#### The Spoilers.

By REX E. BEACH.

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CHAPTER XVII. VEN after Helen had been out see sufficiently to avoid cellisions. The air, weighted by a low hung roof of clouds, was surcharged with the electric suspense in leash. It was that pause before the conflict wherein the night laid finger

As the girl neared Glenister's cabin she was disappointed at seeing no light She stumbled toward the door, only to utter a half strangled cry as two men stepped out of the gloom and and hard was thrust violently against

the man who had pinioned her arms. loosing his hold till only a hand re-mained on her shoulder. The other to her face and peered closely.
"Why, Miss Chester," he said.

"I am bound for the Wilsons', but I must have lost my way in the darkness. I think you have cut my face." She controlled her fright firmly.

"That's too bad," one said. "We nistook you for"— And the other broke in sharply, "You'd better run along. We're waiting for some one." Helen hastened back by the route she had come, knowing that there was still time, and that as yet her uncle's emisurles had not laid hands upon Glenister. She had overheard the judge and McNamara plotting to drag the town with a force of deputies, seizing not only her two friends, but every man suspected of being a vigilante. The victims were to be julied without bond, without reason, without justice. while the mechanism of the court was to be juggled in order to hold them until fall, if necessary. They had said that the officers were aiready busy, so haste was a crying thing. She sped down the dark streets toward the house of Cherry Malotte, but found no light nor answer to her knock. She was distracted now, and knew not where to seek next among the thousand spots which might hide the man she wanted. What chance had she against the posse sweeping the town from end to end? There was only one; he might be at the Northern theater. Even so, she could not reach him, for she dared not go there berself. She thought of Fred. her Jap boy, but there was no time.

oments meant failure. Roy had once told her that he never gave on what he undertook. Very well, she world show that even a girl may possess determination. This was no time for modesty or shrinking indecision, so she pulled the veil more closely about her face and took her good name into her hands. She made which east a skyward glare and from which through the breathless calm arose the sound of carousal, Swiftly threaded the narrow alleys in search of the theater's rear entrance. for she dared not approach from the front. In this way she came into a part of the camp which had lain bidden from her until now and of the exof which she had never

mining camp they stand naked and rows upon rows of criblike houses clustered over tertuous, ill lighted lanes. feast. I rom within came the noise of ribaldry and debauch. Shrill laughter mingled with coarser mandlin songs, from doorways, while drunken men collided with her, barred her course ed her through the narrow alley, but he had cruised from the charted course in he chose to sing a chantey, to the bibuto dance with him, so she slipped away till he had teetered past. He was some longshoreman in that particular epoch of his inchriety where life had no bur-

diseases known.

for while the show's on? Go round front." She caught a glimpse of dis-ordered scenery, and before he could slam the door in her face thrust a silver dollar into his hand, at the same time wedging herself into the opening. He pocketed the coin and the door clicked to behind her.

"Well, speak up. The act's closin'." of the performance, for at that me for some time she could barely the chorus broke into full cry, and he said, burriedly:

"Wait a minute. There goes the finally," and dashed away to tend his drops and switches. When the curtain of an impending storm, and seemed to was down and the principals had sigh and tremble at the hint of power sought their dressing rooms he re-

> "Do you know Mr. Glenister?" she asked.

lights and, pulling back the edge of the curtain, allowed her to peep past him out into the dance hall. She had spite of her agitation was astonished partments with curtained fronts, in which men and women were talking, drinking, singing. The seats on the lower floor were disappearing, and the canvas cover was rolling back, showing the polished hardwood underneath while out through the wide folding doors that led to the main gambling cailing the commencement of the dance. Couples gilded into motion while she watched.

"You better walk out front and belt yourself." He indicated the stairs which led up to the galleried boxes and the steps leading down on to the main floor, but she handed him another coin, begging him to find Glenister and bring him to her. "Hurry, hurry!" she

The stage manager gazed at-her curi-ously, remarking: "My! You spend your money like it had been left to you. You're a regular ple check for me. Come around any time."

She withdrew to a dark corner and waited laterminably till her messenger appeared at the head of the gallery Take it from me."

She entered the door her counsele indicated to find Roy lounging back watching the dancers. He turned inquiringly-then, as she raised her veil, leaped to his feet and jerked the cur-

"Voorhees and his men-for riot or something about last night." "Nonsense," he said. "I had no part in it. You know that," "Yes, yes-but you're a vigil

Your house is guarded and the town is alive with deputies. They've planned and hold you indefinitely. Please go before it's too late."

"How do you know this?" he asked

"I overheard them piptting."

and therefore saw the light flame up it his eyes as he cried: "And you came here to came here at the risk of your good

same for Dextry." The gladness died away, leaving him listiess. "Well, let them come. I'm done,

He's down and out, too-some trouble till the clinging night reeked with with the Frisco courts about jurisdic abominable reveiry. The girl saw tion over these cases. I don't know painted creatures of every nationality that it's worth while to fight any

> am sure there is a terrible wrong be ing done, and you and I must stop it. I have seen the truth at last, and you are in the right. Please hide for a

> with us there's some hope left. Thank you for the risk you ran in warning

> compartment and was peering forth between the draperies when she stifled

a cry. are. Don't part the curtains. They'll

see you.

breathed and pushed him through the door. He caught and held her hand sed of the sense that the man with a last word of gratitude. Then

 blood call leaped forth.

door opened and he reappeared. "No use," he remarked quietly. "There are three more waiting at the

foot." He looked out to find that the officers had searched the crowd and were turning toward the front stairs, thus cutting off his retreat. There Glenister. were but two ways down from the gallery and no outside windows from which to leap. As they had made no armed display, the presence of the officers had not interrupted the dance. Glenister drew his revolver, while into his eyes came the dancing glitter that Helen had seen before, cold as "No, not that, for God's sake!" she

shuldered, clasping his arm.
"I must for your sake or they'll find you here, and that's worse than ruln. I'll fight it out in the corridors so that rou can escape in the confusion. Wait till the firing stops and the crowd gathers." His hand was on the knob when she tore it loose, whispering hoarsely:
"They'll kill you. Wait! There's a
better way. Jump." She dragged
him to the front of the box and pulled
aside the curtains. "It isn't high, and

Then you can run through the crowd." He grasped her blea, and, slipping his of the ledge before him and lowered himself down over the dancers. He swung out unbesitatingly, and almost before he had been observed had drop ped into their midst. The gallery was but twice the height of a man's head from the floor, so he landed on his while the men at the stairs were she

ing at him to halt At sight of the naked weapons ther



way that a crowd in the street had once divided on the morning of Helen's arrival. The trombone player, who had sunk low in his chair with closed eyes, looked out suddenly at the disturbance, and his alarm was blown through the horn in a startled squawk. A large woman whimpered, "Don't and thrust ber paims to ber

ears, closing her eyes tightly. Glenister covered the deputies, from whose vicinity the bystanders surged as though from the presence of lepers. "Hands up!" be cried sharply, and one poised on the lowest step of the stairs, the other a pace forward. Voorhees appeared at the head of the flight and rushed down a few steps only to come abruptly into range and to assome a like rigidity, for the young

man's aim shifted to him. "I have a warrant for you," the offi cer cried, his voice loud in the hush. "Keep it," said Glenister, showing no mirth. He backed diagonally across the hall, his boot beels clicking in the silence, his eyes shifting rapidly up and down the stairs where the danger

the whole tableau, all but the men or the stairs, where her vision was cu off. She saw the dance girls crouched behind their partners or leaning far the meer eager, yet fearful, the bar tender with a haif polished glas across the hall suddenly diverted he absorbed attention. She saw a marip aside the drapery of the box op posite and lean so far out that he seemed in peril of failing. He under took to sight a weapon at Glenister who was just passing from his view At her first glance Helen gasped, he

lineament clearly; it was the brother she had sought these years and years. Before she knew or could check it the

"Drury!" she cried aloud, at which whipped his head about, while amazement and some other emotion she could not gauge spread slowly over his features. For a long moment he stared at her without movement or on, then he drew back into his retrea with the dased look of one doubting senses, yet fearful of putting then to the test. For her part, she saw nothing except her brother vanishing alowly into the shadows, as though stricken at her glance, the curtains andemonium broke loose at her feet. Glenister, holding his enemies at leading to the theater. His coup had been executed so quickly and with such lack of turmoll that the throng outside knew nothing of it till the saw a man walk backward through door. As he did so he reached forth and slammed the wide wings shut before his face, then turned and dashed into the press. Inside the dance hall loud sounds arose as the

officers clattered down the stairs and your" with such an agony of longing down the saloon, an eddying swirt as moti. though some great fish were lishing a part of the woman's pursion, which through the lifty pads of a pond, and then the swinging doors closed behind in a blast.

dream. Emotions had chased each what you have offered tonight." other too closely tonight to be distin-

other too closely tonight to be distinguishable, so she went mechanically through the narrow alley to Front street and thence to her home.

Gleaister meanwhile had been swallowed up by the darkness, the night enfolding him without sign or trace. As he ran he considered what course to follow—whether to carry the call to his comrades in town or to make for the creek and Dextry. The vigilantes might still distrist him, and yet he owed them warning. McNamara's men were moving so swiftly that action must be speedy to forestall them. Another hour and the net would be closed, while it seemed that whichever course he chose they would snare one or the other—either the friends who remained in town or Dex add Siaplack into the trap, while if he bore the honest with me, Roy, and I'll be the and pelting him with flying particles Over the roofs the wind rushed with the rising moan of a burrienne, while the night grew suddenly noisy ahead of the tempest.

He entered the door without knocking to find the girl removing her cont. walks on." Her face gladdened at sight of him. "And ye but he checked her with quiek and cautious words, his speech almost

drowned by the roar outside.
"Are you alone?" She nodded, and
he slipped the bolt behind him, saying: "The marshals are after me. We just had a 'run in' at the Northern. and I'm on the go. No-nothing serious yet, but they want the vigilantes, and I must get them word. Will you help me?" He rapidly recounted the row of the last ten minutes, while she

"You're safe here for a little while she told him, "for the storm will check them. If they should come, there's a back door leading out from the kitchen and a side entrance yonder. In my room you'll find a French window. They can't corner you very

shafthouse - you know - that quartz claim on the mountain above the Midas." He besitated. "Will you lend me your saddle horse? It's a black night, and I may kill him."

"What about these men in town?" "I'll warn them first, then hit for the

She shook her head. "You can't do it. You can't get out there before dayyou do, and they'll raid him before

"I'm afraid so, but it's all I can offer. Will you give me the north No.: He's only a pony, and you'd founder him in the tundra. The mod is knee deep. I'll go myself." "Good heavens, girl, in such a night!

Why, it's worth your life! Listen to have to swim. No. I can't let you. "He's a good little horse, and he'll take me through." Then coming close she continued: "Oh, boy! Can't you

see that I want to belp? Can't you see that I-I'd die for you if it would do any good?" He gazed graveiy lato her wide blue eyes and said awkwardly: "Yes, I know. I'm sorry things are as they are but you a face was pressed for an instant man?" "No. You're the only true man I

you. And I do love you, oh, so much! his teeth in a smile in which there was I want to be good and worthy to love

She laid her face against his arm and caressed him with clinging tenderness, eaves and the windows drummed beneath the rain. His beavy brows kult "I love you! I love you! I love

That our American forests abound in plants which possess the most valuable medicinal virtues is abundantly attested by scores of the most eminent medical writers and teachers. Even the untu-tored Indians had discovered the useful-ness of many native plants before the tion, imparted freely to the water, in the latter to continue investigations until to-day we have a rich assortment of most valuable American medicinal roots.

Dr. Pierce believes that our American forests albund in most valuable medicinal roots for the culture most obstinate and fatal diseases. If wa roots properly investigate them; and is benefit as the point with pride of this conviction, he point with pride of the conviction, he point with pride of the almost marrelming turns effected by his findess Medical Biscovery, which has moren itself to be the most afficient atomach tonic, liver furcional roots and regulator, and blood cleariser known to medical science. Dyspepsia of indirection, torpid liver, functional and even valvular and other affections of the heart yield to its curative action. The reason why it cures these and many other

Both the above mentioned medicines are wholly made up from the glyceric extracts of native, medicinal roots. The processor employed in their manufacture were original with Dr. Pierce, and they are carried on by skilled chemists and pharmacista with the and of apparatus and appliances specially designed and builts for this purpose. Both medicines are entirely free from alcohol and all other harmful, heldt-forming drugs. A toil its of their ingredients is printed on such bottle-wrapper.

made after their quarry. They tore in her voice that her soft accents were the barrier apart in time to see, far sharply distinguishable above the tur-The growing wildness section

Helen made her way from the thea-ter as she had come, unobserved and unobserving, but she walked in a be different. No other girl would do

"Then why do you think of that

remained in town or Dex and Shapjack out in the hills. With daylight those nodded, at which she stood thinking two would return and walk unheeding for some time, then continued: "You're word to them first then the vigilantes same with you. I'm tired of deceit, would be jaffed before dawn. As he drew near Cherry Malotte's house he saw a light through the drawn curbeart I knew differently all the time. talus. A heavy raindrop plashed upon She came here today and humbled herhis face, another followed, and then he heard the patter of falling water in-creasing swiftly. Before he could gain pected, but she didn't know, and when the door the storm had broken. It she asked for information I insuited awept up the street with tropical vio lence, while a breath sighed out of the am. I sent her back to Struve, who night, lifting the litter from underfoot offered to tell her the whole story."

"What does that renegade want?" "Can't you guess?" "Why, I'd rather"- The young man ground his teeth, but Cherry hastened.

"You needn't worry; she won't see him again. She loathes the ground be "And yet he's no worse than that

other scoundrel. Come, girl, we have work to do; we must act, and act quickly." He gave her his message to Dextry, then she went to her room and slipped into a riding habit. When she came out he asked: "Where is your raincont? You'll be drenched in no time."

"I can't ride with it. I'll be thrown anyway, and I don't want to be all bound up. Water won't hurt me." She throst her tiny revolver into her dress, but he took it and upon examination shook his head,

"If you need a gun you'll need a good one." He removed the belt from his own waist and buckled his Colts about her.

"But you!" she objected. "I'll get another in ten minutes." Then as they were leaving, he said "One other request Cherry. I'll be in hiding for a time, and I must get word to Miss Chester to keep watch of her uncle, for the big fight is on at last and the boys will hang him sure if they catch him. I owe her this last warning. Will you send it to her?"

"I'll do it for your sake, not for her, right thing all round. Leave it here and I'll see that she gets it tomorrow shrieks of the women, the crash of shrieks of the women the cross of overturned chairs and the sound of trampling feet, as the crowd divided before Glenister and swept back to the quarts claim after Dez. He ladously now, only that mysterious tary twitch that would put him out the sound of trampling feet, as the crowd divided before Glenister and swept back to the quarts claim after Dez. He Together they scurried back to the stable, and yet, in that short distance she would have been swept from he feet had be not seized her. They blew in through the barn door, streaming and soaked by the blinding sheets that drove scythelike ahead of the wind He struck a light, and the pony whinnied at recognition of his mis tress. She stroked the little fellow's muzzle while Glenister cinched on her mounted, she leaned forward:

"Will you kiss me once, Roy, for He took her rain wet face between his hands and kissed her upon the lips as he would have saluted a little maid As he did so, unseen by both of them. against the pane of glass in the stable

"You're a brave wirl and may God bless you." he said, extinguishing the He flung the door wide and she rode out into the storm. Locking the portal, he plunged back toward the there was much to do and scant time for its accomplishment, despite the helping hand of the hurricane. heard the voice of Bering as it thundered on the golden sands, and knew that the first great storm of the fall had come. Henceforth he saw that the little one particularly susceptible the violence of men would rival the to the wandering diphtheria germ

as be entered, but flung off his dripping coat and, seizing pad and pencil, scrawled his message. The screamed about the cabin, the lamp flared smokily and Glenister felt a open door at his back as he wrote;

I can't do anything more. The end has come, and it has brought the hatred and bloodshed that I have been trying to prevent. I played the game according to your roles, but they forced me back to first principles in agite of myself, and now if don't know what the finish will be. Tomorrow will tell. Take care of your uncles, and if you should wish to communicate with me, go to Cherry Maiotte. She is a friend to both of us. Always your servant.

ROY GLENISTER. ROY GLENISTER. As he sealed this he paused, while he

tle and a chill race up his spine. His heart fluttered, then pounded onward till the blood thumped audibly at his ear drums and he found himself swaying in rhythm to its beat. The muscles of his back cringed and rippled at the proximity of some hovering peril, and yet an irresistible feeling forbade him hind his chair-the drip, drip, drip of water. It was not from the caves, nor yet from a faulty shingle. His back was to the kitchen door, through which but he has not yet been required he had come, and, although there were as a journalist to report the mar no n.trrors before him, he felt a men- riage of his former countess. acing presence as surely as though it had touched him. His ears were tuned

ly, but remembered where his gun was shaking characters, while behind him sounded the constant drip, drip, drip, garments. For a long moment he sat, till he heard the stealthy cilck of a gunlock muffled by finger pressure. Then he set his face and slowly turned to find the Bronco Kid standing behind him as though risen from the sea, his light clothes wet and clinging, his feet centered in a spreading puddle. The dim light showed the convulsive fury of his features above the leveled back like the head of a striking adder, his eyes gleaming with frenzy. Glenmind was leaping riotously like dust before a gale, for he divined himself to be in the deadliest peril of his life. When he spoke the calmness of hi

voice surprised himself. "What's the matter, Bronco?" Th Kid made no reply, and Roy repeated, What do you want?"

of course, and I've got you."

"Damn the talk" cried the fare deal-"Danin the this. Green light shone on er, moving closer till the light shone on by grove. twitch. He raised the revolver he had,

hands to stop the tremor he felt in his road. bones. "You can't kill me," he said. "I am too good a man to murder. You



good a man to murder."

a brave man when be's unarmed. You're no assassin." He remained rigid in his chair, however, moving nothing but his lips, meeting the other's look unflinchingly. The Kid hest tated an instant, while his eyes, which had been fixed with the glare of hatred, wavered a moment, betraying the faintest sign of indecision. Glenister

"Ha! I knew it. Your neck cords quiver." The gambler grimscod. "I can't do

it. If I could, I'd have shot you be-fore you turned. But you'll have to fight, you dog. Get up and draw."

Roy refused. "I gave Cherry my

"Yes, and more, too," the man grit-Even yet Gleuister had made no slightest move, realizing that a feathswifter than a whip is cracked

"I have tried it before, but murde isn't my game." The Kid's eye caught the glint of Cherry's revolver where she had discarded it. "There's a gun.

Get it!" "It's no good. You'd carry the stx bullets and never feel them. I don't know what this is all about, but I'll fight you whenever I'm heeled right." "Oh, you black hearted hound!" snarled the Kid. "I want to shoot, but I'm afraid. I used to be a gentleman, and I haven't lost it all, I guess. But I won't wait the next time. I'll down you on sight, so you'd better get of the room into the semidarkness of the kitchen, watching with lynxlike under the shaded light. He felt be hind him for the outer doorknob an turned it to let in a white sheet of min, then vanished like a stor wraith, leaving a parched Upped in gleamed in the lamplight like a

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

How Diphtheria is Contracted rising elements, for the deeds of this When Chamberlain's Cough Remed rising elements, for the passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and and all their passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and all their passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and all their passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and all their passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and all their passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and all their passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and all their passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and all their passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and all their passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and all their passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and all their passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and all their passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and all their passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and all their passions are the cold and all their passions as is given it quickly cures the cold and all their passions are the cold and all the cold and all their passions are the cold and all the cold and all the cold and all their passions are the cold and all other germ disease being contracted For sale by English Drug Company.

> Virginia does not care so much about the President's erasing the motto from the ten dollar gold pieces so long as he doesn't dare to touch "Sic Semper Tyrannis."

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# The Right Time to Buy

is when the other fellow wants to sell cheap.

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and you know it."

Glenister looked him fairly between the eyes, gripping himself with firm hands to stop the tremor he felt in his road.

Acres of timber and that will saw good as the average Mariboro county land, and only requires intelligent development to produce similar crops. 200 acres of timber land that will

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Everything else in proportion.

Count Boni recently made a Get out of your own light and come to the speech in the chamber of deputies, but he has not yet been required place where you can make your money do the most good.

# to the finest pln pricks of sound, so that he heard the faint, sighing and bladder troubles. Don't neglect "squish" of a sodden shoe upon which your kidneys, Delays are dangerous, a weight had shifted. Still something DeWitt's kidney and Bladder Piffs afchined him to his seat. It was as ford quick relief for all forms of kidneys his soul laid a restraining hand upon his body, waiting for the instant. He let his hand seek his hip careless and C. N. Simpson, Jr. Thousands of men and women in all walks of life are suffering from kidney and bladder troubles. Don't neglect your kidneys, Delays are dangerous. See He let his hand seek his hip careless and C. N. Simpson, Jr. Thousands of men and women in all walks of life are suffering from kidney and bladder troubles. Don't neglect your kidney and bladder troubles. A week's treatment 25c. Sold by S. J. Welsh and C. N. Simpson, Jr. "The Home of Bargains"

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**&&&&&&&&&&&&&&** 

setzed her roughly. Something cold never pictured a place like this, and in her cheek, forcing her head back and bruising her. She struggled and cried formed of a continuous row of com-

"Hold on, it's a woman!" ejaculated

"What are you doing here? You came near getting burt." near getting burt."

The vices of a city, however horrible, mantle of convention, but in a great without concealment. Here there were leaning from windows or beckoning challenged her, and again and again she was forced to slip from their em-At last the high bulk of the theater building loomed a short dis-tance ahead. Panting and frightened, "Very well. If you have taken sides he tried the door with weak hands, to find it locked. From behind it rose the blare of brass and the sound of sing-She accosted a man who approachsearch of adventure and was not minded to go in quest of doormen; rather. ous mensures of which he invited her

"Sure. I seen him tonight. Come here." He led her toward the foot-

"I don't see him," said her guide

stairs and beckoned to her. As she drew near he said: "I told him there was a \$1,000 filly flaggin' him from the stage door, but he's got a grouch an won't stir. He's in number seven." She hesitated, at which he said, "Go on-you're in right," then continued reassuringly: "Say, pal, if he's your white haired lad, you needn't start no rough house, 'cause he don't flirt wit' these dames none whatever. Naw:

"Helen! What are you doing-here? "You must go away quickly," she gasped. "They're trying to arrest you." "They! Who? Arrest me for what?"

"Uncle Arthur and Mr. McNamara." She faced him squarely as she said i

guess. I heard from Wheaton tonight.

longer."
"Listen," she said. "You must go. 1

She had moved to the front of the

were Voorhees and four others, seemingly in quest of some one.

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