With a sudden thrill of pain, he thought of the years com

Why do you ask such a question of me?" She only spoke it again.
We are laid in the ground to rest," said

And she gravely asked, "What then He spoke of an end that is only dust, And a long, long rest from care; But her eyes were filled with a dark dis

Seemed saying, "It is not true!"
"It is not true!" said the hungry love t out of the blue eyes shone,

While her pure young spirit began to m With a strange faith all its own. THE BRIDE OF THE BRIICE

BY DARCY BYRN. CHAPTER I. Where did you meet that curio

little girl? asked Douglas Raburn of against the mantelpiece and contem-

school-friend of mine,' replied Lady Marjorie Bruce, shortly. 'Her parents and she wanted a home, so I sent for

'How old is she ?" Not more than two or three-and-

look at. I wish you joy of your new

subject, Douglas took up a newspaper to close the conversation. His usually smooth temper was ruffled in no

Left an orphan at an early age, his maiden aunt had spoiled him not a little. She was one of those women who mental faculties were limited and her own powers of planning and designing, she tried to manage overybody else's affairs as well as her own; and where failure was the inevitable result, one put it all down to the complications of fate, and sighed over the blindness of in her,' remarked his aunt almost plaintively. ed her to assume a haughty bearhigh, her nose long, her eyes gray and pieroing. She moved with deliberation ness that was meant to betoken he riority in dress. She was a woman natural. Providence had apparently intended her to be a tender if rather a ninded wife, a loving if a weak

in so doing, unfitted for the rude blast of the world, but pre-eminently meant to shine in the domestic circle as an casy-going, placid woman, petted and treated with indulgence by those who loved while they laughed at her foibles. But, unfortunately, she was born to sak and riches and thus enabled to sank and riches and thus enabled to indulge every vagary. When young she attempted to study metaphysics, and gathered therefrom that the of each individual faculty to the fullest ent was the one thing worth living

of soit inferdend fleesting to the feature containing on any analysis of the continue containing on any containing of the containing of th

under obligation to his aunt, and had gone to the bar, winning there a considerable among there a considerable among the renown for astutesiderable among the renown for astuteto work for her, and love to endure bad names. After mutual painful reto work for her, and love to endure bad names. After mutual painful reto work for her, and love to endure bad names. After mutual painful reto work for her, and love to endure bad names. After mutual painful reess and upright dealing. When business (which very often happened) ne- why should I refuse what the gods pro- if my father gave them a certain sum but had an air of piquancy and daintcessitated his presence in town, Lady
Marjorie's house, nicely situated in the
Yet he acce

might be of short duration if this un-

that he never pretended to agree with his aunt's doctrines. Perhaps he was old generation, as you know; all my sisters, who had all married, and the with disdain, and mock that while my two elder and my two bulk of his fortune was mine, free and makes he did not converse her markers her markers he did not converse her markers her ma

nire her for it.'

answered somewhat impatiently. 'It is her presence; she is so insignificant, turban fashion, so as to conceal part tons on her dress.

reply. 'She has dear little hands and with us, Douglas, and to the surpris

looking very much at ease.

mother, a creature born to yield, happy

'I refer to your cousin Claribel.'

word of praise from you.'
'Nil admirari is my motto,' he anof course; she is beautiful, I admit it, but her beauty is ox-like and heavy.'
Lady Marjorie shook her head.

'You have given rein to your criticism till it has overbalanced your

was allowed to go her own way, and the imm who did approach her were concluded by the anternesses of wasness, and left here for more congenito companison.

And now, when our eftery opens, in a secondarie to companison of though. Beffining hed classes the nort and respect he must have general organison of though. Beffining hed classes the more congenited companison.

And now, when our eftery opens, in the good things of this world for a lamp of though. Beffining hed classes the more congenited one one of the congenity of the congenity that it is good things of this world for a lamp of people's mining to see the purely of the congenity of the first time control of the congenity of the congenity of the first time control of the congenity of the congenity of the first time control of the congenity of the cong

'Douglas,' said his sunt, in a quiver expected interloper made herself all ing voice, breaking in upon his reverie, ing that my father would ultimately sufficient to his aunt and catered to 'if you will listen I will tell you what

I have never told anyone before.' She paused abruptly, and he saw change in the wheel of fortune, and that she was under the influence of For the first few years I alone superinthe contemplation brought two deep wrinkles on his brow.

some strong emotion. Her face had paled, and the rigid lines seemed furbued her with ideas large-minded and Lady Marjorie eyed him keenly rowed even more deeply round the broad. Then, unfortunately, my father

the approbation of those around her.

Of Douglas, however, it must be said and was so pitifully weak.

I succeeded in doing so, Douglas, justice. I have vowed that Claribel until, until-'

"She sits there," he continued, 'like a child with her Sunday frock on, apparently so meek and demure."

'You are determined to see no good

'You are determined to see no good relationship that could be traced, but because of his name we chose to establish a connection which gave us the privilege of intimacy. He stayed long with us, Douglas, and to the surprise is ignorant of the fact that her unforand after all, she has come to please again a maiden in her teens, 'but I you, not me. But don't ask me to entertain her, that's all.'

And he lay back in his arm-chair,

looking years much at come ooking very much at ease.

every pleasant woman can become—a keep my vow, and save the girl from a mother? It cost me a struggle to reto critical, observed Lady Marion. so critical, observed Lady Marjorie fuse him, but I did. I thought then that I was a heroine and a martyr to "And yet, replied her nephew with a seculiar smile, 'if I did go into rhap- coward, and dare not stand the ridicule peculiar amile, 'if I did go into rhap-sodies about Miss Chetwynde, I hardly fancy you would be pleased.' coward, and dare not stand the ridicule of my sisters. He went away, but came back two years later, when I had

learned my mistake, and was almost ready to say yes. Having studied my mind for years, I grasped each passing emotion, analyzed it and subjected it

the worn out voice vibrating at the in her heaver's armor? touch of the played out tune. 'I head.

your critineed your
he result is

systematized my conduct; I would be
open and frank towards him, show him
that I had changed and was not
generous act.'

unstable thing before the blast of to see my father, who was confined to temptation. 'If I loved a girl,' he said to himself, had an interview with Lionel, in which poverty for her sake. But as I do not, oriminations we made a compact, that they would leave at once for Australia, Yet he accepted it with a pang, and and never be heard of again, but they suburbs, had always been his headquarters; this pleasant arrangement in life was such a pleasant one.

The many and avere to give Claribel to my care, and pale burnished gold, and most luxurishe was to be brought up according to ant; as Douglas had observed, it was my views. He agreed, no doubt think-

'They went abroad. and the little Claribel was sent to Glenraven Castle had a stroke, and not being able to give through her green eye glasses. Like all weak, timid women, she would do her own way, and then trembled for the firm. even toned voice soothed the was constrained to send her to an speak.

'When my father died it was found given much to have become invisible. where he did not approve, but we must younger sisters lived as other girls lived, I saw from the beginning that we wish to esteem him.

(What is the matter with the content of the present possessor, that I have heard all that has passed What is the matter with the girl's that to be great I must cruch all sen- never married, but the money I can between you. I might have stopped appearance? she inquired presently. timent, all natural emotion, must culleave as I like. Of course all compound it is poor and dresses quietly; I aditivate the mind and harden the heart. shall inherit nothing from me. I had

Here the poor faded eyes were ob- intended her to be a governess, but the Douglas, as he ventured to glance at answered somewhat impatiently. 'It is her presence; she is so insignificant, so tame. Why does she wear her hair urban fashion, so as to conceal part tons on her dress.

There the poor raded eyes were on principal of advanced views has gone on the tiny figure standing so securely by the fireplace, with one little foot on the a system I cannot approve. Claribel had 'no brains,' she said, 'but great fender. Her marble fairness was tinged "Ontil a namesake of ours, one beauty"; so she has cultivated her exby no blush, not even her de
description. And left the interior unfurnished, syclashes stirred in agitation.

Lady Marjorie, weakened my protege? demanded Lady Marjorie girls and our father, a strange dismal sarcastically. tablishment, has been trotted out to confession, feebly assented to the sarcastically. opportunity beat a hasty retreat. TO BE CONTINUED.

reply. 'She has dear little hands and sententious manner which imposed on strangers and casual acquaint as weet low voice. I have no doubt that she sews neatly, reads clearly, and out this delusion. Tall and stately, will suit you admirably, dear sunt; him, here she blushed as if she were were list in the table is a special to the surprise in gnorant of the ract that her unfortures. It is now well known that most diseases are due, not to over-abundance, but the she sews neatly, reads clearly, and is both methodical and patient. She will tell you the truth; I cared for mother and acquaint her of her welfare so elifications as Ayer's so elifications.

strongly even to our very death.

She sank back exhausted, and the parched lips became stiffly still as she waited for her nephews's reply to this Was it the result of half a century

was no sentimental love sick school girl, went on the old lady, on whose strong mind the telling of a simple love tale had such an effect that the withered cheeks were room and the simple love tale had such an effect that

He was high-principled, chivalrously

peculiar to herself. Her hair was a ant; as Douglas had observed, it was swept in one thick band across her the most striking feature about her was her want of color, her face was were scarcely tinged, her teeth were purely pearls

The soft frou-frou of her dress alone was heard as she advanced slowly and quietly to the fireplace; then she looked in Strength, Purity and Fastness. at Douglas as if she expected him to None other are just as good. Be-

It was seldom that he was ill at ease, but at that moment he would have and had to stop half way.

secrets from me.'

'She is a cool customer,' thought by no blush, not even her dead-gold Lady Marjorie, weakened by her

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