THE AMERICAN BARON

(BY JAMES DE MILLE.)

(Continued.)

followed us. I could see him very easily though he tried to avoid notice; and so at last we got to the Hermitage, and he too.

came too. Well, you know, I think I was very much excited, and I asked give him the chance. Dowdy to let us go and see the cone; so I think you needn't be so cruel. she let us go. She gave no end of warn-Cruel!

ings, and we promised to do all that she Yes; to the poor man. said. So Ethel and I went ont, and there Why, you don't want another man, I

was the stranger. Well, I felt more exhope? cited than ever, and a little bit frighten-N-no; but then I don't want to hurt ed-just a very, very tiny little bit, you his feelings. It was awfully good of him, know, and I teased Ethel to go to the you know, and awfully plucky.

cone. Well, the stranger kept in sight all the time, and I felt his eyes on me-I really felt them. So you know when we situation.

got at the foot of the cone, I was so excited that I was really quite beside

myself, and I teased and teased, till at

last Ethel consented to go up. So the men took us up on chairs, and all the what can I do?

time the stranger was in sight. He Really now, Minnie, you must rememwalked up by himself with great, big, There is that wretched Captain Kirby. long, strong strides. So we went on till I know, said Minnie with a sigh. we got to the top, and then I was wilder

Yesterday?

Who?

Yes; we met him.

Yes, but he may feel hurt.

Oh, he may see you once or twice with

And that dreadful American. By-the- They were at home. One was Lady than ever. I didn't know that there was a particle of danger. I was dying with by, darling, you have never told me his Dalrymple, and the others were Minnie

name. It isn't of any consequence, but I and her friend Ethel-either her friend curiosity to look down and see where the smoke came from. The stranger was should like to know the American's name. or her sister. I think she is her sister. think the girl or her friends would have It's-Rufus K. Gunn. standing there too, and that's what made

me so excited. I wanted to show himand what in the world is "K" for. I don't know what. I think my idea was Oh, nothing. He says it is the fashion and another lady entered. Hawbury,to show him that I could take care cf myself. So then I teased and teased, in his country to have some letter of the and Dacres's tones deepened into an was felt by Dacres even in his rage But and Ethel begged and prayed and she cried, and I laughed; and there stood the

mon. Isn't it funny, Kitty darling? stranger seeing it all, until as last I started off and ran to the top, you know. Mrs. Willoughby shuddered and took

her sister's hand. Think what trouble we had in getting and abhorrent truth! There was no end of smoke, you know, quietly rid of him. I'm afraid all the and it was awfully unpleasant, and I get time that he will not stay in Florence, as

he said, for he seems to have no fixed to the top, when suddenly I fainted. Minnie paused for a moment and lookat her sister with a rueful face.

Well, now, dear, darling, the verynext-thing-that I remember is this and it's horrid: I felt awful jolts, and get rid of him. But I know he will pared for it; I was not; and so she was as found myself in the arms of a great, big, come upon us again somewhere, and then cool as when I saw her last, and what is could be of any use whatever. horrid man, who was running down the we'll have all the trouble over again. Oh more just as young and beautiful. side of the mountain with dreadful long dear! Well, Minnie darling, do you know The devil! cried Hawbury. jumps, and I felt as though he was some the name of this last one?

You know she really wasn't, for I told say I never expected to see her in this you that I met their carriage. The whole way, under such circumstances. And party were in it, and on the front seat then to find her so infernally beautiful. Dowdy and I. We were out driving. beside Minnie there was another lady. Confound her! she don't look over twenty-

We stopped and spoke to him. He was This is, the one that I had not seen be- five. How the mischief does she manage dreadfully earnest and awfully embar- fore. She makes the fourth in the party. it? Oh, she's a deep one! But perhaps rassed, and I know he was going to pro- She and Minnie had their backs turned she's changed. She seems so calm, and Of course you would. Well, this person pose; so I kept whispering to myself all as they came up. The other ladies came into the room so gently, and looked

the time, 'Oh, please don't-please don't,' bowed as they passed, and as I held off at me steadily. Not a tremor, not a but I know he will; and he'll be here soon my hat I half turned to catch Minnie's shake, as I live. Calm sir; cool as steel; eyes, when I caught sight of the face of and hard too. She looked away and then He sha'nt. I won't let him. I'll never the lady. It startled me so much that I looked back. They were searching was thunder struck, and stood there with glances, as though they read me through my hat off after they had passed me for and through. Well, there was no occasion sometime. for that. She ought to know Scone

You said nothing about that, old chap. Dacres well enough, I swear. Cool! And Who the deuce could she have been? there stood I, with the blood flashing to quickly. Healing all Cuts, No. I said nothing about it. As I my head, and throbbing fire underneath

cantered off I began to think that it was the scar of her wound-hers-her own only a fancy of mine, and finally I was property, for she made it! That was the sure of it and langhed it off. For, you woman who kicked me, that struck at Well, I should think that you would must know that the lady's face looked me, that caused the destruction of my prefer avoiding him, in your peculiar astonishingly like a certain face that I ancestral home, that drove me into exile, don't particularly care to see-certainly and that now drives me back from my

But he may want to see me alone, and and said nothing to you about it. Dacres is her master. And, by Jove, Dacres paused here and rubbed his she will find that it will take more than hands violently over his hair at the herself to keep me away from Minnie ber that you are in a serious position. place where the scar was, and then from- Fay.

> See here, old boy, said Hawbury, you Well this afternoon I called again. may as well throw up the sponge.

I won't, said Dacres, gruffiy. You see it isn't your wife that you have to consider, but the girl; and do you Well, I sat for about five minutes, and a married man paying his attention in

Rufus K. Gunn; what a funny name! was just beginning to feel the full sense that quarter? Would you have the face to of my happiness, when the door opened do it under your own wife's eye? By Jove! The undeniable truth of this assertion alphabet between one's names, and he awful solemnity-Hawbury it was the the very fact it was unanswerable, and chose K because it was so awfully uncom- lady that I saw in the carriage y esterday | that he was helpless, only served to deep-One look at her was enough. I was en and intensify his rage. Yet he said Oh dear! sighed her sister, and then assured then that my impressions yester- nothing; it was only in his face and there is that pertinacious Count Girasole. day were not dreams, but the damnable manner that his rage was manifested. He appeared almost to suffocate under

What impressions-you haven't told the rush of fierce, contending passion; big distended veins swelled out in his fore-

Wait a minute. I rose as she entered, head, which was also drawn far down in abode. First, he was going to Rome, and and confronted her. She locked at me a gloomy frown; his breath came thick then Venice, and at last he committed calmly, and then stood as though ex- and fast, and his hands were clenched himself to a statement that he had to pecting to be introduced. There was no tight together. Hawbary watched him remain at Florence, and so enabled us to emotion visible whatever. She was pre- in silence as before, feeling all the time the impossibility of saying any thing that

> giving a long breath, in which he seemed Dacres poured out another glass of ale to throw off some of his excitement, Oysters !

ing heavily resumed:

me yet, you know?



2

Collars. Silk Handkerchiefs, Under

Clothing and Furnishing goods.

All Styles.

