CHAPTER XVIII.-Continued.

Arthur assented, and they went off influence of the port, presuming that awake. Indeed, he commenced a singuhis eye-glass. Then he cautiously tried the lid of an artfully contrived subdivision.

"Um!" he muttered, half aloud, "that's where they are; I wish I had ten minutes,"

and, taking a piece of the soft bread which he was eating instead of biscuit, with his wine, he rapidly kneaded it into dough, and, going to the safe, di- some mention of a young gentleman in a soft voice, of which the tones went breakfast?" he said. vided the material into two portions. One portion he carefully pressed upon the keyhole of the subdivision, and then, extracting the key of the safe | knees. itself, took a very fair impress of its wards on the other. This done, he carefully put the pieces of dough in his breast-pocket, in such a way that they were not likely to be crushed, and, with a smile of satisfaction, returned of port, and dozed off.

business about the mortgage. Will on the day of the great storm. At red to him. you write to Mr. Borley, and convey his feet too, the foundations of an- "Yes; my father said something Mr. Heigham's decision? And perhaps"-addressing Arthur-"you will do the same on your own account."

"Certainly I will write, Caresfoot and now I think that I must be off Her ladyship does not like having to sit up for me."

George laughed in a peculiarly insulting way.

Bellamy, if you stayed away all night. Retiring carefully to one or two He nodded in reply, and, feeling in- majority of men flirt or marry, in- kept the precious box. It was not her to-morrow; don't forget."

Sir John bit his knightly lip, but member, and begging George not to ring, as his trap was at the hall-door whom he expressed a hope that they would soon meet again, and let himself door was closed, he went through another performance exceedingly inap-

his teeth, "you have made a fool of me for twenty years, and I have been obliged to grin and bear it; but I will be even with you yet, and her too, more especially her."

So soon as Sir John had left, Arthur told his host that, if the morning was fine, he proposed to go and fish in Bratham Lake, and that he also proposed to take his departure by the last train on the following evening. To these propositions George offered no objections-indeed, they were distinctly agreeable to him, as lessening the

time he would be forced to spend in the society of a guest he cordially detested, for such was the feeling that he had conceived toward Arthur. Then they parted for the night; but before he left the room, George went to lock up the safe that was still open in the corner. Struck by some thought, he unlocked the separate compartment with a key that hung on his watch-chain and extracted therefrom a thick and neatly-folded packet of let-

ters. Drawing out one or two, he

glanced through them and replaced

"Oh! Lady Anne, Lady Anne," he said to himself as he closed the case, "you are up in the world now, and you aspire to rule the county society, and have both the wealth and the wit to do it; but you must not kick over the traces, or I shall be forced to suppress you, Lady Anne, though you are the wife of a Brummagen knight, and think that it is time you had a little reminder. You are growing a touch too independent."

CHAPTER XIX.

Arthur's sleep was oppressed that night by horrible nightmares of fighting dogs, whereof the largest and most ferocious was fitted with George's red head, the effect of which, screwed, without any eye to the fitness of things to the body of the deceased Snarleyow, struck him as peculiarly disagreeable. He himself was armed with a gun, and, whilst he was still arguing with Sir John Bellamy the nice point whether should be execute that particular animal, as he felt a carnal longing to do, it would be manslaughter or dogslaughter, he found himself wide awake.

It was very early in the morning of the 1st of May, and, contrary to the usual experience of the inhabitants of these islands, the sky gave promise of a particularly fine day, just the day for fishing. He did not feel sleepy,

the old lattice, at which her pet raven said, and it was his turn to blush. He "May I wish you many, very many,

Jack was already tapping to be admitted, and let the sweet air play upon her face and neck, and thought what logether; Sir John, whose eyes ap- a wonderful thing it was to be twenty peared to be a little heavy under the years old. And then, kneeling by the window, she said her prayers after her own fashion, thanking God who had he was not wanted. But, no sooner spared her to see this day, and praying had the door closed than the worthy Him to show her what to do with her had therefore no possible pretext for the offer of myself as your sincere knight proved himself vory wide- life, and, if it was His will, to make it getting angry. a little less lonely. Then she rose and For a moment she dropped the sweet dressed herself, feeling that, now that eyes that looked as though they were lar course of action. Advancing on she had done with her teens, she was in fresh from reading the truths of Hea- had but one friend-Mr. Fraser; but tiptoe to the safe in the corner of the every respect a woman grown-indeed, ven before his gaze of unmistakable if you think you can like me enough, room, he closely inspected it through quite old. And, in honor of the event, admiration, and stood confused; and, it will make me very happy to be your she chose out of her scanty store of as she stood, it struck Arthur that friend, too." And in another second dresses, all of them made by Pigott there was something more than mere she was gone, with her ravens flying and herself, her very prettiest, the beauty of form and feature about her after her to receive her present and one she had had for Sunday wear last | -an indescribable something, a glory a jobation from Pigott for being late, summer, a tight fitting robe of white of innocence, a reflection of God's own and to eat her breakfast with such apstuff, with soft little frills round the light that tinged the worship her love- petite as an entirely new set of senneck and wrists. Next she put on a liness commanded with a touch of repair of stout boots calculated to keep verential awe. Next he returned swiftly to the table, out the morning dew, and started

who might possibly come to fish, she ringing on through all the changes of had plaited up her shining hair with his life.

thur, had made his way first to the foot of the lake and then along the little path that skirted its area till he gency to be prevented at all hazards. came to Caresfoot Staff. Having sufficiently admired that majestic oak, for hurriedly, "are you not?" he was a great lover of timber, he proto his chair, helped himself to a glass water with the eye of a true fisherman. are Mr. Arthur Heigham." A few yards further up there jutted "Yes. And do you know that we "Halloo, Bellamy, gone to sleep? into the water that fragment of wall are cousins?" This was a slight ex- fore had he fully realized what solion which stood the post, now quite rot- aggeration, but he was glad to advance Wake up, man. We have settled this ten, to which Angela had bound herself any plea to her confidence that occur- left him. In youth, when love does but stopped within six inches of the her hand to him in a winning way. surface. Between these two walls lay a very deep pool.

"Just the place for a heavy fish," re- sincerity, "be more glad than I am. to the surface, in order to clear the vear." obstruction of the wall, and sink sil-

But, look here, tell her I want to see quaintly carved stone blocks placed at stinctively that she was on delicate the foot of the oak tree, on which, ground, Angela pursued the conversa- a consistent course of admiration for room, closet, and even the bureau doubtless, many a monk had sat in tion no further. meditation, he sat himself to get his Meanwhile Aleck had awoke from a answered, smiling, that he would re- fishing gear together. Presently, comfortable sleep in which he was inhowever, struck by the beauty of the dulging on the other stone seat, and, spot and its quiet, only broken by the coming forward, sniffed at Angela and is no fixed rule about it; the most song of many nesting birds, he stopped wagged his tail in approval—a liberty unlikely, even the more sordid and con- gone, Joey sat down on the floor and and the servant waiting, he bade an awhile to look around him. Above his that was instantly resented by the big temptible of mankind, are light to be- great hot tears rolled slowly down his affectionate good-night to Arthur, to head the branches of the great oak, raven, who had now been joined by come the subjects of an enduring pasnow clothing themselves with the most another not quite so large. Advancing sion. Only then it raises them; for outcry. Never before during the eight vivid green, formed a dome-like roof, boldly, it pecked him sharply on the though strong affection, especially if years of his life had he ever experibeneath the shade of which grew the out of the room. But, as soon as the softest moss, starred here and there Aleck to jump round as quickly as his ervates the mind, its influence is, in He had taken such a pride in his work with primroses and violets. Outside the circle of its shadow the brushwood of mingled hazel and ash-stubs rose propriate in a knight. Turning round thick and high, ringing in the little his smug face red with anger, he pir- spot as with a wall, except where its ouetted on his toes, and shook his fist | depths were pierced by the passage of violently in the direction of the door. a long green lane of limes that, unlike "You scoundrel!" he said, between the shrubberies, appeared to be kept in careful order, and of which the arching boughs formed a perfect leafy tunnel. Before him lay the lake where the long morning lights quivered and danced, as its calm was now and again ruffled by a gentle breeze. The whole scene had a lovely and peaceful look, and, gazing on it, Arthur fell into a

> at its best, its expression of gentle less marked with bites. "It is an unthoughtfulness giving it an attraction commonly awkward business for me, loneliness in this shadowed world above beyond what it was entitled to, judged and your cousin will not forgive it in all the shining multitudes in heaven. purely from a sculptor's point of view. It was an intellectual face, a face that gave signs of great mental possibilities, but for all that a little weak about the mouth. The brow indicated some degree of power, and the mouth and eyes no small capacities for affection she patted the dog. and all sorts of human sympathy and kindness. These last, in varying lights, could change as often as the English climate; their groundwork, however, was blue, and they were honest and bonny. In short, a man in looking at Arthur Heigham at the age of twenty-four would have reflected that, even among English gentlemen, he was remarkable for his gentlemanlike appearance, and a "fellow one would like to know;" a girl would have dubbed him "nice-looking;" and a middle-aged woman-and most women do not really understand the immense difference between men until they are getting on that way-would have recognized in him a young man by no means uninteresting, and one who might, according to the circumstances of his life, develop into anything or -nothing in particular.

Presently, drawn by some unguessed attraction, Arthur took his eyes off an industrious water-hen, who was building a nest in a hurried way, as though she were not quite sure of his intentions, and perceived a large raven standing on one leg on the grass, about three yards from him, and peering at him comically out of one eye. This was odd. But his glance did not stop at the raven, for a yard or two beyond it he caught sight of a white skirt, and his eyes, traveling upward, saw first a rounded waist, and then a bust and pair of shoulders such as few women can boast, and at last, another pair of eyes; and he then and there fell utterly and irretrievably in love.

of his doggy dreams; so he got up, of eyes at the open expression of such conceal her feelings, said, that she promise set upon his sky. It alone of dressed, and taking his fishing rod, let, a sentiment, and the vivid blush that must now go. himself out of the house as he had been stained the fair face in which they were! "Why must you go so soon?" instructed to do on the previous even- set, if he can. But somehow they did "Well, to tell you the truth, to-day ing, and, releasing Aleck from his out- not grow angry-perhaps it was not is my birthday-I am twenty to-dayhouse, proceeded toward Bratham Lake. in the nature of the most sternly ex- and I know that Pigott, my old nurse, itself before his glazing eyes, an em-And about this time Angela woke up pressive young lady to grow angry at means to give me a little present, at too, for she always rose early, and ran a compliment which, however marked, breakfast, and she will be dreadfully to the window to see what sort of a was so evidently genuine and unpre- disappointed if I am late. She has been day she had got for her birthday. See- meditated. In another moment Ar- thinking a great deal about me, you ing it to be so fine, she threw open thur bethought him of what he had see."

Rising from his stone seat, he took a little hesitation,-" may I also offer

off his hat, and said, humbly: "I beg your pardon, but you start- I fear?" led me so, and really for a moment I "How can I--" stammered Angela, thought that you were the spirit of when he cut her short. the place, or," he added, gracefully, pointing to a branch of half-opened ible, though it is something that you hawthorn bloom she held in her hand, may not think worth accepting." "the original Queen of the May."

Angela blushed again. The compli- bluntly, for her interest was aroused. ment was only implied this time; she | "Don't be angry. My present is only

"The angels must look like that," he thought. But he had no time to and informed him that she had been Now all this had taken a good time, think any more, for next moment she talking to Mr. Heigham. He looked up nearly an hour, perhaps; for, being had gathered up her courage in both with a curious expression of interest. her birthday, and there having been her hands, and was speaking to him

extra care, a very laborious business "My father told me that he had askwhen your hair hangs down to your ed you to come and fish, but I did not I will go down and speak to him. No; expect to meet you so early. I-I fear Meanwhile, our other early riser, Ar- that I am disturbing you;" she made as though she would be going.

Arthur felt that this was a contin-"You are Miss Caresfoot," he said,

"Yes-I am Angela; I need not ask ceeded to investigate the surrounding your name, my father told it me. You

other wall ran out for some distance about our being related. I have no into the lake, being, doubtless, the un- relations except my cousin George, derpinning of an ancient boat-house, and I am very glad to make the acbut this did not rise out of the water, quaintance of one," and she held out He took it almost reverently.

"You cannot," he said, with much flected Arthur, and, even as he thought too, am without relations. Till lately it, he saw a five pound carp rise nearly I had my mother, but she died last

tail—a proceeding that caused Master unrequited, sometimes wears and en- enced such crushing disappointment. maimed condition would allow him, the main, undoubtedly ennobling. But, and planned of Grandma's delight only to receive a still harder peck from though such affection is bounded by when she received it, and all his bright its companion bird; indeed, it was no rule, it is curious to observe how air-castles fell to the ground. The not until Angela intervened with the generally true are the old sayings bright tears fell faster, until, worn bough of hawthorn that they would which declare that a man's thoughts out with grief, the little boy sobbed cease from their attack.

"They are such jealous creatures," she explained; "they always follow me that has for awhile been drawn aside about, and fly at every dog that comes by some overmastering influence, renear me! Poor dog! that is the one, turns to its magnetic pole. The nee-I suppose, who killed Snarleyow. My dle has wavered, but it has never shakfather told me all about it."

Arthur laughing, and pointing to Al- possible; and so it is with the heart. eck, who, indeed, was a lamentable It is the eyes that he loved as a lad case, having one eye entirely closed, which he sees through the gathering a large strip of plaster on his head, Sitting thus dreamily, his face looked and all the rest of his body more or chance but that he will always adore a hurry, I fancy; but it really was not poor Aleck's fault-he is gentle as a lamb, if only he is let alone."

"He has a very honest face, though his nose does look as though it were broken," she said, and, stooping down

"But I must be going in to breakfast," she went on, presently. "It is eight o'clock; the sun always strikes that bough at eight in spring," and she pointed to a dead limb, half hidden by the budding foliage of the oak. "You must observe closely to have noticed that, but I do not think that the sun is quite on it yet. I do not like to lose my new-found relations in such a hurry," he added, with somewhat forced smile, "and I am to go away from here this evening."

The intelligence was evidently very little satisfactory to Angela, nor did she attempt to conceal her concern. "I am very sorry to hear that," she

said. "I hoped you were going to stay for some time.'

"And so I might have, had it not been for that brute Aleck, but he has put a long sojourn with your cousin and the ghost of Snarleyow out of the question; so I suppose I must go by the 6.20 train. At any rate," he added, more brightly, as a thought struck him, "I must go from Isleworth,

She did not appear to see the drift of the last part of his remark, but an-

at Isleworth at three this afternoon, so perhaps we shall meet again there; of his being, like an interwoven thread | the age of forty-three. Her name was but now, before I go in, I will show you a better place than this to fish, a little higher up, where Jakes, our and ties may overlay it, but they can-

been glad to assent to anything like- when these have satiated and become ly to prolong the interview, and they hateful, it will rearise, pure and sweet "Good heavens!" he said, aloud-poor walked off slowly together, talking as as ever. Time or separation cannot defellow, he did not mean to say it, it cheerfully as a sense that the conver- stroy it-for it is immortal; use cannot was wrung from the depth of his heart sation would soon come to an end would stale it, pain can only sanctify it. I -"good heavens, how lovely she is!" allow. The spot was reached all too will be to him as a beacon-light to the Let the reader imagine the dreadful soon, and Angela with evident reluc- sza-worn mariner that tells of home and, had he done so, he had had enough confusion produced in that other pair tance, for she was not accustomed to and peace upon the shore, as a rainbow

recovered himself pretty well, however. happy returns of the day? and" with you a present, a very worthless one,

"Den't be afraid,; it is nothing tang-"What do you mean?" she said

She blushed vividly as she answered: "You are very kind. I have never sations can give.

In the garden she met her father, walking up and down before the house, "Why did you not ask him in to

"Because there was nothing to eat except bread and milk."

"Ah!-well, perhaps you were right forgot I shall see him this afternoon.

And Arthur, let those who disbelieve in love at first sight, laugh if they will, sat down to think, trembling in every limb, utterly shaken by the inrush of a new and strong emotion. He had not come to the age of twentyfour without some experiences of the other sex, but never before had he known any such sensation as that which now overpowered him, never betude meant as he did now that she had come, he comes as a strong man arm-

And so, steady and overwhelming all resistance, the full tide of a pure passion poured itself into his heart. There was no pretense or make believe about it; the bolt that spread from Angela's gray eyes had gone straight home, and would remain an "ever-fixed mark," so long as life itself should last.

meaning of such love as this. There found. return to his first real love, as natur- himself asleep. ally and unconsciously as the needle, en off its allegiance; that would be "Yes, it is easy to see that," said against nature, and is therefore imdarkness of his death-bed; it is

And, though it is not every watcher who will find it, early or late, that star may rise for him, as it did for Arthur now. A man may meet a face which it is quite beyond his power to forget, and be touched of lips that print their kiss upon his very heart. Yes, the star may rise, to pursue its course, perhaps beyond the ken of his horizon, or only to set again before he has learned to understand its beauty-rarely, very rarely, to shed its perfect light upon him for all his time of watching. The star may rise and set; the sweet lips whose touch still thrills him after so many years may lie to-

"Beyond the graveyard's barren wall, or, worse still, have since been sold to some richer owner. But if once it has risen, if once those lips have met, the memory must remain; the soul knows no forgetfulness, and, the little thread of life soun out, will it not claim its own? For the compact that it has sealed is holy among holy things; that love which it has given is of its own nature, and not of the body alone-it is inscrutable as death, and everlasting as

Yes the fiat has gone forth, for good or for evil, for comfort or for scorn, for the world or for eternity, he loves her! Henceforth that love, so lightly and yet so irredeemably given, will begardener, always sets his night-lines." not extinguish it; he may drown its Arthur assented, as he would have fragrance in voluptuous scents, but all things pertaining to him will defy the attacks of the consuming years, and when, old and withered, he lays him down to die, it will at last present bodied joy, clad in shining robes, and breathing the airs of Paradise!

For such is love to those to whom it has been given to see him face to face.

(To be Continued.)

Joey's Christmas Gift.

For over two weeks before Christmas Joey had worked upon his present for Grandma, and when it was finished stood before it admiringly. To him the little box; with its leather hinges, and hasp that would not fasten, seemed the most wonderful shoebox in the world, and he rehearsed in imagination Grandma's delight when she received it.

"Grandma will say, "Joey's my big man," he said to himself, thrusting his grimy little hands down deeper into his pocket; "and then she'll kiss me and give me a cooky. Wender why Sally never puts sugar on cookies, like Grandma?" And Joey's face took on an injured air. Just then he heard his next-door neighbor calling, and without waiting to put his treasure away, ran off gaily to play with Bobbie.

In the meanwhile, his sister Alice happened to come into his room, and stumbled over the little box bearing the inscription, "Dear Grandma, from Joey, Christmas." She stooped down and after reading what Joey had traced with such infinite pains upon the cover, laughed heartily, and then bundled the gift which had caused her brother so many hours of hard work and countless bruised fingers into the woodshed. She was only fifteen herself, and did not pause to think how hurt she would have been had mamma laughed at the centrepiece she had been making for Grandma. To mamma Alice's work was just as faulty as Joey's to her; but fortunately for Alice her mother was very considerate of her children's feelings.

When Joey came home that night, he was so occupied with hanging up his stocking and writing a note to Santa Claus that he forgot all about the little box, but the next morning, after he had admired his presents and eaten enough candy to make three ordi-For only once in a lifetime does a nary boys sick, he happened to think of man succumb after this fashion. To his gift for Grandma. Running from "Were you very fond of her?" she many indeed, no such fortune—call it the parlor he hurried to his room and good or ill-will ever come, since the looked under the bed, where he had their neighbours' wives, as fate or fan- | drawers, although he knew the box cy leads them, and wear their time | was much too big to go inside one of away without ever having known the them. However, it was not to be

When he discovered that it was

The fun grew merrier, and finally Joey's lively voice was missed. Grandma, mamma and Alice started to look for him, and at last found him lying on the floor, where he had cried himself to steep. As they bent over him he stirred, and muttered:

"My box! Where is my box?" "What box?" asked mamma and

Grandma together.

"I guess it's an old box he made for von Grandma It looked so funny threw it out into the woodshed," Alise explained with flushing cheek.

Grandma said nothing but her kind eyes overflowed as she lifted the little boy very gently and laid him on the bed. When he awoke an hour later Grandma was sitting by his bed, and as he opened his eyes she said, gayly: "I've had the lest Christmas of all Joey, because a certain little boy made me the most beautiful bex for my shoes you ever saw."

"Did you get it. Grandma?" cried Joey springing up in bed and throwing his arms around her neck.

"Of course I did. You are a great big man, Joey. How did you do it?" As Joey was explaining the mysteries of the wonderful box to Grandma a few minutes later, he was struck with a sudden idea.

"How stupid I am!" he cried. his face brightening. "Of course, Santa Claus carried it to your room last night and I thought it was lost. What a silly!" And Grandma never told him any different.

TALLEST WOMAN IN AMERICA.

Probably the tallest woman in America has just died at the City of Mexico. Her height was six feet nine inches. She was born in the State of Sonora, and was in no way remarkable except for her unusual height. For the last few years she has been a facome the guiding spirit of his inner miliar figure in the streets of the life rough-hewing his destinies, direct- capital of Mexico, where she attracted "I am going with my father to call ing his ends, and shooting its memories a great deal of attention from add and hopes through the whole fabric strangers and travellers. She died at of gold. He may sin against it, but | Magdalena Cicute. She was uneducathe can never forget it; other interests | ed and spoke the Spanish language with difficulty.

A GOOD RULE.

It is a good rule in home life to avoid all arguments which tend to irritate or wound. Blessings on the memory of a saint of 90 years who once said: "Dear child, never insist on the last word about anything. It isn't worth while. You can keep your own opinion, but let your friend express his if he wants to, and refuse for your part, to quarrel about a trifle."

PROVED IT.

Mrs. Watts- The doctor says a good cry is healthful. Mrs. Potts-I know it is. A good

cry gained meatrip to the seashere last year, and I came back feeling butter than I had for ob, ever so long.