LORNA DOONE

CHAPTER LXXIV DRIVEN BEYOND ENDURANCE

Every thing was settled smoothly ad without any fear or fuss that Lorna

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inght with the Doones so lately, and my leading of the combat (though 1 fought not more than need be), and the vanishing of Sir Connselor, and the religions fear of the women that this last was gone to hell—for he himself had declared that his aim, while he cut through the yeomanry—also their re-morse that he should have been made to go thither, with all his children left be-hind—these things, I say (if ever I can-again contrive to say anything), had led to the broadest excitement about my welding of Lorns. We heard that thirty miles around, upon excuse of sec-ing my stature and Lorns's beauty ; but and the love of meddling. Our clerk had given notice that not a man should come inside the door of his church without shilling-fee, and women

Our clerk had given notice that not a man should come inside the door of his church without shilling-fee, and women (as wire to see twice as much) must every one pay two shillings. I thought this wrong; and, as church - warden, begged that the money might be paid if the breasted the size pascent, where the track divided, must be in our reach

last spring of o'erlabored legs, from the inguling grave of slime. He fell back, with his swarthy breast (from which my gripe had rent all clothing), like a hum-muck of bog-oak, standing out the quag-mire; and then he tossed his arms to heaven, and they were black to the elbow, and the glare of his eyes was ghastly. I could only gaze and pant; for my strength was no more than an infant's, from the fury and the horror. Scarcely could I turn away, while, joint by joint, he sunk from sight.

THE CATHOLIC RECORD

It was all too late. Even if he had yielded in his ravening frenzy—for his beard was like a mad dog's jowl—even if he would have owned that, for the first time in his life, he had found his master; it was all too late. The black bog had him by the feet; the sucking of the ground drew on him like the thirsty lips of death. In our fury, we had heeded neither wet nor dry; nor thought of earth beneath us. I myself might searcely leap, with the last spring of o'erlabored legs, from the ingulfung grave of slime. He fell back, Annie all the while looked on with horror and amazement counting herself no second-rate nurse, and this as against all theory. But the quiet lifting of Rath's hand, and one glance from her dark bright eyes, told Annie just to stand away, and not intercept the air so. And at the very moment when all the rest had settled that Ruth was a simple ditor, but could not harm the dead much, a little flutter in the throat, followed by a short low sigh, made them pause, and look, and hope. For hours, however, and days, she lay

A ellow, and the glare of his eyes was g ghastly. I could only gaze and pant; for my strength was no more than an l infant's, from the fury and the horror. Scarcely could I turn away, while, joint by joint, he sunk from sight. CHAPTER LXXV LIFE AND LORNA COME AGAIN When the little boy came back with the bluebells, which he hd managed to find—as children always do find flowers, when older eyes seenone—the only sign fore Ruth refused most firmly to have nd look, and hope. For hours, however, and days, she lay

AUGUST 20, 1910

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Coincidently with this came an invita-tion from my father's brother, to visit him in Africa, where he had gone for his health some years before and was much improved, and had acquired a goodly fortune. Well perhaps you yourself re-member the time that Mr. Bret suddenly sold his entire merchants' exchange at auction and announced his intention of going to Africa to settle. It certainly sur-prised us almost as much as it surprised dear. Nothing else has kejt me alive."
dear. Sothing else has kejt me alive."
dear. Sothing else has kejt me alive."
dear. John 2 Have saved my Lorna's lifet
dear. John 2 Have saved my Lorna's lifet
dear John 3 Have saved my Lorna's lifet
dear soth my the lable a 'to

AUGUST

for class and and woods, on toria, or in the Edward River. But why d little pertain during the wet ment surveyor house only too glad surveyor was assistant, a fe eighteen, was survey a tract Kajaha, and e weeks. Fathe home their he

consented. It was the th and we had h and we had tionalities and home, which This day, and the season, A hard, racing to and tired any and tired, and posed of our h behind the h piazza. Wen ten minutes, Anna touche and motione listen. Just the lawn ou in very earn tell by their tures that i strange thin talking. C managed to sentences. of the talki was, that t had some g hidden in th it was sketc the negro k covered, too covered, too survey but t meant to ge dark friend frightened she clung t to appear c I decided n I was elected found Wald heard. A agitated an membering Anna, he q tried to sm or a romp told us not treasure. disappoint to tell our undue anx But that class, Wab could see and found troubled a When he a the door the windo bed, behin with whice sat down " Pierce for your have long however, fore I do rigidly s two men, are villa danger. it is for t tell my s I ask, Pi-"I am help you dangers save you " That Pierce. Montgoi ways on ways on details a is, in tru let anyo your pa are twe treasure

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