"Well, we've taught him a lesson,

Ha! Still frightened, I see. Well.

Ross to call them away.

that carrion for the buzzards."

lighted the waste.

the ringing of a bell.

back toward the hills.

is Evangelina

have a way with women; I dare say

nize his prisoner.

SYNOPSIS.

CHAPTER 1-Don Esteban Varona, a at Cobo. "We've accomplished some-Cuban planter, possesses a great treasure This wealth has been hidden in well on the estate by Sebastian, a slave, and only he and his master know the secache. Don Esteban's wife dice at birth of twins, Esteban and Ross. Esteban marries the avartetous Donna cabel who knows there is hidden treastre and tries to wring the secret from Sewetten. When the slave refuses she tries burt him by having Evangelina. laughter, whom he loves dearly and who the special servant of the twine, sold.

scheming Don Esteban risks Evangeline Cueto said I would find him here, to daughter. Sebastian kills Don Este-

CHAPTER III-Many years Donna lea. you'll be glad to tell me everything can she had married A few years later by and by." Then, seeing that his sel searched for the hidden wealth of the the seeks to marry Rosa to the rich Don men risked a scorching in their the American, and awaits his return from search of the but and were already New York, whence he has gone to break quarreling over the scanty plunder aughter Esteban to secretly aiding the which it afforded, he turned from

CHAPTER IV-Donna leabet to at the y of Pancho Cueto, her unecrupuwe administrator, who knows the deeds to the plantation are lost with the treasure. One night she walks in her sleep and meets her death in the treasure well Coteban and Ross are forced to fice when She flung herself upon the prostrate Cueto deneunces them as rebels

CHAPTER V. Rosa writes to O'Retlly of their plight and urges him to come and save her

deepening in the cast, and as soon as CHAPTER VI-O'ficilly soon lands in a Cuba but finds he will have hard work to reach Ross as communication with the Insurrector is difficult and danger-

Branch newspaper man who is a victim walls of the boblo had fallen away of tuberculosis and they plan a way to to ashes, its skeleton of poles and its Sotn the Insurrector together

CHAPTER VIII In the meantime Cueto colunteers, execuated for his cruelty, to men together and gave the word the hiding place of Esteban and Ross

Marauders.

CHAPTER IX.

The surprise was easily effected, for Colonel Cobo's men were accome at her. She brushed the tears from nothing, saw nothing, until out of the you done harm enough?"



She Began to Struggle Like a Cat.

twice; then a paim closed over her mouth and she began to struggle like a cat.

Evangelina, who had waked at the of the but, the rickety, bark-covered walls buiged and creaked. Over all counded the shricks of the negress battling in the pitch-black interior like an animal in its lair. Then someone set fire to the thatch; the finmes licked up the dead palm leaves to the ridgepole, and the surroundings

leaped into view. Ross saw a swarthy, thickset man in the uniform of a colonel of volunteers, and behind him Pancho Cueto. Tearing the hand from her lips he gave no heed. Rosa beard the officer say:

"Where is the young fellow? hear nothing but the squeaks of that

common weach." Evengelina's cries of rage and debobio ran two armed men, brushing sparks from their clothing. A third followed, dragging Evangeline by one

Rosa felt herself swooning, and she There followed a moment or two dur- to dissolve with terror. maked arm. knew nothing of what immediately ing which there was no sound except After a conference with Asensio be followed. After a time she felt her. the breathing of the horses and the decided that they must prepare for and ride fast. Now, adios and good self shaken, and heard the colonel ad | creak of saddle leathers as the riders flight, and late that afternoon they all | tuck."

drenning her.

that black fellow?"

ver his shoulder and Jerked out his outside; he reasoned that the streets mount into a swifter gallop. It was that book which Alvarado, the dentist, The but was but a crumbling skel- he stole out into the ball and breathed

the low ground

through the soft red earth of the densest shadows and the numerous shouting of men. His sudden appearance overhanging balconies, he set out at a seemed briefly to paralyze the ma- brisk trot. rauders. It was a moment before A light showed through the barred city!" they could drop their spoils, unsling windows of the Alvarado home, indi- "They have audacity, ch?" their rifles, and begin to fire at him, cating that the family was in. After The roofs were black with people and by that time he had covered half some fumbling O'Reilly laid hold of now. Manin came hurrying down into said Cueto, grinning apprehensively the distance to his sister. A bullet the latch; then, without knocking, he the store, thing, anyhow, ch?" He nodded at brought his borse down and the boy opened the front door and stepped in. "She's all that I told you, went flying over its neck. Nothing His sudden appearance threw the whispered. "They're fighting out you." but the loose loam saved him from occupants into slarm: a woman cried der in the woods. There has been Colonel Cobo took time to scrutt- injury. As he rose to his feet, breath- out sharply; a man whom O'Reilly less and covered with the red dirt, identified as Ignacio Alvarado himself "Yes! She's a pretty little spy- there came a swift thudding of hoofs leaped to his feet and faced him, exquite a prize, truly. Now, then!" and Asensio swept past him like a claiming: His thick lips spread; he spoke to rocket. Esteban caught one glimpse her more gently. "I want you to tell of the negro's face, a fleeing vision



The girl rose; her face was color- Asensio Siashed Once at Him With His Long, Murderous Machete.

"What have I done to you? Don't-" distended yellow eyes, of fist, distortspon Colonel Cobo. The colonel, who he will keep you posted as to our proged features; then Asensto was fairly Must I bind those pretty hands or..." had dropped his burden, now tried to ress. Now go before someone comes." with a trooper who had fired almost

in his face. Cobo's men, led by the terrified Panthe Cueto, turned and fled for cover, believing themselves in danger of anaibilation. Nor was the colonel himover the hills and into the San Juan, self in any condition to rally them, for Asensio knew the country well, for Asensio's blade had cloven one Mid-afternoon found them in sight of full dark cheek to the bone, and the

La Joyn Cueto's came was thick and shock and pain had unnerved him. high; it was ready for the knife or The field was small, the jungle was The incendiaries dis riose at hand. A mement and the inmounted in the shelter of a wood and tertopers had vanished into it, all but removed the bags which they had me, who isy kicking among the broad carried on their saddles. Inside these malanga leaves, and over whom Asenbags were several sankes, the largest slo kept spurring his terrified horse, perhaps eight feet in length. To the lancking downward with insance fury.

tail of each the negroes fastened a. This was the first hand-to-hand enleather thong, and then to each thong counter Esteban's men had had, and a length of telegraph wire, the end their swift victory rendered them fero he passed the Isla de Cuba. Johnnie of which had been bent into a loop rious. Flinging their guns aside, they to hold a bundle of oil-sonked waste. went crashing into the brush on the These preliminaries accomplished rail of their enemies.

rage and quivering at every sound of further sign. to shrivel and to wave as the steady soth of them were fairly hysterical. stherwise quite whole.

that his work of devastation was well but, was a strange scene of rejoicing. nal, O'Reilly hastened down the walk. under way, then he led his followers Asensto recovered now from his burst. Then at last, to his great relief, he of savagery, was tearful, compassion beard a sibilant In the shelter of a ravine the party ste; his comrades laughed and chat- "Pest! Pest!" after dark when they finished. The they recounted their versions of the ban waiting. The latter began rapnegroes, who were thoroughly tired, encounter, each more fanciful than the idly: were for spending the night here, but other, until it seemed that they must

torgive a deep humiliation. Doubttees he would put a price upon the beads of all of them, and certainly he

of charred bedclothe

gave way to the sparser growth of to his room he saw that the lamp to the kallway flared and smoked at ev. frequency that the drugglet joked him. bugle call. Down the street came p would be descried. Hastily securing Trut broke out into the clear- had given him, he took a position close at a gallop and disappeared in the di-One glance, and the story was inside his door. When he heard the rection of the suburbs. spy pass and enter the next chamber Strung out into the lamp chimney. A moment later he was safely through the win- thing." of malangas, dow and was working his way down uccas and sweet potatoes were sev- the shed roof, praying that his move- meanwhile becoming aware of a growbilarious volunteers, their arms ments had not been seen and that the ing excitement in the street. Then filled with loot from the cabin. Be- tiles were firm. He nimbly scaled the from the direction of the fort at the hind them strode an officer bearing wall, crossed an inclosure, climbed a end of San Rafael street sounded Rosa struggling against his breast. | second wall, and descended into a dark faint rattling fusiliade, more bugle Esteban drove his horse headlong side street. Taking advantage of the calls, and finally the thin, distant

"Who are you?" "I'm a friend. Don't be siarmed." CHAPTER II-Through Donna Isabel's me about that brother of yours, ch? of white teeth bared to the gums, of Johnnie summoned his most agreeable package he had carried beneath his this book and to say that he is return to your hotel quickly."

ing it with his thanks."

volume and laid it in Alvarado's hand. | the d---d Spaniards in Cuba Won't the country, once for all." fear I might be followed."

made a sign to his wife, who left the and fought off the other's restraining with a disconcerting expression "I is Weyler Valeriano Weyler, marquis room Wetting his lips, he inquired, hands. with an effort, "What do you want?" | "Very well then" cried Manin, "but bright fellow and you have a way with | Extelum covertly appraised his six-

Alvarado showed relief; he even risked our lives for you Suppose you other conditions it would be a please of Cobo he did not speak his thoughts. smiled. "I see, but-Caramba! You | should escape? How would our troops ure to know you better It grieves me, He was certain however, that Rosa gave me a start. And this book! Ita! receive you now? Would they not therefore, to warn you that your fur knew as well as he, what motive lay Tomas will have his jokes. It is well think you had cunningly arranged this, ther stay in Cuba will not be please behind the fellow's tireless persecuyou took precautions, for I am under trap?" surveillance. I'll help you, yes' But A light of reason slowly reappeared conclusive evidence against you; it spite of their isolation, stories of Cobo you must not come here again. Return in the younger man a eyes. would so simplify matters. Come, now, had reached the refugees stories that to your hotel and. Let me think " "No" Manin pressed his advantage, hadn't you better acknowledge that I had rendered both the boy and the girl Senor Alvarade frowned in deepest "You must wait until- " He broke have guessed your secret?" sick with apprehension. The colonel, necktic with a large gold pin will pass store know him. One day I cannot promise how severs. De will lift his hat thus and . wipe his face. You understand? Good Follow him. He will give you final directions. You know Manin, the drug gist? Well, you can talk to him, and

CHAPTER X.

O'Reilly's Plane Fail. In the days that followed his call on Ignacio Alvarado, O'Rellly behaved so detailed to watch him relaxed his vigtlance. Manifestly this (Filetily was a harmless person. But the spy did taut guess how frantic Johnnie was becoming at the delay here he inwardly chafed and fretted when two weeks had rolled by and still no signal had

At last, however, the day arrived when the man with the gray necktie raised his hat and wiped his brow as chair. By and by he rose, stretching himself, and sauntered after the felthey bore the reptiles into the came Ross found herself in her brother's low. For several blocks he kept him Beids at widely separated places and arms, sobbing out the story of the out- to sight, but without receiving any

Soon tongues of fiame appeared the chase. He was careasing her, and Without a glance over his shoulder and the green tops of the came began ;elling her to have no further fears; the man turned into a large, waited inclosure. When Johnnie followed he east wind took effect. Smoke bil- Evangelina, thanks to her thick skull, found himself in one of the old cemelowed upward and was hurried west- was not dead. In the course of time teries. Ahead of him, up a shady aveward before the breeze; in a dozen ander Ross's and Esteban's ministre- nue bordered with trees, the stranger were shouts and curses, loudly bel- places the fields burst into flame, flons she regained her senses, and hurried; then he swerved to his left, From somewhere came a faint shout- when the other men returned they and when O'Reilly came to the point pounding of feet upon the dirt floor ing, then a shot or two, and finally found her lying sick and dazed, but where he had disappeared there was nobody in sight. Apprehending that Esteban waited only until he saw Then, there beside the ruins of the he had made some nastake in the sig-

took time to eat supper, their first tered and bragged about their prodig- It came from behind a screen of know. That newspaper man will be meal since leaving home, and it was jour deeds of valor. Over and over shrubbery, and there he found the Cu-

"Our plans are complete. Listen cautious than they, have left the forest filled with corpses. closely. One week from today, at ten Esteban was grave. He had heard o'clock in the morning, you must be their weary of Colonel Cobo, and, remembering in Manin's drug store. Directly across some that denim-clad figure out yonder in the street you will see two negroes length the trampled garden, he knew that se with three horses. At fifteen minutes they crossed the summit and worked flous consequences would follow. The past ten walk out San Rafael street to Yumuri, but it volunteers were revengeful; their the edge of the city, where the hosyou. There is a fort near by-"

"It commands the road. You will be would never allow them another en challenged if you pass it, so turn in counter upon anywhere like even at the hospital. But do not enter the came more argent-"to heed my warn terms. Then, too, the narrowness of gates, for the negroes will overtake ins Remember - midnight " He the narrow margin of his failure, filled see! It grows brighter." Ross's escape caused the boy's heart you at that point. They will stop to howed, turned to the door, and was him with a sick feeling of dismay and adjust the saron of the lead borse. gone.

tree tops before them. Then Esteban line in tears at leaving her precious hand the messenger walked swiftly where he found Leslie Branch. garden plot. Their led horse, one of away. O'Reilly returned to his hotel. The invalid looked taller, thinner, hurged aboard. Not until the anchor Lorenzo had captured, carried At last! One week, and this numb more bloodless than ever, and his air was up did their military escort de-

"Now, what does that mean?" murmured the druggist. "Wait here while I go to the roof, where I can see some-

"Rebets!" someone cried. "Dios" mio, they are attacking the

"It is ten-fifteen," said O'Reilly. "I

must be going." Manin stared at him. "You don't understand-"

their horses ready. I'm going." The druggist tried to force Johnnie

"What are you saying?" Plainty the quaintance Manin heard the good- of more Spanish troops than could a speaker did not comprehend; there natured American curse; O'Reilly's regiment of Americans with dynamite. was nothing but apprehension in his blue eyes were blazing; he had let go Your English friend makes no secret of himself completely.

"Look at it, please, and you'll under stop me. Lord! I've waited too long... "And yet you permit me to remain?" stand. I didn't take time to knock, for I should have made a break. " Johnnie was surprised. "Idiot" stormed the druggist. "You . "For the present yes' That is my long now and a big chin; he dresses

Alvarado stared first at the book, wish to die, ch?" then at his caller. After a moment he O'Reilly ripped out another oath however" the speaker eyed O'Reilly pearance from what I hear. His name

O'Bellly told him in a few words have some thought of us who have you there's no denying it Under ter's charms but respecting her terror

along the sidewalk across the street. The newcomer walked directly to deceiving you sir." he said. from the Lein de Cuba You will (Flictly, he was a clean-cut, alert



"Tonight, at Midnight, You Will Be Ar-

young fellow. After a searching glance around the place he spoke in a voice audible to both men

"Benor, you are in danger. Tonight. at midnight, you will be arrested. beg of you to see that there is nothing incriminating in your possession." O'Reilly's face betrayed his amaze-"Arrested? What for? On

what charge..." The stranger shrugged. "I don't where and how you do so, for all his movements are watched, all his words

spite of this uniform. If you repent hour. I implore you"-his roice be-

was arrested. After a thorough search of entering Cuba was the case of leavof his person and his premises he was ing it. A ship was sailing from Neuvi-With a smile and a quick grip of the escorted to government headquarters, tas on the very afternoon when the

It was evident from the first that lly acknowledged himself to be a newspaper writer, and admitted having sent articles for publication through the malls. This was quite enough; from the attitude of the military men it ment for the moment was suspended. and the two prisoners were led away. At last O'Reilly was recalled; but when he re-entered the big room he found General Antuna awaiting him.

The general spoke with force and gravity: "Mr. O'Reilly. I believe you to be a far greater menace to the interests of my country than-well, than a score of dynamite experts. I believe you are a writer."

The American smiled. "Are writers

such dangerous people?" "That altogether depends upon circumstances. The United States is inclined to recognize the belligerency of these Cuban rebels, and her relations with Spain are becoming daily more "Something has gone wrong." he atrained; ill-feeling grows, and all because of the exaggerations, the mendacities, that have gone forth from here to your newspapers. We are determined to put down this uprising in our own way; we will tolerate no foreign interference. War is never a pleasant thing, but you journalists "Those black fellows are getting have magnified its horrors and misrepresented the cause of Spain until you threaten to bring on another and into a chair. "Madman!" he panted. a more borrible combat. Now, then, of come from your brother of tell you our friends have been be- you understand what I mean when I Tomas. He asked me to hand you trayed; they are retreating. Go back say that you are more dangerous than a powder expert; that your pen can For the first time during their ac- do more injury, can cause the death of his business so we shall escort him O'Reilly tore the wet paper from the "I'm going" he cried, hoarsely, "All to Neuvitas and see him safely out of

official message to you. Privately, all in black-a very 'jew-bird' in apwould like to warn you You are a of Teneriffe" ent. I almost regret that there is no tions of the valley dwellers; for, in

thought; then he said "I have it "Ev. off abruptly and stepped behind his. O'Reilly's perplexity was changing it seemed, had nearly died of his ery morning at half past nine a man counter for a man in the uniform of a to dismay, for it seemed to him he machete wound, and on recovering he wearing a Panama hat and a gray Spanish lieutenant had entered the was being played with; nevertheless, had sworn to exterminate the wasps he shook his head. "I would only be that had stung him. He had sworn

General Attuna sighed. "Then I tehan of his sleep. nee embarras :ents ahead for both of

"More arrests?" "Not neces arily. Understand me, I mn. ' have noticed that Amer-Eb? They are impulsive, these troopnot be expected to remain indoors. Of diers are many new recruits, patriotic. enthusiastic young fellows, but-careless. They are wretchedly unproficient marksmen and they haven't learned the danger of promiscuous rifle fire. They are forever shooting at things. merely to score a bit. Would you be-Here it? (th. I have to discipline them. frequently. To think of you being abroad through the streets, therefore, worries me intensely Suppose you should be found dead some day. Imtone and expression were eloquent of concern. "I w could I fix the responstbillty ?"

"By having the followed, as usual. I dare any 'er'; 'ity said bitterty. "Oh, you will all course be shadowed ; in fact, to be quite sure of your er mafety. I shall ask you to permit one of my men to accompany you everywhere and even to share your room. We shall try never to lose sight of you, depend upon it. I wish you could find another cfimate equally beneficial to your rheumatism. It would lift a great load from my mind." The speaker paused hopefully; that same sardonic flicker was on his lips.

Johnnie could not summon an answering smile, for his heart was like tend. He restized now the utter futil- author the name of being the archity of resistance; he knew that to hend of a nation reputed peculiarly remain in Puerto Principe after this cruel. Four hundred thousand Cubens thinly veiled warning would be to driven from their homes into sheltercourt destruction and destruction of less prison camps; more than two huna shocking character against which it dred thousand dead from hunger and would be impossible to guard After disease; a fruitful land laid bare of all a moment of thought be said gravely: that could serve as food, and changed "I appreciate the delicacy of your consideration, sir, and-I shall go,"

his face drawn with anxiety, his lips breathe easy. Permit me to offer you

O'Reilly was escorted to the railway my words I shall be shot within the station at daylight. He and Branch

On the stroke of midnight O'Reilly | In marked contrast to the difficulties two Americans arrived, and they were TORSOFT

With angry, broading eyes O'Reilly

anyhow," he muttered.

"Great news!" Esteban Varons as after a foraging trip into the "umuri. "We met some of Lacret's men and they told us that Spain has recalled promised to go hard with him. Judg. Captain General Campos. What do you say to that?"

"Does that mean the end of the war?" Rosa engerty inquired. "Oh. no. They have sent a new man -be's in Havana now-a dark little old fellow who never smiles. He has a



"His Name Is Weyler."

other onths, too, onths that robbed 100-

Esteban idedized his sister; her loyalty to him was the most precious thing of his life. Therefore, the thought of that awarthy ruffian hunting her dow. as a hound hangs to the trait of a the awoke in him a terrible anger. ond only to his hatred for the guerr traitor, Pancho Cueto, who had capt

to Cubs to enjoy its citmate; you can- and his own honor called for the death Belds and it was against him that the buy was now planning to launch his

The thought of the hated Cobo had morning districted Estetus's aights. Now he collected them and

"Wait I am forgetting something. ce what Lacret's men handed me, buy are posted from one end of the aland to the other." He displayed a printed bando, or proclamation, signed by the new captain general, and read

as follows: "All inhabitants of the country districts, or those who reside outside the lines of fortifications of the towns, shall, within a period of eight days, enter the towns which are occupied by the tructes. Any individual found outside the lines in the country at the expiration of this period shall be considered a rebel and shall be dealt with as

such." It was that inhuman order of concentration, the result of which proved to be without parallel in military

tory-np order which gave its savage to an ash-gray desolation; gaunt famine from Oriente to Pinar del Riothat was the sequel to those printed words of "Weyler the Butcher" which Esteban read.

"Eight days! When is the time up?" Rosa inquired. "Bless you, this is already two weeks

old!" her brother told her. "Why, then, it means that we'll be shot if we're caught."

"Exactly! But we sha'n't be caught. eh? Let the timid ones take fright at the squeaks of this old blackbird. Let them go into the cities; we shall have the more to est!" Esteban crumples the paper in his hand and dropped it. "Meanwhile I shall proceed toward my settlement with Pancho Custo."

(Continued Next Week.)