

before the upholders of the law, whom she knew would hasten there directly they found what they sought.

Her quick wits had told her that there was only one way that she could help Burleigh, and that was by keeping back from him the knowledge of his danger. If he became aware of it, she knew that his chivalrous nature would prevent him from escaping, if he thought she would get into trouble for assisting him in any way.

She had thought out a little scheme which she believed would have the desired result without raising any suspicion in his mind.

As she galloped up to Burleigh's homestead she saw him making his way to the stockyard in rear of the building. Glancing in her direction, on hearing her approach, he at once changed his direction.

The girl checked her horse short as she reached him.

"Morning, Norman," she cried out cheerfully. "I've ridden over to see if you'll do me a great favor."

His face broke into a smile.

"Of course, I will, Nell," he replied readily. "What is it?"

"It sounds very absurd I'm afraid, what I am going to ask you, but it is really of the very greatest importance. You know Langville, just over the border?"

"Sure!"

"Well, I want you to take my horse, and ride there as hard as you can. When you get there you'll find directions in this letter, which you are to promise me not to open till you get to the town. Will you do as I request?"

"Of course, I will, Nell," he retorted briskly; only willing to render her any service she might require. "I'd better change saddles though, hadn't I?"

The girl nodded, and, springing to the ground, proceeded to remove her own saddle while he went for his.

Burleigh rejoined her in a few minutes, and saddled the horse again.

"Now up you get," said Nell with animation. "The sooner you're there the sooner you'll be able to perform the work I want of you."

Burleigh did as she commanded, and with a word of adieu rode swiftly away.

A heavy sigh of relief broke from the girl as he disappeared from view; then, turning, she made her way to the stable, carrying her saddle with her. As quickly as she could, she threw the saddle over Burleigh's riding horse, and girthed it. Then, putting on the bridle, she led the animal to the front of the house.

Hitching the horse to a post, she hurried inside the building, glancing eagerly around. She soon found what she sought, which was one of Burleigh's coats, and proceeded to put it on.

Then, bunching up her mass of hair, she drew down over it one of his Stetson hats, which completely hid it from view. Going to a glass, she viewed herself for a minute critically.

"That ought to do," she muttered with satisfaction, then turned towards the door.