

The Filibusters of Venezuela.

Or the Trials of a Spanish Girl.

By SEWARD W. HOPKINS.

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CHAPTER XIII.

"Salvarez Must Be Saved!"

"This plan of yours—to have the execution of Salvarez postponed until midnight—is beyond my comprehension. Is there any game in it?"

It was Gomez who spoke. He and Francisco were in the Council Room. Philip was away in another part of the castle with Don Juan.

"Game?" replied Francisco. "What game could there be? What do you mean, Gomez? Explain your insinuations!"

"It is strange that a true lover of the king and a hater of the Republic should seek to delay the execution of one of Crespo's most dangerous generals. Rather, to my mind, should he hasten the death of the entire horde."

Francisco smiled. "General Gomez," he said, "there are other hearts than yours. You are not the only friend the king has in Venezuela. Have I not led my soldiers?"

"Your soldiers? Oh, yes, your soldiers. Of course, my dear Pedro, your valor is beyond dispute. But in this case of Salvarez—the delay of his execution as demanded by you and yielded by Phillip—is, to say the least, inexplicable. There must be a motive in it."

"Yes," replied Francisco, after a pause, "there is a motive in it. There is a reason why I have asked for the execution of Salvarez postponed. I have explained this reason to the king. It satisfied him. It must satisfy you."

Gomez laughed. "Which is your way of informing me that it is none of my business," he said.

"Not so. You are general of the army. You—"

"Oh, well, let it drop. If Phillip is satisfied, I am sure I ought to be. There are matters to be thought of that are more important than this rebel general. It is time we moved toward the Orinoco."

"I thought it had been decided that our safest plan was to wait here for Crespo's army to attack us. He will, undoubtedly, send only small detachments at a time. We can destroy them as they come."

"Nonsense," said Gomez, shrugging his shoulders. "Are we to sit here inactive while Crespo fires the enthusiasm of the mobs north of the Orinoco? What would Godoy, Hernandez and the others say to that? Remember, we have thousands of supporters there who are ready to join us as soon as we begin our triumphant march toward Caracas. If we remain here, they will think we are afraid, and will desert the Crespo. I understand our people well enough to know that their loyalty to our cause can be depended upon only as long as we show them we are succeeding. Our best move is to cross the Orinoco as soon as possible, picking up reinforcements on the way. We shall have easily twice as many followers as Crespo by the time we meet him."

"But will the king leave the castle as long as Garza's daughter is ill?"

"He must. Is the cause to be lost through his infatuation?"

"When Francisco had gone, Gomez sent for a certain captain upon whom he felt that he could rely.

"General, you sent for me," said the captain, as he entered.

"Yes, I sent for you, because I trust you more than I do any other officer of the king, and I have something for you to do."

"Thank you, general. I will endeavor to deserve your high regard."

"Captain, what do you think of Francisco?"

"Francisco? What do I think of him? That is a strange question, general."

thing in this request of his to have the execution of Salvarez delayed till midnight that makes me doubt him. The change from daylight to darkness was significant. With this suspicion in my mind, I took the trouble to learn whom he had chosen to form the firing squad. They are, to a man, picked friends of his. There is some treachery afoot, you may be sure. Could it be possible that he has promised to let Salvarez escape, to gain the girl's love?"

"It could be done if Francisco wished to do it."

"But he must not be allowed to do it. It must be your work to take a dozen of your men—men who are not friendly to Francisco—and watch, without being watched. That is, secrete yourselves some time before midnight where you can see the execution. Give Francisco plenty of time to prove his treachery. If he allows Salvarez to escape, see that the rebel general is at once killed and arrested and brought him before the king."

"That is easily done."

"Then do it."

"And keep your own counsel. Do not allow Francisco to know that we suspect him."

"You may trust me," said the captain, as he went out.

While all this had been going on, two forms were crouching close to the sliding panel that separated them from the council room, and every word uttered by Gomez and his associates had been heard by Medworth and Tempest.

When the captain had gone, one of the crouching figures made a sign and crept noiselessly away. The other followed him. In a moment they had descended the stone stairs to the caverns under the castle.

"Well," said Tempest, "the thing gets hotter and hotter. But we have something to do."

"What is it?"

"Salvarez must be saved!"

"Salvarez! He ought to be, but how?"

"I do not know yet. We know what room he is in. In some way he must be told of this scheme of Gomez's. Come what may, Salvarez must be saved!"

CHAPTER XIV.
The Barred Window.

That evening was dark and cloudy. By nine o'clock the largest object would not cast a shadow.

Jacinta, still weak after the exhausting excitement of the day, waited almost breathlessly for the midnight hour to come. For it was by this time certain that the plan of Francisco was working to perfection. But, so strangely are women constituted, even as she rejoiced in the fact that her father's life was to be saved, she began to rebel against the fulfillment of the promise that had made his salvation possible.

She loathed and despised Francisco, whom she knew to be a man of low and brutal tastes, a small, mean soul, and her heart grew sick when she thought of the future that must now be hers—bound to a man upon whom she would look only with loathing and contempt.

And as her mind dwelt on the shortcomings and evil character of the man who was destined to be her husband, there rose before her the picture of the handsome young American who had rescued her from Francisco's evil hands.

There was a man she could have loved.

"He loves another," she said to herself. "And that other is to be married to the hateful conqueror. Ah! if I were free, why might not the American love me?"

She cast aside her gloomy thoughts and went to the window, where, pressing her tear-stained face against the bars, she peered out into the starless night. A slight rustling sound beneath the window startled her. She took a step backward in sudden fear.

She listened intently. What was that a whisper! She listened again. This time there could be no doubt.

A voice came out of the darkness, whispering, almost whistling, the name, "Salvarez."

"Are you the daughter of General Salvarez?" came the voice.

"Yes, yes," she replied. "We are prisoners. I thought you were also taken."

"So we were," replied Medworth, "but Tempest and I escaped."

"You will be captured," said Jacinta, really alarmed for him. "Why do you not remain hidden?"

"I came to warn your father—to save him," was the reply.

Jacinta's breath came hard. She strained her eyes, and by the aid of what little light escaped through the window she saw the handsome face of the American upturned to hers.

"To save my father?" he exclaimed. "Brave friend! But he is already safe."

"No, he is not," said Medworth. "I know what you mean. You promised to marry Francisco—"

"I loathe—hate—despise him," whispered Jacinta.

"Perhaps you do," said Medworth, in reply to her remark about Francisco.

"You ought to. Did he promise to save your father if you consented to be his wife?"

"Yes, yes," panted Jacinta. "Is the wretch false?"

"No. I think he means to carry out his contract, but it is impossible for him to succeed. By crouching at the sliding panel we can hear all that is said in the council room. Gomez was there with Francisco. Gomez seemed to think Francisco would play him false and allow your father to escape. The men that Francisco picked to form the firing squad were friends of his own, and Gomez thought it looked suspicious. But Gomez seemed at last to be reassured by Francisco, and they talked of other matters. But Francisco had no sooner left than Gomez sent for an officer, to whom he gave this order: The officer is to take some men and be hidden near the spot where the execution is to take place. If your father is not shot by Francisco he is to be shot by the others."

"Oh!" sobbed Jacinta. "Then there is no hope for my poor father!"

"I want to help him escape," said Medworth. "Have you not thought of the secret passage?"

"Yes, we have thought of it; but to what purpose? My father says the enemy were there, and drove our men who were to blow up the castle from the place."

"No; that was Tempest and myself. We alone know the secret."

"Is it so? Ah, but what good is it to know that? An armed guard is just outside our door, and no other room connects with the secret passage but the library. Even if my father made a dash for liberty, they would discover his retreat, and all would be lost."

"Can these bars be wrenched out?" asked Medworth, placing his hand on one.

"No," replied Jacinta; and as if to test their strength with them, she placed her hand above his, touching it. At the contact another thrill set her young heart to fluttering.

"Then in some way he must be assisted," said Medworth. "The secret passage must be reached."

"I can suggest nothing," said the girl. "Francisco was my only hope."

"How many guards are there?" he asked.

"One," she replied.

"Listen. You are not far from the library."

"To the distance from that door to this is not great."

"Then I will go back, creep up to the sliding panel, and see if any one is in the library. If there is no one, I will endeavor to fasten the door. Is there a lock?"

"Yes. We always kept the key hanging near the door—on the right."

"Good. If it is there still, I will lock the door and bring the key to you. That will keep others out, and your father will know the coast is clear. Of course, if they come and find it locked there will be an uproar, and we shall be defeated, but so we should be if any one went into the room unknown to us."

"Not if my father was armed," said Jacinta. "If there was only one."

"No, that is true enough. Better take the chance then with the door open. But I must go to see if there is any one there, and to get a pistol for your father. My own is in the secret passage. Your father must be informed of the plan while I am gone. When I return, he must in some way attract the attention of the guard, get him into the room and silence him before he has time to give the alarm. Then you can all three escape to the secret passage. I will meet you there. When you are safe in the caverns we can plan further," and Medworth was gone.

The trembling girl lost no time in acquainting her father with the details of Medworth's plan. While he listened to her a grim smile played around the old warrior's mouth.

"A brave youth!" he said. "We will see how his plan can be made to work."

(To be continued.)

ITALY GIVES US A HINT.

What Her Five Fast Battleships Could Do to This Country.

We are not accustomed to consider Italy very much of a naval power; yet the five battleships of 20 knots and better that she has built or building might make us endless trouble if we were so unfortunate as to have them against us. They could range our whole coast, destroying everything afloat except our battleships and our fastest cruisers, and remaining themselves in absolute obscurity. They could cut off all trade between the United States, Cuba and Porto Rico. They could wreck the entrance of the Nicaragua canal, if that were finished. They could go through the Suez canal, harry our naval force at Manila and rekindle the insurrection in the Philippines. They could loot our coaling station at Tutuila, carry off our governor from Guam, and the Charleston did to the Spaniards, and wreck our trade with Hawaii. They could devastate our Pacific coast, ruin the shore mines at Nome and capture the gold fleet from Alaska. No battleships that we could send in pursuit of them could catch them. The only things with which we could hope to bring them to an engagement would be our new armored cruisers, and it might be that these commerce destroyers, without a gun heavier than eight-inch, and with only six inches of armor, but with the all-important quality of speed, would save us from a danger before which our ponderous battleships would be helpless.—New York Journal.

Attorney (for the defense)—Now, what time was it when you were attacked? Complainant—I don't know; ask your client—he took my watch.

MODERNIZING OF JAPAN.

The Three Distinct Classes of This Island Nation.

The office of the "shogun" now merely represents a tradition in Japan, though in any other part of the world, where events do not move so quickly it would be a very bitter memory. Barely thirty-three years ago the shogunate was abolished and the mikado then stepped forth again to govern as well as to reign after an eclipse which had lasted nearly 700 years. During all this time the mikado at the old capital of Kyoto had been a mere figurehead, very often a child, never very much more, and all the real power resided in the shogun, or "generalissimo," who controlled the military forces of the empire. Practically only two great families supplied the rulers from 1336 until 1867. With the shogunate also came to an end the caste of the samurai, or military retainers, in all but their title. This is still in existence. There are three classes in Japan—the kwazoku or nobles, the samurai, or gentlemen, and the heimin or common people. The samurai used swords and foreign residents in the early days of the treaty ports have many tales to tell of the complications to which this gave rise. By an imperial edict of 1876 the wearing of swords was prohibited; the people obeyed without a murmur, and a few years afterward the blades that had been treasured in Japanese families for many years were adorning the walls of foreign villas. Rather more than ten years ago an Australian opera touring company acted "The Mikado" in at least two of the treaty ports of Japan. In deference to representations, not from the Japanese government, but from the British consulate, the opera was billed as "A Gentleman of Japan." The natives who witnessed its representation found it ever more full of humor than Mr. Gilbert intended it should be and went away fully convinced of the superiority of the Japanese drama.—Chicago News.

NUTRITION IN QUAIL EGGS.

Southern Negroes Eat Partridge Eggs and Grow Fat Thereon.

"Few persons are aware of the fact," said a well-known physician to the New Orleans Times-Democrat, "but it is true nevertheless that the egg of the partridge is one of the most nutritious things in the world. They are not used for eating purposes except in very rare cases, and then it generally happens in remote rural districts. I have known negro families in the state of Louisiana during the laying season to live on the eggs of partridges. And they would flourish handsomely and grow fat on account of the rich properties of the eggs. These eggs, of course, never find their way into the market because they are never taken from their nests except by such persons as I have mentioned, and they rob the nests. I suppose because their principal food supply comes from this source. Quail meat comes pretty high in the market at all times, and the average man will find it more profitable to spare the eggs and wait for the birds when the hunting season rolls around. These men would pass a hundred nests in one day without disturbing an egg. The sport of hunting the birds is an additional incentive. The average negro does not care so much about this aspect of the case. He figures that the white man, having the best gun and the best dog, will beat him to the bird. So he goes after the egg. One partridge will lay anywhere from a dozen to twenty eggs, and a nest is a good find. I know of many families in rural sections who feast on these eggs in the laying season. I have tried the egg myself as an experiment. I found it peculiarly rich. It has a good flavor, is very palatable, and, in fact, is altogether a very fine thing to eat. Really, I believe that the egg has more nutrition in it than the fully developed bird, but, of course, as one of the men fond of the game in the field, I would like to discourage the robbery of the nests."

His Life Saved by a Mosquito.

A Castle Valley man says: "The other night I went to bed very late, undressing and putting on the gas in a kind of dream. A mosquito awakened me with its maddening buzz and I lay in a stupor for a little while asking myself what the over-powering odor was that filled the room and what was the cause of my feeling of dizziness and faintness. Then I tried to get to sleep again, but the mosquito wouldn't let me. It buzzed and bit, and at last it roused me thoroughly. 'What a smell of gas,' I said to myself, and got up and staggered to the chandelier to find one burner turned on full. I would have died of asphyxiation if I had not been aroused, and it was a mosquito that awakened me. I may truly say, therefore, that a mosquito saved my life."—Philadelphia Record.

Berlin's Street Railways.

In Berlin the street railway company is required to grant a 10-hour day to its employes, to provide waiting rooms, properly warmed and lighted, and, from January, 1901, to fix a uniform fare of 2.38 cents for the whole length of the line, both within and without the city. The city receives 8 per cent of the gross profits plus half the net profits over 12 per cent on old capital and 6 per cent on new capital. At the end of the year 1910 the lines and rolling stock will become city property. These terms are drastic, indeed, yet the citizens are not satisfied, and additional lines are now planned.

Stage Woman Writes a Book.

Yvette Guilbert is writing a book. It is expected to prove a sensation, as it will contain racy comment on the members of her profession and will deal at considerable length with her experiences in America.

IRRIGATION THE ISSUE

National Secretary Maxwell Has Something to Say on the Subject.

INTEREST AWAKENED BY DROUGHT.

Much Can Be Done in Nebraska Without Governmental Intervention—Burning of the Stanton Roller Mills—Miscellaneous Nebraska Matters.

OMAHA, Neb., Aug. 28.—George H. Maxwell, secretary of the National Irrigation association, was in the city on his way from Chicago to Denver, where he is to attend the National Forestry congress which will be in session in that city.

Speaking of the progress of the sentiment on the subject of irrigation among people in the east, Mr. Maxwell said:

"The drought of the month of July has increased the interest in the subject of irrigation in all parts of the country. I addressed the Missouri State Press association a few weeks ago when the drought was at its worst. Missouri up to this time has been generally opposed to government appropriation for irrigating purposes, but since that meeting I have noticed that many of the influential papers of the state are advocating the idea."

"I believe that much can be done in Nebraska toward improving the conditions existing without governmental intervention. I recently wrote for the Bee an article in which I favored the plan of building ponds and damming the draws and ravines so that the rainfall could be stored. I believe that if the state would offer a small bounty for each acre of land flooded by this means it would be the means of reclaiming from drought a large part of the farm lands of the western part of the state. I was talking to Henry Fox of Nelson on this subject and he says that, leading from the rivers in that part of the state, the country around Nelson is too rough for irrigation, but that there is considerable land which might be irrigated from ravines and ponds. He also advanced an idea which should prove of advantage, and that is where a roadway is built over a ravine it should be built in the form of a dam, with drainage pipes several feet above the bottom of the ravine, so that they would form a dam at little additional expense, and thus create the storage reservoirs when the road was being built."

"At the meeting of the forestry congress I shall talk upon the subject of 'Irrigation and the Forests,' taking the position that the government should immediately begin the process of reforesting large acreages in the west. This can be done easily and it is the generally accepted belief that forests increase the rainfall, so that the government could be doing two admirable things at one time."

Need Not Grant Certificate.

HARRISON, Neb., Aug. 28.—A decision of importance to school teachers of Nebraska was handed down by District Judge Westover, who denied the petition of Prof. George W. Meyers asking for a mandamus to compel County Superintendent Burke to issue him a certificate. The force of the decision is that the superintendent uses his discretion in granting certificates and the court has no jurisdiction under the petition.

Bracelin's Body Recovered.

HUMBOLDT, Neb., Aug. 28.—John Denis of this city has received a second dispatch from his brother Edward, who was in the Islander shipwreck, August 15, off the coast of Douglas Island. The message was sent from Seattle, and states that efforts to recover the body of Bracelin were successful and that interment has been made near Juneau, as it was not possible at that time to ship the body.

Vizzard is Hunting Thieves.

OGALALLA, Neb., Aug. 29.—Detective Vizzard of Omaha is here in the interest of the Union Pacific. Bridge timbers and ties have been reported stolen in large numbers. It is reported that some of the stolen property has been located, and arrests will be made.

Requisition for James Toman.

LINCOLN, Neb., Aug. 28.—Requisition papers were signed by the governor for the return of James Toman from Cedar Rapids, Ia., to Omaha, where he is to be tried on the charge of assault with intent to kill.

Charged With Embezzling.

BEATRICE, Neb., Aug. 28.—R. D. Stover, former manager of the Western Union Telegraph company here, was brought back from Kansas City, where he had been arrested, charged with embezzling \$298 from the company while acting as its agent. Stover was turned over to Sheriff Waddington and had his hearing before Judge Enlow. He was placed under bonds of \$600 to appear for trial September 2.

Death of Former Judge Hyatt.

WEBSTER CITY, Ia., Aug. 29.—Judge Hyatt, prominent in democratic state politics until the break in 1896, and a leading attorney of the state, also grand high priest of the grand chapter Masons of Iowa, is dead.

Verdict Is Unsatisfactory.

PEKIN, Aug. 29.—The imperial edict forbidding the importation of arms and munitions of war is not satisfactory to the foreign ministers. A meeting of the ministers has been called to discuss the edict. It ignores the fact that the prohibition applies to the government and that it is part of the Chinese punishment. The edict makes it appear to be merely the government voluntarily prohibiting the Chinese subjects from importing arms.

THE LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Latest Quotations From South Omaha and Kansas City.

SOUTH OMAHA.

Cattle—There was not a heavy run of cattle as compared with last week or with the preceding week. Western range cattle made up the bulk of the offerings, though there were quite a few cored-off cattle on sale. Packers' orders seemed to be fairly liberal, and as a result the market was in good shape and the better grades were 1,300 out of first hands. The demand for stockers and feeders was limited. Yard traders have a good many on hand and the demand from the slow to take hold of fresh offerings. Some of the choicest bunches sold at fully steady prices, but aside from that prices were generally a shade lower, and anything on the comolish order was very hard to dispose of and sellers had to take considerably less than the same kind sold for yesterday. Packers were all anxious for the better grades of western beef cattle and anything at all desirable brought just about yesterday's quotations. The commoner kinds were, of course, more or less neglected and in some instances feeder buyers outbid the packers. Cows were in good demand at steady to strong prices and the pens were cleared in good season of all the better grades. Bulls, calves and stags brought steady prices, but stockers and feeders were lower and slow unless they were extra choice.

Hogs—There was rather a light run of hogs and the market opened strong to be higher on the better grades of heavyweights. Packers were willing on the start to pay \$6.02 and \$6.05 for good hogs, and the choice loads sold from \$6.05 to \$6.20. For the lighter weights they were bidding from \$6.50 down, but not many of them changed hands on the opening market. The close of the market was very slow, the advance of the morning being fully lost. Hogs sold mostly from \$5.75 to \$6.02, which makes the bulk of the sales from \$5.75 to \$6.05.

Sheep—The following quotations are given: Choice yearlings, \$3.60 to \$3.75; fair to good yearlings, \$3.50 to \$3.65; choice wethers, \$2.55 to \$2.70; fair to good wethers, \$2.45 to \$2.60; choice ewes, \$2.55 to \$2.70; fair to good ewes, \$2.50 to \$2.65; choice spring lambs, \$4.50 to \$4.75; fair to good spring lambs, \$4.00 to \$4.25; feeder wethers, \$2.50 to \$2.75; feeder lambs, \$2.00 to \$2.25.

KANSAS CITY.

Cattle—Best steers, steady to be lower; cows, steady; stockers and feeders, 100 lb lower; choice export and dressed beef steers, \$4.00 to \$4.25; fair to good, \$4.50 to \$4.75; stockers and feeders, \$2.80 to \$3.05; fed westerns, \$4.10 to \$4.25; western range steers, \$3.50 to \$3.75; Texans and Indians, \$2.70 to \$2.85; Texas cows, \$2.50 to \$2.75; native cows, \$2.40 to \$2.55; heifers, \$2.50 to \$2.75; canners, \$1.90 to \$2.10; bulls, \$2.50 to \$2.75; calves, \$2.00 to \$2.25.

Hogs—Market generally steady, but closed easy; top, \$6.35; bulk, \$6.00 to \$6.25; heavy, \$6.00 to \$6.25; mixed packers, \$6.00 to \$6.25; light, \$5.60 to \$5.75; pigs, \$4.60 to \$4.75.

Sheep and Lambs—Market steady; lambs, \$4.25 to \$4.50; native wethers, \$3.50 to \$3.75; western wethers, \$3.10 to \$3.25; stock sheep, \$2.00 to \$2.25.

MAY HAVE ANOTHER LYNCING.

Negro Assault and Murder a White Woman—Posse in Pursuit.

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 29.—Near Columbus, Mo., forty miles south of here, Boss Francis, a negro farm hand, last evening assaulted and murdered Miss Maud Henderson at the home of her brother-in-law, W. C. Hyatt, on whose farm the negro worked. Francis escaped, but is being pursued by possses from Columbus and Warrensburg and will undoubtedly be lynched.

The crime was committed at 6 o'clock. The family was away at the time, with the exception of the victim, who had remained to prepare supper. The assault and murder occurred in the kitchen and was not discovered until the family returned an hour later. The negro used a revolver to kill the woman and made his escape. A posse of fifty men was raised at once and went in pursuit. Owing to lack of telephone facilities, Sheriff Koch was not apprised of the crime until midnight, when another posse was sent out from Warrensburg. The excitement in the vicinity of Columbus is intense and if the negro is captured a lynching will surely result.

COURT DESIRES NO DISPLAY.

Return to Pekin to Be Unmarked by Any Celebration.

PEKIN, Aug. 29.—An edict has been received announcing that it is the intention of the court to return unostentatiously to Pekin. Their majesties will give 100,000 taels as a farewell contribution to the distressed people of Sian Fu and the surrounding district. The edict forbids any preparations being made for the reception of the court beyond repairing the roads. It abates and refunds a year's taxes along the route that will be followed through the provinces of Shan Si, Ho Nan and Chi Li. All the expenses of the journey will be paid by the imperial exchequer. This is unusual, but accords with a suggestion recently made by Sir Robert Hart, director of the imperial maritime customs.

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