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"IT IS A WEIRD AND GRUESOME SPECTACLE"

(Page 246)

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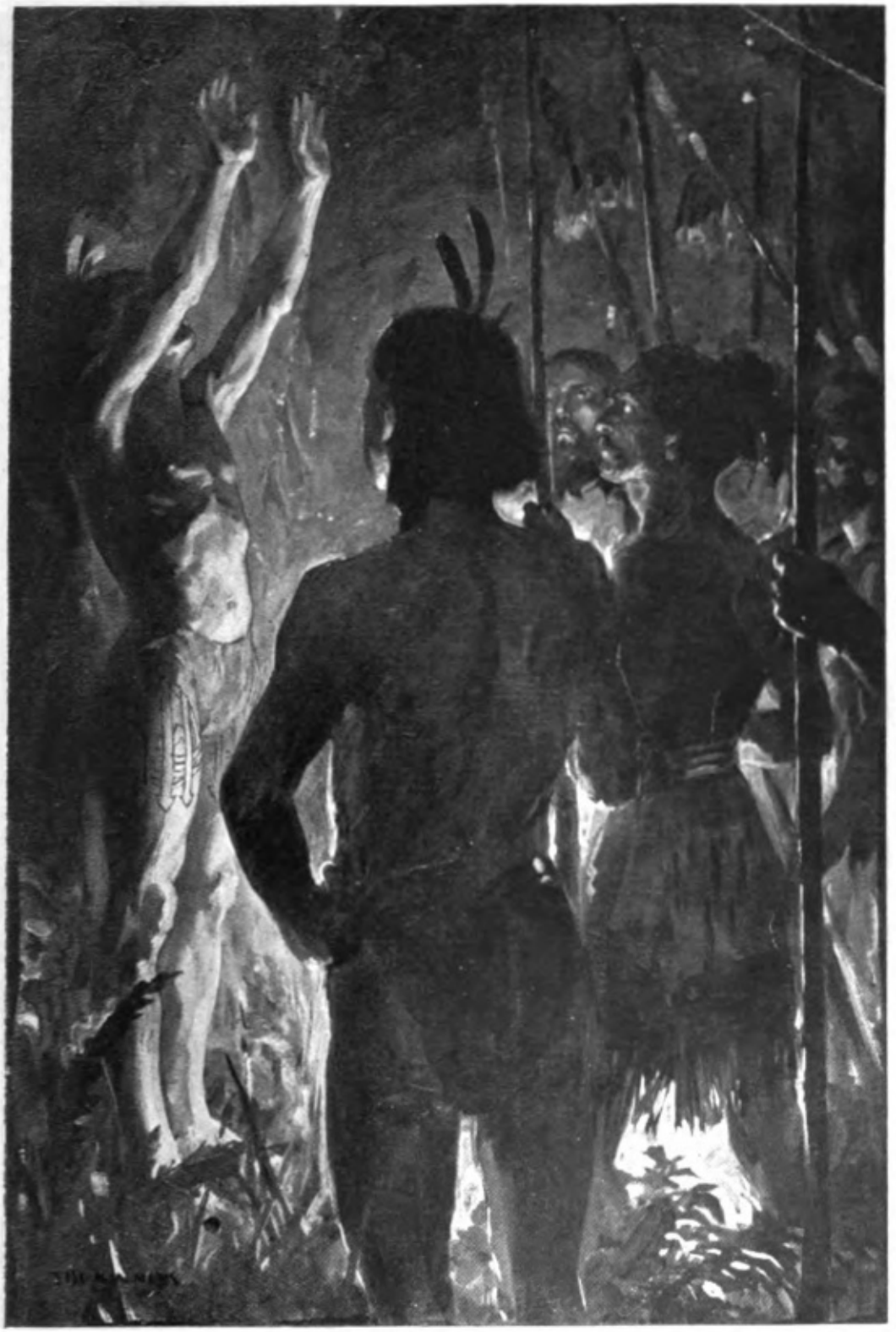

"'STAY, O ARIKI!'"

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bone handle of which was elaborately and beautifully carved. Such a weapon would have attracted attention anywhere, yet, search as they might, the authorities could find no one who had ever before seen it, or who could explain the meaning of the following peculiar figure damascened into its metal:

Furthermore, Mr. Moreton's clothing had shown evidences of a struggle, and the ground about his body, moistened by the afternoon shower, exhibited the clearly defined footprints of two other men. This led to the belief that two men were engaged in the murder, a theory which gained additional credence from the testimony of one Michael Flaherty, who came to police headquarters and volunteered the following information:

"I coome inter th' park about an hour befoore sundown an' trun mesilf down on th' grass near the aist intrunce. Oi'd been a-havin' a glass or two, an' so Oi didn't notice how damp th' ground wuz. Well, afther Oi'd sprawled there a whoile, Oi hears a couple o' min talkin' low-loike to aich ither, jist on th' ither soide of a cloomp o' bushes. Oi didn't pay no 'tintion to phwat they siz,—Oi was dramin', mebbe—till all of a suddint Oi heerd somethin' that brought me oop standin'. 'His cane is moi head,' siz one o' the min. 'Yer head is yer own,' siz the ither, 'but th' watch is moi heart.' Whoilst Oi was a-thryin' to make out phwat all this mint they walks aff, an' that's th' lasht Oi sees o' thim. Whin Oi rid in the paapers about the missin' watch an' cane Oi t'o'ght o' phwat Oi'd heerd an' conclooded Oi'd betther coome oop here an' till it."

Thus it was that before the doctors would permit anyone to question Mrs. Moreton, the authorities had abandoned all thought of attempting to fasten the crime upon her. Then they learned of one Paolo Orsini, a

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"'WE WILL REST NOW FOR THE DAY'"

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