

A STORY
—OF THE—
SPANISH INQUISITION.

WRITTEN FOR THE PRESS AND CIRCULARS.

By Maria Batterham Lindsey.

CHAPTER IX.—Continued.

And the father looked at her and said tenderly, "Come, my child, this is no place for you. Come with me to the home that is desolate without you. Why need you stay here and suffer thus for other's faults maybe? Your father wants you, your beautiful home awaits you. A brilliant future is in store for you. Then come, child of my heart, come. Why will you stay? Why even are you here?"

Isidore said with voice faint with weakness, "I cannot, my father. The priest knows that I cannot. I have been guilty of the abominable and extreme crime of reading the Holy Scriptures in my own tongue. And not this alone. They ask me, may they would force me, to divulge the source of my sin, to tell who gave me the Book I read."

"And you will not?" asked the father with a strange conflict of love and pride in his heart.

"I will not," she answered calmly. "Rather would I suffer the extreme penalty of death than cause another to be brought into this abode of hate and cruelty."

"You speak heresy, daughter," said De Castro, as he glanced at the Revolt priest, "and you will stay here and die sooner than accuse another, and the real guilty one it seems, of this damnable crime of heresy. You are my child. Think again of what you say. Think of what you are thus lightly giving up for the sake of a simple point of honor. Home, friends, happiness, love, youth, beauty, wealth, position and pleasure. Think of me, of my desolate home, of my tender love and care, of my lonely hours and hungry heart. For my sake and for the sake of the sainted mother who bore you, if not for your own, come home with me. Leave this place, leave these holy walls. Confess and be absolved. Anything, anything, so that you are my stately Isidore again."

And a persuasive tenderness was upon the face of the proud Don as he spoke.

Said she, "Let me explain. It is more than a point of honor with me. Much more. O! my father, listen to me. I have found perfect happiness and perfect safety even in the midst of suffering and danger. I read the books, Gospel and Epistle of St. John, and they showed me the Great God, the Almighty Savior in His true character. We need not approach him through mediators. He is waiting for us to draw near, the humblest and the vilest. By faith in Him alone can we be saved. I have gone to Him— Nay, Father Pedro let me speak," as the priest attempted to stop her, "let me speak—I have found him in prayer, in blessed communion with His Holy Spirit, and all is well with me, you even were I led to the stake this hour. All is well. My father! my father! Read also, and as you read ask for guidance, for light, and it will come, even as it did to me, and though I see you again no more here, for they will part us, my father, yet we shall meet again beyond— beyond—"

And with a smile of ineffable joy she paused exhausted and speechless. Father Pedro, too horrified to speak, immediately began to sprinkle her and the pallet and the bare floor around it with holy water, a vessel of which stood in the center of the cell. And doing this he managed to part father and child, and as he did so two other suave looking priests entered and between them they had

led De Castro out of the room, and bolting the ponderous door they turned him with many words of apology and determination out of the monastery. Add with a muttered curse and stern resolve he strode hastily away.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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(CONTINUED FROM THIRD PAGE.)

our own people which the policy of our fathers established by the constitution and which all men, of whatever financial opinions, admit to be the chief source of our prosperity. Strange to say, whilst this tendency on the part of capital to create monopolies and suppress competition by combination is on the increase, the tendency of our legislation and administration of the laws is to favor it. Their influence in the enactment and the execution of our laws seems supreme. Those who favor their enterprises are described as practical statesman, devoted to the business interests of the county, whilst those who oppose their schemes as dangerous are called cranks and demagogues.

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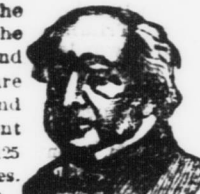
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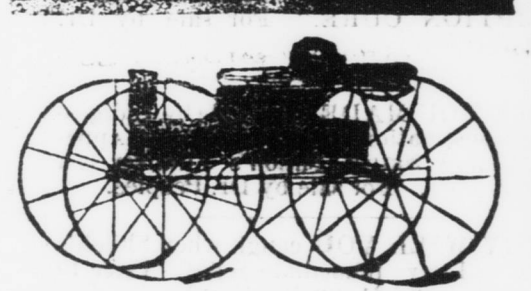
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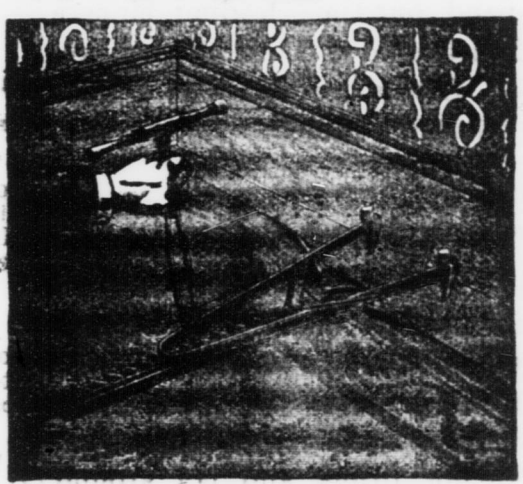
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