[Continued from 1st Page.] vidual under any given set of circumstances, between James and the attorney-general. as drawn from our common knowledge of man, whose intelligence had been trained rascal! by years of experience in this and other courts, and whose daily duty it is to dis- forgetting his learning and the exceeding criminate as to the credibility of testimony, augustness of his position, actually reverted to disbelieve the history so circumstantially to those first principles of human nature of detailed in the box by Miss Smithers.' (Sen- which the judge had spoken, and doubled sation.) 'I watched her demeanor both his fist. Indeed, had not Mr. News, utterly under examination and cross-examination aghast at such a sight, rushed up and dragvery closely indeed, and I am convinced that | ged his inferiated client back, there is no

as she knew it.

Miss Smithers' story, that the existence of round and collect the blotting-paper and an engagement to marry, between her and pens which strawed the empty court. the plaintiff, may have prompted her to concoct a monstrous fraud for his benefit; and hurst, 'I think that the best thing that we this is suggested, although at the time of the | can do is all to go home and rest before dinexecution of the tattooing no such engage- ner. I ordered it at seven, and it is half ment did, as a matter of fact, exist, or was past five. I hope that you will come, too, within measurable distance of the parties. Mr Short, and bring your brother with you, It did not exist, said the attorney-general; for I am sure that you, both of you, deserve but the disposing mind existed: in other | your dinner, if ever anybody did.' words, that she was then 'in love'--if, notto decide, and one of them certainly is, at | Eustace and Augusta alone, what exact period of her acquaintance with turns into a warmer feeling. But supposing £180 a year; and now, to-night, if this ve that the attorney-general is right, and that | dict holds, it seems that I am one of although she at that moment clearly had no | wealthiest men in England.' prospect of marrying him, since she had left England to seek her fortune at the Antipodes, the plaintiff was looked upon by this the circumstance, in my mind, tells rather in 'My darling!' he said, putting his arm I may remark that this young lady has done Do you know there is only one thing that I a thing which is, in its way, little short of fear about all this money, if it really comes heroic; the more so, because it has a to us; and that is that you will be so taken ludicrous side. She has submitted to an up with what pleasure-seeking people call painful, but which is and always will be a you will give up your writing. So many agree with the attorney-general when he have seems to vanish utterly away upon says that she did not make this sacrifice their wedding-day. They say afterward from a keen sense of justice, and of grati- that it is because they do not choose to tude to the plaintiff for his interference on make time.' her behalf, or from a warmer feeling. In 'Yes,' answered Augusta, 'but then that is

take the improbability into account? As to cause I am one.' the first point, I can find nothing. Miss no uncommon thing for the mind thus to fail | Meeson.' at the last, and it is not extraordinary that this dying man should conjure before his afraid, nobody would dream of speaking whom he appears to have dealt harshly dur- money. ing his life. Nor do I consider it in any way impossible that when he felt his end verse the sentence of his anger, and restore ask you.' to his nephew, whose only offense had been a somewhat indiscreet use of the language of firmly, truth, the inheritance to vast wealth of which he had deprived him. Such a course strikes me as being a most natural and proper one, and perfectly in accordance with majesty. 'Now, what do you want, you the first principles of human nature. The silly boy?" whole tale is undoubtedly of a wild and romantic order, and once again illustrates the saying that 'truth is stranger than fiction. But I have no choice but to accept the fact | Augusta. 'Why, I have not got my things, that the deceased did, by means of tattoo and, for the matter of that, I am sure I don't ing, carried out by his order, legally execute know where the money is coming from to his true last will in favor of his next of kin, pay for them with.' Eustace H. Meeson, upon the shoulders of 'Things!' said Eustace, with fine con-Augusta Smithers, or or about the 22d day tempt. 'You managed to live on Kerguelen of December, 1885. This being so, I pro- Land without things, so I don't see why you nounce for the will propounded by the can't get married without them-though, for plaintiff, and there will be a grant as pray- the matter of that, I will get anything you

This litigation has arisen through the testa- | that, if you don't, your life won't be worth tor's own act, and the estate must bear the having after this. You will be hunted like

'If your lordship pleases,' said James, and sat down.

'Mr. Short,' said the judge, clearing his throat, 'I do not often speak in such a sense, but I do feel called upon to compliment you upon the way in which you have, singlehanded, conducted this case-in some ways one of the strangest and most important that has ever come before me-having for your opponents so formidable an array of learned gentlemen. The performance would have been creditable to anybody of greater experi ence and longer years; as it is, I believe it to be unprecedented.'

James turned color, bowed, and sat down, knowing thrt he was a made man, and that it would be his own fault if his future career at the bar was not now one of almost unexampled prosperity.

CHAPTER XXII.

ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER SQUARE. The court broke up in confusion, and Augusta, now that the strain was over, noticed with amusement that the dark array of learned counsel who had been fighting with all their strength to win the case of their clients did not seem to be particularly distressed at the reverse that they had suffered, but chatted away gayly as they tied up their papers with scraps of red tape. She did not, perhaps, quite realize that, having done their best and earned their little fees, they did not feel called on to be heartbroken strange, but, as a matter of fact, ten days because the court declined to take the view from the date of the above conversation

they were paid to support. But it was a there was a small-and early gathering at St. very different matter with Messrs. Addison George's, Hanover Square, close by. I say and Roscoe, who had just seen two millions "small," for the marriage had been kept oi money slip from their avaricious grasp. quite secret, in order to prevent curiosity-They were rich men already; but that fact | mongers from marching down upon it in did not gild the pill, for the possession of their thousands, as they would certainly money does not detract from the desire for have done had it been announced that the the acquisition of more. Mr. Addison was beroine of the great will case was going to purple with fury, and Mr. Roscoe hid his be married. Therefore the party was very saturnine face in his hands and groaned. select. Augusta had no relations of her Just then the attorney-general rose, and see- own, and so she had asked Dr. Probate. ing James Short coming forward to speak to with whom she had struck up a great friendhis clients, stopped him, and shook hands ship, to come and give her away; and,

low,' he said. 'I never saw a case better of the nuptial tie than with its contraction, done. It was a perfect pleasure to me, and he could not find it in his heart to refuse. bers to-morrow about twelve.'

Mr. Addison, who was close by, over- |-for the petitioner.' heard this little speech, and a new light

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

broke upon him. With a bound he p'unged

'I see what it is now,' he said, in a voice human nature; and second, the behavior and shaking with wrath. 'I've been sold. I am tone of the witness, both in the box and in a victim to collusion. You've had five huncourse of circumstances that led to her ap- dred of my money, confound you!' he shoutpearance there. I will take the last of those ed, almost shaking his fist in the face of his two first, and I may as well state, without learned and dignified adviser; 'and now you further delay, that I am convinced of the are congratulating this man,' and he pointed truth of the story told by Miss Smithers. his finger at James. 'You've been bribed to It would to my mind be impossible for any betray me, sir. You are a rascal! yes, a

At this point the learned attorney-general, she has been telling the absolute truth so far knowing what scandalous thing might not have happened.

'And now to come to the second point. It | But somehow he was got rid of, and every has been suggested, as throwing doubt upon | body melted away, leaving the ushers to go

'And now, good people,' said Lady Holm-

And so they all went, and a very jolly withstanding Mr. Attorney's difficulty in de- dinner they had, as well they might. At fining it, I may use the term-with the last, however, it came to an end, and the plaintiff. This may or may not have been | legal twins departed, beaming like stars the case. There are some things which it is | with happiness and champagne. And then quite beyond the power of any judge or jury | Lady Holmhurst departed also, and left

'Life is a queer thing,' said Eustace ; 'here Tees, Elbows, Reducers, a future husband a young lady's regard this morning I was a publisher's reader at

'Yes, dear,' said Augusta, 'and with all the world at your feet, for life is full of opportunities to the rich. You have a great

operation which must not only have been social duties, and the distribution of it, that blot upon her beauty. I am inclined to women are like that. Whatever ability they without a motive, which may have sprung that they have no time, but I often think

either case, there is nothing discreditable because they do not really love their work, about it-rather the reverse, in fact; and, whatever it may be. Those who really love taken by itself, there is certainly nothing | their art as I love mine, with heart and soul here to cause me to disbelieve the evidence and strength, will not be so easily checked. Of course distractions and cares come with One question only seems to me to remain. | marriage; but, on the other hand, if one Is there anything to show that the testator | marries happily, there comes quiet of mind was not, at the time of the execution of the and cessation from that ceaseless restlessness will, of a sound and disposing mind ? and is that is so fatal to good work. You need not there anything in his conduct or history to fear, Eustace; if I can, I will show the render the hypothesis of his having executed | world that you have not married a dullard; this will so improbable that the court should and if I can't, why, my dear, it will be be-

'That comes very nicely from the author Smithers expressly swore that it was not the of 'Jemima's Vow," said Eustace, with sarcase; nor was her statement shaken by a casm. 'Really, my dear, what between very searching cross-examination. She ad- your fame as a writer and as the heroine of mitted, indeed, that shortly before death he | the shipwreck and of the great will case, I wandered in his mind, and thought that he think that I had better take a back seat at was surrounded by the shades of authors once, for I shall certainly be known as the waiting to be avenged upon him. But it is husband of the beautiful and gifted Mrs.

brain the shapes of those with some of slightingly of the owner of two millions of 'Well; never mind chaffing about the

'Oh, no,' answered Augusta; 'don't be

money,' said Eustace; 'we haven't got it approaching he should have wished to re- yet, for one thing. I have got something to 'I must be going to bed,' said Augusta, Chatham

> 'No-nonsense!' said Eustace. 'You are not going;' and he caught her by the arm. 'Unhand me, sir!' said Augusta, with

'I want to know if you will marry me

'Next week ? Good gracious ! No,' said

want in six hours. I never did hear such 'With costs, my lord?' asked James, ris- bosh as women talk about 'things,' Listen, dear. For Heaven's sake let's get married 'No; I am not inclined to go that length. | and have a little quiet. I can assure you a wild thing, and interviewed, and painted, and worried to death; whereas, if you get married-well, it will be better for us in a

> quiet way, you know.' 'Well, there is something in that,' said Augusta. 'But supposing that there should be an appeal, and the decision should be reversed, what would happen then?'

> 'Well, then we should have to work for our living-that's all. I have got my billet, and you could write for the press until your five years' agreement with Meeson & Co. has run out. I would put you in the way of that. I see lots of writing-people at my

> 'Well,' said Augusta, 'I will speak to Bes-

'Oh, of course, Lady Holmhurst will say no, said Eustace, gloomily. She will think about the 'things;' and, besides, she won' want to lose you before she is obliged.' 'That is all that I can do for you, sir,' said Augusta, with decision. 'There-come that's enough! Good-night,' And, breaking away from him, she made a pretty little

courtesy and vanished. 'Now, I wonder what she means to do.' meditated Eustace, as the butler brought him his hat. 'I really should not wonder if she came round to it. But then one never knows how a woman will take a thing. If she will she will,' etc., etc.

And now it may strike the reader as very though the old gentleman's previous career 'Let me congratulate you, my dear fel. had had more connection with the undoing

I am very glad that the judge thought fit I shall be neglecting my duties, you to compliment you—a most unusual thing, know, my dear young lady, he said, shaking by the way. I can only say that I hope his head. It's very wrong-very wrong, for that I may have the pleasure of having you I ought to be at the Registry; but-well, as my junior sometimes in the future. By perhaps I can manage to come-very wrong, the way, if you have no other engagement I | though-very wrong, and quite out of my wish that you might call round at my cham- line of business! I expect that I shall begin to address the court-I mean the clergyman

[To be Continued.]

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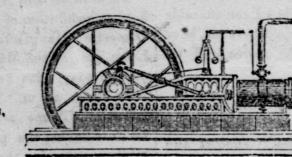
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lady with that kind of regard which is supposed to precede the matrimonial contract, the circumstance, in my mind, tells rather in the circumstance in my mind, tells rather in t

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