stick 'em inside and sit upon them. He wouldn't yield.

boy. We used to fight-well, no, it | She laughed the sweet, low-tuned pers came up to our room and we "N-o," he replied; "I expect she wasn't a fight, because Seymour never laugh which was sweetest music in

"And spoil all my pretty things!"

"No, no!" she cried. "Don't come

my new dress from the chair yesterday, and you made me shudder, Jack." "All right," he said, serenely. "Then, mour would go and tell her all sorts of as I've packed my own things-after lies, and yet the kind of lies that my patent fashion-I'll go and get a cigarette, Mind, you've just got an hour and a quarter."

> square brown paper packet among the litter. It was tied and sealed.

up and sealed?" he asked, pointing ling and "running wild." George Madge's face crimsoned, then went

it up to him, her eyes downcast.



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Stolen Funds are Returned by Wife

U.S. NAVAL OFFICER ALLEGED TO HAVE TAKEN \$120,000.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., April 5.-Mrs. Ervine R. Brown, wife of Lieutenant Brown, naval supply officer alleged to \$120,000 in Government funds, turned She came here by automobile from

Los Angeles after taking a grip with the money in it from her husband Madge, with a little sigh. "Oh, how now and again fell across her-the pleaded with him to give himself up. "What is it, Jack?" Madge asked in ignorant I am? I do not even know happiest Madge had ever spent. When he refused Mrs. Brown says she fied from him with the satchel

BILLS TUMBLED OUT.

The suit-case was locked and Brown

"He never knew I took it. I don't

think he knew it was gone, "Thursday night I met him at a then that he had the money in the by the young woman's mother and suitcase that was sitting in the room. Morgan continued on his adventurous "I pleaded with him all night long way, landing in Japan in 1900.

"I knew that something was wrong little Yuki Kato Morgan still resides with him. He never would have done in Paris, the scene of her husband's such a thing in his right mind. "But he persisted that the best where he spent most of the fortune of the coal fields of Spitzbergen which the requirements of Norwegian con-

"Then Wednesday morning the paread the whole story, how they had found his accounts were short and were looking for him.

"When he was out of the room, I took the suit-case and ran away with

within a yard! I saw you pick up No Money Left for Morgan's Jap Wife

DAUGHTER OF KIOTO SWORD MAKER LEFT PENNILESS BY WILD HUSBAND.

NEW YORK, April 5-Little Yuki As he turned to go, he saw a small, Kato, educated, quiet, retiring daughter of Japanese sword-maker of Kioto, married a Morgan of the New York Morgans in 1904 after he had career-"What's that so carefully wrapped ed about the world, spending, gamb-Denison Morgan, her husband, who was a nephew of the late J. P. Morgan, brought his bride back to New York, where he and she were snubbed "It is something of yours," she said. on their attempt to take the tradi-"Will you take it now?" and she held tional place that Morgans were entitled to in Fifth Avenue society. So they went to France and lived

abroad until he dropped dead at Seville, Spain, in 1915. Thursday an accounting of George Denison Morgan's will was filed in the Surrogate's Court here, revealing that little Yuki Kato Morgan, who endured so much for her love of the American, was not left a penny. The residuary estate, which was bequeathed to her after several lavish benefactions and numerous debts had been taken into account, amounts to a deficit. Ernest A. Bigelow, theexecutor, stated that the estate was not large enough to pay the specific

Thus the last of the estate of between \$600,000 and \$1,000,000 which Morgan inherited from his father, vanished

George Denison Morgan was a Yale man. He tried to settle down to a place in the banking firm after leaving college but contrary lures jerked him this way and that about the

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In constipation, say

intestinal specialists,

lies the primary cause

of more than three-

gravest diseases of life.

ganic disease.

granted rights to several companies sented to the Spitzbergen trea carry on mining operations. The entitled to acquire and exploit annual output will be sufficient to fill

"No, thank Heaven!" said Royce, of clothes which lay on the bed and hotel in Los Angeles and he told me world in a gay career. His engage- that he seemed to regard as inexhaus- have never been more than scratched, sumers and will leave a surp will be started at once. The Norweg- exportation, it is estimated. overnment acquired the land by Under a draft bill which ha the terms of the recently published introduced in the legislature, Spitzbergen treaty, and has already of all states will have ratified of

> bill also provides that a duty not ceding one per cent. may be on mineral products and other regulations regarding mil trading and political adminis of Spitzbergen, all of which an signed to bring in operator would develop the mines.

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oreign Minister nt to-day to new , protested aga Japanese from laring "We ha iety and appeal ch can only ent and bring

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