CHAPTER XVIII .- (CONTINUED.) "Not unconditionally. You will find a paper in my desk telling you what I should like you to do. It is quite informal; you can disregard it completely if you like," said the dying man, with a faint, pathetic smile, which a leaping flame illumined and stamped for ever on Sebastian's brain; "it has to legal force, but it expresses my wishes, and I do not think that you will disregard them."

"No never, never!" exclaimed Sebastian. "I should never ask you to do what was unreasonable, I hope," said Sir Roland pleasantly, though his voice was growing faint. "I thank you, my boy- my son -Sebastian. I should not deprive you of any portion of my earnings, were it not for setting right what has been, in my opinion,

a great wrong." There was a silence; he relinquished Sebastian's hand and turned his head on the pillow as if to sleep, but his mind was still posed to move. - Your cousin, busy with the subject, for after the lapse of some moments he said, rather absently :-- ]

might find out what has become of them by inquiry in the town. They must have left friends behind. Henry Wyatt ran

away with Alice Neave." There was another long silence. Sebasover his uncle's communication. It did not seem to him that there would be much difficulty in tracing his missing cousin, The loss of the money did not affect him at all. His mind rapidly diverged to other startled when his uncle spoke again.

go hence before I have finished my book. my wishes, - R. M. I have been at work on it for some years now.

"Is it not nearly done?"

that it is brought out?" " Most certainly."

it when you have leisure. Not for a year who loved it. or two, perhaps. And then-there is of paper relative to my own life and experi- loss of a third of his fortune or that he her impatient of restraint. ences: there is indeed an autobiography, should also be a trifle slack in going to work Sebastian. There are certain views that I you."

is beyond me-"

"Then choose someone else to do it. I let no one else.'

left Sir Roland exceedingly feeble. His to make ducks and drakes of. eye still brightened with a smile when Sespeak.

went out forever.

many sons grieve for their fathers. Stephen consulted, but no record of his death was Malet sorrowed with him, and Kersham found. Of a ne'er do-weel like Henry Wyatt Manor was a house of mourning for many a

fort. Those who knew Nina best feared that he would not find it, for she was not burn wrote to Sebastian. "A great many of an unselfish nature, and sorrow soon things may have happened in that time. I wearied her. But they were mistaken. In sent a young man to Manchester to make youth, in love-time, a girl's nature has inquiries; but he failed to ascertain anywonderful plasticity.

death. She had often been asked to Kersham | They left the neighborhood suddenly to-Roland; and these hours had become dear same afternoon he became unpleasantly and dissipated life. It is quite posconscious of the fact that she did not feel sible that he has come to a sudden and love and admiration for Sir Roland as continue advertising, if you do not object Esther showed that she had done. But to the expense, and wait to see whetherthis sensation could not last long in the my answer is received." presence of Nina's physical attraction.

that his uncle desired Mrs. Denison still to went on advertising. A man like Sebasreceive the sum that he had paid yearly tian Malet must not always be consulted. ever since James Denison's death: and he He must not continue to reserve that sum had not been able to understand the rush of of ten thousand pounds for ever. And Mr. color to her face, and the momentary silence | Colburn was morally convinced that Henry which had followed his words. In a minute | Wyatt was dead. or two Esther recovered herself, and thanked him quietly. It was hard for her to feel herself dependent upon his bounty. But she had no right to refuse a gift for her mother, until she herself could lift that mother above the need of gifts. To that ed invalid. She had visions of returning on a Sunday morning, when he walked out end she labored night and day.

herself, when she worked with her pen. Mrs. Fairbairn, armed with tractsforpeople | yard. from babyhood, and it had lately occurred almost as much as it did Esther. "I am flowers which had been brought on the to her that writing might-in time-be not going to die yet," she said to her previous night; Sebastian wondered to see made "to pay." She did not find a ready | daughter, in rather an injured tone. market for her wares. She could not de. It was pathetic to see how she clurg to they did not look as if they had lain in the lude herself with the idea that she was a the world she was leaving. She did not open air all night. Then it dawned upon heaven-sent genius when so large a pile of say much about her feelings, but she drop- him that service was already going on ; he manuscripts "declined with thanks" ac- ped a word or two now and then which heard the hum of a voice through the half- being a remarkably good hand at making are visible near Buluwayo, late the headand no money-dropped into her mother's dominance. lap as soon as gained—was ever half so sweet to her.

exactly what he was required to do.

trembling fingers, like one who is expecting | daughters, that her despair may seem exa message from the dead.

writing was good, and Sebastian thought | time. some of the sentences not badly turned. The Her temptation at this time lay in thinkdate and address were legibly written first, ing, as the young so often think, that the being revolted from the idea of treachery, then came the letter :

do not chronicle my movements (save in the police reports now and then) as they did yours in your more active days. I suppose you are now permanently located at Kersham. I laugh to myself sometimes when I think of the contrast between us. If you saw me in the deps which I inhabit, where what you and such as you call vice reigns, triumphs, and runs riot, you would laugh too. A contrast to the peaceful precincts

of your Manor House, indeed ! "I have not sunk to this level without struggle. You know well enough that have been handicapped in life through no fault of my own. If you are as rich as report | "keep up her position." It was all for declares you to be, you will not miss a sum sufficient to set me on my feet again. will not whine and cringe for it : you ow me something, and I merely ask for what consider mine. Send your enclosure to the address given above: I expect to be here for some time, as I am ill and not dis

"HENRY WYATT."

The dates were somewhat surprising. The "The Neaves have left Woodbury. You letter had been written on the thirteenth of November, but not dispatched (as the envelope testified) until the twenty-ninth. Sir Roland's letter had been sent on the first | read with Nina a little, I shall be pleased. of December, and returned to him on the seventh. By that time he was prostrated Mrs. La Touche thought her destitute of tian took a seat at the bedside, and thought by illness, and had been able to do nothing more in the way of inquiry. But he had pen-

"I charge my dear boy Sebastian to find this man Henry Wyatt, and to give him

"Very nearly. I have named you my vices could not touch him. "Les defauts services. literary executor, Sebastian. Will you see | de ses qualites" were not altogether wanting. He had a slightly exaggerated disdain

hands. If you do not put them into shape the best means of finding Henry Wyatt. | went through a course of "instruction," he never exactly knew, for at that moment | was not legally bound to give away any of | she was for interests. a sudden faintness attacked the invalid | the money at all, that if he found Wyatt and all further thought of anything but to be a man of bad character it would be remedies and stimulants was impossible. better to pay him an allowance instead of The fainting-fit lasted for some time and handing over ten thousand pounds for him

Mr. Colburn was an honest man. He bastian drew near, but he was too weak to put advertisements into the leading daily papers stating that Henry Wyatt, formerly Once or twice the flame of life leaped up; of Kersham Manor, would, by applying to it wavered, flickered, sank again, and then | Messrs. Colburn and Horsley, hear of something to his advantage. But no Henry Sebastian grieved for Sir Roland as not | Wyatt appeared. Parish registers were nothing could be predicted with safety.

"The odd thing is that a fortnight The young man turned to Nina for com- should have elapsed between the writing and the posting of his letter," Mr. Colthing of importance. Wyatt was known It gave him an odd sensation, however, in the neighborhood, and so was a young to meet Esther Denison and to find that she | woman who lived with him - whether his was grieving like himself for Sir Roland's daughter or his wife doos not appear. Manor in order to read or write for Sir ward the end of November, and have not been seen or heard of since. Mr. and valuable to her. Meeting Nina on the Wyatt was a man of drunken habits with him, that she did not understand his violent end. All we can do now is to

Sebastian replied, "Continue advertis-He had been obliged to intimate to Esther | ing, he may turn up yet." So Mr. Colturn

## CHAPTER XIX.

IN THE BACKGROUND.

Let us turn our eyes from Esther's grief. | grave? First came the letter from Henry Wyatt | suffering only as they have suffered, in a

zest of life was over. There was nothing ordisloyalty to Nina. He loved Nina passionlost sight of me completely. The newspapers | fit of depression, and having nobody to | Esther was his friend.

guide her with wisdom, she did a thing that she afterwards regretted. She accepted Mrs. La Touche's invitation to become the children's resident governess, gave up the lonely little house at Kennet's Green, and went to live at the Dower House.

"I would not on any account say so to the poor girl," said Mrs. La Touche, making a virtue of her reticence, "but her mother's death was really quiet providential. She would always have been a drag on poor Miss Denison; and Ishould have had to get a resident governess for the children sooner or later, so that, really, things fit into each other exceedingly well. I am sure Miss Denison ought to be thankful for her

mother's release.' Mrs. La Touche thought herself very meritorious for the pains she took to her daughters' sake, she said ; and perhaps it was. But what sort of a life would she herself have led had she been deprived of her pretty house, her flowers, her dilettante music and painting, her light and lavish skimming of the latest reviews, the amenities of social life and triumphs of success.

school together, the younger girl had shown some taste for various of her lighter studies and Esther hoped that they might resume them together. "If you can find time to

Esther used to wonder a little whether all the tastes and aptitudes of other girls of her age, when she conversed with her about nothing else.

Common report speaks of private governesses as poor, persecuted creatures ; subjects, where Nina and Sir Roland held one-third of the money that I have left. and common report as usual, lies. Esther has been wrongfully deprived of what was | word ; she had all the luxuries of life en- | you.' "It is a pity," he said, "that I must due to him. Fiat justitia. Sebastian knows joyed by her pupils, a pleasant house to

than chosen it involuntarily, and was per- somebody else to make the cross," for the love of money, and was completely haps one of the persons least fitted to en-It is not therefore to be wondered at that | vous organization ; and she had a thirst for }

which may not be without interest to the to find his cousin, Henry Wyatt. In his must find food for itself. The turn given much obliged to you." world. But these I leave in your hands, spare hours he plunged eagerly into the to Esther's thoughts by her mother's death autobiographical papers which his uncle led her to religion. But her parents flowers, Esther, and he would have liked them should like to have indicated, but it is evi- had left behind, and began to arrange and would have been shocked by the sort of more. My offer was a blunder; forget it. dent that my hand will not accomplish annotate them. He would have to return religious teaching that attacked her. Mr. thank you a thousand times for what you the work I had mapped out. I leave it to to his post in early spring; and he was Wright, the Curate, was a strong High have done. When I am out of England I anxious to fix his marriage day. But Mrs. | Churchman. He was delighted to find in shall be glad to remember it. My uncle "If it is not exactly in my line," said La Touche was too prudent to let it be Esther a promising subject for his minis- was father, brother, teacher, playmate, to Sebastian hesitatingly, "if I feel that it settled yet. She said that it would look trations. Mrs. La Touche was quite con- me, all in one." like disrespect to dear Sir Roland's mem- tent that Miss Denison should attend a do not want to tie your life down to mine, | So Sebastian went back to Russia in afternoons (oh, the blessed chance of getdear boy. Only the private papers the March. Before his departure he saw Sir ting into somebody else's house for even hope you are taking care of yourself?" autobiography-they must remain in your Roland's solicitor, and consulted him as to one hour of a half-holiday !), and here she The solicitor, Mr. Colburn, a man very which resulted in her turning into an ardent Sebastian felt an unaccustomed thickness | learned in the law, pointed out to him that | Churchwoman with Ritualistic leaning. in his throat as he replied. What he said he had better proceed cautiously, that he Possibly this fact shows how hard pressed

### CHAPTER XX

A SILENT LIFE. "Entbehren sollst du-sollst entbehren."

GOETHE. When Sebastian came home in the fol lowing spring for his marriage he was struck with the change in Esther's appearance. He questioned Nina when he was alone with her.

"What have you been doing to Esther?" "Doing to her !" said Nina, rather pettishly. "I don't know that we have done anything. And, Sebastian, mamma does not like her to be called 'Esther' now. Do call her Miss Denison."

Sebastian laughed a little. "She looks like a shadow of herself. She under her eyes.

"How closely you must have observed her?" said Nina. "I did not know that men took such notice of girls' looks-"

"My dear Nina, the change is too evident to pass unremarked by any of Miss Denison's friends. I always considered myself Esther's friend; and surely you do

"Of course, Sebastian. I was always Esther's friend at school, and I am her friend still, I know she does not look well; but it's all her own fault." " Why ?'

"My dear boy," said Nina, "don't you know that this is Lent, and that Esther has become a violent Ritualist? The consequence is, that she starves berself and goes to church at every spare moment. Mamanything to stop it.'

tion, but said no more, not quite liking the tone in which it was conveyed to him.

He took an early opportunity of speaking to Esther himself; but it was not easy health and strength for the patient, which between eight and nine o'clock to look at

some of the flowers so fresh and bright;

own sorrow.

He turned and saw her coming toward TO rim over the shining grass. She did not see him. She had just left the church with the other worshipers; two little books were lasped in her ungloved hand.

She saw him before she reached the grave, and the sight caused her to stop short for one brief moment. She neither blushed nor uttered an exclamation; indeed she turned

even paler than she had been before.

coming to her side.

for my mother and one for him." "Very good."

noblest and greatest man that I ever knew."

grave too?" she said.

Sebastian saw it, and as they turned away, he said impulsively:

" Don't grieve. "I don't," said Esther, with a tremulous

smile. "For her sake I am glad." ciled a few lines on a sheet of paper to this | so glibly about the children's studies and | asked, "How often do you bring flowers

" Every Sunday morning." "Have you any difficulty in getting | ture. them? For I could speak to the gardener at

live in-much larger and finer than she will understand the feeling-it seems as chester Canal, all of which were once de-Sir Roland had been curiously free from had ever occupied before; she was treated though it would be spoiled for me if I had nounced as the outcome of crazy intellect the taint of selfishness or worldliness. He with respect and consideration, and she the flowers given by any one else. That is and wild fanaticism. Under any circumhad lived in a region where these lower received fair, if not large, pay for her why I often get wild-flowers only. But I stances the successful completion of a task forgot-perhaps you would like him to have so generally denounced as impossible is Esther had rather drifted into this life your flowers; but then-then you must get almost inevitably the forerunner of gigantic

"I want no one but you to make it sums of money for their projectors. "I have not tied you down to time. Do unable to understand the minds of persons dure it. She was sensitive and proud; she Esther. Do as you please, I only want to had, like her father, a highly strung ner- make things easier for you," said Sebastian: "Oh, it was very wrong of me to say another little matter-you will find a mass | Sebastian should feel little concern at the | knowledge and for experience which made | that," she cried. "It was all my self-will, my self-indulgence. Please forgive me. In such circumstances a vigorous nature shall be glad of the flowers; I am very

" No. I would much rather see your wild

"Now tell me," he said, "what makes class at Mr. Wright's house on Saturday you look so ill and pale? Nina puts it down to your High Churchism, as she calls it. "Yes," she answered meekly.

happy ?

"I like teaching," she said at last.

for you at last," he said.

The hot tears started to her eyes. "Please believe that I am happy. And when forsake thyself, resign thyself, and thou

Esther was late for breakfast, and Mrs. La Touche, being annoyed, spoke of the undesirability of these early services and cal engineers. It says that an educated the folly of people who attend them. Nina mechanical engineer can become an electrihad seen Sebastian walking with Esther cal engineer with a few months of study. through the village, and made several snap. The electrical station of the day is based pish and disagreeable comments upon the for its successful operation largely on econofact. Esther could not answer Mrs. La my in the generation and utilization of Touche, and disdained to reply to Nina; steam, as the student must make up his but the hot, and angry blood mounted to mind to acquire the fullest knowledge of her brow, and she asked herself whether steam engineering and practice. When he she could long continue to live in a house feels that he is a thorough mechanical and

ma is extremely angry, but she can not do to her. And when the angry moments was think of completing his education by special over, she took herself sharply to task' and Sebastian was surprised at this informa- told herself that she was unworthy of any higher mathematics in practical work, little good thing, of any love, or any joy; if she | more than elementary algebra is necessary. were not a base worldly creature, how could the exquisite peace of that morning's experience in the actual labors of an eleccommunion have been disturbed by anyto find a time when Mrs. La Touche and thing so small as the words of Mrs La Esther's mother had long been a confirm. Nina were not by. His opportunity came Tonche and her daughter? This consideration of experiments that magnetized iron will tion made her more irritable than ever : lose more by electrolytic action than iron for fatigueand hunger, as well as the excite- not so influenced. The difference is said to She had evenings and half-holidays to the doctor knewto be hopeless. A visit from his uncle's grave in the Kersham church- ment of her talk with Sebastian, were tell- average about 3 per cent, under the condiing upon her nerves; and she had several | tions of the experiments. She had written stories and poems almost "near death," distressed and offended her | Many of the graves were decorated with sharp speeches with which to reproach herself before the day was over.

## (TO BE CONTINUED.)

A Royal Bainmaker.

cumulated in her desk. But she carned a Esther afterwards remembered and inter- open door of the church, and to this he gives way quarters of the Matabele King Lobengula. pound here, a pound there, by children's preted aright as the long-suppressed yearn. I remember one day in June but now in possession of the forces of the stories, or short and rather sensational tales; lings of the woman for joy and freedom and did not enter; these early functions were the month in the whole year in which you British South Africa Company, no prospectnovelties to him in Kersham. But he least expect rain-some natives had brought ing is allowed. The forces at Fort Salis-It was spring when she died. The leaves tried to subdue the crunching sound of his a large python into camp, and were singing bury are being disbanded, and the breaking were young upon the trees, the primroses | boots on the loose gravel of the paths, as he some of their rain songs. It is sudden up of the forces at the other forts is com-Sir Roland left his thirty thousand pounds studding the copses, the birds nesting in walked to the shady corner where he knew death to any native in Metabeleland who, if mencing. The remainder of the campaign to Sebastian. And not until after the will the boughs, while Esther sat for the last that he should find his uncle's grave. There he sees a python, does not by some means against the Matabele will be carried on by was read did Sebastian reverently investi. few days and nights watching the life die were flowers on it already-primroses woven or other manage to secure it and bring it the Matabeleland police force, which is now gate the nature of the papers that his uncle out of the love-lit eyes and the strange skillfully into the form of a cross, Who in alive. The King took possession of the being organized. had left behind, and seek to understand white change creep over the thin features. had been laying flowers on his uncle's reptile, and said he must go and make rain. Despatches from Fort Victoria say Lo-I laughed at this, and said I did not think bengula has sent a letter to Major Goold He found a bundle of papers addressed to Her loss is such a common one, and is On glancing round he saw another cross, he could do so, to which the King replied : Adams concerning the termination of the himself in the desk which Sir Roland gener | accepted with such slight sorrow, such com- the counterpart of the one besides him, and "You will see." The python was skinned | Matabele war. The King admits that he ally used. These he opened slowly, with monplace resignation, by ordinary sons and his quick eyes told him that it lay in the alive, its liver taken out and cooked, and is willing to discuss the terms of his surshadow of a scone which bore the names the usual rain-making rites performed. render. His young Matabele warriors, aggerated to those who expect to find others of James and Margaret Denison. Then it Curiously enough, just before sundown the however, are still anxious to fight, and he was Esther who had brought them both? sky clouded over, and soon afterwards one feels that he may not be able to restrain of which Sir Roland had spoken, the hand- decent, well-regulated manner for a specified | She had not forgotten Sir Roland in her of the heaviest thunderstorms I had ever them. Major Goold Adams expressed seen broke over the place. Next morning strong hopes that a settlement will be It was but a moment's doubt. His whole | the King asked me if a white man could | reached without further hostilities. make a thunderstorm like that? I said : "No, King: if we could get you down "My DEAR ROLAND: You have no doubt that she would ever care for again. In this ately; there was no doubt of that. And among the farmers in the Karon we could guarantee you a fortune,"

# IRELAND AND ENGLAND.

A Proposition to Build a Tunnel under the Irish Sea.

Among the other startling propositions is one to shorten the sea distance between The sight of the cross of primroses gave | New York and Europe by means of a tunhim courage. "You laid it here?" he said, | nel connecting Ireland with Great Britain. Several years ago plans were drawn for a Esther bowed her head. "I brought one | canal to connect Ireland and Scotland. The distance is about twenty-one miles, the "It was good of you," said Sebastian. cost would be \$30,000,000 or \$35,000,000 and the number of years the work would "Oh no, no ! You forget: I knew him a take would be about six. This is another little, and I loved him. He will always of the propositions which have been revived stand to me as the type of a great man; the during the last few weeks, and it is strengthened or bolstered up by the phil-"And to me too," Sebastian responded osophical suggestions as to the improved relations that would exist between England "Will you come with me to my mother's and Ireland if railroad connection were possible between the two countries.

He followed her in silence, and in silence | The canal across Scotland, which has been they stood beside the stone on which was from time to time talked about, has been recorded Margaret Denison's name. A great | restored to a live subject by the completion When Esther and Nina had been at tear fell from Esther's eyes as she knelt of the great English canal. One of down to rearrange some flowers that had | these propositions is to connect the Firths been blown aside by the morning breeze. of Moray and Lorn, making use of the chain of lakes in the way. Another is to connect Glasgow and Edinburgh by a canal which would also connect the two oceans: few hills intervene and there is so much water already in the way that it is thought They did not speak again until they near- probable the project would not be expensive. ed the churchyard gate, and then Sebastian But it remains to be seen how much traffic could be obtained for canals of this character. and whether there would be any possibility of arevenue sufficient to justify the expendi-

Few, if any, of these projects are likely the prominent places. He was almost For Sebastian will have enough, and Henry was "well treated" in every sense of the my uncle's, and he would always supply to lead to any active work, though some of them are quite as simple and easy as the "Thank you, but-I don't know if you | Suez Canal, the Fourth Bridge or the Manenterprises likely to make or lose immense

### CURRENT ELECTRICAL NEWS.

The haulage problem is one which has received the careful attention of mine owners at all time. For years mules were used in the mines for hauling, and in some cases are still used; rope cables replaced mules in many places, and now we have the electric locomotive taking the place of both. A model electric plant for this purpose has lately been installed at Rock Springs, Wyo. The economy attained by the use of the electric locomotive is shown by the fact that by its aid it is reported that thirty cars were run from the loading point to the end of the track, a distance of about 600 feet, there dumped and returned to mine in twenty minutes.

To those persons whose sole idea of elec-"You do not work too hard? You are troplating is connected with the plating of silver services and kindred articles it may be a surprise to learn that the same princi-"I am sure that bright days will come | ple has been applied to the plating of the hulls of vessels with copper. Vessels with "Don't think that I am unhappy," said | iron bottoms are easily fouled, causing an Esther, "Why should I be? I have every- immense loss of efficiency, as a vessel covthing I need; far more than I deserve. If | ered with barnacles, etc., will take twice I am unhappy, it is -it is-my own fault." as much coal to run it at a given speed as when the bottom is clean. It has been found "I am not so deleful as I look," she said. | that a difference of electrical potential of 11-2 volts and a current of 7 1-2 amperes per I falter I find great help and comfort in words | square foot are sufficient for a deposition of like those-words that I was reading just copper electrically, and by the improved now." She slid a little book into his hand; methods which are now available a vessel it lay open at a marked page, which he 400 feet long and having a draught of glanced down. "I have very often said twenty feet can be coated with its 5,500 unto thee, and now again I say the same, pounds of protecting copper in a week's

shalt have much inward peace. Give all | Not be content with placing the elecfor all; ask for nothing, require back noth- tric lightinginour streets, buildings and ing . . . thou shalt be free in heart, almost every other imaginable place, the and darkness shall not tread thee down. . | electrical engineer is now about to under-. . Then shalt thou be rid of all vain take the lighting of the ocean highway. It fancies, causeless perturbations and super- is proposed in France to light up the course has lost all her color and has black marks fluous cares. Then also immoderate fear usually taken by transatlantic vessels beshall leave thee, and inordinate love shall tween Newfoundland and Ireland, the means to be employed being ten large He gave her back the book. "Is that lightships anchored about 120 miles apart, your rule of life ?" he said, with a curious | these ships to be connected to the shore and to each each other by electric cables.

The last number of the Scientific American tells young men how to become electriwith companions who were so uncongenial steam engineer it will be time for him to attention to the electrical branches. As for His last and graduating course will be an trical station.

It has been found by a continued series

SOUTH AFRICA.

Di scovery of Reefs of Gold-King Loben-

gula Prepared to Surrender. A London special says : — A despatch from King Lobengula has the reputation of Cape Town says that although reefs of gold

More copies of the Bible have been sold in the past twenty-five years than at ony other book published.