







Lariat Bill—The Engineer's Story.

Well, then, I was somewhat in a hurry, I was running the first set of...

THE DOCTOR'S WARD,

OR, PLOTTING FOR A FORTUNE.

By George W. Warner.

CHAPTER XVI.

A FIGHT AGAINST ODDS.

After a brisk ride, Mart Handley and his party found themselves, when the sun was about an hour high...

Mart and George and P-toches walked their horses just within rifle-range of the camp, and recommended coolly...

The entire party, therefore, walked toward the camp, where they took a position just out of rifle range...

Two men came out of the camp to meet him—Mat Denzler and an Indian. As they approached, Mart laid his weapons on the ground...

Denzler was about to deny her presence in the camp when Mart interrupted him. 'Who are you, and what do you want?' asked Denzler...

ARMY. 'Save me, George! Oh, save me!'

The sight of those royal features distorted by agony was too much for the equality of George North...

All four of the negotiators picked up their weapons at the same time, and rifles were leveled by the friends of each side. There was every probability that the fight would begin...

'I had ten thousand dollars,' remarked George, 'I would have paid it to them, to make sure of my safety.'

Mart Handley had good reason for his confidence in the result of the expected fight. Helen's captors occupied a very disadvantageous position...

Both parties exhibited alacrity in getting ready for action. Even while the attempt at negotiation was pending, those in the camp had been throwing up dirt, picking pucks, and rolling together such rocks as were in their vicinity...

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party, he at once concluded that it was his intention to produce a diversion by stampeding the horses.

Waiting until they had reached what he judged to be a sufficient distance, he dismounted Val Horton, his second in command, with five men, and directed him to follow them up and seize them in the rear...

As soon as Horton returned, he directed the men to cover him with their rifles, and started over the plain, with three picked marksmen, to a rock about thirty yards from the camp...

Denzler stepped down and held a conversation with some of the men, and declared that they must take Helen with them.

The young lawyer then proceeded to purchase some clothes, and to array himself in what he conceived to be the style of a gentleman...

Denzler and the remainder of his men rushed for the horses that were tethered ready for use, jockeyed up the picked-pins, mounted, and dashed down the ravine that led to the river.

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because many of their warriors have been robbed out.

'I can pay you when we reach Sacramento. What will you charge?' 'A thousand dollars.'

'Very well, I will give you what you ask when we reach Sacramento.'

The Irishman declared that he could not think of it, that the climate of California was not healthy for him since a certain stage coach had been robbed, and some of the passengers had died...

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Just then a clerk entered, and asked how much Spring Hill stock he should buy.

'All in the market,' replied Mr. Cutter. 'Telegraph to Hooley & Jones, at Fresno, and clean out that market. I must have it all. But you need not nothing for an hour or two yet. It will probably be lower by noon.'

As the young lawyer was leaving the building Mr. Cutter pointed him out to a dark featured man, who was smoking a cigar in the outer office.

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