A Dark Shadow;

Or, A Coming Vengeance

CHAPTER XXXVII .- (Continued). one side-just as she was wont to stare at the joint of meat offered by the butcher for her approval—then she heaved a long sigh of compassionate resigna-

tion, and said in a pitying tone:
"It's a shocking thing to think of a poor, helpless idiot wanderin' about the world alone, and getting into all Mina?" body to stop him; so I suppose I must!"

Both weddings, though not quite so pearance in its midst. casual, were very quiet ones. Mina was And presently they appeared. The eyes. married first; Tibby was her bridesmaid. house in Eaton Square had, for the first "What can I say to you, Clive?" he married first; Tiddy was her bridesmald. Elisha, of course, gave her away, and Quilton was Clive's best man. There were no guests. They were married in a quiet little country place in Devonshire, and they went back to the rustic inn to eat that now generally obsolete meal, the wedding breakfast. There were plenty of flowers, but no speeches. were plenty of flowers, but no speeches, all her loveliness and youthful grace unless a few words which Quilton spoke presented to the mental picture which a little while before the happy couple Society had drawn-"I believe she was there is no need to do anything, to say drove to the train can be counted as one. He and they happened to be alone for a few minutes, and he took out a moroc-co case from his pocket and handed it to Mina. She opened it, and, uttering an exclamation, looked from one to the other, for the case contained a magnificent spray of diamonds, so large, so brilliant, that she had never seen anything like it.

"It is from Lord Chesterleigh," said Quilton, in his expressionless voice. The color faded from her face, and she and it need scarcely be added that this glanced at Clive. He returned the glance, same modesty confirmed the fervor of and pinned the spray upon her dress. "There are some letters on it," he said in a low voice, "M.C.H."
"C!" she exclaimed unguardedly, then

the blood rushed to her face. She knew that the C stood for Chesterleigh, and it was only natural that her heart should give one throb of pride-not for her own sake, but for Clive's. "You are content, dearest?" he whis-

one of such perfect happiness that in after years they stole away together to repeat it. Tibby made a charming and fairy-like bride and Onitton to his made and onit on the fashionable world petted and carfairy-like bride, and Quilton, in his wedding finery looked so absurdly young tures, her very accent; they quoted her that she declared, with well simulated indignation, that, after all, she had married an infant.

considerable time in somewhat exten- epigrams in paragraphs; and through it sive travelling. His strength came back all, strange to say, and yet not strange to siders a satisfactory alimony:

to him, and Mina blossomed not only to say, Tibby kept that wonderful little into a levely woman, but into so strong bood of home perfectly level into a lovely woman, but into so strong a one that she was able to take her share in Clive's outdoor sports. She learnt to ride, to fish, to walk long distances in fact, she became that precious gift to a husband-a companion.

They might have continued their wanderings for a still longer period but for an approaching event and some sud-den news which made their immediate return to England imperative. Clive brought the news to her as she was sitting in a Florentine garden. He had an open letter in his hand, and, seeing by his face that he had received bad tidings, she rose quickly and went to him. He put his arm round her and said in

She took it mechanically, and read gifts, as his brillian the address; and as she did so, she looked rather aghast. started and uttered a faint cry, for the envelope was addressed to the Right Hon, the Earl of Rafborough. He smil-

or two, then he added in a whisper:

had no right to let you keep the secret a claim that I might never have been able to prove. Mr. Quilton told me so. I was quite content to know that you and he-and perhaps Lord Chesterleigh

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-knew it. And now, dearest, you need Tibby stared at him with her head on ne side—just as she was wont to stare the joint of meat offered by the butter for her approval—then she heaved elation, and Clive, who was swift to interpret her every look and tone, drew her closer, and kissed her.

"You are thinking of the future, She raised her eyes, frank as a child's, and smiled, but still a little wistfully.

"Yes, Clive; but I am not afraid of the

It was not a double wedding. Clive suggested one; but both Quilton and Tibby declined with thanks.

"I once knew a double wedding," she said, "where the parties got so mixed up that one of the bridegrooms went off with the wrong bride. Of course I shouldn't mind exchanging William Henry; in fact, I dessay I shall have to advertise him presently in one of those papers where people offer to exchange a clothes horse and a tea caddy for a sealskin jacket; but it's only fair

"Yes, Clive; but I am not afraid of the big world while you are by my side."

That big world of which Mina had spoken, both political and social, had by no means ceased to take an interest in Clive Harvey. Of course, all sorts of rumors had flown around purporting to account for his sudden disappearance, not only from political life, but from had almost secretly married a girl from the blow even Tible for a sealskin jacket; but it's only fair for a sealskin jacket; but it's only fair to give him a little trial."

And Quilton had nodded complete approval of her sentiment, and said:

Which he had done so much: but no one could give any accurate information about his bride, the cause of his withard area. drawal from the Parliamentary arena, me-everything." "Yes; Tibby and I are going for a walk one day, and I shall say, like the man in Dickens's book, 'Why, here's a church! Extraordinary coincidence! Let's go in and get married!"

Both weddings, though not quite 50 personce in its midst

> presented to the mental picture which derstand. There is nothing to be done, quite a common person, my dear; a fac- anything. Let me take you to her." tory girl, or one of those singing people"-is to describe the sensation inadequately.

> She was at once received, not only into favor, but with a fervor of admiration which, as Clive laughingly declared, was calculated to increase the size of the beautiful little head which he loved so well. It need scarcely be said, however, that Mina bore the laurels of her leigh's bedside, when he was dying. But social success with her native modesty; her admirers.

But if Mina's social success may be described as extraordinary, there is only one word by which to designate that of Tibby, when, yielding to Mina's insistence, she appeared at Mina's side; and that word is phenomenal. She leapt into popularity at one bound, and Quilton and Clive stood by and watched her, the pered.

"More than content," she responded in as low a voice. "No one need know but slightest sign of surprise, as Tibby ourselves, Clive; but—but I am glad to soared triumphantly through the celes- ety's exploration of the ruins of tial realms of what she called "the up-

essed her; they copied her walk, her gessharp Cockney sayings, and were never tired of laughing at and applauding her Clive had retired from office and from ciety papers presented her portrait in Parliament, and he and Mina spent a their supplements, and embalmed her head of hers perfectly level

you mustn't be afraid of them. They get the pull of you then. F'instance, last night when the Duchess of Milbury CHAPTER XXXVIII.

Mina did not attempt to console Clive with words; but her arm stole round his neck, and she drew his head down to her. They went into the villa; and Clive gave her the letter to read.

"It has been delayed, following us about," he said, looking at the Post Office marks on the envelope.

She took it mechanically and the post Office marks on the envelope.

She took it mechanically and clive gave her the letter to read.

She made up the bouquet the Duchess, and that the Duchess was on the 'halls,' and that she ran away with that softy the Duke, when he was Lord Poultry, and used to hang about the stage doors."

Quilton laughed with a quiet enjoyment; but Elisha—he was a great swell by this time, and was almost time, and was almost time. The provided in a most summary fashion, but if she renounced her lord and master, a hard fate was hers, for the second tablet reads:

"The provided in a most summary fashion, and was almost times ago the wife could be diversed in a most summary fashion, but if she renounced her lord and master, a hard fate was hers, for the second tablet reads:

"The provided in a most summary fashion, and was almost times ago the wife could be diversed in a most summary fashion, but if she renounced her lord and master, a hard fate was hers, for the second tablet reads: asked me if Mina was once a flower girl

"What did she say, Tibby?" he asked ess," replied Tibby, with a grin. "She looked me up and down for a minute; "Yes, dearest; you see I succeed to the then she burst out laughing, a regular title, to Rafborough, by poor Bertie's death." They were silent for a moment or two, then he added in a whisper: you are: plucky too! I'm very fond of river. If Rinum to Bashtum, his "You have come into your own, Mina; that sister of yours—though how she Fate has, in a measure, restored that of came to be your sister goodness only which she robbed you. There have been knows! She's coming to stay with me times when my conscience has cried out at Milbury, and you must come to. Mind, against the sacrifice which you have made so willingly, so nobly; I have felt sometimes a poignant remorse that I you."

Of course, Clive was proud of Mina's success-he was almost as proud of "No, no, Clive!" she urged quickly. Tibby's—but as the Season wore on and "The decision rested with me. Nothing would have induced me to put forward return was announced, he had some far-off days, and wages were small grave and anxious moments; for he accordingly. One brick, dated 2200 knew that the ordeal of meeting with them would have to be gone through. B.C., records a contract by which a How should they meet? Lady Edith man hims a son from his mother had formally terminated their engagement by a note of two lines, written at Talnymuir soon after her arrival. at Talnymuir soon after her arrival. Clive knew, more by Quilton's manner than his words, that Lady Edith had half consented, probably without knowing the extent, or the murderous character of the plot, to Sara's attempt to avenge her mistress's supposed wrong. He acquitted her of a full knowledge of the diabolical plot, which Sara had so very nearly carried out with Koshki's assistance, but she had been so nearly concerned in it that he wondered how concerned in it that he wondered how she would bear herself at their first

It was therefore, with some trepidation that he heard, one night when he and Mina, and, of course, Tibby—were at a reception at the French Embassy, the Chesterleigh's names announced.

He turned to Mina, who was at his side surrounded by the usual court of admirers and drawing her a little apart. admirers, and, drawing her a little apart.

said quietly: "Lady Edith is here." to have been surprised-instead of displaying any embarrassment, Mina drew can't, herself up, and smiled at him. And she throat. Clive thrilled with pride, and felt reassured. A little later he met the Chesleigh went pale; then, as he scanned mortals to perform wonders.

Clive's face, the color came back to his countenance—it was sadly aged and worn—and he held out his hand, and gripped the one Clive quickly gave him. The two men looked at each other with all their old affection glowing in their eyes; then Clive turned to Lady Edith. She, too, had changed; say, rather, that she had gone back to the Lady Edith, the proud and haughty Lady Edith of the days before she had met Clive Harvey. Her face was no paler than usual, but her lips were curved proudly, her lids haughtily half-lowered. She gave him the tips of her fingleted reviewed and compared Clive's face, the color came back to his ed. She gave him the tips of her fingers, and, erect as an arrow, she met his half-sad, half-embarrassed gaze, quite with never-failing gusto at the sew-

"How do you do, Lord Rafborough?" borough here?"

Lady Edith surveyed her in silence

"I am so glad to meet you, Lady Rafborough; your husband and I are old

There was a slight but eloquent pause; then Mina—the gentle Mina!—returned the blow with a skill and spirit which spicuous and convincin', take it by

even Tibby might have envied. "Yes, I know," she said very quietly, could give any accurate information her eyes meeting the haughty ones of about his bride, the cause of his with- Lady Edith unflinchingly. "He has told Lady Edith faced the dark grey eyes

as unflinchingly for a moment; then with a forced smile she turned away. Lord Chesterleigh had drawn Clive aside. The poor old man was trembling, there was something like tears in his

"I understand," he said; "we both un-"Not now-not here, in this crowd, Some time when we can be alone, Clive. It must be soon, for I am a broken man, as you see—and the doctors tell me. Let me meet her alone, when I can unburden my heart, when no other eyes but hers are looking on."

That meeting came at Lord Chester no record of it shall be set down here. THE END.

DIVORCE IN BABYLON.

Long-Dead People.

The archaeologists who are conducting the German Oriental Sociancient Babylon, Nineveh, and The other marriage took place a month per ten." No function of any import- ancient Babylon, Nineven, and later, when Clive and Mina had return- ance was considered complete without Ashur, have deciphered two brick

One of the tablets tells of a divorce case, in which a man, who witty comments and rejoinders. The So- has made up his mind that he cannot live with his wife any longer,

"They are just like anybody else, Wil- balat, will give, of his own free liam Henry." she informed Quilton after one occasion of particular triumph. "They are just like the people down at Bunini, her son, four quas of food the Rents, only they've got the habit of washing their faces, and always eating with their forks instead of their knives. They're just as fond of a lark, and just one pi of sesame, one pi of salt. as easy to get at; and you've only got to show that you consider yourself quite as good as they are, if not a little better, to get on with them all right.

There's only one thing you must to do one pi of sesame, one pi of salt, which is at the warehouse. Naid Marduk will not increase it. In There's only one thing you mustn't do, case she flees to Nergal, the flight shall not annul it.

"Done at the office of Mushezib-

bridal present shall be twenty she-"Oh, she's not a bad sort, the Duch- kels of money. If Bashtum to Rinum, her husband, shall say, 'Thou art not my husband,' they shall wife, shall say, 'Thou art not my wife,' he shall pay ten shekels of money as her alimony."

The alimony provided in this case was about six dollars and twenty cents, according to Professor Eiseman hires a son from his mother, to labor for two and a half shekels a year-about one dollar and fifty-five

Do you suppose anybody wants to see your views in print?

"Well, it's better than talking to

In the Neck.

Cohen-Could you lend me ten dollars, Jake, until next week? To his surprise-and yet he ought not Goldberg-It hurts me to say I can't, Abe, I got quinsy sore-

Envy has been known to mové

REALLY MEAN.

related, reviewed, and compared ing circle, the post office, and round she said very slowly. "What a time it the social stove of the general is since we have met. Is Lady Rafstore. Opinions differ as to which Clive could not speak; the mere man is the meaner, but the palm is casions; and he is no match for the woman. He indicated Mina by a wave of the hand, and Lady Edith glided on. She had heard of Mina's social triumph; but, all the same perhaps she was a little which in time of drought a neighman is the meaner, but the palm is all the same, perhaps she was a little startled by the beauty, the grace, the absolute self-possession of Lady Rafborough, who turned to receive her as she approached.

Lady Edith annual to relieve the stience barn in the absence of the owner. barn, in the absence of the owner. for a moment, and both the women's However, Uncle Eli Emmons, senior gossip of the village, inclines to Hiram.

"Hiram Doane mayn't have done any one mean thing quite so conitself," he recently admitted, "but then, Hiram is jest made up of meanness. There ain't anythin' else to him; nary a vice, nary a virtoo. He's mean, and there you got him."

"Wa-al, I don' know," drawled it there a purpose." Alonzo Peters. "He ain't a shinin' light, that's a fact; but I ain't any larruping that mare was made up my mind so fur's to say he spared was my doin's, not Hiram's. ain't got any virtoos, Uncle Eli. He had a sale dependin' on whe-There's kindness to dumb beasts, ther we made the train or not, and Clive laid his hand upon the old man's now. I drove up behind him once, he wanted we should make it. We and his boy leaned forrads and did, too, and then the old skinflint mare so's I shouldn't get by; and he gave me. And me his next-door But Lord Chesterleigh shrank back. Hiram, he snatched it away, and neighbor!" fair screamed at him, 'Don't you | "Cy Matthews will sure have to but he was mighty consid-rate of men." the mare."

"I'm not so sure of that, 'Lonzo. piped up Uncle Si Bonney, pacifi. I rode to the station with him yes-Light on Domestic Affairs of These terday, and when it looked as if 'em, I guess. He used to stop his we mightn't make the train, I grab- tall clock every night to spare the bed the whip, same way, and he works, and set it again next mornyelled at me to stop; but it wa'n't in' by the risin' of the sun." consideration for the mare. 'Don't you use that whip!' says he. 'It's as good to-day as 'twas the day I got it throwed in along with the buggy; but you don't s'pose 'twould ha' been, do you, ef I'd frayed it out whackin' a tough brute's hide? You jest reach under the seat, and you'll find an old fishin' pole Benny cut in the woods

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-it's long and limber, and I keep

"Sure enough, there 'twas, and grabbed the whip, and teched the charged me a quarter for the lift

ever use that whip on her! Don't look to his laurels!" chuckled Unyou darst!' and he was givin' him cle Eli. "What did I tell ye? thunder as long's I could hear af- Hiram Doane, he's mean clear ter I'd passed 'em. I can't say he through. The town's a right to be was exactly gentle with the boy; proud of him for a perfect speci-

"They both got it from their "Umph!" broke in another voice. Gret-Gret - Granther Billington," cally. "He was closer'n either of

> An attorney was cross-examining a witness. "You say you left Montreal on the 16th?" "Yes, sir," replied the witness. "And returned on the 28th?" "Yes, sir." "What were you doing in the interim?" "I never was in such a place," he replied indignantly, with heightened



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