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“SHE LAY UPON THE FLOOR”

# ALAN RANSFORD

A Story

BY

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"OAKLEIGH" ETC.

ILLUSTRATED

BY HARRY C. EDWARDS



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"SHE LAY UPON THE FLOOR" . . . . .	<i>Frontispiece</i>
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## ALAN RANSFORD

## CHAPTER I

"A HOUSE in Germantown!"

"Whoever would have thought of that?"

"Whoever would have thought of her leaving us anything at all? I am sure I am perfectly amazed."

"I am not. I always knew your cousin Deborah adored you, my dear. I thought she would leave you something if it ever occurred to her to die, but I didn't suppose she would have that happy inspiration until long after we were all dead and buried ourselves."

"Richard!"

"But the question is now, What shall we do with it?" continued Mr. Lee, ignoring his wife's disapproval of his unseemly levity.

Apparently the question was unanswerable, for a sudden silence fell upon the group. It was evening, and, dinner being over, the Lees had left the table and gone into the library, which was directly back of the dining-room. It was a small room, and the innumerable books which lined the walls and filled every available spot on the tables left little space for people.