

THE SMUGGLER OF ST. JEAN; OR, THE HIDALGO'S WARD.

A STORY OF THE SPANISH COAST.

BY SYLVANUS COBB, JR.

CHAPTER XVII.

Of late there had been no regularity of the mails at San Martin, save in the servants hall. Don Bernardo ate mostly in his library when he was at home, while Estelle and Nina took their meals alone in the smaller dining hall.

For whom are you at work now, Constance? he asked. I am getting breakfast for lady Estelle. She eats early this morning.

Yes, Senator. She said she might wish to walk out when the sun was up. I did not know that you would want yours so early.

I am in no hurry, Constance. Serve the first. The dishes were already upon the tray, and the cup used by Estelle, Don Bernardo knew very well. It was a splendid piece of porcelain given her by her father, and prized very highly.

Estelle d'Avilla sick, sick unto death? cried Bertrand. Why, she was well when Leon fought the bull.

Yes, Senator, but she fell sick on the very next day, and has been growing worse ever since.

What is her disease? The physician thinks it is a swift consumption.

What are her symptoms? asked Juan Bravo, with marked eagerness. Is her head hot and cold by turns?

Yes. Has she grown weak gradually? Yes. Not much; only at times she is oppressed for breath.

Does her guardian visit her? Yes—often. "Jerado!" cried the Gipsy, starting to his feet, look to the alcalde!

Nina was horrified. At first the Gipsy's words had not reached her full understanding, but gradually, as he spoke, the terrible truth was opened to her comprehension.

Remember, said the Gipsy, as Nina arose from her seat, not another drop of medicine, save the wine of your own procuring, and your own keeping. Give her good food—as much as she can eat.

Without waiting to hear more, the Moorish maiden hurried from the gate and sped homeward. She found Estelle weak and faint, but no worse than in the morning.

I did not see Marillo, reported Nina, but from what I learned that Leon was safe and well, and that he had been several times to the old oak in the hope of meeting you.

Alas! I shall never see him again. Yes, you will, you will. You are going to get well. I have a new medicine for you.

The physician instructed me concerning it. Do you not feel as though a little wine would do you good? Yes, Nina.

Then wait while I go and bring some. There is some upon the side-board. Not such as the physician ordered. Wait a few moments.

Nina hurried away, and having obtained the keys of the butler, she went down into the wine-cellar and selected four bottles of the best and oldest wine, which she carried to the chamber of her mistress; and when Estelle had taken a small portion thereof she felt better.

most now answer me promptly, or I shall suffer more from unsatisfied curiosity than from any other cause.

Nina saw that she had made a mistake, so she finally concluded that she had better tell the whole story. And, after all, it might be better so, for thus Estelle would be placed upon her guard, and could help to protect herself.

Very well, lady; it shall be as you say; and if the story I am about to tell you gives you any shock, you will let the reflection that you are saved from mortal danger give you strength.

And then Nina related the incidents of her meeting with Bertrand and Juan Bravo, giving all the conversation as she could recollect it; and then she told how she had watched Don Bernardo and witnessed his use of the phial which he had taken from his pocket.

And now, dear lady, she continued, you see how necessary it is that we should for the present keep our own secret. I am sure you will recover; but your guardian must not know of it; nor must the physician; for if the latter knows it, he will of course communicate the intelligence to the former.

Estelle was shocked—so shocked that for while she found it difficult to breathe; but gradually, as she comprehended how wonderfully the saving power had come, she grew more calm, and a fresh color tinged her cheeks.

It shall be as you say, dear Nina; and when I recover you shall know how grateful I can be. I now thoroughly understand my guardian's plan. First, he sought my hand; and when he found he could not do so, he fixed the other plan. I will get well, Nina, and then we will leave San Martin. I cannot remain. I dare not.

Shortly after this the physician came, and Estelle pretended to be more weak than she had been on the previous day. The room had been darkened, so that the new tinge upon her cheek could not be seen, and the leech imagined that death was near at hand; and so he told Don Bernardo as they left the chamber together. New medicine was left, and within an hour, when Nina was left, she had seen the diabolical work that had been going on.

When Nina returned she brought a piece of tender mutton, dried in the sun, and while her mistress ate, she occupied and washed the cups as before, and filled them with wine and water.

Dear, good Nina, said Estelle, toward the middle of the afternoon, you will see Bertrand and Juan Bravo this evening? Yes, lady. And perhaps you will see Leon. I think so.

Then tell him that I shall get well, and you may tell him too, that—What more shall I tell him? asked Nina, as her mistress hesitated.

Tell him, added Estelle, hiding her face in her companion's bosom, that I shall leave San Martin as soon as I am able. Tell him that then Estelle d'Avilla will be a homeless wanderer.

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Towards evening, while her mistress slept, Nina heard Don Bernardo's voice in the hall. She listened until she was satisfied that he was coming to the chamber, and then she crept away behind the heavy arras that was suspended over the entrance to the wardrobe.

Presently the alcalde entered, sitting very softly, and when he found that his ward was asleep, and that no one else was in the room, he moved noiselessly to the side-board, and having found the medicine which the physician had left to the morning, he took a phial from his pocket from which he poured a few drops of colorless fluid into the cup.

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INSOLVENT DEBTORS COURT, January 4th, 1869. BLANK FORMS in connection with the Insolvent Debtors Court, 32 of Victoria, 1868, can be obtained on application to F. W. HUGHES, Clerk of Court.

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JUST RECEIVED AND FOR SALE CHEAP FOR CASH. HEARTZ & SON, HAVE JUST RECEIVED per Steamer from Britain, A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF Dry Goods &c., &c. And a further supply expected in a few days by subsequent vessels. The above Goods, along with stock on hand, the subscribers offer to their customers VERY LOW, as they wish to make quick sales of the same to prevent rotting, and to clear up their importations. Intending purchasers will please call and examine for themselves. HEARTZ & SON, August 3, 1868.

BUY THE BEST! ITALIA WAREHOUSE EXTRA LAYER RAISINS (Red Mark) SULTANA RAISINS, VALENTIA RAISINS, SUN RAISINS, ZANTE CURRANTS, CANNED CITRUS MIXED SPICES, PINE APPLES, PEACHES, PEAS, TOM. ATOPES, FIGS, FRENCH PLUMS, LEMONS, FILBERTS ALMONDS, CASHEU NUTS, WALNUTS, OLIVES, CAPELINS, CONDIMENTS, &c. every description, LARD, MONY, FRENCH SUGAR, &c. &c. ABOVE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED for purity. Ex "Helen Malcolm." DRUGS, MEDICINES AND CHEMICALS. WARRANTED PURE Nov 2, 1868. W. R. WATSON. 40 DOZ NEW PERFUMES in Elegantly Cut Glass Bottles, at greatly Reduced Prices. Nov. 2, 1868. W. R. WATSON. 30 DOZ POMADES, COSMETICS, FIXTURES, AND HAIR DYES. Nov. 2, 1868. W. R. WATSON. 50 DOZEN HAIR, TOOTH, NAIL, CLOTHES AND SHAVING BRUSHES, from the well-known House of John Gosnell, & Co., London. Nov. 2, 1868. W. R. WATSON. 48 DOZ BRIAR-ROOT RUSTIC, CHAR COAL and MERCHANT PIPES, STEMS and CASES, all of which will be Sold very cheap for CASH. Nov. 2, 1868. W. R. WATSON. 24 DOZ. ROBINSON'S CORN COLVENT. Nov. 2, 1868. W. R. WATSON. 24 DOZ. BRONZONETTE. Nov. 2, 1868. W. R. WATSON. Sewing Machines! A FURTHER supply of Singers new sty A Manufacturing and Family Sewing Machine, just received. They are positively the best Sewing machines in the world, for all purposes. Every Tailor, every shoemaker every family, should have one. JOHN HIGGINS, Ch'town, Nov. 10th, 1868. ERSKIN'S BRAHEE SUGAR POWDERS A Tonic and Unfailing Remedy for Rheumatism of all kinds, Neuralgia, Lumbago, Sciatica, As also for FACE-ACHE, TOOTH-ACHE, EAR-ACHE, COUGHS, and all affections from Colds. See Lancet, under MEDICAL PATRONAGE. WM. R. WATSON, City Drug Store, Victoria Building, Queen Street, Sept. 16, 1868.

THE SUBSCRIBER OFFERS FOR SALE the well-known FREEHOLD PROPERTY, the situate at the HEAD of BOLLO BAY, with a front of Ten chains on the Main Post Road, leading from East Point to Charlotte-town and George-town, about four miles from the flourishing village of Sorell, comprising about TWELVE ACRES of LAND, with a good convenient DWELLING HOUSE, thereon, having a Parlor, Dining Room, Bed Room, for Seven beds, Kitchen, Wash House, and a never failing Pump of Water at the door. Also a NEW STORE, fitted up for a Shop and Bar Room, with Offices attached; a large room also with Two convenient Bed Rooms partitioned off. The whole finished complete and in good repair. There are attached to the Shop a Wagon House and Shed for feeding travelling Horses, in a splendid grade of tree sheltered from winds and storms. Stables for horses, Cow Houses &c. like with a Grainery capable of containing 10,000 bushels of Oats. Meat and Salt House, with 24 Lbs. and two other Halls for hams, or can be used as store-rooms, and situated on the shore, said Lot. The Post Office is kept there, and the Charlotte-town Mail passes twice a day, and twice each week. On the Shore, fronting Bollo Bay, in a splendid grade of tree sheltered from winds and storms. Stables for horses, Cow Houses &c. like with a Grainery capable of containing 10,000 bushels of Oats. Meat and Salt House, with 24 Lbs. and two other Halls for hams, or can be used as store-rooms, and situated on the shore, said Lot. The Post Office is kept there, and the Charlotte-town Mail passes twice a day, and twice each week. On the Shore, fronting Bollo Bay, in a splendid grade of tree sheltered from winds and storms. Stables for horses, Cow Houses &c. like with a Grainery capable of containing 10,000 bushels of Oats. Meat and Salt House, with 24 Lbs. and two other Halls for hams, or can be used as store-rooms, and situated on the shore, said Lot. The Post Office is kept there, and the Charlotte-town Mail passes twice a day, and twice each week. On the Shore, fronting Bollo Bay, in a splendid grade of tree sheltered from winds and storms. Stables for horses, Cow Houses &c. like with a Grainery capable of containing 10,000 bushels of Oats. Meat and Salt House, with 24 Lbs. and two other Halls for hams, or can be used as store-rooms, and situated on the shore, said Lot. The Post Office is kept there, and the Charlotte-town Mail passes twice a day, and twice each week. On the Shore, fronting Bollo Bay, in a splendid grade of tree sheltered from winds and storms. Stables for horses, Cow Houses &c. like with a Grainery capable of containing 10,000 bushels of Oats. Meat and Salt House, with 24 Lbs. and two other Halls for hams, or can be used as store-rooms, and situated on the shore, said Lot. The Post Office is kept there, and the Charlotte-town Mail passes twice a day, and twice each week. On the Shore, fronting Bollo Bay, in a splendid grade of tree sheltered from winds and storms. Stables for horses, Cow Houses &c. like with a Grainery capable of containing 10,000 bushels of Oats. Meat and Salt House, with 24 Lbs. and two other Halls for hams, or can be used as store-rooms, and situated on the shore, said Lot. The Post Office is kept there, and the Charlotte-town Mail passes twice a day, and twice each week. On the Shore, fronting Bollo Bay, in a splendid grade of tree sheltered from winds and storms. Stables for horses, Cow Houses &c. like with a Grainery capable of containing 10,000 bushels of Oats. Meat and Salt House, with 24 Lbs. and two other Halls for hams, or can be used as store-rooms, and situated on the shore, said Lot. The Post Office is kept there, and the Charlotte-town Mail passes twice a day, and twice each week. On the Shore, fronting Bollo Bay, in a splendid grade of tree sheltered from winds and storms. Stables for horses, Cow Houses &c. like with a Grainery capable of containing 10,000 bushels of Oats. Meat and Salt House, with 24 Lbs. and two other Halls for hams, or can be used as store-rooms, and situated on the shore, said Lot. The Post Office is kept there, and the Charlotte-town Mail passes twice a day, and twice each week. On the Shore, fronting Bollo Bay, in a splendid grade of tree sheltered from winds and storms. Stables for horses, Cow Houses &c. like with a Grainery capable of containing 10,000 bushels of Oats. Meat and Salt House, with 24 Lbs. and two other Halls for hams, or can be used as store-rooms, and situated on the shore, said Lot. The Post Office is kept there, and the Charlotte-town Mail passes twice a day, and twice each week. On the Shore, fronting Bollo Bay, in a splendid grade of tree sheltered from winds and storms. Stables for horses, Cow Houses &c. like with a Grainery capable of containing 10,000 bushels of Oats. Meat and Salt House, with 24 Lbs. and two other Halls for hams, or can be used as store-rooms, and situated on the