

CHAPTER XXXIV

THE ROYAL PRINCESS COMES HOME

IT was in solid black that the royal princess came home to the beautiful cottage. In the heart of the royal princess there was a sorrow which would never quit it; but Harrison Stuart, when he passed out under the shadow of tall elms, on his way to rest, took with him the specter of fear, which, for so many years, had shadowed the patient eyes of Jean. And he had given her a parting gift; peace!

After they had come back from that solemn journey to the city of the dead, Billy drew Tavy aside into the little room which was to have been her father's sanctuary. There was suffering in his face as well as in hers, but in him, too, there was some strange new thing which had come to him because Harrison Stuart had died.

"I am going away," he told her, holding both her dear hands in his, and gazing down into her dark eyes as if he must look, and look, to fix them within his vision for all time to come.