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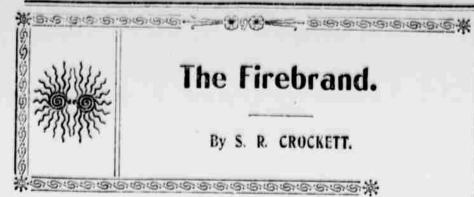
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cant.

"Ah," sighed Concha through the wicket

loving and the most innocent, but we

"Then we will proceed. Go, do your

And little Concha snapped to the shut-

Much to do. Yes, it was true. What

friend, Luis, and the evil hag, Tia, his

the grave digger lying with a broken head

hands. And this, too, in addition to his

effairs of state-the abbot's commission, his

own outlawry and the equal certainty of

his being shot whether he fell into the

hands of the Miquelets or of the national

Yet, in spite of all these, never since the

evil night of his first home-coming to Sarria

Go

whispered colloquy, she added aloud:

ter of the wicket in his face.

Synopsis of Preceding Chapters. | the whitewashed portress' todge of the

16

Synopsis of Preceding Chapters. The been induced to believe that his wife, bolores, is unfaitful, stables a village for reaction and output the sine without, the wite was a for the bound of his son and each of the dimplet fat, red hands he belt so tightly cleanched built man. At the same time a presumably is ongative to the sine without, the wite was to the son the received at the same time a son the son the son and the becomes sont to whom she has just given and the belowed the becomes to be built on the son to be built grant and the base of the son to whom she has just given and the built of the church. Ensure the fat the same and the son the received at the context to the belowed friend Don Luis Fernander built of the belowed friend Don Luis Fernander to the belowed friend Don Luis Fernander built to be built who has gives given and the belowed friend Don Luis Fernander to the belowed friend Don Luis Fernander built to be built who has gives given and the belowed friend Don Luis Fernander to the belowed friend Don Luis Fernander to the belowed friend Don Luis Fernander built of the belowed friend ben the broider. To mas, when El Sarria alls upon him. To work miller had found an excuse to sen to the held be and below to a sing the bort of the base of the bouse in disgrace and box for the unit happier days. Concha also to the the held bene received at the convent of the the held bene received at the convent of the the held bene received at the convent of the the held bene received at the convent of the the held bene received at the convent of the the held bene received at the convent of the the held bene received at the convent of the the held bene received at the convent of the the held bene received at the convent of the the held bene received at the convent of the the held bene received at the convent of the the held bene received at the convent of the the held bene received at the convent of the the held bene received at t

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CHAPTER XIV.

The Holy Innocents.

With small computetion El Sarcia turned Don Tomas over with his foot and coolly appropriated the cloak he had discarded, as also his headgear, which was banded with gay colors and of the shape affected by the dandies of Seville.

Then swinging the cloak about him and setting the hat upon his head jauntily, he such things are entered in a book as being strode to the sarden door. strode to the garden door.

Above he could hear the angry voice of a Above he could hear the angry voice of a golden wristlet his mother had given him at his first communion, when he was the a low toned inaudible reply. Then a wail best and most dutiful boy in all Sarria and of despair and grief-that nearly sent him held by the priest to be a pattern communihave scattered his enemies before him like chaff. For it was the voice of his Dolores bours in Sarria?" asked Concha. "If so, he heard for the second time. But of late we must try to bring your Dolores where El Sarria had learned some of the wisdom of she will be as anfe as the child." caution. He knew not the force Luis might have within the house, and he might only harm a hair of her head-I who have as well as in a good many things of a na- Ramon Garcia's strong box," Dolores or his son.

Then there was a slow foot on the stairs, as if she knew all about unworthy suscoming down. The light went out above picion on the part of lovers, "men are like and he heard a heavy breathing behind the that. They are ready to suspect the most closed door by which he stood.

"Tomas-Tomas!" said a voice, "here is women forgive them!" the brat. It is asleep. Do it quietly so that Then pouting her pretty red lips the litthe mother may not be alarmed. I cannot the Concha spoke low in the ear of El Sarstir without her hearing me and asking the ria a while. After five minutes of this reason."

And in the arms of Ramon Garcia was placed the breathing body of his first-born part. You may trust La Giralda. son. The door was shut before he could quickly. You may have much to do." move, so astonished he was by the softness of that light burden, that Tin Elvira's unamulated groin escaped safe for that timewhich, indeed, afterward turned out to be with Dolores in the power of his false just as well.

So at the door of his enemy El Sarria gentlemen to attend upon at their inn and stood dumb and stricken, the babe in his arms. For the fact that this child that was in the garden, El Sarria might be said to his and Dolores' annihilated for the mo- have had some private business upon his ment even revenge from his soul.

But a hand was laid on his shoulder. 'Haste thee, haste," hissed the witchwife, La Giralda, Elvira's friend and rival, "has thou smitten strongly? She lies behind the door. I cannot hear her breathe, so all must be well. I saw thee stoop to the blow. Well done, well done! come away, come away! Presently Don his way in company with La Giralda in the But Luis will miss the Tia and give the alarm. his way in company with L

And as he went, thinking no ut this Ramon would not do, holding of Dolores and his love, suddenly the only jealously to his own. man who would have dared to cross his "What can you, a man, do with a babe?" path stood before him. she persisted. "Can you stop its mouth from crying. Is there milk in your breasts this your service? To run to the country to feed its little blind mouth? Give it to with women-and not even to have the sense to choose a pretty one? What mean 'Nay," said El Sarria, shaking her off. you by this negligence, dog of Gallicia?" not to you. Did not this murderous woman "I attend to my own affairs," answered come from your wagons? Is not her place Ramon, with a sullen and boding quiet; "do under your canvas?" the favor to go about yours." "It shall be so no more, if your stroke Hot-blood Rollo leaped upon him without prove true," said the gypsy. "I shall be the word, taking the older and stronger man queen and bring up this youngling to be the at unawares with his young litheness. He boldest horsethief betwixt this filthy Ara- saw Ramon's fingers moving to the knife gon and the gypsy barrio of Granada, where in its sheath by his side. But ere they La Giralda's cave dives deepest into the could reach it his hand was on the giant's rock. wrist and his pistol at his ear. "No, I will not!" said the man, grasping "A finger upon your Albaceton and you the babe so tightly that it whimpered and die!" cried Rollo. "I would have you Galstretched its little body tense as a bow- legans learn that the servant is not greater string. "I will take him to the hills and than his lord." suckle him with goat's milk! He shall be Now Ramon knew that not his life, but no horsethief, but a fighter of men!" that of Rollo, hung on a hair. For he was "Ah, you are an outlaw-a lad of the conscious that Li Giralda's knife was bare hills? I thought so," chuckled the woman; and that that lady was simply choosing her "come away quickly. Then, brave manopportunity. If Rollo had been older most slayer, I knew a better way than either. likely Ramon would have waited motionless The sisters, the good women of the confor Giralda's thrust and then turned the vent, will take him at a word from me. I young man under his heel, precisely as he know the night watch-a country woman of had done to the grave digger earlier in the ture far from simple. A faint clinking mine, little Concha. She will receive him night. But as they rode from the abbey he sound, as of counting money, guided Rollo patiently, and a heavy string of beads was and brother of many years. Luis Fernandez being well paid, that is, as doubtless your bearing and perhaps heard also of his flout-The master of the house and his "Tia" ing of his own Miguelite enemies at the

soldiers.

"And how soon, think ye, could your wife

e moved?" asked Rollo. Ramon shrugged his shoulders helplessly and turned to La Giralda. "Delores is as a dove and weak from long trouble of heart. On your head I ask of you, could we move her in twenty-four hours and yet risk nothing of the life ""

"Yes, as the Virgin sees me," asserted La Giralda, holding up her hands, "if so be I have the firming of the bands about her -of linen, wide and strong, they must be made-to be mine own afterward. And then she must be carried between four stout men, as I shall show you how." "It shall be done," cried Rollo, "I will

find the men, do you provide the linen, El

she had been received at the convent of the Rollo, cheerfully, "but it is the best I can Holy Innocents, how Manuela from the think of and containing as it does the elepricat's house and this gypsy wise-woman, ments of justice, may commend itself as a "Tia Elvira," had watched over Dolores solution to all parties. If these Fernandez ever since, not allowing her to hold any gentlemen kidnap other men's wives, devise communication with the outside world, and the murder of their children and strive to especially with her former waiting maid. have the men then selves shot, they can-"Then came the news of your death." she continued, "and after that the guard upon the house. Well, it must be ours for twennot complain of a little illegality. This is bolores was redoubled and till tonight I ty-four hours- ao more, no less. Then, if have heard nothing. But the babe shall be no accidents happen, we will return it to safe and unknown here among the sisters. Senor Luis Fernandez. All set? En avant, Yet for the future's sake give me some then! token that you may claim him by. All

And with Rollo in the van, El Sarria following a little behind and La Giralda bolt-

El Sarria passed within the turnstile ing the doors and generally protecting the rear, the party of possession went upward into the mill house to argue the matter with Senor Luis and his friend, Tia Eivira. These worthy people, however, were not and is at his old tricks again." in the sick chamber of Dolores Garcia.

"Can you not stay another twenty-four which, on the whole, was just as well. At an earlier part of the night the Tia had ily. "I have been thinking of it all these administered to Dolores a potion which days, and do not forget that it was I who caused her to sleep soundly for several wormed out of the widow the hiding place dead!" gasped the man. "I would stay a year to preserve from

hours. For the Tia was skilled in simples, where that cunning little Concha had placed

come, let us get this matter settled, and been full of chuckling laughter, rising sud- doing. I swear it was my brother!" then I must go and look for my drunken dealy to a thin shrick. "God in heaven, good-for-nothing of a brother, who has Ramon Garcia." doubtless stolen the key of the wine cellar

"'Fore God, Ramon, I thought you were "No, friend, not dead," came the answer,

"but Ramon Garcia come back in the flesh his sight.

Garcia by her husband--"

"Conchas Cabezos lies. She was a liar for him.

and toyed with it a moment thoughtfully. "Luis," he said, "your brother has his own sins to answer for. Be a man, Luts. You used not to be a coward as well as a thief and murderer."

sins!" cried the wretched man. By the memory of our boyhood together let me at least receive absolution and go clean." "Even as you would have made me go by the mouth of the Devil's canyon-even as this very night you sent forth to the holy ministry of the worm and the consolations of the clod the young child, unblessed and unbenizoned, without touch of priestly hand or sprinkling drop of hely water! Even so, this friend of my youth, accordHardware Dept.

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"Bah," said El Sarria, "do not trouble to lie, Luis, being so near the other bar where And with a trembling hand he tried to all must speak truth. You knew you were the trusted friend. Your brother was not. and even if you were not upon the spot, as I thought, the bloodhounds were set on the

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trail by you and by no other." Fernandez made no reply, but sank his head deeper between his hands as if to shut cut his judge and probable executioner from

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"Pass, then," said the outlaw, "there is o much else that it matters not whether you were at the Devil's Canyon or no. At any rate, you decoyed my wife her by a letter purporting to be written to Dolores

from the beginning. That also was my brother. I swear to you!" cried the

But there was no gleam of pity in the STREET, (Paxton Hotel Block), or write

"Ramon, Ramon, do not kill me in my

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eyes of Ramon. Instead he lifted a pistol HARRY E. MOORES, G. A. P. D., Omaha, Nebraska.





will find me by no means ungrateful. But "Ramon," he oried, his voice, which had terance to the words, "It is all my brother

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cross himself.

"Well, at any rate, I insist upon that s "Give!" said Ramon, in a hollow voice, string of beads," said the old woman, greed- and mechanically the miller placed the papers in his hands.

honor can pay! "What, little Concha Cabezos?" said Ramon with instant suspicion, "was she not a pity upon him. traitress to her mistress? Was it not

through her treachery that her mistress came hither?" "Little Concha-a traitress," laughed the

old woman. "Nay-nay! you know her not, evidently. She may, indiced, be almost everything else that a woman can be, so her enemies say. No cloistered Saint Teresa is our little Concha, but, for all that, she is of a stock true to her sait and only proves fickle to her lovers. Come quickly and speak with her. She is clever, the little Concha, and her advice is good."

They passed rapidly along the road, deep in white dust, but slaked now with the dew and cool under foot. The babe lifted up his voice and wept.

"Here give him me. I cannot run away with him if I would," said the gypsy, "Youmay keep your hand on my arm, if only you will but give him me!"

And the gypsy woman lifted the little puckered features to her cheek and crocned and chucked until the child gradually soothed itself to sleep face down on her shoulder.

"How came Concha at the house of the nuns ?" said Ramon.

"That you must ask herself," answered the woman; "some quarrel it was. Luis Fernandez never loved her. He wished her out of the house from the first. But here We are!"

The gypsy woman went directly up to the wicket and whispered through the turnstile. There was a dim light within which presently brightened as if a lamp had been turned up.

The woman stepped back to El Sarria's side.

"The little Concha is on duty," she whispered. "Go, thou, up and speak with her! Nay, take the child if thou art so jealous of him. I would not have stolen the boy. Had the nationals not killed El Sarria 1 had said that thou were the man!"

Ramon took the babe awkwardly. "At any event thou art a brave fighter." she murmured, "and cracked that evildoing Tomas' skull for him to a marvel. Thou shalt have all the help La Giralda can give thee!'

Ramon, with the babe in his arms, put his head within and spoke to Concha. A lit- ternal affection was never better employed.

sat bending over a table in the upper hall. Tia!' inn of San Vicente. So for this time he had or general meeting place of the family. The door which opened off the stairway up which "Stand back, Giralda!" he commanded.

the visitors came gave a slight creak, but dog might fall on a bone, and concealing it Then to Rollo he said: "Forgive my seem- Luis Fernandez and his associate were so instantly beneath her skirts. "But each The honor of my wife and the life of my them lifted his eyes. child are at stake. I am Ramon Garcia, the A considerable number of trinkets of gold outlaw, whom you saw fall upon the altar of

and silver, articles of attire, crucifixes and the Abbey of Montblanch. This is my home. ornaments were spread out upon the table. | never be in want." My wife is here and near to death in the As soon as Ramon's eyes fell upon these house of mine enemy. Let these things be Rollo felt him grip his arm convulsively. my excuse."

but the young man resolutely kept the out-Rello dropped his pistol, like a good law behind him. The time was not yet. sportsman mechanically uncocking it as he Tis Elvira was not for the moment on did no. His generous impulses were as good terms with her companion. fierce and swift as his other passions.

"Listen, Luis Fernandez," she said, ex-"Tell me all," he said, " 'fore God I will tending a pair of withered claws across the help you-aye, before any king or monk on table like the talons of some unclean bird. earth. A brave man in such trouble has the "if you think that I am going to do your first claim of all upon Rollo Blair."

business and run hot chances of the "And your companions?" said El Sarria. necklace that has no beads, and then when "I give myself no trouble about them." all is done allow your father's son to cheat cried Rollo. "Senor Mortimer will visit the me out of my dues, you are much mistaken. him at Vittoria.") vineyards and wine cellars tomorrow and be If you do not deliver me all the ornaments. happy. And as for Master Etienne, has he her husband gave this woman Dolores, acnot the little Concha to search for? Be- cording to your agreement, by the chief of sides, even if he had not, he would not be the devils that inhabit the four hells, 1

six hours in the place without starting a will go to the corregider tomorrow and new love affair." Then, as they turned backward along the

brother for the crime of child murder." oad El Sarria told Rollo all his tale, and "And where, think you, would you find the young Scot found himself for the arst yourself in such a case?" quoth Luis Fertime deep among the crude mother-stuff of nandez, a cold-eyed, dark-haired man of thing among the parchments, life and passion. 40 years of age. He sat leaning well over

'And I thought that I had lived," he said. the table, the more precious of the objects and looked long at the huge form of the gathered between his arms. "You were the outlaw by his side, to whom deadly peril nurse in attendance, my Tia-to that the was as meat and drink, yet whom any man Sangrado would bear witness. He left you might slay and gain a reward for the deed. | in charge of the infant, my dear aunt. And "I see it " cried Rollo, whose quick brain though times are hard and men in office un-

be) home to a certain Elvira, the gypsy. "And what do you intend to do with the whose record at any rate is none of the

grave-digging Fernandez?" best!" "Why," said Ramon simply, "to tell the

grave he had made, all but his head, and "Did you not say that you desired her to let him get out as best he could!" "Appropriate." agreed Rollo, "but crude. and in the circumstances not feasible. We and distillations, kept this silly Delores

must take this Fernandez indoors after in a dream like that of a fild all these we have arranged the garrison of the house. | weeks since we got rid of that imp of Satan, We will make his brother nurse him. Fra- Concha Cabezos of Seville?"

lle cry, swiftly checked, came forth from and it will keep them both out of mischief." Tis," said the man soothingly, "and you him to his seat.

"I do not see why you want both the

A KNIFE WAS AT HIS THROAT, A FIGURE STOOD BEFORE.

"Oh, it is not that." chuckled the hag

clutching the necklace firmly, as a starving

Rollo's car.)

stood open upon the floor.

Hants-

slid across the table with a clanking noise. of the mill house of Sarria." "I had not thought you so good a Christian,

CHAPTER XV.

Rollo Intervenes.

With eyes injected, wide-open mouth and engrossed in their work that neither of link hath the stamp of Seville upon it-the dropped jaw, the man sat all fallen together mint stamp of Seville-and will pass curin his scat, the gold ornaments still strewed rent for a good duro wherever one may about him, the pencil with which he had chance to be. With that necklace one can been checking them fallen from his nerveless grasp.

"I have accounted for the old lady," said "Well," said Luis, "the devil fly away Rollo, who with the eager professional aswith you and it. Tia! I keep all the ornasistance of La Giralda had been gagging ments of gold-let that he understood. My and securing the Tia.

wife might, upon occasion, take a yearning "Stay where you are, Luis Fernandez," for them, and if I had them not to give her, said El Sarria sternly, as he sat down himit might be to the danger of my house and self with his pistols on either side of him. succession. So this gold cross-"I advise you not to move hand or foot if ("My mother's!" breathed Ramon hotly in you set any value open your life. I have much to say to you before-before morn-"This knife with the hilt top set in bril-Ing.

And the doomed man, recognizing the ("My father's-he had it from the great Lor' Wellington for a message he brought accents of deadly intent in his late friend's voice, let his head sink into his hands with hopeless moan.

"These trifles-a pair of carrings, a ring ! 'Mcantime I will put these things in orof pearls, a comb for the hair in gold-ali der," said the Scot, in whose military blood these I reserve for myself."

ran the instinct of loot, and he was begin As he spoke he tossed them, one after ning to throw all the objects of value indiathe other, into a heavy iron-bound box lodge information against you and your which, with chains and padlocks displayed. riminately into the open chest, when El Sarria checked him.

Then a quick, loud cackle of laughter came from Fernandez. He had found somehers," he said "but meantime abide. There is much to be said and done first." Then he turned his broad, deeply lined "'Hereby I plight thee my troth,' " he

read from a paper in his hand. 'forever and forever, as a true heart and a true lover, signed Ramon.' This she has kept in a case in her bosom, I suppose, with the pic-101100 ture of the caf," he added, "and is as like

caught the conditions of the problem even believing. I still think that I, Luis Fernan- of all thieves. And, holy Michael in the as Ramon was speaking. "And if I help, my dez, could command enough testimony in neventh heavens, here is their marriage companions will help also. I answer for this town to bring the guilt (if guilt there certificate all complete-a very treasure

house of connubial happiness. But these need not go into the strong box. 1, Luis in his hand. The picturesqueness of the Fernandez, have made an end of them. The scene at the table appealed to the play truth, I intended to cover him up in the woman and the goods," whined the Tia. end of these relies of folly." woman is mine, and so will I also make an actor in him.

He took the papers to tear them across, keep nothing which would remind her of her but the stout parchment resisted a moment. old life. And have not I, by my decoctions His brow darkened and he clutched them more securely to rend them with an effort. But a slight noise in the apartment and a cry from the Tia caused him to look up.

A knife was at his throat and a figure is count the first" he began. stood before him, one huge hand pinning

ing to the measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. The barley bushel is good measure also for the rye." Rollo, standing by the door and looking over the heads of accuser and accused, saw

through a window the first green streaks of a doubtful dawn, drawn livid and chill across a black sky.

In quick whispers Rollo urged a plan of action upon El Sarria, by which he hoped to obtain a reprieve and perhaps his life for the wretched man. But he did not advert to this last, only to the necessity of haste, and to the perilous state of Dolores. This was his great argument. Whatever happened, she must be cared for. The matter of the traiters could be arranged later. While Ramon sat considering, the active eyes of the young Scot discovered a small iron-faced door open at one corner of the chamber. He went across and pulled aside the curtain which half concealed the en-

trance. "A regular strong room, by jove!" cried. "Here is everything comfortable for our friends while we settle our other affairs."

Rollo sounded all over the strong room of the millhouse for any signs of another exit, but all was solid masonry. Besides which the chests of valuables and papers, the casks of fine liquors and smuggled up his hands with a shrill cry. cigars proved that this was intended for a

secret wall chamber in which to conceal the valuables of the house in case of alarm. Such hiding places are not uncommon in the old houses of Spain, as Rollo knew, though this was the first he had seen. senor," he said to Fernandez, and without

waiting for any overt permission from where to find a lamp or candle-box, so that Ramon he caught up the old hag. Tia in taking care of him you may not be hin-Elvira, in his arms and carried her, bundle | dered by darkness." and all, into the room. 'Here I am compelled to leave you fo

the time being in the dark, Don Luis," he out the slighest regard to his enemy's comsaid, courteously. "But I think you will agree that your state is not the less gracious for that. I shall return immediately and present certain propositions for your con-

upon Don Luis. "You are an Englishman." cried Fernan dez; "you will not stand by and see a man

murdered in cold blood." "The blocd is "none so cold that I can see," said Rollo, shrugging his shoulders. "I will do the best I can, senor; only do not try any tricks with us. The least sign

of further treachery will be fatal and we have many friends about us."

ideration.

CHAPTER XVI.

Don Luis is Willing.

So saying, Rollo went out and locked the toor behind him, leaving La Giralda seated beside it with a loaded pistol to prevent any egress, in case Fernandez had some way of opening the bolts known only to himself. When Rollo returned from arranging these

of La Giralda's nod, went out and in a calentura as a reason for not venturing out. chamber about which hung a peculiar at- You will speak to La Giralda as to your nosphere of drugs he found the outlaw on his knees by a woman's bedside. The giant's head was sunk on the coverlet

hand which lay without the sheet. With true reverence Rollo touched Ramon on the shoulder and pointed to the window.

The pale, uncarthly green of the sky spaces etween dark purple bars of clouds was fast

tet. El Sarria held the documents in his hand with Fernandez had been about to destroy | which must be arranged. and waved them gently in his ensury's face As Rollo anticipated, Tomas, the scapeas a king's advocate might with a written grace, did not look handsome as he lay on the unturned soil.

indictment in a speech of accusation. "You betrayed me to the death, friend 'Carry him within," he ordered. "We Luise You revealed my hiding place. That will attend to his case better indoors!" Then Rollo, who was now thoroughly en-

And the wretched man, his lips dry and joying himself "in the grips of an adscarce obeying his will, strove to give ut- venture," as he expressed it, called out:

"Lay down that pistol, mother; we shall not need it for a while, and do you give me a hand with this rascal's sore head. What think you of it?"

"The stroke was dealt with a strong arm," said La Giralda, critically. "But yet, unfortunately, I do not think the man will die-unless-unless"-she fingered the keen little knife she carried lovingly-"unless matters are a little assisted."

"Stop, mother; do as I bid you and help me to bathe and bind up the scoundrel's pate."

The old woman did so with an air of protest, finally, however, consenting to in plaster of certain herbs which she found in the cabinet of simples, and, having boiled them, applied it like a turban to Don Tomas' unconscious crown.

"Now," said Rollo, "if you are ready, I in my turn should like to have my little interview with Don Luis!"

"You?" cried the outlaw, astonished. Rollo nodded.

'Why not?" he said cheerfully, "We shall need his assistance very often today! Open the door, La Giralda."

Ramon carried the limp body of Tomas, at the sight of which Luis Fernandez flung

"You have killed him, then-as you will kill me!" he moaned and ran toward the door of the strong room.

"Not so," said Rollo, stopping him with composure, "your brother is, as I think, as comfortable as the circumstances will per-"Give yourself the pain of entering, mit, and more likely to recover than he deserves. Be good enough to tell La Giralda

As he spoke Rollo had been arranging a couch of boxes and pillows, on which, withfort, El Sarria flung his burden down.

But Rollo did his best for the unconscious man's comfort, and then when La Giralda had returned with a lamp he turned sharply

"Sir," he said, "you know the causes of quarrel between yourself and Don Ramon Garcia, for whom I am acting. You know also what chances you have if I do not use the influence I possess to counsel other and milder methods. Are you, then, willing to be guided entirely by me or do you prefer to be dealt with by my principal upon his own account and without regard to my advice?!

Luis Fernandez clasped Rollo's hand, "By the Virgin and all the saints." he cried, "I will do to the line and letter ail

that you desire of me in every particular. I know well that I have no other hope." "Good," said Rollo, "then you will today

show yourself about the Casa as usual. You will give any necessary orders to your forcman when he comes at the accustomed patters he found El Sarria's place vacant | hour. This you will do in your own cham-But the young man, following the direction ber and in my presence, urging a slight servant, and, in fine, you will comport yourself as if nothing had occurred, and as if no such man as Ramon Garcia were within and his lips touched the damp fingers of the a thousand leagues of the mill house of Sarria! Do you agree?"

"I agree to anything, to everything!" said Fernandez eagerly.

"But remember," continued Rollo, "in of der to compass this I am stretching a good hanging to orange tinged with smoky scat- many points. I saw your eye brighten just The sun would not long delay and now when I spoke of giving orders. Now, there was a little matter out in the garden remember, if there is the slightest attempt at foul play, we may indeed lose our game, and with it our lives, but first of all, and quite suddenly, one man shall die, and that nan is-Luis Fernandez."

He added this asseveration:

And this I, Rollo Blair of Blair Castle, in the shire of Fife, swear by Almighty God and the honor of a Scottish gentleman." (To be Continued.)

"I will only take what is mine own-and brow upon Fernandez, who looked into his eyes as the trembling criminal, hopeless of mercy, awaits the black cap and the sen-

Rollo had settled the Tia on the floor with her head on a roll of household stuffs, which she herself had rolled up in her cloak for transport

Then the Scot stood on guard by the door which led to the staircase, his sword drawn