Mrs. Stout, has dropped a courtesy and is out of sight, upon the appearance of ma-

"It is true that my rooms lie beyond Mrs. Amyot. here," answers madame now. She has quite recovered herself, and proceeds very delib- ping into the chair nearest to her; "Anyerately to lock the door behind her. The action is significant, and Lady Branks- | morals ?"

mere draws her next breath somewhat quickly. "Your rooms. Yes," she says, with a

"Six," corrects madame, amiably." "What I wish to see," continues Muriel, incivility to me," says Halkett, "if you perstolidly, "are the rooms out of these six sist in this persecution of an unprotected that you do not occupy. Your boudoir, young man. By the by, is he here?" your bedroom, are your own; but the

others?" "The others," echoes madame, with an | wife. expressive little shrug. "Ah! You do not know, perhaps, that I do a little dille- was amusing you so intensely a moment tante painting. Just quite a very little. | since," persists Halkett, "if I may, with-But it is a joy to me, and I hate that the out blushing." servants should meddle with my affairs,

Lady Branksmere, ruthlessly.

to it for many reasons—and to me it is con- truth, I am always rather vague about my venient, as being near to her, so that at any little stories unless the subjects of them moment, night or day, I may reach her happen to be-" without disturbing the household; but, if | "Your intimate friends," interposes you wish it"-blandly-" we can, of course, Halkett.

"I do not wish to disturb Lady Branks- better," returns Mrs. Amyct. mere in any way," protests Muriel, haughtily. "I merely expressed a desire to see "did you ever see any one wear like

"It appears, then, that I cannot?" she half as well." says, with a pale smile.

"If, indeed, I might still consider this mischievously.

enter your rooms," she says, looking straight is foreign. The latter counts a great at madame. "No one, then, has access deal." there save yourself?"

of—my patient—when my presence there betrays one like the throat. But I don't their best bibs and tuckers straight from

"I have said," returns madame decisive-

"So?" says Lady Branksmere. "It straight off." seems a pity, madame, you will permit no one to see these paintings of yours, which, has been to Branksmere all these years-or I am sure, are well worth a visit."

corner, and is out of sight of her foe, and Halkett, suddenly. "And Lady Branksclinches her hands with uncontrollable mere-

lips as she moves onward seem to have taken He wouldn't suit me, at all events." a hard, stern, determined line

of many voices and much laughter, and "No-no more tea, thank you, Mr. Belthe welcome clatter of cups and saucers: lew," says Mrs. Amyot, looking up at

priceless plates of hideous colors and de- together. She married Billy Paryl lately, signs, and on a large black rug a little or he married her. I'm not sure which. sleepy puss is snoring blissfully. Taken as Anything else I can do for you?" a whole, it is a charming picture, and Lady Branksmere, standing on the Persian mat before the fire, in a tea gown of ancient who had just joined them, "That is Mrs.

placid person with corkscrew ringlets and father, and he was a rag and bone meris looking pale and slender and extremely beautiful.

Everybody is talking more or less, and the soft hubbub caused by the voices grows drowsy. Somebody at the upper end of the gallery is playing the piano very delicately -almost in a whisper as it were.

the tapestry hangings at the end of the gal- home." lery and announces: "Captain Staines."

## CHAPTER IX.

eyes and turns them upon his wife. your train? He started rather late," says Lady Anne as he draws near. Lady Branksmere, advancing so very indo- Staines, turning suddenly round, finds

lently to welcome the new-comer, that as himself face to face with Mrs. Daryl. his hand touches hers she is still on the "This is a surprise, is it not?" smiles she border of the Persian rug. Her uncon cern calmly. "But I should have given you is so complete, so utterly without effort credit for being proof against all casualties (apparently) that Branksmere draws a of such a nature. Have you never yet breath of passionate relief. He had al- taken that to heart?" most forgotten where he was in his eager examination of his wife's features, until startled into remembrance by a whisper at and turns away.

abruptly to her. "That old brocade," with a little super-

"Lady Branksmere, of course.

what were you alluding to?" "Ah? so! Hadn't a notion of such an A touch smashes it." affair as that. But really one never knows

"By Branksmere's desire, not hers. It

"What's the joke?" asks Halkett, drop- he. eagerly.

thing I may hear without detriment to my you conducting yourself properly," returns

"One knows so little about them," hesi- | bateful to me. tates Mrs. Amyot.

not escape him," says Colonel Vyner's round.

"Well, I still want to hear about what

"That, certainly," casting a coquettish troduction is gone through. glance at him. "Mrs. Vyner and I were "But six rooms for painting," interrupts | merely discussing the amiability of the pres-

Madame von Thirsk? How she chooses her "Ah!" she says with an agreeable little gowns! It's a talent-positive talent! smile, and slips the key she holds into her Thirty, it a day, and doesn't look twenty- Bellew. two. I hope when I'm run thirty I'll look

"You say the servants are forbidden to "She is very careful, certainly, and she very first to find fault with me."

"I think it is all those dear little soft that heirloom of mine—the old white silk—" "And Mrs Brooks. She it is" (pointedly) high frills she wears round her throat," "who summons me at night to the bedside says Mrs. Amyot, reflectively. "Nothing is necessary, which" (with slow force) "is admire her as much as you do. There is a White and Worth. Confess you would be sly, catty look about her that annoys me. ashamed of me." If I were Lady Branksmere -"

"You should remember how good she dowdy woman."

at least to his grandmother," murmurs She turns away with an insolent air, and Mrs. Vyner, demurely. "And then-he goes down the gallery with her usual slow has asked Captain Staines to his house. There is such a thing as gratitude." She stops short when she has turned a "Oh! Branksmere's all right," says

"Is handsome enough to upset all our Suddenly all the passion dies from her apple-carts," laughs Mrs. Amyot. "There face. She grows singularly calm. But her fore, we owe her one. But Captain Staines? "I wonder who would?" asks Halkett,

carelessly.

"That is Mrs. Daryl. A new-comer al-

"Yes. Go back to Margery," with a smile. "So," turning to Lord Primrose,

She is talking to old Lady Primrose—a "Yes. She was the only child of her

"Not at ail," corrects Mrs. Vyner. "Three lovely golden balls hung before his door, and-"

"She didn't get a penny from her father," interrupts Halkett. "There was an old general something or other, an uncle of At this moment a servant throws wide She's real grit, as they say in her early

"Strangers are often interesting. I shall make myself pretty to her," says Mrs. Amyot. "By the bye, she appears to know Captain Staines, at all events !" With some people at all events, it ap-

Imvoluntarily Lord Branksmere lifts his pears he is hardly a favorite; Colonel Vyner receives his advances but coldly, and "I hope Jenkins was in time to meet Lord Primrose grows even more devoted to

"Willy-" begins he, confusedly.

"Mrs. Daryl-" interrupted she, icily,

It is scarcely a whisper, either, rather a lowing her further into the window recess.

"What?" he asks, sharply, turning emotion?" asks she contemptuously. "Yes. Why should the fact cause you "It doesn't," returns he.

cilious glance at Muriel's toilet, and an ambiguous smile.

So red?' demanded Mrs. Daryl, "Look here, my friend! if you have come down is more or less a stranger. "Thought he racket at the same time. We are having a sitting hen.

At the expired. Captain Staines, isn't it? Some little story pleasant for anybody. I'd advise you to deal and that, eh?"

"Friends? No!" "Not foes, at least?"

She is silent. " Betrayal will cost you dearer than me," says Staines.

Why says scornfully. "A woman's good name is a brittle thing. Muriel, who is standing near, looks quickly

was Branksmere himself who specially touches you, it seems. That heart. I am most of us the past is a sealed book to sure you there is no reason why you should,"

"Sign a truce with me then," exclaims

she. " Now go. The very sight of you is

Just now she is locking a little worried, "I shall tell Colonel Vyner about your quire into the matter. Lady Branksmere, Wilnelmina's arm.

"He is always en evidence. One can Half-way across the gallery Muriel looks "So you know Captain Staines?"

"Slightly, yes. I met him abroad, in Brussels where the old people went once and took me with them." Then Lady Anne is reached, and the in-

Meantime, Margery has sunk in a rather the light. The shadow of a terrible grief "What! in this little space of time to have

" You didn't mean it really, did you?" quite. asks Bellew, presently.

meant it. Why should you doubt me ?" "Buc your reason?"

"Take the principal one, then. I haven't Mrs. Amyot. a gown sit to be seen in."

"When will that be?" asks Mrs. Amy ot you to make. But there is very little nonsmall portion of your house" (with a pecul- "Never!" calmly. "I have made up at all—not a yard of it—or probably I'd go. iar bow) "as belonging to me and my my mind to go from twenty-eight to fifty But to appear shabbily gowned is a thing I ed to receive her this afternoon." The patient, Lady Branksmere, I should be in a week. But pay attention to madame. will not do. If I did," with a withering message sounds like a command and Mur-"I would ?"

" Ashamed !"

"I should give her her walking-papers needn't imagine that you are a bit better than the rest of you, and all men hate a

## CHAPTER X.

Mrs. Amyot, when the idea of dancing through the afternoon is propounded to her, is delighted with it; so is Mrs. Vyner, in

Halkett, who, from the beginning of their acquaintance, has been greatly taken by her, now approaches her with a winning

says, "may I have-?"

least, have measured me justly," returns the table. Aunt Selina, gravely. "In my time, that abominable romp called dancing was looked

attractions of darcing pale. And as for mere, rather." 'Hunt the slipper !' why should we not hunt

"You will find it dull!" remarks Miss Mumm, severely. "Let that be understood. Dull, but," with withering force "decent!" Without further ade she takes herself ably. off, and a universal peal of laughter follows

on the last echo of her footsteps.

Lady Anne Branksmere, who is never happier than when her fingers are on the Branksmeres there are," remarks Mrs. keys, moves briskly to the piano.

"She sings?" asks Mrs. Vyner, vaguely. "Oh, charmingly. Not magnificently or loudly, you know; but with feeling and all is Muriel. I felt so horrified at the idea of word or two spoken involuntarily. Mme. "I know nothing, remember that. You Like a bird, he sings. Very hard to make came, if not Lady Anne Hare, at least Lady that sort of thing," says Primrose. "Tell being placed as No. 2 amongst the dowagers von Thirsk is standing beside him. As are married, then? and to Daryl? By Jove! him warble. I expect he thinks it wise to Muriel's cold, measured tones meet her ear, You—you are Lady Branksmere's sister-in- make himself rather scarce in that way. Adds to his popularity—see?"

He would want to add something to it; by all accounts, it is thin !" whispers Mrs.

"Besides what?" "I think not," slowly. "Coward!" she how, that's all. I had almost forgotten What have I done that you should avoid that I once used to sing until to-day." me?"

not going to set the social bloodhounds on which we dare not revert. I am sorry I can not please you in this matter, but,"

perhaps," says Lady Branksmere, coldly, "If you were to try-to make an effort-

Brandksmere, haughtily.

Amyot. The group at the piano divide and make room for him. His voice is not powerful,

but clear and elastic, and for exquisite timbre could hardly be equaled. Lady Anne is profoundly touched, and stands gazing at the singer with tears in her eyes.

Muriel is standing well within the shel-

"That I am not going to the country rasping noise along the polished floor, and ed me." ball, next Thursday fortnight? Certainly, I Lady Branksmere starts as though violently awakened.

are better worth listening to than most thoughts, that it is nothing to you whether people. Now, for your waltz," smiling at I go or stay?"

"The Dowager Lady Branksmere's love a side corridor—to find himself all but in glance at her slave, "you would be the iel, throws aside her brush, and prepares to

"Yes. you. Picture me to yourself in teresting, as fossils usually are—but the Victoria Institute recently on "How fact is she abhors me. I am too large, teo the waters of the ocean became salt." From

ates her," says Muriel.

was with him at the time. He, George, the salts were chlorides, and chlorine was

"You dance, of course, Miss Mumm," he hinted to me that it was a quarrel about but very slightly represented in river money; but he was so distressed that I knew waters of the present day. "Dance? No!" interrupts Miss Mumm. the wretched affair he arisen out of some From the examples of closed lakes they "I should think not, indeed. I wouldn't be fault of poor Arthur's. He was rather could determine the process of salinification

"How terrible-fc: you." "Yes, terrible. But do you know, now and ultimately the waters of the lakes beupon as little less than sin. We were con. I can think of it quite calmly. It all haptent with more innocent amusements, such pened so long ago, you see. Seven years is which were then deposited. The ocean

troublesome days. Going to her now?" "I wish you could come with me." "I shouldn't be welcome."

"Would I do?" asks Mrs. Amyot amiwhilst they are arranging the things-put- bony people like me she can endure. I ting the footstools to one side?" asks shall give your kind regrets to Lady Branksmere, however, if you like."

> Vyner, idly. "Too many," acquiesces Lady Anne. "There is the dowager, there is me, there Anne. A safe return, Muriel," as the pres-

> ent Lady Branksmere moves toward the

Mious glance at Muriel's toilet, and an so reu: demanded mis. Daily, here, my friend! if you have come down here, my friend! if you have come down here with the intention of making it unwas rather a fancy article, run after a good all of you—and let's make an afternoon of by the sun.

At the expiration of a certain number of days they break the shell in water warmed by the sun.

The young fay are presently total of the come of the sun and let's make an afternoon of by the sun.

her. "My efforts would hardly please you, the tennis-ground," she says, in a dull, I imagine, after what we have just heard, stifled sort of way, and goes quickly on-

"One moment, Lady Branksmere," ex "Simply that I believe I have forgotten claims he, in a low tone. "One only.

what those immaculate-looking women are be able to smash mine; whereas you will of a new epoch in your life's history," per- I have arranged about that," he goes on, "Yes, it is I," returns Muriel, calmly; going to be up to next. In love with him recall, perhaps, that little affair with sists Mrs. Amyot, gayly. "Return to your gloomily. "A telegram to-morrow will rid "Yet, I am not afraid. You will never "Let to-day then be the commencement is a matter of dissatisfaction to you. But "I do not avoid you," icily. you of me. I shall leave as suddenly as I

says Lady Branksmere haughtily.

he turns his gaze suddenly upon Lady in a low tone, full of suppressed passion. Branksmere, "music has died within me." "If you are dead to the past, I am not. I. "Through dearth of encouragement, know now I should never have come herenow that it is too late." "And why not here?" she demanded

coolness. "I would not interfere with them, don't show them off like Miss Mumm. You Margery, who draws near with Curzon Belculiar tone. He looks down, and then know my answer? I was mad when I accontinues softly, "Well, I will try, if that cepted your-Lord Branksmere's-invita-"Not mine-Mrs. Amyot's," says Lady | that I have come-now that I have seention, but I could not refuse it. But now when all the old sweet memories force them-"Oh, yes, mine certainly," laughs Mrs. selves back upon me, I feel I dare not re-

"You will please yourself about that, of course," answered Muriel, coldly. "To go will not please me," declares he, hurriedly.

"Then stay," indifferently. "Are you a stone?" he cries, vehemently. Have you altogether forgotten?"

"Not altogether, you will understand." her friend. "My little story was not yours," steepeds in dying sunshine, and on the lake hitherto subdued, seems now to have sprung some thought form out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some thought from out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some thought from out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some thought from out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some thought from out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some thought from out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some thought from out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some thought from out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some thought from out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some thought from out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some thought from out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some thought from out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some thought from out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some thought from out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some thought from out the pure sweet past your little story was now to have sprung some story was now ent age!" Here she leans a little toward and is gazing out upon the wooded hill cruel thought—a crushing remembrance— say it from your heart. Now and again dejected fashion upon the deep window seat is desolating her beautiful face. Some all, all blotted out! Nay, I defy you to Then, with graceful politeness, "You descent lead not be low that is sparkling as if incaninto fresh life, and to have reached a colosmust rise within your breast. Yet love sal height. That music has undone her could never have been to you what it was Somebody drags a chair with a little woman can wrong a man. You betrayto me. You wronged me Muriel, as only a

"Ah! make it acquaintances. It sounds as blackberries.' But why should I give on Captain Staines. "I always think you I have no longer a place even in your

"Oh! stuff and nonsense," says Mr. lets the first bars of the brilliant waltz float will stay with us for a little while," she says languidly. "I accept your invitation," declares Staines, suddenly-almost defiantly, and

turning away, strides impatiently down the arms of Mme. von Thirsk ! (TO BE CONTINUED.)

How the Ocean Became Salt. "Amongst all the others tricked out in Anne, "I look out of place in that ghast- of the organic forms of past geological ages, the conclusion was justified that the waters "I can't see that you are more robust of the ocean must have been salt from very than Madame von Thirsk. Yet she toler- early geological times, but it by no means followed that they were as fully saline as "She adores her," corrects Lady Anne. those of the present day. There were two "There is some tremendous bond between ways by which they might account for the them; I don't quite know how the friend. salinity of the ocean waters from very early ship arose, but it began about seven years periods of geological time. First, by supago, about the year poor Arthur was kill- posing that the primeval waters were sated." She always alludes to her dead hus. urated with acid gases which were neld in band as "poor Arthur." "You know Arthur suspension in the vapor surrounding the was her favorite. He was the eldest, and incandescent globe; or, secondly, that the it was only by a luckless chance that salinity resulted from a process resembling Branksmere came in for the title. You know that by which salt lakes of the present day her languid fashion. So indeed is everybody all about that duel!" She is talking confi- had been formed. He thought that they must concur with Dr. Sterry Hunt, that "I knew he had been killed in a duel; from some cause or other chlorine largely abounded in the waters of the primeval "Branksmere, George, your husband, ocean, as by far the greater proportion of

the breath of innumerable roses mingled Curzon. "But you can give me something day, and on an average weighs about seventemper. From what I could drag out of greater or shorter periods these lakes had been receiving the roses."

Branksmere, who was most reticent, about been receiving the roses. Branksmere, who was most reticent about been receiving the waters of rivers, bring-"No, no," says Mr. Halkett, "Your it, I should say poor Arther lost himself ing down mechanically suspended sediments actions, I feel sure, are not open to censure over some affair in a brilliant-saloon, and and chemically dissolved salts, silicates, of that sort. "Whatever you are"—with grossly insulted the man by whom he be- and carbonates. The sediments were preciplieved he had been cheated." She pauses, itated over the bottoms of the lakes, and "He was shot dead." she says, in a low the water being carried off into the atmos-"It is a comfort to know that you sir, at whisper, tapping her ingers nervously upon phere in the form of vapor as far as it entered, left behind the dissolved ingredients. These necessarily augmented in quantity,

as, for instance, 'Puss in the corner,' 'Blind a tremendous space nowadays. Yes, it all was a closed lake of enormous magnitude, man's-buff, 'Kiss in the ring,' Hunt the happened the year madame came to the and they were thus brought to the conslipper,' and a variety of other simple castle. Poor Arthur was killed about the clusion that the saltness of the sea might beginning of the year, and she came here have originated in very much the same way "There is a great deal in what you say," about six months afterward. I remember as had that of the Dead Sea, Lake Oroomiah, he agrees solemnly, "a great deal. We it perfectly. She was a friend of some peo- or the Great Salt Lake of Utah, and many to ourselves. There are possibilities about "She seems to have given up Tuscany characteristic of having no outlet. When 'Kiss in the ring,' before which the weaker and made her home in England—in Branks- the great envelope of vapor which surround "Yes. I shouldn't min! that, if I were dense upon its cooling surface, the resulted the incandescent globe began to conit now? Mrs. Amyot, will you join me in you. She is very good to the old lady, and ing waters, though containing, as Dr. Sterry Hunt supposed, acid gases, were destitute of saline ingredients. The process of salinification began with the first streams which entered the seas from the old bordering uplands, and this process carried on "I am afraid you would be worse than silurian period, brought the waters to a Lady Anne," says Muriel, smiling. "You condition suited to sustain the life of forms "Annie, will you sing us something are too bright, too airy. It is only ghostly of inhabitants representative of those which inhabited the ocean at the present day. These long ages might be supposed to in-"What a tiresome number of Lady periods, but that during which the first crust was in course of formation over the incandescent globe.

Hatching Fish Under Hens.

The Chinese have a method of hatching the spawn of fish, and thus protecting it from those accidents which generally de-

stroy a large portion of it. The fishermen collect with care from the margin and surface of water all those gela-"Then I won't do?" asks Mrs. Amyot, fish, and, after they have found a sufficient

about him wasn't there?"

"I never heard it amounted to that," sible, I'm here too?"

"I don't see why you attack me like had been dying to make him sing ever since he lifts his head and looks at her; "can't we be friends?" ssks ha.

"Captain Staines, will you sing to us now?" says Mrs. Amyot, suddenly, who had been dying to make him sing ever since he do done lies in solitary state—comes suddenly we be friends?" ssks ha.

"Captain Staines, will you sing to us now?" says Mrs. Amyot, suddenly, who had been dying to make him sing ever since had told her he was chary of giving his voice to the world.

"I think not," returns Staines, smiling at "You should go out; the others are on trade in China."

HEW

Mrs. McLear and wife of Mr stock, Ont., cor Chief Justic Superior Court

tack of inflamn Thirteen tho vided for in M the great Chris July. It is again circles that the Departments v Mr. Fred Whit

Mounted Polic The St. And appointed a c wards forming tion with the Rifles. A young wom

found dead the under suspiciou ities are reticen so far as know coroner's inque There has small pox hospi victim of the di

Eva Adams. Mr. William Hamilton, and warehouse, was deprived of his years ago he los suffering from a and the other ey While returning he suddenly beca Courtland Fre ly shot his wife t in a hallway on !

police. The first in the shoulder, t and the third in and wife had been and the woman request to return wounds are of a s Mr. David McL a waggon at Har when the horse b away. Mr. Mcl waggon and ru surgery. Blood w his leg, and before

Tuesday. He th

ner of the accident Mr. J. H. Turn ture in the British who is at present i Redistribution bil session as, had it census returns, wh correct, it would h satisfactory. Mr. Frank McLe steel's stave mill a

with a cerrible de

While endeavoring

stave-cutting mac

the unfortunate m

death resulted in

drawn in between and he was dragge arm and shoulder w and his face was lived for an hour a The Managing ( real General hospit the petition of a me requesting the Com to issue to two won College permission basing their objecti there exists no facil cation of women in the co-education of

been disapproved by The strike of the tol, England, has en returned to work un The trustees of Sh report that six thous Stratford-on-Avon la

Mr. Gladstone has

poet laureate, made Lord Tennyson, to 1 art critic. The first shipment the season arrived in morning. The comm the British Board of ing the animals apar inspection.

Mr. Michael Davits

ber of North-East Cor declared a bankrupt, the costs connected w test in North Meath, Chiltern Hundreds. William Townsend, have had intentions Gladstone, was again magistrate and was r

cal officer was not pr upon the question of l Late on Saturday n was exploded in the qu Courts, Dublin. The buildings were not in was hurt. It is not be despatch, that the pu throwing the bomb w life, as at night the vi deserted.

Large numbers of from the British wa harbour, likely attract in the United States 1 The exhibitors in M World's Fair complain over-charged for powe

threaten to withdraw

UNITED

Miss Frances Will advocate, has entirely of her years of hard v ordered to Switzerland The paid admissions on Saturday did not to

The Board of Lady themselves on record a ing of the fair on Send About five hundred Milwaukee were close observance of Revival Sabbath. Over five to

are reported. The President of the