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Chapter III.

(Continued from last seek. It was evident that I had not seriously

wronnied the Colonel, for he st-1 n tention without difficulty, supported by his tention without difficulty, supported by his aide, who explained briefly that they had entered the Chatsan to demand accommo-dation for the Emperor and his staff; that I had opposed entrance; and that without provocation had viciously attacked the Colonel. To this version the Colonel weakly agreed. The Kaiser turned to me. "You say my Colonel insuited the lady?" including in his glance Almee, who stood on the stairway, overcome with the embar-rassment of her position and the presence of the German ruler. "He put his arm about her." I replied, my anger rising again, and endeavored to kins her. Ask the lady herself." "Is it true, Mademoiselle?" Aimee bowed her hend in assent, the color sweeping over her beautiful face and neck.

velvet and lace, like a medieval fachion plate. Oh, you changeable Americans. What next, what next?" Ab, my brave Lowenberg! he was ever a fine friend. How my heart ached when, a few weeks later, I saw him stretched upon a heap of straw, both legs shot away in that descent into the hell of Montepelier, and dying as a German warrior can die, with a prayer for his country and a smile for his friends. In a few minutes I told Lowenberg of the events of the past few days, hinting, however, that I had started from Amiens in an alr-ship, bent on a pleasure trip, I learned that the German forces were forming to the west of us, and that a col-

the German Lieutenant of Hussars | american friend, Administrated in arose about the fourth day A cin ils att

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ventured an inquiry. "And what became of the bag?" "Oh, It blew away to the northeast. I suppose it fell in some Prusian field." God be thanked! Then they did not know. For had these excitable Germans guessed that I was with Martini and Rechere, reconnoitering the German ad-vance, they would have branded me for a spy and my life would not have been worth a pfenig. I was heartily glad when the conversa-tion changed and the incident of the bal-loon was forgotien. Moreover I was eagor to learn something of the military situation. The French were known to be far to the southwest-forty miles or more away-

"He waved his hand impatiently. "I know. He waved his hand impatiently. "I know. He was caught red-handed. He had notes-maps. He dies at sunrise. "He is my friend." I said simply. "I have known him for years-a spiendid man."

The is in y find to years—a splendid man." "Is be any less a spy?" The words came wuddenly, like bullets from a gun. "Yet you would have me set aside the rules of war because be is your friend. Understand, young man, that your own position is nort, too secure." He leaned toward me with uplifted, warning finger. "There is room for explanation, for instance, as to how it happens that you start from Amiens on a pleasure trip, in a French war-balloon, is jeasure trip, in a French war-balloon, is pointed to the white case of the balloon, that fluttered in the night wind high in the pasket of that same balloon, containing a French General of Staff and a wireless far to the east, in Lorralue. Were it no for your nationality, tomorrow's sun might look down upon your own body as well as that of Latour's lying dead before a squad of infantry." "Then Latour must die?" I asked, I was

of infantry." "Then Latour must die?" I asked. I was pleading without hope. For myself I feared Jean de Reszke cycles a great

Then Latour must die 7 I asked. I was pleading without hope. For myself I feared not. "Latour must die. It is the rule of war-a rule not to be broken." He turned sway to speak to an approach-ing officer, and I elimbed the steps to my room. My dear friend-my poor Latour. In the night I was awkened by my valet. Before I could arise Lowenberg burst into the room. "We are to advance immedi-ntely." he said. "A surprise party, with probable sharp fighting. I want you with me. Come at once." I dressed with all haste. Almee was asleep and I would not waken her. I wrote her a hasty note, explaining the arranger maid. Hurrying down to the courtrard I found my horse stamping with impatience to be off. Five minutes later Lowenberg and I were gailoning along the main road to the wert. In the moonlight we could sea the gitter of heimets and sabres. The errth trembled with the tramp of men and horses. The very air quivered with impedi-ing violence. We were in the mids to war. (To be Continued Next Week.) The Continued Next Week.) The continued Next Week.

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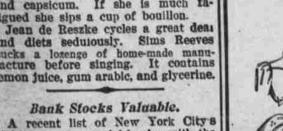
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