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THE GOLDEN KEY

Or "The Adventures of Ledgard." By the Author of "What He Cost Her."

CHAPTER XV.

lett Trent from the Gold Coast buc- veritable treasure. caneer to the law-abiding tenant of a Surrey villa. Before her full, inquiring eyes and calm salute he found He raised his hand to his head, only to from the station. find that he had come out without a hat, and he certainly appeared, as

"Good morning, miss," he stammered; "I'm afraid I startled you!". gracious.

muttering to yourself?

"I was in a beastly temper," he admitted. "If I had known who was

been amiability itself. I read at name, when the sun had burned the at any rate.' breakfast time that you had accom- brains of men to madness, and the breakfast time that you had accom- brains of men to madness, and the deep the share that you had accom- brains of men to madness, and the deep the share that you had accom- brains of men to madness, and the deep the share the s raised my salary at once."

twice. I may again, though I'm a foundation of his fortunes, and then a factory girl. I was in the work- than a boy, to a small Spanish town millionaire to-day."

ugly tweed suits, his yellow boots, and had already repented of their action, talk properly, but I should be worse up into the strong, forceful face with and who dogged their footsteps hour even than I am, if I had not had to palatable. eyes set in deep hollows under the after hour, waiting for them only to mix up with a lot of men in the city When the young king arrived, a de- dershtand the aeroplanes? protruding brows, at the heavy jaws sleep or rest to seize upon them, and who had been properly educated. I putation of the townsfolk waited on Mrs. Casey-Shure, an' I did; but about a trifle like that." Williegiving a certain coarseness to his ex- haul them back to Bekwando, prison- am utterly and miserably ignorant. him and presented him with a huge there was wan thing I didn't git "Neither would I if I could daub it on pression, which his mouth and fore- ers for the sacrifice. head, well-shaped though they were, could not altogether dispel. At the kept them away," he went on. "I shot head to the things men who are with a large roll of paper in his hand, same time he looked at her, slim, tall, eight or nine of them at different beasts do. There! Now, don't you which he began to open. It was a and elegant, daintily clothed from her times when they came too close, and want to run away?" shapely shoes to her sailor hat, her to hear them wailing over the bodies She shook her head, and smiled up loyal address, and evidently a very of the Victory were, "Thank God, I Parliament to "the gentleman I see brown hair, parted in the middle, was one of the most hideous things at him. She was immensely interest- long one. escaping a little from its confinement you can imagine. Why, for months ed. to ripple about her forehead, and and months afterwards I couldn't "If that is the worst," she said to addresses, so as the big man aded to a class from which his descent hear it rising up out of the water. ury." and education had left him far apart, Ugh!" a class of which he knew nothing, and with whom he could claim no kinship. She, too, was realizing it-her interest in him was, however, none the less shade of the cedar tree was deep and worst of him. He had not told her deep. He was a type of those pow- cool, but it brought little relief to that he was a robber, that the founders which to-day hold the world in Trent. The perspiration stood out on ation of his fortunes was a lie; that their hands, make kingdoms tremble, his forehead in great beads, he breath- there lived a man who might bring all and change the fate of nations. Per- ed for a moment in little gasps as this great triumph of his shattered The North Sea Will Be Richer Fishing haps he was all the more interesting though stifled.

to her because by all the ordinary "No," he answered; "my partner sionate fear lest she might ever know standards of criticism, he would fail died within a mile or two of the coast. of these things was born in his heart to be ranked, in the jargon of her He was very ill when we started, and at that moment, never altogether to class, as a gentleman. He represent- I pretty well had to carry him the leave him. ed something in flesh and blood which whole of the last day. I did my best The sound of a footstep close at fishing grounds of northwestern Euhad never seemed more than half real for him. I did, indeed, but it was no hand made them both turn their heads. rope has caused much concern. The to her-power without education. She good. I had to leave him. There was Along the winding path came Da great number of fishing vessels and liked to consider herself-being a no use sacrificing oneself for a dead Souza, with an ugly smirk upon his the widespread use of the steam writer with ambitions who took her- man." self seriously-a student of human She inclined her head sympathetic- odor seemed to poison the air. Trent nature. Here was a specimen worth ally. impaling, an original being, a creature | "Was he an Englishman?" she der. of a new type such as had never come asked.



order to annex him. Besides, from a they've got to go." Probably nothing else in the world journalistic point of view, the man

Africa, are you not?" she reminded ladies. him. "Couldn't we sit in the shade himself at once abashed and confused. somewhere. I got quite hot walking give a lot to be rid of them."

tact enough for both.

but otherwise her manner was not un- days. If you want horrors though, I gap in the trees. can supply you. For one man who "You have a beautiful view here," "You did a little," she admitted. succeeds over there, there are a dozen she said. "You are fond of the coun-

"Do you usually stride out of your who find it a short cut down into try, are you not?" windows like that, bereheaded and hell. I can tell you if you like of my days of starvation." Like many men who talk but seldom ly when their lives have been spent outside-it would have been differ- he had the gift when he chose to speak as yours must have been." of reproducing his experiences in vivid He looked at her curiously. She looked into his face with some though unpolished language. He told wonder," he said, "if you have any interest. "What an odd thing!" she her of the days when he had worked idea how my life has been spent." remarked. "Why, I should have on the banks of the Congo with the "You have given me," she said, "a thought that to-day you would have coolies, a slave in everything but very fair idea about some part of it

plished something more than ordin- palm wine had turned them into howl- down at her. ary wonderful in the City and had ing devils. He told her of the na- "I have given you no idea at all," birthday remembered that this young made—I forget how many hundreds tives of Bekwando, of the days they he said firmly. "I have told you of a monarch has reigned longer than any of thousands of pounds. When I show- had spent amongst them in that few incidents that is all. You have other European sovereign except the ed the sketch of your house to my squalid hut when their fate hung in talked to me as though I were an the chief, and told him that you were squalid hut when their fate hung in talked to me as though I were an the chief, and told him that you were the balance day by day, and every equal. Listen! you are probably the going to let me interview you to-day, shout that went up from the warriors first lady with whom I have ever of Austria. Alfonso was born a king, I really thought that he would have gathered round the house of the king spoken. I do not want to deceive you. and has reigned all the twenty-nine was a cry of death. He spoke of their I never had a scrap of education. My years of his life. Pearsn's Weekly "It's more luck than anything," he ultimate success, of the granting of father was a carpenter who drank tells an amusing story of a visit he said. "I've stood next door to ruin the concession which had laid the himself to death, and my mother was once paid, when he was little more of that terrible journey back through house when I was a boy. I have never that is noted for a certain delicious She looked at him curiously—at his the bush, followed by the natives who been to school. I don't know how to kind of candy that is as sticky as it is

She shuddered. There was a moment's silence. The ing, his cheeks were blanched. The have flown into the air!

within the region of her experience. It He faced the question just as he Souza?" he asked fiercely. was worth while ignoring small idio- had faced death years before leering syncrasies, which might offend, in at him, a few feet from the muzzle of hands.

broken down gentleman. I believe he of his hat to the girl, "or I would not

She was unconscious of his passion- Trent kicked open the little iron ate, breathless scrutiny, unconscious gate which led into the garden be- plaice and the sole, will also profit utterly of the great wave of relief youd which swept into his face as he realiz- "Well, get out, and don't come here Should the war be long, so that the ed that his words were without any again, he said shortly. "There's North Sea is a prohibited area for special meaning to her."

with you, I suppose, in the conces- coming here.

Trent nodded.

he repeated with nervous force.

"I am quite sure of that," she an- having heard him. I have scarcely ever been in what you pedient. financiers call the City. In a way it "If you don't go without another must be interesting.

"You wouldn't find it so," he said. "It is not a place for such as you. It is a life of lies and gambling and deceit. There are times when I have hated it. I hate it now."

She was unaffectedly surprised. What a speech for a millionaire of yesterday!

those who took part in it, it possessed a fascination stronger than anything else in the world."

He shook his head. "It is an ugly fascination," he said. "You are in the swim and you must hold your own. You gamble with other men, and when you win you chuckle. All the time you're whittling your conscience away-if ever you had any. You're quite dishonest, and you're never quite honest. You come out on top, and afterwards you hate yourself. It's a dirty little life!" "Well," she remarked after a mo-

ment's pause, "you have surprised me very much. At any rate you are rich enough now to have no more to do with it." He kicked a fir cone savagely away.

"If I could," he said, "I would shut up my office to-morrow, sell out, and live upon a farm. But I've got to keep what I've made. The more you succeed the more involved you become. It's a sort of slavery." "Have you no friends," she asked.

"I have never," he answered, "had friend in my life." "You have guests at any rate!"

"I sent 'em away last night!" "What, the young lady in blue?" she asked demurely. "Yes, and the other one, too. Packed them clean off, and they're not

coming back either!" "I am very pleased to hear it," she remarked. "There's a man and his wife and

daughter here I can't get rid of so easily," he went on gloomily, "but "They would be less objectionable

could so soon have transformed Scar- was more than interesting-he was a to the people round here who might like to come and see you," she re-"You are going to talk to me about marked, "than two unattached "May be," he answered, "vet I'd

He had risen to his feet and was He led the way across the lawn, and standing with his back to the cedarthey sat under a cedar tree. He was tree, looking away with fixed eyes to he stood there, to his worst possible awkward and ill at ease, but she had where the sunlight fell upon a distant hillside gorgeous with patches . and "I can't understand," he began, streaks of yellow gorse and purple "how people are interested in the heather. Presently she noticed his ab-She winced a little at his address, stuff which gets into papers nowa- straction and looked also through the

> "Very," he answered. "It is not everyone," she remarked, "who is able to appreciate it, especial-

show more clearly the delicacy of her sleep. I'd wake up in the night and gently, "I am not at all frightened. vanced, he handed round the box of complexion. Trent was an ignorant fancy that I heard that cursed yelling You know that it is my profession to candy among the deputation and made nan on many subjects, on others, his outside my window—ay, even on the write about men and women. I belong the would-be reader take a particulartaste seemed always intuitively cor- steamer at night-time if I was on to a world of wornout types, and to rect. He knew that this girl belong- deck before moonlight, I'd seem to meet anyone different is quite a lux-

an icy coldness shivering through his in the candy, and he could no more "But you both escaped?" she said. veins. His heart seemed to stop beat- have read the address than he could

white face, smoking a cigar whose trawler have so injured the fisheries

"What do you want here, Da

"He was an Englishman. The only "and I saw you through the trees. I evident. The herring run has been of name we had ever heard him called did not know that you were so pleas- unprecedented size. It was left virby was 'Monty.' Some said he was a antly engaged," he added, with a wave

"Yes, we were equal partners. We "The cigars, my friend, are excel- ground than it ever was before. had an arrangement by which if one lent. We cannot all smoke the to-died the survivor took the lot. I bacco of a millionaire, can we, Miss?" There were only 354 days in the didn't want it, though, I'd rather he The girl, who was making some year 1752.

had pulled through. I would, indeed," notes in her book, continued her work without the slightest appearance of

swered. "And now tell me something Da Souza snorted, but at that moabout your career in the City after ment he felt a grip like iron upon his you came to England. Do you know, shoulder, and deemed retreat ex-

> word," came a hot whisper in his ear, "I'll throw you into the horse-pond." He went swiftly, ungracious, scowling. Trent returned to the girl. She looked up at him and closed her book. "You must change your friends," she said gravely. "What a horrible

"He is a beast," Trent answered, "I thought," she said, "that for that I had never seen him." and go he shall. I would to Heaven She rose, slipped her note-book into

> her pocket, and drew on her gloves. "I have taken up quite enough of your time," she said. "I am so much bliged to you, Mr. Trent, for all you have told me. It has been most interesting."

She held out her hand, and the touch of it sent his heart beating with a most unusual emotion. He was aghast at the idea of her imminent leparture. He realized that, when she passed out of his gate, she passed into a world where she would be hopelessly lost to him so he took his courage into his hands, and was very bold

"You have not told me your name," he reminded her.

She laughed lightly. ought to have given you a card! For with ready fingers and the quick un- Horses, when traveling, should have all you know I may be an imposter, derstanding of the needs and require- water given to them frequently in indulging an unpardonable curiosity. ments of his horse. He must also be reasonable quantities—if you drive "My name is Wendermott-Ernestine Wendermott." He repeated it after her.

ginning to think of some more things the character of the road that lies few mouthfuls of grain, hay or grass. which I might have told you." "Why, I should have to write a no-

vel then to get them all in," she said. "I am sure you have given me all the material I need here.

and very presumptuous!" scarcely understanding what he could

"May I come and see you some

The earnestness of his gaze and the intense anxiety of his tone almost disconcerted her. He was obviously very much in earnest, and she had found him for from uninteresting. "By all means," she answered pleasantly, "if you care to. I have a little

flat in Culpole Street-No. 81. You must come and have tea with me one long and hilly, but should one be a sigh of immense relief.

He walked with her to the gate, and they talked about rhododendrons. Then he watched her till she became a speck in the dusty road-she had refused a carriage, and he had tact enough not to press any hospitality

"His little girl!" he murmured. "Monty's little girl." (To be continued.)

ALFONSO'S READY SILENCER

An Amusing Story of a Visit the Spanish King Paid.

Spain had celebrated his twenty-ninth

Now, King Alfonso loathes listening ly large piece. Of course etiquette forbade him to refuse. As he worked "The worst!" A sudden fear sent his jaws up and down, his teeth stuck

FISH AND THE WAR.

Ground Than Ever.

The great war will increase the supply of fish in the North Sea. In recent years the decreased catch in the that the fishermen have been compelturned upon him with a look of thun- led to go farther and farther afield to make a profitable haul. Now that this expanse of salt water is virtually Da Souza held up the palms of his closed to peaceful pursuits, the fish have a chance to multiply undisturb-

"I was strolling about," he said ed. That they are doing so is already tually unmolested, and so will the mackerel run be in its turn. Undoubtedly the ground fish, such as the through the idleness of the fishermen. plenty of room for you to wander two or three seasons, the fish will "It was very sad, indeed," she said. about and poison the air with those doubtless be restored to their usual If he had lived, he would have shared abominable cigars of yours without numbers—indeed, some people believe Da Souza replaced his hat upon his that at the end of the war the North Sea will be an even richer fishing

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session anyone with ingenuity can

Remember always that your mood

communicates itself to your horse. Be

gentle, cheerful and patient in your

manner toward him and allow him to

derive as much comfort as possible

from the drive, as you yourself ex-

Nowadays farmers are beginning to

awaken to the fact that it takes

strong horses to do good work on the

farm. The fact that almost any horse

can be made to do something at farm

work is no valid excuse for men who

profess to have their own interests at

heart to persist in breeding horses

that nobody wants, not even them-

In the fields a big team makes haste

There is pleasure and inspiration in

the business of breeding and handling

Bear in mind in breeding horses that

feet on to them as to get weight and



Requisites of a Good Horse.

The first requisites of a good driver quickly repair ordinary damages to "How very unprofessional of me! I are a cool head and a watchful eye, the harness or carriage. ready to detect any object by the slowly for a while after watering your roadside which would be likely to horse, no injurious results will fol-"Thank you," he said. "I am be- annoy the horse and grasp at a glance low, and they may be refreshed by a ahead of him.

Should you chance to stop where there No quick-tempered, loud-voiced man is a strong breeze blowing, put a can expect to have a quiet, obedient light blanket on your orse, even if horse; and the undue haste of the the weather is warm. "I am going," he said abruptly, quick-tempered driver to correct what Do not, at any part of a long trip "to ask you something very strange seems to him misbehavior, is one of yield to the temptation of racing with the reasons why so many horses are passing vehicles, for the quickening of She looked at him in surprise, dangerous to drive. Much of this a horse's steady road pace to a racing abuse, however, to which the horse gait heats him unnecessarily, and if is subjected, arises more from sheer done frequently is very fatiguing. ignorance and carelessness than from wanton cruelty.

Before starting on a long drive you should examine the horse, the harness and the vehicle—the bit should be as easy a one as possible, the harness must be comfortable and well fitting. pect. Do not use a check rein if the road is necessary then loosen the head of the "Thank you," he said simply, with horse before ascending a hill, when going over muddy roads, and also whenever you stop, as it is natural for a horse to lower his head when he makes an extra exertion, and also to droop it when he is resting.

A horse should not only be allowed to walk slowly along steep and muddy by the width of the furrow or swath parts of the road, but also occasion- they cut. ally on level ground; the change from one set of muscles to another rests him. When your horse begins to feel fatigued he will strike one of his hoofs against the ankle opposite, it is just as essential to breed good often bruising and cutting it.

As it is generally one of the hind blood in them. The pure-bred mare is Few of those who recently read in ankles, an ankle boot should be worn a good investment to the small farmnecessary on other occasions.

a long drive are a wooden scraper for raise a good colt besides. brass wire, as with these in his pos- times a lot more.

the work of the place she will do near-Two other indispensable articles on ly as much work as a gelding, and removing foam and a hoof-pick for A well-bred mare to a stallion of dislodging stones. For one who is the best type will bring a colt worth

high class horses.

often on the road it is also useful to as much at weaning-time as a grade have a few pieces of rope and some colt would bring at maturity, some-

One Thing.

have done my duty!"

Willie Spoke.

Officer-So, Mrs. Casey, ye wint Sister-"Come, Willie, and take to the aviation meet. An' did ye on- your powder like a little man. You never hear me make any complaint I've got low tastes and lots of 'em. I box of the famous candy. At the same through me head, sir, and that was my face like you do. It's swallowing the stuff that I don't like."

Nelson's last words in the cockpit | Sir Edward Carson once referred in



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One of the best know

the Hamilton Confere Chas. E. Stafford, of E freely admits that he o good health to Dr. Pills. Mr. Stafford wr "Some years ago I wa flicted for a period months. The leading r town in which I was diagnosed my case as nervous prostration, b over-work and which intercostal neuralgia rheumatism, from whi the most excruciating day for weeks. So we did I become that my to handle me like an me up and laying me greatest care, so intens ferings. Acting on the doctor, and taking his not seem to improve. while suffering great p of the paper published and who was a member of which I was then pa to try Dr. Williams' Pin sceptical as to the med of all proprietary med the strong recommend editor, who had great medicine, I decided to my great surprise and light, I soon found that giving me relief, and taken seven boxes I stored to health. Dr. Y Pills, under God, havin new man. Ever since better and stronger phy had been for a number Three years ago, af

ministry of forty-six the Hamilton Confer Methodist Church to gr annuation relation, whi for more than two been supplying a charge sitates a drive of twent Sabbath. To-day I am hearty, without an ache for my present physical am indebted to Dr. W Pills, and can most he mend them to the afflict

Don't Do It Solomon Isaac was ver doctor was paying him ; doctor," said Solomon, to die, I die gontended. sured for five thousa "Well," replied the doct

Even undeserved prair becomes an incentive to

can keep you alive for a

"Don't do it, doctor," s

"the premium comes d

after to-morrow."

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