

were slipped, saddles removed. Jim

Lash remarked how cleverly they had

"Shore they'll be comin' along," re-

They built a fire, cooked and ate.

The Yaqui spoke only one word:

"Sleep." Blankets were spread. Mer-

cedes dropped into a deep slumber,

her head on Thorne's shoulder. Ex-

citement kept Thorne awake. The

two rangers dozed beside the fire.

Gale shared the Yaqui's watch. At

the end of three hours the rangers

grew active, Mercedes was awak-

ened; and soon the party faced west-

ward, their long shadows moving be-

fore them. Yaqui led with Blanco

Diable in a long, easy lope. The

heated air lifted, and incoming cur-

rents from the west swept low and

hard over the barren earth. In the

distance, all around the horizon, accu-

mulations of dust seemed like ranging,

Yaqui was the only one of the fu-

gitives who never looked back. Gale

had a conviction that when Yaqui

gazed back toward the well and the

shining plain beyond, there would be

reason for it. But when the sun lost

its heat and the wind died down Yaqui

took long and careful surveys west-

ward from the high points on the

there in a bare, spotted valley lay

Coyote tanks, the only waterhole be-

tween Papago well and the Sonoyta

oasis. Gale used his glass, told Yaqui

still the Indian fixed his falcon eyes

on distant spots and looked long. No

further advance was undertaken. The

Yaqui headed south and traveled

slowly, climbing to the brow of a bold

height of weathered mesa. There he

sat his horse and waited. No one

questlened him. The rangers dis-

mounted to stretch their legs, and

Mercedes was lifted to a rock, where

yielded to the desert's influence for

shence. He spoke once or twice to

Cale, and occasionally whispered to

speech in desert travel meant a few

"Shore's you're born, my boy."

Ladd did not reply; but Yaqui held

Thereupon he turned Diablo's head

"Shore, lady, Yaqui's goin' home,"

our troubles, I reckon we ought to

They mounted and rode down the

Not until night travel was obstruct-

thank God he knows the way."

"How many?"

to break a spell.

rested. Thorne had gradually

there was no smoke, no sign of life;

Sunset was not far off, and

mushrooming yellow clouds.

fooled the rebels.

plied Ladd.

THARPER AND BROTHERS 'a qui says the early hour's the Trust him, Laddy. Remember

what I say-Yaqui's a godsend." Then they were all outside in the pale gloom under the trees. Yaqui mounted Blanco Diablo; Mercedes was lifted upon White Woman; Thorne climbed astride Queen: Jim Lash was already upon his horse, which was as white as the others but bore no name; Ladd mounted the stallion Blanco Torres, and gathered up the long halters of the two pack horses; Gale came last with Blanco

As he toed the stirrup, hand on mane and pommel, Gale took one more look in at the door. Nell stood in the gleam of light, her hair shining, face like ashes, her eyes daint, her lips parted, her arms outstretched. That sweet and tragic picture etched its cruel outlines into Gale's heart. He waved his hand and then fiercely leaped into the saddle.

Blanco Sol stepped out. Before Gale stretched a line of moving horses, white against dark shadows. He could not see the head of that column; he scarcely heard a soft hoofbeat. A single star shone out

of a rift in thin clouds. There was

no wind. The air was cold. The dark

space of desert seemed to yawn. To the left across the river flickered a few campfires. The chill night, silent and mystical, seemed to close in upon Gale: and he faced the wide, quivering, black level with keen eyes and grim intent, and an awakening of that wild rapture which came like a spell

CHAPTER XI

Across Cactus and Lava. At the far corner of the field Yaqui

to him in the open desert.

halted, and slowly the line of white horses merged into a compact mass. Yaqui slipped out of his saddle. He ran his hand over Diablo's nose and spoke low, and repeated this action for each of the other horses. Gale had long ceased to question the strange Indian's behavior. There was Mercedes. Gale fancied his friend no explaining or understanding many would soon learn that necessary of his maneuvers. But the results of them were always thought-provoking, greetings, a few words to make real Gale had never seen horses stand so the fact of human companionship, a silently as in this instance; no stamp few short, terse terms for the busi--no champ of bit-no toss of head- ness of the day or night, and perhaps no shake of saddle or pack-no heave a stern order or a soft call to a horse. or snort! It seemed they had become The sun went down, and the golden, imbued with the spirit of the Indian. rosy vells turned to blue and shaded Yaqui moved away into the shadows darker till twilight was there in the

as noiselessly as if he were one of valley. Darkness approached, and the them. The darkness swallowed him, clear peaks faded. The horses stamped He had taken a direction parallel with to be on the move. the trail. Gale wondered if Yaqui "Malo!" exclaimed the Yaqui, meant to try to lead his string of He did not point with arm, but his horses by the rebel sentinels.

falcon head was outstretched, and his The Indian appeared as he had van- piercing eyes gazed at the blurring ished. He might have been part of spot which marked the location of the shadows. But he was there. He Coyote tanks. started off down the trail leading "Jim, can you see anything?" asked Diablo. Again the white line stretched Ladd. slowly out. Gale fell in behind. Peer- "Nope, but I reckon he can." ing low with keen eyes, he made out Then Ladd suddenly straightened three objects-a white somebrero, a up, turned to his horse, and muttered blanket and a Mexican lying face low under his breath. down. The Yaqui had stolen upon this "I reckon so," said Lash, and for sentinel like a silent wind of death. once his easy, good-natured tone was

Once under the dark lee of the river not in evidence. His voice was bank Yaqui caused another hait, and harsh. he disappeared as before. Moments Gale's eyes, keen as they were, were passed. The horses held heads up, last of the rangers to see tiny needlelooked toward the glimmering camp- points of light just faintly perceptible fires and listened. Gale thrilled with in the blackness. the meaning of it all-the night-the "Laddy! Campfires?" he asked, silence—the flight—and the wonderful quickly. Indian stealing with the slow inevitableness of doom upon another sen-

Suddenly the Indian stalked out of up his hand, his fingers wide. Five the gloom. He mounted Diablo and campfires! A strong force of rebels headed across the river. Once more or raiders or some other desert troop the line of moving white shadows was camping at Coyote tanks. stretched out. Gale peered sharply Yaqui sat his horse for a moment along the trail, and, presumably, on motionless as stone, his dark face imthe pale sand under a cactus, there mutable and impassive. Then he lay a blanketed form, prone, out- stretched his right arm in the direcstretched, a carbine clutched in one tion of No Name mountains, now loshand, a cigarette, still burning, in the ing their last faint traces of the afterglow, and he shook his head. He

The cavalcade of white horses made the same impressive gesture passed within five hundred yards of toward the Sonoyta oasis with the campfires, around which dark forms same somber negation. moved in plain sight. The lights disappeared from time to time, grew to the south and started down the dimmer, more flickering, and at last slope. His manner had been decisive, they vanished altogether. Belding's even stern. Lash did not question it, fleet and tireless steeds were out in nor did Ladd. Both rangers hesitated, front; the desert opened ahead wide, however, and showed a strange, almost dark, vast. Rojas and his rebels were a sullen reluctance which Cale had behind, eating, drinking, careless. The never seen in them before. Raiders somber shadow lifted from Gale's were one thing, Rolas was another; heart. He held now an unquenchable Camino del Diablo still another; but faith in the Yaqui. Belding would be that vast and desolate and unwatered listening back there along the river, waste of cactus and lava, the Sonora He would know o" the escape. He desert, might appall the stoutest would tell Nell, and then hide her heart. Gale felt his own sink-felt safely. As Gale had accepted a himself flinch. strange and fatalistic foreshadowing "Oh, where is he going?" cried Merof toil, blood and agony in this desert cedes. Her poignant voice seemed fourney, so he believed in Mercedes' ultimate freedom and happiness, and his own return to the girl who had grown dearer than life.

A cold, gray dawn was fleeing before a rosy sun when a Yaquit halted slope toward the darkening south. the march at Papago well. The horses were taken to water, then led down ed by a wall of cactus did the Indian the arroyo into the grass. Here packs halt to make a dry camp. Water and THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF

by were not to be had. Mercedes bore surprisingly; but she fell asleep almost the instant her thirst had been allayed. Thorne laid her upon a blanket and covered her. The men ate and drank. Gale lay down weary of limb and eye. He heard the soft throup of hoofs, the sough of wind in the cactus-then no more.

grass for the horses and are to cool

Day dawned with the fugitives in the saddle. A picketed wall of cactus hedged them in, yet the Yaqui made a tortuous path, that, zigzag as it might, in the main always headed

The Yaqui, if not at fault, was yet uncertain. His falcon eyes searched and roved, and became fixed at length at the southwest, and toward this he turned his horse. The great, fluted saguaros, fifty, sixty feet high, raised columnal forms, and their branching limbs and curving lines added a grace to the desert. It was the low-bushed cactus that made the toil and pain of travel. Yet these thorny forms were beautiful.

In the basins between the ridges, to right and left along the floor of low plains the mirage glistened, wavered, faded, vanished-lakes and trees and Inverted mountains hung clouds. suspended in the Illac air and faint tracery of white-walled cities.

At noon Yaqui halted the cavalcade. He had selected a field of bisnagi cactus for the place of rest. Presently his reason became obvious. With long, heavy knife he cut off the tops of barrel-shaped plants. scooped out soft pulp, and with stone and hand then began to pound the deeper pulp into a juicy mass. When he threw this out there was a little water left, sweet, cold water which man and horse shared eagerly. Thus he made even the desert's flercest growths minister to their needs, But he did not halt long. Miles of

gray-green spiked walls lay between him and that line of ragged, red lava which manifestly he must reach before dark. The travel became faster, straighter. And the glistening thorns clutched and clung to leather and g cloth and flesh. The horses reared, snorted, balked, leaped-but they were sent on. Only Blanco Sol, the patient, the plodding, the indomitable. needed no goad or spur. Mercedes reeled in her saddle. Thorne bade her drink, bathed her face, supported her, and then gave way to Ladd, who took the girl with him on Torres' broad back. The middle of the after-noon saw Thorne reeling in his saddle, and then, wherever possible, Gale's powerful arm lent him strength to hold his seat.

(To Be Continued).

HAMBONE'S MEDITATIONS

PAHSON SAY DE LAWD COMMAN' FOLKS IN DE OLE TIME T' SACIFICE DE LANDI EN DE GOATS BUT HE AIN' NEVUH TELL EM T SACIFICE A CHICKEN ER POSSUM !!



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ODD RIVER ACCIDENT

Fort Mill Citizen Recalls Incident of Other Days at Nation Ford.

day or two ago was telling a num-

ber of his friends of an odd accident

that occurred many years ago at the

old Nation ford on the Catawba river

between Fort Mill and Rock Hill. 'A North Carolina mountaineer," said in a two-horse wagon, was on the where the wagon body had lodged on way to some point in this state. The party reached Nation ford early one night and notwithstanding the fact ford and the river was considerably just gone had left her, the woman swollen he decided to try to cross, was too young to know what it was He drove in and was getting along all about. The wagon body in which all right it seemed until the wagon iad passed midstream. Then the horses became frightened at a train passing over the railroad bridge a spite of all he could do is looked cally water-tight, so there was no as if the wagon would be upset in the river, so the man jumped from his sent to go to the horses's heads to try to quiet them. About that time the horses gave a lunge and tilted the front end of the wagon upward in such a way that the body slid off into the stream, with the woman and child still in it. The man heard his tien at the next meeting of the general vife scream, but before he could go her assistance the body of the wagon had floated off downstream, carrying in it the woman and child, officer has announced that he has dis-The man made every effort to reach continued the practice of endorsing

wife's cries for help

"Finally he decided to go back up stream to see what had become of his team and then he discovered the horses standing about where he had left them. Coming back to the Fort Mill side of the river he gave the alarm at the nearest house he could find, but the night was well spent before a party could be organized to go in search of the woman and child. The next morning they were discove, "traveling with his wife and baby, ered several miles below the ford; a rock in the river. Except for the experience through which she had was uninjured as was the baby, which the woman and child had taken the ride down the river had been out in the same rains which caused the rise in the river and had become practi-

> dogs in South Carolina as a step toward the eradication of rabies has been approved by the state board of health here, and announcement was made that a bill covering this requirement would be prepared for introduc-

- Dr. James A. Hayne, state health his wife and calld, but the water was requests for whiskey prescriptions. deep below the railroad bridge This is because the Federal laws on him to follow them. The only the subject, which are stricter, take thing he could do was to listen to his precedence over state laws.

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1:40	PM.	4.	All	KEN	"	1:10 PM.
2:30		44	TREN	TON	"	12:15 PM.
3:16 1		"	BATES	BURG		11:20 AM
3:53		**	LEXIN	GTON	66	10:41 AM.
4:35		**	COLU	MBIA	41	10:05 AM.
5:34	200202	66	WINNS	BORO	**	9:00 AM.
6:19		44	CHES	TER	**	8:11 AM.
6:52	PM.	66	ROCK	HILL	"	7:40 AM.
7:55		44	CHARL	OTTE	"	6:55 AM.
7:30	AM.	Arrive	WASHI	NGTON	Leave	7:00 PM.
9:03	AM.	**	BALTIMOR	E (P.RR.)	14,	5:30 PM.
11:13	AM.	44	PHILADELPI	HIA (P.RR.)		3:20 PM.
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By J. L. Houston, Esquire, Probate Judge of York County.

WHEREAS GEORGE W. KNOX has applied to me for Letters of Administration, on all and singular, the goods and chattels, rights and credits of Miss M. JANE KNOX, late These are, therefore, to cite and admonish all and singular the kindred and creditors of the said deceased to be and appear before me at our next Probate Court for the said County, to be holden at York Court House on the 27TH DAY OF DECEMBER, to shew cause, if any, why the said Adminis-tration should not be granted. Given under my hand and seal, this 12th day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-two, and in the 147th year of American Independence. (Seal).

J. L. HOUSTON, Probate Judge of York County.

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C. W. McGEE Jan 12 Cashier,