

## Love in a Flour Mill

## The Romance of Two Loyal Hearts!

"A sort of Captain Kidd?" said

"That's it," assented Vane. "But Rinaldo as he was called, was a bigger man than Kidd; as full of audacity, but a good deal more clever and enterprising. If you put up at any of the small places along the coast of Sicily you'll hear them talk of Rinaldo to this day, and with a kind of pride; for, of all the buccaneers they

"What became of him?" asked Ronald, growing interested.

"Oh, he came to grief at last, as they all did. He came across Drake and found his match. They all found Drake too many for them. Drake met with him off the west of Sciily. He expected Rinaldo to show fight for the buccaneer was sailing a decent-sized man-of-war he had re cently taken from the Spaniards; but Rinaldo crowded sail and showed clean pair of heels. He got away to the Lipari Islands we've been talking of. He landed at one of the islands dodged about amongst them for couple of days, and nearly succeeded owing to a fog, in giving Drake the keep a log-book," suggested Ronald. slip; but the fog cleared suddenly, There was a fight, Rinaldo's ship was taken, and he was hung at the yard-arm in the good old-

own little game. Anyway, he was

broke in, grimly, casting a glance at at the document eagerly. the door. "Before they hanged Rinaldo they searched his ship, of course; thing to be found. And yet, for some Just open that door and see if there's time previously, Rinaldo had held up any one about, will you?" tained to the Don Carlos-the name to his seat. of his man-of-war; and, only two days before Drake sighted him. Rinalrying one hundred thousand pounds in specie. Now, it was known that that they were therefore able to give of mad Englishman, and, of course Rinaldo had not put into land before Drake drove him to the Lipari Is-

Ronald sat up, gripped his cigar between his teeth, and stared at

sponding to the look, "If the treasure was not on board the Don Carlos-and you may bet your life Drake would have found it if it had been there-

his voice was now as low as Vane's. "Yes," said Vane; "he must have it! We know there was a hundred

much, three times as much." "And you are going for it?" said onald, in something like a whisper. "We are going for it," corrected

"But there are ever so many isands; how can you tell which Rinalo landed at? If you don't know, you night hunt for a thousand years." "That is so," assented Vane. "Wait

moment."

He rose and slid back a panel of the atin-wood panelling which lined the aloon, and revealed a safe. He unocked this, took out a kind of wallet, inlocked this also, and, returning to

hat I have always had a fancy for Elizabethan time. I've got quite a airish collection of old charts, docunents, log-books, and such-like lumoer, in my house in London. As a matter of fact, I intended writing a kind of naval, shipping history of that period; wonderfully interesting time it was. One day, when I was poking about in an old curiosity-shop down by the Docks, where I had the good luck to see you, I routed out an old chest. It contained a lot of lumber, and amongst it some log-books, and some papers in Italian. I did not attach much importance to them, but bought the whole bag of tricks and took them home to examine. Something cropped up, and I forgot all about them until early this year, when something brought them to my

"You know Italian?" said Ronald.

"Yes. I went over the books and papers, and, to my delight. I found the logs were those, or a part of them of the Don Carlos. They had been kept by a sort of chaplain whom Rin aldo carried with him: captured him n board one of his prizes, no doubt ' "Rather strange for a pirate to

"Quite so," said Vane; "but I have an idea that the chaplain kept the log Rinaldo's knowledge. found that the papers were also writwere faded, some portions were miss-"Seems almost a pity." commented ing. some torn: but amongst them Ronald. "I suppose he was no worse was a sheet which actually gave an than the rest of them. Drake him- account of the landing of Rinaldo at self couldn't have shown a clean the island, while Drake was in pur-"Drake would have let him alone if might set himself straight when Rinhe had not interfered with Drake's aldo was captured. Here is the sheet.' war he had stolen was taken as a faded writing; as Vane had said, the shore of that bay lies hidden somepaper was torn, some of it was miss-"It's quite an interesting story," re- ing. Vane handled this sheet of paper marked Ronald; "but I don't quite as if he feared a sudden wind might

"Ah, you will presently!" Vane and Ronald leant forward and stared "It's no use my reading it in the original," said Vane; "but this is Do you think that the authorities, trust Drake for that! There was no- what it amounts to, translated freely.

arise and sweep it from his grasp;

transferred the valuables they con- companion-way clear, and returned ficulty; and I've surmounted it b

sighted them off Trapani, in Sicily, that Rinaldo set all sail for the Lipthat he made the island at six o'clock in the evening. Now, as luck would

the paper; and the next words are 'landed by cliff overshadowing bay.' There's another bit torn out, confound I had minerals on my mind." it! And it goes on, 'carried all ashore safely . . . Two hundred pac-

es from three trees . . . all went aboard . . . the Englishman giving chase . . . disap-"On the islands," said Ronald, and pointment . . . treasure safe." "Good heavens!" murmured Ronald

drawing a long breath. "Rinaldo bur-

ied that treasure; and this is a kind of

Vane looked up and nodded. His round and saw a number of picks, thousand pounds on board that ship; face was flushed, his eyes were shovels, and similar tools, all neatly

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"and enough to work upon." "But the island!" said Ronald, with if you'd only engage me at thirty

"This way," said Vane. "Rinaldo

was sailing eastward-east by north. to be absolutely correct. He would naturally make for the first island in was the smallest of the group, and stands apart from the other islandslook at the map. Now, he would natwest point of Tricania: he landed heels. On the south-west point of Tricania there is a little bay; it is

"By George!" whispered Ronald. face was as flushed as Vane's. Cu-

ference the prospect of gaining such an immense treasure, would be diffi-

"Exactly." said Vane. "Somewhere in the shadow of that cliff on the money. And that's what we are going for, Carew."

Ronald took a turn up and down the saloon, and lit another cigar.

"But hold on Vane!" he said "Th islands belong to Italy, don't they? digging about for hidden treasure?"

Ronald opened the door, found the said Vane. "I've thought of that diff buying all that side of the island I'm supposed to be going to grow something, to try tobacco-culture say. The authorities, when I ap ari Islands, that a fog came on, and proached them, regarded me as a sort have it, there is a piece torn out of harmless. They didn't even object I should have the right to anything under the soil. No doubt they thought

"Capital!" commenteed Ronald

"Don't know about that," Vane modestly; "but I thought the matter out pretty carefully. Look

door at the end of the saloon, and led it is probable that there was twice sparkling. He carefully restored the arranged; also piles of woodwork,

which puzzled him until Vane explain-

"Made of wood; they all screw to gether; you know the kind of thing?

He opened the door of the apartnent bordered off from the rest of the hold, and, raising the lantern, showed Ronald a stack of arms, rifles, re-

and the crew will stand by me to a when we land; and they'll have their share, a liberal share."

They went back to the saloon, and Vane, with his hands in his pockets, gazed steadily at Ronald.

"Now you know the game, Carew," ne said, "what's your decision?" Ronald laughed and held out his

"Scarcely necessary to ask, Vane," e said. "You are offering me a fortune; and, goodness knows, I want it badly enough, for I am and shall be as poor as a church mouse! But ex en if there weren't any money in it

"That's all right, then," said Vane, anything more about it to-night, or

"All right," said Ronald. "I suppose we are making straight for th

there. Again, naturally, he wanted Hawk, cruising about our course; and overshadowed by a cliff; there are here and there, and take it easy,

sleep a wink either'

He went up on deck, and, pacing up and down, tried to realise that he was going a-digging for a treasure amounting to a quarter of a million. It difficult owing to the fact that sounds enjoying themselves, as if they were bound on an ordinary pleasure trip, as if there was no such thing as

he had not only found his feet o board the Hawk, but had already be

"I'm a-tellin' you of this, boys, as a sayin' that it ain't a sailorman's right there'd be ructions. You know what the lady said when the doctor told

"No!" shouted one of the sailors while the rest laughed with anticipa-

(To be Continued.)

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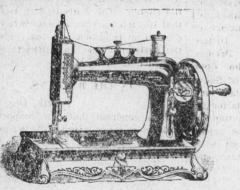
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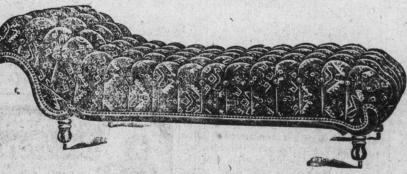
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