

back.

their conversation, broke in:

potence of his despair.

with a message before it is too late."

go and try." He mechanically pulled out

"I've just swopped horses, an' I can reach

"Impossible, Jim. There are thousands of

"True bill, sir, but they could stop a regi-

"My friend, do not tempt me. You would

"Now look here, boss, Let me run this

It was a gamblers' chance, and the mil-

"You must hold back Kreuznach until the

Vansittart gave the precious little mis-

Then he galloped down the hill on his

No man ever yet undertook more dar-

ing line, he no sooper came within sight

of the German position than half a dozen

nent easier than one man who was in

the enemy between us and him,"

Vansittart's face did not relax.

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16

A Question of Generalship. The battle of Troyon. Vansiliart set out with the intention of crushing the German | center before the right and left wings could close in and assist the emperor. He pursued

his theory with merciless accuracy. It was nearly 5 o'clock before Count Von Waldersee, working with the rapid precisio of a well-built machine, was able to finally divert the whole of his troops from the abandoned attack and throw them into something like settled order for defense.

By that time Daubisson's Verdun divimand, while the latter's left flank had been and he was quite at a loss to guess the French army. turned, thus cutting him off from the south- cause of Jerome's self-abandonment. some way it was connected with Daubisson ern wing.

Vansitiart promptly arranged that the lf the latter could be reached before 7 French divisions at Commercy and Rancy o'clock the threatened danger might be should attack the German left in such force averted, "Guy'nor," he said, in a low voice, for as to render it impossible for Duke Albrecht of Prussia to march to the assistance of the Jim, to use his own phrase, was "skeered" by Vansittart's misery. "I figger it out that

hard-pressed emperor. At 6 o'clock the first French shells fell General Daubisson is not more'n than five

near the chateau at Troyon. A thoroughly miles from here as the crow flics." stiff fight was now in full swing. The German forces were stubbornly contesting each road and wood and stream, only yielding him before 7. sullenly to superior numbers and gaining more confidence as reserves poured up from

the rear. Nevertheless, the result was apparently a hurry foregone conclusion, were it not that the fortune of war changes with the suddenness lose your life to no purpose." of April weather.

So far, the magnitude of the strugglo lay little show. You are powerful upset, an' with the infantry arm on both sides. Neither you alu't up to your usual form. Scribble of the combatants were able to get their out another billy-do to the old boy, an' I'll full artillery force into play, for the very chap it into his fist in twenty-five minutes, good reason that the guns were pounding or know the reason why." each other in a useless duel at various points along the banks of the Meuse.

lionaire took it. This is what he wrote: Vansittart, whose plain civilian attire was oddly at variance with the handsome unilast man has fired the last cartridge. Pay forms worn by his staff, was watching no heed to operations by German main through his glasses a beautiful attack in body. In your case they result from chance, extended order by a mixed brigade of if you hold out until 10 o'clock and prevent gouaves and chasseurs a pled. junction, we will win a great victory. If

As the active and gallant Frenchmen you do not, the cause of France is lost." awept an opposing body of Bavarians up the slope and over the crest of a treeless culti-- sive to his faithful follower with the wated ridge Jerome turned with a smile to words: Le Breton.

"Jim, if Daubisson does not get that "Things are going almost too well," he message the game is ended." said. Bates smiled. "Cheer up, guynor," he

cried. "This circus ain't done with yet." "When my brave countrymen are well handled they are incomparable soldiers." Le Breton was already assured of the renorthward ride. Bult. "All the world knows that. But we ng mission. Although he skirted the fight-

must leave nothing to chance. I wonder how Daubisson is progressing "" In rapid answer to his thoughts came an Uhlans rode out to cut him off. That was

officer spurring for dear life. "The field telegraph is laid from Bar-leTHE OMAHA DAILY BEE: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1898.

band, and, when the other was near work, and the task of harrying the Ger- nothing beyond evidence of this particular were responsible for the procuring of stores port of one. If not two infantry divisions, enough, hit him such a hearty whack on man rear was committed to cavalry and conspiracy. the back of the head that he tumbled in artillery.

Vansittart did not know he was safe until a heap to the ground. Some Hamburgers witnessed the act and nearly 9 o'clock, so long did it take for gave a great shout of amazement as they Daubisson's answer to reach him. About ran to pick up the officer. But none of 10 the right bank of the Meuse was cleared should be made to keep from us any testi- William the Second must be attacked again ing the necessary instructions for the disthem thought of firing at the supposed of the German troops and Arizona Jim had

no difficulty in returning. Uhlan. When the issue of the conflict was beyond At last Bates neared the fighting line. the domain of doubt he wrote a telegram to He had no trouble in riding through the German artillery, which was in position on the king, giving a brief sketch of the day's a ridge. In front a large force of in. proceedings, and warmly culogizing the fantry was deployed, and 1,000 yards away, army,

across some meadows and corn land, he A second message to Evelyn asked her to could see the blue frockcoats of the French bid the queen be of good heart. All had troops dotted irregularly over an extended gone well so far. If fortune vouchsafed field. them a few more such victories there would

When he approached the German in- be an end to German aggressiveness for fantry an officer roared something at him another generation. and waved his sword to the right, seem- For Vansittart, even in the fierce joy of ingly indicating that the commander of the the moment, harbored no delusions as to the brigade was in that direction. Jim promptly strategic difficulty of his position.

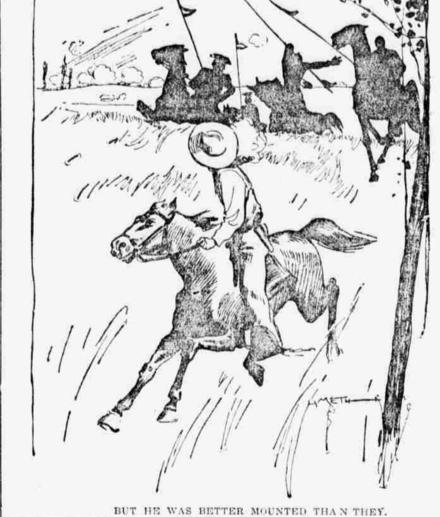
inclined to the right, and he at once re-solved to imitate the actions of one whose on their well-equipped base, to form anew oughter gov me sometain in writin' to bring horse has bolted with him. upon positions whence the French could

Dropping the lance and spurring the scarce hope to drive them. The victors Le Breton, who guessed the purport of willing steed vigorously, he leaned back in in that day's combat were separated from the saddle and feinted to pull hard at the their supplies by very reason of the "It may still be possible to catch nim reins,

obstacles they had already opposed to the No one paid heed to him for a few strides invader's progress. A swift-flowing river until he was clear in front of the extended | out them off from reserve transport and "It is too late," he said, "but you can troops. A German officer gallantly rode commissariat, save where precarious after him to help him, but desisted within pontoons and narrow country roads ill took his watch and murmured: "Six-thirty. Half a couple of hundred yards, trotting back to the place of the solid bridges and railway in hour for a message to pass through the his own lines considerably puzzled by the lines they had destroyed weeks earlier. ield telegraph, he transmitted from Bar-le- tactics of the bolting Uhlan. A determined rebuff by their opponents Oue to Verdun and thence to Daubisson. It

Bates had but one danger left. In the might precipitate a catastrophe. Every s impossible. O, it is hard, hard!" and he central zone he might be shot by either nerve must be strained to make good a denched his hands together in the im- side, accidentally or otherwise. To help desperate success,

himself with the French he threw off the 1f only this could be achieved, if, instead Arizona Jim had never before seen his helmet, jacket and cloak, and plucking forth of being driven into the Meuse, they could sion was thrust like a wedge between Kreuz- master give way in this manner. Up to his hat, again resumed the characteristic press the Germans back toward Metz, then nach's northern army and the kalser's com- the present he knew that all had gone well, attire by which he was known to the whole truly the frenzied jubilation of France at , the glad tidings of victory would be justified. In



An absolute yell greeted him as he rode | What a sight Paris must present at that exactly what Bates wanted. His chief through the first companies of infantry that moment as the telegrams poured in! By langer, to his own mind, lay in infantry One well-directed bullet would lay

"What? You suspect something else ?" spirits of the organization in our hands I two armies well knew it. fail to see why such a determined attempt mony affecting the Pigeon Feather society." and soundly beaten. His strong position patch of the much-needed relief. "Confound it, man. Has some report of must be forced, his north and south army affairs crept into the press?"

Jeanne Carhaix under pretense of marrying protection of Metz. her for the dowry."

"A thousand thunders! Every rascal in cil of war that met in the chatcau at Troyon France has been warned by this time. See on the second evening after the flerce com- Holbach to the commander of the Hanoto it, Carot, that the Soir correspondent is bat that ledged the French on the right verian division placed at his service, "you compelled to marry Jeanne. He will be bank of the Meuse.

"Yes, sir.' trembled with forebodings.

man society, knowing full well the extent things eventuated as he desired it would are manufactured. of the police capture, and their tenancy of not assume serious proportions until noon. There was now every prospect of a san-No. 11 Rue Pigalle, would credit them with At first barely a tenth of the French guinary encounter, were it not that Beau-As he neared the palace he became aware. It was their first duty to see that each sel- almost to the second, that a grand reception was taking place, dier under their control was made fully A few minutes before 11 he threw for-Vansittart and learn the truth con- work entrusted to him. cerning the position on the Meuse. But in But the millionaire was convinced that same time sent our several aids with emhis present attire it was impossible He Emperor William would insensibly follow phatic instructions for a gradual but definite must hasten to his residence and don a the tactics which brought such conspicuous falling back upon florville. gorgeous uniform.

Hailing a cab he rattled off toward the Rue de Maubeuge, and, as it chanced, the in human nature than in tactics. How far a written report from Beaumarchais sartorial peculiarities of court educate cost he was justified in his confidence the im- him and France many a troubled hour. he man battle would reveal. he smiled appreciatively and handed it to Had he sauntered fifty yards further he

taining two men in evening dress, stop near quitted the village of Fresnes to a lively and send a warning for immediate readiness accompaniment of bugles and drums the curb.

direction of the Rue de la Paix. yielded a whole volume of facts to Folliet. Folliet remembered her words afterward, ence with the queen. A bow and a smile were Honorine's recognition of his pres- ing regiment advanced in an extended ence, so in pursuance of an impulse he nied order, covering the fields on both sides of = him to No. 11 Rue Pigalle, which was now the road for a considerable distance. tenanted by police.

"Certainly,

here from Lorraine, but others are trained tart and practically threw the whole of the to fly from Paris to the farm of Hans foreign legion into extended order. The Schwartz." "Well?"

"It seems to me quite evident, sir, that Schwartz can receive messages from other juarters of Paris by the same means. Now, the only way to find out the whole business s to visit Hans Schwartz's house."

onvey this note to the prefecture," to the quaking officer, saying:

The man, with some difficulty, deciphered the scrawl.

"Henri Picot is promoted from this date be assistant commissary. Place him 'n sole charge of No. 11 Rue Pigalle. "FOLLIET."

carriage. The whole business awaiting solution in Lorraine-our troops even now marching on Gravelotte-and I in Paris. Confound it! rifle and the long-distance cannon, between

the tiny bullet and the screaming shell. Which

If not supplied within half an hour I will in bulk and their proper distribution. Yet the advantage in time lay with the retire every gun."

"I do. With the president and the leading Germans, and the dominant intellects of the The kaiser's face flushed when he read the message. But he was slowly learning The millionaire did not shirk the issue, self-control, and he said little beyond giv

When it came the roles quickly changed. corps driven off into the interior, and his The French infantry had been allowed a "Yes; a correspondent wheedled it out of main body compelled to fall back upon the good linning-it was their turn to endure a bad quatter of an hour.

The German attack would not be denied. This was the problem set before the coun-"No matter what your loss," wrote Count must crumple up the center of the French crescent and strive to take the outer horns

The American proceeded to explain his in flank after you have broken the line. Although Folliet's tone was light, his mind theory in detail. There would be no hurry Nor were the foreign legion, which rembied with forebodings. He reasoned that the president of the Ger- commence until after breakfast, and if fire, made of the stuff from which retreats

complete knowledge of Hans Schwartz and forces would be engaged, and the whole marchais had his imperative orders, based his pigeon post to and from the frontier. plan of attack depended upon the weather, solely on the clock, and at present justified

He quickly decided to seek the queen or cognizant of the nature and method of the ward the Fourth brigade to check the rapid ouslaught of the Hanoverians, and at the

success to his grandfather and Von Moltke. Each quarter of an hour since S n. m. a This shrewd empire builder believed more mounted messenger brought to Vausittart

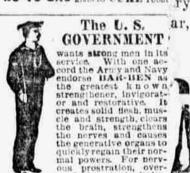
At 8 o'clock on the morning of June 18 Daubisson, saying: would have seen a private carriage, con- the foreign legion of the French army "Instruct the artillery to take up position to the commanders of the three army corps.

It was no faint-hearted mob of criminals The excitement of the situation was rapidly ellow, darted from the shade of a column, that General Beaumarchais led so couli- working the emperor up to boiling point, received some message from one of the car- dently along the high road to Mars la Tour and, truth to tell, each member of his staff lage folk, and hastened off toward the by way of Horville, but eight regiments of every officer and man in the German host Scine, whilst the vehicle drove on in the stern soldiers, bound by an iron discipline. was challing under the compulsory inaction. and more joyous in the forgetfulness of A considerable battle was in progress in Not much, this incident, but it would have battle than in the thought-laden hours of the front, under ill-understood and indefinite conditions. Half of the long summer's day They were followed, in quick succession, had sped while the superb German army It was impossible to gain private audi- by three brigades of infantry. Once clear waited for the general attack which never of Fresnes the music stopped and the lead- came.

(To he Continued.)

BAD BREATH The small hamlet of Horville was held by a strong German picket, which the By 9 o'clock, however, the growing the presence of numerous small bodies of iy. They are a great help in the family. WUMELMINA NACEL. 1137 Rittenhouse St. Cincipated and St. He forthwith adopted the specific method of fighting recommended by Vansit-





One of these, an intelligent young man, answered Folliet's questions. "No, sir, no more birds have arrived. It is curious, as one fails to see how Schwartz | density of the German skirmishers and knows that the house has been seized." Then, with a cautious glance around and cavalry demonstrated to Beaumarchais that sinking his voice, the policeman continued: his further progress would soon be seriously "May I venture to suggest a theory, sir?" disputed.

"Some of these birds are trained to fly

"When the sergeant comes tell him to Folliet scribbled and handled a torn leaf "There. read it yourself," and rushed from the

The prefect dashed toward his waiting to 2,000 yards and then settle down to de-

Precious hours had flown, but he caught

ongested.

quarter.

Iceland.

A blouse-wearing artisan, a tall, truculent

Due to the river. This message has just fire. come to my hand." He produced an envelope from the pocket farewell to his hopes of success. As it

of his sabertache and Jerome eagerly tore it open. He paled as he read:

"Am caught between Kreuznach and the German main body. Fear that position is untenable. Will held out until 7 o'clock and then propose falling back on Verdun. Hope this will suit your plans. Cannot communicate direct, so have sent this via Verdun and Bar-le-Duc. DAUBISSON."

"Nom de dieu! What is the matter?" cried Le Breton, who noticed Vansittart's passing. agitation.

The millionaire's pallor was due to hopeless anger. He could not trust himself to up which he was now traveling, and his speak, but silently handed the slip of paper four pursurers, enraged at the turn taken by to Le Breton and averted his stern, set face to watch the devoted troops of France pressing on to needless butchery.

For that was the meaning of Daubisson's short-sighted resolve.

Whatever the cost, the Verdun column shoul be interposed between the two great 200 yards. sections of the emperor's army. If a function were effected all would be lost. The French superiority in the main attack ful notion suddenly seized him. At first would be converted into hopeless disparity. Their very success in driving the kaiser's the sight, a mile away, of an entire German army corps before them toward Fresnes and division, streaming back along the road the frontier would supply the strongest ele- leading from the Meuse to Troyon, made marching along the line of the Meuse, must capture or death should be attempt to ride take them in flank shorily after 8 o'clock.

It was a bitter rebuff in the moment of present guise. apparent triumph and it was well that For Bates could fight in no other costume Jerome could not have immediate speech of than the flannel shirt, riding breeches, the pompous but well meaning little gen- boots and sombrero of a cowboy, and his His words must have cut Daubisson strange personality was almost as famous eral. to the quick.

Le Breton, too, was speechless with anger Such a figure could not fail to attract atand Arizona Jim, cantering leisurely up after securing a fresh mount, found their the all-important consideration. attitude so curious that he perforce asked Jerome "what was the trouble."

"Jim," tell me again. You handed my note to General Daubisson personally?" 'Sure as death, guv'nor."

"And he left Bar-le-Duc at once ?"

"He just said 'sacre' kind of pleased like, shouted something to a chap in gold lace a hint and tried to escape, but Bates never | eral?" and quit that fast for Verdun that you missed within practicable range. couldn't see him for dust."

captors.

German line of march.

was now at hand.

the end?

"You are quite certain he read my instructions carefully?" "Every word, bess. He didn't skip a

line. He said, 'all-a-right' to me twice, an' it was only after he vamoosed that I scratched my bead and thought as how he



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either himself or his charger low, and then shouted "Where is General Daubisson?" was, when pursued by horsemen, there was The officer addressed fortunately underess probability of some German officer

ordering a volley to be fired at him. To the intense astonishment of the masses of troops and a strong division of Ublans, he rode straight toward them. Belleving they had to deal with a lunatic, for cavalry. of course he wore no uniform, they barely Something in their disposition told Jim trotted on to meet him, and were hugely surprised when he swerved off at twenty

paces' distance and shot two of them in o press his faithful assistant for the last orders to the death." His object was to gain a small wood, anparently unoccupied, on the crest of the slope effort of that memorable ride. The noble animal stumbled and fell, ut-

erly spent, not by the distance, but by vents, pressed bit and spur in a furious the pace, as Jim reached the farm enchase after him. closure. Daubisson was there, surrounded by a

With lances at rest, and shouting fierce number of staff officers, to whom he was threats, awe-inspiring by mere reason of giving voluble instructions. Some of them their polysyllable profanity, the troopers though tthey could hunt him down within turned to go when Bates ran up, but his stentorian shout caused them to halt for a

But he was better mounted than they, and ioment. "Stop," he roared. "I bring orders from could have distanced them, had not a fanci-M. Vansittart!" The name caught every ear, and Daubisson he rejected it with a sense of scorn. But snatched at the note with frantic haste. As he read, his plethoric face became purple. He crumpled it in his right hand ment that made for defeat, as Kreuznach, him sensible of the moral certainty of and cried to his staff: "Gentlemen, the retreat is countermanded. through its scattered columns in his The German center is crushed and on the

point of annihilation. It is our pleasant duty to attack Kreuznach with every available man." Not even military decorum could represe

the cheers of delight with which the assem all over the continent as that of his master. bled officers greeted this welcome intelli gence. Daubisson, whose volatile temper tention, and the success of his mission was ament soon recovered from the implied rebuke of Vansittart's words, although fully So Jim checked his charger's stride, and conscious of the grave error from which he being now close to the cover of trees, had been saved, was about to rush off imturned round in the saddle with the laud- petuously to see personally to some details able intention of "plugging" his would-be when Bates caught his horse by the bridle.

He performed the operation on three of "No, you don't, old cock," he said. "I them. The fourth was not above taking want an answer in writing, yoo savvy, gen-

"All-a-right, all-a-right," cried Daubisson,

Jim dismounted, divested the biggest gleefully. Uhlan of his jacket and helmet, the man "No, it ain't. It's all-a-wrong. Papier, striving to resist the while, though his plume. Why the deuce can't you talk Engcollar bone was smashed, and rapidly lish or Spanish-any blessed lingo but one donned both articles, stuffing his wide- that you spell one way an' jaw another." awake hat into a holster. Then he took Jim's manner conveyed more than his the trooper's overalls to throw across his words, so the general found time to scribble

knees, slung the lance over his left arm, a hasty acknowledgment of the millionaire's and started at a swinging pace toward the message. With this safe in his pocket the gentleman from Arizona went off to look "Reckon 1 lost three minutes by that after his horse. deal," growled Jim to himself, "but I He had given the animal a pail of water

had no bloomin' sinch on passing this next and was about to find it some provender crowd without playin' it a bit low down." when he suddenly burst forth: His ruse worked admirably. As he neared "I've got bats in my belfry. I'm like a

the retreating Germans he changed direc- bloomin' bell punch when the bell don't ring. tion so as to approach them at a tangent. I'm clean off my trolley in this sort of bus-Few noticed him, and those who did iness." thought him a measenger carrying instruc. Running into the house again he found

tions to some officer in front. He se- some paper and a pencil and wrote in a lected a crossing place in front of a tem- big, round hand:

porary jam of ammunition wagons. "Telegraphe M. Vansittart que General Bates had now traveled nearly three Daubisson has received his orders and car- phrases. miles. The pace he had come was telling ried them out."

on his mount, but the charger was a good "The kick off is fine," mused Jim, "but one and up to an hour at hunting pace the second half isn't very Frenchy. All the carrying his rider's twelve stone. Troops same they'll comprehny beiter that way were scattered all over the country, and than if I chin 'em." Jim kept a sharp lookout ahead in order

He gave the document to the first officer to follow the most open approach. he met. It happened to be one of the com-The volume of firing in front momenta- mander-in-chief's sides de camp, who spoke

rily grew more distinct. The most risky, English. because most definite, part of his venture "It is well thought of, monsleur," he said. "I will place it on the wire at once." Fortune had well aided him up to the Bates smilled all over his face.

present-would she continue to smile to the rinky dink," he cried. "When a foller chips in with that sort of song an' dance Others rode forward like himself. Once, it takes the blur out of my lenses."

when he had just cleared a small body of Long before noon Count von Waldersee infaniry, marching in the same direction, informed his imperial master that if a lu an instant all resistance was at an end." The commanding officer of each regiment tery! an officer, flying along with eager haste, wholesale disaster were to be avoided there "It must have been very valuable, this was made responsible for his own commisinclined toward him, obviously with the must be an immediate retreat on Mars la intention of questioning him. Jim swore Tour and Gravelotte. quictly, changed the lance to his right | The French infantry had nobly done their searched every house, but have found the regiments; officers of divisional rank and say that I demand the immediate sup- Exclusive custom shirt tailors 1517 Farnam.

protected Daubisson's right flank. Heading this time the papers had published his messtraight for the colonel of this regiment, Jim sage to the king! The city of light would be a city of mad rejolcing. And how fondly would Evelyn carry his words to the queen!

Vansittart reined in his horse as Daubisstood him and pointed to a farm house son approached, and the two heartily shook nearly a mile away, surrounded by dense hands,

"General," said the millionaire, "we have won a great battle."

Tears sprang into the impulsive Frenchthat Daubisson was already preparing for man's eyes. He stammered with dimwaters. the retreat to Verdun. Glancing at his culty, so intense was his emotion. "You watch, he found that it was three minutes have, monsieur. But, believe me, if I o 7, and he leaned forward in the saddle cannot emulate you, I will in future obey

CHAPTER XVI.

Some Paris Side Lights.

Folllet asked his servant to bring him an Echo de Paris. A single glance at its startling headlines caused him to spring toward his coat and hat. "Great battle, magnificent French

tory, the Germans routed after five hours' fighting," these were the stirring phrases that threw light upon his soul,

the outcome of the raid at, the warehouse.

In all, eighty-seven German conspirators six severely wounded. "How? Ten killed? Did they fight

then?" M. Carot hesitated. "Not exactly, but-"

"Out with it, man. Don't pick your



Say that which first comes to

"Well, they defended their president and we had to use force."

"Did he escape, then ?" O, no. No one escaped."

"Is he injured?"

"No. He gave them some order in German, and they formed an unbreakable ring the accuracy of a well regulated clock. Re- right, fully half of the officers and men round him whilst he ate something-some serve troops and supplies constantly reached were disabled. Two guns were silent for paper those of our men believe who were the localities where they were most needed; mere want of people to work them. As they Dearest."

"Do you mean that men were killed in order to prevent a document falling into our hands?"

"I am sure of it. He chewed the stuff lece of paper?"

"Yes, sir, of the utmost value. I have brigade was responsible for the feeding of

ould win an early train. The eastward lines were The kaiser's staff relied on the machine; Vansittart relied on the man who directed But if it took a week he must visit the

men each.

barrack room existence.

French drove off with small loss,

the machine. farm of Hans Schwartz. At 10 o'clock the heavy staccato notes With the editions of the morning papers f the field ordnance mingled with the incessant crackle of the rifle fire, and Beaucame dramatic news from an unexpected

commander, it was, if possible, to advance

in line with its neighboring units, and fire

long range volleys at every visible body

When the German massed batteries were

sighted the skirmishers were advised to

gain the best shelter obtainable within 1.500

In a phrase, the opening stage of the

battle was a duel between the long range

of the enemy in the direct front.

liberate volley firing at the guns.

Since the outbreak of the war marchais at once strengthened his irreguthe French and German fleets had been lar but unbroken fighting line by the extension of another brigade. The commanchasing each other over the face of the der of a third brigade received orders to Disastrous blows were struck upon the lodge his men in half battalions at various points in rear of the extended troops, leav-French commerce. French sailors raged

in a fury of disappointment when they ing to the discretion of the colonels and majors the exact time and direction of any failed time after time to bring their enemy decisive movement in support of the skirto close quarters. At last the ministry of marine in Paris mishers. The general himself, stationed with the fourth and last brigade on a cross letermined to sweep the North sea and

road between Mars la Tour and Conflans, Biuffs. the Baltic with the whole of their available force, and with this object a grand conoccupied the center of the base of the triangle formed by those two villages, with centration was ordered at Brest.

Gravelotic at the apex. This was the move that Germany had been waiting for. It was to tempt France From that base the French attack advanced in a convex, whilst the German into some such exploit that her war ships were ostentatiously withdrawn to the guns, roughly speaking, followed the same semi-circular line at a distance of about a neighborhood of Kiel and Bremerhaven. The kniser counted on the strength of his mile.

No less than 16,000 French troops were shore defenses to safeguard his coasts. On A subordinate quickly informed him of the day that the French fleet, a superb dotted singly and in small groups behind army of fighting material, stood out into every tree, house and mound over an area the English channel and headed for the of nearly three miles.

The French main body, numbering 250,000 straits of Dover every fast cruiser in the were safe in prison, ten were dead, and German navy disappeared from the Baltic all told, were now advancing in three welland North seas and were sighted by Eng. defined army corps, marching parallel to

each other, some four miles in rear of lish fishing boats making apparently for Midway General Beaumarchais' division. The French attributed this move to fear; between lay the French guns and cavalry.

The general turned angrily upon him.

You had better take that message to the

The survivors quite coolly reap-

The object lesson was not lost.

n Whitehall, where naval matters were It will thus be seen that, so far, the fight nore clearly understood, its object was read savored of an affair of outposts rather

than a general engagement, and at 10 a. and prepared for. Definite orders were sent to the admiral m. the kaiser gleefully exclaimed: "This Yankee adventurer is a greater ommanding the British Mediterranean charlatan than the third Napoleon. He la fleet.

Thus when it came to pass that when marching into the trap. By 1 o'clock I shall the lost German squadron, after sailing have crushed both him and France. Count Helbach, the commander of th ro ad by the Hebrides and down the north Atlantic, suddenly swooped like birds of German artillery division, and his subarey upon the Sahara canal works at Boca ordinates, actively engaged in directing the Grande and Gabes, the two sections found gun practice, were not so sure of the ex-

an overpowering British force calmly await- cellence of existing arrangements. These experienced officers well knew the ing them. Protestation was useless, bluster merely folly of assuming that all the loss is on your woked a comparison of the relative weights own side. The well-placed German shells

must have wrought havee in the now clearly of ships and guns. The British commanders pointed out that discerned French fighting line. Yet the England was greatly interested in the percentage of loss among the gunners was

Sahara. She would no sooner permit the growing more serious minute by minute. destruction of the irrigation methods Slight leaden gusts swept away the batteries, adopted by Vansittart than witness un- and a steadily increasing train of ambulance moved the blowing up of the Suez canal, bearers showed already a heavy list of She simply forbade any attack. casualties.

Holbach at last shut his field glasser with The alternative was sail or sink. To the intense grief of every man on board an impatient enap and a still more impatient the British ships the discomfited raiders exclamation: "The devil take them!" he cried. "Where

chose the safer course. are their guns? For once France was grateful. A phicgmatic officer by his side answered Not even Wilhelm dared to dream of en-

"There are no guns. It is a stroke of gaging both France and England in war at genius, this unsupported infantry attack. the same time If these two led the concert of Europe all We must either hurry up our own battalions or fall back upon them. There is

others must pipe their tune. no alternative. We are firing at thin air."

CHAPTER XVII.

With the Foreign Legion.

peror. Each hour of delay on the part of the "With pleasure," The other turned his French meant a vasily increased degree of horse to ride off. efficiency for the Germans. The splendid "No. no. not yet. I did but resent you organization of the invaders was most valu- words. We cannot retreat, and the kniset

able in precisely such a situation as that is firmly resolved to await the French at which now presented itself. With no fear tack in his present position of unexpected attack on the lines of com- The officer made no reply, and they both.

munication, the magnificent German or- for a little space, watched the progress of ganization progressed each moment with events. In a hattery beneath them, on the there was neither hesitation nor doubt, looked, a leaden shower of exira neverity

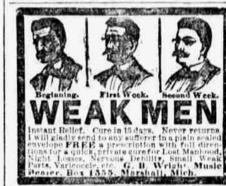
naught but decision and certainty. fell against the hillside. Five suffices True, Vansittart's reforming hand had dropped, three from one gun, two from anachieved much already. It was a bold thing other.

to suddenly remodel the whole system of portioned their duties. Three guns out of and swallowed it-shouted a command-and commissariat and ammunition transport. six were out of action in a single bat-

sariat and transport; the general of each Holbach's face was set firmly us he said; "Telegraph to the emperor, Colonel Hoftz,

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