CHAPTER IX .- (Continued.) The traveler looked at him fixedly for

the table.

"Now, look here," he said to him curtly, "I intend to pass two hours in your hovel, at all risks; I know that between this and eleven o'clock you expect a large party." The landlord attempted to give a de-

nial, but the traveler cut him short. "Silence," he continued, "I wish to be present at this meeting; of course I do not mean to be seen; but I must not only see them, but hear all they say. Put me where you please, that is your concern; but as any trouble deserves payment, here are ten ounces for you, and I will give you as many more when your wisitors have gone, and I assure you that what I ask of you will not in any way compromise you. Now, I will add, that my speech. if you obstinately refuse the arrangement

"Well, suppose I do?" "I will blow out your brains," the

traveler said distinctly. "Hang it, excellency," the poor fellow

answered, with a grimace, "I think that I have no choice, and am compelled to accent."

"Good! now you are learning reason; but take three ounces as a consolation."

The landlord, forgetting that he had declared a few moments previously that he had nothing in the house, instantly covered the table with provisions, which, if large cloak quickly entered the room prenot particularly delicate, were sufficiently appetizing. When their hunger was at length appeased, the traveler who seemed to speak for both thrust away his plate and addressed the landlord, who was modestly standing behind him, hat in hand. "And now for another matter," he

said; "how many lads have you to help you?" "Two, excellency-the one who took

your horses to the corral, and another." "Very good. I presume you will not require both those lads to wait on your

friends to-night?" "Certainly not, excellency; indeed, for greater security, I shall wait on them

"Better still; then, you see no inconwenience in sending one of them into the

Cludad?" "No inconvenience at all, excellency; what is the business?"

"Simply," he said, taking a letter from his bosom, "to convey this letter to Senor Don Antonia Rallier, in the Calle Monterilla, and bring me back an answer." "That is easy, excellency; if you will have the kindness to intrust the letter to

"Here it is, and four plastres for the journey."

The host bowed respectfully and immediately left the room.

"I fancy, Curumilla," the traveler then said to his companion, "that our affairs are going on well."

The other replied with a silent nod of assent. The travelers rose; in a twinkling when the landlord returned and removed all signs of supper, and then hid his guests behind an old-fashioned coun-

CHAPTER X.

The travelers had scarce time to conceal themselves ere several knocks on the door warned the landlord that the mysterious guests he expected were beginning to arriv.

The door was hardly ajar ere several men burst into the inn, thrusting each other aside in their haste, as if afraid of being followed. These men were seven er eight in number, and it was easy to see they were officers, in spite of the precaution of some among them who had put on civilian attire.

They laughed and jested loudly. The door of the rancho had been left ajar by the landlord, who probably thought it unnecessary to close it; the officers succeedtheir number soon became so great that the room was completely filled.

As for No Lusacho, he continually prowled round the tables, watching everything with a corner of his eyes, and being careful not to serve the slightest article without receiving immediate payment. At length, one of the officers rose. "Is Don Sirven here?"

"Yes, senor," a young man of twenty at the most answered as he rose. "Assure yourself that no person is ab-

The young man bowed and began walking from one table to the other, exchanging two or three words in a low voice with each of the visitors. When Don Sirven had gone round the room, he went to the person who had addressed him and said ly held out their quivering hands,

with a respectful bow: "Senor colonel, the meeting is complete and only one person is absent; but as he adid not tell us certainly whether he would of Evil, had looked on with a profoundly do us the honor of being present to-night,

"That will do," the colonel interrupted "remain outside, watch the environs and let no one approach without challenging him, but if you know who arrives intro-

duce him immediately." "You can trust me, colonel," the young man answered, and, after bowing to his superior officer, he left the room and closed the door behind him.

The officers then turned round on the benches and thus found themselves face to face with the colonel, who had stationed himself in the middle of the room. The latter waited a few minutes till perfect silence was established, and then spoke as follows:

"Let me, in the first place, thank you, caballeros, for the punctuality with which you have responded to the meeting I had the honor of arranging with you. I am delighted at the confidence it has pleased you to display in me, and, believe me, I shall show myself worthy of it; for it proves to me once again that you are really devoted to the interests of our -country and that I may freely reckon on you in the hour of danger. You understand as well as I do that we can no longer bow our necks beneath our dispotic government. The man who at this silently beneath a thick awning of ver-

moment holds our destinies in his hands has shown himself unworthy of his mana moment or two, and then laid his hand date. The hour will soon strike for the firmly on his arm and pulled him toward man who has deceived us to be overthrown."

The colonel had made a start, and would probably have continued his plausible speech for a long time in an emphatic voice, had not one of his audience interrupted him :

"That is all very fine, colonel," he said, we are all aware that we are gentlemen devoted, body and soul, to our country; but devotion must be paid for. What shall we get by this after all?"

The colonel was at first slightly em barrassed by this warm apostrophe; but he recovered himself at once, and turned with a smile to his interpreter:

"I was coming to it, my dear captain, at the very moment when you cut across "Oh, that is different," the captain an-

swered. "In the first place," the colonel went on, "I have news for you which I feel assured you will heartily welcome. This

is the last time we shall meet." "Very good," said the practical cap-

The colonel saw that he could no longer dally with the matter, for all his hearers openly took part with their comrade. At the moment when he resolved to tell all he knew, the door of the inn was opened, and a man wrapped in a ceded by the Alferez Don Sirven, who shouted in a loud voice:

"The general, Caballeros, the general," At this announcement silence was reestablished as if by enchantment. The person called the general stopped in the middle of the room, looked around him, and then took off his hat, let his cloak fall from his shoulders, and appeared in the full dress uniform of a general officer.

"Long live Gen. Guerrero," the officers shouted as they rose enthusiastically.

"Thanks, gentlemen, thanks," the general responded with numerous bows. "This warm feeling fills me with deligat; but pray be silent, that we may properly settle the matter which has brought us here; moments are precious, and, in spite of the precautions we have taken, your presence at this inn may have been denounced. I will come at once to facts, without entering into idle speculations, which would cause us to waste valuable time. In a word, then, what is it we want? To overthrow the present government, and establish another more in conformity with our opinions, and, above all, our interests."

"Yes, yes," the officers exclaimed.

"In that case we are conspiring against the established authority, and are rebels in the eyes of the law," the general continued coolly and distinctly; "as such we stake our heads. If our attempt fails we shall be pitilessly shot by the victor; but we shall not fail," he hastily added, "because we are resolutely playing a terrible game, and each of us knows that his fortune deends on winning.

"Yes, yes," the captain whose observations had, previous to the general's arrival so greatly embarrassed the colonel, said, "all that is very fine; but we were promised something else in your name, excellency.

The general smiled. "You are right, captain," he remarked; but I intend to keep all promises-but not, as you might reasonably suppose, when our glorious enterprise has suc-

ceeded." "When then, pray?" the captain asked, curiously.

"At once, senores," the general exclaimed.

Joy and astonishment so paralyzed his hearers that they were unable to utter a syliable. The general looked at them for a moment, and then, turning away with a mocking smile, he walked to the front ed each other with great rapidity, and door, which he opened. The officers eagerly watched his movements, and the general, after looking out coughed twice. "Here I am, excellency," a voice said,

issuing from the fog. "Bring in the bags," Don Sebastian ordered, and then quietly returned to the

middle of the room. Almost immediately after a man entered, bearing a heavy leather saddlebag, It was Carnero. At a signal from his master he deposited his bundle and went out, but returned shortly after with another bag, which he placed by the side of the

ter he withdrew. The general opened the bags, and a flood of gold poured in a trickling cascade on the table; the officers instinctive-

first one. Then, after bowing to his mas-

When all the gold had disappeared and the effervescence was beginning to subside, Don Sebastian, who, like the Angel mocking smile, slightly tapped the table to request silence.

"Senores," he said, "I have kept all my promises, and have acquired the right to count on you. We shall not meet again, but at a future day I will let you know my intentions. Still be ready to act at the first signal; in ten days is the anniversary festival of the Proclamation of Independence, and if nothing alters my plans I shall probably choose that day to try, with your assistance, to deliver the country from the tyrants who oppress it. However, I will be careful to have you warned. So now let us separate; the night is far advanced, and a longer stay at this spot might compromise the sacred interests for which we have sworn to die.

CHAPTER XL The Alameda of Mexico is one of the most beautiful in America. It is situated at one of the extremities of the city, and forms a long square, with a wall of circumvallation bordered by a deep ditch, whose muddy, fetid waters, owing to the negligence of the government, exhale pestilential miasmas. At each corner of the promenade a gate offers admission to carriages, riders and pedestrians, who walk dure formed by willows, elms and poplars that border the principal road. trees are selected with great tact, and are always green, for although the leaves are renewed, it takes place gradually and imperceptibly, so that the branches are never entirely stripped of their foliage.

It was evening, and, as usual, the Alameda was crowded; handsome carriages, brilliant riders and modest pedestrians were moving backward and forward, with cries, laughter and joyous calls, as they sought each other in the walks. By degrees, however, the promenaders went toward the Bucarelli; the carriages became scarcer, and by the time night had set in the Alameda was desert-

A horseman, dressed in a rich Campresino costume and mounted on a magnificent horse, entered the Alameda along which he galloped for about twenty minutes examining the side walks the clumps of trees and the bushes; in a word he seemed to be looking for somebody or something.

At the moment when the traveler reached the Bucarelli the last carriages were leaving it and it was soon as deserted as the Alameda. He galloped up and down the promenade twice or thrice looking carefully down the side rides and at the end of his third turn a horseman, coming from the Alameda, passed on his right hand, giving him in a low voice the Mexican salute, "Santissima noche cabel-

Although the sentence had nothing peculiar about it the horseman started, and immediately turning his horse round, started in pursuit. Within a minute the two horsemen were side by side; the first comer, so soon as he saw that he was followed, checked his horse's pace, as if with the intention of entering into direct communication.

"A fine night for a ride, senor," the first horseman said, politely raising his hand to his bat.

"It is," the second answered, "although it is beginning to grow late." "The moment is only the better chosen for certain private conversation." The second horseman looked around,

and bending over to the speaker, said : "I almost despaired of meeting you." "Did I not let you know that I should

come?" "True; but I feared that some obsta-

"Nothing should impede an honest man from accomplishing a sacred duty," the first horseman said.

The other bowed with an air of satisfaction. "Then," he said, "I can count on you, No-

"No names here, senor," the other sharply interrupted him. "Caspita, an old wood ranger like you, a man who has long been a Tigrero, ought to remember that the trees have ears and the leaves "Yes, you are right. I do remember

not possible for us to talk here where can we do so?" "Patience, senor, I wish to serve you as you know, for you were recommended to me by a trusty man. Be guided by

it, but permit me to remark that if it is

me, if you wish us to succeed in this "I ask nothing better; still you must

tell me what I ought to do." "For the present very little; merely follow me at a distance to the place where I purpose taking you."

(To be continued.)

Her Plot Cunningly Laid.

A story of an amazingly audaclous economical scheme ever devised has swindle comes from Madrid, Spain. The been started by Prof. Erf, of the Kanheroine is a handsome, elegantly sas State Agricultural College. Prof. least time is equivalent to a saving is of expressing himself is impressivedressed woman who the other day vis- Erf takes the milk secured from cows dollars and cents. Not only should the Utica Globe. ited a specialist in mental diseases on behalf of her husband, who, she said, a powder and feeds it to the cows, makwas a sufferer from religious mania. ing what is declared to be the cheap-Having explained the case, it was ar- est of all the cow foods. ranged that she should return in about an hour with the afflicted husband.

The next scene of action was a jeweler's shop in another part of the city, then converting it into a powder. This man can properly manage a set of to be that of President Roosevelt take where she selected diamonds to the value of \$5,000 on the understanding that cent of protein, twice as much as cotshe would buy them if her husband ap- ton seed meal containns, and can be seems. To think in a logical manne printed in almost every paper and man proved. Would someone accompany her manufactured for one and a half cents requires effort, home in a cab and the money would be a pound. Thus a food twice as rich as paid immediately? A trusted clerk was sent and with

him the lady drove back to the doctor's house. In an ante-room she took the stones, "just to show them to her husband," then entering with sublime as | mated waste of buttermik in the surance the doctor's study, she in creameries of Kansas is 500,000 formed the specialist that her husband pounds daily, it is figured that by the was now in the ante-room and ready to be examined.

Leaving a visiting card, the lady took her departure and the doctor, bidding the supposed patient to enter, proceeded at his leisure to ask professional questions. The jeweler's man was puzzled at first, but soon he realized that he had been made the victim of a clever fraud. The doctor, however, interpreted his agitation as caused by his complaint and when after two hours matters were finally explained the lady impostor had vanished with her spoils without leaving any trace.

Just a Boy.

"Hold on!" said the learned chemist, "Didn't I give you a bottle of my wonderful tonic that would make you look twenty years younger?"

"You did," replied the patient, "and I took it ail. I was then 39 and now I am only 19." "Well, then will you please settle

this little bill you owe for the treat-

ment?" "Oh, no. As I am only 19 now, I am a minor and minors are not held responsible for the bills they incur. Good-day, sir."

Made Himself So. Naybor-I called to see Nervey last night, but he wasn't at home. Subbubs-Oh, yes, he was,

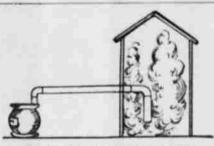
Naybor-Not at all. I tell you-Subbubs-But I tell you he was, and very much at home. He moropolized the morris chair in my den all evening."-Philadelphia Press.

Every day there drops into the coffers of the New York elevated railways 27,500 nickels, to say nothing of the other coins and bills.



Smoking Meat. in the home smoking of meat I have earned something by experimenting that is a great saver of work and of much more consequence-keeps the meat in better shape during the smokng process. I used a low smokehouse, and, handle the little necessary fire as best I could, it would sometimes heat the meat more than was good for it. I had the fire covered in a little pit In the center of the smokehouse. Then I tried a pit outside several feet from the building with an underground flue. but all the heat generated in that went into the smokehouse, so it was unsatisfactory.

I placed an old heating stove, with the legs taken off, on the ground about eight feet from the side of the smokebouse, put an elbow on the stove and ran a pipe in through the side of the smokehouse. Then I started a little fire in the stove, and as the smoke poured from the funnel it occurred to me to turn the smoke down, so I put on an elbow with mouth pointing down, and as that worked all right I put a length of pipe on that and watched to see what the smoke would do. In a moment it poured from the pipe right



NO HEAT, NO DANGER OF FIRE.

down near the ground. The end of the pipe is four or five inches from the ground and nearly on a level with the bottom of the stove. It works finely. The cooled smoke rising from the ground conveys no heat to the meat, though quite a little fire is kept in the stove. The fire needs but little attention, as the stove is kept about closed all the time. It is very satsifactory .-Kansas Farmer.

Feed Cows Their Own Milk.

on its face appears to be the most on the college farm, converts it into

The food invented by Prof. Erf is made of buttermilk. He has perfected a system of drying buttermilk and dried buttermilk contains about 70 per cotton seed can be manufactured at approximatelly the cost of the latter.

One hundred pounds of buttermilk will make from nine to ten pounds of the finished product and as the estiadoption of this progress a saving of \$400,000 can be made yearly in Kansas alone.

The American Carriage Horse. The development of the American arriage horse at the Colorado Agricultural College and Experiment Station is progressing very favorably, says itself. Prof. W. L. Carlyle of the Colorado Agricultural College, in the Twentieth Century Farmer. At the present time twenty-two brood mares are to be found on the farm, and of these nineteen are expected to foal this year. Fourteen very high-class yearling coits, by the stallion Carmon, are exemplifying the success of the work undertaken, At the present time seven very fine foals have come to hand this year and the indications are that they are superior to their brothers and sisters of last year. The station and college, in cooperation with the government, will in- The object should be to simply losen! crease the brood mares to thirty-five the top soil when cultivating corn and one day: head during the summer, and only those of the very highest class will be possible. secured.

How to See Plants Grow. To observe plants growing under the microscope the American Monthly Microscopical Journal says: "Procure a little collomia seed. Take one of the seeds, and with a razor cut off a very tiny slice, cover with a cover glass and place under the microscope. The instrument must be in a vertical position. When it is well focused and lighted, moisten it with a drop of water. The seed will absorb the moisture and throw out a very large number of spiral fibers, giving the appearance of veritable germination. Beginners will find it easier if one applies the moisture while the other looks through the handy so the cow may have free instrument."

field, N. Y., is raising celery on a large scale on the bed of a reclaimed swamp. He set 125,000 plants last year, of the dwarf golden self-balancing, and produces from 1,500 to 1,800 dozen branches of celery per acre, marketable at from 20 to 30 cents per dozen. His celery kept for winter market is placed In trenches made by means of a crib, 16 feet long and 14 inches wide, which is placed in the row and filled with celery. Then a deep bank of earth is thrown up on either side to the celery, after which the crib is taken up and moved forward its length, and the same process is repeated. The trenches are left open at the top until the approach of cold weather, when they are covered with straw and earth.-New

Must Raise Many Crops. Twenty years ago hundreds of North Dakota farmers bought butter, eggs and even potatoes and cabbages at the village stores, but they were not real farmers, merely wheat raisers. They depended entirely upon one crop, and when that falled, distress followed. James J. Hill quickly taught them the folly of that kind of farming, and to-day the State's diversified crops are equal to those of any other Northern State. The educational movement was not that Mr. Hill had any love for the farmers then, nor has now, but he had a big railway to feed and was forced to teach the farmer how to produce the freight. Now the experiment stations are carrying on the education commenced by Mr. Hill and are doing it

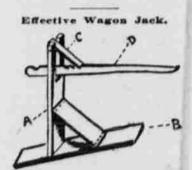
England Farmer.

How to Apply Fertilizers.

hills or brondcast? It may not be a with a humor that left the uninitiate mistake to apply very little over each a doubt as to whether the young man hill as a "starter," but it is better to was a joker or a person of great depth broadcast. All fertilizer must be dissolved before it can be utilized, and lone in the State Department while the greater the surface over which it Landis was there. The Cleveland polis spread the more water it will recy to put back Queen Lilluokalani q ceive. The roots of nearly all plant the Hawaiian throne was undertaken spread and grow near the surface, and the Bering sea arbitration was on the have as great feeding capacity off from Venezuelan boundary controversy win the plants as near them. To apply fer England was conceived and the Alltilizer in the hills is to concentrate it anca affair occurred. and much of it will be unused or lost." The best results are obtained when It back to Chicago to practice law. Some is distributed over the surface and har years ago he was appointed United rowed in to be carried down by the States judge.

Managing the Workers.

a science in itself. It is a science that few have studied sufficiently. Plan guage is picturesque and his saying ning out the work so that it may be quaint. He talks with a drawl, as de done in the best manner and in the all the Landis brothers, and his way work be properly done and at the right time, but the time between different pieces of work should be as small a possible. Here is a point at which It Shows Him Taking a Fence on t great waste occurs. It is like a man forgetting something at the store and having to drive back miles to get it. N known photograph in existence is said workers without putting some though ing a fence on his favorite hunter, and on it. Thinking is not so easy as



A is of oak 2x4x33 inches; B is 2ng 14 inches; C is 12 inches long, ad lever D is 5 feet long, the short of ed the photographer at Chevy Chase ! being 1 foot. The drawing explins the suburbs of Washington. It was

Experiments in Cultivation, Deep cultivation of some crops is equivalent to pruning the roots. This is especially the case with corn, with with the possible exception of Empere sends its roots in every direction, one William, and photographers assert the to the surface of the soil. Exert- reservedly that he is most difficult b ments in cultivating show that wen pose. He is nervous and is often the roots were cut 2 Inches, 4 Inches miss style, but every picture ever take and 6 inches below the surface the increase of crops was greatest when the cultivation was shallow, the greent harm being done by deep cultivationat the last stages of growth of the plans. to avoid cutting the roots as much as

"Don'ts" Concerning the Con Don't be unkind to the milk cow. Don't allow cows to sleep in a mudy

Don't permit the cow to drink impure water. Don't use a club, but kind words instead.

Do not feed the milk cow "rotten" or decayed corn. Don't allow your finger nails t

long if you are a daily milker.

Don't allow any loafers aroun milking, such as dogs, children Don't fall to keep some sort to It.

A PICTURESQUE JUDGE

Kenesaw M. Landts, Before Whon Rockefeller Was Examined, Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landla the United States District Court at Ch engo, before whom John D. Rockefelle was examined, is only 40. His father was wounded in the battle of Kenen Mountain, hence his hame. July Landla is picturesque in appearant

nd manner. He was private secretary Secretary of State Walter Q. Greek am from 1893 to 1805. Judge Greslan had commanded the regiment in which Judge Landis' father served, and the had always been a warm friendship h tween Gresham and the Landis family When Judge Gresham was starting far Washington to become Secretary & State in the cabinet of a Democrate President and asked young Landis to with him as private secretary, las dis turned Democrat and accepted. R had practiced law in Chicago, by clients were few, and the chance of a efficial experience in the nation's em tal was too alluring to resist.

The State Department woke up when andis came. His manner was nex



ils style of address original, and in Should fertilizer be applied in the ceming profundity was intermined

When Gresham died Landis west

Judge Landis wears his hair rather long and has a habit of passing his Managing the workers on a farm is hands through it. He is a young min with an old man's manner. His is

ROOSEVELT'S \$40,000 PHOTO.

Hunter-Has Been Copied Widely.

The most widely published and best the New York Sun. This has been azine in the world which uses halftones, and the sales from it have all ready amounted to more than \$40,000 making it the most profitable photograph ever taken,

Nearly 3,000 copies have been signed by the President to be used as special gifts, and the demand for it wherever It has been placed on sale has been steady during the three and a hall years since it was made. It was made with a shutter the

opened and closed in one fifteen-hus dredth part of a second. The Presiden accompanied by an orderly, left the cabinet meeting one morning and job necessary for the President to force his horse over the fence a dozen times be fore a successful picture was taken. President Roosevelt is probably ! most photographed man in the work snapped in what might seem a hit of

of him is thoroughly characteristic.

The Walter. Of a political transaction that had suspicious look, Senator Beveridge said "Though in the thing there is not

ing on which we can lay our hand, certainly appears fishy. It remine me of a Washington waiter. "A gentleman, after eating a go

dinner, said to this waiter: "'I am sorry I can't give you a ! but I find I have only just enough

money to pay the bill." "The waiter seized the bill hurried! "'Just let me add it up again, sh

he muttered.—Washington Star. Obeyed Orders.

"What are you crying about?" "Bobby's got an apple and I ain" "But I told him to give you a bite "That's why I'm cryin'; here's t marks of his teeth."-Houston Post

Some girls are very sensitive becau they imagine pouting is becoming