JULY 16, 1

IORNA DONE

S.E. Delawate.

All our might below that he same have which of large and the property of the merchant of the property of the property of the property of the merchant of the property of the prope

when we were accused of narboring and comforting guilty rebels. Now the reason why the Doones did not attack us was that they were pre-paring to meet another and more power-ful assault upon their fortress; being paring to meet another and more power-ful assault upon their fortress; being assured that their repulse of King's troops could not be looked over when brought before the authorities. And no doubt they were right; for although the conflicts in the Government during that summer and autumn had delayed the matter yet nositive orders had been the matter, yet positive orders had been issued that these outlaws and maintain to tors should at any price be brought to tors when the sudden death of King things

We heard of it first in caurents. Sunday, the eighth day of February, 1684-5, from a cousin of John Fry, who had ridden over on purpose from lock. He came in just before the anthem, splashed and heated from his ride, so that every one turned and looked at him. He wanted to create a stir (knowing how much would be made of him), and he took the best way to do it. For he let the anthem go by very quietly—or, rather, I should say very leasing to some horizont.

many virtues of His Majesty, and self-denial and devotion, comparing his pious mirth to the dancing of the patriarch David before the ark of the covenant; and he added, with some severity, that if his flock would not join their pastor (who was much more likely to judge aright) in praying for the King, the least they could do on returning home was to pray that the King might not be dead, as his enemies had asserted.

that if his flock would not join their pastor (who was much more iikely to judge aright) in praying for the King, the least they could do on returning home was to pray that the King might not be dead, as his enemies had asserted.

Now when the service was over, we killed the King, and we brought him to life, at least fifty times in the church-yard; and Sam Fry was mounted on a high gravestone, to tell every one all he knew of it. But he knew no more than he had told us in the church, as before repeated; upon which we were much disappointed with him, and inclined to disbelieve him, until he happily remembered that his Majesty had] died in great pain, with blue spots on his breast and black spots all across his back, and these in the form of a cross, by reason of Papists having poisoned him. When Sam called this to his remembrance (or to his imagination), he was overwhelmed at once with so many invitatious to and black spots an across, his back, and these in the form of a cross, by reason of Papists having poisoned him. When Sam called this to his remembrance (or to his imagination), he was overwhelmed at once with so many invitations to

and she gathered the bedelothes around her ears every night when her feet were tucked up, and prayed not to awake until morning. In the next place, much rebellion (though we would not own it, in each sense of the verb "to own") was whispering, and plucking skirts, and making signs among us. And the terror of the Doones helped greatly, as a fruitful tree of lawlessness, and a good excuse for everybody. And after this—or rather before it, and first of all indeed (if I must state the true order)arose upon me the thought of Lorna, and how these things would affect her fate.
And indeed I must admit that it had

occurred to me sometimes, or been suggested by others, that the Lady Lorna had not behaved altogether kindly since her departure from among us. For although in those days the post, as we call the service of letterpost, as we call the service of letter-carrying, which now comes within twenty miles of us did not extend to our part of the world, yet it might have been possible to procure for hire a man who would ride post, if Lorna feared to trust the pack-horses, or the troopers, who went to and fro. Yet no message whatever had reached us, neither any who went to and fro. Yet no message whatever had reached us, neither any token even of her safety in London. As to this last, however, we had no misgivings, having learned from the orderlies more than once that the wealth and beauty and adventures of young Lady Lorna Dugal was greatly talked of, both at court and among the common neonle.

bowed it.

Now, on the other hand, all was good. The open palm of spring was laid upon the yielding of the hills, and each particular valley seemed to be the glove for a finger. And although the sun was low, and dipping in the western was low, and dipping in the western was low, and dipping in the western clouds, the gray light of the sea came up and took, and taking, told the Fry; when did His Majesty leave her?

"Day afore yesterday, Twelve o'clock. Warn't us quick to hear of 'un?"

"Can't be," said the minister; "the tidings can never have come so soon. Anyhow, he will want it all the more. Let us pray for His Gracious Majesty."

And with that he proceeded as usualt, but nobody cried "Amen," for fear of being entangled with popery. But after giving forth his text, our parson said a few words out of book about the many virtues of His Majesty, and self-denial and devotion, comparing his pious mirth to the dancing of the patriarch David before the ark of the cover.

and with simple truth and warmth.

The maid has chosen the glittering stars instead of the plain daylight."

Nevertheless I would not give in, al-

the than care about stopping it. Therefore we listened to rumors gladly and shook out, heads with gravity, and predicted every man something, but searce any two keys and correspond to find the ground, and sowed the corn, and the only thing that more than traths when the fire and the ground, and sowed the corn, and the only thing that more than traths when the fire and the ground is made and the ground to the first and the ground to the ground the of a sudden, and treacherously, when the fire flared up at supper-time (for we always kept a little wood just alight in summer-time, and enough to make the always kept a little wood just alight in summer-time, and enough to make the pot boil), then when they would say to me, "John, what are you thinking of? At a word, speak!" I would always answer, "Little John Faggus;" and so

they made no more of me. But when I was down on Saturday, the But when I was down on Saturday, the thirteenth of June, at the blacksmith's forge by Brendon town, where the Lynnstream runs so close that he dips his horseshoes in it, and where the news is apt to come first of all our neighborhood (except upon Sunday), while we were talking of the hay crop, and of a great sheep-stealer, round the corner came a man upon a piebald horse, looking flagged and weary. But seeing half a dozen of 'us, young, and brisk, and hearty, he made a flourish with his horse, and waved a blue flag vehemently, shouting, with great glory.

"Monmouth and the Protestant faith! Monmouth and no Popery! Monmouth, the good King's eldest son! Down with the black usurper, and to the devil with all papists!" thirteenth of June, at the blacksmith's

our parish, nor from Brendon, if I can help it."

And I knew that I could help it; for every one in those little places would abide by my advice; not only from the fame of my schooling and long sojourn in London, but also because I had earned repute for being very "slow and sure;" and with nine people out of ten this is the very best recommendation. For they think themselves much before you in wit, and under no obligation, but rather conferring a favor by doing the thing that you do. Hence, if I cared for influence—which means, for the most part, making people do one's will without knowing it—my first step toward it would be to be called, in common parlance, "slow but sure."

toward it would be to be called, in com-mon parlance, "slow but sure."

For the next fortnight we were daily troubled with conflicting rumors, each man relating what he desired, rather than what he had right to believe. We

from here, as her ought to do. If Jan Ridd say it be true, I will try a most to belave it. Hath the good Duke landed, sir?" And she looked at me over a foaming cup, and blew the froth off, and put more in.

"I have no doubt it is true enough," I answered, before drinking; "and too true, Mistress Pugsley. Many a poor man will die; but none shall die from our parish, nor from Brendon, if I can help it."

"Never mind what they were called," said Annie; "will they cook our dinner for us? But now, John, I am in such frouble. All this talk is make believe." "Don't you cry, my dear, don't cry, my darling sister." I answered, as she dropped into the worm place of the settle, and bent above her infant, rocking as if both their hearts were one; "don't you know, Annie, I cannot tell, but I know, or at least I mean, I have heard the men of experience say it is so

well enough, but see not ht to well enough, but see not ht to believe that they had been right all along, and that we had concealed the truth from them.

For I myself became involved (God il knows how much against my will and my proper judgment) in the troubles, and the conflict, and the cruel work coming afterward. If ever I had made up my proper judgment is all my life, it was mind to anything in all my life, it was mind to anything in all my life, it was the life in particular time, and as stern and the conflict, and the cruel work coming afterward. If ever I had made up my precious soul, for daddy's sake, darling; you precious soul, for daddy's sake." It is sked her what she was going to risk. She would not tell me, but took upper hand, and saw to my cider cans and bacon, and went from corner to cup-

any) he had been baptized.

In the face of such a deed as this, I could no longer refuse to go; and having received my promise, Annie told me (as was only fair) how she had procured that paper. It was both a clever and a courageous act, and would have seemed to me, at first sight, far beyond have been as the face of the proper. But none may guage a seemed to me, at first sight, far beyond Annie's power. But none may guage a woman's power when her love and faith are moved.

and t you know, Annie, I cannot tell, but I know, or at least I mean, I have heard the men of experience say it is so be heard the men of experience say it is so a do for the baby."

"Perhaps I know that as well as you do, John," said Annie, looking up at me with a gleam of her old laughing; "but how can I help crying? I am in such throuble."

"Tell me what it is, my dear. Any grief of yours will vex me greatly; but I will try to bear it."

"Then, John, it is just this. Tom has gone off with the rebels: and you must, ho you must, go after him."

CHAPTER LXIII

JOHN Is WORSTED BY THE WOMEN.

Moved as I was by Annie's tears and gentle style of coaxing, and most of all by my love for her, I yet declared that I could not go, and leave our house and homestead, far less my dear mother and homestead, far less my dear mother and hor in the subject of disguises. It hurt her feelings not a little to make so sad afright of herself: but what could it matter?—if she lost Tom, she must be a far greater fright in earnest, than now she was in seeming. And then she left her child as if there never had been a child before—and away she went in her own "spring cart (as the name of that engine proved to be), without a word to any one, except the old man who had driven her from Molland parish that morning, and who coolly took one of our best horses, without "by your leave" to any one.

Annie thought for a new proper judgment in the troubles, and the conflict, and the cruel work coming and the conflict, and the cruel work coming the conflict, and the cruel work coming and and the conflict, and the cruel work coming and and the conflict, and the cruel work coming and and the conflict, and the cruel work coming and the conflict, and the cruel was dark the sum more form mowing about noon, or a large at the sum more form mowing about noon, or a large at the sum more form mowing about noon, or a large at the sum more form mowing and the cruel work the proposition and make the most of this fine afternous to the way all the while, the old man readily undertook th our Annie had. But gradually all I could see above the elbow, where the bite had been, was very clear, transpar-

Annie, as not content with disgracing us, by wedding a man of new honesty (if indeed any), but laying traps to way to vex you.

"Dear me, nothing, Cousin Ridd; you never do anything to vex me."

"Dear me, nothing, Cousin Ridd; you never do anything to vex me."

"Then I hope I shall do something now, when I say good-by. God knows if we ever shall meet again, Ruth; but I hope we may."

"To be sure we shall," she answered, in her brightest manner. "Try not to look wretched, John; you are as happy as a May-pole."

stayed at home, better in love than in quarreling.

Right early in the morning I was off, without word to any one, knowing that mother and sister mine had cried each her good self to sleep; relenting when the light was out, and sorry for hard words and thoughts, and yet too much alike in nature to understand each other. Therefore I took good Kickums, who (athough with one eye spoiled) was worth ten sweet tempered horses to a man who knew how to manage him; and being well charged both with bacon and powder, forth I set on my wild-goose chase.

in her brightest manner. "Try not to look wretched, John; you are as happy as a May-pole."

"And you as a rose in May," I said; "and pretty nearly as pretty. Give my love to Uncle Ben; and I trust him to keep on the winning side."

"Of that you need have no misgiving. Never yet has he failed of it. Now, Cousin Ridd, why go you not? You nurried me so at breakfast time."

"My only reason for waiting, Ruth, is that you have not kissed me, as you are almost bound to do, for the last time, perhaps, of seeing me."

whence can all my ill luck come?"
And here she showed some signs of crying, knowing that Counselor hated it.

"You shall not have ill luck, my dear.
I have heard all about your marriage to a very noble highwayman. Ah! you made a mistake in that; you were worthy of a Doone, my child; your frying was a blessing meant for those who can appreciate."

"My husband can appreciate," she answered, very proudly; "but what I wish to know is this, will youtry to help me?"

Therefore I drew the off-hand rein at the cross-road on the hill, and made for the town, expecting, perhaps, to have breakfast with Master Huckaback, and Ruth to help and encourage us. This little maiden was now become a very great favorite with me, having long outgrown, no doubt, her childish fancies and follies, such as my mother and Annie had planted under her soft brown hair. It had been my duty, as well as my true interest (for Uncle Ben was more and more testy, as he went on gold-digging) to ride thither now and again, to in had planted under her soft brown hair. It had been my duty, as well as my true interest (for Uncle Ben was more and more testy, as he went on gold-digging) to ride thither now and again, to inquire what the doctor thought of her. Not that her wounds were long in healing, but that people can scarcely be too careful and too inquisitive, after a great ing, but that people can scarcely be too careful and too inquisitive, after a great horse-bite. And she let me look at the arm, as I had been first doctor; and she held it up in a graceful manner, curving at the elbow, and with a sweep of white roundness going to a wrist the size of my thumb or so, and without any thimble-top standing forth, such as even our Annie had. But gradully all I

our Annie had.

bite had been, was very clear, transparent skin, with very firm, sweet flesh below, and three little bluemarks as far asunder as the prongs of a toasting-fork, and no deeper than where a twig has chafed the peel of a waxen apple. And then I used to say in fun as the children do, "Shall I kiss it to make it well, dear?" simple the state of the state o

drink his health, or shout for him."

"I can't make you out to-day, Cousin Ruth; you are nearly as bad as Lizzie. You do not say any bitter things, but you seem to mean them."

"No, cousin, think not so of me. It is iar more likely that I say them, without meaning them."

"Anyhow, it is not like you. And I know not what I can have done in any way to vex you."

powder, forth I set on my wild-goose chase.

For this I claim no bravery. I cared but little what came of it, save for and I will do my best, cousin."

way, and win yo Being at the even as she orde no spurs to win, ones on my boot bill, and made b never to clog wi CHA SLAUGHTE We rattled

being gayly fe again for going. about Cousin was not at all s and indeed I ha loving and mor from her. But will do; and I vexed her almo And now So I put my ho and he threw h Now if I trie all the things t this adventure up and down, a pied me, toget and the things the wiser penarrative, it is all we care to business. Let baeon, his wre Fearing to fearing to (which after 1 I will try to se ful for my stol character, an parish. But t bandied about from pillar t driven quite o

driven quite o known by th Bath, Frome, tonbury, Shep Somerton and or it migh matter; inas nonth at chu weary of wan rest there a Of this, ho for the town soldiers; if a or had fire rumored amo army," as the tacked that

attention to vainly for oor rustic w and went t weary can be Falling a heed of no was all ali glancing, as inch would and even my for several the deepest dream on its and awaken pulling and hair out by being able old landlad wondering " Can't

" Would

that the this night dost! Fie up, and go already; a stop a cant "I would "what ha " what has am for Kin "Then the old would never to awake a to awake a one thing thou art, I thy under zett maid thy size at a blow thi "I lack tress; I be tress; I be this are a thing." At this

being bey me a little reached s thought t those peop headquare county of Ridd," w her ere e had node thought s and here and with first goo abused, a

Now, t keep a m be weary lieves th —this ti other pe