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TORONTO.

EVALUE ON 是担任的任任的人任何的人 MILTON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1900.

By Sir D'Artagan Isstens, Cadet of a Great House, Knight of the Royal Order of Wassmark and One Time Embassador to the Court of Charles I of England.

MADE INTO A ROMANCE BY THEODORE ROBERTS.

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CHAPTER L

THE TALL ROBBER AT ISSTENS. For a few seconds I was totally at loss to know why I was sitting in the my head, slipped and sprawled forward ditch with torn garments and bloody between his legs, at the same time hands. Then I remembered the skir- dropping my rapier. The robber tried mish with the robbers, the hot chase to spring away toward the passage leadand the stumble. That had all happened ing to the courtyard, but I caught his

take again; it may cost

hand a dollar bottle of .

It cures the croup at

once. Then when any

one in the family comes

down with a hard cold

or cough a few doses of

that has been hanging on

mend them to all my friends."

Keep the dollar size on hand.

"About 25 years ago I came near

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Lumber, Lath, Shingles,

digging a few days before to drain off he stared at me as if not knowing what the great swamp of Isstens. There was to do. Harry returned and smote him enough water in the bottom of it to across the poll with the butt of a pistol. make the seat of my riding breeches Giving vent to a bull-like roar, the tall decidedly damp and to completely cool my spleen. I crawled stiffly out into with his fist and escaped into the the grass, and there to my vast satis- courtyard. faction found my sword. I took it up, wiped the innocent moisture of dew from the blade and turned to my left toward the great house of Isstens. It was here in the same house and

the Pectoral will cut Wassmark. short the attack at once. All the land, meadow and swamp, A 25 cent bottle will cure rock and forest, to the amount of ten a miserable cold; the 50c. square miles, had been given to one Clare the Isetens by the first king of the started up. size is better for a cold country. The word Isstens, a learned "My boy, you cannot go!" cried our doctor once told me, stood in some crazy

> swordsman. own quarries, built the house, and from as he ran from the room. that day to this whereon I write his descendants have lived in it.

I broke through a shaggy hedge of fir and went up the wide avenue of beeches. Passing a great gate, all ribbed with both true sons. iron and pierced with musket holes, I entered the courtyard. The main door

The oldest and least skillfully executed of these shields bore a long unwieldly sword and underneath strange PLANING MILLS letters and marks partly obliterated by and straightening my pistol holsters. rain and sun. The next, which was larger than either of the others and only two centuries old, bore a coat of eight quarterings with the old two handed sword for crest set up on my parents wedding day. Its gold was hardly tarnished, and its gules and azure klazed

Normandy. Can you wonder that Harry, my elder brother, and I were as proud as the could we find. very devil? But I have given the slip to my story. telling all the arms and family history

with too much of my native pride. Pardon; I am not yet old enough to be Upon entering the dining hall found Harry, Viscount Isstens, in my father's great chair with his head

swathed in bandages. "Hello, Dart!" he cried, speaking as well as he could through the rags. "Half the household is out hunting for

"Where have you been, old hothead?" asked Harry. "I spent the night in the ditch and got out of it about 12 minutes ago, answered, hunting about for a decanter He laughed as loudly as he could

considering his headgear. "You made a longer run than I di and it is a pity you did not catch your man. Fact is"-he sighed and rubbed his head-"one of the rascals clubbe me in the avenue." I am not a man to talk much when

am hungry, but I paused with the wineglass half way to my lips and asked what the clubbing amounted to. "Noth ing but a swollen head and a loose

tooth." he answered. There was silence, after that until

"We will go out and see the prisoner as I always like to have it in my room I put it under my arm, so that I might take it up with me after inspecting the tle tapestried parlor off the dining hall in the right shoulder. captured robber. As we went along There were six of us around the table "I have the honor of crossing swords Harry talked about the fight. He told My mother sat at the tea urn (rather with D'Artagan, cadet of Isstens?" he how our father had run one of them

this "Two of them are bagged sure are plowing up in the swamp."

back. "You old fire eating cadet!" he outlaws hung over us, we formed a breeding. ted as a dryUs week up
Os week up
od to operin Wall
dollars;

that part of the cellar in which the
prisoner had been bound our joy turned
there are very strong and brave, eat as

"It was very little to do It was
which we gathered that the people
there are very strong and brave, eat as

"Pray surrender, sir; your men are
pleasure." I stammered. Then, "May
there are very strong and brave, eat as
to chagrin. The man had gone—clean as a gray wolf out of a pit.

eek, and whose present wealth is Dart, this is a frightful mess we Germans and go to church regularly.

BANKERS & BROKERS,

CONSOLIDATED STOCK EXCHANGE BLDG.,

CO BROADWAY, NEW YORK. 19-6m leaped at me over a bundle of fagots. the white stars.

I gave way sharply, for a boy of 20 years is not as cooleas a soldier of 20

by starlight. It was bright morning ankle and held on. Down he came on top of me with all his weight. The ditch in which I found myself. Things looked very bad for the was one my father's men had finished sprightly D'Artagan of Isstens. But as man arose, knocked Haray spinning

fights. He cut at me with a club made

CHAPTER IL

THE NIGHT ATTACK. What a rumpus there was when Baron Isstens, the baroness and the servants returned and found us shaken courts that my ancestors had lived since and bloody and the prisoner escaped! the very beginning of the kingdom of Our mother had hysterics before she had done with kissing me, but our father swore a big oath and rushed out to order "boot and saddle." The garing

beautiful mother, her face stained with and forgotten language for sworder or blood from his bruised lips. Clare the Isstens, with rock from his hurt." he answered over his shoulder the fierce shouts of men.

clashed home my good blade.

plied. Then I bent (I went a little over with boar spears, thrusting the enemy She was robed in all manner of fine the Baron Isstens," he said, smiling light on the viscount's face one might six feet even at that age) and kissed back from the top of the wall where it silks, like my mother on occasions, and sadly the pale upturned face. In another is lowest. minute I was climbing into the saddle Six of us clattered out and down long avenue. The afternoon was well begnn and the air was warm. two of our men carrying a body out the ditch. It was the robber I had run

through on the previous night. We could see a gleam of red sash and metal bravely It bore the arms of my moth- belt where another lay on the fresh boar spears for the plowmen." er's family, the great D'Artagans of turned furrows. Spreading out into the every cover, but no giant mountaineer

the swollen jaw exposed to view. chill mist from the swamp had over-

ther order a return-we wheeled silent toward the house of Isstens. "We will break up their nest, Dart, the gates and walls. boy, as soon as the crops are in," said

as we swung along.

He put out his other hand and pressed on either side. The invaders marked

Harry's shoulder. Little things like this meant much and yelled: "Down with the fine genfrom the Baron Isstens.

were awaiting us anxiously with lan- ants. mother unbuckled our sword belts. land!" cried an old herder. pushed my plate away and shoved back the great buckles and drag the clanging me. By the saints, the man who took

ing every move she made. an uncommon piece of table plate in asked. Dr. ZIMITIETIMAL,

DENTIST,

Vill be at his office in Milton every Friday and Saturday.

ALL KINDS OF WARM FOOTWEAR

Though behind the stables; how old those days) and my father at the round those days) and my father at the cadet has a sword, and by all those days) and my father at the other end. Mistress Sarah thrust in quarte.

Vill be at his office in Milton every Friday and Saturday.

ALL KINDS OF WARM FOOTWEAR opposite them scarred old Lientenant with fine scorn.

much as is good for them, drink like

sword of the cadet."

which it was our habit to sup, and sake," he replied. utting aside our lace collars, we He seemed to take his capture cheer. Ah, thought I, Castletree is an Eng. lenge him to fight, so I sprang upon him

Here and there glimmered the light | bolted the door on the outside.



We sprawled in the window seat. swore' -and at that moment we heard gether Then they would have me in you? a noise that would make the starkest to hear the songs, which, I must say, lover swear "blue devils." It was the were very learned and not a little un- captain. "I have to go, lady mother I am not loud roaring of pistols and muskets and common.

We took our swords from their scab- on in the cottages and fields, as well as and placed it in his hands. buckled on my sword belt and bards and a pistol in each left hand and in the house, very much as it had be- "Not this sword," he said. "I will "You fled down the stairs. The men were fore the great robber raid.

the baron passed me with his dags and der the great feathered hat. two handed sword. We three opened men and crashing guns was fearful. "I am glad we have a garrison," said Harry, "and lots of half pikes and sir?" she asked, gazing sweetly.

I did not answer, for at that moment wan and her eyes red from weeping. fields that bordered the road we beat the great gate was smashed in and a "I am the cadet of the house, ma-Harry, because of the heat, had Harding and his men cut and thrust at see?" I bowed low after each word. pulled the bandages from his face, leav- the ones trying to follow, so wrathfully "Nay, sir, it is the brave cadet. ing the blue lump on his forehead and that they gave way, and up went the hear he captured my father with his slaughter at the gates and the hanging When the dusk of evening and the and a keg of iron bolts to hold it. Eight house kindly, as became a gentleman. fellows had entered, however, and these she said very softly, looking at me with the foresters and keepers to the woods. taken us—and not until then did my fa- fought with a dash and fierceness like wonderful eyes all the while. ly on the wide road and cantered back good chance for life, too, for our gar- ber captain's daughter, madame?" And the uplands. Captain Castletree was

Harry raised the family warcry and followed by me and a half dozen lord? give and take, with hissing breath and write verses," I gasped. innocent blood on his hands and is an proud of my brother than I was then. speech and face. where, but we are true subjects of our bouts with single sticks, he played his er's rhymes." king and noblemen of Wassmark. I lithe rapier blade against their swords I recovered from my confusion. think if we call in the foresters we will and pikes like white lightning. For

tlemen! Down with the fat landhold When we gained the courtyard, they ers! By this hoping to win our peasterns and candles. In the hall our "And, thank God, they held the First her husband's, then Harry's, then I got my point into a fellow, dropmine. It was queer to see her pull loose ping him so that the next could get at scabbards aside. She was smiling all his place was the giant of the cellar. the while with the joy of our return, He carried a rapier, and with it in his now; he is down in the cellar," said and the father stood with a broad grin grip wore the air of a man of breeding my brother. I noticed my sword, and on his shaven lips, and his eyes follow. We worked back from the others, we two. He fenced like a master, but hap-That night we had supper in the lit- pily for me he had been pricked slightly

our fine linen shirts and powdered hair

their leader.

"And the three you went after got away," he said. I grinned soberly at keeping matters, sat beside Harry, and chief of tobbers, I believe?" I queried she cried, "do you think they had no

enough, my Lord Harry," I answered. Red Harding and your humble cadet. "Sir Cadet, you are very young and "I don't think they bad, madame, for Blatenburg. you know" And then he "The king has ordered me to stay with "The first is in the end of the great Red Harding was a peasant by birth, very proud," he said quietly. "I was they were the foulest rogues and murditch, with a sword cut to sleep with, but had done such good service as a once a very devil at counting quarter- derers under heaven. The captain is a latter him and craved pardon humbly counsels while the trouble lasts and you and the second got in the way of a soldier to the house of Isstens that he ings and riding to hounds myself." man of breeding and may not be a ras- for my hasty words. We went out topistol ball at the end of the patch they had long ago been dubbed gentleman I was filled with surprise at the tone cal, after all. At any rate I have kept gether and found Marion on the south good swords against the Bohemia of his voice more than at what he said, him safe, and we are fond of him now." terrace looking out across the valley We saluted. Then Red Harding said Harry clapped me on my mud stained Though a raid from the mountain for any base born fool can lie about his Her eyes filled with tears.

cried, his gray eyes dancing. We felt merry party, the baron drawing out My wrist was tiring when I saw sinned in speaking so to you. May God hand. very well satisfied with ourselves, for Red Harding to tell stories of the woods with relief that the members of the at- bless you for your sparing hand." these robbers were one of the cruelest and people, and the baroness saying all tacking party inside the walls were all mountains, but when we arrived at Lyons told us tales of England, from "Pray surrender, sir; your men are "It was very little to do It was a

brough the clatter and din, "and the

We were tired and sore, but after "Though I am a man of honor, I beg with a grand courtesy. Mistress Lyons

roduced him to one of the larders and sented Harry, who could not have come both write and read my own poem of a cottage window. Unlike some land- Half an hour later the enemy with. Sand he had kissed. burg, the king's city, began talking the others rested. He doffed his hat and had been 20 times kinder. softly of a court lady he had danced in his clear voice cried "Men. I must Then the maiden was taken off under interest in quarter staff. But one night listened with all my ears. He came to stood tonight where the best trained counsel in the little dining parlor.

> He went through the door to the inner rooms amid the loyal cheers of the said the baron, "and how you came to cup down in the dining hall and went garrison, and Harry and I turned to mix and fight with such dogs I cannot

CHAPTER III.

THE ROBBER CAPTAIN'S DAUGHTER.

oners, being robbers and murderers. So I told the men, but 1 doubt if I at that. strangely. He was prisoned in my work for me to do?' We took him all manner of books, elder of the two, took his hand. which he read with pleasure. Harry.

about in search of his new horse pistols. beeches, dreaming of things which the the two pieces. of the house stood before me ten paces come to no harm," I laughingly rethe great gate and a few stout foresters a lass tripping toward me up the road. had white gloves on her whiter arms.

"By the long sword, here comes that the gray old walls. fire on the black heads bobbing over the court lady after Harry." I muttered The captain knew a great deal about She answered with a fine courtesy.

oak again with a mighty grindstone single sword, and took him into the of the captives.

She flushed haughtily at that

my father, laying his hand on my knee "The Long sword! The long sword! -yes. Does it offend your ears, my for building and where the underbrush I embraced him and sat down to a "I only want the chance to charge old retainers rushed at them. There was I was confused woefully. "Do you wondered if he ever thought of the meat pie that invited me from the into them," I answered, "but the peas- no loading of pieces in that tussle. It want to take him away, madame? He lestens fagot he had tried so heartily by the way the other soldiers turned ants say that they are many and well was cut and thrust, dodge and strike, is very quiet and is helping my brother to use over my head.

"Yes, and every man of them has muffled curses. I have never been more The lady laughed merrily at my through the swamp, and the captain outlaw from his country, whatever land Though pale of face, like a bookman, "I would like to have him, Sir Cadet helped at the blasting out of rocks with that may be, for they come from every- and more given to writing ballads than but I do not want to spoil your broth. his own hands. And yet a finer and

"Let us talk it over. You know he bility cannot bend to pick up their awhile we stood abreast with our men s a prisoner of war," I said, bowing gloves should they happen to fall.



her to the seat I thought to impress

"Oh, forgive me!" she cried. "I have pleasure." I stammered. Then, "May 1

sir, as ever clapped hand to hilt," and She accepted my proffered hand, and together we went up the avenue and

and sunny smiles? Out came my father

throwing off our stiff skirted coats, in you to turn a key on me, for form's cried, "Bless her dear English face!" vulsed with laughter, lying on the

faster to meet the court lady whose in the future. holders, the Isstens gave their people drew, leaving the courtyard a ghastly I ran and released my prisoner, who her eyes at me in a haughty way that cottages instead of huts and kind words place of blood, silent bodies and broken came down and received that little raised both terror and admiration instead of kicks. This was much to our, bill, and the soft dawn showing under form—silks and curls, great hat and all my heart. She did not go down to her advantage, as you will presently see. the stars. The baron, covered with -into his arms with a cry of joy. He seat on the south terrace for three days We had no light in the room, and blood from wounds on his cheek and told her how kind we had all been to after the jester play of Harry's. How Harry, who was three years my senior shoulder, came into the great hall him-a foreign outlaw, a leader of rob- to mend matters I did not know. and had been several times at Blaten- where our wounded lay mouning and bers-and we blushed and wished we though I pondered over it continually

I thought this mighty fine, and thank you from my heart. You have my mother's wing, and we men held a plan dawned upon me, and I begged troops in Europe would falter May "I am clear of the robbers," said the without questioning, and going up God give to all the king's peers as brave big captain, "and I swear"—he did in my room I scrawled beneath them: a following as he has to me and my English-"that I would plow like a peasant sooner than return to them." "You are a worthy gentleman, sir,"

> "God keep the viscount," cried a big "That-my reason for it is a closed page of my life," answered the Eng-"And the cadet," sounded a muffled lishman. "Enough, my lord, that I burg, at the king's command," and off was once happy in my own castle in again to find Harry who was some-Devon, with a sweet wife, honor and where reading Casar. I pulled on my

In a few days things had taken on The sight of a strong man in the buckled on my sword belt, and, hat in very much their old faces. Five pris- agony of weeping is ever a pain to me. hand, clattered down stairs. When he recovered himself, my

would have let him hang under any The captain looked up proudly. "Can circumstances, for he fascinated me I earn our bread, my lord? Is there speed, but no Marion; so away we

chamber and fed from our own table. The baron, who was slightly the city. Harry jested so that the men "There is work, my friend, for a true from their saddles. I did not feel una very touching part. He was saying, who was a wonderful scholar, far be- gentleman with a true sword in the usually gay, which I think was quite "She gave me a little strand of her youd anything I could hope for used to house of Isstens. Will you swear to be menservants followed him, and Harry hair leaning from the coach window, argue with him over Homer and Cæsar. loyal to this family and I kissed her hand three times and and sometimes they wrote songs to or some member of it is disloyal to tenant's left, silent as the dead. After

> I slipped out and getting his surren-The crops were put in and life went dered sword from my room returned a cup, while the fellows fed our herses

purchase a new one from the house of mouth out myself, for he is a fine horse too?" she moaned. But there was a arming and rushing forth to support. One morning I was seated on a stone Isstens." And he broke the lithe blade and too good to be trusted to every Eash of pride in her eyes that we were the guards, and my father was tearing bench half way down the avenue of across his knee and handed me back wayside stable boy "I must, mother, to look after our Upon entering the courtyard we found captain's songs had started in my "It was not the sword I used in the above the fir trees we were mounted gentlemen of title, to see that they Red Harding and a handful of men at brain, when on raising my head I saw service of my old king. Neither will I again. Half an hour later we rode into

> And thus the house of Isstens was "At them!" I shouted, and just then Merry golden curls fell down from un- increased, and life seemed to be merrier and more worth the trouble inside

wall, and then turned to see how things to myself, and straightway rose and farming and even more about weapons rying people and the bright faces made were shaping. The noise of bellowing bowed, hand on heart in the latest mode, and the drilling of men. Soon all the people on the estate, including old Red sight. Our leader, Harry, took us far "Are you the lord cadet of Isstens. Harding, looked up to him with love and respect, and some of them whis-I could see now that her face was pered that he had been a prince in his royal palace. Out of the saddles we

own country. Blithely, like red petals blowing from body of burly ruffians plunged through. dame, but without a title. Perhaps it is a bush, went the days through May Without turning to look at them. Red my brother, the viscount, you would and June. The brigands lay close in their mountain fastnesses, evidently I crushed by our brave defense.

The peasants returned to their work. the plowmen and sowers to the fields. mountain wolves at bay-with a very "What!" I cried. "Are you the rob- and the young grain was green over rison could not spare its numbers from I fell to staring at her like a great frog. everywhere. For three days he tramped about in the forests with a squad "I am Captain Castletree's daughter axmen marking the lumber to be cut was to be cleared out for firewood.

There was a second ditch to be run marked the best course for it, and even prouder gentleman could not be found in Wassmark, where it is said the no-

It did not take me many weeks to discover that I was deeply in love with Mistress Castletree. Her other nan was Marion, which both Harry and I thought very pretty. My brother made Wise viscount to bring his court suit verses about it and read them to us on the south terrace. Sometimes my heart ached that I, too, could not write danc- a great fete in the palace and palace gardens, to which all true officers and ing rhymes to bring smiles to her lips. I looked at Harry through a green light gentlemen were invited. At this Red and said all manner of unpleasant things

eye me and smile. One day I caught him by the shouller-we were alone-and cried, "Do you love her, viscount?" At first I thought be was about to with a stare, and then he went in to say "No!" but his face changed and supper. Bat as feasting would be going

he cried. "Fie, fie, my dear cadet! on at the palace we did not spend much "Yez, poor cadet," I hissed, "Oh,

"Don't worry, old fire eater." he paved with marble for foot passengers. said, laughing: "there is some one in Harry took an arm of each and said. with dreamful eyes.

said, the while I stared at him speech | I have more blade than brains!

"Sweet of the golden hair, Here to your feet I bring Sword and heart and hand, Truer than heart of king. "Know that the sword is leal E'en till this life is done-

Know that my heart is thine, Here the viscount turned and fled. leaving me gazing at Mistress Castle tree and she at the sky Her face wa nembered myself and fled away also.

CHAPTER V

When I found Harry, he was co

couch in our chamber. I could not chall sprawled in the window seat and gazed fully. We entered the house and I in- lish name, is it, and I gracefully pre- with my knees and said that I would When next I met Marion, she flashe

and forgot my sword exercise and all Harry to give me the verses. He did so "This is all true; I swear it, though

Harry wrote the rhymes. D'Artagan. Then I put the paper into her silver up to bed. Scarcely had I got clear of my boots when in came Lieutenan "Up, sir, and into saddle for Blaten-

wealth, and now"- And he burst into riding boots, changed my silk coat for a leather jerkin with steel breastplat

Harry, Red Harding and I, with 12 were hung, but out of sight of the father offered him a position in the horsemen, were to answer the king's house. My prisoner, whom we called household, to make him and Mistress summons, leaving my father and the "the captain," was kept for ransom. Castletree of the family. My heart rose captain with the rest of the men to guard the house.

The mother came out to bid us godstarted on the 30 mile road to the king's shook till I thought they would roll five hours on the road, which was mud "I swear it on my honor," said the to the fetlock most of the way, the dawn broke in front of us. We dismounted at a little hostel and drained a bite and rubbed them dry with hand-

Before the sun had risen a pale width

have thought it was his. The streets were alive, early though the hour was, and armorers had their forges going-and the smiths, too-for many of the incoming horses had cast their shoes. The great houses, the hurclimbed, glad enough to be rid of them. Our horses were led away, and we went irside to breakfast. The landlord took us to the highest table, while drawer hustled our men in to a spread

of ham and beer "Have you heard anything of the B. hemians?" asked Harry "Baron Vossgoff defeated them last night 18 miles to the north, my lord answered the fellow, with a broad sm

"Thank God!" we cried, and draine to the health of Baron Vossgoff Harry, as our captain and represent ative of the house of Isstens, must go up and report to the king but Rec I think we were a fierce looking pai to stare at us. I wore gold across my breast and the mark of the cadet tosash, and Red Harding was bravely trigged out with lace and gold, polished their scarfs to us from the windows and balconies of the tall houses and men saluted us in the streets, my heart

would not away from the gray house of When we returned to the tavern It was evening and he bore news of

Harding, who was something of a blade to him, and for answer he would only at heart, pulled a long face. "By the devils, viscount, can I go in these boots?" he gasped. The troopers at the door fell to lau : liing at this. The lieutenant froze them

> time over the tavern beef. I had two men in to rub us up-

On our way up the hill, which was "It is good news. viscount, but it will . Harry had a slip of paper in his be strange without you riding and c ting between us."

"Listen to Dart's first poem,' he "True!" I cried; then, "Thank God, When we reached the gardens, my rustic eyes were near to popping out a sight of all the lights and gay cos We passed into a magnificent hall, at while I was staring about Harry plucked me by the sleeve. There was a tall, ruddy man at his elbow, smiling

"The king!" whispered Harry. dropped on one knee, flapping h.

EVERY THURSDAY MORNING

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