

peril into which they had been

and trained troops, too, for they took

no time to saddle; they were up and

mounted almost before the marauders

had gained the backs of their own ant-

were emptied and the terrified horses

Of course, after the first moment of

tinguished Ascusio viciding his med

and half stunned. Something smote

him beavily, at last-whether a book

n at he was on all-fours, trying to drag

himself out of this rat-pit. But his

timbs were queerty rebellious, and be

was sick; he had never experienced

anything quite like this and he thought

se They Could Go.

n gun-stock be could not tell-

desperately cramped

from old-time battle-hammers.

SYNOPSIS.

burt him by having Evangeline ughter, whom he loves dearly and who the special servant of the twins, sold.

CHAPTER II-Through Donna Isabel's scheming Don Esteban ricks Evangelina mala t cards and losses. Crased by the loss of the daughter, Sebastian kills Don Este-

CHAPTER III-Many years Donne les searched for the hidden wealth of the an she had married A few years later seeks to marry Ross to the rich American, and Awaite his return from York, whence he has gone to break his engagement to his employer Soughter. Enteban to secretly aiding the

CHAPTER IV-Donna lasbel to at the orcy of Pancho Cueto, her unecrupa one administrator, who knows the dec o the plantation are lost with the trees-One night she walks in her sleep meets her death in the treasure well steban and Ross are forced to fice when Cueto denounces them as rebels.

CHAPTER V-Ross writes to O'Rellly of their plight and urges him to come and save her

the Insurrector to difficult and danger

CHAPTER VII-O'Rettly meets Leetie Branch, newspaper man, who is a victim of tuberculosis, and they plan a way join the Insurrector together

CHAPTER VIII In the meantime Cueto plane to lead Cobo. a Spanish colonel of volunteers, execuated for his cruelty to the hiding place of Esteban and Ross.

O'Rettly plans to reach the I

a friend of the Cuban cause ben telle Ross of the coming of General Weyler to "pacify" the island

ourrecton by the aid of Doctor Alvarado

CHAPTER XI.

When the World Ran Backward.

ted fuse and cap to his precious piece of dynamite.

Now while Esteban was thus buded. Pancho Cueto was entertaining anunwelcome guest. In the late afternoon he had been surprised by the visitiff a dozen or more volunteers, and hasmuch as his relations with their jolonel had been none of the friendest since that ill-starred expedition into the Yumuri, he had felt a chill dap prehension on seeing the redoutshie Cobo himself at their head.

The colonel had explained the he was returning from a trip up the Ban They Bolted From the House so Fact Juan, taken for the purpose of sunding up those inhabitants who habeen Join him later in the night.

installed Cobo in his best ri, after fashion. and drink and tobacco.

than he had enjoyed for e time | scross the fields, staggering through cake. For one thing, it was agree to look the charred came stubble. The night forward to a night of undbeed re- was not so black as it had been, and pose. Pancho's apprehens had fat- this puzzled him until he saw that the tened upon themselves, the had plantation house was ablaze. Flames been living of late in a smare of were beiching from its windows, casting abroad a jurid radiance; and re-

But it seemed to him he had numbering Pancho Cueto, Esteban barely closed his eyes ; he was laughed. awakened by a tremend vibration By and by, after he was well away. and found himself in the er of the his numbrees passed and he began to floor, undecided whetherhad been suffer excruciating pain. The pain had buried from his bed or wer he had been there all the time, so it seemed; leaped thither. Still in a he heard | he was simply gaining the capacity to a shout from the directof Cobo's feel it. He was ready to die now, he room, then a din of offoices, fol- was so ill; moreover, his left arm lowed by a rush of tege next in- sangled and got in his way. Only that stant his door was flug-k and he subconscious realization of the necesmw, by the light of hed torches, sity to keep going for Ross's sake sus-Reteben Varone and gred rabble tained him. of black men. Cuetow that he | Daylight came at last to show him faced death. He dody blow from | his way. More than once he paused, the flash of a machiCrying out to find that the sounds issued from his again, he tried to gu meetf from own throat. the descending blade, to late; the

ter everything was strange. and place be knew that he was goin of the earth. Yes, that was it; the tercede for me with the junta? They're earth was running backward upon its constantly sending parties." axis; he could actually feel it whirling ander his feet. No wonder his journey. seemed so long. He was laboring over gigantic trendmill, balancing like an equilibrist upon a revolving sphere. Well, it was a simple matter to stop walking, sit down, and allow himself to be spun backward around to the place where Rosa was waiting. He pondered this idea for some time, until its absurdity became apparent. Undoubtedly he must be going out of his head; he saw that it was necessary to keep walking until the back-spin of that treadmill brought Rosa to him.

seen the path be trad, but for that mat-

But the time came when he could walk no farther. He tried repeatedly and failed, and meanwhile the earth whiri him off into space. It was a terbugged the ground, clinging to roots poverty party." and sobbing wenkly. Ross, he knew, trail; he called to her, but she did not his dinner engagement by a few moanswer, and he dared not attempt to ments in order to have a word alone Instantly there began a blind battle Riders fought stirrup to stirrup with creep forward because his grip was failing. He could feel his fingers slipping-slipping. His last thought, as be

bolted. Some of them lunged up the went whirling end over end through banks, only to tumble down again, their threshing limbs and sharp-shod never know how hard he had tried to boofs working more havor than blows

tle Asensio returned to his bohio. Ross and Evangelina, airendy frantic at the Nor could be spare the breath | delay heard him crying to them while ; be was too desperately ep- | he was still hidden in the woods, and gaged. His rifle was empty, he had its knew that the worst had happened. bot barrel to his bands; be dimit die There was little need for him to tell his story for he was weaponless, stained and bloody. He had crossed the hills on foot after a miraculous escape from that ravine of death. Of his companions he knew nothing whatever; the mention of Esteban's name caused him to best his breast and cry aloud. He was weak and feverish and

The girl stend swaying while he told low the night had betrayed them, how he had wrought incredible feats of valor before the shifting tide of battle sunken road and left him balf dead in the grass. Asensio had lain there until, finding himself growing stronger, at the foot of a wall, where he had re-

cowed him. The valley, already well-nigh deserted, his autwardness. the two women that he and they must also go. So the three gathered up their backs and fled.

gained the fastnesses of the Pan de passion for giving pills." Matanzas. Here they built a shelter ing, which was now more difficult than her friendly smile, and so, trusting etted around the room, then plumped for the

dilatory in obeying the new ders prised him to find that he could strug- cause of its resemblance to a mighty He could not guess her age, for an ex- ing, "Fill them up, Doctor Gloom. from Havana. That smoke to though the upward through the brambles, even loaf of bread, became a mockery to pensive ladies' tailor can baffle the Let's drink to Cuba Libre." ward was from fires of his kiking: hough it was hard work. Men were the hungry people cowering in its shel- most discriminating eye. Certainly. he had burned a good many cre and lighting all around and below him, ter. Bread! Rosa Varona could not however, she was not old—he had an houses and punished a good me peo- meanwhile, and he wondered vaguely remember when she had last tasted idea that she would tell him her exact success as a chaperon," said he. "I'm pie, and since this was exactly a sort what made them kill one another when such a luxury. Haw cane, coconuts, age if he asked her. While he could disliked by the Spaniards, and now of task he liked he was in no pleas be and his negroes were all dead of the tasteless fruits bombs, roots, the not call her beautiful, she was some the Cubans will hate me. I can see ant mood. He had demanded Cueto lying. It seemed very strange of a pith from paim tops, these were her thing immensely better—she was alive, happy days ahead." lodging for himself and his ton an piece with the general unreality of articles of diet, and she did not thrive human, interesting, and interested. was somewhere behind and sid re- de. One of his arms was useless, he less hungry. She was ragged, too, and "mission" over-seriously proved that the junta, hoping that

> They were gradually starving, he said, about his latest experience in Cuba. up." and Ross was in; the risk of discovery

be fed along with the others. No one had told Asensio that the Cuban people, and when the dinner government was leaving its prisoners was over she exploded a surprise to shift for themselves, supplying them | which left both men speechless. with not a pound of food nor a square inch of shelter.

Misery bred desperation at last; Evangeline's courage failed her, and she allowed herself to be won over. She began her preparations by disguis- coal his lack of enthusiasm. "I don't going to help me buy my tropical outing Ross. Gathering herbs and berries, formity was complete.

On the night before their departure

BHAPTER XII.

has contributed liberally to our cause. I would like you to meet her." "Very well; but I've only one suit of clothes, and it looks as if I'd slept in

spun even more rapidly, threatening to every extra dollar, you know, goes

That evening O'Reilly anticipated

"This lady who is coming here tonight has influence with Enriquez." Alvarado told him. "You remember told you that she has contributed liberally. She might help you.

O'Reilly had met women with ideals. with purposes, with avocations, and his opinion of them was low. Women who had "missions" were always tire" some, he had discovered. This one, it appeared, was unusual only in that she had adopted a particularly exacting form of charitable work. Nursing. even as a rich woman's diversion. be anything but agreeable. O'Reilly pictured this Evans person in his mind-a large, plain, elderly creature, obsessed with impractical ideas of uplifting the masses! She would andoubtedly bore him stiff with stories of her work I she would represen him with neglect of his duties to the suf fering. Johnnie was too poor to be charitable and too deeply engressed his incoherent story of the midnight at the moment with his own troubles encounter was so highly colored that to care anything whatever about the Home nearly swooped with horror. "masses." And she was a "miss." That meant that she wore thick glasses and probably kept cats.

A ringing laugh from the cramped hallway interrupted these reflections; then a moment later Doctor Alvarado was introducing O'Reilly to a young woman so completely out of the piche had burrowed into a tangle of vines precuncitied notions, that he was motertir at a loss. Johnnie found

Then Cobe came into the Tumuri. duction inwardly berating himself for

an affectionate

what few things they could carry on hine," the girl excinimed. "Anyone who can bear to take the stuff ought They did not stop until they had to have all he wants. I've a perfect deems it an honor to have her as its

and again took up the problem of live her the instant she favored him with She executed a dance step. piroufatuously to his masculine powers of berself down into her chair. She rat-The Pan de Matansas, so called be observation, he tried to analyze her. tied her cup and saucer noisily, cry. plained

And she was as good as her promise. for the man's face was radiant. Time came when Asensio spoke of the did not interrupt when, during giving up the struggle and going in dinner. Alvarado led Johnnie to talk sight of O'Reilly. "I've speeded them

was ever present. It was better to go but, on the contrary, her unflagging inwhile they had the strength than slow- terest induced O'Reilly to address his ty but surely to perish here. He had talk more often to her than to the docheard that there were twenty thousand for. He soon discovered that she unreconcentrados in Matanzas; in such a | derstood the Cubun situation as well crowd they could easily manage to as or better than he, and that her symhide themselves; they would at least pathies were keen. She was genuinely moved by the gallant struggle of the

> "This settles it with me." she announced. I'm going right to the insurrectoe with you."

"With me!" O'Reilly could not con-



With You."

But for that matter, I can take care of myself. Oh, it's of no use trying to discourage me. I always have my own way; I'm completely spoiled." "Your family will never consent, O'Reilly ventured; whereupon Miss

Evans laughed "I haven't such a thing. I'm alone and unincumbered. No girl was ever so fortunate. But wait--- I'll settle this whole thing in a minute." She quitted the table, ran to Alvarado's telephone and called a number.

"She's after Enriques," grouned the physician. "He's weak; he can't refuse her anything."

don't want a woman on m O'Reilly whispered, flercei "Suppose she got sick? Good Lord I'd have to nurse her." He wiped a sudden moisture from his brow. Oh, she won't get sick. She'll prob-

ably nurse you-and all the other men. You'll like it, too, and you will all fall in love with her everybody does and among yourselves. She has Enriquez. Listen." Johnnie shivered apprehensively at the directness with which Miss Evans put her request. "You understand. want to go and see for myself," she was saying. "If you need medicines Oh, very well, call ture, so utterly the opposite of his it a bribe, if you like. Anyhow, I've mained until the fighting crased. When himself kenting into a pair of frank He's charmed with the idea." Miss

mer ble ocknowledgment of the intro- I'm at Doctor Aivarado's bouse, and he's beside himself with joy. Thanks. upon Miss Evans' shoulder, facing her two friends—a picture of story it the sun showed like a copper shield, "O'Beilly, this girl has done more for triumph. "You have nothing more to of his in a lipromised not to tell. Cole then any of us. She has spent say about it," she gloated. " "The pro- bu' a small fortune for medical supplies." visional government of Cuba, through I'm har is a grad time." Its New York representatives, extends "Those poor men must live on qui- to Miss Nortne Evans an invitation to full visit its temporary beadquarters in the he if guest so long as she wishes to remain

O'Reilly liked this girt. He had liked there. Now then, let's celebrate."

O'Reilly arose early the next mornpouncing that a part of his emand things and it troubled him not a lit- upon them. She was always more or The fact that she did not take her ing and hurried down to the office of discovered, and be realized with a curi- she shivered miserably through the she was also sensible beyond most vince Mr. Enriquez of the folly of al-Cueto had welcomed his for in | 200 shock that it was broken. He was long, chill nights. Rosa could measure | women. Yes, that was it. Miss No- lowing Nortne Evans to have her way. all humility; he put up the siers in pleeding, too, from more than one the change in her appearance only by time Evans was a perfectly sensible, But his respect for Miss Evans' energy all humility; he put up the sugar mill, if then wound, but he could walk, after a studying her reflection from the surwhich he ransacked the houser food He was inclined to stay and finish ter, but she could see that she had be and clean thinking coupled with a nor that she had forestailed him and was the fight, but he recollected that Ross come very thin, and she judged that mal, sturdy constitution. O'Reilly told even then closeted with the man be When Cobe finally took belf off would be waiting for him and that he the color had entirely gone from her himself that here was a girl who could had come to see. Johnnie waited unto bed Cueto followed in be spirits must go to her, and so he set out cheeks. It enddened her, for O'Reilly's pour ten, nurse a sick man, or throw easily; he was dismayed when the girl

"It's all settled," she announced, at

marked. "I hardly expected-" Enriquez broke in. "Such enthusicom! Such ardor! She whirts a per son of his feet." "It seems that the Junta lacks

"You're an early riser." the latter re-

money for another expedition, so I've made up the deficit. We'll be off in

"Of course. Don't be hateful, and argumentative, or I'll begin to think you're a born chaperon." Miss Evans exclaimed. "Come! Make up your "They're Wope or Greeks, or Somemind to endure me. And now you're

With a emile and a ned at Enriquer she took C'Reilly's arm and bore him

The days of idle waiting that fol-He could learn nothing about the jun-

i the Breach stept much that a

As they waited in the nage, parming

citement. Lestie Branch, who saw he of curprise.

"Glory be! That goddess!" he cried. he capitulated instantly.

Enriquez was introducing a newequare-lawed forceful Cuban, who, h seemed, was to be in command of the expedition.

"Major Ramos will take actly as he directs. Ask no questions, for he won't answer them. Good-by and good luck."

When he had gone the three Americans followed their new guide through

the iron gates. Major Ramos proved that he knew I bet they'll rub their eyes." how to obey orders even though the other members of his party did not, sent; she chapped her hands. He remained utterly deaf to Miss Evans' entreaties that he let her know places," O'Reilly grinned, and the comething about the plans of the ex- ban agreed. pedition; he would not even tell her where he was taking her, where the us in Charleston, while our ship from what port their ship would sail. us now; and by daylight we on When Philadelphia, Washington, then be safely out to sea. Meanwhile Baltimore, and finally Richmond were Dauntless has weighed anchor and left behind. Miss Evans was, in truth, steaming north, followed, I hope,

lons were in a similar frame of mind. It was not until the train was ap- when the special train came to a proaching Charleston that Major Ra- at a bridge spanning one of the mos finally announced: "This is the Southern rivers. In the stream end of our journey; the other members of the expedition are here. But I Fair Play, a small tramp steamer? must ask you not to talk with them crew were up and awake. The new or with any strangers, for our friends | rivals were hurried aboard, and wh are being watched by detectives in the a half-bour she was feeling her employ of the Spanish minister at Washington and by United States deputy marshals. One little indiscretion might ruin everything."

The hotel to which Major Ramos led his guests appeared to be well filled; there were many Cubans in the a craft was in sight; not a smuc lobby, and the air was beavy with the aroma of their strong, black cigarettes. As the major entered they turned interested and expectant faces toward was dropped astern they be him and they eyed his companions with | think of sleep. Breakfast of frank curtosity. Miss Evans became | was served on deck, after which the target for more than one warmly favored ones who had berth

admiring glance. As for O'Reilly, the familiar odor of panions stretched out where those Cuban eigarettes, the snatches of | could find a place, Spanish conversation which he overbeard, awoke in him a great excite- ready he could see the hills ment; he realized with an odd thrill dozing behind their purple that these eager, dark-visaged men fancy he felt the flerce white h were now his friends and comrades, close-walled streets, and and that those Americans lettering odors of "mangly" swamps. watchfully arrong them were his ene- the censeless sighing of mice—the space of whom Ramos had paims. How he had hungers their calling. That they, too, were interested in the intest arrivals was soon | days had grown into we

made evident by their efforts to get | had aged into mon

sure?" O'Reilly shot her

"whet shows his head mourn-

tapp. him heartily on the "Congratulations! You're

"elt worse!" the other com-

tince we hit cold weather.



will be all cone. Ramos led his three charges to

junction, and that when the parent; owing to the latener hour, it was doubtful if anyo forward coaches was aware

There was a brief delay: coupled up to the standing drew it of upon another treek. the "excursion party" was being swiftly toward the coast, some miles away.

Major Ramos came down the laughing, and spoke to his Am proteges.

"Well, what do you think of that, Imagine the feelings of those deputy marshals when they wake Miss Evans bounded excitedly in

"You must have friends i

"Yes, I purposely drew attention

dimly outlined in the gloom, las

With daylight, caution gave w haste, and the rusty little tram gan to drive forward for all she worth. She cleared the three limit safely and then turned sout

smoke discolored the skyline. fillbusters, and when the low c them, while their less forts

Johnnie O'Retlly was clated

done his best; he

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