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Synopsis of Preceding Chapters.

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CHAPTER XLIII.

The Red Boinas of Navarre.

Concha and El Sarria sat down on an outcrop of red sandstone rock and gazed back, at the prospect. There below them lay the camp and the house in which was imprisoned the reigning branch of the royal family of Spain. A couple of sentries paced to and fro in front. A picket had established itself for the night in the back court yard. Beyond that again stood the tent in which the general was at present engaged in drinking himself from his usual suller ferocity into unconsciousness.

A little nearer and not far from their own campfire, at which the sergeant was preparing the evening meal, sat Rollo, sunk in misery, revolving a thousand plans and ready for any desperate venture so soon as night should fall. Concha gave a quick little sigh whenever her eye fell on him. Perhaps her conscience pricked her-perhaps not. With the heart of a sad woman doth neither stranger nor friend intermed-

dle with profit. The sauntering Vitorian halted within

since without a day's lameness. There is

musket at Concha's feet, and set off as fast as he could in the direction of the horses. keeping well out of sight in the trough of a foothill until he was close to the cavalry lines, and could smell the honest

In five minutes he was back, riding his best and sitting like a centaur. Concha's eyes glistened with pleasure and

she ran impulsively forward to pat the cream-colored mare, a clean-built, wellgathered, workmanlike steed. Now the young man was very proud of

the attention and interest this pretty Andalusian girl was showing in his equipment and belongings, to the exclusion of those of his comrades. Perhaps he might have been less pleased had he known that the

young lady's interest extended even to the gun he had left behind him, the charge of which she had managed to extract with deft and competent fingers.

"La Perla she is called," he cried with enthusiasm, " and sure none other ever better deserved the name! I wish we of the camp possessed a sidesaddle that the senorita might try her paces. She has the easiest motion in the world-it is like riding in a great lady's coach with springs,

La Perla and I will not fall out. A side-

or being carried in a sedan chair. But she

was in Cabrera's code neither forgiveness Concha first saluted the surprised group. nor indeed any penalty save one. Adrian Then giving a hand to the nearest (and swiftly dulled down. Zumaya of the province of Alva was young, best-looking officer) she dismounted with "Certainly, what best-looking officer) she dismounted with He desired to live, if only that he might a spring light as the falling of a leaf from meet that girl again at whose retreating a tree. With great solemnity she ada tree. With great soluting the heavy vanced to the staff from which the heavy standard hung low and, taking the em-friends. In fact he is the best spy we Nafigure he had a moment before pointed an vanced to the staff from which the heavy empty gun barrel. Ah, he would be even standard hung low and, taking the emwith her yet. So, wasting no time in leave- broidered fringe between finger and thumb, taking, he bent low behind the ridge, and touched it with her lips. keeping well in the shelter of boulder and

Yet is you had called our little Concha underbrush, made a beeline for the cliffs a humbug-which in certain aspects of her of Moncayo, where presently, in one of character would have been a perfectly the caves of which El Sarria had spoken. proper description-she would have replied he counted his cartridges and reloaded his | in the utmost simplicity and with a comriffe, with little regret, except when he wished that the incident had happened after, pletely disarming smile: "But I only did | Carlist camp immediately, but the more It for Rollo's sake." instead of before supper. Which was true enough, but (strangely The young man's last act before he laid

bead, enough) the thought of an audience always

from the camp of the enemy to bring him serve the lives of persons so important to the utmost importance! Every the world as the royal family of Spain, lying

The general's face lighted up and as

"Certainly, what Andalusian has not?"

he said. "But Jose Maria is dead. He was

Concha in her whiriwind of excitement

would have liked the general to attack the

cautious Don Baldomero only shook his

executed at Salamanaca."

thing looked probable.



MAN MERCIFUL."

REV. T. W. KEARNEY

Chaplain of His Majesty Niagara District Yettionals ever had-aye, or ever shall have." 'Ah," said Espertero, lost in thought. eran Volunteer Association, There were some matters which seemed to need clearing up, but on the whole the

CANADA.

"That is all very well when a small force Rev. Kearney Presided Over the Parish at Walshtown, S. D. is a Veteran of the Army of 1866.

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stable smell which in the open air mingled curiously with those of aromatic thyme and resinous juniper.

speaking distance of the pair "A fine evening," he said, affably, "can

you give me a light for my cigarette?" It was on the tip of El Sarria's tongue to inquire whether there was not plenty of lights for his cigarette back at the camp fires where he had rolled it. But that most excellent habit, which Don Ramon had used from boyhood, of never interfering in the business of another, kept him silent.

"Why should I." he thought, "burn my fingers with stirring this young foreigner's Time was when I made a pretty olla? mess enough of my own.'

saddle-any saddle! What needs Concha So without speech he blew the end off his Cabezos with sidesaddle when she hath cigarillo and handed it courteously to the ridden unbroke Andalusian jennets wild Carlist soldier. over the meadow of Mairena, with no bet-

But Concha had no qualms about breaking ter bridle than their manes of silk and the silence. The presence of a duenna was no other saddle than their glossy hides, nowise necessary to the opening of her brown as toasted bread!" lips, which last had also been allenced As she made this boast Concha patted

without intervention of a chaperon. La Perla's pretty head, who recognizing "A fine evening, indeed," she said, smiling a lover of her kind, muzzled an affectionate down at him. "I presume that you are a nose under the girl's arm.

tice.

foot soldier from the musket you carry. It "Oh, how I wish I could try you." she must be a fine one from the care you take cried, "were it but for a moment-darling of it. But as for me, I like cavaliers best." | among steeds, pearl of Andalusia!"

"The piece is as veritable a cross-eyed "La Perla is very gentle," suggested old shrew as ever threw a bullet ten yards the young cavalier of Alava, as he thought wide of the mark," cried the Alavan, toss- most subtly. "With me at the mare's head ing his musket down on the short clastic the senorita might safely enough ride. covering of hill plants on which he stood. But for fear of interruption let us first and taking his cigarette luxuriously from proceed a little way out of sight of the his lips. "Nor am I an infantryman, as camp!"

my complexion." you suppose. Doubtless the senorita did ! They descended behind the long ridge not observe my spurs as I came. Of the till the camp was entirely hidden, and as best Potdsi silver they are made. I am a they did so the heart of the young Vitorian horseman of the Estella regiment. Our beat fast. They think plentifully well of good Carlos the Fifth (whom God bring themselves, these young men of Alva and to his own!) is not yet rich enough to pro-Navarre. And this one felt that he would vide us with much in the way of a uniform not disgrace the name of his parent city. but a pair of spurs and a boina are within "Only for a moment, senorita, permit me reach of every man's purse. Or if he has -there! The senorita goes up like a bird!" not the money to buy them they are to be Now wait till I take her head and beware had at the first tailor's we may chance to of jerking the rein hastily on account of pass! the delicacy of the little lady's mouth! So.

"And most becoming they are!" said La Perla-gently and daintily! Consider, Concha, glancing wickedly at the youth, jewel of marcs, what a precous burden s who sat staring at her and letting his ciganow on thy back!"

rette go out. "'Tis small wonder you are "A moment, only a moment!" cred Cona conquering corps! I have often heard cha, her hands apparently busy about her tell of the Red Boinas of Estella!" hair, "this rebozo is no headgear to ride wrong camp. "I think I will betake me down to the What shall I do? A handkerchief is

camp-I smell supper!" broke in El Sarria, not large encugh. Ah. Cavallero, add to out of sight, that is, the sight of La Peria's affair. curily. He began to think that Mistress Concha had no further use for him, and, being assured on this point, he set about that so greatly amiss?" finding other business for himself. For And she set the red boing daintily upon

with all his simplicity Ramon Garcia was an exceedingly practical man.

"The air is sweet up here, I prefer it to sun and looked down at the young man supper," said Concha. "I will follow you who stood at her side. "Perfect! Beautiful!" cried the young down in a moment. Perhaps this gentleman desires to keep you company to the camp and canteen!

But it soon appeared that the Vitorian himself. Ab, take care. Bear easily on was also impressed by the marvelous sweetthat rein. Stop, La Perla! Stop! I bese ch ness of the mountain air, and equally de-\$1.54

strous of observing the changeful lights And he started running with all his and lengthening shadows which the sun of might. Alas, in vain. For the wicked evening cast, sapphire and indigo, Venetian | Concha. the moment that he had stepped red and violet gray among the peaks of the back to take in the effect of the red boing. Sierra de Moncayo. When two young people dropped a heel, into which she had priare thus simultaneously stricken with admivately inserted half an inch of pin, taken ration for scenery, their conversation is sel- from her own headgear, upon the flank dom worth repeating. But the Senorita of La Peria. The mare sprang forward, Concha is so unusual a young lady that in with nostrils distended and a flerce jerk of the head. Concha pulled hard, as if

this case an exception must be made. "You are doubtless a fine horseman!" she in terror, and presently was flying over cried, clasping her hands. "Oh, I adore all the plain toward the cleft of the shoulder horses! I love to see a man ride as a man of Moncayo, beyond which lay the camp of General Elio.

should!" The young Carlist stood a moment aghast The young man colored. This was, in Then slowly he realized the situation. truth, the most open joint in his armor. Whereupen, crying aloud the national eath Above all things he prided himself upon his he ground his heel into the ground, enceled horsemanship. Concha had judged as much upon one knee, took careful aim and elicked from his care of his spure. And to be misdown the trigger. No report followed, howtaken for an infantry tramper!

"Ah." he said." if the senorita could only that he had been tricked, duped, made a see my mare La Perla. I got her three foot of by a slip of a girl, a girl with eyes into the camp, crying: "Viva la Reina! months ago from the stable of a black--yes, and eyelashes. blooded National, whose house we burnt However, he wasted no time foelishly. gunda!" near Zaragoza. She has carried me ever Well he knew that for such mistakes there | Checking her steed before the standard she whispered

is of a delicate mouth. Ah, yes-if the excellent Don Ramon Cabrera." senorita mounted, it would be necessary to And this was a fact of which the sforeremember that she must not bear hardly said Adrian was exceedingly well aware. upon the reins. Then would La Perla of But the most curious point about the whole a certainty take the bit between her teeth and run like the devil when Father Mateo morning he found the sun shining brilis after him with a holy water springe!"

liantly into the mouth of the cave. The Concha smiled as the young fellow dismounted, flinging himself off with the lithe grace of youth and constant pracand! beneath him on a little plot of coarss the independence!" green grass and hill plants a cream-colored "You forget." she said. "I also am of the horse was quietly feeding. Province of Flowers. Do not be afraid.

less of danger, he hastened down. There side like a brother." was a red object attached to the mare's bridle. He went around and detached a red boins, to which was pinned a scrap of

paper. Upon it was written these words: "I hope you have not missed either of the objects herewith returned. served me nobly I send my best thanks for the loan. C. C."

"That is very well," said the young man, smiling as he mounted his horse, "but all the same had my heels not served me better Granja against the gypsies. It was, inthan my head your best thanks, pretty mistress, had come too late. They would not have kept me from biting the dust at sunrise with half a dozen bullets in my gizzard, instead of waking here comfortably on an empty stomach. Well, I suppose I must don the cap of liberty now, and be a Chapelgorri. It is a pity. "Tis not onehalf so becoming as the boina to one of

CHAPTER XLIV.

"For Rollo's Sake."

Yet for all this brave adventure Concha was as far as ever from meeting with General Elio. She had not even reached Vera. where it sits on the northern slopes of the correctly pointed out the path and though La Peria had served her like the very peari of the malignants, together with their pris-

and pride of all Andalusian steeds. For once more, as so often in this history and in all men's lives, the cup had slipped queens and the duke of Rianzares at sunon the way to the lip, the unexpected had rise, as was his butchery wont; and if Eshappened, and Concha found herself in the partero would deliver the royal party, not

your kindness by lending me your boina! 1 owner. And owing to the red boina, which The general listened carefully. thank you a thousand times! There! Is Master Adrian considered to become her so all the while, not at Concha, but down at

well, she came very near to riding out of the little folding table of iron which held a | With supremest indifference he heard about this history. For, through the higher map of northern Spain. He continued to her hair, pulling the brim sideways to arroyo of Aranda de Moncayo, which. like draw figures of eight upon it with his foreshade her eyes from the level evening a slice cut clean of a bride's cake, divides finger till Concha's eyes wearied of watchthe shoulder of the mountain, she rode ing him, as she nervously waited for his directly into the command of a field force decision.

operating under the personal command of Vitorian, clasping his hands. "The sight General Espertero, the future dictator and would set on fire the heart of Don Carlos present commander-in-chief of all the ar- and rode hither as fast as horseflesh could mies of the Queen Regent. At first she was nowise startled, think-

ing only that Vera and General Elio were berheod." neared than had been represented. "Well," she thought, "so much better." intelligence. I thought the fact was pretty

But as she came near she saw the measwell concealed? Indeed, we only arrived ured tread of sentries to and fro. She oban hour ago." served the spick-and span tents, the uni-Concha cast about for a name. The nec-

forms and the shining barrels of the musessary fiction was also, of course, 'for kets, which in another moment would have Rollo's sake.' A thought struck her. She arrested her headlong course. would serve another comrade, as it were, en Concha at once perceived even without passant.

looking at the standard which drooped at "From a good friend in the Carlist ranks, the tent door of the officer in command. she said, "one Sergeant Cardono." that this could be no more headquarters of The general looked a little nonplussed Carlist partidas. for the many generals of all nationali-

As women are said by the wise men to ties he had no slight penchant for ombe of their lover's religion if he have one, niscience. and if he have none never to miss it, so

"I never heard of him," he said, sharply, Concha was quite ready to be of the poli-Who may he be?" tics which were most likely to deliver Concha leaned yet closer and laid a small

Rollo from his present difficulties. There soft brown hand gently upon the general's gold-embroidered cuff. The general, not being so simple as he looked, drew back fore, taking the red boing from her head, ever, and a slight inspection satisfied him an act which disturbed the severe precision of her locks, she dashed it full speed his arm a little so that the hand rested a moment on his wrist (for Rollo's sake)

Viva Maria Christina! Viva Isabel Sebefore it was gently withdrawn. "You have heard of Jose Maria of Ronda?"

Adrian Zumaya of the Estella regiment if of 45. His service in South America had "Senorita." smiled the general, "it will be he comes again within the clutches of our touched his hair with gray. In figure he a vasily greater peril to the young man, I soldierly.

"What news does the senorita bring?" matter is that when he awoke late next he asked with a pleasant smile. "That I can only tell to yourself, gen-

eral." the girl answered; "my name is compliment. camp had vanished, there was a haze of Concha Cabezos of Seville. My father had sulphur in the air which bit his nostrils. the honor to serve with you in the war of

"And a good soldier he was, senorita!" said Espartero, courteously, "I remember "It is my own Perla," he cried, as, care- him well at Salamanca. He fought by my

> Concha knew better than to blurt out her news concerning the presence of the queen and her daughter so near his camp. That wise little woman had her terms to make, and for so much was prepared to They give so much.

Therefore, from the first she kept Rollo in the foreground of her narrative. He it him!" was who single-handed had saved the little queen. He it was who had defended La deed, somewhat unfortunate that the queen regent should have conceived a certain sion. Then he gathered up her little brown prejudice, against him, but then (here hands in his. They were trembling now, Concha smiled) the general knew well what not rock-steady as when they held the musket on the balcony at La Grania. these great ladies were, on mountain heights one day, in deep sea abysses the next. Rollo had compelled the party to leave the infected district of La Granja for the healthy one of the Sierra de Mancayo.

What else, indeed, could he do? The road to Madrid was in the hands of roving pargood lads out there!" tidas of the malignant, as his excellency knew, and it was only in this direction that there was any chance of safety. That ordered him to put a tent at the disposal of was his whole offense.

Most unfortunately, however, when on the very threshold of safety his party had been ambushed and taken by Cabrera. But Moncayo; not though El Sarria had quite the captor's force was a small one, and with boldness and caution the whole band

> oners, could be secured. The Carlist general had threatened to murder the two

only was his future assured, but the for-She rode at full speed as we have seen. tunes of all who had taken any part in the

him the first hubbub of the hue and cry after Concha. So heavy was his heart within him that (to his shame be it writ!) he had never even missed her as she went up the mountain. Yet she could have

> been in danger of their lives-aye, and her own honor, and that of her race at stake throughout all their generations. Rollo, however, gave no heed, but follow-

ing his intent, stalked slowly and steadily to the general's quarters.

an officer, whose only mark of rank was a small golden badge with "C. V." upon it. pinned upon the collar of his blue shirt. He was sitting cross-legged on the grass, mending the hood of his cloak with a pack ir= needle.

young man, "I brought hither the royal party, and I must see General Cabrera!" "Young man," said the other, in good English, "I am a countryman of yours-in

"The hatred of men has been mine," he cried fiercely, "aye, ever since I was 12 years old has my knife kept my head. But through all one woman has loved me-and

"I thank you, sir." said Rollo, "but I Cristina sent me in mockery, warm and clotted from the shambles of the Barbican. desire to be art and part in the shooting Touch it, cold man of the north. Aye, let Imperial Extra Dry Champagne in your of a queen mother and her little royal it stream through your fingers like a love icecheat; then you will always be ready for daughter, well I wish you joy of your con- token and say-what would you do to those callers.

was heavily built, but, in spite of fever fear, if you like him! He will have so many jealous rivals on his hand!" Cramer Chemical Co., Albany, N.Y.

Again he kissed the long gray tresses passionately ere he laid them in Rollo's

"Your mother's hair, wet with your mother's blood!" he cried. "A pretty talisman to make a man merciful. 'Never harmed me,' did I hear you say? Answer me now! What harm had my poor mother done them? Answer me! Answer me. I "General Cabrera," he said, "I would say. You Scots know the law. They say you read the bible. 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth!' So I have heard the clerics yelp. Is it not true? Well, for each hair you hold in your hands will I exact a life. Queen or consort, maid or babe, what care I? Have you any more to say? Then give it back to me?"

With these final words he raised his voice to a shout, and threw himself on the bed in a passion of tears, with the tress of long gray hair pressed to his face.

And Rollo went out, having indeed no words wherewith to reply.

. But though worsted at the general's tent, the young adventurer was by no means defeated. None knew better how to fall back peninsula were to come with a whole herd that he might further the leap. He had of papal bulls they would not save you a failed utterly with Cabrera, and as he came out the camp was still humming with the As he spoke Cabrera reared himself on scandal concerning Concha. The Englishhis elbow and glared at Rollo, who stood man, having finished repairing the cape of his military cloak, had been awaiting events within the tent with the greatest interest.

> As Rollo came out he congratulated him in a low tone.

"Every moment since you entered," he "For that I do not give the snap of my said, "I have been expecting to hear the finger," cried Cabrera. "I bite my thumb guard summoned and orders given to have at the civilized world. What has it done you shot forthwith. Ramon Cabrera does not wait a second time to assure himself "Secondly, I appeal to your pity, as a of his prisoners, I can tell you. You have man with the heart of a man within his come off very well. Only take my advice

"I will not," said Rollo, whose thoughts babe. Spare them, and, if an example were elsewhere. "I am obliged to you, sir!" "By the way," continued the other with a Senor Munoz and myself. I shall right pertinacity which offended Rollo in his willingly stand up by his side if the shed- present state of mind, "there is great news proved to be a spark among our tinder. These Spanlards can resist nothing in the Cabrera, mockingly, "what would she say shape of a petticoat, you know. And gad, sir, I don't know why they should in this case. For I will say that a handsomer girl I never set eyes upon, and demon,

"Not by a thousand leagues!" he cried, steppers in his time, I can tell you!" "If you refer to the Senorita Concha another woman! No. no, go out of this tent Cabezos," said Rollo, haughtly, "she is in safety, Don Rollo. I like a man who has betrothed in marriage to me and such re-

"No offense-no offense, deuced sorry, dares thus to beard Ramon Cabrera the fear I'm sure," said Colonel Frank, whose of man is not in him. See here, hombre-!" name as well as his jolly proportions in-Rollo was about to speak, but Cabrera dicated the utmost good humor. "But the suddenly rose to his feet, steadled himself fact is-I heard-mind, only say I heard a moment upon the tent pole and lifted that the young lady has gone off with a from a stool a small tin case like a much good looking young Vitorian, a trooper of the Estrella regiment, one Adrian Zumaya, He removed his horse from the line on pre text of grooming it and the pair have gone off together!"

"If you will favor me with the name of your informant," answered Rolo, "I shall have the pleasure of running him through the body!

The Falstaffan Colonel Don Francisco Merry waved his hand and smiled blandly. (To Be Continued.)

Always have a bottle or two of Cook's

"How came you here?" he asked at last. missed him had fifty queens and princesses "I borrowed a mare and a Carlist boina carry me. I heard from a friend of the cause that your command was in the neigh-"And from whom did you receive that

"No one is allowed to enter," called ou

"I am Colonel Rollo Blair." said the hattered disnatch box. Opening it he revealed another casket within. He unlocked

that and, drawing out a long gray tress of woman's hair, he put it to his lips. so far, that is, as a poor southerner may whose ancestors fought on the wrong side

at Bannockburn. But for your own sake I advise you not to disturb the general at this hour. The occupation cannot be rec ommended on the score of health."

only one. See that! 'Tis my mother's hair which the butcher officers of the woman have my duty to do and my risks to run as well as you. And if you, an Englishman,

immediately to me at headquarters, as also the gypsy spy, Ezquerra, our late headsman of Salamanca!" CHAPTER XLV. Forlornest Hopes.

But Rollo himself, our firebrand from the slopes of the Fife Lothians-what of him? The foxes that Samson sent among the corn fields of Philistia with the fire at

their tails ran not more swiftly than his burning thoughts. After a long time Rollo raised his head.

For Baldemero Espartero also was an An dalusian, and the men of that province, high and low, never permit themselves to get science and your birthright of English- who sent you that?" out of practice when there is room for a

man!'

The other shrugged his shoulders and Concha looked the general full in the face answered: "I have nothing to do with the hands.

with her deep, magnificent eyes, aquama- matter. Colonel Rollo Blair brings the rine, violet, or dark gray, according to the party hither and General Cabrera shoots light upon them. They were (as she would them. You two can divide the responsisometimes own) fallacious eyes, and upon bility between you as you please!" occasions were wont to express far more

"That is just what I mean to do," quoth than their owner meant to stand by. But Rollo, and lifted the flap of the tent door. the latent lover behind them once fixed, these same eyes could convince the most speak to you!" skeptical of the unalterable nature of the An inarticulate growl alone replied, and

affection which they professed. So it was though there was more of wild beast wrath in the present instance. Concha merely than permission to enter in the tone, Rollo looked at the general squarely for a molifted the flap and entered. ment and said without flinching, "I love "Your excellency," said Rollo, "I have

come to urge you to reconsider your in-Espartero stooped and touched her brow tentions with regard to Queen Maria Cristina, widow of the late king, and the lightly with his lips, graciously and tenderly as a father might upon a solemn occachild, her daughter, and that for several reasons.'

"Let me hear them as briefly as may be, senor." thundered Cabrera. "I shall then make up my mind whether it would

not make for the king's peace that such "My daughter." he said, "do not fear for a firebrand adventurer as you should not your young Scot. Queens and consorts and be shot along with them. And I can tell premiers are not the most powerful folk in you this, that if all the pretty girls in the Spain-not, at least, so long as Baldemero Espartero, the Andalusian, commands these

second time!" Then the future dictator stepped to his tent door, summoned a staff officer, and still, holding the tent flap in his hand. the young senorita. "Request the com-"These are my reasons for this request, mandants of the several columns to come general," said Rollo, without taking the In fact, he had been undisguisedly listen-

least notice of the threat. "First, such an ing. act would alienate the sympathy of the whole civilized world from the cause of Don Carlos."

for us or for Don Carlos either? Next!" breast. This lady hath never done you any and don't try it again." wrong. Her daughter is little more than

must be made, be satisfied with executing

ding of my blood will save the queen and in the camp. That girl who came with you the little princess!" "And the fair maid, Donna Concha?" said

to such an act of self-sacrifice ?" "She would rejoice to see me do my duty,

general!" said Rollo with confidence. Cabrera laughed long, loud and scornfully. Colonel Frank Merry has seen some high

'not if I know a maiden of Spain-to save no fear in his belly! And indeed great need marks are highly offensive!"

have you of the fear of God. for when a man