Jeannie Sinclair.

THE LILY OF THE STRATH

CHAPTER IV.

"A pictur', doctor! a perfect pictur'! Did wer ye see a new-born wean hae sie a crop 'bonny black hair on its wee heid? Weel, declare, if it's no lookin' up wi' as strong a e'e as if it was sax weeks auld! The dear 'ttle lammie!' Doctor Mapp glanced to

ittle lammie!"

Doctor Mapp glanced toward the bed and aw a wan smile resting on the mother's ace. But her eyes were closed, and the mile expressed as much of sorrow as of joy. He stepped forward and bending over her egarded her with silent attention. Then coossessing himself of one of the hands which ay above the coverlit he put his finger on her pulse. She seemed scarcely conscious of the action, or even of his presence by her idea.

Active shook her head by way of a ve answer.

doctor looked at his watch. 'You letter not stay here a moment longer is necessary, he observed. 'Her lady-will require both of us immediately—in n-hour at the latest.' I mak' this drink for her, lay the bairn bosom, and follow ye in a minute or was the whispered answer.

no, not so soon as that,' returned the, 'Stay by her for half an-hour—then an come. It is half-an-hour past midnow.'

or can come. It is half-an-hour past mid-ht now.

It is half-an-hour past mid-th to middle to the bedside and gazed ear-tly on the pale face, with its sharp look pain and misery. Yet to his practised it was a pain and misery that was past her than present. Utter weakness made expression have an aspect of placid re-le, It was the traces of previous suffer-that it bore-fossilized, as it were, medionless stillness of the alabast. Futers.

the motionless stillness of the alabast.r features.
Without speaking another word to the nurse, he went with a soft footstop across the floor, and glided from the cottage.
Half an hour later, Mr. Carrick, having made the invalid as comfortable as circumstances would permit, and left a light burning in the room, also quitted the keepar's house, and proceeded towards the Castle. Then, for a little while, all was silent and solitary about the place, while the sultriness of the warm October night gave place to the sharper air which preceded the dawn of another day. The stars beamed calm and silent in the far-off sky, unmoved as they always are by those scenes of mortal interest which in the night season are often exhibited to their gaze. Serene and undisturbed they shine on while human hearts are filled with fear and anguish. To them, in their remote regions of harmonious peace, the coramotions and tragedies of earth are as nothing. They shine with the same silent awetness on the strewn buttlefield as on the fertile plain waving with the golden beauty of Divine beneficence.

Presently a light sound disturbed the silence which surrounded the keeper's house, and the huge form of wandering Ned might have been seen approaching across the pas-

fertile plain waving with the golden beauty of Divine beneficence.

Presently a light sound disturbed the silence which surrounded the keeper's house, and the huge form of wandering Ned might have been seen approaching across the pasturage from the direction of the hamlet. As he neared the house, although his footsteps had been almost noiseless before, he reduced his pace to a most deliberate gentleness, and moved as if treading upon eggs.

A step or two from the door he stood still and gazed towards the little square window, the light from which was obscured by the apron which Mrs. Carrick had considerately hung over the Had Ned been very currous, he might have got a view of the interior by peeping in at one of the lower corners which the apron did not quite cover, but Ned, rough and rugged though he was externally, was too delicate in his feelings for this. He only listened attentively at the door for some moments, and hearing nothing he cautiously littled the latch and glided in.

The inner door, leading into the one apartment, was shut, but as it had no latch to it, he had only to push it up to gain admittance. "So cautiously did he do this, and so noiseless had been his entrance, that the invalid lying in the bed would not have heard him had not the door creaked on its rusty hinges and drawn her attention.

She raised her heavy cyclids and turned them languidly towards the opening door, then started in alarm when the shaggy unkempt head and hairy face of Ned presented itself. But in a moment she recognized him and smiled gratefully.

'My friend, my kind and helpful friend,' she murmured, in a low, weak voice, from which all pain and anxiety seemed to be gone.

'Helso de concerned to find the circle him and the proper the still him the strength and the strength and the still him the strength and the strength and the strength

"Come forward and see him,' she sai glancing with a smile of pride and sadne at the little form sleeping in her bosom. TO BE CONTINUED.

Married women, says a statistician, on an average, live until forty-five, while unmarried women do not live longer than forty-three. Thus, every man who refuses to marry shortens some woman's life just two years, and thus practically commits homicide. We suggest that the grand juries ought to find bills against every bachelor over thirty-five years

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