

Colonel TODHUNTER of Missouri By RIPLEY D. SAUNDERS

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The girl was silent for a moment. Her face flushed a dark red and then went white again. "Tom Strickland made me eat my heart out for him!" she cried suddenly, shame and a desperate defiance in the passionate eyes that confronted her audience. "He wouldn't see that I loved him better'n anything else in all this world and that I wanted him to love me the same way. And the reason he wouldn't see what I was always a showin' him was that he was so dead in love with Miss Mary Todhunter. That's what made me tell that he against him when I knowed that Mrs. Todhunter was a-goin' to ask me to leave the party."

There was a pitiful break in the girl's voice. "I didn't care the tip of my finger for Jesse Bream!" she cried. "I hated and despised him. But he was willin' to marry me and take me away from Niveveh, and so I kep' my mouth shut and waited for him to come and do it."

"I am going to ask you, Miss Doggett," said Major Gentry Dryden, "when was the first time you saw Jesse Bream after Colonel Todhunter's visit to you that day?" "I didn't see him till the day before this here trial begun, sub. He had gone away to fix things up for marryin' me and takin' me down some-where in Oklahoma, and he didn't come back till then."

"What time of the day did you see him?" "I reckon 'twas 'long about three or four o'clock in the day, sub. He didn't come clear to the house 'cause he saw granddaddy settin' on the front gallery. But he give a whistle I knew, and I went out and met him."

"Where did you meet him?" "In a little clump o' woods 'cross the road, not far from the old cabin where Aunt Mirandy Ransom and old Jed Ransom, her husband, two colored people, are livin', sub."

"What had he come to see you about?" "He come to tell me that ever'thing was ready for us to run away that very night. He was plannin' to drive over into Ralls county, and we'd get married there and then start for Oklahoma. And he'd been drinkin' and was braggin' about how he'd killed Stam Tucker. It wasn't then I knowed for the first time, from his own lips, that it was him that killed Stam, but I'd been certain of it in my mind all the time."



and I turns and runs straight through the woods, lookin' back once or twice. And that man came to the edge of the woods, and I heard him laugh and then mutter like he was drunk and talkin' to himself, and then he deliberately turned back to the Black Bottoms road and went to'ards town."

"What was that man's name?" "It was Thomas W. Strickland, sub. Chickasaw, Jesse Bream swears that he saw him plain, and he takes his oath that it was Tom Strickland."

"Did Jesse Bream tell you what he did after that encounter?" "Yes, sub. He says that he lay out in the woods for about an hour and him and herself beyond the seeing of that which had so moved her to uncontrollable anguish."

The next moment the door had closed upon the two, shutting them out from Niveveh's vision.

(To Be Continued.)

BRITISH MINER'S FEATS OF MEMORY WONDERFUL. His Strange Faculty Compared With Performances of the Past.

A Northumberland (England) quarry miner, George Harbottle by name, has been the subject of many tests lately, and he has been proved to be in possession of a memory which retains an indelible impression of everything he hears or reads.

He can repeat half a dozen pages of a book without the omission or misplacing of a single word after he has once heard or read them. He is also able to repeat long lists of words backward or forward after they have been read out to him. For a wager recently he read once through a whole pamphlet of street songs, a task that occupied twenty minutes, and then repeated the whole from beginning to end without a mistake.

His gift, though now regarded as wonderful, would have been regarded as an ordinary accomplishment in olden times, when men were accustomed to train and exercise their powers and gifts of memory. This was particularly true of the priests of the different religious systems, as in the majority of instances the contents of the sacred books were not permitted to be committed to writing.

Thus the Vedas, the Talmud and other sacred writings were preserved mainly by committing them to memory. Apart from these, however, there are many authenticated cases on record of people in all classes and positions—kings, statesmen, soldiers, artists and others—who had remarkably trained natural powers of memory.

Justus Lipsius, a Flemish writer of great celebrity in his time (the eleventh century), knew by heart the whole of Tacitus. About the same time a French poet of the name of Nicholas Bourbon astonished the Parisians by reciting accurately the French history of Chancellor de Thou and the eulogies of Pius Gioivo, says the Standard.

"George Vogan de Arrezo knew by heart line after line the whole of Vergil's Aeneid, which he had learned when at school. Klopstock, the celebrated German epic poet, is said also to have known the whole of Homer's Iliad, which he had memorized in his school days.

MEXICAN INVASION NOT EASY, OPINION OF ARMY EXPERTS

Would Probably Cost United States \$500,000,000 and 50,000 Soldiers. Army of 250,000 Men Necessary to Invade Mexico Effectively.

THERE was a time when the general staff of the United States army did think an invasion of Mexico an easy matter. It was thought then that a certain phenomenal military success, which landed the American troops in Mexico City before the world had thought it possible, could be repeated at pleasure. Today a different view prevails in the war department. To it is due the fine control of the governmental temper.

Three years ago everybody would have laughed at the statement that it would take 250,000 men to invade Mexico effectively, writes George Albert Schreiner in the New York Evening Post. It was the habit then to assume that a company of Texas rangers could cross the Rio Grande and subdue the entire republic just as fast as their mounts could cover it. The Mexican army was then known as a most unsoldierly aggregate of hombres who had discarded the rags of the penitentiary for the cheap cotton trousers, gaudy tunics and headpieces of the army. In a way this impression is yet held, though the continuous insurrections and revolutions of the last two years have modified it in at least one important respect.

Initial Success Important. In modern warfare, though this has been badly overrated, the initial success is everything. With this naturally goes a great degree of mobility. It is as necessary to penetrate well into the country invaded as to win big engagements. With this in view, the



TYPICAL MEXICAN SOLDIERS.

It is admitted today that the Mexican can fight when he has a mind to do this. But something is likely to be overlooked here. The incessant turmoil has made soldiers out of Mexicans who formerly were not soldiers. In the states of Nuevo Leon, Coahuila, Tamaulipas, Chihuahua and elsewhere there has come into an existence fighting material that is highly respected by all who know it—los fuerces auxiliares, a sort of mounted police, under state supervision, that would be heard from most disagreeably in case of intervention.

The men forming this contingent are probably superior to anything the republic has in its military establishment. The first demonstration of this was given when, though recruited from the rural population in the insurrection districts, they refused to adhere to any but the de facto government. Like the regular army, this institution recognizes nothing but el gobierno. What individual happens to be president does not matter.

The auxiliaries of Nuevo Leon, headed General Reyes until he thought it well to surrender, in spite of the fact that this old rebel had hoped to win them over to his side, as, according to all precedents south of the Rio Grande, he had good reason to hope.

Strong National Spirit. A word must be said here for the remaining human elements that would take up arms. Even the most prejudiced must admit that the Mexican, no matter what his station in life, is warmly attached to his country—his republica. So great is this love of country that only the supply of arms could limit the number that would go into the field in case of an invasion. Since this is estimated at over a million stands of rifles, there would be no dearth in that direction. In a united Mexico, moreover, there would be no lack of ammunition for a long time. The republic not alone has acquired large stores of artillery and small arms ammunition, but it has also the mechanical equipment to manufacture these in case an inevitable blockade should make the importation of them impossible.

The Mexican army would confine its efforts to the most trying sort of warfare—guerrilla, a sort of military operation to which their kinsmen in Spain gave the name and with which the Mexicans themselves are fully acquainted. To an army organized like that of the United States this is very disastrous until such time as the necessary modifications are made. Great Britain, to meet similar conditions in South Africa, had to convert her in-

fantry into mounted infantry, the desideratum being greater mobility, but the change involved was a slow and trying one and led to the great protraction of the campaign. The United States would have to meet the same problem before it could hope for success, but the British infantryman at least knew how to handle his rifle. The American militiaman and volunteer would have to be taught even that.



GENERAL VICTORIANO HUERTA.

general staff of the United States army has recently revised its plan of attack. As late as the mobilization of the "maneuver division" in 1911, in some quarters the opinion was held that an invasion from the north was indispensable, though secondary to the main movement from Vera Cruz and an advance from Tampico. It is still somewhat fashionable to seize capitals, though in the light of recent experiences it does not always serve any particular purpose. The present plan of the war department provides for a concentration upon Vera Cruz and the capital.

Vera Cruz offers the best opportunity as a base for the main attack upon Mexico City. The distance to be traversed is not very great—294 miles by the best route. There would be no difficulty landing at that point a force sufficiently large to penetrate to the capital in time. But there are considerations of terrain that make operations from this point difficult. At Jalapa, but eighty-two miles from the coast, the country has already risen to an altitude of 4,010 feet, or nearly fifty-seven feet to the mile. Beyond Jalapa and until Puebla is reached the country is every bit as difficult.

125,000 Men Needed. It is doubtful whether Mexico City could be taken via Vera Cruz with less than 125,000 men. The only hope of the officer in charge of these operations would lie in the superiority of numbers—the possibility that an extended front, or line of attack, would develop weak spots in the defensive tactics of the Mexicans. Individual courage is a sadly futile thing in a terrain such as this, and the fortune of war generally is with the man behind the boulder up on the hill. It is almost unnecessary to have seen panting infantrymen scale heights to understand this.

Mexico City might be taken via Vera Cruz in six weeks if no severe reverses had been suffered. Seven miles per day with the country to be carried is no mean performance. Needless to say, the railroad to the capital could not be used by the invading forces, and such is the territory which the line traverses that in many places it could be put out of commission for months. The line between Mexico City and Vera Cruz is as difficult a piece of railroad engineering as can be found. The same is true of most of the other railroads operating east and southeast of the capital. Estimating the cost of military operations at \$2 per diem for each man employed, we find that the taking of the Mexican capital, outside of the mobilization expenditure and cost of equipment, would amount to \$12,600,000.

Reverses Possible. It must be borne in mind, however, that the case as here presented does not discount even a single serious reverse. With the Mexicans hard to dislodge, the invading army might find itself checkmated to such an extent that weeks would be consumed in the carrying of points of strategical importance. It must be remembered here

that the American army would fight uphill from the moment it set foot on Mexican soil and that every military crest would be a point of vantage for the Mexicans. Most of the fighting would occur in the defiles between the escarpment walls. With fanatical Mexican soldiery holding the heights, this would become bloody work indeed.

The diversion movement upon Tampico would have little value, except it sustained an invasion across the lower courses of the Rio Grande. Strategically Tampico is hardly on the map, and the American military sphere to be established there would extend to the north rather than to the west and south. The country's topography determines that.

But with Mexico City taken and with the territory toward the coast cleared the pacification of Mexico would not yet have commenced. To all intents and purposes that part of the republic is as tranquil today as it ever has been or probably ever will be.

Capture of Capital. To what extent would the taking of the capital influence the Mexicans is now the question to be considered. To be sure, when the Germans had taken Paris in 1871 the backbone of all resistance had been broken. There are many instances of this sort of history, but in this respect the City of Mexico means so little to the Mexicans that such a result could not be hoped for. The pacification of Mexico—for that could be the only reasonable objective of intervention—would have to be carried into the most remote parts of the republic. In that would lie the difficulty.

There is the hope, of course, that the sane element of Mexico would by that time realize that law and order were all the American army demanded. But this is merely a hope, not well supported by the country's antecedents. One has to know the intimate history of political Mexico, from Hidalgo and Juarez down, to understand how little justification there is for such a conclusion. The Mexican is not above de-



AMERICAN OFFICERS SIGHTING BANDS WITH GUN OF TYPE NOW IN SERVICE IN THE ARMY.

manding that before he would treat with the invader for his own good there would have to be a complete evacuation. Naturally to this the United States government could not consent. Interminable guerrilla warfare would be the consequence.

An Unpleasant Picture. With bases established at Vera Cruz, the City of Mexico and Tampico, military operations in the republic would be less difficult. But before the country could be swept clean of roving guerrillas and order established the American army would have to be greatly augmented. Nothing short of 250,000 men would be needed for this work, entailing an expenditure of at least \$500,000 per day, or \$182,500,000 in a year.

The claim made now and then that it would take from ten to fifteen years to subdue Mexico is very extravagant, of course. Yet the task might stretch over three to four years easily enough. This is hardly a bright picture, but it is the best that can be given of the subject. Probably the cost of pacification would be not a cent less than \$500,000,000, and casualties could not be expected to number less than 50,000 men killed and invalidated.

Those who may have been unable to understand the function of the government can rest assured that the magnitude of the pacification of Mexico is fully appreciated by the war department. Intervention in Mexico might become a retreat or a job badly done.

NEW SOUTH WILL HAVE EXPOSITION

National Conservation Exhibit at Knoxville, Tenn.

WILL LAST TWO MONTHS.

Every Southern State Will Be Represented, and Display Planned Promises to Be of Great Industrial and Human Interest—Project Has Been Carefully Financed in Every Detail.

With the opening of the National Conservation exposition in Knoxville, Tenn., set for Sept. 1, the preliminary work is practically completed. And on the day of opening the exposition company will not owe one penny, so carefully has the financing of the project been done. Furthermore, the exhibition will be complete to the smallest detail on the opening day. Every exhibit will be in place, every building finished.

The National Conservation exposition, conceived and brought into existence by business men of the south, will be the first exposition in history to have for its main aim and object the teaching of the necessity of conserving the great natural resources of the country, and also of conserving the lives and health and energy of the people.

Exposition Grounds Spacious. Over ten acres of exhibit space has been provided in the different buildings. These buildings are the liberal arts building, the land building (with an auditorium annex seating 3,000 persons), the woman's building, the child welfare building, the Tennessee building, the all south building, the mines and minerals building, the forestry building, the art building and the negro building.

The grounds are rolling and are covered with a wealth of shade and grass. In the distance the Great Smoky mountains are to be seen.

Special attention will be given to the wonderful growth of the south in the last few years. During September and October the exposition will continue from Sept. 1 to Nov. 1 the new south will be put on display as never before in its history. Every southern state, practically every large city in the south, and many separate counties will be represented by exhibits.

The government will have exhibits, prepared especially for the exposition, in the departments of land, forests, child welfare, mines and minerals, etc. Heads of the different departments say they will be the best displays that ever have left the national capital.

Notables on Advisory Board. Engaged in advancing the interests of the exposition is a national advisory board at Washington, composed of Gifford Pinchot (chairman), Dr. Joseph A. Holmes of the bureau of mines, Miss Julia C. Lathrop of the children's bureau of the department of labor, Dr. P. Claxton of the bureau of education, Logan W. Page, director of the good roads department; Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, Bradford Knapp of the department of agriculture and others.

Knoxville figures on entertaining at least 1,000,000 visitors, the railroad systems of the south having counted on carrying that number of persons to Knoxville.

Knoxville is rich in historical spots and places. Near the city fifty years ago were fought a number of engagements of the civil war.

U. S. TO IMPROVE SARDINES.

Establish Laboratory to Aid Business Now in Deplorable Condition. To re-establish the American sardine industry and to improve the quality of the American fish product, the department of agriculture has instituted a special sardine laboratory at Eastport, Me. This field experiment station, which is in charge of Dr. F. C. Weber of the animal physiological laboratory of the bureau of chemistry, will make a thorough study of the fish caught in the Maine sardine waters and the methods of packing them employed by the Maine canners.

American sardines of late, with few exceptions, have been of inferior quality and often packed when unfit for packing or else so packed as to be a very poor article of diet. The attention of the department was brought to the situation very forcibly when it was found necessary to order the seizure of about 90,000 cans of American sardines in Pittsburgh, and 2,000 cases, or nearly 150,000 quarter and half cans, in Norfolk. The industry at present, the American canners themselves admit, is in a deplorable condition. What was once a flourishing and money making sea food industry has through destructive competition been brought to a stage where many canneries are no longer packing, and where those which do pack are compelled to sell their product at less than cost.

First Parcel Post Package.

The silver loving cup commemorating the opening of the parcel post system is now in the National museum at Washington. It was the first package to go through the mail under the new system and was mailed in Washington by Postmaster General Hitchcock on Jan. 1 to Postmaster Moran at New York. The cup is eight inches high and is suitably inscribed.