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Lobo as Don Q.'s guest. An invitation that the rabble of the plains are but neighboring doorway.

Trom so uncommon a source might not too glad to soil the record of a man Two men appeared striding swiftly Don Q. wrote that he had need of a instance friend, and Lalor responded by setting to walk ten paces forward—the ninth profile of one of them. out at once, for he had long ago grown to like Don Q. for many of the re-

ed, had accompanied Don Q. on that eccentric tour of justice, during which ed climbing the path. In front of Robledo comprehended that this pora certain Gen. Don Basilio; and the briunmitigated respect for him and faith treme pallor, and the appeal in her back with the news to Don Q.

He had already spent nearly a month with the famous sequestrador, but during the last couple of weeks, his host of the sierra had remained plunged in a mood of melancholy, shot and illuminated by flashes of cold rage.

One morning as Lalor sat on the terrace sunning himself in the brilliant joined him. Chilly as usual, the chief, wrapped in his cloak, his sombrero pulled low over his brows, sat for a few moments in silence, then he disengaged one meagre hand, and pointing downward at the men gathered in groups in the valley below, he

play a little part in imitation of a man result one would expect from such a and tenderness to your family." travesty. As regards the animal himtravesty. As regards the animal minimaters not at all. But he has self, it matters not at all. But he has the girl. "Doubtless, you have heard "populations of the girl." his crime!' One Pablo has captured and held

to ransom a lady of wealthy though imposed upon a woman?" not noble family. It came to my knowledge as all events ultimately come, and I descended the mountains and caugh: the fellow red-handed," chief went on. "Perhaps, senor, you did me the honor to miss me at the de-The senorita had been frightened, maltreated! Psst!" emitted a hiss of such contempt and malevolence that Lalor involuntarily rejoiced that it was not directed against himself. "Then I considered

The outcome of these terrible musings appeared to be a letter that Don all my heart, senor."

O now unfolded before the young Eng.

Don Q. turned to Lalor.

What do you think of this, senor?" he asked. "I will read it to you, omitting the compliments of greeting with never can. which you are familiar. I address my-

self to the governor of the prison of

"What!" ejaculated Lalor, "not the Don Q. bowed in his courtly manner. marked. "Robledo will see him enter Don Q. "Whose ears I regretted being obliged to add to my little museum up here
in the mountains—the same, senor." He
began to read—Don Q. has the honor
to send herewith the person of Pablo

the gates of the prison, and in a day
or two will bring to us news of the
himself, then louder—"And what did
my good Robledo think? That he had
the whole of the purpose I intend
my good Robledo think? That he had
the said,
my good Robledo think? That he had
seen a ghost?"

"What are we going to do then?"
the gates of the prison, and in a day
or two will bring to us news of the
my good Robledo think? That he had
seen a ghost?"

"What are we going to do then?"
"What are we going to do then?"
"Senor," said the chief, turning his
the gates of the prison, and in a day
or two will bring to us news of the
my good Robledo think? That he had
seen a ghost?"

"No, lord, for I spoke to my cousin at
the gates of the prison, and in a day
or two will bring to us news of the
my good Robledo think? That he had
seen a ghost?"

"No, lord, for I spoke to my cousin at
the walley, "they are quity
was ang
yellow the purpose I intend
the said,
"A gre
"What are we going to do then?"
"Senor," said the chief, turning his
bellow the purpose I intend
the said, the prison of the purpose I intend
the said, seen a ghost?"

"No, lord, for I spoke to my cousin at
the walley, "they are quity
the said, then louder—"And what did
my good Robledo think? That he had
the them to serve."

"What are we going to do then?"
"Senor," said the chief, turning his
but was ang Whose ears I regretted being oblig- the gates of the prison, and in a day

responsibility, the Senorita Dona Inez be. But what will you? I, of all per-de Lucas. Don Q., as all who ac-sons, cannot afford to lose my good nt themselves with the great events name. eld to ransom a lady. Don Q. inquired Lator. orrible action of the scoundres, ram flerce heart been so apparent.

Winter was breaking and the plains cave. Giving orders to bring Pablo a barred window, but a sound of hurry-

In a moment a group of men, hailing chilled heart of the chief. He rose, and with conspicuous ele-

plead for her. plied Lalor, in halting Spanish, "Don Lained through the Boca de Jabill."

Q. is your best friend."

"Well, my child," said Don Q., ger

"I beg you, senorita, to accept my told a story in his sibilant voice. It most humble apologies for the indignity was the first break in his silence of with which this miscreant has treated "One of these wolves, these mountain have written to the governor of the apes," he began sourly, "has dared to prison of Castelleno to deal with him to the utmost severity of the law, while me, in short-with the grotesque you shall be conducted with all care

"You are about to set me free?" cried

Q. sadly. "Have those stories ever included one of cruelty or imprisonment

deprive me of words!" she faltered.
"How can I thank you?"

"Go on."
"I desired to see the dead body, and "Very easily, most beautiful flower. saynno yesterday? I returned, bring-ting both Pablo and his captive with

Be good enough to make it well known for it is not good for a poor man to in the plains that in whatever manner bring news on hearsay to my lord." falsehoods have been spread about me of my cousin, for I was doubtful, down below there. You will more than Robledo went on with nervousness. repay any small service I may have been fortunate enough to render you, if you will clear my reputation of the "It is true, lord." The robber crossed thrown upon it."

"Amigo," he said softly, "you will go with this lady to the lower pass. You belilla, is not that so?" can reassure her as these rough ones "Yes, lord."

to the cave, he found Don Q. in un- two men came down the street. usually good spirits. "By this time the guardias civiles, the other had the face of Pablo." have charge of our good Pablo," he re- A spasm of fury seemed to shake

Gomez, formerly of his band, who has committed the unpardonable indiscredion of holding to ransom, on his own

of the day are aware, has never during "You have never thought of retiring in his name. That is all!"

from the sierra—from your profession?"

Don Q.'s peaked nose sank from sight his long memorable and blameless ca- from the sierra-from your profession?'

Don Q., who had been huddled by the he sat, brooding in his bird-like attiof the prison of Castelleno, will, as a fire, sat up. The glancing flames play-tude for many minutes. man of honor, clear the name of Don ed over him, and never had the con- At length. "Robledo Q. of the stigma cast upon it by the trast between his fragile body and

sual greetings of farewell. Does it sound of anger. "Your question is illsual greetings of farewell. Does it sound of anger. "Your question is illsound of anger. "Your question is illconsidered. It proves that you have to the chief clapped his hands and Roiled me to adopt my present profession. In business, perhaps, as in that of the wineseller or the dealer in veget"Tes, lord."

sued the chief haughtily. "The excitements of my life and the greatness of my career are as dear to me as ever, and the idea of leaving them is intol-A man of my eminence cannot disappear. No, senor, the feud between

the law and myself will never be ended until I am dead. And when the names which to-day appear notable in the land, are forgotten, men will still speak of Don Q. My fame and my doings have enriched the Spanish language!"

thin claw-like fingers were spread to the blaze, "none whatever. I shall die of Castelleno." at my own time and in my own fash-

The young author sighed. He had grown almost attached to the strange Inhuman outlaw, whose nature, as he now knew, could be touched to such fine issues. "Why do you sigh?" Don Q. asked in

his courteous way.
"Pardon me," exclaimed the young man impetuously, "but who of us can say that luck will forever be on his side?" You would be upon the figure of the state side? You are here alone. Those which Don Q. pierced to about you are wolves—you have called every man's knowledge. And wolves will drink each others blood. Listen to me; England offers a safe retreat. Come there—" deprecate further urging.

"I thank you, Senor Lalor. As for me, have no fear. When I die, it will be here. And unborn men will fear to linger alone among the sierras, where mentary rehearsal of the tactics of mentary rehearsal of the tactics of who was a laundress was open to him "I thank you, Senor Lalor. As for the great chief of the sequestradores war. Then in the dusk of one starlit lies asleep."

On the third day reports circulated that Pablo Gomez, the brigand of the sierra, had explated his many crimes. Robledo was free to return to the nountains, but one little half hour must still be snatched to further his niav remember a certain Isabelilla with a fine ankle and lustrous eyes, also hose dark eyes were lit with lovelight for the ragged, brave and picturesque Robledo. The thought of her tempted him to delay. It was nightfall when he strolled into a narrow lane to sing a erenade of passion and farewell under were already gay with flowers, when Q. resumed—

"You must understand, dear friend, swallowed up in the darkness of a

markable points in his strange characis question, causes a highly unpleasant son as he based. It felt rough and quarter of an hour, I can promise you, real enough to thrust all notions of ghosts out of the brigand's mind. This was no apparition.

summary vengeance was dealt out to them walked a handsome girl of, per- tended serious trouble against the haps, 20 years of age. She had the whole band of the sequestradores in the a certain Gen. Don Basilio; and the brigand's conduct had inspired Lalor with and faith droop of her shapely figure, her exwhat it might be, but he would hasten beautiful eyes seemed to touch the long knew everything, who could defeat

every stratagem. gance of movement, swept his hat to behind a bar and drew himself up to face and his own sun-browned one were the baldbrowed vulture aspect of Don ensued. Two minutes later he dropped down, wiped some powder from his lips, pity in his glance, she begged him to and slid away through the shadows. On the second day he was urging his "There will be no need, senorita," re- mule at a speed it had never before at-"Well, my child," said Don Q., gently,

when Robledo once more stood before him, "you have fulfilled my commands or you would not be here?" "Ves lord."

"And the vile Pablo has been gar-

"No. lord." The chief's livid eyes flickered ominously at the young man. "Corpse of a scullion! You have dared to disobey me!"

"No, lord, no! On the third day it was spoken on authority from that his blood alone cannot wash out things of me, Dona Inez," replied Don prison that Pablo was dead, and that his excellency the governor had given 50 pesetas to pay for masses for his

but none were admitted. So I waited,

The chief nodded impatiently. "When dark fell I went to the house "With a guitar?" sneered the chief

slurs certain unworthy creatures have himself , for Don Q.'s knowledge always hrown upon it."

seemed uncanny. "I carried my guitar

"I will tell them. I thank you with in order to make those who met me believe that my service was to a lady's eyes, not to my lord of the sierra." "And the name of the cousin is Isa-

Robledo was apprehensive, but the importance of his news On Lalor's return a few hours later gave him courage. was the porter of the prison gate, and

"Ah, infamy," he whispered half to

the window-no more. Isabelilla had linens of her excellency Dona Catalina -that one said at the prison that Pablo had been spared, and another executed

in the breast of his folded cloak, and "Robledo."

'You will give this money-it is \$500orrible action of the scoundres, Fally like the fellow on the omez, and garrote the fellow on the omez, and garrote the fellow on the omega and garrote the fellow on the omega and muttered his prehend this matter!" he exclaimed, his thin voice taking on the sibliant his thin voice taking on the sibliant sound of anger. "Your question is ill-"And you will forget all you have

he laughed with sibilant mockery. "So ity had none lived who could add it to a flerce caress. lead them here to the Boca de Lobo!" the laughed with sibilant mockery. "So the page of Spanish history."

the governor dreams of my capture— the page of Spanish history."

the page of Spanish history."

"My lord laughed," Robledo crossed on," he urged, himself. "He laughed, but I feared his laughter. He drove those others ground and crying on the saints. And his laughter. He drove those others ground and crying on the saints. And his laughter. Said here the saints and crying on the saints. Pablo will find no path to follow. And ing Don Q. with a priest the chief had more, senor, I say to you that before caused to ave enriched the Spanish language:
ave enriched the Spanish language:
"Senor, have you no fear of cap"re?" Lalor could not withhold the luestion.

"We dear friend, none," the language:

"The senor, have you no fear of cap"many days are over the monks of Casmany days are over the casmany days are ov

> themselves into the presence of the staring at Don Q. when he should be chief, who seemed to tear out the inmost soul of each with a brief question the Plaza! Lalor heard in silence, tion or two and the giare of his malig- knowing well that if ever they gazed

News from the plains grew more and infantry arriving and encamping out-The delicate yellow hand went up to side the town of Castelleno because the ment barracks were full. Military maneuvres were publicly discussed. The men night half a dozen messengers followed upon each other's heels with the news that a systematic movement had begun sired to speak with the senor. towards the slerra.

In fact, Don Hugo, the governor to the prison, had gained from Pablo der his sunburn.

Isabelilla waited on them. Lalor has governor feared treachery, and would not pass over. In the end the civil In fact, Don Hugo, the governor valley in which Don Q. had always found safe retreat, baffling the expeditions sent out against him. It was approached by a tunnel-like passage and, as far as the band knew, had no other outlet. The governor boasted that the capture of the great brigand was now but a matter of time. He would be bottled up in his valley and secured by an overwhelming force. After this the governor promised to put him in a cage in the grand Plaza of Castelleno cage in the grand Plaza of Castelleno
for the crowd to gaze at. Upon the
for the crowd to gaze at. Upon the
third day he would be garroted in pubthird day he would be garroted in pubthe saw the school described.

Poblished to the school described. lie with much ceremonial to impress evil-doers.

step including a fall of 400 feet. This little promenade, when explained beforehand to the person of whom there is question, causes a highly unpleasant. with me, Senor Lalor, and see how Don Q. begins to stand at bay."

He went out and stood on the of the terrace and clapped his hands. The valley was unusually full, for all outiving parties of the band had been called in. From the fires and shelters the men hurriedly collected in a group looking up at their chief.

"Place yourselves in your ranks, children." the sibilant voice cried softly, and the three-score and odd pic-Robledo inserted one lean brown hand turesquely clad figures fell into line.

We shall see."

The men broke out into a tumultuous defiance of words and gesticulations. For a moment only, and then
tions. For a moment only, and then
tions and the sierra above, and far betions are a moment only and then
tions are a moment only and then
the planet of the pirates pursued with yells and a great waste of ammunition. They saw
that they could capture two ships
that they capture they had counted on but one.

many to protect me. Every alternate man fall out, and stand together."

"Thus we waited watching, my lord back and told him to be a good boy

"You will scatter, you will go down into the plains and lose yourselves in the towns. Go where you will, but, the towns are the towns. Go where you will, but, the towns are the honest lives, give none occasion to speak against you. And when I have at last came a dawn which showed the found about 10,000 of them. He figured destroyed the army of the governor of enemy advancing. Don Q. had supplied

time send for you again." The wild faces were painted with astonishment and awe. Who but Don Q. would prepare to resist a powerful force by half disbanding his own? The "and we saw that none of our foes six in jail. When his Singapore residue to the first six months in learning his A B C's and the next was a saw that none of our foes six in jail. When his Singapore residue to the first six months in learning his A B C's and the next six in jail. When his Singapore residue to the first six months in learning his A B C's and the next six in jail.

for every alternate one to fall out, exhorted them to lead honest lives and dismissed them with the same formula.

By this time Lalor noticed that, with the exception of Robledo, the chief had got rid of all the staunch and most reliable men of his band. It seemed strange that in a moment of such peril, he should retain the least loyal about he should retain the least loyal about

man, "we—that is, you and I—are about to part. Perhaps the hour of my death draws near. Should you be sorry, tell Lalor caught the sad smile on the

other's lips.
"I believe I should," he said.
"Then, senor, if I die yonder, you will grant me a favor I am about to ask and the second second "Yes"
"To-day you go down into Castelleno
is a little possed, where you will dwell
is safety intil Robledo brings you the
is news of me. Listen, Senor Lair, the fayor that I would beg is that
it will chronicle, or cause to be chrocled, the manner of my death, you
til tell the world how the steatefleand of all ages turned at bay
mong his mountains, alone, as he had
ath and held talk wern some of the

motto of noblesse oblige."

Lalor inquired what he supposed the authorities meant to do.

"They have given Pablo his life on the condition that he betrays me. That, of course, is clear, Pablo Gomez is to focurse, is clear, Pablo Gomez is to which would have been lost to human-lead them here to the Boca de Lobo!"

Justice. I have had much pleasure in your stood on his side? Tell the pain of its torment. Great stones and rocks were hurled upwards, and that one? I know him! It was you, my Robledo!" exclaimed the girl, which would have been lost to human-lead them here to the Boca de Lobo!"

Justice. I have had much pleasure in your season and rocks were hurled upwards, and roc

chapel of San Pedro. For Don Q., in view of his possible death, desired to confess and to receive absolution from the hands of the trembling father.

The hands of the trembling father. The young Englishman took up his abode in a posada on the outskirts of Castelleno, where he waited for nearly Days passed, and spies departed from the valley and found their way back discussing news from the sierra, which again; ragged goatherds and charcoal- was sensational and contradictory, and burners came cringing and crossing also the diversion they expected from

which Don Q. pierced to the bottom of One afternoon a young woman touched him on the arm and raising her handsome eyes to his—"You have heard the free air again. At the last I found of Isabelilla?" she said, laying an inmyself lying in a hollow of deep grass tioned Lalor. News from the plains grew more and of Isabelilla?" she said, laying an inmore ominous. Stories floated up of dicative finger on her own breast and

Lalor bowed and made a suitable re-

if he would follow her, for there was one come from the mountains who de-She moved off at once, and Lalor followed. At the house he found Robledo.

man he had ever seen. As up to the date of that memorable supper three men had been stabbed for her sake, his opinion probably only did her justice. marked During the meal, which was made up it, he lit a cigarette and inquired how

Don Q. fared. Robledo shook his head. "I will tell the senor the story."

And he told it, backing his words Robledo told of the final look at the deserted valley of the Boca de Lobo. have been accepted by every one with the eagerness shown by Garth Lalor.

Don Q. wrote that he had need of a many excellent ways. I could, for instance, blindfold him and request him to find the last fastness of the last fastness of the last fastness of the march to the last fa the brigands on an isolated peak sur"Imagine this animal without honor rounded by precipices on every side."

with six guns and manned by eighty men, and when the treasure shin finand joined only to the mass of the was fortified by sangars craftily constructed to dominate the approach of the long isthmus.

"My lord and I walked last, for those . others were not willing to go to the Punta de Lanza," said Robledo. "But why?" Lalor asked in surprise.

the yellow, meagre hand again impos- neath the peaceful smoke rising from ed for Singapore to broaden his mind, scattered chozas, and the haze that he was as well posted on the subject states of clung round distant towns on the warm of piracy as the average American and drowsy plain.

They did so. Don Q. looked them and I and those 14, for the coming of and do all the grafting he could, and 300." over in their turn.

"Thirty-four. That is well," he said.

"Thirty-four. That is well," he said. my children, remember, lead always Once or twice, he said, the echo of side up and began to look around for

the prison of Castelleno. I will in due each man with three loaded magazine become a tough man. He got in with rifles, bidding them reserve their fire the gang without any trouble. He

very act added to the mysterious re- were quick to step first upon the bridge cord was finally looked up it was found putation he already owned.

Next morning a similar scene was gone through. Again the chief carebig black eyebrows, and he drove a that these "jobs" ranged from gold gone through. Again the chief care-fully examined the men, gave orders man before him with his naked sword. brick swindles to slitting throats. How

"Then our great lord leaped upon a crack-a-jack. In spite of his youth his person. He ventured presently to ask Don Q. a question on the matter.

"I have my little design," replied the traitor died! Senor, I shut my eyes, I his cash instead of blowing it in, and chief, smiling with a cruel inflection of his thin lips. "You perceive that I have already made an immense impression on my people—when they come to hear all, it will be yet deeper. As for hear all, it will be yet deeper. As for "But it was only a sore thrust in the tain merchants of Singapore were to hear all, it will be received in the singapore were to hear all, it will be received in the singapore with the singapore were to hear all, it will be received in the singapore were to hear all, it will be received in the singapore were to hear all, it will be received in the singapore were to hear all, it will be received in the singapore were to hear all, it will be received in the singapore were to hear all, it will be received in the singapore were to hear all, it will be received in the singapore were to hear all in the singapore were to hear hear all, it will be yet deeper. As lot these wolves, these jackals, rather," he pointed a scornful finger at the fellows remaining in the valley, "they are quite was angry. 'Fool! can they kill me?' the way of trade, but the merchants

"What are we going to do then?" ter upon the narrow path was terrible. Chin-Fin got his news straight, He bald-browed peaked face to the young but we shot them down. The vultures then murdoned the confidential clerk to get it and "A great battle followed. The slaughbut we shot them down. The vultures wings came between us and the sun,

wings came between us and the sun, casting their shadows on the dead, Still we held off the soldiers. My lord was everywhere passing from trench to trench without fear,

"Shouts there were, senor, and many screaming above the loud rattling of the bullets. Men and muskets tossed like rags before a wind as they pitched into the chasm. Death I have seen many a time, senor, but not like that," the young fellow shuddered.

"By hidday the sovernor drew off his people, and sat down to wait until starvation should begin to tell upon our courage. But though only a single man among he was wounded, those evil ones began to grumble among themselves, and condoct plans for betraying the chief.

"But one cannot deceive him, senor, when night fell he called them from

fierce caress.

"My lord laughed," Robledo crossed on," he urged,

"He laughed, but I feared "I could hear men stumbling and "I could hear men stumbling and from the cave, and bade them live or ing Don Q. with a priest the chief had caused to be fetched from the little chapel of San Pedro. For Don Q. in follow him. We crept in the darkness me in the thicket and bade me look

> tern. We were in a tunnel under the bridge of rock, and it grew smaller that we crawled as a wildcat crawls "After I had looked a long time my through the underbrush, and my breathing came hard. I know not how long we crept through the heart of the mountains, my head was bursting, the mountains, my head was bursting,

the Punta de Lanza. I feared for the said. civil guard."

"Yes, senor. But the people of the not pass over. In the end the civil she murmured. guards rushed across, led by one Mo- "And have you no message for me?" runo, whom I know-there are men of asked Lalor in some disappointment. spirit in the civil guard," Robledo re- "Yes, senor," Robledo took During the meal, which was made up of an excellent puchero, beans and fruit, Lalor asked no questions. After it he lite engagement and swarmed upon the Punta de Lanza, searching for my lord. Then I found him that I have bequeathed to him a

> Robledo held up his hand with much the gesture of his old master.

ables, which has as its object the amassing of a competence, one hears of persons retiring. But have you ever heard of a poet, an author, an artist retiring?"

Lalor hastened to acknowledge that he had not.

"The same rule applies to me," pursued the chief haughtily. "The excitements of my life and the greatness of ments of my life and the greatness of moto of noblesse oblige."

"Say to her that if she fails to proagainst huge odds."

"I will do so."

"I have further left you a large sum to engage an adequate illustrator. It would be a pity, senor, that so memory his honor, I have been too generous. The same rule applies to me," pursued the chief haughtily. "The excitements of my life and the greatness of the core of Don Q., for never before in the prison I will do so."

"I will do so."

"I have further left you a large sum to engage an adequate illustrator. It would be a pity, senor, that so memory to take place, should not receive full justice. I have had much pleasure in your society, my dear nepnew. Don Q. for never before their treachery with oaths. Then my lord said if any would still follow him and fight, let them stand out on his side."

"I will do so."

"I will do so."

"I have further left you a large sum to engage an adequate illustrator. It would be a pity, senor, that so memory to take place, should not receive full justice. I have had much pleasure in your society, my dear nepnew. Don Q. for never before in the prison I will do so."

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"I have further left you a large sum to the first reachs his book. They denied their reachery with oaths. Then my lord said if any would still foll

then, senor, I think I slept, for I was length to a hole, and he bade me enter.

In truth, I feared to enter—but I also feared my lord.

"In a little time my lord lit a lan"In a little time my lord lit a lan-

"After I had looked a long time, my and I vowed an offering to the patron is aint of hunters (for when I am not but two only—the senor Lalor, and a brigand, senor, I lead hunting parties your Isabelila. If you tell the secret to shoot the ibex), if I ever escaped to the free air again. At the last I found the free air again. At the last I found the free air again. At the last I found the free air again. At the last I found the free air again. At the last I found the free air again. At the last I found the free air again.

with the good wind blowing over me.

"The moon was out, and through a "I will tell my story to the end." he screen of bushes we could see the answered. "My lord and I sat together bridge and the peak. The soldiers were in the hollow to rest, and my lord said flying a white flag and taking their I should not see him again for a long wounded from the bridge, and a white time. Go you and marry your Isaflag came up out of the trenches on belilla, and be happy if you can, he 'But I do not think you will be anger of my lord. But he only laugh- so, for that woman has a fierce heart. ed very softly, and pointed to one who And you had better sell your guitar or lay on his face beside the end of the bury it. Robledo, for men do not serenade their wives, and such a wife as "They were betraying the peak—your yours will not allow you to serenade others." So spoke my lord." Isabelilla sighed in the silence.

"My lord was the wisest of men,"

generously—"and by degrees package from a corner, "My lord said that my lord was gone from beside me. If the autobiography of my life, which—
"Had gone!" exclaimed Lalor.

If none hear of me again within a year -he will, for my sake, offer to the consideration of an English publisher, in

"True, senor. But also one could not was content with his lot until arriving at a respectful distance, and one morn-True, senor. But also one could not was content with his lot until all the age of the ing about 10 o'clock, was within five fifteen moved slowly."

At the age of 16. Then he began to miles of the islands. The pirates were waiting for her. They not only came He spoke of a man who tried to describe to do great things. Waiting for ner. They not only came sert, and whom he and a companion precocious youth and fairly well edustiling out from the lee of the group, every stratagem.

Robledo inserted one lean brown hand
behind a bar and drew himself up to behind a bar and drew himself up to the window until a comely, powdered face and his own sun-browned one were

ly, and the three-score and old play and precocious youth and fairly went and fairly went and fairly went turesquely clad figures fell into line. The chief examined them slowly behavior and the three-score and old play and the three-score and the play and the three-score and old play and the three-score and old play and the three-score and old play and the three-score and the play and the "Senorita, I kiss your feet."

face and his own sun-prowned one were my children, there are false flag. The brig was signted in the distance, but treated with contract the plains against us.

I had been withdrawn the bridge stronger and a bright was signted.

The brig was signted in the distance, but treated with contract the plains against us. Two minutes later he dropped ing from the plains against us. I had been withdrawn, the bridge strewn realized that there was romance, adtempt, The treasure ship naturally where with conam told that 300 hope to stand where with stones and bowlders to make the venture and considerable cold cash in tried to get away. She turned on her am told that 300 hope to stand where you now stand before three days pass. Two days of waiting followed, while made up his mind to adopt that produced with stones and bowlders to make the venture and considerable cold cash in heel and put back to met the brig, but the pirates pursued with yells and a fession and give it all the respect and great waste of ammunition. They saw

> The young Spaniard stopped his mother fell on his neck and wept that to become a pirate he must first became a swindler, thief, robber and

were going to make a corner in the

money back and prevent any case of conscience. An agent was instructed to purchase a ship and fit her out with guns, while Chin-Fin attended to getting a crew. The day came when his craft was all ready and only waited the sailing of the other. It had so happened that on an occasion Chin-Fin had desired to burglarize the house of the parents of one of his gang. The son filed objections. He thought it was carrying a good thing too far. Chin-Fin got mad and stabbed the young man and then went on with his burglarizing. The victim proceeded to get well, saw wood and say nothing, but when the time came he gave away the piracy shap. Being forewarned, the when the time came he gave away the piracy shap. Being forewarned, the merchants and authorities put up a job their own. Just as secretly as Chin-in himself had worked, they had a called them from brig fitted out at another port, armed

illy sailed for Manila she was followed by the brig. The latter looked as peaceful as an old hen on her nest, and no pirate would have had a suspicion of

Chin-Fin was in waiting at the Anamba Islands. That was a piratical stronghold before his day and the young man had an eye to the eternal fitness of things. The treasure ship made her course up the China Sea, folof Hainan, in the China Sea, and he lowed by the slouchy looking old brig

that they could capture two ships By and by things got to work and Chin-Fin felt his back hair curl. The brig began hammering away with six guns to his two, and at the end of eighteen minutes thirty of his fifty rascals were dead or wounded and his craft in a sinking condition and he had to cry for quarter. It was granted nim and his men taken aboard. the treasure ship pursued her voyage, the brig started back for Singapore. She had had seven men killed or disabled. The pirates were shackled and confined between decks, and for two There was no need for Chin-Fin, who was a natural orator, to tell them how the case stood. They were going back to the Straits for trial, conviction and execution. Had those pirates been able to get a professional jury and a they could not have been acquitted. None of them felt like dangling at the end of a rope, and Chin-Fin least of all. He had made a blunder in startine out as a pirate, but he wanted to live to rectify it. If he could get free he would go to Bulgaria and origand and rake in a few American missionaries. With this idea in mind he worked at his shackles until he freed imself and then freed his companions. In the dead of night, with one watch sound asleep below, the pirates made their dash. They at first carried every-

thing before them, and it looked as if the brigands business might come to a head, but they were eventually overpowered. ions only were left alive after the combat and they did not get another money from some unknown source and fought the case in the courts for a whole year, but in the end a verdict of guilty was reached. One day, fifteen months after the raising of the black flag to the music of the band, the five pirates stood on the gallows with ropes around their necks. Chin-Fin had done no talking since his capture except to claim that it was all a mistake and that he was a good young man. When he saw that there was no longer any hope, however, he made a speech. He admitted that he had been a boss bad man from head to heel, and that the world ought to rejoice that he was to die. He spoke for half an hour, piling it on to himself as hard as he could, and then excused his conduct by saying that it was all owing to his mother having forced him to attend Sunday school when he had a heap rather go fishing. He warned parents to take warning by his sad fate, and with a dignified wave of his hand he signalled the hangman to let 'er go and was

launched into eternity. (Copyright, 1906, by C. J. Hirt.)