magistrates, for several miles round moor. And this, not only from fear t one more wicked might succeed him lest one more wicked might succeed him (as appeared, indeed, too probable,) but from true admiration of his strong will,

Exmoor. And this, not only from fear lest one more wicked might succeed him (as appeared, indeed, too probable,) but from true admiration of his strong will, and sympathy with his misfortunes.

I will not deceive any one by saying that Sir Easor Doone gave (in so many words) his consent to my resolve about Lorna. This he never did, except by his speech last written down; from which, as he mentioned grandchildren, a lawyer perhaps might have argued it. Not but what he may have meant to bestow on us his blessing; only that he died next day, without taking the trouble to do it.

He called, indeed, for his box of snuff,

which was a very high thing to take;

asked him very softly, for the brown appearance of it spoiled (to my idea) his white mustache; but he seemed to shake his head, and I thought it kept his spirits up. I had never before seen any one do, what all of us have to do some day; and it greatly kept my spirits down, although it did not so very much frighten me.

his instinct being of death, perhaps, at least as much as of life (which accounts for his slaying his fellow-men so, and for his slaying his fellow-men so, and every other creature, it does not take a man very long to enter into another man's death, and bring his own mood to suit it. He knows that his own is sure to come; and nature is fond of the practice. Hence it came to pass that I story as your man with the practice. after easing my mother's fears, and see

after easing my mother's fears, and seeing a little to business, returned (as if drawn by a polar needle) to the deathbed of Sir Easor.

There was some little confusion, people wanting to get away, and people trying to come in, from downright eariesity (of all things the most hateful,) and others making great todo, and talking of their own time to come, telling ing of their own time to come, telling their own age, and so on. But every one seemed to think, or feel, that I had one seemed to think, or feel, that I had a right to be there, because the women took that view of it. As for Carver and Counselor, they were minding their own affairs, so as to win the succession; and all in their business (as least never found it in their business (as least so long as I was there) to come near the

He, for his part, never asked for any He, for his part, never asked for any one to come near him—not even a priest, nor a monk or friar; but seemed to be going his own way, peaceful, and well contented. Only the chief of the women said that from his face she believed and have the believed to have we at one An hour or two ere the old man died, when only we two were with him, he looked at us both very dimly and softly, as if he wished to do something for us, but had left it now too late.

"He wants something out of the bed, dear," Lorna whispered to me; "see what it is, upon your side, there."

I followed the bent of his poor shrunken hand, and sought among the pillings, and there I felt something hard and sharp, and drew it forth and gave it to him. It flashed, like the spray of a fountain apon us, in the dark winter of the room. He could not take it in

of the room. He could not take it in his hand, but let it hang, as daisies do, only making Lorna see that he meant her to have it.

"Why, it is my glass necklace!" Lorna cried, in great surprise; "my necklace he always promised me; and from which you have got the ring, John. But grandfather kent it. hecause the

from which you have got the ring, John. But grandfather kept it, because the children wanted to pull it from my neck. May I have it now, dear grandfather? Not unless you wish, dear.' Darling Lorna wept again, because the old man could not tell her (except by one very feeble nod) that she was doing wnat he wished. Then she gave to me the trinket, for the sake of safety, and I stowed it in my breast. He samed to me to follow this, and to be I stowed it in my breast. He ed to me to follow this, and to be

seemed to me to follow this, and to be well content with it.

Before Sir Ensor Doone was buried, the greatest frost of the century had set in, with its iron hand, and step of stone, on everything. How it came is not my business, nor can I explain it; because I never have watched the skies, as records now begin to do when the because I never have watched the skies, as people now begin to do when the ground is not to their liking. Though of all this I know nothing, and less than nothing, I may say (because I ought to know something), I can hear wint people tell me, and I can see before my

pick-axes ere they got through the hard brown sod, streaked with little heaps of gray, where old Sir Ensor was to lie upon his back, awaiting the darkness of the judgment-day. It was in the little chapel-vard; I will not tell the name of it, because we are now such Protestants that I might do it an evil turn; only it was the little place evil turn; only it was the little where Lorna's Aunt Sabina lay.

CHAPTER ADI

COOL COSPORT

All things being full of flaw, all things being full of holes, the strength of all things is in shortness. If Sir Ensor Doone had dwelled for half an hour upon himself, and an hour perhaps upon Lorna and me, we must both have wearled of him, and required change of air. But now I longed to see and know a great deal more about him, and hoped that he might not go to heaven for at least a week or more. However, he was too good for this world (as we say of all people who leave it;) and I verily believe his heart was not a bad one, after all.

Evil he had done, no doubt, as evil had been done to him; yet how many have done evil, while receiving only good! Be that as it may; and not vexing a question (settled forever without our votes,) let us own that he was, at least, a brave and courteous gentleman.

And his loss aroused great lamentation, not among the Doones alone and the women they had carried off, but also of the general public, and many even of the magistrates, for several miles round for the stuff around her, yet with all her little breath steaming on the air like frost.

I stood apart from the ceremony, in which, of course, I was not entitled, of the stuff induced it would have been any portion; and indeed it would have been in the forest of air. But now I longed to see and know a great least a week or more thought of the find night of the stuff row.

I stood apart from the ceremony, in which, of course, I was not entitled, of the stuff induced it would have been any portion; and indeed it would have been day any any even of the red deer and the forest of less in a killed half of the sheep, and on the 15th of December), such as skilled half of the stuff induced it would have been day and to have red mong those wild and lawless to good for this world (as we say of all people who leave it may in the p

neral public, and many even of strates, for several miles round
And this, not only from fear they must join him when their sum of ill

He called, indeed, for his box of snuff, bitter, and distant; and now a week had exhausted all the sorrow of those which was a very high thing to take:
and which he never took without being
in very good humor, at least for him.
And though it would not go up his
nostrils, through the failure of his
breath, he was pleased to have it there,
and not to think of dying.

"Will your honor have it wiped?" I
selved him very softly, for the brown
After all was over I strode across the

weeks was gone, neither did any rime remain; but all things had a look of sameness, and a kind of furzy color. It sameness, and a kind of intrzy color. It was freezing hard and sharp, with a pieroing wind to back it; and I had observed that the holy water froze upon Sir Ensor's coffin.

One thing struck me with some sur-

prise, as I made off for our fireside (with strong determination to heave an ashtree up the chimney-place,) and that was how the birds were going, rather journeying westward; not with any heat of speed, neither flying far at once; but all (as if on business bound) partly run-ning, partly flying, partly fluttering along; silently, and without a voice, neither with the neither pricking head nor tail. This movement of the birds went on even for week or more; every kind of thrushes assed us; every kind of wild fowl; even passed us; every kind of whild fowl; even plovers went away, and crows, and snipes, and woodcocks. And before half the frost was over, all we had in the snowy

Lorna hoped that he wanted to bless us; but he only frowned at that and let his hand drop downward, and crooked one knotted finger.

"He wants something out of the bed, dear," Lorna whispered to me; "see what it is, upon your side, there."

I followed the bent of his poor shrunken hand, and sought among the pillings, and there I felt something hard and side was the property of the pillings, and there I felt something hard and side was the pillings. them in the morning. There was not a bird but knew her well, after one day of bird but knew her well, after one day of cemforting; and some would come to her hand, and sit, and shut one eye and look at her. Then she used to stroke their heads, and feel their breasts, and talk to them; and not a bird of them all was there but liked to have it done to him. And I do believe they would eat from her hand things uppartual to them was there but liked to have it done to him. And I do believe they would eat from her hand things unnatural to them, lest she should be grieved and hurt by not knowning what to do for them. One of them was a noble bird, such as I never had seen before, of very fine bright plumage, and larger than a missel-thrush. He was the hardest of all to please; and yet he tried to do his best. I have heard since then, from a man who knows all about birds, and beasts, and fishes, that he must have been a Norwegian bird, called in this country a "roller," who never comes to England but in the most tremendous winters.

beasts, and fishes, that he must have been a Norwegian bird, called in this country a "roller," who never comes to be found by a "roller," who never comes to be found by a special point of the depth, which sowing peas is country a "roller," who never comes to be found by a special point of the depth, which folk him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth which followed us very cheerfully, leaping out of the depth, which took him over his special point of the depth which followed as well as a special point of the depth which followed as well as a special point of the depth which followed which the depth in more him to the depth which followed him own and then the point of the depth which followed him own and then the depth whim him to her like him to the depth which followed him own and then

Here was I, remaining long, with a shepherd had dropped in and taken the channeled edges, twirled the curiosity; because some people supper with us, and foretold a heavy Here was I, remaining long, with a little curiosity; because some people told me plainly that I must be damned forever by a Papist funeral; and here came Lorna, scarcely breathing, through the thick of stuff around her, yet with all her little breath steaming on the air for the case when the content of th

pleased God not to send the snow till the morning, that every sheep, and horse, and cow, ay, and even the poultry, should be brought in snug; and with plenty to eat, and fodder enough to roast them.

Alas, what use of man's resolves, when they come a day too late, even if they may avail a little when they are most punctual!

In the bitter morning I arose, to follow out my purpose, knowing the

In the bitter morning I arose, to follow out my purpose, knowing the time from the force of habit, although the room was so dark and gray. An odd white light was on the rafters, such as I never had seen before; while all the length of the room was grizzly, like the heart of a moldy oat-rick. I work to the window at once of courses. went to the window at once, of course; and at first I could not understand what and at first I could not understand what
was doing outside of it. It faced due
east (as I may have said), with the
walnut-tree partly sheltering it; and
generally I could see the yard, and the
wood-riek, and even the church beyond.
But now half the lattice was quite
blocked up, as if plastered with gray
lime: and little fringes, like ferns, came

blocked up, as if plastered with gray lime; and little fringes, like ferns, came through, where the joining of the lead was; and in the only undarkened part, countless dots came swarming, cluster-ing, beating with a soft, low sound, then gliding down in a slippery manner, not as drops of rain do, but each distinct from his neighbor. Inside the iron transe (which little dot to say to comframe (which fitted, not to say too comfortably, and went along the stone work), at least a peck of snow had en-tered, following its own bend and fancy, light as any cobweb.

lest the ancient frame should yield, I spread the lattice open, and saw at once that not a moment must be lost to save our stock. All the earth was flat with snow, all the air was thick with snow; ore than this no man could see, for all

e world was snowing.
I shut the window and dressed in I shut the window and dressed in haste; and when I entered the kitchen, not even Betty, the earliest of all early birds, was there. I raked the ashes together a little, just to see a spark of warmth; and then set forth to find John Fry, Jem Slocombe and Bill Dadds. But this was easier thought than done; for when I opened the courtyard door, I was taken up to my knees at once, and the power of the drifting cloud prevented sight of anything. However, I found my way to the woodrick, and there got hold of a fine ashstake cut by myself not long ago. With this I plowed along pretty well, and thundered so hard at John Fry's doo., this I plowed along pretty well, and thundered so hard at John Fry's doo., that he thought it was the Doones at least, and cocked his blunderbuss out

frost was over, all we had in the snowy ditches were hares so tame that we could pat them; partriages that came to hand, with a dry noise in their crops; health-poults, making cups of snow; and a few poor hopping red-wings, flipping in and out the hedge, having lost the power to fly. And all the time their great black eyes, set with gold around them, seemed to look at any man for mercy and for comfort.

Annie took a-many of them, all that she could find herself, and all the borsy would bring her; and she made a great hitch near the fire, in the back-kitchen chimney-place. Here, in spite of our old Betty (who sadly wanted to roast them.) Annie kept some fifty birds, with bread and milk, and raw chopped meat,

trudged along in a line; I first, and the other men after me; trying to keep my track, but finding legs and strength not up to it. Most of all John Fry was gronning; certain that his time was come, and sending messages to his wife, and blessings to his children. For all this time it was snowing harder than it ever had snowed before, so far as a man might guess at it; and the leaden depth of the sky came down, like a mine turned upside down on us. Not that the flakes were so very large; for I have seen much larger flakes in a shower of March, while sowing peas; but that there was no room between them, neither any relaxing, nor any the state of the sheep upon the mountain, and the sheep upon the western farm, and the cattle on the upper barrows, scarcely one in ten was saved, do what we would for them. And this was not through any neglect (now that our wits were sharpened), but from the pure impossibility of finding them at all. That great show never ceased a moment for three days and nights; and the trees broke down with weight (wherever the wind had not lightened them), a brilliant sun broke forth and showed the loss of all our customs.

them round and made them dance over the chine of the monster pile, then let them lie like herring-bones, or the seams of sand where the tide has been. seams of sand where the tide has been.
And all the while from the smothering
sky, more and more flercely at every
blast, came the pelting, pitiless arrows,
winged with murky white, and pointed
with the barbs of frost.

But although, for people who had no
shoon the sight, was a very fine one (so

But although, for people who had no sheep, the sight, was a very fine one (so far, at least as the weather permitted any sight at all); yet for us, with our flock beneath it, this great mount had but little charm. Watch began to scratch at once, and to howl along the sides of it; he knew that his charge was buried there, and his business taken from him. But we four men set to in earnest, digging with all our might and main, shoveling away at the great white pile, and pitching it into the meadow. Each man made for himself a cave, scooping at the soft cold flux, which slid upon him at every stroke, and throwing it out behind him, in piles of castled fancy. At last we drove our tunnels in (for we worked indeed for the lives of us,) and all converging toward the middle, held our tools and listened.

The other men heard nothing at all;

middle, held our tools and listened.
The other men heard nothing at all; or declared that they heard nothing, being anxious now to abandon the matter, because of the chill in their feet and knees. But I said, "60, if you choose, all of you. I will work it out by myself, you pie-crusts!" and upon that they gripped their shovels, being more or less of Englishmen; and the least drop of English blood is worth the best of any other when it comes to lasting of any other when it comes to lasting

But before we began again, I laid my But before we began again, I laid m, head well into the chamber; and ther I heard a faint "ma-a-ah" comin through some ells of snow, like a plain tive buried hope, or a last appeal, shouted aloud to cheer him up, for knew what sheep it was-to-wit, the most valiant of all the wethers, who had most valiant of all the wethers, who had met me when I came home from London, and been so glad to see me. And when we all fell to again, and very soon we hauled him out. Watch took charge of him at once, with an air of the noblest patronage, lying on his frozen fleece, and licking all his face and feet, to restore his warmth to him. Then fighting tore his warmth to him. Then fighting Tom jumped up at once, and made a little butt at Watch, as if nothing had ever ailed him, and then set off to a shallow place, and looked for something

Further in, and close under the bank, Further in, and close under the bank, where they had haddled themselves for warmth, we found all the rest of the poor sheep packed as closely as if they were in a great pie. It was strange to observe how their vapor, and breath, and the moisture exuding from the wool, had scooped, as it were, a covered room for them, lined with a ribbing of deep yellow snow. Also the churned snow beneath their feet was as yellow as gamboge. Two or three of the weaklier boge. Two or three of the weaklier hoggets were dead from want of air, and hoggets were dead from want of air, and from pressure; but more than three-score were as lively as ever, though cramped and stiff for a little while.

"However shall us get 'em home?" John Fry asked, in great dismay, when we had cleared about a dozen of them;

which were forced to do very carefully, so as not to fetch the roof down. "No manner of maning to draive 'un, drough all they girt driftnesses."

all they girt driftnesses."
"You see to this place, John," I replied, as we leaned on our shovels a moment, and the sheep came rubbing round us. "Let no more of them out for the present; they are better where they be Watch! here here here they be watch! they be. Watch ! here, boy, keep them."

Watch came, with his little scut of a

round of roping, we four set forth to dig out the sheep; and the poor things knew that it was high time.

CHAPTER XLII

THE GREAT WINTER

It must have snowed most wonderfully to have made that depth of covering in about eight hours. For one of Master Stickles' men, who had been out all the night, said that no snow began to fall until nearly midnight. And there it was, blocking up the doors, stopping the ways, and the water-courses, and making it very much worse to walk than in a saw-pit newly used. However, we trudged along in a line; I first, and the other men after me; trying to keep my track, but finding legs and strength not to the upper sheepey, and set them inside, and fastened them. Sixty-sand-six I took home in the way, two at a time on each journey; and the way, two at a time on each journey; and the way, two at a time on each journey; and the way, two at a time on each journey; and the way, sa Positively kissed me, for the sake of warming ler lips, perhaps, or because she had something proud to say. "Young lady" had her night cap offly, she positively kissed me, for the sake of warming ler lips, perhaps, or because she had something proud to say. "Young lady" had her night cap offly, she positively kissed me, for the sake of warming ler lips, perhaps, or because she had something proud to say. "Young lady" had her night cap offly, she positively kissed me, for the sake of warming ler lips, perhaps, or because them inside, and the say, the way is the positively kissed me, for the sake of warming lary young lady" had her night cap offly, she positively kissed me, for the sake of warming leading the point way, and the way, two at a time on each journey; and the way, two at a time on each journey; and the way, and the way, it and the way, it and the way, it and the way, two at a time on each journey; and the way, and the way, and the way, it and th

valley, and above the laden trees.
Only round the sun himself, and ithe spot of heaven he claimed, clustered a bright purple-blue, clear, and calm and deep.

The tright could feature the council with me that in the "Arctic Council with my mother; not liking to the council with my m

crock upon the hearth-cheeks; many men were killed, and cattle rigid in their head-ropes. Then I heard that fearful sound which never I had heard fearrul sound which never I had heard before, neither since have heard (except during that same winter), the sharp yet solemn sound of trees burst open by the frost-blow. Our great walnut lost three branches, and has been dying ever since; though growing mean as the soul does. And the ancier as the cross was rent, and many score of ash-trees. But why should I tell all this? The people who have not seem it (as I have) will only make faces, and disbelieve, till such another frost comes, which perhaps may never be.

This torrible, weather, kent. Tom This terrible weather kept Tom Faggus from coming near our house for weeks; at which, indeed, I was not

weeks; at which, indeed, I was not vexed a quarter so much as Annie was; for I had never half approved of him as a husband for my sister, in spite of his purchase from Squire Brassett, and the grant of the royal pardon, It may be, however, that Annie took the same view of exclusion for Leyes, and equil not of my love for Lorna, and could not augur well of it; but if so, she held her peace, though I was not so sparing. For many things contributed to make me less good-humored now than my real nature was; and the very least of all nature was; and the very least of all these things would have been enough to make some people cross, and rude, and fractions. I mean the red and painful chapping of my face and hands, from working in the snow all day, and lying in the frost all night. For being of a in the frost all night. For being of a fair complexion, and a ruddy nature, and pretty plump withal, and fed on plenty of hot victuals, and always forced by my mother to sit nearer the fire than I wished, it was wonderful to see how the cold ran revel on my cheeks and knuckles. And I feared that Lorna (if it should ever please God to stop the snowing) might take this for a proof of low and rustic blood and breeding.

And this, I say, was the smallest hing; for it was far more serious that thing; for it was far more serious that we were losing half our stock, do all we would to shelter them. Even the horses in the stables (mustered alto-gether, for the sake of breath and streaming) had long icicles from their muzzles, almost every morning. But of muzzles, almost every morning.
all things the very gravest, to my ap prehension, was the impossibility of hearing, or having any token, of or from my loved one. Not that those three days alone of snow (tremendous as it was) could have blocked the country for more than two days at a time, for full three weeks thereafter, to pour fresh piles of fleecy mantle; neither had the wind where the wind relaxed a single day from the wind relaxed a single day from shaking them. As a rule, it snowed all day, cleared up at night, and froze intensely, with the stars and bright as jewels, earth spread out in lustrous twilight, and the sounds in the air as sharp and crackling as artillery, then in the morning snow again, before the sun could come to help.

It mattered not what way the wind was. Often and often the vanes went round, and we hoped for change of weather: the only change was that it seemed (if possible) to grow colder. Indeed, after a week or so the wind Indeed, after a week or so the wind would regularly box the compass (as the sailors call it) in the course of every day, following where the sun should be, as if to make a mock of him. And this, of course, immensely added to the peril of the drifts; because they shifted every day, and no skill or care might learn them

I believe it was on Epiphany morning, I believe it was on Epiphany morning, or somewhere about that period, when Lizzie ran into the kitchen to me, where I was thawing my goose grease, with the dogs among the ashes—the live dogs, I mean, not the iron ones, for them we had given up long ago—and having caught me, by way of wonder (for generally I was out shoveling long before my "waver, ledy." had her night an off.

morning."

Thereupon I was bent on my usual mercupon I was bent on my usual one nowadays), but round (a very small one nowadays), but Eliza took me with both hands, and I stopped of course; for I could not bear

to shake the child, even in play, for a moment, because her back was tender. Then she looked up at me with her beautiful eyes, so large, unhealthy, and deli-cate, and strangely shadowing outward, as if to spread their meaning; and she said:
"Now, John, this is no time to joke. I

deep.
That night such a frost ensued as we had never dreamed of, neither read in ancient books, or historics of Frobisher.
The kettle by the fire froze, and the crock upon the hearth-cheeks; many men were killed, and cattle rigid in contradiction, and for the sase of novelty, and love of being frozen—that here they always had such winters as we were having now. It never ceased to freeze she said, and it never ceased to snow, except when it was too cold; and then all the air was choked with clittering spikes and a man's skin might. glittering spikes, and a man's skin might come off of him before he could ask the reason. Nevertheless, the people there (although the snow was fifty feet deep and all their breath fell behind them and all their breath fell behind them frozen, like a log of wood dropped from their shoulders) managed to get along and make the time of the year to each other, by a little eleverness. For see-ing how the snow was spreading lightly over everything, covering up the hills and valleys, and the foreskin of the sea, and variety, and the forestin of the sea, they contrived a way to crown it, and to glide like a flake along. Through the sparkle of the whiteness, and the wreathes of windy tossings, and the ups and downs of cold, any man might get along with a boat on either foot to prevent his sinking.

vent his sinking.

She told me how these boats were She told me how these boats were made; very strong and very light, of ribs with skin across them; five feet long and one foot wide, and turned up at each end, even as a cance is. But she did not tell me, nor did I give a moment's thought myself, how hard it was to walk upon them without early practice. Then she told me another thing equally needed to me, although I would not left. useful to me; although I would not her see how much I thought about it. And this concerned the use of sledges, And this concerned the use of steages, and their power of gliding, and the lightness of their following; all of which I could see at once, through knowledge of our farm sleds, which we employ in lieu of wheels, used in flatter districts.

When I had beard all this from her a mere chit of a girl as she was, unfit to make a snowball even, or to try snow-pan-cakes, I looked down on her with amazement, and began to wish a little that I had given more time to books. But God shapes all our fitness, and gives each man his meaning, even as he guides the wavering lines of snow de-scending. Our Eliza was meant for books, our dear Annie for loying and make a snowball even, or to fry snow-

books, our dear Annie for loving and cooking; I, John Ridd, for sheep, and wrestling, and the thought of Lorna; and mother to love all three of us, and to make the best of her children. And was in the love of the children of the constitution of t for loving and to make the best of her children. And now, if I must tell the truth, as at every page I try to do (though God knows it is hard enough). I had felt through all this weather, though my life was Lorne's, something of a satisfaction in so doing something of a satisfaction in so doing duty to my kindest and best of mothers, and to none but her. For (if you come to think of it) a man's young love is very pleasant, very sweet and tickling; and takes him through the core of heart, without his knowing how or why. Then he dwells upon it side-way, without people looking, and builds up all sorts of fancies growing but with working at of fancies growing hot with his own imaginings. So his love is a his own imaginings. So his love is a crystal goddess, set upon an obelisk; and whoever will not bow the knee (yet without glancing at her), the lover makes it a sacred rite either to kick or to stick him. I am not speaking of me and Lorna, but of common people.

Then (if you come to think of it again) lo—or I will not say lo! for no one can behold it—only feel, or but remember, what a real mother is. Ever loving, ever soft ever turning sin to

nember, what a real months is. Ver-loving, ever soft ever turning sin to goodness, vices into virtues; blind to all nine-tenths of wrong; through a telescope beholding (though herself so nigh to em) faintest decimal of promise, even her vilest child. Ready to thank God again, as when her babe was born to her; leaping (as at kingdom come) at a wandering syllable of Gospel for her lost one.
All this our mother was to us, and

All this our mother was to us, and even more than all of this; and hence I felt a pride and joy in doing my sacred duty toward her, now that the weather compelled me. And she was as grateful and delightful as if she had no more claim. upon me than a stranger's sheep might have. Yet from time to time I groaned within myself and by myself at thinking of my sad debarment from the sight of Lorna, and of all that might have happened to her, now she had no protec-

Therefore I fell to at once, upon that Therefore I fell to at once, upon that hint from Lizzie; and being used to thatching-work, and the making of traps, and so or, before very long I built myself a pair of strong and light snow-shoes, framed with ash and ribbed of withy, with half-tanned calf-skin stretched across, and an inner sole to support my feet. At first I could not walk at all, but floundered about most niteously. but floundered about most piteously, catching one shoe in the other, and both of them in the snow-drifts, to the great amusement of the girls, who were come to look at me. But after a while I grew more expert, discovering what my errors were, and altering the inclination of the shoes themselves according to a print which Lizzie found in a book of adventures. And this made such a difference, that I crossed the farm-yard and came back again (though turning was the worst thing of all) without so much as falling once, or getting my staff

entangled.

But oh, the aching of my ankles when I went to bed at night! I was forced to help myself upstairs with a couple of mop-sticks; and I rubbed the joints with neatsfoot oil, which comforted them mop-sticks; and I rubbed the joints with neatsfoot oil, which comforted them greatly. And likely enough I would have abandoned any further trial, but for Lizzie's ridicule and pretended sympathy, asking if the strong John Ridd would have old Betty to lean upon. Therefore I set to again, with a fixed readly not to notice nain or stiffness. resolve not to notice pain or stiffness, but warm them out of me. And sure enough before dark that day I could get better. In fact, the disease spread to along pretty freely: especially improving every time, after leaving off and resting. The astonishment of poor John Fry, Bill Dadds and Jem Slocombe, when they saw me coming down the hill upon them in the twilight, where they were clearing the furz rick and trussing it for cattle, was more than I can tell you; because they did not let me see it, but ran away with one accord, and floundered into a snow-drift. They believed, and so did every one else (especially when I grew able to glide along pretty rapidly), that I had stolen better. In fact, the disease spread to my left arm. "I saw Dr. Chase's Ointment advertised and began using it. Persistent me and I give you a statement of my case with pleasure as I hope thereby to induce some other sufferer to try the same Dr. Chase's Ointment."

There is a wonderful satisfaction in using Dr. Chase's Ointment for you can see from day to day just what results are being accomplished. 60 cents a box, all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

council with my mother; not hising to go without her permission, yet scarcely daring to ask for it. But here she dis-appointed me, on the right side of dis-appointment; saying that she had seen my pining (which she never could have done, because I had been too hard at work), and rather than watch me griev-ing so for somebody or other who now ing so for somebody or other who now was all in all to me, I might go upon my course, and God's protection go with me! At this I was amazed, because if me: At this I was amazed, because I was not at all like mother; and knowin, how well I had behaved ever since the time of our snowing up, I was a little moved to tell her that she could no understand me. However, my sense of the little was the way knowledge of the little way and way knowledge of the little way and wa moved to tell her that she could not understand me. However, my sense of duty kept me, and my knowledge of the catechism, from saying such a thing as that, or even thinking twice of it. And so I took her at her word, which she was no prepared for; and telling her how proud I was of her trust in Providence, and I was of her trust in Providence, and how I could run in my new snow-shoes, I took a short pipe in my mouth, and started forth accordingly.

TO BE CONTINUED.

THE MASTER IS HERE AND CALLETH FOR THEE"

A TRUE STORY—BY THE REVEREND RICHARD W. ALEXANDER

Seated one late Autumn afternoon in my study, I was thinking out a sermon for the following Sunday, when I heard the door bell. My door being ajar, I heard the maid answering a refined

female voice—
"Yes, the Father is at home. What name shall I give him?"
I did not hear the reply, but I was

prepared when a knock came to my

"Come in!" I said.

"Come in!" I said.
"Father, a young lady wishes to see
you. Her name is Miss Wildman."
"Very well—I'll be there," and I
went to the modest little parlor of the
parish-house, where a young woman
arose and very courteously greeted me.
Linad never seen, her before, but her

I had never seen her before, but her inmistakable air of breeding and her educated language told me at once she

was a lady.

She began by apologizing for intruding. She was the daughter of a Presbyterian minister, she said, a non-Catholic, an Englishwoman, with very few relatives in this country, and accidentable beging that my material grand. ally hearing that my maternal grand-parents' name was "Wildman," she parents' name was "Wildman," she could not restrain the desire to speak to

could not restrain the desire to speak to me, although she had never addressed a Catholic priest in her life before. I could not repress a smile, although I perfectly understood her feelings; but I hastened to assure her that I had not the most remote knowledge of my English ancestors, my mother having died lish ancestors, my mother having died when I was very young, and my father was an American. Being born in this country I had almost forgotten my mother's maiden name, or whether I even had relatives in England.

She seemed infinitely surprised and declared it was not that way, across the coest. Kith and kin were sought for

deciared it was not that way, across the ocean. Kith and kin were sought for and acknowledged to the last generation. As I could not satisfy her on any point, or trace any sign of relationship, she arose with a little sigh to depart. In leaving she remarked that she hoped she had found a friend, although she had expected to meet a relative, however distant.

distant.

I willingly agreed with her and in-

I willingly agreed with her and invited her to call again.

Just at the door, she said, "I have been in your church several times, Father, and admired greatly the evident sincerity of your people, but it is such an unintelligible series of ceremonies, I mean your public worship, that although it is very heautiful it is quite mysteriit is very beautiful it is quite mysterious and incomprehensible. The next time I call, will you kindly explain some

time I call, will you kindly explain some of your worship to me?"
"With the greatest pleasure," I said.
"In the meantime I will give you a favorite little book of mine, Miss Wildman, and you will read it and tell me what you think of it?" I gave her the "Faith of our Fathers," She thanked me and left. I went back to my study feeling greatly

interested and not a little amused. It was a fact, my busy parish-work had

Eczema On Head and Arm Four doctors failed after fair trial---

Cure effected by DR. CHASE'S OINTMENT

The average physician is helpless in the presence of skin diseases such as eczema and salt rheum. Some make the mistake of treating eczema as a blood disease and advise internal treatment. mistake of treating eczema as a blood disease and advise internal treatment. Others think only relief is possible and recommend a lotion to afford relief from the itching.

Whatever the cause may be local treatment is necessary to heal up the sores, which otherwise spread over the

body and produce the greatest suffering By far the most successful treatment for eczema is the use of Dr. A. W. Chase's Ointment. You can verify this statement by enquiring of any druggist. This letter is a fair sample of what we

are receiving about every day:

Mr. Geo. Peterson, South Bay, Ont., writes: "I wish to communicate to you the great benefit I received from using Dr. Chase's Ointment. For years I suffered with a skin disease on my head, a sort of eczema. I tried four doctors, sort of eczema. I tried four doctors, giving each a fair trial, but got no better. In fact, the disease spread to my left arm.

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APRIL

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