

MY REVOLUTION.

By W. L. ALDEN.

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Mr. James Smith, ex-ambassador of the United States to the court of Lichtenstein, sighed as he put down his glass of whisky and soda. He was usually in excellent spirits, and, as I knew that the whisky was particularly good, I wondered at his apparent melancholy.

"I was thinking," said he, "of the days when I was American minister to the Central American republics. Our government used to bunch all the five republics together and send one minister to the lot of them. I was young in those days, and, though Central America was a mighty rough place, I enjoyed it a heap more than I ever did any of these European courts. I was a big thing to be ambassador to Lichtenstein and to have a hand in the political pie of pretty near every nation in Europe, but I never enjoyed it as I enjoyed my first mission to Central America. I liked the place so much that I stayed there twelve years, which was what you might call breaking the record."

"You know, I suppose, that our government, whenever a new administration comes in, turns out all the foreign ambassadors and ministers and puts in a lot of new men. I ought to have been turned out after being in office four years, but I knew that I couldn't be recalled except by a notification to that effect from Washington, and I took good care that no notification could reach me. When my four years were pretty near up I got permission to make a tour of the five republics and to report on their general condition."

"The Central American postoffice arrangements were very bad," said I, "I calculated that I could always keep ahead of any dispatch recalling me that the Washington folks might send. For four years I kept moving from one place to another, and never once reached by mail, the government sent out three successive special messengers, with orders to hunt me up and notify me that I was recalled, but none of the messengers were able to come up with me. One of them did get within a day's journey of where I happened to be, and I began to think that the game was up, but luckily he died of fever before he could do any more. When the four years were ended, my own political party came into power again, and the new president happened to be an old friend of mine. So he kept me in another four years, and about the end of that time I resigned of my own accord. I had a bang-up time exploring the country while I was keeping ahead of the recall, and all the messengers I sent to my work to do, and living was so cheap that I didn't spend any money to speak of."

"When I was free to return to my post of duty I had four years of back salary to draw, and though it only made \$12,000 all told, it made me one of the richest men in Central America, barring, of course, the presidents of the republics, and I was a fellow as you need not feel proud of, of course, that he didn't feel any, provided, of course, you, he and I were as thick as thieves. The other ministers were a pretty swell lot, especially the Europeans. They used to come to the palace to get some of my uniforms, and at first they looked down on me because I used to wear a blue flannel shirt and trousers, and nothing else, except boots and a necktie. You see our government didn't furnish any uniform for its diplomatic officers, so I just adopted the flannel shirt and trousers for comfort, and gave out that they were the regulation uniform for a United States minister.

"The other ministers used to put on a heap of style, same as they do on the side of the Atlantic, and I could see that it bored the president, who was a rough soldier who had risen from the ranks. He liked my free and easy style, and from that time I had more influence with him than the whole diplomatic gang put together. I taught him to play poker, talking rare that the balance of winnings should go to him, and I used to spend the greater part of my evenings in his private room with nobody present but just me and him, and he was a first-class Kentucky whisky that I imported for diplomatic purposes.

"This President Don Villar y Villar had been in office four years when I made his acquaintance. That was something very unusual in Central America, where a president is recalled turned out or goes into exile within two years after he goes into office. This particular president, however, had shot so many of his opponents the day after his inauguration that he had a reputation for being in a position to raise a revolution against him. Then, again, he had governed the country so remarkably well that he was extraordinarily popular.

"People had got used to living a quiet life without a semi-monthly insurrection and a biennial rebellion. They found it paid a good deal better than the old way of man-

stand that for a president to run away with the treasury, with the exception of the country, would be both dishonorable and unconstitutional. I trust that I am incapable of such conduct. I have always ruled this country strictly constitutional, and when I leave the presidency it will be in the way that the constitution provides; that is to say, by being turned out by a revolution. In that respect I shall have the right to take the treasury with me and no one will dare say that I have acted dishonorably."

"All right," said I, "I don't pretend to understand your scruples, for I am a practical American politician and I don't know anything about the sort of honor that you Spanish-Americans have attached to the right to take the treasury with me and no one will dare say that I have acted dishonorably."

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do his duty. I suppose that I was a little to blame in the matter, but I acted for the best. It was a rough country, that Zarguela, in some respects, but after all, there was some excitement in being foreign minister in a republic where a revolution is considered a part of the machinery of government.

"I saw ex-President Villar y Villar in Paris about three years ago, and he told me that Paris wasn't what he had supposed. It is some excitement in being foreign minister in a republic where a revolution is considered a part of the machinery of government.

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Savory Edible with an Impostive French Designation.

It may surprise many readers to learn, says a writer in WHAT TO EAT, that the common garden snail, regarded as an unmitigated pest by agriculturists in this country, is used for food by thousands of persons. In fact, snails are not only eaten in the most civilized parts of the world, but they are also considered a dainty dish by epicures in all the great cities of the world. Not only is this the case in foreign countries, where the over-eaten aristocracy of Europe has rendered obligatory that everything edible should be eaten, but here in America, where in New York the arrival of the French steamers from France, and the French chefs, and the importance in gastronomic circles, and the leading French restaurants advertise the dish as a special attraction. Like other items on the menu, the snail is served in a small change, his name when he comes to the table, and takes the French title.

Thus as the pig becomes pork, the ox beef, the sheep mutton, the small figures on bills of fare as becomes, a much more imposing designation. Like many other dishes esteemed by epicures it comes to us by way of France from Italy, for the French are the masters of the world in cookery, learned the art originally from the Italians. The ancient Romans, whose emperors and nobles lived and who are not infrequently seen a fortune on a single feast, considered the escargot a choice delicacy. Pliny mentioned it as among the table luxuries of his day, and Apuleius, in a treatise on cookery, enumerates several ways of cooking the dish, the most extravagant being with a sauce of sweet herbs, milk, butter, cheese, and wine, and a good deal of stuff.

The escargot has always been regarded as nutritious and wholesome; in the middle ages he was used as medicine and pounded in a mortar, and in a treatise on cookery, enumerates several ways of cooking the dish, the most extravagant being with a sauce of sweet herbs, milk, butter, cheese, and wine, and a good deal of stuff.

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A Handsome Complexion

DR. McCREW'S PRIVATE DISEASES

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"LET ME SUGGEST TO YOUR EXCELLENCY"

"Let me suggest to your excellency, that if there had been a free election any time while I was in Zarguela, Don Villar y Villar would have been elected by a unanimous vote, of course there wasn't any election, for he didn't hold the thing to show how genuinely popular he was."

"One night the president seemed to be in curiously low spirits, and after a bit I got him to tell me what the matter was. 'I'll tell you the whole story,' said he, 'for I know you will sympathize with me. I have been president now for five years, and there is pretty near \$300,000 in the treasury. Now it has always been the practice for the president to be turned out by a revolution just as soon as the treasury got empty, so he had to make it worth while for him to carry it off to Paris, and live like a Christian. So far as I can find out, not one of my predecessors ever carried off more than \$100,000, but here am I, with \$300,000 in my possession, and no possible way of getting out of the presidency and leaving this beautiful country for good and all."

"Do you really mean to tell me," said I, "that you want to be turned out?"

"Of course I do," said he. "When I took the job of governing this country I expected to be turned out in about two years, and to be able to go to Paris like a gentleman. But here I have been for nearly five years, and there ain't a blessed general in the whole army who dreams of heading a revolution."

"Why not have an election and have yourself counted out?" said I.

"I've had considerable experience in practical politics in New York, and if you give me the counting of the votes, I can have you defeated by an overwhelming majority, no matter if

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