



CHAPTER III—Continued

One day the firm of William Ross & Company had a new clerk. He came from the West, and had the manners, bearing and address of a thorough, well-bred gentleman. Not was his appearance impressive. He was a thorough gentleman and it did not take Max Brett very long to discover in his new acquaintance a kindred spirit.

CHAPTER IV. Among the "old timers" in the "Dupont colony," as Max Brett had facetiously termed the set, which he had joined in the evening hour with the general landlady was always accepted with a good deal of pleasure. Mrs. Spencer must have gained a knowledge of this fact, for she promptly responded with a cordial acceptance for herself and her daughter when Mrs. Dupont asked her to join her at "five o'clock tea."

she had at first seemed determined to display, warmed considerably. In fact, long before Mrs. Spencer suggested the necessity for breaking up the little party, Miss Annette and Mr. Max Brett were seated very closely together so closely that the crisp, short hair of the young man frequently got in the way of the wavy golden hair.

CHAPTER V. The pleasant evening in Mrs. Dupont's parlor was but the forerunner of many other meetings between Max Brett and Miss Spencer, and day by day—as the days merged into weeks—the bond of friendship between them strengthened. They were thrown so much together and Max was so persistent that several evenings each week found the young man awaiting the pleasure of his "golden haired girl," as, with some pardonable exaggeration, he was wont in his own mind to call Annette. The young lady seemed well pleased to receive his attentions, while Mrs. Spencer at all times exhibited a lively interest in Brett's well fare, for which he felt grateful.

CHAPTER VI. It is a remote corner of the world, very remote indeed, where an American cannot be discovered, but whether a denizen of Mexico or St. Petersburg, it is characteristic of him to prefer battle and "go," so that one would hardly commence a frank friendship with him unless he were an English country squire.

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Tales of Pluck and Adventure

The killing of Billy the Kid. A manly fellow, the little "Kid" in his "blue coat" and "red shirt" was the gang were on their way across the line into Mexico, when Billy finally made the fatal mistake of his life. It was all about a woman. It became known in what way it would be that the "Kid" would be the man to go to the south of the Rio Grande, and it was several months before he was able to complete the first part of his program by interviewing Emily Satterthwaite.

And all the time the young farmer felt the eagle's keen talons striking deeper and deeper into his flesh. Exhausted, sitting at last, three himself, face downward upon the ground with the eagle still in his arms and beneath him. In this attitude he managed to slip off his coat. He then crossed the eagle's legs in the coat sleeves. In these traps he held the bird's feet with one hand and with the other held fast to his neck. The bird was now left motionless and hopelessly captive. With his pants on his shoulders, the farmer walked to one of his neighbor's doors and called for a post-boy to take him to his home.

Recent Artistic Devices. Brackets and other articles of light wall furniture made to hang from the picture mouldings are a recent useful and artistic device. The bracket is fastened to a tall rod or upright of wood, like that of which the bracket itself is made. This rod extends all the way to the ceiling, but at the point where it meets the picture moulding the back of the rod is hollowed out in a concave clamp to fit over the moulding, the upright rod resting flat against the wall. If the bracket is too heavy for a single upright two may be used. The uprights are attractively carved and decorated, so that they add to the ornamentation of the bracket. Small bookcases and mirrors, with candle and pin brackets attached, may also be put up in this way, for a moulding will support a weight of several hundred pounds, if properly put on.



Household Affairs

Keep the Dull Cloths Clean. The dull cloth for any room should be lightly sprinkled before using, and should be washed and dried after every dusting operation. Dirty dust cloths do more harm than good in cleaning a room.

CHAPTER VIII. The evening of the young man and woman spent in mutual pleasure and enjoyment, though Mrs. Dupont and her daughter were not so much pleased to be so long with them, and that in a way which prompted the observing Brett to imagine that his friend's quiet shyness was not merely natural bashfulness. Certainly, Richards was particularly reserved in the presence of ladies, but Max had a notion that it was only that Richards was afraid of being drawn into a conversation in which he might be tempted to say more than he desired. That his friend could disclose facts concerning himself of more than ordinary interest, Brett felt morally certain. Perhaps Brett's greatest failing was his inquisitive disposition, but with such questioning and cross-questioning, his command he was utterly unobtainable a single item from the past history of his new friend.

CHAPTER IX. It has been hinted that Brett had with praiseworthy foresight, taken care to stand well with his landlady, in whom he found a first-rate secretary and a lady who was not only well versed in the art of the pen, but also in the art of the needle. Consequently he had not been long before he had secured the services of a young man who had proven that there are some splendid exceptions to the general rule—that it is the rule to find in the landlady a species of female vampire. Mrs. Dupont, both refined and intelligent, and her pleasure, kindly face was but the index to a large and warm heart. Consequently he had not been long before he had secured the services of a young man who had proven that there are some splendid exceptions to the general rule—that it is the rule to find in the landlady a species of female vampire.

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