

Beaton's Bargain.

BY MRS. ALEXANDER.

SYNOPSIS.

Mrs. Winington, Lady Mary Hay, Leslie Beaton and Jack Maxwell are members of London's smart society set. Beaton is Mrs. Winington's brother, and being poor resolves to answer an advertisement that promises to get him a rich wife. Lady Mary is a widow whom Beaton admires. Mrs. Winington and Maxwell were lovers before the former married. Beaton, with company with Missland is introduced to the heiress—Edith Vivian—by the latter's guardian.

CHAPTER III. (Continued.)

Presently he said, "Five thou- cant venture to put it higher anyhow, and that's a poor price," then he looked at the letter in his hand, and read it through with a sardonic grin. "Blessed old baby," he said half aloud, as he re- stored it to the envelope. "It shall have its toys, it shall, it shall rub its brasses as long as it does not hinder me from gathering the tin. I can manage busi- ness matters so much better than he can, eh? I believe you! Well, well, it's an ill wind that blows nobody good. Lord, what fools they all are! Here's another, taking up a second letter, written in severely lines slanting downward, and reading: "When is my darling to come back to me? she'll never be happy among the grand friends you have picked up for her; she doesn't want to go to them, neither! Don't she, though? Wait till she finds she has a lover in that long- legged Scotchman. If Sally had an ounce of sense, what a help she might be to me! as it is I am obliged to keep the screw on, and one never gets the same good work under pressure as you do from free will. It's a mercy I have the bit of writing that might ruin her boy, the big idiot. I have him and her in my grip pretty fast. "Your loving sister, S. Miles. "Bother! why the devil will she write letters and always dan- gerous," tearing it viciously into a dozen pieces, and casting it into the waste ba- sket. "I'll turn her to account for all her devotion to the girl."

Here a dirty, shock-headed office-boy coming in interrupted him, "Gentleman," he said, spasmodically, thrusting a card almost in his master's face.

"Hullo! show him in, and mind you, I'm particularly engaged. Don't let mortal in, not even Mr. Lewis."

The boy nodded and went out, where- upon Leslie Beaton entered, perfectly dressed, fresh, cool, good-humored, an extraordinary contrast to Dargan and his surroundings.

"Good morning, sir, good-morning," said the latter, shambling across the room to fetch a chair. "Sit down. Warm morn- ing, isn't it? Sun in your eyes?" He went to pull down the blind too suddenly, and it gave way at one side and hung in a doleful festoon.

"Pray don't trouble yourself, I am quite comfortable." And Beaton, who had been more than once in the dusty hair, took a rapid glance at the chairs, selecting the least bristly, instead of the one offered him.

"Well, well, my dear sir, how are you getting on?" asked Dargan.

"That is what you call a leading ques- tion," returned Beaton, smiling. "On the whole, not badly. I have been doing my duty. I have called, and been graciously received. I have presented flowers, and they have been graciously, may, joyous- ly accepted. In another fortnight or so I presume I may, with your sanction, venture to propose."

"There are just a few preliminaries to



The old-fash- ioned watch- man who prowled about the streets of medieval London, with a lantern in his hand to pro- claim his com- ing, and who announced his passage through the streets by shouting "All's well," was a very inefficient protector when compared with the metropoli- tan police of New York City, commonly known as the "Finest." The modern policeman does not proclaim his coming to the evil doer by shouting or by carrying a lantern. He does his work more quietly and effectively than the old-fash- ioned town watchman.

It is thus that in all the walks of life and in all occupations, times change and knowl- edge and efficiency increase. In this re- spect medical science has kept pace with the advance in other lines. Physicians and chemists have grown rapidly more skillful. There are medicinal preparations now-a- days that cure diseases that were a few years ago considered absolutely incurable.

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