

perhaps I'll let him." She was just a little afraid and that gave a spice to her resolve. Once Jack had stayed and had a game of cricket and never came near her one particular evening when she had planned something to surprise him, and she had been "hasty" the next day and Jack had flamed out and been very angry and said one or two things that were very true and hurt her dreadfully. And yet he looked so manly that she loved him more for that than before and then he had stopped and begged her pardon and gone away, and for two dreadful days she had not seen him. Was it not dangerous to try it again.

"He deserves it," Essie said to herself as she knelt in the dark, by the open window. A minute after Jack went by, a little out of his way to pass her window, but neither saw the other. In the meantime there was a rumpus at the Hartley's. The lieutenant's big watch was gone. Mr. Hartley before going to bed had smoked another pipe and his wife had sat talking to him in the fire light.

"That was rather a nice young fellow, dear," she said, "that young Duff. He seemed rather quiet and pleasant."

"I did not notice him," her husband said; he had been rather ruffled by his talk with Hilyard.

"He seemed handy with your wrist; these young upstarts think the world of themselves, get into your house by hook or by crook and there's no end to the patronising you have to do. I suppose he will think it enough to allow him to dangle round the church door to talk to us when we come out, and perhaps to walk home with you, and make himself generally a beastly bore and nuisance like that young Black."

"Really Harry what has upset you. Young Black was a mistake, certainly, but he just scraped acquaintance with us. Mr. Duff we called in, and you yourself asked him to stay to dinner; don't run over yourself, my dear, as the Americans say. He seemed remarkably nice, and not in the least pushing."

"Well, for heaven's sake, Meg, don't take him up. It was a thousand pities Finch was not in to-day. But as it is we have had enough of the other." Mrs. Hartley knew enough of her husband to know that he was just a little ruffled and it would all blow over by to-morrow, but she could not refrain from speaking, being a little angry herself now. "You certainly do not show the insight into character that Mark Hilyard does. He told me that he was particularly taken with young Duff, and if he could do him a good turn he would. But Mr. Green, Hilyard is usually on the lookout for something he can do for people who —"

"Harry Hilyard. Leave the fellow alone. Here he's been baiting me the whole evening in my own house, and he is hardly out of it but you begin in his name. Here I wish you'd leave me this one room to myself. There, my pipe's gone out."

"I have certainly no wish to stay," Mrs. Hartley said drawing her rich dinner dress to her, "I'm quite ready to go. I hope you will recover your temper before I see you again," and she left the room and Mr. Hartley, who fuming and fussing was trying in vain to light his pipe. A few minutes after, Mrs. Hartley was surprised to hear him calling her. She knew that if he became suddenly penitent he would very likely call out to say so, being rather of a bluff, blustering, kind-hearted, but

easily stirred nature. But his voice sounded as angry as ever; he met her at the foot of the stairs, for she had thrown on a dressing gown and gone to answer the summons. "Here's what has come of your fine young friend," he said fuming with anger, "I knew what would come of it; he's taken the watch."

"Harry, what are you saying? What do you mean?"

"Don't you understand English? The watch was here and so was he; and they're both gone, is that plain enough?"

"Harry, Harry, take care what you are saying. Do you know you are calling him a thief? It is rubbish. Where have you looked for it; of course it may not be just where you thought you left it."

"Where I thought I left it? I! You and he had it last looking at the inscription or something. I've turned the smoking-room inside out and I've never left it once since dinner."

"All the same Harry, you know a more unlikely thing could not happen. What would that young fellow want to take it for? It is not valuable except as an heirloom, and he could not get rid of it with that inscription on it."

"The inscription! A very few drops of acid would get rid of that, and as for value, its age makes it worth I do not know how much as a curiosity."

"So he said," Mrs. Hartley acknowledged with a little sinking of her heart as she remembered Jack's words. "Ay! of course. 'Her husband went on grimly;' these young fellows are as sharp as a needle now-a-days. Hold the lamp a little lower. No it's not there. It's gone, Meg." Mr. Hartley straightened himself with conviction in his face. "Well, do not be so idiotic as to try to connect young Duff with it. I tell you its inhuman rubbish to be so suspicious. If you had not been so silly as to send up for it. What did you want to show it to old Mark Hilyard for, at all?"

"I tell you it's morally certain as far as circumstantial evidence can go. Do you think Hilyard took it? Very well, no more do I. Do you think I took it for the purpose of making a fuss? Have you got it? Would you like me to suspect you? Then you see for yourself there is no one else. Is it here? No! it is not. And it was here rather less than two hours ago. Now what have you got to say. Wait, there is one channel we have not tried. James is sitting up with the roan mare to-night, you know that. Well, he came round to the window to speak to me and I told him I should want to hear how she was before I went up. Perhaps he took it Margaret, since you are so sure of every one else."

Before Mrs. Hartley could say a word he rang, and in another minute James appeared.

"Harry! now do be careful," she whispered anxiously, but her husband was too angry to be prudent.

"James, there was an old silver watch here this evening; we were looking at it. It has disappeared. When you were speaking to me at the window did you happen to see it?"

"I seed a watch in Mr. Duff's hands sir; whether it were silver or whether it weren't I couldn't say."

"Confound the fellow! I told you so, Meg," shouted Hartley with a sudden ebullition of wrath. "I knew it was that young Duff. I knew what sort of fellow

he was the moment I saw him. Well, I'll have the police after him."

"Harry!" said Mrs. Hartley, in a voice that somehow choked her husband's wrath down and bottled it up as quickly as it had effervesced.

"That will do, James; you can go." The wondering coachman departed and it was not till he reached the kitchen that a smile of comprehension broadened his visage. "Jiminy!" he ejaculated, and the echoes among the shining pots and pans tried to repeat the word and waited for more, but James had no more to say.

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## REMARKS ON HERALDRY.—I.\*

[*En fin du siècle.*]

Heraldry is the use of insignia to distinguish or symbolize (I) Persons, families, tribes, nations; or (II) The Corporate existence of individuals associated or banded together for a common purpose, Military (armies), Nautical (ships), Ecclesiastical, Commercial, Sentimental or otherwise, and (III) as a logical consequence, Governments, Municipal, Provincial or National.

Heraldic insignia have been borne in a great variety of ways. Perhaps the most general manner of use is in military flags or ensigns, a custom which has been common to most peoples and in nearly all ages. In other respects the seal has been the most general form, its use dating from early ages, and having continued to the present day.

Like all other arts or sciences, heraldry shows a gradual development from primitive forms and methods to the highly scientific European heraldry of the 12th to 15th centuries; which, after a period of debasement, has resumed its best forms, in English heraldry at least.

Heraldic insignia in Europe were originally not regarded as hereditary, but, excepting those of a national or corporate character, were seemingly adopted for temporary use, or at most for the life of the person assuming them. The development into hereditary forms was a natural one, for where personal insignia became the mark of one who attained eminence, it was but natural that his son succeeding him would use the well known forms. This, indeed, became almost a matter of course when the use of armour concealing the person made distinctive insignia of some sort necessary to enable friend to be known from foe.

In some primitive forms of heraldry which exist at the present day, the hereditary principle appears, such as the family totems of the Indian tribes of this Continent.

Insignia are also hereditary in Japan, where the heraldic system is one of scientific development, resembling European in principle, but differing in form.

As many men have many minds, it follows that many different reasons have led to the selection of the thousand and one

\* Since this article was placed in the hands of the Editor, the writer has had an opportunity of perusing the exhaustive work on Heraldry by Woodward (F.S.A.) and Burnett (Lyon King of Arms), recently published, perhaps the most important work of the present day on the subject; and has the satisfaction of finding opinions expressed by him in this article, and not in accord with the tenor of former authorities, to be supported by the views of those distinguished authors. The writer's opinion on the right to assume arms, however, must be excepted from this statement, but it may be fairly said that more arguments to support it than the contrary may be found in Woodward and Burnett's pages.