Colonel of the Fourth

- A Story of the Late War.

By BERNARD BIGSBY,

Author of "Loyal at Last," "My

Lady Fantastic," &c.

CHAPTER XIII. ALL FOR A WOMAN.

Human interest is always stirred to

fever heat by a race, whether the com-

peting objects be men in the arena, horses on the course or yachts or ocean steamers flying over the foaming waves,

but here was a sight that made the dull-

est pulse beat fast—two armies rushing

thousands were the participators in this

stupendous truggle, with all the odds of an early start in favor of the former,

but the Union General reached the goal

first, and so foiled one of the finest of-

forts of his astate antagonist, whose

record during his brilliant career was second only to Lee's among the South-

ern commanders as an expert tactician.

But though forestalled in his inten-

tions, the Confederate leader seized the

opportunities left to him, with consum-

mute skill, fleeding the State with ap-

them by the presence and boasted aus-cesses of his troops to join his standard,

part of the State with its fertile val-

rels of pork, two thousand horses and

eight thousand beeves, and all this vast

array of booty he dispatched in safety southward. Then, when this valuable

feat was accomplished, he sullenly be-

gan a retrograde movement with Buell,

whose delay had fretted the gallant troops he led almost beyond endur-ance, in tardy pursuit. Day by day the Union forces followed the retreating

host, when on the 9th of October, as

they reached the village of Perryville,

Bragg turned upon them with sudden

fury, and fighting from noon till eve, so crippled his pursuers that when

darkness came on he was allowed un-

molested to escape with all his plunder

to Chattanooga.
In judging General Buell's actions

false information, and that he was

pitted against a leader of exceptionable

not stop to weigh these considerations,

so on the last day of the same month he

place him, so Rosecrans, whose brilliant

career in West Virginia had already be-

to this important command, and under

with the rest of the army found them-

The dusky shades of night were fast

lengthening and the sun had set in

grimson glory-the last departing

blush of Indian summer-when on an

early November evening the figure of a

horseman might have been seen riding

at a steady trot along a road which led

in a southeasterly direction from Nash-

ville. Ever and anon the traveler

looked back over his shoulder with an

expression of anxiety at the fair city he was leaving, and then grasping his bridle with more determination and

spurring his horse to greater effort, as

though he were there instigating him-

self to the accomplishment of some-

thing he was undertaking in only a half-hearted manner, fixed his eyes on

lights which glimmered in the far dis-

tance and steadily pursued his journey

without permitting any regret he might

have entertained to distract him from

his purpose. In the trim figure and

handsome features of this solitary

horseman it is not difficult to recognize

our young friend, Charlie Fulton-but

not the gallant, gay, light-hearted lad

who marched from Columbus with high

hopes and spotless soul, for in the rider to-night we see one whose face is drawn

with care, one who would even now

turn back from the fatal errand he is

bent on if something stronger than his

sense of honor did not drag him for-

ward; and this something was the siren-

figure of a woman, for whose favors he

felt at that moment as if he would

barter his very soul. As the mariner of

ancient days looked on Seylla and

was risking two imminent dangers-

being caught as a spy and hung, or

arrested for treason and shot-but she

had sent him word to come, and if a

hundred deaths stood between him and

them all. Hour by hour he rode, each

mile alternately as he neared his goal

torturing lim with remorse or thrilling

Ahl there is the signal-two lights

burning in a garret window of the

house he is at last approaching. Has

him with expectation.

her, for her sweet sake he would dare

selves once more at Nashville.

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hurriedly. Radiantly beautiful in a dress so per-fect that it allows the rounded loveli-

flighest of all in Leavening Power .- U. S. Gov't Report, Aug. 17, 1889.



ABSOLUTELY PURE

ness of her exquisite ngure to show its graceful lines and stir to the depths of his soul the impassioned youth as he across a State, as big as a European country, in anxious haste to reach a spot that may be a key to pronounced victory. Bragg and Buell with their gases at the undulating form, worship-

ing with the fervor of a first love.
"You are come," she says, in an secont transplously musical. "You I hardly thought you would dare another

She permitted him to draw her to his respectfully, yet firmly.

"The devil! Do you know to whom you are talking and what you are saybreast and imprint a kiss upon the upturned face "Come!" he said. "When you say

ger I would not dare to do your bid-She trembled under his ardent game. Pity for a moment broke the spell that bound her better nature, and disenguging hersalf from his embrace she cried,



SHE TREMBLED UNDER HIS ARDENT GAZE.

not too late even now to save you from the consequences of your rushness. Hasten to your horse and away as fast as you can ride. Treachery is all around you. I, even I, have dug the pitfall for you. Fly, if you would save yourself from harm and me from madness; for your grand devotion has touched my heart and I could almost love you.'

"Almost! I thought " "Hush!"

But the warning came too lates a lozen stalwart forms, springing from the shadows of the trees, surround the young ion, who, stunned by the girl's revelation, yields without a blow for freedom.

during this campaign, it is but fair to remember that many of his failures were due to unavoidable misfortune and "Another captive to your fascinations, Miss Lascelles," the officer in charge of the party says, with more mockery than sincerity. "Your beaux your are more of-factive than our rifle-bullets."

high qualities; but popular opinion did "And just as cruell" she mutfored, bitterly, as she watched them lead her victim to the house. "Fool that I am, met the fate so often accorded to the if after all, t'were him and not the other unsuccessful General, deprivation of command. Thomas had refused to re-

Once more Charlie is on the road, with his horse's head turned not to Nashville but to Murfreesboro, and not alone come a matter of history, was appointed now, but with a gay company of jolly fellows, who, though they guard him these new auspices the Fighting Fourth well, treathim with a consideration that would rob its capture of its sting, if he were not so dazed with the discovery that he was delivered into bondage by the girl he loved; and, poor, infatuated lad, he felt that even now he could not shake himself free from the chains of her fatal fascinations.

That night Charlie Fulton slept at a plantation close to Murfreesboro in a small, dark, low-cetted room, whose gloomy aspect was increased by its heavy antique furniture and old-fashtoned presses, sarved in the grotesque taste of the last century. Morning dawned cold and gray, but with its first gleam he sprang from his bed and ran to the narrow casement. The sight be-low riveted the galling thought that he was indeed a prisoner, and that the adventures of the preceding night were not a hideous dream. A squadron of dragoons, who seemed to have passed the night beside their horses, lay stretched or seated in all the picturesque groupings of a bivouac; some already up and stirring; others leaned half-listlessly upon their elbows, and looked about as if unwilling to believe that their rest was over; while some, stretched in deep slumber, woke not with the turnult around them.

Having dressed, he walked up and down the narrow room, tortured and agonized by sad reflections. Suddenly he saw a group of horsemen arrive at whose approach the pickets were on the alert and the guard at the gate presented arms. The sound of voices beneath him informed him that the party occupied the room below his own; so he strained his ear to catch the current dreaded Charybdis, he knew that he of their murmured conversation. The next minute his door was unlocked and an officer entered, bowing politely as he advanced into the middle of the

> "Will you have the goodness to follow me this way?" Charlie had barely time to ask into whose presence he was about to be ushered, when, with a smile of strange meaning, he opened a door and intro-duced him into a spacious apartment. Although he had seen at least a dezen

horsemen arrive, there were but three

he been there before? It seems so, for present. One of these, who sat at a he dismounts and, leaving his horse small table near the window, never tethered to a tree, advances up the very lifted his head on his entrance, but asorehard path down which one memorsiduously continued his occupation. able midnight Frank Besant fled so The one, however, on whom Charlie's that carpet-what is it?" stood with his back to the open fire-place, sternly contemplating his ap-

"What is your rank, sir?" he saked, in a tone of command. "Captain of infantry," was the sullen

oply.
"What was the Federal force under arms yesterday?"

"I do not feel able to give you any information, sir, as to the number or movements of our semy," Fulton said,

ing, eir? Smith, do you hear the fel-'come,' my sweet one, there is no dan-

"Yes, sir," the other replied. "And, if you will permit me to deal with him I will have the information out of him before he is ten minutes older, General

Bragg."
"Ah, you rascal, I believe you," the superior smiled, graciously; "but I'm not going to trust him to your gentle catechism."

"Had you dispatches?" he added, turning to Fulton, who preserved an obsti-nate silence, on seeing which he ad-dressed the officer who had brought the prisoner in: "Were any dispatches found on him when he was taken?"

"No, sir; nothing was found on him except this locket." "Ahl" said Bragg, gazing at the beau-tiful features of Mary Lascelles. "Another of my Lady Funtastic's hapless victims-take the prisoner back to his

quartera." 'Come along," said the good-humered officer, as he strode from the room, with Charlie following.

"Have they given you any grub to-day?" he asked, as they reached the prison chamber.

"Not a bite nor sup; but I am not hungry," was the deleful confession. "Pshaw, man! cheer up—I'll go below and send you something," and, true to his word, his departure was quickly followed by a substantial meal, which Fulton, notwithstanding his troubles,

did ample justice to. Then came a clatter of arms and stamping of horses without, and Charlie saw the squadron on the move.

"By Jovel you are in luck, my boy," a manly voice cried, as his door opened, and the officer who had commanded as guard the previous night made his appearance.

"How so?" Charlie asked, wearily. "Why, there's no batch of prisoners to send to limbo, so I've orders to conduct you to a recruiting station at Murfreesboro, where you won't get half bad quarters, I can tell you. The General, too, is well impressed with you, and means to let you down easy, so keep a stiff upper-lip and hope for better fort-

Fulton's next quarters were in a large, roomy building, which had once been a private residence of no mean proportions, but which was now occu-pied by the military, partly as a recruit-ing office and partly as a hospital for a few convalescent officers, whose wounds for the time incapacitated them for active service. His chamber faced the grounds of a handsome mansion, tenanted evidently by persons of position in society, for Charlie spent many a weary hour watching gay groups of ladies gathered on the broad verandah. or toiling with the needle on soldiers' supplies in the handsome rooms, the windows of which were almost always

He had been offered a parole, and had refused, a decision which did not lower him in the estimation of his generous captors.

And now the gayest season m all the year in the South was approaching, the Christmas holidays, and Charlie could see that his fair neighbors were making lavish preparation for the coming festivities

Charlie happened to mention this to a young officer, who often lingered after a visit of inspection to chat with the prisoner.

"Bah! My dear fellow, it isn't only for the holidays they're decorating, but to-night that pretty girl in blue, leaning on the pillar yonder, is to be married by Bishop Polk. I allow they'll have a gallant fling, for President Davis himself has come to grace the festivities with his presence."

"It doesn't seem to me a time for much rejoicing," Fulton said, moodily.
"Never a better," was the gay reply. "McClellan whipped at Antietam, Sher-man at & dead-look before Vicksburg, Rosecrans on the eve of a retreat, and Nashville as good as ours again!"

"There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip," Charlie ventured. "But not when the cup is held by the firm hands of heroes," was the decided

That night his friend was with him again, when the revelry was at its height. The evening, though in December, was mild, and in the crowded rooms of the mansion must have been almost sultry; at least it seemed so, for the blinds and windows were flung up to their utmost height, affording the two young men an uninterrupted view of the ball-room.

"See that tall, stately man lead forward those two pretty girls to dance—that is President Davis—that fine fellow in black is the bishop-but, Heavens, man, what is the matter? You're pale as death itself?"

"Look!" Charite oried, clutching his neighbor's arm convulsively. "What is that they are dancing on-that thing-



Moses and lilles bring Elessom and frond and there. For the clouds have pussed and night at last Breaks into whitest more.

Men from the wintry lands,

Men of the lands of sun.
But the days are changed since we stood
estranged.
And the north and south are ens.
For where the baronet glasmed
Follows the furrowing plow.
And the hund of time, with touch sutdime,
Has smoothed war's rugged brow.

Here are the clustered graves
Of those whose race marched down
In the cold moon's light to the fameus height
Of beleagued Hoston town.

And there are the gransy tombs
Unnamed by tongue or pen,
Of these whose sires left bousehold free To fight as Marion's mea.

Over these eloquent The sounds of discord cesses, And the spring grass waves by the round

ed graves

Idke hope at the side of peace.

And the robin builds her nest
In the rifle shattered tree,

And curiews cry where a cloudless sky Looks on a tranquil sea. And so in brotherheod

And so in brotherheed
We scatter the buds of May;
Let the flowers fall over one and all.
For we know no blue nor gray,
And there is no cast and west,
And there is no north or south.
For the paim and plue together twing
Over the cannon's mouth.
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ited express, 1.06 and 4.50 p m., 12.44, 1.40, 2.30, 3.00, 4, 5, 4, 6.30, 6.50 7.13 8.12 and 10.00 p m., 12.01 night.

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