The Evening Telegram, St. John's, Newfoundland, May 1, 1911 .- 2

CHAPTER VIII. AN OMINOUS MEETING.

Tale of Mystery

(continued)

Never in all her life had Dessie Merrion had greater need of all her pluck and shrewdness than at the moment when she stood facing the Count de Montalt, forcing down her fears and anxieties, and thinking ago. eagerly what course she should take and whether she should admit or deny her possession of the jewels.

If she denied it, then her know ledge of his identity had no substan ti I foundation; it she admitted it, he would have possibly as great a power-over her as she had over him. She was altogether ignorant as to what the effect to her might be of having kept the rubies. It was certain that she had not stolen them. I have no more to say, and as you She believed the two letters she had have not done what you said shou'd received from the woman whose bag be done at this not root, I profe she had taken in mistake would clear her of that charge certainly; tuened away abruptly, and left hum, but how far she was justified in retaining possession of them, and whether she could be punished for having done so, she did not know.

But she had now to choose her course in ignorance of the consequences; and yet having once taken sudden decision; and at first he made it she might have to stick to it a step or two as if to follow her. But through thick and thin; and the he checked himself, and turned away difficulty of choice puzzled, and in- thinking rapidly. deed for the moment baffled and bewildered her.

All these considerations flashed through her thoughts as she stood facing her antagonist and waiting all gone splendidly up to now-up 'o for him to answer; while she was | the time this sharp-eyed, keen witted,

conscious that the keen dark eyes plucky little beggar coming in to were searching her face to guess her thoughts. 'This promises to be an excep-

tionally interesting conversation,' he said, after a minute's pause. man to drive fast to the address of 'Exceptionally interesting. Shall Dessie Merrion's rooms. we walk on? Standing looking at one another in this way is just a

STOP little melodramatic, don't you think?' taking liquid physic or big or little

They moved on at this and after another short pause he added-'Now you'll understand what I

cure-they irritate and weaken the trouble. It was a cheap, well-painted bowels. meant last night when I said that bowels strong, tone the muscles so lar-proof. But the plates were little you and I had better understand one another. I have a considerable admiration for many of your qualities, Miss Merrion-though of course my knowledge of your connection with this jewel robbery must influence me when I come to think of you as a friend of my future wife But we can talk of that another time That is of the future. I want to speak of the present. What are you going to do? Are you going to force me to take the unpleasant step o revealing my knowledge to Mrs. Markham, and leaving you to make such explanation as you please? On shall we let things go on as they were, before I made 'this discovery I am not so harsh and peremptor as you here yesterday, you see. Willing rather to screen you if possible. 'I am not going to stoop to asl you what you mean when you insulme in this way about some discover that you pretend to have made abou me. I have come to meet you to get the proofs of your identitysomething to satisfy me you are no

Rolande Lespard; and in place of these you hatch up this story.' 'Then I shall be under the painfu necessity of informing either Mrs Markham' or the police, or both, that you are a young lady of very questionable antecedents, one of whose exploits undoubtedly was to be concerned in the robbery of very valuable j wels in March, five years

Dessie smiled at this as she an swered

'I am not much disposed to think that you will go any near r the police man than you are object to. But please yourself. I hav made up my mind in this matter. I have wared this morning to ask Mr. Cheriton to come up to London at once, and 1 shall then lay the whole facts before him. Till then I sha'l do nothing not to prolong it.' With that so without giving him time to reply. Her one thought, desire and policy now was to see Tom and tell hin everything.

The Count stood and stared after For preventing spread of infection her in anger and astonishment at ber ZOTAL is the most powerful cermicide ever offered to the ELLIS & CO., td.

'If the two once get together before I have completed such a case as I can make up against her, I shall be

pills, that which make you worse

instead of curing. Cathartics don't

beaten,' he muttered to himself. 'It's He sat still, listening to her foot steps go down the staircase, and then opening the door very quietly, he put his head out, and listened more inspoil everything. 'I'll do as I thought tently still. He heard her moving -go to her rooms, and ransack the about in the lower part of the house

place-see what I can find.' With and then he closed the door again shot the bolt on the inside, and set that he hailed a hansom, and told the vigorously to work on the task which he had come to accomplish.

Less than half an hour's rapid but most systematic search convinced him that he had better concentrate his attention on the safe, and that there was little or nothing of any conse

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quence to be found outside it. One sharp glance at the safe told him that it would not give him much

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they crawl and work -when they nerable spots to those who know do this they are healthy, producing where to look for them were many right results. And the Count de Montalt knew wel

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There, a little impudence, a lie on two, and a tip imposed upon the woman housekeeper, so that he gainlock. ed admission to the girl's three rooms

He said that she was coming back lirectly to meet him, and had given im the key of the rooms. He proluced a card of hers, on which he hid pencilled, in writing (meant 'o resemble hers, an instruction to let the bearer wait in the room. When he key he produced would not fin the lock, he made an excuse to the woman that Dessie had obviously given him the wrong one; where upon, she opened the door for him. 'Miss Merrion didn't tell me as ou are coming, sir, not when she probability." was here for her letters jes now ; leastways a hour or so ago. But, I suppose it's all right.'

'My good woman, do I look as if t could be all wrong?' asked De Montalt, and his handsome looks. ishionably cut clothes, and pleasent smile quite disarmdd her. 'If you'd el more comfortable to see me sitting on the stairs, and whistling, instead of in this very comfortable armchair, I've no objection. 'I'll leaving the room, he added, to give

the matter an added touch of genuinenss. "By the way, if a gentleman calls before Miss Merrion should get here-it's a rather important business natter that we're to meet aboutou'd better let him come up at oncé.' Give them

"Very ell, sir, said the woman; the SCOTT'S EMULSION. on the man's face broadening as the door closed behind her.

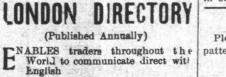
"I could open this thing with an oyster knife, even I could pick the lock with a bent nail," he said to himself with a contemptuous laugh when he had examined it closely; and after some half hour's ingenious work he succeeded in picking the He commenced instantly to overhaul its contents; and taking them out he went through them very care-

fully. What he found interested hin deeply and more than once as h read some of the papers and glanced at the nature of others, he smiled in self-congratulation at his discoveries. He was completely absorbed in th work. and he thus started violently when some one ranned smartly at the door, tried the handdle and then finding it locked knocked again. "Can this be the girl; or-I hope not-that blustering lover of hers Cheriton?" he said to himself in alarm "If it is there'll be a scrimage in all

While he was thinking he was also acting quickly. He bundled all the unimportant papers back in to the safe and closed the door; thrust a few into the pocket of his coat, which he put on again quickly, removed as many NERVES NEED Scott's Emulsion the same as babies. Babies can't take care of themselves, nor can nerves. Babies cry for attention-so do nerves. Probably both are halfstarved for proper nourishment.

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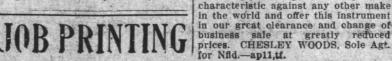
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