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To Whom She Said "Yes."

Her son was half-inclined to tell her that Verna had been the evil genius of his life, but he refrained, and contented himself with repeating his thanks for Mrs. Merstham's generous offers, and steady refusal to permit any lawyer to undertake his defense. Eden would be tried severely enough in having to appear before a crowd of curious people and tell the tale of that night's events. She should not, if he could help it, undergo the still greater ordeal of a cross-examination.

Her son's resolve did not, however, deter Mrs. Lyssendon from journeying on the morrow to the county town, and seeking an interview with a gentleman whose high legal standing encouraged her to hope that from his counsels she might glean some aid. Supported by a letter from Mrs. Merstham, with whom Sir James Veilum was well acquainted, she requested an interview, and was closeted with him for more than an hour, quitting his presence at last with a gleam of hope in her eyes, although the sorrowful gravity on her brow was not lessened, or, rather, had given place to a perplexed expression, as if a task was before her which she doubted her ability to get through.

CHAPTER XXVI.

"Flip, my love," Mrs. Lyssendon said, on the morrow, following that young lady as she was quitting the house, "you are going to Mrs. Aubrey's, aren't you? Will you take me there, too?"

Flip stood still and regarded her doubtfully.

"I don't think it would be wise, or even kind of me to do so, Mrs. Aubrey would not like it, and Eden—"

"Is your friend too ill to receive visitors?" she was asked, when it was plain that she did not like to say more.

"No," she refused to be considered an invalid, but—

"But you think that a visit from Frank Lyssendon's mother would agitate and perhaps annoy her very much."

"I'm afraid it would," Flip bluntly confessed. "Doctor What's-his-name says that her health is in a very unsatisfactory condition, and that her mind is still more so; and he has warned her friends that everything that may tend to excite her must be avoided."

"After your telling me this it sounds cruel to persist, and yet, my dear, I must see her."

"Can't you write what you want to say?" Flip asked. "I've no doubt she would be glad to hear that Frank regrets what he has done; but if speaking of it threw her into another of those faints, Mrs. Aubrey would be frightened, and blame me."

"Indeed, I'd rather not go to the cottage at all, than be the cause of more trouble to my friends there."

And Flip resolutely turned back and re-entered the house, leaving Mrs. Lyssendon standing on the lawn, undecided how to act.

She must see Eden, and, drawing down her veil, she walked alone to the village and inquired her way to the cottage.

Mrs. Aubrey and her daughter were sitting together when the mother of Captain Lyssendon gently but audaciously stepped into the room. Since the scene at the magistrate's, Eden had come downstairs daily, and tried to busy herself in work for Mrs. Aubrey or Lottie. She never spoke of the past nor complained of that she was enduring. "She was very well," she always said, in answer to her mother's tender queries, and then she would retreat to the shadowy corner she preferred, and try to be busy at the Shetland shawl she had begged to be allowed to knit for Mrs. Aubrey. How often the work was dropped in her lap, that the attenuated hands might be silently wrung—how often she stole away to be found on her knees beside her bed—who shall say? Her silence interposed a barrier, which those who loved her could not pass; and they were therefore unable to divine whether the shock she received had thrown her into a state of comparative stupor, or whether she was wrestling with feelings she could not bring herself to avow.

Mrs. Aubrey began to think that she might not have acted wisely in avoiding all mention of Frank Lyssendon's name, and that if by speaking of him herself she had encouraged Eden to avow her own sentiments, it would have relieved her child's overcharged heart; but she could not summon courage to broach the subject, although it was in her thoughts when Mrs. Lyssendon appeared.

"Do not be angry with me for coming," that lady gently pleaded, as Mrs. Aubrey, displeased at the entrance of a stranger alone, and Eden, who instantly recognized their guest, rose also, faltering her name. "If you are inclined to think me selfish for intruding upon you, recollect that I, too,

am a mother, and that my unhappy boy is even more to be pitied than the young creature he has injured. She has been restored to your care; everyone sympathizes with her and you; whilst I shall see my only son ruined, dishonored, tried for his crime, and carried from me to prison."

"No, no," gasped the shuddering Eden, who had never before heard the consequences of Captain Lyssendon's arrest so plainly stated. "If he can forgive himself, he has nothing to fear from me. I will bear my wrongs in silence. Some day, perhaps, his conscience will avenge me."

"It has done this already," Mrs. Lyssendon sorrowfully asserted. "Your looks show me that you have suffered—you, who have done no wrong; but if you could see him now—if I could make you comprehend, though ever so faintly, the depth of his shame, his remorse—"

"Stay, madam!" exclaimed Mrs. Aubrey, sustaining with difficulty the slight form that writhed in her embrace. "It is cruel to work upon this poor child's feelings in this way. Captain Lyssendon has only himself to blame for his unhappiness. I hope, for the sake of his friends, that the penitence he now professes will be lasting; but whether it is or not, let me remind you that my daughter cannot, if she would, hinder the punishment awaiting him. When the inspector volunteered to seek for her, and I, grateful for any help, empowered him to do so, I bound myself to punish those who carried her away; and no, pity Eden, or I may entertain for you, individually, can interfere with the course of the law."

Still, Mrs. Lyssendon would not see the significant look that entreated her departure.

[To be Continued.]

TOPICS OF TALK IN OLD LONDON

Exercised by Prospects of American Industrial Invasion.

The Queen Enjoying Remarkably Good Health.

Keel of America's Cup Challenger Successfully Cast.

Big Increase in the Casino Profits at Monte Carlo—Battle of the Sunday Papers Begins Tomorrow.

[Special Cable Letter to The Advertiser.]

London, April 8.—The acrimonious protests of English firms respecting the awarding of the Athara bridge contract to a Philadelphia firm are causing deep concern in British engineering circles, and the attempts to explain America's success by glut of work here do not harmonize with the complaints from English firms who have not received orders, which have been sent to America. As the St. James Gazette puts it: "If the British manufacturer have so much work that they cannot accept contracts, they are to be congratulated. But, in that case, it is difficult to see why they are complaining."

SERIOUS COMPETITION.

The fact is that industrial circles here recognize that these contracts mean more than mere evanescent competition; but as in the case of American engines, the railroad authorities there have received the very highest opinion of American work. This is borne out by the statement of Manager Snell, of the locomotive department of the Great Northern railway, who, while recently ordered engines from America. He said to a representative of the Associated Press: "Apart from the fact that American builders are able to make more speedily delivery than the English, there is no doubt whatever that American engines are of the highest excellence, and their present features and improvements are of such utility as to attract the custom of English companies."

The Daily Mail, taking up the question, urges a system of profit-sharing with the introduction of the newest and best machinery, as the method "whereby America can be fought and worsted," though the paper adds: "We must own that the nation is in some degree suffering from lack of strenuousness, both in employers and employees."

AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL INVASION.

A representative of the Associated Press has had a conversation with the secretary of the engineers' society, and his statements bear out the impression that considerable apprehension is felt here at the prospect of an American industrial invasion. He said: "We certainly regret the transference of work essentially belonging to our market, and it would be affection to deny there is indignation and much comment on the state of affairs. We hope will prove only a temporary transference; but you know the danger."

PHILIPPINE RAILWAY SCHEME.

Inquiries made by a representative of the Associated Press regarding the Belgian syndicate which is about to send a party of engineers to study the construction of a railroad between Manila and Batangas, south of the Bay of Manila, show the district has already been surveyed five times. The work was considered impracticable under the Spanish regime. The Spanish Government made offers to the Manila Railroad Company for the construction of the line, but there was no response from any quarter, as the petty exactions and interference of the Spanish authorities rendered the enterprise most difficult. The prospects, naturally, have changed under the American administration, and the Manila Rail-

road Company has been partly promised that the United States authorities would take over the existing railroads and exploit them on the German state system. In any case the railroad company expects to be fully indemnified for its losses in consequence of the war, though an enormous leap in the business is inevitable as soon as tranquility is restored.

THE QUEEN IN GOOD HEALTH.

Queen Victoria is enjoying remarkable health on the Riviera. She is improving in strength daily, drives out nearly every afternoon, and often, when seeing a picturesque spot along the route, alighting for the purpose of taking tea in the open air. She made an interesting visit to the Monastery of Lachet, accompanied by the young prince and princess who are with her. The whole party visited the queer old chapel, which is the scene of early pilgrimages, where miraculous cures are said to take place. The Father Superior received her Majesty and presented her with samples of the famous liqueur distilled by the monks. The Queen made a donation to the monastery and purchased various souvenirs of her visit.

AN AQUATIC EVENT.

There was much excitement and bustle at Thornycrofts yard this week, when, with the aid of specially constructed furnaces, the keel of the America's cup challenger Shamrock was successfully cast in the presence of the designer of the yacht, Wm. Fife jun., and Thornycrofts. The exact weight of the keel was not revealed, being only given as between 80 and 100 tons. There were anxious moments during the casting, but the result was satisfactory.

RUSH OF EMIGRANTS.

The emigrant season opened this week with the usual rush. The steamers have steered passengers booked several weeks ahead, and it is calculated that the Irish exodus will approach that of recent summers. The Teutonic, Canada, Ultonia and Campania, sailing within four days, take together 2,000 Irish emigrants. The Teutonic consignment is 800, and even then she will have to leave 60 behind, as there are no berths available for them.

MONTE CARLO PROFITS (?)

The Casino at Monte Carlo wound up its financial year on March 31, with a total income of £1,104,000, being an increase of £40,000 over 1898. The season opened badly, with a shortage compared with 1897 of over a million francs at the end of January. But such a rush set in during February and March that the receipts not only recovered the lost ground, but established a record. The tables have been exceptionally fortunate. A wealthy Yorkshire mine-owner was one of the luckiest. He plunged consistently for the American. The Prince of Monaco now receives £100,000 yearly from the concession, and will get a lump sum of £1,000,000 extra for the renewal of the concession, which expires in 1913. The price is now estimated to be worth £2,000,000. The house of Monaco was practically penniless in 1856, when Baron Blanc arrived there

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BATTLE OF THE SUNDAY PAPERS.

The battle of the Sunday papers will begin tomorrow, when both the Daily Mail and the Daily Telegraph will try to outvie each other with their first number. Both of them will present a brilliant array of contributors. The Sunday Mail will have articles by Gen. Lord Kitchener on Khartoum, Hall Caine; the Earn of Rosslyn, on his reasons for becoming an actor; Ranjitsinhji, the famous Anglo-Indian cricketer, and Clement Scott, who has finally severed his long connection with the Daily Telegraph. On the other hand, the Sunday Telegraph has enlisted Sir Edwin Arnold, T. P. O'Connor, Miss Braddon, H. D. Traill, Wm. L. Courtney and Bennett Burleigh. In the meanwhile there have been numerous protests from county town councils and religious bodies against Sunday labor.

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St. Thomas, April 8.—Clarence, the 8-year-old son of Mrs. Kettlewell, of Talbotville, narrowly escaped being drowned on Wednesday in the Kettle Creek. He was trying to get out of the way of a falling limb which Mr. W. Knight had cut off. Mr. Knight plunged in after him, none too soon to save the boy.

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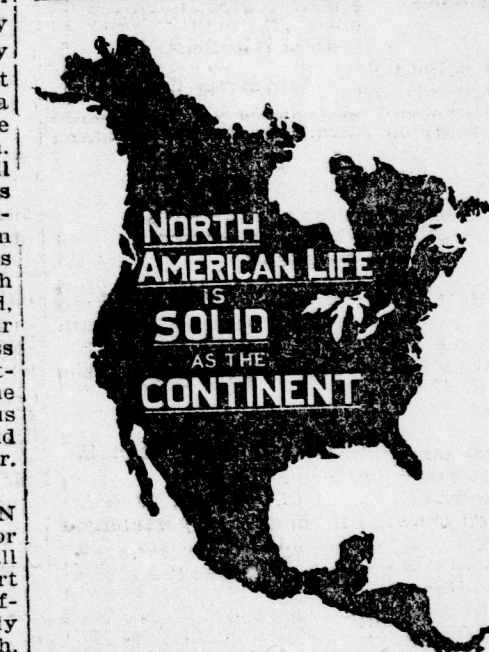
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