

**THE STORY OF A
PENITENT:
LOLA MONTEZ**

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The story of a penitent: Lola Montez by Various

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"Is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?"

Zech. 3 : 2.

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"He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.

"And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God."—PSALM 40 : 2, 3.

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LOLA MONTEZ.

A BRIEF outline of the life of the remarkable woman who is the subject of this little sketch is all that can be given; and all that is essential to illustrate an added instance of the power of divine grace to rescue a sinner deeply dyed in guilt, and to minister to the truly penitent spirit that peace of the Lord "which passeth all understanding."

ELIZA ROSANNA G. was born in Limerick, Ireland, in the year 1818, of

highly respectable parents. Her father was Captain G., of the British army, and her mother of Spanish descent. While she was yet an infant, her parents sailed for India, where her father died soon after their arrival. Her mother, having again married, subsequently became a resident of Montrose, in Angusshire, on the east coast of Scotland.

Here ELIZA, at the early age of five or six years, was placed at a boarding-school; and incidents are related by a schoolmate, who was the intimate associate of her girlhood, which show that striking traits of character had begun to develop themselves in her, even at that early age. She was perverse and willful, though at the same

time warm-hearted and impulsive ; and the severe treatment which was a part of the system of Scottish education of that day appears to have been most injudicious, and most unhappy in its effect upon such a temperament as hers.

She was sent from thence to a convent in France, where her education was completed ; and afterward took up her residence in Bath, England, with her family.

In accordance with the selfish and ambitious views of her relatives, it is said she was betrothed to a gentleman very much her senior, and entirely uncongenial. To avoid this unsuitable connection, she eloped with a British officer, and accompanied him to India.

After a brief experience of married life, a separation took place, and she found her way again to England. She had some further difficulty with her relatives, and determined to go upon the stage. This course completed her estrangement from her family, who at once disowned her, and put on mourning, to signify that she was dead to them.

Her striking histrionic talents and personal graces soon attracted marked attention. Followed by popular applause, she visited the prominent capitals of Europe, was received at the royal palace at Dresden, and in the court circle at Berlin.

At Munich she became the favorite of the weak King of Bavaria, over

whom she exercised a strange fascination. She was created Baroness of Rosenthal and Countess of Lansfeldt. The king also settled a large estate upon her, with feudal rights over a population of two thousand persons. She became interested in politics, and a prominent intriguer at the Bavarian court.

The natural kindness of her disposition, her large sympathies and liberal tendencies, induced her to use her power for the good of the people. She is said to have shown wisdom and ability in its exercise, foiling, by her skill and audacity, the designs of Metternich and of the Jesuits. Her policy, however, excited the opposition of the Bavarian cabinet; and the dis-