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VOL. XXXI.

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 1915.

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Rocky Mount, Will be in Scotland Neck on the die age, in rich and matronly black third Wednesday of each month at silk, and the other a fair young girl, the hotel to treat the diseases of the | modishly attired. Eye, Ear, Nose, Throat and fit glasses | And yet these two, the elder woman

Dr. D. F. Keel Dentist

North Caralina Scotland Neck, Successor Dr. A. C Livermon Office up-stairs in the Whitehead Building. Office hours from 9 to 1 and 2 to 5 o'clock. From 7 to 9 p. Pome, Hagar has centered all her hopes in. by appointment.

Willie H. Allsbrook Life Insurance North Carolina a downger of means, and rented the Representing the Metropolitan kile mansion from the trustee in bank-Scotland Neck, Life Insurance Ca as New Vork. ruptcy. If the plan to rehabilitate

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re advised to see the continued theaters where it will "v as it runs hoto play in the he shown to road the se. every wook, and then send in suggestion. Contestants mest confine their contributions for the sequel to 1,000 twords or less. It is

the idea that is wanted.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAP-TERS. A bitter faud has existed between Colonel Arthur Stanley and his cousin, Judge Lamar Stanley. The feud has been engendered in family jealousy over an heir-loom, the dismond from the sky, that because couldn't was found in a fallen meteor by an adventurer ancestor. Ais, the succession to the Stanley earldom in Furland may collis to an American Starley. When a daughter is horr to Colonel Stanley of the eldest branch of the Stanleys in America and the mother of the child dies at its birth, the chagrined colone. Luys a newborn gypsy boy and substi-19tee him as heir. Three years later the moliber, having had no part in this bargain, steals the colonel's little daughter, being reared in secret, and leaves her bwn son undetected as the heir. The gyp-Ly marnist has also obtained possession of the distribut from the sky and a docu-ment containing the recret of the false heir. She rears the little girl, Esther Stanley, as her own and grows to love her. When Esther is grown a beautiful young girl, Hagar, now gypsy queen, returns to Virginia with her. She has a wild plan that Dr. Lee, the late Colonel Stanley's ele friend, may now adopt Esis that her said the supposed Arthur Stanand thus the innocent girl nizly become by marriage what she is by birth-wise tress of Stanley hall. Dr. Lee adopts Esther, but also demands that Hagar turn beer to his custody the diamond from the sky. Dr. Lee also informs Hagar that her son: the supposed Arthur Stanley 2d, is a promgat" and not worthy of Esther, but Hagar hopes for the best and with her people departs. Arthur Stanley does fall in love with Esther and so does

Arthur is revived by Hagar, who reveals

his identity and upbraids him. Reeding

money, he pawns the diamond in Rich-

hand, Plair is in Richmond, living riot-

ously, and he, too, is forced to visit the

pawnshop. After explanations the two

agree to stand by each other. At a ball,

to which Blair has invited Arthur and at

is the guest of honor, they are stunned to

the has borrowed the diamond for the

evening. Hagar attends the ball as a

fortune teller, accompanied by Luke Lov-ell. While Hagar is telling the "belle's"

fortune the diamond is snatched from her

At the ball a sheriff tries to arrest Ar-

capes and leaves Richmond on a freight

train. The diamond passes into a mail

bag, which is condemned, lost from a

wagon and picked up by Quabba, an or-

gan grinder. The monkey of the latter

steals the diamond and leaves it in a bird's nest in a tree. Arthur is robbed

CHAPTER XI.

"Shadows at Sunrise."

and the younger, are gypsies, for it is

Since that exciting night at Mrs. Ran-

delph's ball in Richmond Hagar has

had one resolve. With her sen a

fugitive and the diamond from the sky

vanished as mysteriously as it had

and all her desires on Eather. Hagar

has wealth, what need to hoard it

further now? So she has come to

Fairfax, not as a gypsy woman, but as

Hagar Harding and Escher, her daugh-

find the diamond on the breast of the New York visitor. She is an adventuress

Arthur's heart. Bappy and hardy and healthy werhis boon companion, Blair Stanley, the his days. He followed the plow and eousin who would be the rightful male faced the sun and sang. He was gainhair of Stanley were the Stanley secret known. In stenling the diamond Blair causes the death of the doctor. Outside ing no fortune in the world's goods but he was happy in the clean, open is Arthur, serenadios Esther, Blair, esair life of a farmer's helper. Only did aping, insuitingly infers to Arthur that he has left Ether's room. Arthur forces in shadow come to his face when he him to light a first in which Arthur is thought of Esther and his bitter mother, Hagar. Was Esther his sister or victor and tumbles wait into an open grave. He scarches Blair and takes the was she, too, a changeling? No matter diamond from the sky. Blair is only which, Arthur's love for her was deep stunned and tries, with the aid of his and pure as a brother's. He would mother, to place the blame for the murmake a some for himself for her sake. der of Dr. Lee upon Arthur. The sheriff attempts to take Arthur, but after a and so he faced the morning sun and tarilling drive in a high powered motorsang, and so he faced the shadows of car Arthur cludes his pursuers and is thrown into the river after a smashup. twillight and mused of her. His body is seen floating down the river.

One day when little Nellie Smith brought him his luncheon to the field a torn scrap of newspaper that covered a portion of it caught his eye. It was a front page "scare head" of a Richmond paper that in big type hysterics told of the robbery at Mrs. Randolph's ball and the subsequent added excitement which a supposed New York society bells of his flight and fight when arrested on a charge of murder. Then Arthur wondered again if he had done right in protecting Blair. An impulse seized him to go to Fairfax and give himself up to the authorities and let the whole truth be known.

this secret is shared by Hagar, who

she supposes is her mother, Esther

realizes it will be told her in the full-

In Richmond Vivian Marston, from

whose fair bosom the diamond from

the sky had been snatched the night

of the ball, had caught no glimpse ef

the face of the man, of the thief and

strangler. Search had not revealed it.

and so Luke Lovell had been released,

At Farmer Smith's, a dozen mile.

away from Stanley hall, where, un-

known to him, Hagar and Esther are

now doratefied, Arthur, the fugitive.

labored for his daily bread. The win

some little five-year-old daughter of

the farmer had twined herself around

ness of time.

breast. Luke Lovell, Hagar's gypsy But then he remembered the secret guard, has stolen the diamond and to was Hagar's and that she had suffered avoid detection drops it into a mail box. much. So far neither Hagar nor Esthur on the murder charge. Arthur es-



He Followed the Plow and Sang. ther's connection with him was known. No one but he and Hagar knew he was not the heir of Stanley, for, though Esther had called him brother, it was plain to Arthur that the sweet girl had

said the word to comfort him. Then also he realized that much in explation must be endured by him. He felt that when the time came Hagar would speak, and until then he was pound to silence.

At Stanley hall and all throughout

Esther as a Stanley has failed, ere yet Fairfax the news of Esther's return it was begun, through the death of Dr. had gone abroad. The mystery of her Lee, supposedly at the hands of the coming as Dr. Lee's adopted daughter UT poor Arthur Stanley won't fugitive young master of this very and the mystery of her sudden deparmansion, Hagar will lease it and see ture at his death added fuel to the that Esther enters upon the position gossip that went through the countryin life to which she belongs by right side when it was known that with a all finished reading the announcement. handsome dark woman, who gave the The formalities are soon over and name of Hagar Harding and said that Hagar has installed herself and Esther she was Esther's mother, Dr. Lee's

in Stanley hall. erstwhile ward had returned to Stan-So eventful have been the last few ley hall. years of her life that Esther has ceased to wonder. In the death of Dr. Lee, Esther realized she lost a friend, and one who had something to tell her. If months she had lived beneath the doctor's roof as his adopted daughter. And now, when it was known Esther

> Stanley hall, the young men of the community again came flocking to seek her favor. First and most constant of the callers upon the new occupants of Stanley hall was Bert Randolph,

Few, except those who understand Didn't you promise me we wouldn't the ramifications of kith and consanguinity in the old south, can comprehend the strong ties that blood and marriage make in Virginia.

The Stanleys, the Randolphs, the Lees, the Beverlys, the Hunters and the other famous old families loved and hated fiercely, but strictly among Both Blair Stanley's mother, who

was a second cousin, and Bert Randolph's mother, who was a first cousin, invited the chagrined Mrs. Burton to Fairfax and forgetfulness. w. being in Richmond Mandolph _ But Blair Stane. ""
and infatented with ... 's kinswoman's

vivacious guest, Vivian Mars. warmly seconded his mother's m. tion that Mrs. Burton Kandelph and her guest were greatly pleased to ac-

"My aunt is a stunner!" Bert Ran-delph blurted boyishly to Hagar and Yob know why? "All, Arthur was de-Esther. "Ralph, here, knows what a termined to win this par. It was Esther. "Ralph, here, knows what a termined to win the see's he good sort she is, and she'll be wild when Miss Esther was at Dr. Lee's he

And Ralph Hunter, also smitten of and beauty Esther, nodded eager assent, for the two young men had ridden over to call



Had Ridden to Call Upon Estner.

Harding, bad occupied Stanley hall, The generous minded young men were keen to realize there was a veiled hosthity against the strangers who now had taken up their abode at Stanley

"Yes," Bert Randolph rattled on, "Aunt is a stunner-she's broad minded, too, not stiff and narrow like our Fairfax women folks. I do not know why she is going to visit Blair Stanley's mother instead of mine, but anyway, Azınt Burton Randolph will be here to attend the Fairfax tournament. which comes off in a couple of days. I have a bill of it with me. It's the biggest event we have in Fairfax, and poor Arthur Stanley was set on winning the wreath this year. How he practiced for it. He would have wou it last year, but Blair Stanley, who is older and much heavier than he, best him out by a nasty bit of interference. Didn't he, Ralph?

Ralph was quick to say he thought Dlair had ridden unfairly, and Bert went on with his chatter concerning his stunning aunt and the coming tour-

"I would be surprised if Aunt Burton didn't go wild about Esther," Bert continued. "She loves to have pretty girls around her, and any girl she chaperons is made a belle of Richmond, for Aunt Burton Randolph surely does queen it mightily in Richmond society."

While he was speaking the young Randolph of Fairfax produced a handbill printed in old English text, which

YE OLDE TIME TOURNAMENT! YE GALLANT CAVALIERS AND SQUIRES AND KNIGHTS OF FAIRFAX COUNTY WILL HOLD AN OLDE TIME TOURNAMENT

NEXT SATURDAY AFTERNOON. ALL RIDERS MUST DE MASKED. YE VICTORIOUS KNIGHT SHALL CROWN HIS LADYE FAYRE OUEEN OF LOVE AND BEAUTIE!

AT YE FAIRFAX GROUNDS

CHAPTER XII.

be here to ride this year," exclaimed the good natured "The idea of them suspecting he kill-

ed old Dr. Lee!" chimed in the equally generous minded Ralph Hunter. "Why, Arthur for all his wild ways had the best and kindest heart in the world. But with the young men of Fairfax | And he loved Dr. Lee like a son, even county Esther's gentle ways and pi- if they did have some jolly old rows quantry had gone far in the few short about the way Arthur spent money like water and got in debt."

"But why did Arthur run away? None of us believe him guilty, and we had returned to Fairfax and dwelt at may have our faults in Fairfax, but we are all kin, and we all stand together when outsiders make trouble," asked Ralph Hunter.

"Shut up, you big silly!" cried Bert Randolph impulsively. "Can't you see you are making Miss Esther cry? say anything about Arthur's troubles? You know Miss Esther liked him best of all of us."

"Oh, pray, do forgive me, Miss Esther," cried the contrite young Hunter. "But I just can't keep quiet about Arthur. Keeping quiet impiles we do believe those a wful suspicions."

"I thank you for that," said Esther tremulously "Let us talk about him. We know he is guilty of nothing except being a reckless boy, with no father and no mother."

Hagar spoke up for the first time. "Yes," she said huskily, "he had no mother."

"I'll tell you something about Arthur," spoke up Bert Randolph. "It was a secret, he had only told me. He going to ride in the tournament

this yea. and wrest Plair's laurels as this year in Fairfax from him. about you, Miss Esther, won't she, told me. He was resolved to win so he could crown Miss Esther queen of love

"Well, we'll do it for him." cried young Hunter. "All the girls of Fair- how we do it 'n Kentucky!" upon Esther every day since she and fax are wild for the honor. But we'll her supposed mother, Mrs. Hagar win it for Miss Esther. One of us will block Blair Stanley, and the other will win the wreath."

knight in the tournament of Fairfax? That's a trick like Blair Stanley played almost. I am astonished at you, Ralph," he added, with mock serious-

All laughed, relieved of the tension the mention of Arthur's flight under its terrible suspicion had brought upon the little group, and soon after the young best clothes, and with his black sak men rode away, declaring that Esther | mask and ostrich plume the farmer's should be crowned at their hands and | wife had furnished from her Sunday the socially powerful female relative from Richmond should take the young | wishes of the farmer and his wife and mistress of Stanley hall under the ben- his little girl, "to show," as Farmer

It was about at this same time, on this same afternoon, that a glum faced hunchback organ grinder with a monkey limped into the dooryard of Farmer Smith's. Peor Quabba! Well could he realize that riches seldom bring happiness-especially when we lose them almost as quickly as they have

But the joy and glee of the little five-year-old daughter of the Smiths cheered Quabba.

"Kids are always glad to see us, anyway. Clarence," he said, and he



It Was a Merry Group.

played his blithest tunes and Clarence was prompted to his best comedy by the appreciation of the small but select audience.

When Arthur, working on the Smith farm under the name of John Powell, came across the fields at sunset with his employer it was a merry group they found in the dooryard, Quabba and Clarence being regaled with the best from the board, as all wandering coin gathering entertainers, minstrels should be.

"I'm on my way to the tournament at Fairfax," Quabba said. The Fairfax tournament! Arthur stir-

red with a sudden resolve. He would go! He would win the wreath and crown Esther queen of love and beauty! It was a wild risk to take, a daring thing to do, but he longed to see Esther, and the love of romance and the inclination to the dramatic were the heritage of his gypsy blood that overcame all caution and discretion. He would go! His heart beat like a

from felt, he spoke up and said; "If I can be spared for the day, and if you will lend me Starlight, Mr.

Smith, and if you will make me a

drum with the resolution. Forcing him-

self to speak with a calmness he far



And Esther Was There to Keep the

mask, Mrs. Smith, and lend me a plume for my sat, I'll rid and show them

For it was as a young Kentuckian in hard luck Arthur nod explained his plight and presence in that part of the country. Both the farmer and his wife "Ho!" chuckled young Randolph, had often discussed the strang," who "Is that the chivalry of a masked had come to their door in the guise of a tramp, but they could see by his ways and manners he was no tramp. They judged him by his open, manly countenance and gentle courtesy, and whatever was his secret they felt it was no dishenorable one.

On Starlight, then, the farmer's blooded saddle horse, in his new cheap finery, Arthur rode away with the best Smith expressed it, "those stuck up Fairfax swells a taste of old Kentucky

Quabba had been gone since the day before, but arthur overtook him near Stanley hall. They waved at each other as Arthur galloped past. And then Arthur reined his horse in a little copse of wood near the mansion. Did he but know it, it was the spot where he had been born.

He had just seen Esther at Hagar's camp, but he was not surprised to catch the Satter of her dress at the window of the balcony that overlooked the garden at the side of Stanley ball. He had well remembered Hagar's parting words that she would take Esther to dwell at Stanley hall.

Cautions and as quiet as he was in stealing toward the house, the keen ears of Lake Lovell, at Stanley hall that day with messages to Hagar from her gypsy folk, heard his cautious footfail, and from a hiding place saw Arthur throw a finstily scrawled note. tied to a stone, through the open balcony to Esther's room. The note berged her to meet him at the old stille at the top of the hill, back of Stanley hall. And Esther was there to keep

"You must not do this!" she panted wildly when Arthur explained his purpose. But Arthur laughed and paid her a brotherly compliment for her bright eyes and fair cheeks, set off all the better for her agitation and the beautiful white frock that she had donned for the tournament.

"I will ride wearing your favor, Esther, dear," said Arthur, and he took the silken mash she wore and klased | her and rode away, pineing on his mask as he adjusted the sash as a

At Stanley hall Hagar impatiently waited for Esther, the carriage horsest restless at the portals of the mansion. "Where have you been," she asked, "gathering flowers, I suppose?" For as an excuse Esther had hurriedly gathered a handful of roses to account for her delay.

At the Fairfax fair grounds all was bustle and excitement. The gentry were driving in and taking their seats in the gaviy decorated grand stand. Already Blair Stanley's mother, with her guests, Mrs. Burton Randolph of Richmond and the beautiful lady from New York whom Blair was all attention to, Vivian Marston, had taken their weats and were smiling and no lding to friends and acquaintances.

Sheriff Sam Swain was bustling about and in his neavy, lumbering way tensing a hanchback organ grinder who, with a monkey, had been the subject of much amusement on the tournament grounds. Sheriff Swain was jocularly pretending he would arrest both the musician and his monkey, and he was shaking the official handcuffs at these

And now the master of ceremonies made the announcement the masked knights were to tilt in a general melec-

CONTINTED ON PAGE FOUR.

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