

Shenandoah.

(Continued from page 6, Col. 4.)

erate country now, but that makes no difference between us, does it? And what do you think? Here is a letter from Washington—from Mrs Haverill and with a United States postmark. Fancy, Robert says it was in a mail bag which the Mosby guerrillas captured when they stopped a train.

"What does she say?" asked Madeline eagerly.

"You shall hear. She says: 'My dear Gertrude—When Kerchival West was in Washington last week on his way



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"There's a Union regiment coming up the pike."

from Chattanooga to serve under Sheridan in the Shenandoah valley he called upon me—I should hope so! 'Darling, he still'—"

"Loves you!" interjected Madeline.

"Never mind that! I have kept your secret. Gertrude—oh, indeed—but I was sorely tempted to betray the confidence you placed in me at Charleston if Kerchival West had heard you say as I did, when your face was hidden in my bosom that night, that—"

"That you loved him with your whole heart?" ventured Madeline.

"Nonsense! He's—I am certain that he still loves you as much as ever."

Here Jenny, who had been down the road making a reconnaissance, came galloping back on an imaginary charger.

"Do you hear that music?" she cried. "It's a military band playing 'John The boys are singing too. There's a

Union regiment coming up the pike. And whose regiment do you suppose it is? Colonel Kerchival West's, that's what!"

Gertrude started violently, then said with assumed indifference:

"What does it matter whose regiment it is?"

"Oh, of course, you don't care. But I do. Heartsease is in it!"

Gertrude clutched at the paper she had thrust into the bosom of her riding jacket, turned away abruptly and hurried off toward the stables. In the excitement of the moment her withdrawal was not noticed. A moment later Josephus led out her gray horse, saddled and bridled. She mounted lightly and disappeared down a wooded

path in the direction of the hills, opposite from that in which the troops were now plainly heard approaching.

"Cavalry!" Jenny exclaimed joyously. "That's the branch of the service I enlisted in as soon as I was born. I'll pass 'em in review. Draw sabers!" executing the movement with her parasol. "Present! What! Trumpet sig-



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"A sentry was duly posted at the gate."

"You have been assigned to the regiment during my absence?" asked Kerchival, scanning him closely.

"Yes, sir."

At this Kerchival started forward, grasped his hand and, looking straight into his eyes, said:

"Yes, Frank, I know you now. You could not have arrived at a more opportune moment. When I passed through Washington I saw Mrs. Haverill, and she told me of your escape from prison in Richmond. But no one knew of your having re-entered the service or that you had been assigned to my regiment—not only that, but to General Haverill's brigade."

"My father!" gasped the lieutenant.

"Yes. Prepare yourself to meet him face to face at any moment. But he can't possibly recognize you with that beard and uniform. Now, only this morning I received a letter from Washington, all about you. Here it is—"

Colonel West took the missive from his pocket and handed it over—"so they have learned more as to your whereabouts since I was there. Count upon me, my dear fellow, to do everything I can for you."

In another moment General Haverill, accompanied by a staff officer to whom he was issuing instructions, stood at the foot of the veranda steps. He had only time to return the salute of the three officers awaiting him there when another of his staff came hurrying up on horseback and handed him a dispatch.

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There is no doubt that laces and ruffles will play a large part on the summer clothes, and as these have always been more or less easy to handle, they may be attempted by any one with confidence. Summer dresses are either lined like winter ones or they are made up on a belt about two inches wide. If the linings are used they are cut low at the neck and edged with lace and perhaps embroidery to simulate the corset cover, whose place they take, and instead of having conventional armholes there are pieces of ribbon that are fastened to front and back to points made especially to hold them. This style makes it possible to wear the transparent models, and most new gowns have a look of transparency from the bustline upward, with the fewest undergarments—an item of consideration in summers, when satins and heavy laces take the place of old-time muslins and batistes.

Nervousness is a common feminine disease. Women try all kinds of nerve quieting potions which are offered as a cure for nervousness, in the form of "compounds" or "nervines." And yet no cure is effected. The relief is only temporary. The reason is that these potions are opiates and narcotics. They put the nerves to sleep for a time, but when they wake again their condition is worse than before. Modern medicine recognizes the relation of this nervous condition in women to the forms of disease which affect the sensitive womanly organs. To cure the nervousness the cause must be removed. The use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription will result in the cure of weakening drains, inflammation, ulceration and bearing-down pains, the common causes of nervousness in women. Nothing is just as good as "Favorite Prescription," because nothing else is as harmless or as sure. It contains no alcohol, and is absolutely free from opium, cocaine and other narcotics.

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Medical.

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CHAPTER XIII.

Signals From Three Top Mountain.

"ARDON me," murmured General Haverill, finally turning away from the youth. "Now, Colonel West, speaking of young officers, we have an adventurous piece of work for some one of them"—here Frank stopped to hear the rest—a dangerous mission, so much so that I shall not order any individual to undertake it. A volunteer to lead the venture is what we want."

"Oh, sir, general, may I have the chance?" cried Lieutenant Bedloe.

"I thought you had passed on, sir," returned the general, looking keenly at him again.

"If it is a scouting expedition, sir," the young man went on with irresistible eagerness, "I beg to say that I have made myself thoroughly acquainted with the region hereabout. In fact, I was hoping to qualify as a scout. Please don't refuse me, sir."

General Haverill could not help showing that he was pleased.

"That is the right kind of talk," he declared, turning to the other officers. "Our young friend shall listen while I tell you what is required. We want the key to the enemy's cipher and signal code. They have a signal station on Three Top mountain yonder and another somewhere down the creek that is a nest of mischief to us. Every night we see their messages in fire on the mountain top, and we can't read them. What we want is a bold dash inside Early's lines and a sudden attack upon the station, with seizure of the papers and dispatches. If there is a practicable way of approach from this side of the mountain the thing might be risked with the right sort of a leader."

"I know of a path, general, and I believe I could accomplish the undertaking," urged Frank.

"Very well, Major McCandless of my staff here will take you to Young's headquarters. He will furnish coats, men and horses—and Confederate uniforms if needed. Now, lieutenant"—here General Haverill took out his notebook—"give me a few particulars about yourself. Have you parents living?"

"I have the particulars regarding Lieutenant Bedloe and his parents, general," said Heartsease, hastening to poor Frank's rescue.

"Very well. I will ask you for them if necessary. Goodby, my lad," he added, turning to Frank and grasping his hand. "Do the best you can—no man can do more. Keep a brave heart and come back to us."

The young man bowed, saluted and started away. Heartsease met him at the end of the veranda, and they exchanged a whispered word. Then Heartsease returned, saying:

"Colonel West—aw—it's deucedly embarrassing, you know, but I shall have to ask leave of absence and go with him."

"Good boy, Heartsease! Well, ask the general. He can hardly refuse you."

"That's all right, but I've got to ask Miss Buckthorn, too, and the thought of that so stirs my emotions, that—well, au revoir, colonel."

The day began very early at Belle Bosquet that golden October season in that restless year of war's alarms. It was scarcely an hour after sunrise when Colonel Ellingham and Madeline West, returning from their favorite walk to the neighboring hilltop, met Jenny Buckthorn, who had already been down to the camp to meet her father.

"It's all up with us, Madeline," she said. "You know papa only gave us our passes, at least yours, because we all thought the fighting in this part of the valley was through with. Now it looks as if it were just beginning. Anyway the general says this is no place for women, and he has ordered us to Winchester."

(Continued next week.)

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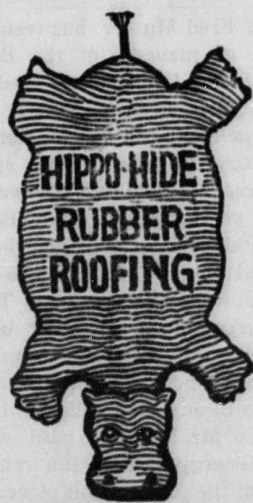
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