SYNOPSIS.

Lieutenant Holton is detached from his command in the navy at the outset of the Spanish-American war and assigned to important secret service duty.

CHAPTER II.

The Girl and the Walter.

At seven o'clock, in immaculate evening attire, Holton set out from his club and sallied forth to the Willard. After studying the menu lovingly, and having devised a dinner suitable to the palate of one who had followed the lure of Epicurus in Vienna, Paris, and London, he turned from the card and lighting a cigarette and sipping a cocktail, he gazed about the room.

At one table he saw the French ambassador and a company of his Gallic friends. Near by young Pembroke, of the British embassy, was dining a girl Holton had met. To his left sat a dark-skinned, sleek-appearing man with close-cropped Vandyke beard. He had been pointed out to Holton in Paris as a man who had plans of German forts at Kiel for sale. The young officer wondered what he was doing

Altogether the atmosphere, Holton decided, was just as it should be, just as the capital of a country should act when the government stands on the brink of international war.

Holton had just dispatched his first oyster when his attention was attracted by a musical little laugh to a table about twenty feet away from him. A girl, slightly above the medium height, with slender resilient figure, was standing with her back to him, talking to her escort, a well-built man of fifty odd, with iron-gray hair and beard, and the dark features of the Latin.

She was a beauty. Holton, connoishair was not the coal-black hair of her know." race, but a shining, golden deep brown, which lay upon her head in the man, flushing. thick, waving convolutions. Her eyes were blue-gray, set off by long, dark grip on the waiter's arm. lashes, and fine brows, which ran with delicate arches to the straight, finely bag out of your coat and put it on the modeled nose. Her lips were colored table or I'll make a spread-eagle of by nature, pure coral, and her teeth you." flashed as she spoke.

"It's absurd, father, for you to mind. I can wait here as well as anywhere to occupy myself by dining."

The father shrugged. "Well," he said at length. "It is be gone long, but if you mind I'll take to the desk." you back to the hotel."

"It's so bright and interesting here, ing at the girl. and you'll return soon, anyway. No. go on, father, and I'll eat"—she smiled ment and then shook her head. radiantly-"very slowly until you re-

Her cheeks had flushed with anias well as the whiteness of her skin, in removing the bag."



Holton Tightened His Grip on the Waiter's Arm.

convinced Holton that if her father were Spanish, or Cuban, or something Latin, the girl unquestionably was the daughter of an Anglo-Saxon mother.

With a gesture that amounted almost to carelessness, she had tossed a gold mesh hand-bag on the table, and now as she glanced over the card it was quite concealed from her view.

however, neglecting occasional glances at the radiant creature who had been tonight, and that is quite sufficient. most entirely of soft plant fibers, a higher class of educators than servleft, as he inwardly phrased it, high But you do not remember me, and so fragments of spiders' webs sometimes and dry by her father. "I should think," he murmured, "that | you do."

he'd be afraid someone would steal her. I-I, by George! I'd like to, you But-but you will not think me pre- eye of the man who can distinguish it

Which thought thrilled him out of after." all proportion to the amount of good sense it contained. It was at about she said simply. this point that Holton's gaze fell upon | The unexpected nature of this re-

sons to be seen occasionally in great tongue. estaurants who seem to be above

their calling. There was a hidden! something, passing phases of facial expression, a certain movement of the shoulders, and above all, a firm-footed evening. I wish, really wish, it would but light tread, all of which seemed to be otherwise." She sighed. "It would Holton to indicate a man misplaced.

later, when the girl again lifted the one day, there the next. I shall be so menu and the waiter stepped to the glad to be home once more." corner of the table, upon which the gold bag lay. With a quick snakelike quiringly. movement his hand shot out and seized the bag. Then, hardly lifting his fin- are outside Cuabitas." gers from the table, he snapped his wrist upward and the bag flew under the lapel of his jacket, which had been held open to receive it by the other hand. Another instant and he was in You have been very good. But now front of the girl receiving her order with the utmost sang froid.

Holton wasted no time in thought. Quickly springing up he approached the young woman's table, and nodding to her as to an old acquaintance, he placed his hand lightly upon the waiter's arm.

"Wait a moment," said Holton pleasantly.

The girl in the meantime had been staring at the young officer in wideeyed wonderment. "What-what does this mean?" she

asked finally. "Your bag," said Holton quietly, was on this table, was it not?"

The girl leaned forward with a gasp. "Why-why, yes," she said. "Whyit's gone." She looked up at Holton with startled eyes. "It's gone," she repeated, her voice beginning to rise. Holton smiled reassuringly and nodded.

"Please don't be alarmed," he said, "it is all right." He turned to the waiter. "This man evidently regarded your bag as among the debris to be cleared from the table. Rather stupid, seur of femininity though he was, ad- of course, but then, if he were not mitted that without hesitation. Her stupid he wouldn't be a waiter, you

"What do you mean, sir!" exclaimed Holton laughed and tightened his

"Give me my bag," said the girl, her

eyes flashing. Without a word the waiter reached else-although I shan't promise not his hand inside his jacket, and bringing forth the missing article, laid it on the table.

"There," he said, "I thought someone quite necessary, Ranee, and I shan't had left it and I was going to take it

"Rats," commented Holton. "Do you "Not at all, not all," she protested. wish him arrested?" he added, glanc-

The young woman thought a mo-"No, thank you, I think not," she

said. "I should hate to appear in proceedings, and after all, no harm has mation, and the purity of her coloring. been done. It may be he was sincere

Holton regarded her sharply and saw that she really believed in the man's guilt, but was averse to carrying the matter further.

"All right," he said, releasing his grip upon the waiter's arm. "Now, then, you go and attend to your duties -and be sure you don't put any poison girl and the strange nature of their inin this young lady's food."

The waiter turned away with an evil scowl, and Holton bowed and was about to go to his table, when the girl smiled at him radiantly. "I have not thanked you yet for

your kindness," she said. "Oh, it was nothing at all," responded

Holton. "But it was," she insisted. "That bag is very dear to me, and, besides, it contains things I should hate to lose. I am sorry that my father is not here to thank you, and yet in another way I am glad. He would scold me for being awfully careless."

She was speaking in perfect English, with just the faintest accent. "Perhaps so," granted Holton. Then he took the bit in his teeth. "My name ant in the army."

sa. I think I-at least, I remember seeing you at one of the White House receptions."

"I remember having seen you," lied Holton, "but I was trying to recall the built by the bill and feet of birds is the term being in our minds inexplace. I think we were introduced. La that of the ruby throated humming tricably confused with schoolhouses Tossa," he mused.

"Oh, come, Mr. Applegate--"

"Appleton," corrected Holton. "Thank you, Mr. Appleton; let us Holton returned to his oysters, not, have done with beating about the bush. tree or shrub frequently many feet and the persons who are with him, You have rendered me a great favor from the ground. It is composed alplease do not try to make me think being used to hold them in shape. The

suming if I said I should like to-here- from a knot on the limb. The eggs

"I should like to have you know me,"

"Thank you," he said lamely.



She regarded him in smiling silence "But I'm afraid," she said then, "that your knowledge will be limited to this be so nice to be like other girls. But He felt certain of this a moment father and I are birds of passage, here "Home?" Holton looked at her in-

"Yes, my home is near Santiago. We

"Oh! Holton flushed for some reason or other. "Good-by, Mr. Appleton," she said.

you must go, really." "May I not call?" asked Holton. "I

recognize the informality of our meeting, and I do not wish you to think me forward, but I really-" "I thank you, Mr. Appleton," she said; "but, no-these things cannot

There was a note of finality in her voice and a trace of pathos, both of which Holton caught.

"Of course, Miss La Tossa, I shall do as you say. But I am sorry." He paused. "And will you please remember this: If you ever need assistance in any way, and I am within reach, will you call upon me?"

"I thank you," she replied. "You are most kind. I shall remember what you have said." Holton drew a card-case from his

pocket. "When I told you my name was Appleton," he said, "I acted upon impulse, but intended no insult. My real name and my address are contained here." and he placed a card in front of her.

The girl glanced at the bit of pasteboard, and then started. She looked up at Holton with a frightened expression.

"Lieutenant Holton," she said. "Why I thought-"

She paused. "You thought?" prompted Holton. "I-I thought-She paused again. then her expression changed, and she smiled at him. "I thought you said

your name was Appleton." said Holton. "It was an impulse, and no harm was intended. Now you have my real name."

The girl shook her head slowly. "You must not do that again." "What-give the wrong name? never shall," and Holton spoke fervent-

"No-the right name." She fixed him with her serious eyes. "Appleton is a very fine name," she said; "it sounds just as well as your own-Holton. Yes, I think it has a more attractive sound-to a Spaniard. When you say Appleton-why, then-then it is better so sometimes. Now, Mr. Appleton, again I thank you. I shall remember all you have done and all you

have said. And now you must go." The officer bowed, a trifle stiffly, for her manner had undergone something them? of a change. He withdrew to his own table, and went through his various courses in a perfunctory manner. His mind was wholly upon that beautiful terview.

While Holton was engaged in thought Miss La Tossa's waiter, as though to make up for his misconduct. proved a most excellent servitor. He seemed, in fact, to take especial pride in attending to the service with all the skill at his command, with the result that the girl, who was in large degree

an epicure, rewarded him with a pleas ant smile. Her father joined her at coffee, and it was then, while waiting for an order, that this strange waiter penciled

the following telegram upon a pad which he carried in his pocket: "Holton at Willard. Scorpion evi dently not going to Key West. Failed with girl. But all working well."

This went to Key West. The waiter returned to the dining-room, and spent all his spare time standing within earshot of the table at which Miss La Tossa and her father were seated. The two were guests at the hotel.

Just before they arose the father said something which brought the waiter rigid. He listened for the reply, and then with a broad smile he hurried to the serving-table for fingerbowls, as demanded by a fussy gentleman at a table in front of him.

As for Holton, he was smoking a long cigar and, gazing thoughtfully at the ceiling, trying to determine where he had seen the face of that waiter before.

When Holton entered the ballroom of the Willard the orchestra from behind its shelter of palms was sending forth the stirring notes of Sousa's "Stars and Stripes," whose popularity was then at the apex, and the floor was filled with whirling couples. A few minutes late, all other thoughts flashed from his mind as the girl he the door on the arm of her father. She "I am grateful to you-I am thankful was smiling animatedly, and was at once surrounded by a group of young men, mainly foreigners, all clamoring for one or more dances.

"By George!" ejaculated Holton under his breath. "I'm for that young lady without any doubt at all." Twice he started to move toward her, only to be anticipated by some equally ardent young gallant, and it

was not until the music of a waltz had



"As I explained, I did tell you that," Trying to Determine Where He Had Seen the Face Before.

ceased and her partner had begun to cast his eyes about the room for the woman whose name appeared next on his card that Holton saw his opportunity. Stepping quickly across the floor, he confronted her with a bow, seeing which the partner bowed in turn and disappeared.

"Mr. Apple-Mr. Holton!" she exclaimed. "What a surprise!" "Not an unpleasant one, I hope,"

smiled Holton in reply. "Of course not," she answered, placing her card in the officer' outstretched hand

"Thank you." Holton glanced quickly down the list of names. "I see the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth dances are not taken. May I have

"All?" She arched her eyebrows, but smiled, as if pleased. "Certainly, all," said the young man emphatically, "and as many more as

you can spare.' She regarded him smilingly. "What a queer person you are!" Holton was about to reply when a man in diplomatic British uniform approached, bowed stiffly, and bore the girl away. She looked back at Holton

"Adios!" she called. (TO BE CONTINUED.)

over her shoulder.



"And I," she said, "am Miss La Tos- Maple Leaf of Ordinary Size Will Conceaf the Home of the Humming Bird.

The most exquisitely dainty home than an English walnut and is usually sides are thickly studded with bits of "All right," said Holton, "I won't lichen, and practiced indeed is the

are the size of quinine pills. tenure of occupancy. Within three except in the spawning season.

is Appleton," he said; "I'm a lieuten- DAINTIEST OF BIRD'S NESTS | weeks after the two little white eggs are laid the young have departed on their tiny pinions.

Servant Girl Educator. The truth is, we never think of education in connection with babyhood. bird, says a writer in the Craftsman. and books. When we do honestly ad-When completed it is scarcely larger | mit the plain fact that a child is being educated in every waking hour by saddled on a small horizontal limb of a the condition in which he is placed we shall be readier to see the need of ant girls .- Concerning Children.

Salmon Industry Threatened.

Alaskans say that indiscriminate slaughter soon will drive the whales out of the north Pacific, and that this will result in the destruction of the Although the humming bird's nest salmon industry. Countless millions is exceedingly frail, there appears to of herring, now driven close to shore be nothing on record to show that any by the whales, will stay out in the the waiter attending the young woman, mark quite unhorsed the young officer, great numbers of them come to deep water, they declare, and the He was one of those interesting per- and for a second no words came to his grief during the summer rains. It is, salmon, which live on the herring, however, not called upon for a long | will stay out in deep water with them.

Villa's Troops to Attack Federal Stronghold at Chihuahua.

NO ALARM OVER TAMPICO.

Constitutionalist Forces Are Reported To Be Advancing Toward Tampico From Victoria.

El Paso, Texas.-The movement of Gen. Francisco Villa's troops to the south to attack the Federal stronghold at Chihuahua was begun when nearly 1,000 men under Gen. Rosalio Hernandez departed from Juarez.

They accompanied a work train used to repair the railroad line which was destroyed in places below Juarez by the Federals when they retreated southward after the Tierra Blanca battle

Rebel leaders believe they will have a fight with the Federals at Villa Penns Valley Banking Company had met in the restaurant passed in at Ahumada, 83 miles south of Juarez, as the Federal troops defeated at Tierra Blanca are marooned there. Villa said he had plenty of ammunition for a field fight or for a siege of the State capital. He said he captured 1,122 shells in the recent fighting, besides 1,300 rifles and 23,000 cartridges.

Villa stated that not more than 80 of his men were killed.

NO ALARM FELT OVER TAMPICO. Washington Gets No Word From Lind Or Fletcher.

Washington.-Secretary Bryan has no official communication from Rear-Admiral Fletcher or John Lind, the special American envoy in Mexico, relating to conditions in the oil fields near Tampico.

The fact that no report had been received since the cable from Admiral Fletcher relating to conditions in the vicinity of Tuxpam several days ago was regarded in official circles as an assurance that there was no immediate cause for alarm.

Secretary Daniels early in the day ssued an order directing the fourth division of the Atlantic fleet, now in the Mediterranean, to proceed to the east coast of Mexico via Guantanamo. The ships to make the trip are the Connecticut, Kansas and Ohio, ordered to replace the Louisiana, Michigan and New Hampshire, now in Mexican waters. The division left Mediterranean December 1, and should arrive off Vera Cruz about two weeks later. Rear-Admiral Badger, commander-inchief of the Atlantic fleet, will direct this maneuver

STILL HARPING ON PANAMA.

Colombian Senate Passes Resolution Of Protest

Bogota, Colombia. - A resolution protesting against any manifestation of approval of the "despoliation of Panama, publicly admitted by its author, ex-President Roosevelt," was unanimously adopted by the Colombian Senate. The resolution declares that "the attitude of the Government and people of the United States is opposed to that of ex-President Roosevelt, as the present government has made quite clear its desire to respect the laws of equity and jus-

EX-MAYOR GUILTY OF ASSAULT. Confesses and Is Sentenced To Five Years In "Pen."

Roanoke, Va.-Wesley H. Terry, 63 years old, of Floyd Courthouse, who was arrested October 30 charged with attempted assault upon a young woman of that place, appeared before Judge Moffitt at a special term of the Circuit Court and pleaded guilty to the indictment. He was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary. Terry was former Mayor of the town and the young woman, whose room he entered, was the daughter of the Clerk of the County Court.

TERMS TO BEGIN JANUARY 1. Radical Changes Proposed In Bill Now In Senate.

Washington.-Efforts will be made early in the new session of Congress for a favorable report from the Senate Judiciary Committee on the Shafroth resolution to begin the terms of President, Vice-President, senators and representatives on the first Monday of January immediately following election. The resolution was reported favorably some time ago by a subcommittee, and has been under consideration by the entire committee.

TOLMAN MUST SERVE 6 MONTHS.

Sentence Imposed On "Loan Shark King" Affirmed.

New York. - Daniel H. Tolman, "king of the loan sharks," must serve six months in the penitentiary for usury. In so deciding the appellate division upheld the lower court which imposed sentence. Tolman based his appeal on the ground that the act of usury was committed by a woman employe without his knowledge or con-

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