

calling. He went on with the service until he came to the words:

"Who giveth this woman to be married to this man?"

Cromwell stepped forward and said brusquely, "I do."

The clergyman seemed to have forgotten the Commander's presence, and now paused when it was recalled to him; then he went on to the end, and added, in a voice trembling with emotion:

"God bless you, my children, sworn to love and cherish each other in this time of hatred and war. May you live to see what my aged eyes may never behold,—peace upon this distracted land, and the King upon an unchallenged throne."

"Amen, and amen!" said the deep voice of Cromwell, "provided the word 'righteous' is placed before the word 'King'."

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Once more on horseback, and clear of Corbiton Manor, her hand stole into his.

"Well," he said, "which way?"

"If you are willing, I will take the way known to me, and lead you to my home; to-morrow you may take the way known to you, and lead me to yours."

"Frances, I am ready to follow wherever you lead."

And so they went forth together in the glamour of the moonlight.

THE END