

The Buried Treasure of Cobre

row," he said. "I've got my walking-paper. But I'll do all I can to stop this to-night. Garland," he asked, "will you take Miss Ward home and then follow me?"

"If I do not go with you," said Monica, "I will go alone."

Her tone was final. With clatter of hoofs they woke alarmed echoes in the sleeping streets and the three horses galloped abreast toward Cobre. In an hour they left the main trail and at a walled picked their way to where the blocks of stone, broken columns, and crumbling temples of the half-buried city checked the jungle.

The moon made it possible to move in safety and at different distances the lights of torches told them the man-hunt still was in progress.

"Thank God," breathed Monica, "we are in time."

Everett gave the ponies in care of one of the guards. He turned to Garland.

"Catch up with those lights ahead of us," he said, "and we will join this party to the right. If you find Ward, tell him I forbid him taking the law into his own hands; tell him I will protect his interests. If you meet Peabody, make him give up his gun, and see that the others don't harm him!"