

THE WAR-TRAIL!

CHAPTER XXX.

GUERRILLEROS.

THE manoeuvre had occupied only a few seconds of time, and the horsemen were yet distant.

This movement took us by surprise. The tactics were not Indian: Comanches never march in double file.

A sudden hope crossed my mind, that it might be a party of my own people, out in search of me.

Comanches on the war-trail would have been armed with the lance, but clearly they were not Comanches.

"Wagh!" exclaimed Rube, after eying them intently. "Ef thur Injuns, I'm a nigger! Ef thur Injuns they've got beards and sombrayras, an' the ain't Injun sign now."

All three of us had arrived simultaneously at the same conviction. The horsemen were Mexicans.

It was no great source of rejoicing to know this; and the knowledge produced no change in our defensive attitude.

On the other side, ranchos were ransacked and ruined, villages given to the flames, and men on mere suspicion shot down upon the spot or hanged upon the nearest tree!

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Such reflections, made in double-quick time, occurred to us as we scanned the advancing troop.

Up to this moment, they had ridden directly towards us, and were now nearly in a line between us and the mesa.

This manoeuvre of course placed us upon their flank; and now, outlined against the sky we could distinctly trace their forms and note their habiliments and armour.

After riding nearly a half-circle round—still keeping at the same distance—the troop suddenly made front towards us, and halted.

We had been puzzled by their going round; we could not divine their object in so doing.

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on its summit—and its rocky wall apparently offered no advantage to us, any more than the open plain.

TO BE CONTINUED.



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CARVELL BROS. Charlottetown, Jan. 21, 1882—pat 61 eod

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By order of the Board, CHARLES DRINKWATER, Secretary. Montreal, December 1st, 1881. [de 17 3m 2w]

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Table with columns: STATIONS, MIXED, MIXED, MIXED. Rows include Ch'town, Royalty Jc, Mt. Stew't, Cardigan, etc.

TRAINS INWARD.

Table with columns: STATIONS, MIXED, MIXED, MIXED. Rows include Ch'town, Royalty Jc, Mt. Stew't, Cardigan, etc.

L. B. ARCHIBALD, Superintendent. Railway Office, Charlottetown, Nov. 29, 1881 [6i, wky]

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