

A Queen Among Women

CHAPTER XVI.

"No, no," she said quickly. "Ah, they don't think so, do they?" As she spoke, she looked wistfully toward the door; and Vane, who read every thought of hers took her by the hand and led her back to the entrance.

"You want to speak to them, Di-

She made a gesture of assent; her lips parted and trembled, as she looked down upon the stalwart men mas sed at the bottom of the steps, every eye upturned to her with an eager when they are spoken from the heart:

"Thank you!"

earl murmured "God bless her!" As the soft gleam which fell on priceless if to mark his sense of the fact that furniture, old brocade, illuminated

kept in the background, and said value, came from wax-candles in tiful," said Diana,

The hall, its vast proportions and antique furniture and ornaments place, seemed full of servants, male nity, that Diana held her breath, as. persed, tea was brought in and served on the big oak table, and Diana was free to look round her.

She seemed to have entered an en tirely new world, to have passed from eyes. The very staircase was of stone; the armor, the shields hanging on the

reached the farthest fringe of the Mabel, as they went along the corricrowd, and went to the heart of every dor. Vane took her into the great banone of the faithful fellows, she said queting-hall, with its tapestried walls, its rudely carved fireplace, its decorations of antlers, coats of mail, It was all that was necessary; it though modernized in accordance was done so spontaneously, with with the luxury-loving present, was such heartfelt gratitude, that Vane still eloquent of a bygone age, for glowed with appreciation, and the here there was no electric light, and

walls, the trophies of arms and weapons of the chase, all spoke eloquent-And there were still wonders to "No, no," she said eagerly. "I am come; for, when she and Vane were wonderful, so beautiful. I feel as if

road-sword in your hand and an He laughed. "I don't know about the broad-sword; we shall have to our might, you couldn't realize the gives me. I feel-oh, what is the use of my trying to tell you what I feel!" He drew her toward him and crushed her against his breast. "And

> As they went up the great ston staircase, he told her lightly of the fight that had once taken place on it between some of the Clan Glenaske and another clan, which had succeed ed in gaining an entrance to the cas

> sive, so grand in its modesty and dig-

with Vane's arm round her, she look-

"Some of them got in, right enough out, I believe, none of them ever got ut again. Behold the portraits the family. Rum-looking lot, aren'

their welcome was intended for her, carving and pictures of incalculable "Some of the women are very beau-

sconces wrought from the copper | "None so beautiful as my darling's upon which royal eyes had rested which had been found in some part portrait will be," Dalesford returned, and from which royalty had eaten;

"Oh. Vane, how beautiful! And it's mony were just an my favorite color, too! Why, how and strange to say, the earl, inste did you know it?"

He laughed. "Ask the governor. them with an He got it out of you. Oh, he's as art- the old ful as a magpie when he likes. But

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ness and painful

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I'm glad you're pleased, dearest." "Pleased!" she echoed. "Oh, Vane; it is all too good, too beautiful."

Janet had discreetly vanished into an adjoining room, and of cours Vane took advantage of the fact. "Nothing in this world could be too good, too beautiful for you, Diana,

bout me. Enjoy yourself and be

Janet insisted upon her young mis ress lying down for awhile; but Diana found it difficult to rest, and was soon up and dressing. She listened for the gong, but in place of it there arose the weird, impressive strains of the bag-pipes.

She went downstairs and found She still wore black; but the great Vane smiled at her proudly, her to the drawing-room

The piper was still filling the castle with the strains of the halfmartial, half-joyous strains, and, proud and masterful step, as if he were leading a host to battle; and he led the way to the dining-room, and walked round it twice as the company ook their seats.

The meal was a stately one. How could it be otherwise, seeing that the table was laden with silver plate,

his future daughter, close beside him;

in the great drawing-room, listening Plates, Bowls. to Mabel's light chatter, asked her- Cake Plates and Hangers. dreams, and if it were actually the Teapots, Plain and Fancy. number of years did not help me, but haps she realized it, or nearly realized have been entirely relieved of the it, when she and Dalesford welfaed up

(To be Continued.)

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Information

A letter from the of Quebec, to the Civic Commission. last night's meeting Frederick Sack (or foundlander, had Hale Hospital, Que and that information abouts of the man's quired. The deceas trimmer on the C Quebec ,and his ad other members of th Street, St. John's, Shipping Master of mad was buried at 31st. Any friends of asked to forward they may have conce J. L. Slattery, Secre cipal Council, who v to the proper author

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