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UMSDEN BLDG. (COR. ABELAIDE TORONTO.

gered back, blind and bleeding, to the stricken ranks of his comrades. Thoebe, aflame with primitive pas-sions, forgot to be disgusted, and be-lauded the grim virility of the de-fenders. They might be as great blackguards as the men who at-tacked, but her heart went out to them, for their grand fighting qualities. Her eyes, ordinarily solemn, demure, saintly, were pools of opales-cent flame. She was living fiercely, almost as fiercely as the men who were dealing wounds and violence to the ranks of the attack. She did not understand the hideous oaths, or the more hideous jests that formed their battle-cries. She would not have minded if she had. She was no longer Phoebe Perowne of the West Country, but a princess of the "night-wolves," joying in every blow that went home, laughing, mocking, full of the tingling, tremulous joy of battle. She did not know that that mirau-tous thing had happened to her, the complete subversion of a personality. She who, for all her views on Wo-man's Rights, had never countenanced twared sisterhood, was now the pray to passions beside which the ardours of a militant suffragette were as a summer breeze compared with a roaring typhoon. She who had con-demed drunkenness was herself in-toxicated with a spirit infinitely more potent, more dominant, more tyran-nously exciting than ever maddened human brain through the medium of alcohol. She was within a very little of temporary insanity. Strong, healthy men, when they first go ino action, often try to get shot; and Phoebe was only a girl, slightly neurastenic, and the strife that was being waged in the "Persian Vault" was vastly more stimulating than an ordinary battle. She might have done something desperate had not her eyes lighted on Saunders. He alone a differes, talming, slightly, without an oath or a prayer, or a moving of the firm set lips. He might be the son of a millitane, but he fought like a senter man, like a knight among churks. His steadiness and self-control compelide her a distronger, calmer spirit possess-ed

When a man swarmed up a plilar 50 fire at them over the heads of the at-tacking party it was Saunders' Westly Richards that brought him down like a big wounded bird from his perch of vantage. Suddenly Phoebe saw something which filled her with apprehension. There was a momentary failure of the attack. The foremost men, dis-pirited and sickened by the obstinacy of the defence, drew back. The temporary panic failed to affect one man. Standing his ground unsupport-ed, but grim as death and tenacious as a bull-dog, Major Lacherberg re-mained in the forefront, like an ugly rock left by the receding tide. His face was pale, and the old scar show-ed on his livid cheek like a red rut in a snowy road. His eyes were aglint with cold light. His outstretched arm, stiff as a bar of metal, was holding a curious short-barrelled revolver. He dwelt long on his aim, despite the read of his nostion dwelt long on his aim, despite the peril of his position.

THERE was a flash and a crack. Saunders' right arm fell uses less to his side, and his revolver drop-ped from impotent fingers on to the surface of the counter. A wild shout went up from those who had lately lost heart. Phoebe feit sick. Their champion was wounded, and for the first time she felt acute anxiety as to her own fate. But she did not know her man. With cool quickness Saunders stooped down and picked up his weapon with his unin-jured member, and raising his left hand to the level of his eye, fired. Simultaneously von Lacherberg put his two hands to his face, spun round, and fell with a crash. This time a



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