The Canadian Post. LINDRAY, FRIDAY, JULY II, 1800.

RY CAPS, CHARLES EISH, E. S. A.

Author of "Bunraren Ranch" "The Color

blood that flowed from a deep gash in his temple and forehead; he seemed will stumed as by the force of the blow that had felled him, and furton, speechles With amaze and heaven only knows what other emotions, wanglaring at a tall athlette et fanger who, in stocking feet under shiff and trongers, held by three frighten. ed looking soldiers and correct by the carbine of a fourth, was hurling deflance and denunciation at the commanding officer. A revolver lay upon the floor at the feet of a corporal of the guard, whe was graning in pain. A thin vell of powder smoke floated through the room. As Alake learned in this cavalry shoulder knote and belinet cords gleaning in the light a theh of prognition shot into the stranger's eyes, and he curbed his fearful excitement and stopped short on his

What devil's work is this!" demanded Plake, glaring intuitively at Buxton. These people resisted my guards and had to take the consequences," said this.

ton, with surly yet shaken dignity, "What were the guards doing here! What, in that's name, are you doing heres" demanded Blake, forgetful of all consideration of rank and command in the face of such evident catastrophe. "I ordered them here to enter and

warch." A parties.

Search what? what for

"For-a woman I had reason to believe he had broughtout here from town." "What? You infernal idiot? Why. she's his own sister, and this gentleman's

The silence broken only by the hard breathing of some of the excited men and a meaningery of the woman, was

for a moment intener, "len't this Mr. Hurley" asked Blake. muldenly, as though to make sure, and furning one instant from his furious place at his superior officer. The stranger, still held, though no longer strings! gling, replied between his set teeth:

"Certainly, I've told him so," By heaven, Buxton, is there no limit to your amininity? What fearful work will you do next?"

"I'll arnut you, sir, if you speak another disrespectful word!" thundered Buyton, recovering consciousness that me commanding officer he could defend himself against Blake's assault.

"Do it and be you know what I would may if a lady were not present Do it if you think you can stand having this thing ventilated by the court. Pah! I can't waste words on you. Who's some for the doctor? Here, you men, let go of Mr. Harley now. Help me Mr. Hurley, please. Get your wife back to her room,

Bring me some water, one of you." And with that he was bending over If it no and unbuttoning the fatigue uniform in which he was still dressed. Another moment and the doctor had come in, and with him half the young officers of the garrison. Rayner was led away to his own quarters. Buxton, dazed and frightened now, ordered the guards back to their post, and stood pondering over the enormity of his blunder. No one moke to him, or paid the faintest attenfion other than to ellow him out of the way oreasionally. The doctor never so ner who asked: much as roticed him. Blake had briefly Recumbed the estastrophe to those who lot? first arrived, and as the story went from mouth to mouth it grew no better for of acquish Inixton. Once he turned short on Mr. Foster, and in aggrieved and sullen tone

"I thought you fellows in the Riflers said

he to the relations."
"We weren't apt to be invited to meet them if he had; but I don't know that anybody was in position to know anywith this affair. I'd like to hear?"

At last somebody took him home. Mrs. Waktron, meantime, had arrived and been admitted to Mrs. Hurley's from. The doctor refused to go to Capt. Rayner's even when a messenger came from Mrs. Rayner herself. He referred her to his assistant, Dr. Grimes. Hayne had regained consciousness, but was sorely shaken. He had been floored by a blow from the butt of a musket; but the report that he was shot proved happily ustrue. His right hand still lay near the hilt of his light sword; there was little question that he had raised his weapor against a superior officer, and would

have used it with telling effect. Few people sleps that night along offi-cer's row. Never had Warrener heard of such excitement. Ituston knew not He reced the floor in accor

on beginning to end he was the me of the whole constroyche. He d gone so far as to order his corporal had gone so far as to order his corporal to fare, and he know it could be proved against him. Thank God, the perplexed corporal had shot high, and fac other men, barring the one who had saved Rayner from a furious lungs of the lieutenance ewerd, had used their weapons as gingerly and reluctantly as possible. At the very least, he know, an investigation and fearful consider must come of it. Night though it was, he sent for the acting adjutant and several of his brothes captains, and, setting refreshments before them, becought their advice. He was still commanding officer dejure, but he had lost all stomach for its functions. He would have been glad to send for He had lost all stomach for its renetions. He would have been glad to send for Plake and bog his pardon for submitting to his insubordinate and abusive language, if that course could have stopped inquiry; but he well knew that the whole thing would be noised abroad in less than

At first he thought to give order against the telegraph operator's canding any messages concerning the matter; but that would have been only a temporary hindrance: he could not control the instrimente and operators in town, only three miles away. He aimest wished he had been knocked down, shot or stabbed in the melee; but he had kept in the reas when the skirmish began, and Raynes and the corporal were the sufferent. They had been knocked "endwise" by Mr. Hurley's practised fists after Hayne was struck down by the corporal's musket. It was the universal centiment among the officers of the —th as they scattered to their homes that funton had "wound himself up this time, anyhow;" and no one had any sympathy for himnot one. The very best light in which he could fell the story only showed the affair as a flagrant and inexcusable out

Cupt. Rayner, too, was in fearful plight. He had simply obeyed orders; but all the old story of his persecution of Hayne would now be revived; all men would see in his participation in the af-fair, only additional reason to adjudge him cruelly persistent in his hatred of the young officer, and, in view of the uffer ruthlemness and wrong of this assault, would be more than ever confident of the falsity of his position in the original case. As he was slowly led up stairs to his room and his tearful wife and silent sister-in-law bathed and cleaned his wound, he saw with fright ful clearness how the crisch of circumstances was now upon him and his good name. Charthearen! how those words of Hayne's five years before rang, throbbed, burned, beat like trip hammers through his whirling brain! Is seemed as though they followed him and his fortunes like a curse. He sat silent, stunned, and stricken at the force of the calamity that had befallen him.

How could be over induce an officer and a gentleman to believe that he was no instigator in this matter!-that it was all fluxton's doing. Buxton's low imagination that had conceived the precibility of such a crime on the part of Mr. Hayne, and furton's blundering, bull headed abuse of authority that had capped the fatal climax? It was some time before his wife could get him to speak at all. She was hysterically bemoaning the fate that had brought them into contact with such people, and from time to fime giving vent to the comforting assertion that never had there been a cloud on their domestic or regimental sky until that wretch had been assigned to the Ritlers. She knew from the hurried and guarded explanations of Dr. Grimes and one of two young officers who helped Rayner home that the fracas had occurnel at Mr. Havne's that there had been a mistake for which her husband was not responsible, but that Capt. Buxton was entirely to blame. But her husband's ashen face told her a story of something far deeper; she knew that now he was involved in fearful trouble, and, whatever may have been her innermost thoughts, it was the first and irresistible impulse to throw all the blame upon her

scapegoat.
Miss Travers, almost as pale and quite as silent as the captain, was busying herself in beloing her sister; but she could with difficulty restrain her longing to bid her be silent. She, too, had endeavored to learn from her excert on their hurried homeward rush across the parade, what the nature of the disturbance had been. She, too, had suggested Clancy, but the officer by her side set his teeth as he replied that he wished it had been clancy. the had heard, too, the message brought by a cavalry trumpeter from Mr. Blake, He wanted Captain Ray to come to Mr. Hayno's as soon as he had seen Mrs. Ray safely home, and would be please ask Mrs. Stannard to come with him at the same time? Why should Mr. Blake want Mrs. Stannard at Mr. Hayne's: She saw Mr. Foster run up and speak a few words to Mrs. Waldron and heard that lady reply, "Certainly: I will go with you now." What could it mean? At last, as she was returning to her sister's room after a moment's absence, she heard a question at which her heart still. It was Mrs. Ray-

The averer sounded more like a moan

"The creature was his sister. It was her husband who"-

But, as Capt. Rayner buried his bat-fered face in his hands at this juncture, the rest of the sentence was inaudible. Miss Travers had heard quite enough, however. She stood there one moment, Appalled, dropped upon the floor the bundage she had been making, turned and sought her room, and was seen no

Over the day or two that followed this affair, the reil of silence may beet be drawn, in order to give time for the sediment of truth to settle through the whirlool of stories in violent circulation. The colonel came back on the first train after the adjournment of the court, and could hardly wait for that formality. Contrasy to his custom of "sleeping on" a question, he was in his office within half an hour after his return to the post, and from that time until near tattoo was busily occupied taking the statements of the active-participants in the affair. This was three days after its occurrence; and Capt. Reyner, though up and able to be about, had not left his quarters. Mrs. Rayner had abandoned her trip to the east, for the present at least,

there, but he had jumped at his floory, and his sudden direction to the command of the past gave him opportunity to carry out his virtuous determination that no such goings on should disgrace his administration

derks and "daily duty" men employed in the quartermaster, commissary and ordinance offices along Prairie avenue to ordinance offices along Prairie avenue to keep their eyes open and let him know of any visitors coming out of Hayne's by night, and if a lady came in a carriage he was to be called at once. Mr. Hurley promised that on their returns from Sait Lake they would come back by way of Warrener and spend two days with Hayne; since only an hour or two had they enjoyed of his company on their way west; and the very day that the officers went off to the court came the orders went off to the court came the telegram saying the Hurleys would arrive that evening. Hayne had already talked over their prospective visit with Mai. Waldron, and the latter had told his wife; but all intercourses of a friendly character was at an end between them and the Rayners and Buxtons; there were no more gossipy chats among the ladies. Indeed, it so happened that only to one or two people had Mrs. Waldron had time to mention that Mr. Hayne's sister was coming, and neither the Ray-ners nor Buxtons had heard of it; neither had Nellie Travers, for it was after the evening of her last visit that Mrs. Wal-

Hayne ran with his telegram to the major, and the latter had introduced himself and Maj. Stannard to Mrs. Hurley, when after a weary wait of some hours, the train arrived. Blake, too, was there, on the lookout for some friends, and he was presented to Mr. Hurley while her husband was attending to some matters about the baggage. The train went on eastward, carrying the field of ficers with it. Blake had to go with his friend back to the post, and Mr. and Mrs. Hurley, after the former had attended to some budness and seen some railway associates of his at the hotel, took the carriage they had had before and drove out to the garrison, where Private Schwein kopf saw the lady rapturously welcomed by Lieut. Hayne and escorted into the house, while Mr. Hurley remained settling with the driver out in the darkness. It was not long before the commanding officer protein, was called from the hor room, where the dance was going on de lightfully, and notified that the mysteri ous visitor had again appeared, with evident intention of spending the night, as the carriage had returned to town.

"Why, certainly." reasoned Buxton.
"It's the very night he would choose, since everybody will be at the hop; ne one will be apt to interfere, and every body will be unusually drowsy and leas inclined to take notice in the morning." Here was ample opportunity, for a brilliant stroke of work. He would firs satisfy himself she was there, then surround the house with sentrice so that she could not escape, while he, with the offi cer of the day and the corporal of the guard, entered the house and confronted him and her. That would wind up Mr. layne's career beyond question; nothing short of dismissal would result. Over he went, full of his project, listened as Hayne's like the eavesdropping sneak he was, saw again the shadow of thgraceful form and heard the silvery happy laugh, and then it was he sent for Rayner. It was near midnight when he led his forces to the attack. A light was now burning in the second story, which he thought must be Sam's; but the lights had been turned low in the parlor and the occupants had disappeared from sight and hearing. By inquiry he had ascer tained that Hayne's bedroom was jusback of the parlor.

A man was stationed at the back door others at the sides, with orders to arres any one who attempted to escape; thes softly he stepped to the front door telling. Rayner to follow him, and the corpora: of the guard to follow both. To his sur prise, the door was unlocked, and a ligh was burning in the hall. Never knock ing, he stepped in, marched through the hall into the parlor, which was empty and, signaling "Come on" to his follow ers, crossed the parlor and seized the knob of the bedroom door. It was locked. Rayner, looking white ane worried, stood just behind him, and the corporal but a step farther back. Before Buxton could knock and demand admis sion, which was his intention, quick foo steps came flying down the stairs from the second story and the trio wheeled about in surprise to find Mr. Havne dressed in his fatigue uniform, standing at the threshold and staring at then with mingled astonishment, incredulity and indignation. A sudden light seemed to dawn upon him as he glanced from one to the other. With a leap like a cat he threw himself upon Buxton, hurled him back, and stood at the closed door confronting them with blaxing eyes and clinching flets. "Open that door, sir!" cried Buxton.

"You have a woman hidden there. Open or stand aside."

"You hounds! I'll kill the first man who dares enter!" was the furious answer; and Hayne had snatched from the wall his long infantry sword and flashed the blade in the lamplight. Rayner made a step forward, half irresolute Havne leane I at him like a tiger. "Fire! Quick." shouted Buxton, in wild excitement Bang! went the carbine, and the bullet crashed through the plaster overhead, and, seeing the gleaming steel at his superior's throat, the corporal had sent the heavy butt crashing upon the lieu-tenant's skull only just in time; there would have been murder in another second. The next instant he was standing on his own head in the corner, seeing a multitude of twinkling, whirling stars, from the midst of which Capt. Raynes was recting backward over a chair and a number of soldiers were rushing upon a powerful picture of furious manhood—s stranger in shirt sleeves, who had leaned

Told as it was as it had to be all over the department, there seemed to be but one thing to say, and, that referred to Buxton: "Well! inn't he a phenomenal



The Springtime was coming, and the prairie roads were good and dry, and the doctor had told him he must live in the open air awhile and ride and walk "mounts," for three or four of his cavalry friends were ready to lend him a saddle horse any day. Mr. and Mrs. Hurley, after making many pleasant acquaint-ances, had gone on to Denver, and Capt. Buxton was congratulating himself that he, at least, had not run foul of the engineer's powerful fists. Buxton was not in arrest, for the case had proved a singular "poser." It occurred during the temporary absence of the colonel; he could not well place the captain under arrest for things he had done when acting as post commander. In obedience to his orders from department headquarters, he made his report of the affair, and indicated that Capt. Buxton's conduct had been inexcusable. Rayner had done nothing but, as was proved, reluctantly obey the captain's orders, so he could not be tried.

Hayne, who had committed one of the most serious crimes in the military cataogue-that of drawing and raising a weapon against an officer who was in discharge of his duty (Rayner), had the sympathy of the whole command, and nobody would prefer charges against him. The general decided to have the report go up to division headquarters, and thence it went with its varied comments and indersements to Washington; and now a court of inquiry was talked of. Meantime poor bewildered Buxton was let severely alone. What made him ut-terly miserable was the fact that in his own regiment, the -th. nobody spoke of it except as something that everybody knew was sure to happen the moment he got in command. If it hadn't been that 'twould have been something else. The only certainty was that Buxton would never lose a chance of making

an ase of himself. Instead of being furious with him, the whole regiment-officers and men-simply ridiculed and laughed at him. He had talked of preferring charges against Blake for insubordination, and asked the adjutant what he thought of it. It was the first time he had spoken to the adjutant for weeks, and the adjutant rushed out of the office, to tell the crowd to come in and "hear Buxton's latest," It began to look as though nothing serious would ever come of the affair, until Rayner reappeared and people saw how very ill he was. Dr. Pease had been consulted; and it was settled that he as well as his wife must go away for several months and have complete rest and change. It was decided that they would leave by the 1st of May. All this Mr. Hayne heard through his kind friend, Mrs. Wal-

One day when he first began to sit up, and before he had been out at all, she came and sat with him in his sunshiny parlor. There had been a silence for a moment as she looked around upon the few pictures and upon that bareness and coldness which, do what he will, no man can eradicate from his abiding place until he calls in the deft and dainty hand of woman.

"I shall be so glad when you have a wife, Mr. Hayne!" was her quiet com-

"So shall I. Mrs. Waldron," was the "And isn't it high time we were beginning to hear of a choice? Forgive my intrusiveness, but that was the very mat-

ter of which the major and I were talking as he brought me over." "There is something to be done first, Mrs. Waldron," he answered. "I cannot offer any woman a clouded name. It is not enough that people should begin to believe that I was innocent and my persecutors utterly in error, if not perjured. I must be able to show who was the real culprit, and that is not easy. The doctor and I thought we saw a way not long

ago; but it proved delusive." And he sighed deeply. "I had expected to see the major about it the very Lay be got back from the court; but we have had no "Mr. Havne," she said, impulsively, "a woman's intuition is not always at fault. Tell me if you believe that any one on the post has any inkling of the

truth. I have a reason for asking." He paused a moment, a deeper shadow than usual on his face; then he lifted his head and looked fairly at her.

"I should not have said that, Waldron. It can never be too late. But what I mean is that-just now I spoke of offering no woman a clouded name. Even if it were unclouded, I could not offer it where I would."

"Because you have heard of the engagement? was the quick, eager ques-tion. There was no instant of doubt in the woman as to where the offering would be made, if it only could. "I knew of the engagement only a day

igo," he answered, with stern effort at self control. "Blake was speaking of her, and it came out all of a sudden." He turned his head away again. It was more than Mrs. Waldron could stand. She leaned impetuously towards him, and put her hand on his:

"Mr. Hagne, that is me engagement of heast to heart. It is entirely a thing of Mrs. Rayner's dising; and I know it. She is poor—dependent—and has been simply sold into bondage."

"And you think she cares nothing for the position, the wealth and accial advantages this would give her? Ah, Mrs. Waldron, consider."

"I have considered. Mr. Hayne, if I were a man, like you, that child should never go back to him. And they are going next week. You must get well."

It was remarked that Mr. Hayne was out surprisingly quick for a fellow who

out surprisingly quick for a fellow who had been so recently threatened with brain fever. The Rayners were to go east at once, so it was said, though the captain's leave of absence had not yet been ordered. The colonel could grant him seven days at any time, and he had telegraphic notification that there would be no objection when the formal application reached the war department. Rayner called at the colonel's office and asked that he might be permitted to start with his wife and sister. His second lieutenant would move in and occupy his quarters and take care of all his personal effects during their absence; and Lieut. Hayne was a most thorough officer, and he felt that in turning over his company to him he left it in excellent hands. The colonel saw the misery in the captain's face, and he was touched

by both looks and words: You must not take this last affair too much to heart, Capt. Rayner. We in the -th have known Capt. Buxton so many years that with us there is no question as to where all the blame lies. seems, too, to be clearly understood by Mr. Hayne. As for your previous ideas of that officer, I consider it too delicate a matter to speak of. You must see, however, how entirely beyond reproach his general character appears to have been. But here's another matter: Clancy's discharge has arrived. Does the old fellow know you had requested it?"
"No, sir," answered Rayner, with hesi-

tation and embarrassment. "We wanted to keep him straight, as I told you we would, and he would probably get on a big tear if he knew his service days were numbered. I didn't look for its being granted for forty-eight hours yet."

Well, he will know it before night: and no doubt he will be badly cut up. Clancy was a fine soldier before he married that harridan of a woman."

"She has made him a good wife since they came into the Riflers, colonel, and has taken mighty good care of the old "It is more than she did in the -th.

sir. She was a handsome, showy woman when I first saw her-before my promotion to the regiment—and Clancy was one of the finest soldiers in the brigade the last year of the war. She ran through all his money though, and in the -th we looked upon her as the real cause of his break down, especially after her affair with that sergeant who deserted. You've heard of him probably. He disappeared after the Battle Butte campaign, and we hoped he'd run off with Mrs. Clancy; but he hadn't. She and growing ugly."

"Do you mean that Mrs. Clancy had a lover when she was in the -th?"

"Certainly, Capt. Rayner. We sup posed it was commonly known. He was a fine looking, black eved, dark haired, dashing fellow, of good education, a great swell among the men the short time he was with us, and Mrs. Clancy made a dead set at him from the start. He never seemed to care for her very much."

This is something I never heard of. said Rayner, with grave face. "and it will be a good deal of a shock to my wife, for she has arranged to take her east with Clancy and Kate, and they were to invest their money in some little business at their old home.'

"Yes; it was mainly on the woman's account we wouldn't re-enlist Clancy in (Continued on seventh page

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