By Captein F. A. MITCHEL.

[CONTINUED.]

CHAPTER IX

CIPHER DISPATCHES. It was about a week after the arrival of Colonel Maynard at the Fain plantation. He had returned to his headquarters. Laura was sitting at work on some part of the "recruit's" uniform, while the rain from a September storm beat against the window panes. Souri was with her, and as Colonel Maynard was expecting orders to cross the river with his brigade the two had secured Souri's promise to remain at the plantation till the close of the campaign which was about to open. Souri was up stairs administering to the wants of the younger Maynard, to whom she was devoted. He dropped to sleep, and leaving the sitting room. As she entered she glanced out of the window.

"Good gracious! If there isn't Miss

They saw through the rain a horse and buggy making a rapid turn through

"Who's Miss Baggs?" asked Laura quickly.

"I met her when coming from the porth. She got through the Union lines by playing the part of a country girl. I met her again on this side, and she was a lady. She's coming up to the

Bobby Lee came up the driveway at such a rapid gait as to astonish the two women looking out of the window. The horse had scarcely stopped in front of the house when Miss Baggs, throwing down the reins, rushed up the steps and knocked loudly at the door.

"Go and see what she wants, Souri. You've met her before."

Souri went quickly to the door. When she opened it and Miss Baggs saw the girl she had met between the lines, for a m ment her countenance brightened. Then suddenly her expression changed ou remembering that Souri was a Union girl.

"I've no time to explain anything. Call some one, quick, to drive my buggy to the barn and hide me."

Now, Souri knew well enough that Miss Baggs was working in the cause of the Confederacy. But she saw a coman in trouble, and this in her eyes obscured all else. She ushered Miss Baggs into the room where Laura sat.
"This girl wishes to rest with us

awhile. I'm going to take her horse to

Without waiting for a reply she went out, and jumping into the buggy drove it around to the barn. There she directed Uncle Daniel, who ruled the stables of the plantation, to put both horse and buggy inside and shut the doors. Having seen this attended to, she went back to the hous Meanwhile Miss Baggs stood face to

face with Laura Maynard.

"This is a Confederate household, I believe," said the fugitive.

"Thank God, you are one of ours."

"What, Federal?" She turned pale.

"Then for heaven's sake tell me what

you are." "I am a Confederate married to a Union officer."

There were quick successive flashes of hope and fear on Miss Baggs' counte-

"And you will not give me up?" "Give you up? What do you mean?"

"I am in the Confederate secret service. I have just been recognized by a Union soldier-a cavalryman. He was not mounted, while I was in my buggy. I heard him cry halt. I gave my horse the whip, and before the man could mount I was away and soon turned behind a wood. There is a fork in the road. I took the left road, leading here. He must have taken the other, which leads nowhere. He will discover his mistake, turn back and take the right road. This is the first house be will pass, and he will surely come in to ask if you have seen me."
"Well?"

"You will not betray me?"

Laura thought of the coming of her husband one night months ago, flying, as this woman was flying, for his life. "No, rest easy on that score. I will do all I can for you."

There was but little time for action, for the words were scarcely spoken before a cavalryman dashed past on the road. He was throwing mud and water behind him, his boots heavy with moist Tennessee clay. Noticing the house, as Miss Baggs predicted, he drew rein and entered the gateway. Riding up to the veranda, he shouted:

"Hello, there!" "Get in there, quick," said Laura, pushing the hunted woman into a closet. Then going out onto the veranda she sternly demanded of the man what he

"Did you see a woman go by here just now in an old farm buggy?" "No such person has passed."

"Sure."

"Are you people here Union or Con-

"Both."

"You must excuse me, ma'am, but I think I'll look about for myself a

"You will do no such thing." "Why not?" "Because this house is protected by a

"That doesn't include rebel emissa-

ries. I shall make a search." "If you do, you will regret it."

"I shall report you to Colonel Maynard, commanding the -th brigade."

colonel, I suppose," said the soldier,

"I should have. I'm his wife."

"The devil you are," in an undertone. Then aloud: "Well, ma'am, if you are Colonel Maynard's wife, that ends it. I don't see how a Union colonel's wife can give aid and comfort to a rebel telegraph worker, for that's what the woman is," and lifting his hat he rode away.

Returning to the parlor, Laura found Souri there, just from the barn. The closet door was opened, and Miss Baggs stepped out.

"Is he gone?" "Yes."

Taking Laura's hand, Miss Baggs covered it with kisses; then turning to Souri she threw her arms about her neck. Mrs. Fain came into the room, and

seeing a stranger drew back.
"Mamma," said Laura, "this lady comes to us much as Mark once came from the other side. She is chased for

"A Confederate?" asked Mrs. Fain. "A Confederate, heart and hand, body and soul," exclaimed Miss Baggs.

'One sympathizing with our cause is welcome here. Unfortunately my family is broken by diverse sympathies. My the chamber on tiptoe she descended to husband is exiled on account of his sympathies with the Federal cause. My son is fighting for the Confederacy. My daughter here is the wife of a Federal officer. My own sympathies are all with the south."

"And now," said Laura, "if you will come with me I will get you some dry clothing."

"I will, but first let me know to whom I am indebted for all this kindness. The family name is"-"Fain."

Miss Baggs controlled an ejaculation of surprise.

"Fain?" "Fain."

"And you are Laura Fain?"

"I was. I am now Laura Maynard. You seem to at least have heard of me." "I have heard of you. I am a Virginian. You once visited in Virginia. I was then in Italy studying art." "And you are"-

There was a brief silence before the guest replied. She seemed deliberating whether to make herself known or not. "Betsy Baggs," she said at last, and it was evident that if she had another name she would not reveal it,

Supper was announced, after which Miss Baggs asked to be shown to a room where she could rest. A servant was summoned, who led her to the guest chamber, and setting the lamp on a table left her to herself.

When the servant disappeared, Miss Baggs turned the key in the look and then carefully examined the walls, with a view to discovering if there were openings through which any eye could peer into the room. Her narrow escape, the last of a number of such episodes, had partly unnerved her, and she sat down in a cair to rest, languidly closing her eyes. But not for long. Rising, she drew from the pocket of her dressevery one knows that there is no better place of concealment than a woman's pocket—a small bundle of papers. Spreading them out on the table, she drew her chair near it, and after once more casting her eye about the room began to study them.

Miss Baggs had been endeavoring to secure the information required as to the methods of the general commanding the Army of the Cumberland in following the retreating Confederates ever since the request had been made of her in June previous. Here it was September, and she had effected nothing. True, she had taken a number of dispatches in cipher from the wires, but they were very long, and the longer the message the more difficult she had found them to decipher. Within a few days she had intercepted two very short ones. Taking them from those before her, she began to study one consisting of only a few

It read as follows:

Washington, Aug. 5, 1968.

Banks here army the Benjamin cat to for your report shinney daily are advance the cart orders of peremptory applause.

Here is the other, a little longer:

Washington, Sept. 8, 1868. Congress long with as advise appliause marble your possible your ago to party was con-nect soon to movements spot his ordered as to Burton pin of and left ordered Benjamin.

Taking up the dispatch she had intercepted when the Army of the Cumberland began to advance and some papers showing that she had been trying to decipher it, she began to look them over. This is the dispatch:

MURFREESBORO, June 28, 1868.
Volunteers Garfield with circling between Volunteers Garfield with circling between you possession turn an he cob Bumble at to get that possible by move Benjamin pony chief rapidity around that put of the hours ready shingle to notice enemy's Tullahoma your point the by of polliwog of plateau Niggard if desire and hope forward to haha move me right I command and mountain order staff.

Miss Baggs had had this dispatch by her since the latter part of June and had puzzled over it for many an hour. She had never succeeded in finding a key, but had at last drawn something of its meaning from the jumble of words. After much study she assumed that the words, when laid down in their proper order, would give the proper meaning. But there were certain words which either did not mean anything or stood perhaps for some place or general. She began by taking out a number of such words as "polliwog," "haha,"
"shingle" and "pony." The dispatch
was doubtless from Rosecrans, as the word Garfield (his chief of staff) appeared, and the words "chief of staff" were scattered through it. Therefore either Benjamin or Bumble or Niggard meant Resecrans. Subsequent dispatches which fell into her hands had convinced her that Rosecrans was designated as Benjamin. Then she began to try to fit words together in this wise:

Your command between Tullahoma and Niggard get possession
enemy's right
Circling around the mountain plateau
I deaire that you get possession if possible
a point between Tullahoma and Niggard
Move with rapidity
By order of Benjamin (Rosserans) Garfie
chief of staff.

suits till she obtained the following:

To Bumble (probably a cavalry general on the left flank)—Be ready to move at an hour's notice. I desire that you turn the enemy's right. Move your command if possible by circling around the mountain plateau. Get possession of a point between Tullahoma and Niggard (probably some point in rear of the southern army) with rapidity. By order of Rosecrans, Garfield, chief of staff.

The deciphering, so far as it went, was of no avail, since it did not come in time, but it helped her with the shorter and easier dispatches, which she now attacked. She began with this

Banks here army the Benjamin cat to for your report shinney daily are advance the cart orders of peremptory applause.

Miss Baggs had learned that a proper name preceded all these cipher dispatches, possibly having something to do with the key. At any rate, she threw out the first word (Banks) and the words "cat," "shinney" and "cart" as check words. "Benjamin," she assumed, meant Rosecrans. "Applause" must be the signature of the sender, and as the dispatch was from Washington it was probably either Lincoln, Stanton or Halleck. The word "to" taken with "Benjamin" must mean "To Rosecrans," and "peremptory" and "orders" evidently must go together. The word "advance" doubtless explained the two other words. This only left "report" and "daily" as words of importance. These combinations did not come at once, but after getting them she inferred that Rosecrans had peremptory orders to advance and report daily to Washington.

"I have got something at last," she exclaimed, getting up from her chair and walking back and forth excitedly. "This is indeed important."

Then she took up the second dispatch: Congress long with as advise applause mar-ble you possible your ago to party was con-nect soon to movements spot his ordered as to Burton pin of and left ordered Benjamin.

Again the words "to" and "Beniamin" were put together, and the words "congress," "marble," "party" and "spot" stricken out as checks. The dispatch, being longer than the other, was more difficult of interpretation. It was some time before the student was satisfied with her efforts. She inferred from it that some one was ordered to connect with some one else. She knew that the Confederate generals feared that Burnside might connect with Rosecrans. So it was probable that Burton meant Burnside, who was at Knoxville, and that he had been ordered to connect with Rosecrans' left "as soon as possible." The remaining words evidently meant, "Burnside also directed to report his movements to you."

"This is no less important than the other," mused Miss Baggs. "It is clear from both that Rosecrans has perempto-



Then she took up the second dispatch. ry orders to advance, and Burnside is ordered to join him. I must get this through the lines at once. From here I above Chattanooga, if possible, and perhaps I may strike their line connecting with Rosecrans' headquarters at the front and gather in the latest news. 'It never rains but it pours,' and I'll get in all I can get while I'm in luck."

Collecting her papers, she carefully tied them together and put them in her pocket. Then, turning down the light, she unlocked the door and went down stairs.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]



Fluttering, No Appetite, Could not Sleep, Wind on Stomach.

"For a long time I had a terrible pain at my heart, which fluttered almost incessantly. I had no appetite and could not sleep. I would be compelled to sit up in bed and belch gas from my stomach until I thought every minute would be my last. There was a feeling of oppression about my heart, and I was afraid to draw a full breath. I could not sweep a room without resting. My husband induced me to try

Dr. Miles' Heart Cure and am happy to say it has cured me. I now have a splendid appetite and sleep well. Its effect was truly mar-

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INDICATION OF BETTER TIMES MORE DISTINCT.

Volume of Domestic Trade Increasing and the Labor Outlook Is Much Improved-Reaction in Wheat, Oats and

New York, March 25.-R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: "Indications of improvement in business grow more distinct. Cotton does not rise because there is more demand for goods, but that there is more demand for goods because cotton is dearer. More valuable indications are that the volume of domestic trade gains a little, money is in much better legitimate demand, and the force of hands at work gradually increases in some industries and is others is restricted only by strikes, which are presumably tempor-

"The rise in cotton to 6.31 cents still seems to have scarcely any contact with the facts of demand and supply, but had a very substantial basis, nevertheless, if, as some maintain, more cotton had been sold in this country for future delivery than could be produced here unitil another crop comes. The rise in wheat, which started with the report of wheat in farmers' hands, has been followed by reaction, so that prices are lower than they were prior to that report, having fallen 214 cents for the week. The western receipts were 1,988,-214 bushels, against 1,633,331 last year, and for three weeks were practically equal to last year's, while Atlantic exports are small. Corn has not followed, but after a rise to 51% cents holds the price of a week ago, the receipts being about a third of last year's and export insignaficant. Pork has declined 25 insignaficant. Pork has declined 25 cents per barrel and lard 10 cents per 100 pounds.

"The advance in wages of cokeworkers raises the cost of fuel for a large proportion of the iron manufacturers, but as yet does not affect prices of iron or its products, as no increase in demand appears. Copper continues weaker at 9.25 cents for lake. American products in February being 12,720 tons and foreign 6,739, while tin has risen sharply to 13.9 cents. Lead is weaker with heavy sales, 2,500 tons to domestic and 1,500 to foreign takers at 3.05 to 3.1 cents, but large sales of tinplate are reported with prices a shade stronger.

"The rise in cotton has stimulated buying of goods and given confidence to agents. Heavy transactions and some advance in price appear in southern coarse goods, but not as yet in the fines. While many orders are detained by labor difficulties, there is also much complaint of cancellations, which appear to be justified in some cases by inferior quality, but in others not justified at all. Orders for fall are at present small and new business has been quiet. Sales of wool gradually decrease, and for the week are smaller than last year, 4,174.-900 pounds against 4,355,800. For three weeks of March sales indicate about 70 per cent of a full consumption.

"Failures during the last week have been 278 in the United States against 244 last year, and 35 in Canada against

MURUAGA MUST LEAVE.

Spanish Minister May Be Given a Cha to Resign.

Minister must go; the Hawalian Min istre must go; the dispute between Great rBitain and Nicarragua will be settled without violation of the Monroe doctrine or without recourse to force; the Venezuela boundary dispute is reserved for future consideration. Such is the diplomatic situation up to date.

Since the first news published of the entente discordiale between Secretary Gresham and the Spanish Minister and followed it up with the statement that the Spanish Minister would have to go, must find a way across the Tennessee, just various contradictions, some of them alleged to be based on high official authority, have been made. It is now said upon the authority of a gentleman who talked with President Cleveland last night on the subject, that the Spanish Minister will certainly terminate his official connection with this country in a short time. That termination will be practically a recall, though nominally it may be due to the wish of the minister himself.

The administration cares little about the order of his going so long as he goes. The statement about an ultimatum having been sent to Spain is incorrect. This administration is satisfied that Spain will exercise all due haste in tendering an official reply to Secretary Gresham's demand. It is not expected that a reply will come, however, till after Spain receives the official report of the incident from her representatives in Cuba. Should undue delay follow the receipt of that report Secretary Gresham will doubtless send another note requesting an immediate reply. But in view of the internal troubles which Spain is now having it is not proposed to exercise undue haste in the matter.

Thurston's recall may not come by the next steamer, but if it does not come by the steamer following his passports will be given him.

The statement regarding the peaceful dispute between Great Britain and Nicaragua is based on information received from Ambassador Bayard. The statement concerning the Venezuelan boundary dispute is based on authoritative information given by one of the most prominent officials of the admin-

Senator Mantle Getting Better. Washington, March 25 .- Senator Lee Mantle of Montana, who has been serlously ill at the Cochran in this city, suffering from an attack of grip, is now on the road to recovery. Senator Carter of the same state is ill at Hel

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MORE ROOM FOR ARGUMENT.

Attorney for Debs Considers Four Hours Not Enough.

Washington, March 25.-Attorney Gregory of Chicago, one of Mr. Debs' counsel in his case now before the Supreme court of the United States, and torney-General Olney's consent to increasing from four to six hours the time to be allowed to each side in the Debs argument, which will begin next Monday. The attorney-general, it is thought, will not ask the court to make the extension, but will interpose an objection in case the court is disposed to grant the request. Mr. Olney, however, is of opinion that four hours is quite sufficient in which to present all legitimate arguments on either side.

Row in Reichstag.

Berlin, March 25 .- The revival of the Bismarckian idea was responsible for a sensational scene in the reichstag today and resulted in the resignation of Herr von Levetzow from the presidency. The opposition has little objection to honoring Bismarck, the man, but they object to the return of the Bismarcks to power. They realize that this is the aim of the emperor at present. Everything possible is being done to bring that about, and every honor bestowed upon him is utilized to that end. Consequently when Herr von Levetzow proposed that the reichstag congratulate Prince Bismarck upon his birthday the opponents of the idea of Bismarokian rule rose in revolt and defeated the proposal by a vote of 163 to 146. A scene of the wildest excitement followed:

Fire at Moweaqua, Ill. Moweagua, Ill., March 25 .- The restdence of Wheeler Adams was destroyed by fire. Loss, \$5,000; fully insured.

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City, Deadwood, Lead City, S. D., and Central Wyoming, and is the best line by which to reach these and all northern and northeastern Nebraska places in a quick and comfortable manner. Palace sleepgovernment, were at the department of justice today. Mr. Gregory sought Attorney-General Olney's consent to improve the standard day coaches are provided for this daily service. Morning and afternoon train service is maintained as far west as Norfolk; northeast to Omaha and Sioux City, and east to Chicago. City ticket office 117 So. 10th St. Depot corner S and 8th Sts.

> Homescekers' Excursions On March 5th and April 2nd, the Missouri Pacific will sell tickets to Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma and other southern points at one fare for round trip plus \$2.00.

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Good News!

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