

me, and in a couple of days more we'll take the steamer, sail for California, and put in the winter on our lovely place near Monterey.

mean Monterey. "I am more than curious to know what the writer of this note has to say concerning the secret mission that brought me to Chili-the vague hints thrown out do not satisfy me. It may be he has news of importance to communicate, or on the other hand this little business may turn out—a trap. Doctor Jack comes prepared with gold to buy this secret if it is worthy of a price, and with cold lead to meet treachery." Thus meditating, the American trav-

the his demand for the coins of the send when he is struck by a young cro-ting the revolver sent flying from his hand, and a fist brought against his head with moch impetus that he finds himself ying on his back ten feet away, feelby particular the narrow lane of blue sky visible between the flat roofs above. Doctor Jack does not forget that the impudent footpad he thus chastises has a comrade, and whirling around, he is just in the to seize this fellow's upraised men, which brandishes aloft an ugly mit.

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