

CHAPTER XL.
 Two hundred feet, it one. Hopl Jim
tell from the lip of the clif. Then suid-


Moistened His Parched Lips and
Throat.
yourself to her, out of sheer, down-
 Phi tell you what I call it-lunacy!"
"Don't be an ass!" Alan responded temperately, gathering the reins to-
gether and instinctivel lifting a foot
to the stirrup. "Who warned us yesterday in time to prevent our being
crushed by that rock? Judith! Why vas she separated from Marrophat
and the others-alone up there when hat beast ereaked up behind her-O, her and roped her to that broneo-it
it wasn't because she had broken with LLem for good and all and started to
"ght on our fide?",
"Yaure raving," Barcus commented
in a hopeless tone. He looked to the
girl "Roter liss. In a hopeless tone. He looked to the
girl Rooe- Miss Trine-reason witb
iths madman-"
Droping the ginses, the sirl came this madman-
Dropping the glasses, the girt came
swifty and confdeatly to her loveriz swititly and contidentiy to her lover:
side. Hitring her lips to his.
"Go, sweetheart" she told him
"Sto "Go, sweetheart!" she told him
"Save her if you can!"
With a look of triamph for the bene
mis on With a log of trimph for the beer
fit of Mr. Barcus Alan Law gatherec
Rose Trine itot hts arms
"Did you dream for an instant Rose
and "Did you dream for on instant Rose
would see her own sister carried tic
ber death if anjthing could be dont to avert tt-no matter what we may
have suffered at Judith's hands:" With an indignant grumt, but con-
siderate none the less. Mr. Barcus siderate none the less. Mr. Barcus
caught up the glassee and turned his
back. . . "Go on:" he grumbled, pretending
to ingore the hand Alan ofered him
from the sadde. "Tve got no patience
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 And toward the middcle of the arier
noon he fancied that something re warded one such effort: somettin
for in instant suam athwart the fel
of the glasses: something that seem of the glasses: something that seem
on move like a weary horse with human figure bound to its back
But now the phenomena were But now the phenomena were dis-
ceribibe which, hid he been more des
ert wise, would have made him pause and think betore he ventured farther
rom those hills, already be, ond reach as they were.
His sirst aupreciated warning came
when the surface of the desert sesmed to lite and shake like the top of a
canvas tent in a gale. At the same
time a time a mighty gust of wind swen
athwart the waste, hot as a furna
blast. In a trice dust heated particles that stung of the flesth
like a myriad needles. And then a che pess fell, the twillight of hades, a cop
perceolored pall. Nothing remained visible beyond arm's length.
Blinded, half suffocated, unspeak ably dismayed and bewildered. the
broncho swung round, buek to the
blast, and refused to budge another Inch.
Himelf, more than halfdazed,
still hounded by his nightmare vis of Judith. Alan dismounted to escal
being torn bodily from the asdto b
that bellish sand-blast, and seizing the bride sought to draw the ho
on with him. He wasted hls strength in that
deavor: the animal balked, plant deavor: the animal balked, plante
its boots deep tn the sand, stiffene
its legs and resisted with the stul its legs and resisted with the stub
borniness of a rock; then, of a sudden jerked his head smartly, snapped the
bride from hls grasp and flung away
scudding before ase seudding before the storm.
Pursuit was oot of the questic

| from his hand of the broncho. <br> For a moment he stood rooted consternation as in a bog-with arm uithrown across hls face. |
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