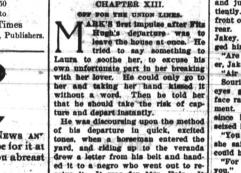


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CHAPTER XIII.

"Do you promise?" "Yas, I promise." "Air th' corn ripe?" With a pressure of the hand he turn Souri came out of the house, her big eyes glistening and her expressive face radiant with pleasure and exciteed away, and stalking to the gate got into the carriage beside Laura. Daniel and Mrs. Fain had started. Mark fol-

Tace radiant with pleasure and excite-ment. She had heard nothing of Mark lowed, and had gone but a short dis-since he left her in prison. Mark to heard Jakey calling to seized her by both hands. "You uns air safe. I knowed it." "You uns air safe. I knowed it." od for the boy to come up. Jakey was she said, almost in a whisper. She could hardly speak for joy. "For the present, Souri, thanks to "Souri Come to the of the set of the set

man, and I air poor white trash." There was an inexpressible melan-choly in her tone. "Souri." Mark went on, "I have

made an arrangement with your father to make a lady of you. I can't make such a sacrifice for you as you have

made for me; that is impossible; but

consent. I am still in danger, and you must grant me this as perhaps a las favor."

The girl burst into tears.

"I don't keer, what I do."

"Certainly not." And the major toos up a per to write his indorsement, ed toy"-First he read the pass carefully. He was thinking of what his friend Fits his mouth that he might not speak the Word head told him of the Fains. He word "death." I can do this if you will act with me and consent to the plan. I shall be off in a moment, and before I go I want you to promise me that you will word "denth." "Will you? Spenk" "Yes, now, quick; what can we do?" "Marry ourseives." "How?" "Mr. Green." he said, looking up from the pass, "hadn't you better stay here over night? The road is moun-He grasped her hand. There was ring upon it-a plain gold band. He took it off, and putting it on her finger tainous and infested by guerrillas. It is positively dangerous to travel." "By no means. What would Mrs. Fain think of our not joining her on the road?". "It is dangerous for her as well as you. I'll send a messenger after her and advise her stopping at some farmhouse. I'll do better than that. I'll house. I'll do better than that. I'll send a corporal and haif a dozen men to insure her safety till morning." There was something in the man's tone, police as it was, that indicated to Mark that he was held for further in-

"We are fortunate in falling into your

will not delay us a moment." And Mark handed him the pass. "Certainly not." And the major took

part of Laura.

"As you please, major."

again said: "I, Mark"-"Is it really Mark?" "Yes, I am Mark Maynard. I, Mark, take you, Laura, to be my wife. De you take me to be your husband?" "I do."

around his neck.

who will doubtless

"Laura. sweetbeart," said Mark, ca-

reading her. "we have but little time. We know not whom we shall have to face. My true character must soon be chown. Will you give yourself to one

over when a cavalryman came riding

m

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ceive it. It was for Mrs. Fain. It had been sent through the lines from Nashville, where her husband was lying dangerously ill, and begged her o come to him.

After its perusal Mrs. Fain deter-mined to set out the next day, taking with her her daughter and the maid with ber her daughter and the maid Alice. Daniel would drive them. "You shall go with us," said Laura to Mark. "This is fortunate. In our company you will be far safer than trying to make your way along." It occurred to Mark that since he was being hunted as a half starwed creature in the disguise of a negro gri he would be less liable to suspicion as a well' dressed man traveling with a party of southers induce than in any

party of southern ladies than in any other character. At any rate he took this view of it, and when Mrs. Fain announced her intention to go he of-fored to escort the party to the Union lines. The offer was accepted, and prepara

ons were made to leave the next orning. Mrs. Fain wrote a note to e officer in command at Chattanooga

he officer in command at Chartanooga to send with the letter she had re-ceived from her husband for his pe-rusal) asking for a pass for bargelf, her daugher and two servants. Mark took the missives and went out to find

Daniel, who had just returned from Chattancour. "Well, Daniel?" "I be'n, dar." "What did you herrs?" "Theatr every one talken "bout so-jers game to 'de nort, and day sayd day was goen to Khoxville. Dey was marchen in merchan all de mane way. I follered 'n day brung up at de depot, "I loor one train after anudder go out full o' sojers inside and hangen en to de platfo'm and on de roots." "How many traine did you see go out?"

"Bout forty hundred."

you." Mark asked no questions then. He knew that they were safe and at home, and he basened to inform them and the father and mother who came

ney. His disappointment at the delay was compensated for by the thought that he would likely learn something of Souri and Jakey, of whom he had heard nothing since he left them in the Chattanooga jail. At last they drove up at the Slacks' gate. Mark handed the reins to Laura and jumped from the phateon impa-tiently. Not seeing any one in the front of the house he proceeded to the front of the house he proceeded to the

rear. The first person he met was Jakey. He took the boy up and hug-ged him. "Are you glad to see your big broth-

er, Jakey?"

home, and he bastened to inform them and the father and mother who came out to welcome him that he was with a party who was unaware of his true character, which they must not be-tray, and desired permission to stay in the house over night. Then he led them around to the gate, Dalkel had meanwhile caught up, and the two vehicles were halted in the road. "We will spend the night with these good people," said Mark. "They are quite willing, and will make us as comfortable as possible." The party alighted in the torses were driven to the harn. Mrs. Fain and her daughter were given the room in which Mark had changed his clothes when he went through to the south, and Mark was assigned a bivouse on the gallery, or in the barn, or any other place he might select. "Laura found Mark's uniform and arms concealed beneath the bed. "What do you augoes it mens, mamma?" she said. "I fear," replied, the mother, "that wa shall be murdered before morning. These people are doubless guerrillas." An apology for a meal was carried in to Mrs. Fain and Laura, which they left untasted, orgetering a funch-

nd asked him if he remembered her. and asked him if he remembered her. Jakey was about to reply in his nsual fashion when he checked himself, and for the first time since Mark had known him answered directly. Souri stood sying Laura from the corners of her black eyes with a mingied expres-sion of admiration and antagonism. Laura spoke to her kindly, but got only moneyliables in rentr "Bout forty hundred." "Daniel," said Mark, smiling at the figures, "you're smart as a whip. But ianooga, and take this note to the com-manding officer with this letter from manding officer with this letter from your sick master to show him. The note is a request for a pass for the party to the Union lines. Keep your wits about yoo, and is he is an easy going sort of a man, you might try to get him to put in three servants in-meand is two. At a may rate try to ring me is if you can. Do you under

"Souri sent it ter y'." "Tell her that I'll never part with it." "'N I got the squirrel gun," said the

"All right, Jakey. Keep it to re-Mark grasped the boy's hand and

then drove on. Laura Fain leaned back on the cushions in silence,

CHAPTER XIV. THOMAS GREEN AND WIFE.

ARK designed driving to Anderson, some twelve from the Slacks' whence he knew there mile

from the Slacks' house, whence be know there was a road leading up in the mountains through a place called Altamont, some twenty miles farther, to McMinnville. He was informed by people he met on the road that Altamont had been re-cently occupied in force by the Union troops. With luck they might reach the Union lines, which would doubt-less extend several miles from Alta-mont, that afternoon. "Within six hours," said Mark, "I shall either be safe among Union sol-

"Within six hours," said Mark, "I shall either be safe among Union sol-diers or on my way back to Chatta-nooga." "Laura shuddered, but said nothing. Mark found a very different condi-tion of affairs at Anderson from what he had found along the road. The Confederates had some eavairy force there and more at Duniap, five miles north. On the road be heard that Gen-eral Brace was at Duniap, but setth An apology for a meal was carried in to Mrs. Fain and Laura, which they left untasted, preferring a lunch-eon they had brought with them in a basket. After supper Laura came out and begged Mark to bring Souri and Jakey to speak to her. She smoothed Jakey's tumbled hair out of his eyes horth. On the road be beard that Gen-eral Bragg was at Dunlap, but with up troops save cavalry. "I see it all." sold the spy to him-self. "The wily fox is confronting our

self. "The wily fox is confronting our forces with a handful of cavalry, while the two divisions of Cheatham and Withers are marching north behind him, and the main force has gone to Knowilk for rail on a line still farther east. No woulder our generals are puz-zied and watching a line from Battle creek to Cumberland gap. If the Lord will only let me get through to carry this information. I'll uever ask to live to go on another such expedition."

ing my hospitality. One connected in any way with my friend Fits Hugh do but return to the house. As they must not want for any comfort I can supply."

The house occupied by Major Talla-ferro belonged to a family who had gladly given up a portion of it for the safety insured by the presence of a commanding officer. The major was given a room down stairs for an of-fice, and a bedroom up stairs. When it was decided that Mark and Laura should remain he gave Mrs. Green, as he called her, the use of the latter for the purpose of arranging her tollet before supper. When Laura was up stairs Mark was looking out of the window of the ma-jor's office. He saw the men ride off SANA

to overtake Mrs. Fain. To his con-sternation another cavalyman, with a letter in his belt, mounted his horse and dashed down the road.

Laura came down at that moment, and Mark said to her anxiously: "I am detained on suspicion. I shall be taken back to Chattanooga," and he pointed to the courier.

he pointed to the courier. The color left Laura's cheeks. They, had got so near to safety, and now, after so many dangers, the end was at hand. She could scarcely sustain her-self as she tottered into the room oc-cupied as the office. This is the letter the courier bore northward. It was addressed on the envelope to Cantern Courses.

northward. It was addressed on the envelope to Captain Cameron Fitz Hugh near Dunlep: Anderson, Aug. 28, 1982. My Dear Cameron-A man purporting to be Thomas Green, with his wife, formerly, a Mise Fain of Chattanooga, is here, de-siring a pass to the Union lines. There is something suspicious about the man. The oouple are separated from the wife's mother, and the father lies very ill at Nathville. I dislike to detain them, and I do not regard it mafe to pass them. Can you help me out of the difficulty? Tours very truly. MALACE TALLAPERRO. Major Tallaferro soon joined Mark DO TOU TAKE HE TO BE YOUR HURBAND?

Major Tallaferto soon joined Mark and Laura in his office, and offering his arm to Laura led the way to the supper room. His treatment of both was most deferential, but it failed to nt of both

ers. There was a strength of nerve in Mark that would not break while there was hope. He chatted with the host of jaller, whichever he might be call-ed, with ease, and at times with gay-ety. Not so Laura. The situation was ty wo of narred.-Hillard. Mr. Singleton prides himself on be ing strictly impartial. "Mr. Singleton prides himself on be ing strictly impartial." "Tee," answered the unamiable man: "To nee weat shooting with him. He didn't seem to care whether he hit the mabbit, the dog or one of his friends." -London Tit-Bits.

supply." "I feel again all the confidence I The house occupied by Major Talla- have ever feit. I must live to make

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took an order of court to get the Davie commissioners to agree. The cost is estimated to be about \$7,000 and will be divided between the counties on the basis of the TAY poll tax.

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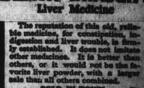
> assing train ground off his arm.

you happy. Be ready for anything that may happen, my darling, my wifa I shall doubless play some bold game; I don't know what, but it will be bold. If I leave you suddenly, meet me (should I succeed in my attempt) with-in the Union lines. If not, we will meet-in heaven." To Cure a Cold in One Day. Take Laxative Bromo Quini Tablets. All druggists refun-the money if it fails to cure. E W. Grove's cignature is on each box. 25c. [TO BE CONTINUED.]

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