LOVE REASONS NOT.

CHAPTER XVI.

LEONE'S DETERMINATION.

Lucia, Countess of Lanswell, stood alone in the superb drawing-room at Cawdor. It was evening, one of the warmest and brightest in September. Nearly three months had passed since the fatal marriage which had grieved and distressed her, and she fondly hoped all her distress was ended. The decree had gone forth that the marriage was null and void; was in but unutterable wee looked out of her eyes fact no marriage, Lord Chandos being at him, her white face had on it the passion sharply: "Is it a lady?" under age when it was contracted. She said to herself all was null now. True, her son was in a most furious rage, and he had stirred in the summer wind; the very gone to consult half the lawyers in London, repression of her passionate despair made but she did not care for that ; he was sure to rage and rave; he was a spoiled child, who never in his life had been contradicted Chandos; she must give up his name, or thwarted. The more angry he was the leave the shelter of his roof, or men and better; she knew by experience the hotter the fire the more quickly it burns away. Had he been cool, calm, collected and silent she would have dreaded the after consequences.

"He will exhaust himself with furious words," she said to herself with a slow day spent under this roof would be fatal smile. "When he has done that, all danger will be over."

She had smiled when she heard of his to him. Her voice trembled as though it rapid journeys, his fierce denunciations, his violent invectives, his repeated oaths that no power on earth should take him from his young wife.

She had smiled when the earl, whose conscience was more tender than her own, had said over and over again that it was a terrible thing to set aside a marriage, to call a religious ceremony null and void. He would not have done it himself, but my lady had firm nerves, and a will of iron; nothing daunted her. She laughed at his persuasions and arguments. She told him that the day would come on which he would thank Heaven that the honor of his name and race had been saved from destruction. My lady was triumphant. Knowing her you have done and what you have said." son was spending his whole time in these journeys, she had requested Mr. Sewell himself to go to the pretty little villa at Richmond, to see the young wife himself, not go to her; he thought it was better to and tell her the truth about the marriage; to speak what she was pleased to call plain | wealth of the Lanswells would be pass English to her; to tell her that in the eyes | through another such scene. of the law and of all honest, honorable men she was not his wife; that every hour she called herself by his name, or lived under risen that morning the happiest girl in all his roof, added to her disgrace and increased her shame.

"You can tell her," said my lady, with ill-concealed contempt, "that next June he been couleur de rose. will be twenty-one, and then he can please himself; he can remarry her if he will no. body then will have the least control over happy ideas about it. There was no cloud him ; he will be his own master and can in her sky, no doubt in her heart; now her do as he likes. In all probability," she continued, "the girl will please herself with fanciful ideas about his being true to her; do not contradict her if she believes it—she some one had struck her a violent blow. will part from him more easily; but, believe me, my son will never return to hernever !"

the interview; he was neither partic- one of the servants came to her, holding a less his wife. He married me," she conularly tender of heart nor given to sen; letter in her hand. Leone opened it. The tinued, her eyes flashing, her face flushing, timent, but he shrunk from seeing the few hastily-written lines were from her | "he married me before God, and I say that young girl who called herself Lady Chandos; husband. They said, simply. he shrunk from telling her the truth; but "MY DARLING,-I shall not be able to you." my lady was inexorable; he must do it, return home to-day. I have some disagree- "True, I could not undo it, but the law and no one else.

ho never torgot it; he could not bear to luncheon to-morrow. Believe me, always riages, should have common sense first. think of it, and he never mentioned it. your loving husband, Until the day of his death he was haunted by a beautiful, passionate face, white with | She looked at the word "husband" until parents.'

terrible despair. illegal, because contracted without his again : parents' consent. She had turned to him with flashing eyes.

"Are the laws of England all framed for the convenience of the rich?" she asked. edge, the lawyer had hesitated before the | no !

fire of her question.

Mr. Sewell called the justice of the case- merciful to a woman. She would go herself the rreasons why such a law was needful, and appeal to Lucia, Countess of Lanswell. and she knew that she was not the lawful wife of Lancelot, Lord Chandos. She looked into the stern face of her companion with eyes filled with awful despair.

"He did not know it," she said; "only tell me that, and I shall be happier. He did not know it?"

that Lord Chandos was ignorant of the fact-it never occurred to him; if it had done so, he would have deferred his marriage until he came of age."

"I shall take some comfort in that," she said, slowly "If he has erred, it has been done in ignorance and innocence. You say that the wrong can be righted next June; that he can marry me then without the consent of either of his parents." "Certainly he can," replied the law-

the time twice as long, the cruelty twice queen of these ancient walls. mother that,'

see some of the horror fall from her face. anxious that she should take a large sum her?

him with the dignity of an outraged

"Before Heaven, and in my own eyes, looked at him in haughty vexation. Lord Chandos is my husband," she said, will I discuss my future. You can tell name.' his mother that also. No other creature living shall interfere with my fate or

She tried hard-and she was a woman of wonderful resource-she tried hard to keep her dignity, not to fail or falter before him, the cold emissary of that cruel mother; of despair, her voice the ring of anguish, the small white hands on which the wedding-ring shone, trembled like leaves it seem more terrible. He clearly explained to her her position at last, she must consent to an immediate separation from Lord women, too, would brand her with the scarlet letter-would look on her as one see you,' lost and dead to all sense of honor.

"You will see for yourself," added the lawyer, "that the wisest and best plan is for you to go away at once-this very day even-then you will stand a better chance when next June comes. Even one more to your character and reputation. You must go at once."

Once more she raised her despairing eyes were all tears.

"Tell me," she said, gently, "has this been done by Lady Lanswell's desire more than by the earl's ?"

"Yes, I believe it is so," he said. Leone continued:

"If the countess relented now, and gave her consent, could we be legally married

"If the earl and countess consent you could be remarried to-day. Nothing is wanted but their permission."

"Thank you," she said gently. Then with pathos and dignity that touched him greatly she held out her hand to him. " I do not blame you for the message you have brought," she said; "the fault lies with Lady Lanswell and the English law, not with you. You have fulfilled your mission as kindly as you could. I forgive you what

The white lips closed firmly, no other sound came from them, but Mr. Sewell Ps looked back as he closed the door, and she lay then with her face on the floor. He did leave her alone. He said to himself, as he quitted the house, that not for all the

The hour came in which she raised her face once again to the sunlight, and tried to realize what had happened. She had England, her only anxiety being to make herself more beautiful than ever in her husband's eyes. The morning itself was not more fresh and fair; everything had

Her husband, as she believed him, thought so little of the quarrel with his parents that she had imbibed his careless, heart was full of despair. She looked at the blue September sky, and asked herself if it were possible to realize what had happened. She was dazed, stunned, as though lips to breathe the pure, fresh air of heaven. | from me my husband's name. Yet neither Mr. Sewell had tried in vain to escape As she stood there panting for breath, you, nor any human power can make me

"Lance." the letters seemed to burn like fire. He He was compelled to speak in what my | had signed himself her husband. Ah, then, lady called plain English, or she would it was quite plain that he neither believed, never have understood him. She could or, perhaps, had not even heard, of what not understand in the least why the fact of had been done. As she stood there with Lord Chandos being under twenty-one | the fading boughs of a spreading tree over should make her marriage null and void; her head, the words came to her again and

"Those vows were all forgotten, The ring asunder broke.

of the water, Would the vows made to And, proud as he was of his legal knowl- | her be broken? Ah, no ! a thousand times |

She would go to his mother and appeal She understood at last-she saw what to her. A woman must, of course, be

CHAPTER XVII.

"I WOULD RATHER SEE MY SON DEAD."

The countess stood alone in the drawingroom. The sun was setting over the trees | the point at once." in the park, and the warm glow filled the "No," said Mr. Sewell; "I am quite sure beautiful room with rosy light-a light that fell on costly pictures, on marble statues, on buhl and jasper, on silver and gold, on mirrors and flowers, whose fragrance was delicious even to breathe, but it fell on my lady's proud face and figure

as though it liked best to linger there. The dressing bell had not rung, and she, waiting for it, had fallen into a reverie. She was sure she had done right, yet, without doubt, the girl would feel it keenly. What matter? "Women must weep," it from her face as he uttered these words. had wept and would weep again. She motionless. She folded her arms over her breast with looked round on the superb home where "Then I have no fear," she said. "Were as she tried to picture the farmer's neice strength."

ing flowers, the faint whisper of the odor- over. ments with him. Lady Lanswell was was a bleeding heart and weeping eyes to a few minutes. Then she said, simply:

sweet voices of nature could not leave her hunger. You do not like me; you are cruel quite unsoftened. She wondered where to me." Lance was. She remembered him a fairhaired, laughing, defiant boy, playing there under the trees when the red light fell. She started suddenly when one of her welltrained footman opened the door, and said | to me. It was natural that I should think | detective, who, on September 7th last, shot a lady wished to see her. The countess you came to me for money. If that be not

"Why do you bring a message so vague? with calm dignity; "and with him only I see no lady who gives neither card nor

"I beg pardon, my lady." said the man, humbly. "I did not forget. The lady herself said you do not know her, but that | appeal do you want to make to me?"

her business was most important." both anxious and undecided, she added,

He looked greatly relieved. "It is, my lady." She is young and her to listen. beautiful, he would have added, if he had

"You would surely be able to discriminate between a lady and-a person of any

The man bowed. "The lady wishes me to add that her consent all will be well." business was of the greatest importance. and that she had traveled so ne distance to

other description?" said the Countess.

"Show her in here," said the countess. opened, and this time the countess of Lans- us.' well was startled out of her calm. There quisitely dressed, moving with the most on ; serene and queenly calm, saying :

prise, looked long and keenly into that | would live only to please you I _____' beautiful face-looked at the clear, bright eyes, so full of fire and passion -at the lovely, imperial mouth, and the whole face so full of tragedy and beauty; then in a clear, distinct voice, she answered:

" My son has no wife." holding it before my lady's eyes,

"Will you look at my wedding-ring?" she asked.

A scornful smile played round my lady's | land. "I see a ring," she said, "but not a wed-

where there is no marriage." "Doyou believe that marriages are known | wife."

in Heaven?" Leone asked. "Do you believe that if a marriage had been contracted in the presence of Heaven witnessed by the angels, do you suppose that a mere legal quibble can set it aside ?" "You choose your arguments badly," said

the countess. "If you appeal to Heaven, so can I. One of the greatest commandments given from there says, 'Children, obey your parents.' My son is commanded by a divine voice to obey me, and I forbid him to marry until he is of age."

"You are mistaken; not only the power is mine, but I have used it. The foolish ceremony you choose to call your marriage is already set aside."

Leone drew one step nearer to her with flashing eyes.

"You know that in your heart you cannot believe it. You cannot think it," she She went out of the pretty drawing-room | cried. "You know that I am your son's where she had heard what seemed to her | wife. You have brought the great strong | her death warrant. She opened her white arm of the law upon me. You have taken you cannot undo that marriage. I defy

able business in town, of which I will tells can and has done so. Half-educated young song, cold chicken, cakes, bread and bis-He did it, but until the day of his death you more anon. I shall be at home for ladies, who wish to make such grand mar-No youth under age, like my son, can legally marry without the consent of his

The flush faded from the beautiful face, and gave place to a white horror. Leone looked at the countess.

"You do not surely think that I married | ed. your son for any other reason except that I loved him ?" she cried.

"Pray believe that I never troubled myself in the least to think of your motive,' said my lady.

and haughty; you love a hundred things. | brella. I loved but him. I love him with my whole heart and soul. If he had been a peasant, instead of an earl, being what he is, I should have loved him just the same.' Lady Lanswell's face darkened with

"I am willing to listen to anything you may wish to say, but I beg of you to leave all such nonsense as love out of the discussion. You have probably come to see me because you want money. Let us come to

The pride that flushed the beautiful face of the girl startled the haughty patrician who stood before her.

"Money," cried Leone, "I have never thought of money. I do not understand. Why should I want money from you?"

To do her justice the Countess shrunk from the words. "I should suppose," she said, "that you

will require some provision made for you, now that you are leaving my son ?" It was with difficulty that Leone con-

Lady Lanswell interrupted her with a The Detective Wants Assistance in Stamp-

superb gesture of scorn. "I could not possibly like or dislike you," she said; "you are less than nothing your object, may I ask what it is?"

"Yes ; I will tell you. I thought, as you were a woman, I might appeal to you." My lady smiled haughtily.

"You are the first that has ever ventured to address me as a woman. What

wonder. Leone went on :

as a houri, who walked up to her with a work so hard and work so well that no one through his forehead. would even guess, ever so faintly, that I

The Countess held up her hand with a warning gesture.

most arrant nonsense.

"Hush," she said. "Neither pleading as the necessary aid is granted him. nor prayers will avail with me. I speak ding-ring. There can be no wedding-ring the simple truth when I say that I would rather see my son dead than see you his

(TO BE CONTINUED)

GOING BACK TO CHINA.

Striking Scenes at The Montreal Railway Stations.

Chinamen of all sorts and sizes were to be seen at the railway stations at Montreal the other morning. A special train from New York arrived in the Bonaventure "You have not the power!" cried station about 8 o'clock with one hundred and ninety-two Chinese bound for China. In a large number of buses and waggons they proceeded to the Windsor station where they boarded a 'special', consisting of a baggage car, four colonist sleepers and a dining car. Here they settled. They pulled down the upper berths and loaded pleasures.' them with hand baggage. Then they set ing forward a miscellaneous assortment of tinware, all bright and shining. The station was overrun with Celestials carry ing teapots and looking or enquiring for was made, and amid much hilarity and something that sounded like snatches of little girl. and in fact the strange looking baskets and bundles seemed to contain every delicacy and utensil necessary to a good repast. When one had cleaned off a 'drum stick' he simply threw it out upon the platform, where cores and scraps readily accumulat-

The Chinese were of all types and sizes, from a tall fat man in a quilted pea-jacket to a dapper little man about four feet high dressed in the latest and neatest American garments with a pair of kid gloves "I loved him, Lady Lanswell, you could sticking out of his pocket. It is doubtful She seemed once more to hear the falling never know how much. You are proud if there was one who did not carry an um

IN PASSING THROUGH THE CARS

t was noticed that the amount of hand baggage was extraordinarily large. Bundles and baskets of all shapes and sizes were stowed into every possible corner and blocked up the aisles. Alongside the baggage car were a lot of curious trunks. How, Canton Bap. Mission, Canton.'

minute description of each of his passena merciless disregard of sensitive feelings. But that is what it is to be a travelling Chinaman.

THE CHINESE NEW YEAR. Although many of the Chinamen were

armed, they claimed that they were not going to take part in the war; simply going trolled herself. Her whole frame trembled to spend the Chinese New Year at home. was part of their lives. Whoever paused with indignation. Then the color receded This holiday begins on the first of February Something of the shock of despair passed or cared for a woman's tears? Women from her face and left her white, silent, and lasts for ninety-seven days during which time there will be much feasting and "I have been too hard," thought the merrymaking. 'Tis then these hard-working the repressed passion of a tragedy queen. she reigned mistress, and laughed with scorn countess, "no one can suffer beyond her people will rest from their labors and casting aside all care, give freedom to those She motioned the girl to take a chair, spirits which are so carefully concealed in as great, the law twice as strong Right? Most certainly she had done sitting down herself for the first time since workaday America. 'Tis then they will he would return to me true and right; let weak minds and weak hearts the interview began. There was no feeling indulge in the eating of sweetmeats, the doctor gets paid for his experiments; an infaithful, as he loves me. You can tell his think as they would. The golden sunset, of pity in her heart, but she felt there lighting of Chinese lanterns, and in all kinds ventor doesn't." the rosy clouds, the soft, sweet song of the were certain things to be said, and the best of games-will visit and make present. "I will," said Mr. Sewell, relieved to birds, the fragrance of the thousand bloom- way would be to say them and have it all 'Tis then they will forget to be anything but happy, and then, when the ninety-She would not discuss her future arrange ous wind appealed to her in vain. What Leone did not obey. She stood silent for seven days are over they will return to America and work. For seven days during "I would never take money from you, the New Year, every business place in the church wenth' preacher is goin' to pray of money and return home. She looked at Yet she was but a woman; and these Lidy Lanswell, not even if I were dying of Chinese cities kept by Chinese is closed. | for rain."

HE WANTS HELP.

ing Out the Perault Gang.

Duncan McCrae, the Ontario Government and killed William Perault at French River, arrived in Toronto the other day.

"There were six Perault brothers," he

said, in speaking of the affair, "Bill, the eldest, who was shot, and George, Frank, Edward, Bunny and John, all big strapping The passion of despair seemed to die men, who have committed all kinds of de-"You must say that I decline to see any away from her. A great calm came over predations and have been the terror of the one who gives neither name or card," said her. She went up to Lady Lanswell, and neighborhood for years. They came origithe Countess. Then, seeing the man look knelt at her feet. The countess would have nally from Penetanguishene, and were given much for the power of moving away, driven out of that town. Over twenty-four but there was that in the beautiful, color- warrants are out against them, among them less face raised to hers which compelled one for stealing nets at Midland and another for robbing the lighthouse at Parry "I humble myself to you," pleaded the Sound. They came to French River on the sweet voice. "I pray of you, who are so day of the local election, got drunk and great, so powerful, so mighty, to have pity raised Cain generally. They were arrested upon your son and upon me. One word and were fined \$10 and costs each. Then from you will go so far ; you can undo all | they went away from the place and did not that has been done. If you will give your return until September 7th, the day of the tragedy. They first went to the Queen's Lady Lanswell looked at her in silent hotel and were creating trouble there. I warned them that they had better go "I plead to you, I pray to you because I away, and they appeared to be willing love him so. In my heart I am as proud enough to comply with my orders, for The red light of the setting sun had as you, may be prouder; but I lay my saw them get into their boat to leave. A moved then, and fell over her in great pride under your feet, I humble myself. short time afterwards I heard a row going gleams on her dark velvet dress, on her I pray of you to take pity upon your son, and on at the Charlevoix hotel, and I went up and exquisite point lace, and fine, costly gems. | myself. I love him so well, he loves me too. | found the gang there. They saw me enter, She looked regally proud, haughty, and Life would hold nothing for either of us if and as I stepped towards them, one of them unbending -the type of an English aristo- we were parted. For the sake of all the made use of an epithet and grabbed me. cratic matron, true to her class, true to her love you have ever felt for husband, father, The other three also came at me and enorder, intolerant of any other. As she brother, son-tor God's sake, I pray you deavcred to throw me. I struggled for a stood in the heart of the rosy light the door to take pity on us, and do not separate time, and I saw that they were trying to get me into a dark place. I realized my The passionate torrent of words stopped | danger and drew my revolver, threatening entered the most beautiful girl she had for one minute; tears streamed down the three times to shoot if they did not let me ever beheld-tall, slender, graceful, ex- beautiful upraised face; then she went go. Bill tried to knock the revolver out of my hand, and struck me a blow on the perfect grace and harmony; her face like "I would do all that you wished me; I wrist. My finger was on the trigger and some grand passionate poem-a girl lovely would try hard to improve myself I would the revolver went off, the bullet going

"When the dead man was searched a "Lady Lanswell, I am your son's wife." belonged to a different class. I would be dirk, 14 inches long, was found in his The countess, taken so entirely by sur- the most devoted of daughters to you; I possession. A coroner's jury tried the case and acquitted me of all blame."

Mr. McCrae stated that a couple of day ago he was informed that the gang were "Hush !" she said; " you are talking the | camped out on an island near French River, and that they were armed with rifles and But Leone this time would not be con- were coming to the town to do him up. He trolled. All the passion and love within then thought it was time to obtain assist-Leone drew the glove from her left hand, her seemed to find vent in the next few ance, and he came on to Toronto to aswords. They might have burned the lips the Attorney-General's department to which uttered them, but they fell unheeded | detail some good men to return with him on the ears of the proudest woman in Eng- to aid in stamping the desperadoes out. He will go back to French River as soon

A Snob Snubbed.

A funny little story, with a moral, comes from Ischl. Not long ago, a lady, who had just arrived from Roumania, took a stroll to Sofiens Doppel Blick, a celebrated point of view. There she met a young married lady accompanied by her little girl. The smart, rather overdressed stranger was much struck with the child's frock, which was exquisitely embroidered with forgetme-nots, and advancing, calmly asked the youthful mother where the garment was

"I embroider all her frocks myself; it gives me such pleasure," was the smiling answer. At this a shade of scorn came on the questoner'sface, and she said, with ill-concealed contempt-"That is only possible with a very small household. People like myself, who have so many visitors and move in the best society, have no time for such middle-class

The other lady laughed, but returned no answer, and the fair Roumanian continued about getting breakfast, each group bring- boasting until at last her hearer said mildly-"I also have to play hostess occasionally. My father, the Emperor, favors us from time to time with a visit, and the Empress often comes to see her grandchildren, as well as many other hot water. When this was obtained tea members of the Imperial Family; but all the same, I have invariably leisure in the morning hours to do embroidery for my

And before the stranger had recovered cuits appeared. Fruit was also plentiful from her embarcassment, the Archduchess Valerie and her small daughter were gone

A Complex Currency.

Within the British empire the following systems of currency are now in use: 1. The British gold standard (£ s. p.) in the British Islands, the Australian colonies New Zealand, South Africa and a number f small scattered colonies. 2. Foreign gold standards; Canada and many West India islands using the United States gold dollar ; Gibraltar, Spanish gold and silver ; Cyprus, French and Turkish gold and silver; and Newfoundland a gold standard of its own, the double dollar. 3. Modifications of the silver dollar; the Mexican dollar being current in Hong Kong and the Straits settlements, the Guatemalan dollar in Honduras, and French silver on the west coast of Africa. 4. The rupee in India, Ceylon, and Mauritius. It is proposed in Anything, from a tea chest or a sheet to the Asiatic Quarterly to do away with this a handsome 'Saratoga' could be seen. One | confusion by adopting as common unit for of the addresses noticed was: 'Wong all these currencies the British silver double florin, which is very nearly the equivalent The conductor of the train carried a of the silver dollar of the United States and of Central and South America, of the gers with a custom certificate attached. French five franc piece, of two rupees, and Protruding teeth, moles, scars, and other of half the Newfoundland double dollar; distinguishing spots were set down with and to adopt the familiar term dollar as the name of the coin instead of florin.

A Nocturnal Doubt.

Mrs. Blinks (at a boarding-house)— Hark! I hear a strange kind of scratching under the bed."

Mr. Blinks-"Hum! So do I. Strike a light and I'll see whether it is the cat or a

Sure of a Living.

Proud Mother-"Little Dick is the most ingenious boy. He'll be a great inventor." Practical Father-"If he has a bent for experimenting I'll make a doctor of him. A

The Real Test

S. S. Teacher-" What is faith ?" Bright Boy-" Takin' an umbrella to