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## THE DOUBLE CROSS

(Continued.)

The Don's private office proved to be the room next to the vault or strongroom — to which Royal and company had made ambiguous allusion just as I interrupted their talk at the Hotel Cardin. I found now that the only entrance to that storehouse of treasure was through the Don's own office.

Don Justino sat at a long, wide table. In front of him lay the telegram I had sent from the railroad station at Mexico City. After the first greetings, the Don put his finger on the telegram, saying:

"You come, senior, to negotiate for the purchase of one of my mines. These mines have been in my family for three hundred years. I wish to keep them all. I do not wish to sell any one of them."

He dropped the telegram into the top door of his table, then shut the drawer, his action saying, as plain as words,

"The incident is closed."  
"I am bitterly disappointed," I said.

And I explained how I had met Royal and how I had hoped to make some money on the deal through securing an option on the mine.

The Don produced some Mexican cigars. We smoked awhile in silence. Then I said:

"Don Justino, through Antonio Terry, you have had an offer from Royal for one hundred thousand dollars for the Farthermost. I can get you two hundred thousand."

"No," he said. "I do not wish to sell—not even for three hundred thousand."

I argued with him for fully half an hour, in vain. Then the door opened, and Felipa came in, saying:

"You have finished talking business, my father?"

"The last word, my daughter."

"And you have granted all that the Senior St. John asks?"

"No. He wishes to buy the Farthermost. I wish to keep it."

Felipa threw her two arms around her father, and pressed her cheek to his.

"Then, father," she said, "you must reconsider. You must grant the senior's request—whatever it is—for my sake. Father, a miracle has happened. I have given my hand—to the Senior St. John."

The Don shook Felipa's hand from his shoulder.

"Sheer madness!" he exclaimed. "The senior is an acquaintance of but a single night."

"Nay, father. The Senior St. John and I met in Mexico City five years ago. All these years I have been beloved by him."

She looked at me significantly, as if she wanted to say:

"And may God forgive me for that lie."

"So that is why, my daughter, you have always refused Captain Ruiz?"

"Your blessing, my father," Felipa pleaded, thus adroitly evading a direct answer concerning Ruiz.

"I must have time to think," the Don replied. "Leave me now—and ask Padre Aurelio to come here."

Felipa now forsook argument and resorted to purely feminine tactics. She caressed her father and coaxed; stamped her foot and demanded. She even threatened tears.

"In all this I see—your mother," mused the Don. "But there! Let this marriage—and the sale of the mine—rest till I can give both matters quiet thought."

"As you will, father," Felipa said, with a heartbreaking sigh that may have deceived the Don, but which only served to convince me that she was still playing a part—to gain time.

To gain time! Very well, I, too, wished to gain time—to get one good look at the right arm of Felipa de Gasteneda.

Felipa now, with bowed head and drooping figure, walked slowly out of the room. I followed.

No sooner had we crossed the patio, however, and entered by the wicket into the garden, than Felipa straightened up, smiled radiantly and said:

"Fear nothing, John. All is well. And yet—Dios! I must make still more certain. I must make absolutely sure—before sunset this evening."

She hastened across the garden to the padre, who sat on the corridor.

"Padre Aurelio," she said, "the

Senorita Carmelita Guerera is to be married in your church at LaLuz today, yes? Well, you shall have the company of the Senior St. John and myself—in your ride to town, after the siesta. We wish to be present at that wedding. Meantime, padre mio, my father prays you to come to his office."

What new devilry, I wondered, did the imperious, irrepressible Felipa contemplate now.

### CHAPTER XIX.

#### AT THE CAMP OF THE BLACK CAVALRY.

After the noon dinner and the siesta that followed, the gate between the patio and the garden opened, and vaqueros led forward three horses, ready saddled.

With the padre riding between Felipa and me, we three rode up the mountain to La Luz—that nearly four-hundred-year old town, with its one-storied, flat-roofed, windowless houses of mud; its barefooted men in gaudy sarapes; its women with gay rebosos on their heads. Ancient and beautiful La Luz made one think of a picture from a book of Bible stories.

Some of the men rode burros; many of the women carried babes on their backs; and all were proceeding toward the ancient church of San Juan Bautista that faced the picturesque, Old-World plaza. It looked as if the whole town had turned out to attend the wedding of Carmelita Guerera.

The bells crashed their welcome in joyful peals as we arrived at the church, where Padre Aurelio went off at once to his duties, while Felipa and I were ushered to a seat near the altar.

The ceremony lasted a full hour, at the end of which the padre threw a silver chain over the heads of the bride and groom, signifying eternal union.

And right then Felipa turned to me, whispering:

"If I really change my mind, John, concerning the possibility of marriage, our chain shall be gold. But come now—come away—or we shall be unable to escape the wedding breakfast at the Guerera's."

So, ahead of all others in the church, we went out.

(To Be Continued.)

## BABY'S TERRIBLE ECZEMA

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Five Doctors Failed to Relieve, but  
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Mrs. Cas. Levere, of Prescott, North Channel, Ont., tells how Zam-Buk cured her baby. She says:—"My baby head and face was one complete mass of sores. The itching and irritation were fearful and the little one's plight was so serious that at one time we feared her ears would be eaten off by the disease."

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"As a last resource we were advised to try Zam-Buk. The first box did so much good that we felt sure we were at last working in the right direction. We persevered with the treatment until we had used thirteen boxes, and at the end of that time I am glad to say Zam-Buk had effected a complete cure."

For eczema, eruptions, rashes, tetter, itch, ringworm and similar skin diseases, Zam-Buk is without equal. It also cures cuts, burns, scalds, piles, abscesses, chronic sores, blood poisoning, etc. All druggists and stores at 50 cents a box, or post free for price from Zam-Buk Co., Toronto. Refuse imitations.

### THE UNHOLY ALLIANCE

As I told you a moment ago the present attitude of the Conservative party has been brought about by the unholy alliance of the Nationalists of Quebec and the Tory-ultra Imperialists of Toronto. I have only this to say that I am not Imperialist nor an anti-Imperialist. I am a Canadian pure and simple, a Canadian first, last and all the time. I am a British subject likewise. I was born under British institutions and I have often said and I repeat here, that the race to which I belong has found more liberty, freedom and justice under the British flag than it would have received under any other flag. (Cheers.) Sir Wilfrid Laurier at Halifax.

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### INTERCOLONIAL

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No. 303—Mixed for Loggieville, 5.00  
No. 317—Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 6.15.

No. 321—Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 11.15.

No. 323—Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 16.20.

No. 301—Express for Loggieville, Chatham, Campbellton, Quebec, Montreal, etc., 18.30.

No. 327—Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 18.40.

No. 329—Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 22.00.

#### ARRIVALS.

No. 318—Suburban from Marysville 7.45.

No. 302—Express from Loggieville, Chatham Junction, 11.25.

No. 322—Suburban from Marysville 13.45.

No. 304—Mixed from Loggieville and Chatham Junction, 16.00.

No. 326—Suburban from Marysville 18.20.

No. 328—Suburban from Marysville 19.15.

No. 338—Suburban from Marysville 22.35.

### CANADIAN PACIFIC

#### DEPARTURES.

6.20 a.m.—Express for St. John, Portland, Boston, Woodstock, etc.

9.20 a.m.—Mixed for Woodstock, and points north. Leaves St. Mary's at 9.35.

9.45 a.m.—Express for St. John and points east.

4.10 p.m.—Mixed for Woodstock, via Gibson branch. Leaves St. Mary's 4.40.

5.50 p.m.—Express for Montreal, Boston, Woodstock, St. Stephen, etc.

9.05 p.m.—Express for St. John, and points east.

#### ARRIVALS.

9.10 a.m.—Express from St. John and points east.

12.30 a.m.—Mixed from Woodstock, via Gibson branch, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

11.35 a.m.—Express from Montreal, Boston, etc.

7.55 p.m.—Express from St. John and points east.

7.40 p.m.—Mixed from Woodstock and points north.

10.50 p.m.—Express from Boston, Portland, Woodstock, St. Stephen, etc.

### ST. JOHN S. S. CO.

S. S. Victoria leaves St. John every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8 a.m. Arrives on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 4 p.m.

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Steamer Hampstead leaves Fredericton every week day for Gagetown at 4 p.m. Arrives from Gagetown at 10.30 a.m.

### CRYSTAL STREAM S. S. CO.

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### A SIGN OF THE TIMES

New Brunswick boys driven from home by the high tariff policy of the Tories, are beginning to return. Two of them have been in Fredericton this week looking for a chance to buy farms. Reprocity and the larger market is already getting in its work. A policy that will bring back our sons and daughters from foreign lands and fill up the vacant farms ought to be satisfactory to the people of York County.

