

Author of "The Stickit Minister," "The Raiders," "The Lilac Sun-Bonnet," "Cleg Kelly," "The Red Axe," Etc.

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Synopsis of Previous Installments.

Sir James Stansfield of New Milns, in company with his grandson, young Philip, meets an an inn-house has son Philip and his son's paramour. Janet Mark. They quarrel-Sir James goes home, taking along his grandson. That night he is murdered by his dissolute son and Janet Mark. They take his body outside and tay it upon an ice-floe, in the effort to fasten the erme upon other shoulders. But the boy, Philip, has witnessed the crime—he tells his grandson, of the relative has witnessed the crime—he tells his grandson and Sparway succeeds in having the real murderer brought to Justice. He is sentenced to he hanged, his women as compile to be transported. Mystodously Philip Stansfield oscapes the gallows, seeks out his wife, finds her in the company of Spurway, and tries to murder her, but does not quite succeed. She is taken away to Abercairn for ours, leaving her son, young Philip, in charge of Spurway and in the company of little Anna Mark, from whom he learns that in some ways girls are worth quite as much as boys. For example, in this time of the cattle droving, when Master Spurway bought his whier beasts hi the "Mart, Anna heats Philip in helping to cut them out. Still they are excellent friends, even though she beats him at her studies in the schoot to within they go together. John Stansfield, Philip's lawyer uncle, brings in a new teacher. Domining the country-side is shocked and thrilled with a number of bloody and mysterious murders, evidently for the sake of robsery. Business calls Umphray Spurway from home, in his absence a big packing case a pair of eyes. Shortly after his coming the country-side is shocked and thrilled with a number of bloody and mysterious murders, evidently for the sake of robsery. Business calls Umphray Spurway from home, in his absence a big packing case a pair of eyes, he calls will Bowman, Umshay a clerk. He puts it in the weaving sheed. That night Philip haying about it, seer shifting through the sauge of the packing case a pair of eyes, he says Synopsis of Previous Installments.

## CHAPTER XXIX.

which they can clean and lighten their ship, immune from either plague. provision her from some secret depot of

humanity. For in an ordinary port the sailors who and fell out of the zenith. eail under the Jolly Roger, or the red flag of privateering (which is no better and no had gone on board at midnight, with the by which we were ultimately able to leave tempt, like that of one who has outwitted a worse), cannot be allowed free shore liberty like the men of law-abiding ships, who have take a holiday on shore. Anchor had been nothing worse than a visit from the civic weighed at daybreak and the Corramantee, excisemen to fear from blabbing tongues.

Women there are in every scaport town who live by worming out of sailormen, and even out of petty officers, the secrets of their ship and cruise. These they convey to the have always thought it curious, but after all officers of Justice, who are not slow to act upon information received. And a pirate ship has been captured in harbor before now under the disguise of an honest merchantman, through information obtained in this

Yet chore liberty of some sort must men have or they would become flends incarnate, So here, in the Isle of the Winds, stood this curious settlement, its roofs all affame with the purple and scarlet of the running creepers, and a host of brown-skinned pickaninnies running wild as the goats and clamorous as the sea fowl.

Here it was that so many of the sailors of the Corramantee as had won the privilege by courage and obedience had permission to marry. And the place being not far from populous lands, it happened that most had carried off either a Spanish halfbreed maiden from their southern settlements or white-toothed, woolly-haired negress and it was about their cabins that the pickaninnies swarmed the thickest.

I cannot tell what arguments the men women to live with them, nor what of force had been in the first instance applied. But this I do know, that the women were in general both buxom and happy and there were fewer quarrels and less ill-blood than in an ordinary Scottish village or New England settlement of the same size.

This in part was owing to my father

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A Most Remarkable Remedy That Quickly Restores Lost Vigor To Men.

A Fros Trial Package Sent By Mail To All Who Write.

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Free trial package of a most remarkable remedy are being malled to all who writs the State Medical Institute. They cured so many men who had battled for years against the mental and physical suffering of lost manhood that the Institute has decided to distribute free trial packages to all who write. It is a home treatment and all men who suffer with any form of sexual weakness resulting from youthful folly, premature loss of strength and memory, weak back, varicocele or emaciation of parts can now cure themselves at home.

The remedy has a peculiarly grateful effect of warmth and seems to act direct to the desired location, giving strength and development just where it is needed. It cures all the fills and troubles that come from years of misuss of the natural functions and has been an absolute success in all cases. A request to the State Medical Institute, 306 Elektron Eufliding, Ft. Wayne, Ind., stating that you desire one of their free trial packages will be compiled with promptly. The Institute is desired and the free sample will enable them to see how easy it is to be cured of sexual weakness when the proper remedies are employed. The Institute makes are employed. when the proper rained of sexual weakless when the proper rained of are employed. The Institute makes no restrictions. Any man who writes will be sent a free sample, carefully scaled in a plain package, so that its recipient need have no fear of embarcassment or publicity. Readers are requested to write without delay.

in prodigious awe of whom went every man stronger Obeah warred for her, and she

we must have a king!" his prime minister, and the Tillicoultry Scot | land.

for his sword of justice,

but after that we had soon many oppor- fluence on our future and were the means and laughed a low laugh of irony and contunities for closer inspection, for we were taken on shore and permitted to assist at the building of a couple of new cottages which Captain Stansfield and Will Bowman and I were severally to inhabit. The larger and more permanent dwelling which my father had previously occupied during his previous residences on the island was given up to my mother, who kept Anna with her spite of the ill-concealed displeasure of Saul Mark. A couple of well-favored negro women, in bright dresses, waited upon her and kept up a constant chatter over the low fences with their friends in the neighboring enclosures, and even with passers-by upon the beach.

The houses we built were much simpler affairs. They were raised from the earth upon stout posts about eighteen inches high. Then came a flooring of split trees, the split surface roughly planed. The uprights were of the same timber and seven feet high, the walls of sawn planking and the roof of plantain leaves bound with the strong island withe, which grows on the margin of the

One of these was assigned to Will Bowman nd myself, and in the other Captain Stansfield swung his hammock.

All the dwellings were on the sickle sweep of the beach, which, alreast like a lagoon in shape, curved round in a couple of horns, leaving only one narrow and difficult entrance. Inside it was always as still as a lake, though the roaring of the trade surf on the outer reefs was never out of our ears.

Looking from our door this is what Will and I looked at. First, a green strip of herbage, which in the distance looked almost like high grass, a few scattered guava bushes, then the glittering crescent of sand, the lagoon, with the herons moping in the sun. Then, if we went a little up the bank behind, or clambered on the roof, we could see the white creats and blue-black hollows of the restless Carib sea.

Behind were gardens or yam patches, then loose scrub, beyond were the high woods, as the privateers called the virgin for-Yellow Jack Town on the lale of the est, and the blue mountains crownwinds was a curious place and at first I was ing all. For, like most of the greatly astonished at it. But afterward I private shelters, our refuge was not a came to understand that it was the neces- more sand bank sweltering under a shadeless sary product of their traffic. It is a condi- sun, nor yet a fever stricken mangrove tion of the existence of all sea freebooters swamp-though, as I found out afterwards that they should have some port to call at the Isle of the Winds was far from being

One morning the ship was gone and th stores, give the men a run ashore and other- hay in front empty of all save the dreamy wise temper them into some semblance of watchful herons in their livery of black and white, and the diving sea birds that flashed

Anna brought word that the entire crew exception of those whose turn it was to the fale of the Winds. with her cargo of white slaves, sailed northward for the Carolinian plantations.

Then it was that a still more fictitious peace settled over the Isle of the Winds. I natural, that in our native Scotland, and in the countries which men count civilized, we had undergone many and desperate adventures. But here, in this wild, pirate island, and among men whose profession was one of spoliation and robbery, these first months passed as peaceful as an infant's cradle-

Anna, who was always scraping romantic equaintance with every waif and stray, atached to herself a half-caste lad with one Yellow Jack.

ective, both in mind and body. But from things with it. his behavior in the village no one would mergency, that his true character appeared. Yellow Jack's right hand had been cut off at the wrist, he never revealed how, but I think by privateers or some former pirates a Carib woman from one of the neighboring of the isle, from the exceeding hatred he islands. Those who had not been thus brave bore them all. So the lad had been allowed The morning was still awash with or fortunate had taken to them the nearest to grow up among the women and the liberty men, doing very much as he pleased. He carried water and scrubbed our pots and pannikins. He watched the fires at the sugar poiling, and when he was bidden he went brought to bear in order to induce the swiftly on errands, which he faithfully discharged. But to deceive his masters he preserved at all times a countenance which ienoted only stupid and vacant mirth, for hat is the best passport to the goodwill of of the north, and Yellow Jack was the will-

ng butt of half the jokes on the island. But among the colored folk it was differ-

nto a thicket of nettles. bundle of herbs and roots from the high guard. woods. She found her sitting exhausted and half-blind upon the roots of a tree on the edge of the forest. The old woman was wizzened and smoke-dried till she seemed about to shed her mortal tegment like a busk that falls of itself to the ground. But Anna talked brightly to her at the

same time shouldering her burden and clping her along the path. Loud and long laughed the liberty men, who smoked and lounged about the creepergrown porches and under the gray-beard streamers of the live oaks. But every negro woman, looking from a balcony of obbing headdresses about the well, ran for her dearest gossip to tell her the news how "old Mam Duppy, the Obeah woman, was walking past the white men's houses

with the tall young buckra girl who lived in he captain's house. And I think when Yellow Jack joined the sair near his mother's but, and the whole stems and the gorgeous trumpet flowers. hree entered it together, none in the village expected to see Anna trip forth again translating from some noble barbarous Here he comes! from the threshold looking as fresh as a tongue, and at times his ideas had a cer-Moreham daisy with the morning dew on it. But when it was seen that Anna did or die from such companionship, but, on

and woman in the place. As was not un- was besieged with attentions as she walked ommon among them, they had chosen him about. Negro women brought her their open glade. s their captain, though he was no seaman. chickens to overlook, and half-caste boys For," they said, "there be many who can asked her to bless their lurcher dogs and he called down to ussteer, and some who can set a course. But charm them from snakebite And Anna did I pointed behind us in the direction from it, too, and made no great mistakes, so that which we had come. With a slight smile on And a king they had-with Saul Mark for her fame waxed greater and greater in the his face, very different from the broad

For the first week we saw the island and the company of Yellow Jack that I have of a tangled cliff overgrown with bright lessly at likely branches, we could not again

chief among chiefs! Then, as if he had perchance claimed

more than his due, he turned quickly to Anna. "But always your friend!" he said. And indeed the friendship of Yellow Jack resented it. The remembrance of Scotland chin over the verge of the black tower. The

### CHAPTER XXX.

blessings assured to us by Anna Mark.

The High Woods.

As soon as we reached the verge of that I was more frightened than Anna, though her knitting needles. pleased to note. The dark purple of decayden noises and the rushing hither and could his object he? thither of unseen animals, the stealthy stirring of snakes in the cover of tawny grasses, the deep shadows, the fantastic rigging of serial ropes, the huge trees which come back. Then all go find Spanish chipstarted upward, festooned with creepers, town-plantation-kill, steal, make prisoner. and presently lost themselves in a green haze before they had risen thirty feet, good to be in village. You come with in these were holes, many of them large these all combined to produce on the mind of country bred youth a feeling of uncom-

After we had advanced slowly for an hour "In what direction you find the village!

idiotic grin which, like a mask, he wore in to falling from the cliff eige and got our-It is of two excursions to the woods in the village, Yellow Jack led us to the brink selves bitten by red ants in snatching heedthe village mostly from the deck of the ship, now to tell, as they had an important in- tropic plants. He pointed with his iron book

AS SOON AS WE REACHED THE VERGE OF THAT GREAT PRIMEVAL FOREST FEELING OF AWE CAME OVER US BOTH.

that we were accustomed to shoot the wild buccaneer village, every house distinct, and pigeons which about sunrise passed over- the doings of its inmates apparent, as if head in great flocks, and returned toward drawn upon a map. The women went and evening with a mighty noise of rushing came to the well. The mulatto overseers wings. village were set to watch the gardens and aninnies played in the dust. Even such scare them when they alighted anywhere strangers as we were could make out many near the settlement, or they would soon have of the people by eight and Yellow Jack, with destroyed every green thing, besides de- his eagle eyes accustomed from childhood to priving the swine which wandered every- distinguish dusky faces (which still looked whore like privileged scavengers, killing mostly alike to us), knew every one of the snakes and devouring rubbish, of the staple scores who could be distinguished below at

Besides there were many other birds which Yellow Jack showed us how to take. He asked of Yellow Jack. had a hook which he fastened to the stump hand only, who answered to the name of of his right arm. He had made it himself out of an old bar of iron he had picked Yellow Jack was a lad extraordinarily up, and he was able to do many wonderful Eborra, his mother, and now you two. It

But, after all, it was his left hand and have suspected him of either. It was only arm that were so astonishing. He could in the bush, or when face to face with an swing himself life a monkey from tree to large chief's house which was occupied by ness about these great forests which daunted tree, and by means of a rope round his waist my mother. We could see the negro servicould walk up the stem of the tallest palm prickly pear and that curious plant which is things-poisonous plants, deadly animals in the island almost as quickly as we could

The morning was still awash with dewy reshuess when I set out, carrying my provisions, a gun and a bag with compartments for ammunition. Anna had stolen silently from her sleeping room in my mother's house. She met me behind the hedge of

"All quiet!" she said. "Where is Yellow Jack?"

"He is waiting further on," I answered. sailormen of every kind. His mouth was For now the one-arm boy never walked walls of the gardens. ever on the grin. In the village Jeremy's with us along the green bank in front of laugh rolled out mellow as the maple syrup the line of co'tages. He thought his society would shame us, and for all his broad grins he was full of dignity.

But we had hardly passed the palisadoes it. I never saw any of these come near of the gardens before he was at our sides, fellow Jack without a kind of involuntary his usually social face now grave and quiet, arrivaling into smaller space—the gesture. Yet there came a look of pleasure into his a fact, which every one makes on walking eyes at sight of Anna. Me he tolerated chiefly because Anna and I were in a manne; Anna attached Yellow Jack to herself by looked upon as each other's medicine. "We piece of kindness to an old bent negro belonged," said the negresses, comprehencoman who was painfully bringing in a cively. And the belief was my great safe-

Yellow Jack was laden with a spare cut last, which he assured me I would need to use in the high woods. He also carried a knife of large size for Anna, for the virgin forest is no respecter of persons.

He had leathern leggings, too, for Anna, so that she could withstand the pricks of the bush thorns, and lime juice to mix with the water which we hoped to find in the woods.

When with us Yellow Jack spoke 4 curious and picturesque dialect of his own, ment you see him! quite different from the broken English he used with the white men down in the village. It was pleasant to listen to him, for cottage enclosure. We could see the sun sluggish. Underfoot the same unseen things he possessed a rich, mellow voice, with a shining on their musket barrels as they stirred in the undergrowth. The huge re wild ring in its cadences as often as he halted at the turn. became excited, or when he burst into little trills of song as naturally as a bird singing I said aloud. in the top of a tropic tree among the lians

tain barbaric splender of their own. "King's son L" he would say, "in my own walls. A man stood in the doorway. We For on the side by which we approached country, a prince of fighting men. There could see his form but dimly in the dimness the tower rose smooth and black, save the contrary, that she had always the best (he pointed down to the village) a slave. of the chamber. He came a little farther where in little irregular cracks like those in fruits, the finest flowers, the brightest skin, Yellow Jack-but yonder the pointed over out, so that the sunshine of the morning half-dried mud poisonous creepers had ob the clearest eye, it was recognized that a the sea from which the mist was lifting caught him. It was my father!

powerful adversary. It was an excuse for us to get away For there, almost at our feet, lay the The little yellow children of the directed the labor in the gardens. The picktheir various tasks.

"Do the white men know of this place?" I

He shook his head with a grim satisfac-"Not so," he answered, "none knows save no hurt in you!"

conscience, and he nodded at Anna.

and with the assistance of his book he tors moving about it inside the hedge of me helpless. All about were unseen deadly called in Spanish the "Figs of the Moor." The headdresses of these women were quite distinguishable in color and pattern in the keen air of morning. It seemed as if we could even hear the sound of their voices. "Look more carefully-behind the hedge!" said Yellow Jack, still pointing with his

> "I see nothing!" I said, nor did I, for imnediately behind the broad prickly hedge began the deep green of the scrub, and behind that again the ordered lines and stone

> "There," said our guide; "see, at the end of the chief's house! Look closely!" "I do see," whispered Anna Mark, in great excitement. "I see two men standing talking together. They are dressed in white

clothes and have hats on their heade." I thought a little. These were men of the crew of the Corramantee. Could she have returned since we came into the forest? But that was impossible, for the enclosed bay and, parting the green wall of leaves plunged was bare and hurningly blue under the again into the densest of the jungle. tropic sun, unstirred by any keel, and out beyond the Carib sea sparkled and danced Eborra, "and do not speak! We are near!" empty of all life save the wheeling sea birds.

Yet here at our feet were two armed men of the crew-not liberty men, but men of the also, and on guard. For presently, concluding their conversation, they separated and the other in rear of the house where my mother dwelt.

and day, always two men watch. Then one black stones. Creepers of a slimy green come and watch these two! Wait, in a mo- color climbed sparsely upon it and little

"Why do they watch my mother's house"

the Silver Ring took away the ship. They us with sudden grimace over the crumbling To me Yellow Jack always seemed to be watch and they watch! Ehorra watch, too!

and melting as it lifted) -yonder, Eborra, a !

Yellow Jack. This shook me greatly. And I had begun shall behold? o feel so secure in his island that I quite proved to be by no means the least of the had begun to lose its edge. All appeared wall of it was broad enough for me to lic so peaceful. The liberty men are and grew flat upon and look within. Nor was it so fat in the society of their dusky wives. The | uncomfortably warm as lower down. Anna shining pickaninnies tumbled on the shore held me by the arm, anxious, not for herlike young seals or fled in riotous hands self, but lest I should venture too nearlinked groups from our approach. My she need not have troubled, though the acmother abode in her beautiful cottage with tion comforted her. great primeval forest a feeling of awe and the shore vine and frangipani aglow all. This is what we saw: A huge black gult terror came over us both. Yet I think that about it. All was peaceful as the click of or put hole with straight sides, cracked and

she also drew in near to me, which I was But here was my father, not gone away with the ship, but watching and setting natural tower or volcanic crater was arched ing vegetation on which we moved, the sud- others to watch my poor mother. What like the bulge which comes in the middle of

"Captain with golden coat stay," commented Yellow Jack; "captain with silver rings go with ship-sell boys, buy provision, When captain with silver rings return it no Eborra then. He take you to his town!"

go the vell of green bush which he had sulphurous and a moist heat like that which drawn aside that we might look down upon rises from wer sands under a burning sun we emerged with Yellow Jack into a more the unconscious village. He took us a dozen wavered visibly about us. steps from the cliff edge on which we had

> "You no find it now!" he said again. morning breeze, but, though we came near atch a glimpse of the village.

"Ah, do not touch!" cried Yellow Jack, suddenly; "that manchineal poison leaves cut hand, polson blood. Keep behind fear, but yet the whole seemed to be turning Eberra. Follow him!"

let it stay longer in mine because she knew that my heart was troubled. Yellow Jack alone seemed not to feel the need of some cheering influence. After an hour's steady

It was dusky like a cavern where we stood, but before us we saw two of the giant down from its tilted edge like ill-melted trees stand like gate posts of a brighter wax. land, then, framed as in a picture, a stretch of bare hillside, and a saw edged mountain above, golden against the blue-black sky, "Here we eat!" Yellow Jack explained briefly.

And with that fresh youth in our veins which enables the young to set trouble visibly all the time, so that angle which aside (or at least to stop thinking about it had been averse from us at first next pointed till it grows more insistant) Anna and I to the zenith and afterward inclined toward went dancing over the glaring white rocks, laughing at the clattering land crabs which | neath the surface. scuttled into their holes at our approach, or stood solemnly waving belligerent claws on the top of every rocky knoll. Eborra led the way over the shoulder o

the ridge till he came to a shady spot, where some wild pines gave a more homely to a little spring which rose dimpling in a you know." iny cup of white limestone rock, overflowed and ran merrily away down the hillside. "Bush water not good," he said; "this

So on a flat stone he undid his pack, and we feasted luxuriously in the airy shade of the pines. The sea breeze, cool at this latitude, fanned our brows, prickly with perspiration and with the close, breathless heaviness of the high woods.

I have rarely enjoyed a meal more or felt nore refreshed by anything than by the cool fruit and sparkling water with which we washed it down. When we rose to look about us our spirits had risen to their natural pitch again, and we were ready to follow our guide anywhere.

#### CHAPTER XXXL Fer-de-Lance.

Yellow Jack threw the remains of our foast into a crack in the wall with a gesture which I took to signify an oblation to the deities or devils of the place. Then he turned upon us with the grave eyes, in which there was no trace of laughter.

'We have played," he said; "we have seen-tzutt, it is all nothing! If you are not afraid I will show you something-the real-the home of Obi, the bid treasure, the palace of the king! You are not afraid?" Now, I myself had had quite enough of going to look for hid treasures, but I could not show the white feather where Anna emained stanch

"What is that?" I asked, as much to gain me as anything. "Do you mean the reasure of Sir Harry Morgan?" To my surprise Eborra nodded vehemently.

"Yes-yes-yes," he said, "the treasure of Morgan. This was his isle long before these men came. They not know, but Eborra know. And he know the guard of the treasure, too. Some day he show him to the white man-when Eborra ready. Then"-be laughed ironically-"the white man will die shall see the treasure today, and yet be safe, because you are Eborra's friends and there is

It was a long speech for the African, and is for her sake!" he added, as if to clear his he did not often use so many words, but, for all that, I was by no means sure in my Yellow Jack pointed significantly to the mind about following. There was a strange me. My very ignorance shut me in and made and, in addition, dread thiegs that have no name-devilkins of the solitudes, demons o the place, ancient as the stones and cruel hearted as death itself.

> But Anna rose with her quick gesture of acquiescence and swung her satchel across shoulders. Then she set her hand jauntily on the hilt of the knife at her belt. 'We are not afraid," she said; "we trust you. Eborra!"

"No, you are not afraid!" he replied. Anna bent upon the crippled black a look which, had it been turned upon a white men would have made me angry. For she knew well enough the power she had over the lad, and, like all women, was quite willing to exercise it.

Yet instinctively I felt the danger with savage like Eborra. Nevertheless, I could not draw back, nor even declare my dis trust. "It is good," said Yellow Jack, and, with-

out another word, led the way down the hill "Walk carefully in my footsteps," said Anna stretched a hand back to me and kept the line, cheered by her act.

Round the mound a vast group of black

pines towered to the akies. They had their to each other's whispered talk. On the crest began to pace to and fro, one in front and of the bowl, so soon as our eyes became accustomed to the gloom, we saw a kind of huge round tower half cut off in the middle, "So it is always!" said Yellow Jack, "night as if unfinished. It appeared to be built of green apples, with brilliant scarlet patches The two men on guard paced slowly up upon them, hung temptingly down. All and down, each covering two sides of the round about the swamp slept black and doubt in front was like a wizard tower in a dream and I doubted not but that some hidden enchanter would presently issue "It is always so-ever since the chief of forth, or the twisted face of a demon look at

ramparts. Yet as we came nearer it seemed to me And with his finger be pointed to a hut that no earthly hands had laid the courses which stood just beyond one of the garden and fitted the joints of that titanic masonry, tained a hold for their tendrils. A rumbling

midriffs like an earthquake.

"Do not fear," he said; "in a moment we

Anna helped me up till I could set my

creeper-grown, sank for thirty or forty for sheer down. The floor of this curious

a but just before the water buils Eborra pointed downward with his hook, "The place of Morgan's treasure," he said 'it is waiting there for the brave

man who will come to take it?" The black well of the tower was diversified by curious grooved rings set at intervals enough to thrust a man's arm into. We And smiling in his quiet fashion be let saw no steam or fire, but the whole smelled

I knew not what he meant. I could neither see anything resembling treesure, nor yet the dread guardian of whom he spoke. But And truly, no more we could. The cur- Yellow Jack lay with his face ever the edge tain of green vegetation stirred in the smiling gently and watching the bottom of the black pot-hole.

"Look!" he cried, suddenly, pointing with

And then for the first time I observed that the bubble-like black floor beneath us was not wholly stationary. It appeared to be solid. I would have walked upon it without over clowly and almost perceptibly. Indeed Nothing comforted me so much as the the only way in which the motion of the ouch of Anna's hand. And I think she mass could be noted was by watching the positions of the sticks and stumps of trees

which stood out from the surface. The object at which Eborra desired us t look was a square shaped box or cube of progression through the dim green aisles be wood. For nothing could be discovered of its internal condition because of the black coating of pitch which covered it and bung

"Morgan's treasure!" affirmed our guide, confidently; "also many more! Obl turns them in the hollow of his hand."

"I was still more mystified than before

and did not even ask a question. The black cube was slowly lifted upward, turning in us, before finally entking out of sight be-At last Yellow Jack deigned to explain.

"Pitch!" he said, "what is thrown in does of sink, but turns and turns forever-now above, now below. Morgan's men threw it in before Captain Stansfield took the Island from them. He never found it. look to the tropic landscape. He pointed Eborra's mother knew. Eborra knows, Now "But," said 1, "if the treasure be down

> later some one will stumble upon this place and rob you of the treasure. You should hide it in a safer place." "There is none," said our guide, confidently. "You will believe when I show

> you the guardians of the treasure. Do not

there, why do you not get it out? Sconer or

move. Only look!" The half-caste leaned far over into the interior of the tower. He hummed the strange minor tune in a louder tone. Nothing that I could see happened. Then suddenly he whistled shrilly, and even as we looked we saw the circular edges suddenly wake into hideous life. From each of the black pigeon holes protruded a flat and ugly head. Then the ruddy coils of a snake seven or eight feet long and as thick as my arm appeared. till all the circular well of the strange tower

Yellow Jack leaned still farther over, and whistled a quick, jigging tune. At the first sound of it the great poison snakes opened their jaws so wide that the white fangs could be seen hanging down clear of the thin retracted lip. As the time quickened, every serpent gathered itself into a coil, with its head in the center, and began to dance up and down in time to the music. There must have been several hundred of them beneath us down in the black gullet of the crater. The lad stopped, and resumed the humming noise he had been making all the way up the hill. Whereupon the snakes, as if

appeared to be alive with horrist

"He who watches the watchers!" explained sound came from within which shook our soothed, began to creep back to their holes. without taking any further notice of us or

of the anake charmer, We scrambled down in haste, and as we ook hands over that unholy creeping

nound Eborra Jerked his book back over his shoulder in the direction of the pitch

"Per-de-lance" be said. "As the lightning strikes, he strikes! Fer-de-lance guard Morgan's treasure!

And at the name of the most dreaded

make in the world, of which every child on the island had terrible stories to tell, I resolved within me that it would take many Morgan's treasures to tempt me within reach of those gaping jaws, lashing talls and

white, gleaming fangs. (To Be Continued.)

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