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THE DOUBLE CROSS

(Continued)
CHAPTER XXI.

THE SECOND WARNING.

Up jumped the daughter and flung her arms around the Don's neck, giving him a grateful hug.

"And now, father," she pleaded, "you will also do as the Senor John asks in the matter of the mine?"

"Upon that subject I still must remain obdurate, my Felipa."

And my betrothed, evidently not deeming it wise to pursue the subject of the mine any further just then, cried:

"Oh, father, a something more than mysterious has happened!"

And she told him all that Vallejo had told us of the senorita of the hair of gold.

The Don listened in silence, looking not at Felipa, but at me.

"Yes," he said, when Felipa had finished, "Yaqui told me. The woman of the hair of gold—as you say the Aztecs call her—met Yaqui by chance in the plaza. He had never seen her before. He says he did her bidding like one enchanted. He tells me the senorita was so sweet, so kind, so gentle, so beautiful, that he felt a desire to fall at her feet and pray her to say how he could serve her by giving up his very life for her."

"But how can it be?" Felipa persisted, "that none of us can say the name of such an extraordinary woman? Did none of our people know who she was?"

"No one," the Don replied, still with his eyes steadily searching my face.

And then, rising and leaning on the sword-cane, he added:

"Senor John, you play chess, yes? Well, then let us go indoors for the kingliest of games."

All through the long chess game the Don spoke no word.

After a while Felipa said good-night and went away happily to her room, with Swastika.

Whereupon the Don suddenly moved a pawn and cried:

"Check! and Mate! And now, senor, do I understand that you never met the man whom it is rumored the Golden Senorita loves, namely, Alvarado's son?"

"Don Justino," I cried, protesting, "what in heaven's name is the meaning of all this talk connecting me with the woman known as the Golden Senorita and with the Alvarados? No, I tell you again—I know nothing of the Alvarados, neither father nor son. Why do you ask?"

"An inexplicable thing has happened," he answered. "I deemed it best not to tell my daughter—perhaps you, senor, will understand why. The woman of the hair of gold who appeared in La Luz this afternoon was, as you have probably guessed—the Senorita Alva, whom you call the Golden Senorita."

For the fraction of a second my heart stood still.

The Don arose, stood waiting for me to speak.

But I, having so much to say and to ask, said nothing. Two thoughts were uppermost in my mind—first, that now, surely, the Golden Senorita had something to do with the sign of the cross; second, that now I must ascertain beyond doubt whether or not Felipa herself bore the sign of the cross, and that at the earliest moment. Certain it was that I could not be the betrothed of two women; and, if Felipa were not the woman of the cross, I then would have to go to Mexico City and free myself from the "marriage contract" somehow, even if I had to forfeit the fortune my father had left me.

The Don had limped to the door, with the aid of the sword-stick.

"That the Senorita Alva appeared in La Luz," he said now, having waited in vain for me to speak, "is not at all mysterious. She arrived this morning in Guanaajuato—coming in her private car. My agent at the station, Diego, whom you met on arrival here, told me of the arrival of the Senorita Alva. I said nothing of this to my daughter—because—Senor John, the inexplicable part of the appearance of the Golden Senorita in La Luz, the only real mystery, is—how did she know of your betrothal to my daughter?"

"You know as much about it as I do, Don."

We stepped out on the corridor, where the Don toyed a moment with the sword-cane, then:

"Pardon, senor—you have had no communication with the Senorita Alva? You swear it?"

"I have already said I know nothing of the Golden Senorita. Did your agent, your Diego, learn whether she will remain in Guanaajuato over tomorrow? If so, we can make her acquaintance, Don Justino, and ask her all—"

"Diego learned, senor, that the Golden Senorita left orders to attach her car to this evening's train for Mexico City, which departed hours ago."

"We separated. I went to my room, lighted the candle and began to prepare for bed when, to my wonderment, Don Justino appeared in the doorway."

"Senor John."

"Don Justino."

"I overlooked something. How do you suppose the Senorita Alva came to know that your life was threatened by the Aztecs?"

"Was my life threatened?" I asked evasively.

(To Be Continued.)

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ANXIETY FELT FOR CANADIAN MISSIONARIES

Toronto, Sept. 11.—The fact that nothing has been heard of a hundred and sixty Canadian missionaries who fled from Chentu three days ago, when serious rioting broke out all over the province, is causing grave apprehension here. Although Methodist mission officials here profess not to regard the situation as alarming, it is quiet evident that they are seriously disturbed. This morning Rev. Dr. Short, foreign missionary received a cablegram from Mr. Billinger at Chung King, which is four hundred miles nearer the coast (Chen Tua Hing, that situation is quiet with the officials and people friendly but no wire communication from Chen Tu and he had heard nothing from there, part supposed to be coming this way. He said he was ready for all emergencies.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVAL SERVICE

A competitive examination will be held in November next at the examination centres of the Civil Service Commission for the entry of Naval Cadets for the Naval Service of Canada; there will be 25 vacancies.

Candidates must be between the ages of 14 and 16 years on the 1st of January next; must be British subjects and must have resided in Canada for two years immediately preceding the examination; short periods of absence abroad for purpose of education to be considered as residence.

Successful candidates will join the Royal Naval College at Halifax, in January next; the course at the College is two years and the cost to parents, including board, lodging, uniform and all expenses is approximately \$400 for the first year and \$250 for the second year.

On passing out of College, Cadets will be rated midshipman, and will receive pay at the rate of \$2 per diem.

Parents of intending candidates should make application to the Secretary Civil Service Commission, Ottawa, before the 15th October next.

Further information can be obtained on application to the Secretary, Department of Naval Service, Ottawa.

Unauthorized publication of this notice will not be paid for.

G. J. DESBARATS,
Deputy Minister of the Naval Service,
Department of the Naval Service,
Ottawa, August 1st, 1911.
d6w.



SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for Breakwater and Breastwork, Richibucto, South Beach, N.B.," will be received at this office until 4 P. M. on Wednesday, September 27, 1911, for the construction of a Breakwater at Richibucto, on the South Beach, Kent County, N.B.

Plans, specifications and forms of contract can be seen and form of tender obtained at this Department and at the offices of E. T. P. Shewan Esq., District Engineer, St. John, N.B.; Geoffrey Stead, Esq., District Engineer, Chatham, N.B., and on application to the Postmaster at Richibucto, N.B.

Persons tendering are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, and signed with their actual signatures, stating their occupations and place of residence. In the case of firms, the actual signature, the nature of the occupation and place of residence of each member of the firm must be given.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted cheque on a chartered bank, payable to the order of the Honourable the Minister of Public Works, equal to ten per cent. (10 p. c.) of the tender, which will be forfeited if the person tendering declines to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,
R. C. DESROCHERS,
Secretary,
Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, September 2, 1911.
Newspapers will not be paid for this advertisement if they insert it without authority from the Department.

Miss Alice Lee and Miss Mary Peters of Moncton, are spending a few days in this city at Mrs. M. A. Atkinson's, Charlotte street.

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SIFTON FAVORED RECIPROCITY

In a newspaper report of a speech delivered by Hon. Clifford Sifton at St. Paul, Jan. 10, 1903, he is reported to have said: "On the subject of reciprocity Mr. Sifton spoke freely. He endorsed all that Mr. Hill had said on the subject, and expressed himself in favor of any treaty that would give the citizens of both countries equal advantage. He had no sympathy, he said, with those Canadians who expected the United States to give something for nothing, and he thought as little of the Americans who expected the Canadian to do the same thing. The Canadians expect to give one hundred cents for every dollar they get."