The Diamond Coterie.

(Continued from 1st page.)

"It seems that the thing had been done so rapidly, that Burrill had not had time to get a fair look at the face of his assailant; but the second time he scrambled to his feet, Heath stood facing him full

braced and ready, when, behold, Burrill, after one look, turns as pale as a spectre, utters a yell of fear, and dashes out of the house like a madman. By this time several people had come in, and the thinpuzzled them not a little. Heath assert d that he had never, to his knowledge. seen Burrill before; and yet there stood the fact of Burrill's fright at sight of him. Some believed it a case of mistaken identity; others, that Heath was trying to mislead them, and that he did know Burrill. The affair became noised about as such things will be, and some were curious to see another meeting between

Heath and Burrill. And here comes the queer part of the business. In his sober moments, Burrill avoids Heath, and can not be brought to mention his name. But when he gets a little too much on board-beg pardon, Conny-I mean, somewhat intoxicated, he becomes very loquacious; then he throws out strange hints, and gives mysterious winks; states that he could tell a tale about Heath that would open everybody's eyes. He talks of 'borrowed plumage,' and insinuates that Heath would like to buy him off. He says that he took to his heels because he knew that Heath did not mean fair play, etc. Finally, two or three evenings ago, when Burrill was remarkably tipsy, and therefore, unusually ripe for a combat with any one, Heath and I, crossing the street opposite Spring's Bank, encountered him coming toward us, surrounded by a party of roughs. As we approached them, Burrill, making some uncouth ges-

rest, and as he came opposite Heath, leaned toward him and whispered a few words in his ear. I don't know what he said, but the effect on Heath was magical. For a moment he seemed staggered, as if by a blow, and then he took the fellow by the throat, and shook him until his teeth rattled; then loosed his hold so suddenly that his man dropped to the ground. Heath by this time was a little cooler; he stooped over the prostrate man, took him by the collar, and fairly lifted him to his feet, then he said:

"Understand this, fellow, I allow no man to interfere with my business. This is only a sample of what will happen to you if you ever try this dodge again; no more than if they were gnats. I followed, of course, and said as I came up

" 'Quite an adventure, upon my word; you seem to possess a strange attraction "'Burrill,' he exclaimed; 'who the

mischief is the fellow, Ray?' "'He is Mr. Lamotte's son-in-law,'

"'Ah,' he mused; 'so Jasper Lamotte has married his daughter to a black mailer;' and after that, he said never a word more on the subject. I had it in my mind to tell him of the hints and insinuations Burrill in his unguarded moments was putting into circulation, but his reticence closed my lips." He paused, and looked to his auditor for some comment, but she sat with her

eyes fixed upon the carpet, and a troubled look on her face. "Don't think, Conny, that I am one of those who construe this against Heath," said the loyal fellow. "He is the best fellow in the world. The whole thing, for me, lies in a nutshell. Heath is not a man to disturb himself about his neighbor's concerns, and he don't expect his neighbors to interest themselves in his. This Burrill has picked up, somehow, a little information; something concerning Heath, or his past life, that is not known to W—, and he is trying to make capital of it. The secret in itself may be a mere nothing, but Heath is the first man to resent impertinences, and the last man to make explanations. And he's right, too, especially under the present circumstances. I like him all the better for his pluck and his reticence; let him keep his secrets; so long as he gives me his friendship, I am quite content."

Constance felt a thrill of satisfaction

Here was a friend, loyal, enthusiastic, not to be alienated by slander or suspicion. She had known Ray from his childhood, and they had always been the best of friends, but she had never admired and honored him, never valued his friendship so much, as she did at this moment. His enthusiasm was contagious; she forgot all her fears of a personal nature and became in an instant the true woman and unselfish friend. "Ah, Ray," she exclaimed, lifting two admiring gray eyes to meet his, "you

and a return of courage, as she listened.

are a friend indeed! a friend to be proud of; but tell me, did you hear nothing more of Burrill after that second en-"He made some pretty loud threats," replied Ray, "and a fellow named

Brooks, a sort of crony of Burrill's, took it upon himself to call upon Heath the make an assault upon him. Heath strange gleam in his eyes.
thanked the fellow, and asured him that "How—how do you say this came, he was quite capable of taking care of | Heath?' himself, and Burrill, too, if need be; and Brooks backed out, declaring that he 'meant no 'arm by intrudin'.'

"Ray," said Constance, earnestly, "John Burrill is not the only man Doctor Heath has to fear. I may have acted troubled by certain facts that have just rest without doing something. It's almost an abuse of confidence to ask so much of you and tell you so little, but in | interesting." a few days I hope to be mistresss of my own tongue, and then you shall have all | ing?' the particulars. For the present, Ray, promise to follow my instructions

"I have promised that, Conny." "And, Ray, you will keep this all a cious document, Ray, and come along secret; you will do your part without | yourself. hinting to Doctor Heath your true motive, unless circumstances compel an explanation?"

"I promise that, too." delicate way you can devise, that he was meraced by an enemy, and under hourly surveillance; but, since you have told me

of this Burrill it occurs to me that in some way he may be mixed up in this matter, and-I have thought of a better Ray nodded, and looked full of interest. ceiving Burrill's interference, and of his with the eyes of love, had recognized in reticence throughout, makes me feel that the strange scrawl the hand of the woman

it might be only precipitating a catas- he had loved and lost trophe if we warned him, and oh, Ray, I want you, for three days, to be his con- and then, with a rueful sigh, "Oh! I stant shadow. Devise some excuse for re- | would risk dangers too to be watched maining in town; thrust yourself upon over by two such women. his hospitality; observe any strangers who may appreach him. If possible, do not let him get out of sight, even for a short time; in three days you shall be relieved."
"By whom?"

She lifted her hand, warningly. "No questions, Ray. Can you manage all He pondered a while, then said: "I think I can; I am a pretty good actor, Conny. What do you say to my feigning

"He would find you out." "Not if I did it well, perhaps. I think I could manage for a few days.

"It won't do, Ray. He would send you to bed and walk away and leave you.' Ray groaned. "Tell him your room is under repairs,

and throw yourself on his mercy; then feign low spirits, and make him think it is his duty to entertain and cheer you "Capital, Conny! we can make that

work I know; your wit is worth more than my wisdom; for three days then I full of fear; for in rebellion, in selfam your watch dog. "And your friend's guardian." "Precisely. I begin to swell with im-

portance. But seriously, Conny, let me have your confidence at the earliest mo- that Clifford Heath's happiness was her ment. For, whoever does battle with Heath, will find me arrayed against him, and-it's difficult fighting in the dark.' "You shall know all as soon as possi-

ble, Ray, and now-" "And now," repeated he, rising with with cheeks aflame at the recollection alacrity. "Heath's horse stands outside, and Heath himself waits my return; so, lest he should grow impatient, and go but the mutinous struggle of the head where mischief awaits him, I will go now | against the heart's acknowledged master

and begin my task." "Thank you, Ray, I know I can de- Lamotte's letter had never been found pend upon you. All this seems like a the mystery surrounding its disappear scene out of a melodrama, but it's ance, remained a mystery; and, how

wretchedly real for all that. Ray, I am ! just waking up to a knowledge of how much plotting and wickedness there is in

"We all wake to that knowledge," he said, a spasm of pain crossing his face. "Yes, poor Ray! and I know that an-

"And the cause of it all is another something noteworthy occurs, you will not see me again for three days.' She gave him her hand, and a look of gratitude, and trust; and, in a few moments more, the red roan steed was speeding back townward.

Francis Lamotte had found the doctor dull company; and, as he scarcely ever remained in the office to read now-a-days, he had taken himself and his dissatisfaction elsewhere, long before Ray returned to the office ready to begin his new role. He found the doctor sitting in a despondent attitude, almost where he had left him, holding in his hand a crumpled

Without appearing to notice his abstraction, Ray came at once to the point at

"Heath," he said, "your red roan is returned to you, and the loan of him encourages me to ask another favor." "Well!" said the doctor, without looking up or changing his attitude.

"The fact is," said Ray, with splendid ingenuousness, "I am a sort of outcast. My quarters are undergoing that misery they call 'repairs,' and-the truth is, Heath, I want you to tender me your hospitality, for, say, two or three days. I can't go to a public place; I don't feel like facing the music, for I am a little sore yet, and I find that that I still an object for commiseration, and I do get low spirited in spite of myself. It's tures, came forward in advance of the cheeky, my asking it, I know, and you'll find my constant society a terrible bore; but my heart is set on quartering with you, so don't say no, Heath."

> and looked up with his usual cheery "Why, Ray, you young dog," he cried, 'you beseech me like a veritable tramp, just as if you were not as welcome as the sunshine; come along, you shall share my bed, and board, and-I'll be hanged if you shan't share the daily dose of abuse I have to take from my old housekeeper. I'll make a special arrange-

Clifford Heath threw off his listlessness

ment to that effect." "Thanks, Heath," replied Ray, and the fire that burned in his cheeks, bekeep my name off your tongue in public and private, if you want whole bones in your body; then he marched past the whole astonished crowd, minding them the fire that burned in his cheeks, because of the deceit he was practicing upon this open-hearted friend. "But it's all for his benefit," he thought; "at least I hope so.' "Well!" said the doctor, moving un-

easily in his chair; "I hope your mission "Oh, yes," carelessly.
"You—found Miss Wardour well, I "Quite well; only wanting my valu-

able assistance in a little scheme she has on foot, a sort of benefit affair." And Ray congratulated himself on the adaptability of his answer. "Is it too late to drive, Heath?" But the doctor made no answer to this

question, nor did he seem to hear it. Rising, he walked to the window, looked down thoughtfully into the street for a moment, then without turning, he "Rumor says that Miss Wardour will

marry Lamotte. "Lamotte just now made the state-

"Ah!" contemptuously, "it's like him to boast; but I'm afraid he tells the truth; Constance admitted as much to

A long time Clifford Heath stood motionless and silent at the window; then turning as if spurred by some sudden thought he threw the crumpled note, which all the time had been clasped in his hand, upon the table between them,

"Here's a mystery, sir; read that and pass your opinion on it; as you are to become my guest, you should know what society you will find yourself in."

Ray eyed the letter with his head on "What is it?" he asked in a stage whisper.

"A note, a billet doux, a solemn warning; came under the door a little while ago, while I was off in a reverie; came by a spirit hand, maybe, for I never heard a sound, but there lay the letter waiting to be observed and perused."
And the doctor laughed contemptuously, and turned away to prepare for his drive. But Ray's face lengthened perceptibly, and he took up the note with sudden eagerness, and read:-

"Doctor Heath-Take the advice of a friend and leave W- for a time; a plot is ripening against you, and your only safety lies in your absence, for your closed the door, he dropped his voice, and enemies are powerful and have woven a said, "I come from Mr. Bathurst;" and, chain about you that will render you helpless, perhaps ruin you utterly.

"TRUTH. "Lose no time, for the blow will soon

The note was written in a cramped, reversed hand, and, after a hasty perusal, next day, and advise him to keep a pretty | Ray bent his head and scanned the pen close lookout for Burrill, as he was quite | strokes closely, then he looked up with likely, in one of his drunken rages, to all the color gone from his face, and a

"I didn't say, for I don't know, my lad. It made its first appearance lying just there," and the doctor pointed with his wisp broom, which he had been vigorously applying to a brown overcoat, at the spot just inside the door where he hastily in sending for you, but I was so had first perceived the letter, and then resumed his occupation without observcome to my knowledge, that I could not | ing the trouble in Ray's face. "Sensa tional, isn't it? but I can't think of quitting W- just as it begins to grow

> "Then you take no stock in this warn-"Bah! why should I?"

"But if you should have secret foes?" "Let them come on," quoted the doctor, theatrically; "bring flong that pre-

Ray Vandyck, still looking troubled and anxious, arose, and, with lagging steps, followed his friend; as he noted with a new curiosity the tall, lithe, well "When I sent for you, it was to ask knit figure striding on before him, the you to warn Doctor Heath, in the most handsome, haughtily poised head, and the careless indifference of mien, he asked

"What can it be, this mystery and danger that surrounds him, that has caused Constance Wardour to take such unprecedented measures to insure his safety, and has wrung from Sybil Lamotte this strangely worded, oddly and ineffectually disguised warning," for "Your description of his manner of re- Ray, seeing not as the world sees, but "Heath is in some peril," thought he.

CHAPTER XXII. The three days that followed were days of unrest to Con tance Wardour. The intangible, yet distinctly realized trouble and fear, and dread, were new experiences

in her bright life. The mystery round about her, her in ability to cope with the unknown, the inaction, the waiting, was almost more than she could calmly endure; and all this distress of mind and unrest of body was for others. Personally, she had noth ing to fear, nothing to annoy her; but the warm-hearted heiress made a friend's

cause her own. From the first she had grieved over the sad fate of Sybil La motte; not lightly, not as society sorrews over the fall of its proteges; but deeply from her heart of hearts. And now there was added to this, her concern for Clifford Heath, and the danger that

menaced him tormented her. If her own honor were threatened she could not have been more troubled and contempt, in a fierce burst of rage against the heart she could not control, Constance Wardour, heiress and queen absolute, was forced to confess to that heart

happiness too. Having been forced to recognize this fact, against her wish and will, Constance came to a better understanding with herself, and she confessed to herself, that her petulant outbreak, and shame ful accusation against Doctor Heath, was Too late came this self confession. Sybi

could she recall her accusation, while the circumstances under which it was made this world; even in our little world of remained unchanged? Realizing that she owed him reparation, she was yet powerless to make it.

"It would be equivalent to a confes-"You know how the lesson came to me, sion, that I could not be happy without An Immense Vareity Just Re his friendship," she said, hotly. "And he would not accept an apology while his other suffer even more than you, because | innocence remained unproven. Let me suffer the consequences of my own folly: I deserve it; but," setting her white mystery. But no more of this; unless teeth resolutely, "no harm shall come to him that I can avert; and, I am not the weakest of women." Oh, the perversity of women. Who can

comprehend it? Who analyze the mysterious creatures? When there was against Clifford Heath only a breath of suspicion, a few whispered words from his own lips, that might mean nothing of importance, when calmly reconsidered; a missing letter, with the contents of which he was familiar, and which, therefore, could be of little value to him, and it was enough. He stood before her accused, and went out from her presence wronged, insulted.

splendid as King Arthur in his helpless

indignation. Now the detective's strong chain of evidence, John Burrill's strange insinuations, and still stranger conduct, his words when he spoke, his reticence when he kept silent, all were arrayed against him, with telling effect, and in spite of them all, Constance Wardour angrily assured herself, and fully believed, that Clifford Heath was a wronged, and innocent man. She did not reason herself into this belief; and it was absurd, of course. She arrived at her conclusions, as all loving women do, through her feelings, and her instinct. A woman seldom reasons, but in many cases her ready intuition is worth more than all man's wisdom. Her delicate instinct strikes directly at the truth, when man's reason gropes

in the darkness. Constance went out very little during these troubled days, and for this there were several reasons. John Burrill's obstrusiveness was at its height, and he fairly haunted the vicinity of Wardour; and since the advent of Mr. Belknap, Constance had an uneasy feeling that she was in some way, under surveillance. Nelly, who was argus-eyed, and always in armor on behalf of her mistress, had, on one or two occasions, spied a lurker about the premises; and Constance was resolved to give Mr. Belknap as little trouble, on her account, as possible. She had not visited Sybil for some days, for, although she had informed the detective she had no such intentions; and, since the day when she had promised Mr. Lamotte to retain the detective for another week, she had avoided meeting him, and

being forced to resume the conversation. To know herself under the watchful eye of one detective, while anxiously expecting the advent of another, and to be aware that the presence of the one must not be made known to the other, afforded her a new and strange sensation; not altogether an unpleasant one either, for Constance was no coward, and had a decided taste for adventure. She realized, too, the absurdity of being thus shadowed, in her own house, by

her own hired agent. "I should go down to posterity as the first woman who ever hired a spy to watch herself," she mused with a little laugh. "I begin to think that I am an absurd creature, throughout." Two days passed, and Constance endured them, although the hours crept slowly. On the third, her anxiety was

almost beyond control. If Bathurst should fail her! If her let-ter had not found him! If he were absent from the city! Oh, what a chance was here for disaster. Mr. Belknap would soon be in the field, and Ray's time had

"Oh," she said, anxiously, "if he disappoints me, what shall I do. I must trust Ray, and will he be strong enough to battle with this danger?" While she mused thus, growing wild with auxiety, a half-grown boy, bearing on his head a small tray of delicate ivory carvings, was applying for admittance at the servants' entrance. He was shabbily dressed, but possessed a fine, intelligent face, and bore himself with cool confi-

"I have brought the carving for Miss Wardour," he said, briskly. "Can I see

Nelly hesitated. "She expects me," said the boy, quick-ly; "and, as I am a little late, I would like to show her the wares and be off. for I've more to sell in the village. Just tell her it's the chap she's looking for.' Constance stared in surprise when Nelly delivered this message. "The chap I am looking for," she repeated slowly; then, with a sudden

brightening of her whole face, she added: 'Oh, to be sure? I had almost forgotten. Send him here, at once, Nelly." "I hope you will excuse me," began taking off his cap, he produced from thence a letter, which he put in her

"I'm to wait for the answer," he said, and took up his position beside his wares. Constance opened the letter, with a hand trembling with eagerness. It ran:-

"Miss Wardour-By all means keep the secret of the diamonds, and trust all to me. I think it best not to come to you, as Belknap keeps a constant watch upon your movements; dismiss him as soon as you like. Have no fears regarding Heath, I have his enemies well roped; be assured that I shall be on hand when needed. and when you see me expect to have the question of the diamond robbery forever set at rest. If you have anything to say, send verbal instructions by boy; he is to be trusted. Yours sincerely,

"NEIL J. BATHURST." (To be continued.)

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themselves accordingly.

To John Adams formerly of the Parish of Alnwick, in the County of Northumberland, New Brunswick, merchant, (but at present residing in the City of Quebec, in the province of Quebec;—Anthony Adams of the same place merchant, and Annie Adams his wife, of the Parish of Alnwick, in the said County of Northumberland, and to all others Notice is hereby given that under and by virtue of a power of sale contained in a certain indenture of mortgage bearing date the thirtieth day of September A.D. 1889, made between the said John Adams, Anthony Adams and Annie Adams of the one part and Ernest Hutchison of Douglastown, in the said County of Northumberland millman of the other part, and duly recorded the Thirtieth day of January A.D. 1890, in volume 67 of the Northumberland County Records on pages 266, 267, 268 and 269 and is numbered 199 in said volume, which said mortgage was on the twenty-fourth day of February A D. 1897, duly assigned by the 'said Snowball, which assignment was registered on the twenty-fifth day of February A.D. 1897, in volume 72 of the Northumberland County Records, on pages 592 and 593, and is numbered 427 in said There will for the purpose of satisfying the monies secured by and due on the said mortgage, default having been made in payment thereof, be sold at public auction in front of the post office in the Town of Chatham, on Monday the fifteenth day of November next, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, All and singular that piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the parish of Alnwick, in the County of Northumberland and bounded as follows: -Commencing on the bank or shore of Neguac Bay at the southwesteriy corner of the road leading from Lower Neguac to Stymiest's Mill Brook at the distance of forty-eight chains and fifty. seven links southerly from the Queens Highway; thence southerly along the westerly side of the said Road leading to Stymiest's Mill Brook at the distance of two hundred and sixty feet to a stake;

he centre of the road leading from Alexander Martin's barn to the Bay shore; thence along the centre of the said road leading to Stymiest's Mill Brook two hundred and forty-seven feet to the Bay shore; thence easterly along the Bay shore to the Also all that other piece or parcel of land com-mencing at a stake, at the Northerly side line of Alexander Martin's land touching on the said Stymiest road, thence running Northerly along the westerly side of said road two hundred and eight feet to a stake or the southerly side line of lands owned and occupied by Alexander Goodfellow, thence along the southerly side line of Alexander Goodfellow's land, westerly one hundred and fortynine feet to a stake; thence southerly two hundred and thirty-four feet to the northerly side line of Alexander Martin's land , thence easterly along the northerly side line of said Alexander Martin's lands one hundred and forty-nine feet to a stake or place Stymiest road being part of the lands conveyed Alexander Loggie and James Anderson to James O Fish and the said Anthony Adams by indent dated the second day of January A.D. 1880 and of

hence westerly two hundred and thirty-one reet to

Together with all and singular the buildings, improvements, privileges and appurtenances to the said premises belonging or in anywise appertaining. Dated at Chatham, N. B., this tenth day of R. A. LAWLOR, MARGARET SNOWBALL, Assignee of Mortgagee.

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