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careless of money, possessing plenty of it, and extremely good-natured. He had already recognized him as an aristocrat, and expected that whatever happened he would laugh, and per-haps leave the table, so the pleb now began some fine work.

Two games were played in silence, and in the third it was the deal of Branksome Poole. Hazel watched him as he would a beast of prey, conscious of every crooked move, yet he did not seem to be looking. He gazed at the cards dealt him, spread the "hand" face upward on the table, and rose to his feet.

"Sir, you are cheating!" he said. crisply.

"You He!" roared Branksome Poole

turning, nevertheless, a greenish yel-low, and moistening his dry lips. At the sound of his loud voice a steward came hurrying up.

"Show your hand, if you dare!" challenged Hazel, "You have dealt yourself—" and here he named the concealed cards one after another. Poole made a final effort to fling his hand in to the rest of the pack, but Hazel stopped him.

"Show your hand! Show your hand!" he commanded. "These two gentlemen will witness whether I have named the cards correctly or not. Steward! Ask the chief officer to come here, or if he is not on duty, speak to the captain."

The steward disappeared and

The steward disappeared, and shortly returned with the chief officer, to whom Hazel briefly related what had happened.

"Will you come with me to the cap-tain's room?" asked the chief officer. Branksome Poole had been through

the mill before, and he offered no resistance.

WHEN the wireless came in touch with the American shore, a dis-patch reached police headquarters in patch reached police headquarters in New York, informing them that Charles Branksome, wanted for black-mailing Erasmus Skinner, the mil-lionaire, was on board the liner, de-tained by the ship's authority for cheating at cards.

When the great vessel arrived at

When the great vessel arrived at her berth, Mrs. Branksome Poole was quite unmolested as she took her ticket for the West. She was amply supplied with money, and among her newly acquired funds were two fifty-pound notes which had been previously in her possession.

In the next Semi-Monthly Magazine will appear the second story in this notable series dealing with the adventures of Lord Stranleigh in America. Mr. Barr had just completed this series of seven stories at the time of his death a few months ago.

THE THRESHING

By LEWIS WORTHINGTON SMITH

PUFF, PUFF! along the road
The thresher comes at dawn
The engine tugging at its load
Is like a thing of brawn
Treading the mud, with man the
mind

Sitting a sentinel behind.

Shriek, scream! The whistle calls.
They gather far and near.
They lead the horses from their stalls

And buckle on their gear.

Across the stubble in the mould

The morning sun throws down its
gold.

Whiz, whir! The wheels begin Their dizzy, tumbling roll.
Swiftly the sheaves are pouring in
And dropping to its bowl
The wheat that shall be bread for

man Over the seas in far Durban.

Paff, pouf! The straw rolls out,
The dust flies up like smoke.
The pitchers spread the stack about
With steady stroke on stroke,
Neighbors in spirit, so they fill
The earth with new abundance still.





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