Mr. Anstruther thinks."

tell him, Mr. Anstruther."

me," said Mr. Anstruther.

our special guard, sir."

place on guard."

the ladies."

soon, now."

work as a man."

"Why don't you tell Jim to let then

stand till Mr. Rolt comes back? You

"I? Scarcely, Miss Kitty. Jim is

commander-in-chief. I am only the in

valid. I am not even honored with a

"Jim does not think you are fit fo

duty yet, and you know that you ar

"I know that I am fit for very littl

use if the admirable Jim would le.

"He gives you the place of honor a

"Yes, he is good enough to consider

Mrs. Rolt smiled. She understood

what he would have said, and did not

make allowances either for the irra

tability of an invalid, or the impa-

tience of a man put at a disadvantage

"Try to put up with us yet a little

while," she said. "Dick will be back

Kitty said nothing until he had left the room, then she turned to her

"I think Jim treats Mr. Anstruther

He sees that he has the best of every-

"I think he would rather have less

"At any other time, yes, and so no

doubt he would, and do his work for

him after he had made a mess of it,

ple's feelings just now, and to be can-

Kitty flushed to the temples. She

shadow of truth in Mrs. Rolt's charge,

Never in her life had Kitty's bright

temper been more sorely tried than

been used all her life to have men

playmates; she had not even a lover.

Since his return to the ranch Jim had

watched over her and Mrs. Rolt with

wish; and even to Anstruther had

been courtesy itself; but avoiding any

So had her patient. Everything

until to the poor little woman, the

Each of the men seemed bent on

To this uncomfortable state of

us, and one of us wounded. How

only a flesh wound. He has lost

going to do about the horses?"

"It can't come to that."

"Well, if you ask me, I

"Why half?"

staying powers.'

business," retorted Combe coldly.

lot of blood, but the old chap savs

that he has plenty more. But if we

tear down the stables what are we

"Turn them loose to rustle for them-

"It won't do to leave ourselves with-

"It might, Rolt. Think of the wo-

Rolt groaned. "I'm never thinking

others into a stable. It will play the

"Oh, he will do all right. It was

Kitty at a distance.

"But he can't do anything."

"Jim might let him try."

in the eyes of the woman he loved.

me fit to be left with-in charge o

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CHAPTER XXII.

pressed as closely upon their heels man ever heard him use. as they could. Before the pursuers But once in the saddle again, he

master and man passed unmolested, Only once Rolt heard him muttering running swiftly but silently, until to himself, "Guess I can go on thre Rolt saw indistinctly a mob of men on legs as well as a buck. I never seed a his right, uncertain, it seemed, who- buck as would stop because I tinkered ther to run to him or away from him, it." intil Al called to them in the strange

could not catch, but he saw the mob things to be mouned over or made ANYONE ONE NEEDING disperse, running apparently in the much of. Like the beasts of the field thing, and never asks him to do a same general direction as himself, in this, unless a wound is bad enough hand's turn. What more can Mr. An-New Pumps, Pump Re- and he wondered even then at the to stop the working of their machine struther expect?" ceived the Indians.

For twenty yards the two tore and that, too, they do quietly. brough the impending brush or blun- Rolt and Al would willingly have lered in the dark amongst logs and given in. Their bodies cried to them vindfalls, then they emerged upon the for mercy, for leave to slide out o' main trail which led to Khelowna's the saddle into the sweet-smilling amp. If they had had time to think, sage brush and lie still, but though but Jim can't afford to think of peohe smooth firmness of it would have both were utterly spent, though ie suggested to them the numbers of an ther had tasted food for twenty-for | did, I don't think your friend is showenemy who could wear such a trail in hours, and one was badly wound d. ing to advantage. We have done all

dark like a brush lean to, a man leapt fore their eyes, and least them plod knew that there was more than a out upon the path, and Al, who was ding on, trying hard to abs ract thei now leading, repeated his cry. But minds from the painful present, which but her sympathies were with Frank the man was too near to be deceived, had to be lived through. The night though even to her he had been curand though Al was past him, the In- waxed and waned for them, riding in lously cold and distant since Jim's dian tried boldly to block Rolt's way. this fashion, whilst the unseen troop return. To Rolt he was the full back of his of Indian horses pattered behind boyhood's days. Without decreasing them, now stopping to graze, now gahis pace he pretended to swerve, and loping after them in alarm lest they during those days of seige. She had then, as the man closed on him, turn- should lose sight of their mat s. ed and ran right at him, tilted the With the first streak of dawn they for her playmates. Now she had no indian's chin up with the butt of his debouched upon the edge of the home open hand so that his head was shov- pasture, powdered by a thin fall of ed almost off his shoulders, and so snow. essed amongst the great dim pines which stood for goal posts, through a ine of smouldering fires, seeing only he tall thin figure of the tireless runner in front.

As they ran a horse whinnied, and off the main trail.

"Holy smoke!" he panted, as Rolt verhauled him. "That's their horse camp. Let's chance it, Boss. worth the risk," and he stole swiftly as he spoke. along through the bushes until they opened out into a narrow swamp, not an acre in extent all told.

In it twenty or thirty horses had been picketted, and as luck would

have it not a man was in sight. "Cut the ropes or pull the pegs," gasped Al, and his own jack knife the house, he managed to say, "Can ply would not let her. snicked and slashed about the horses. you-" reckless of their heels or of any who might be on the trail.

"I'll finish 'em. Jump, blank it. hour ago if you hadn't been such an "I did not tear down the stables un jump!" he screamed, as the Boss unmitigated idiot!" but as the Boss til you came, but they ought to go hesitated, and a crashing of brush in spurred his horse over the rise and along with the other buildings if you the direction of the fires warned him down the long meadow which led to think that the Indians are still likely that the minutes of grace had all but all he loved, Al suddenly collapsed, to make trouble."

was severed, and Al, losing his head of his saddle, rolled over, and lay der the dressing we gave them. There at last, cried in his triumph, "Now, catch us, you swine!" as he swung of surprise, began to feed slowly they know that there are only four of nimself on to the back of the last horse and galloped into the bush.

As if in answer to his taunt, a dozen ndians dashed into the opening, and our or five rifles were fired point lank at the retreating figure.

Luckily his horse was not hit, but or a moment the old man swayed and all but toppled from his seat, but hough he rode bare-backed, he got is grip again, and in spite of the leadly sickness which took him and vhilst the loose horses, frightened by him as they went, into the darkness n which Rolt had vanished.

For a mile, perhaps, he let his horse on to the horse's mane with his unin-

Sorely against his will he had to

the one good arm left him. prairie he reduced his pace to a long and sat up, muttering as he guided to Anstruther's suggestion that an at- shouldn't want them. If it comes to his horse with his knees and tried tempt should be made to drive off the a show down some of us will have to to hold up his wounded arm with his marauders.

left hand. ged yet, nor goin' to be by any measly repeated. It was better to lose any-Chilcoten," but though his words were thing than to expose the women to brave his sleeve was very sodden with the danger of a rush upon the house. R. MACFARLANE, TOWN AGENT a warm sticky fluid which still continued to coze into it, and he was even the sound of a shot to keep up growing so dim of sight and dizzy that the vigilance of the defenders, and he would have ridden right into Rolt, the scouting party sent out by Jim rehad not his horse shied.

I'm comin' down," but he had only a white men." hazy idea that Rolt was blocking the But Jim thought otherwise, and deway, his rifle resting across his creed the destruction of certain barns horse's back, and of what happened and outhouses beyond the corrals, as very calm in speech, he was very

again with a curious bandage tightly around his upper arm, and a sore heart. heard the Boss ask whether he were led for him.

buidn't sit on: I'm only parked a bit. Must have knocked this fool head; but I should like to try to be of some Rolt and Al did not stay to look at of mine agen a bough, I reckon, or shouldn't have fell off." But for a "Come on," the old man insisted, that he couldn't remount without as and though the remaining Chilcotens sistance, which he accepted only un had secured too good a start to be der protest, and with a perfect string caught up now, the two white men of oaths, such as in ordinary times no

had covered half the distance the pur- seemed to recover. It is true that he sued had vanished into the timber, never spoke a word after the first five but Al held on steadily, straight into minutes, which was unlike Al, but he remained on his horse's back whil Through the first rank of the pines the endless miles went by in the dark

That was the spirit in which he, and lucking gutterals of their own lan- for the matter of that, Rolt, too, rod all that night. To the rough riders of pretty badly.' The meaning of what Al said Rolt our plains, pain or discomfort are no marvellously true accent and ready ery, they go on as if unhurt. When wit which had for the moment de- they lie down, it is with them, and consideration as an invalid and more with their rivals, the Indians, to die.

the thought of the lonely ranch with we can for him, and now he sulks." As they ran past what looked in the the two women in it was always b

"Rufus, and Old Regent," muttered the most unfailing courtesy; had for-

Rolt, as he paused for a moment by gotten nothing; had forestalled every two snow-sprinkled carcases. "What accursed butchery!"

"There's more of the same kind," outward demonstration, he had kept replied Al feebly, pointing to other Al, checking for a minute, branched similar mounds. "They've rounded up and killed all the stock they could that a man could do to show his gracome near; but thank God for that!" titude Frank had done, but in some and he held his one hand out towards undefinable way he had drawn him-It's the ranch house which came in sight self further away from her every day,

It still stood untouched as far as love that had been so nearly spoken they could see, nor was there an In- seemed now but a dream of her own dian in sight in all the country which | imagining. surrounded it.

Rolt made an inarticulate sound. leaving her to the other. She detest-His lips seemed for the moment un- ed Jim for his many perfections, and able to move, and then, pointing to could not love Frank because he sim-

"Of course I can, blank it!" replied things Dick Rolt returned, acquiescthe old man, with a sudden flash fo ing in all the arrangements which "Now jump on and git," he added, energy. "You'd have ridden on an Combe had made and murmuring: "Your white, pretty "They may be here any minute. Rolt obeyed him as the last rope blanked white, Rolt," slid easily out They are too strong to sit down unstill, whilst his horse, after one snort must be fifty armed men at least, and away from his prostrate form.

Al had drawn upon his endurance to Al now?" the very last ounce, and when, a quarter of an hour later, Jim Combe came to bring him in, he found the old man still unconscious where he had fallen.

CHAPTER XXIII.

In the absence of Rolt, Jim Combe selves, and take their chance of being took command of the party at the shot. We can do nothing else." ranch, and military law was declared: he warm trickle from the numbed that is to say, Jim insisted upon look- out horses. We might have to ride for ing on the house as in a state of siege, our lives, after all.' though, as Anstruther protested, he shooting, thundered past, jestling there was not an Indian in sight nor, he averred, ever likely to be again.

The men were divided into watches, so that there was not an hour of the of anything else, Jim. What do you allop, almost lying on its neck to day or night when some of them were advise? avoid overhanging boughs, maintain- not on guard, whilst no work was unng a precarious position by holding dertaken which could lead the de- knock out a partition or two, and fenders to any distance from their make the dining-room and one of the

On the first day after the departure devil with the house, but we can fix let his rifle go. If his enemies caught of the posse, shots were heard over that up again when the trouble is him the rifle would be useless now, the hog's back, and Jim, who made a over. If you say the word I'll have An Offer that Involves no Risk for and he had all that he could do for reconnaissance in person, reported feed brought in, and horses for the that a band of Chilcotens was killing ladies and half the men." When at last he came out upon the cattle, but though the loss inflicted would be serious, he would not listen

He was determined that the story others get through." "Winged, blank them, but not bag of the burning stacks should not be On the second day there was not

ported all clear to the sky line. Then for the first time since he "Our people have driven the Inhad grown to man's estate, the old dians clear out of the country," asheld on to the halter rope, and man- is the limit of their daring. It is not likely that such miserable devils "All right, Colonel. Don't shoot. would make a stand against armed

tacking force. They are valuable buildings in a

tied watched the destruction of them with "It seems a pity, doesn't it?" she thought he could sit on his horse if it said, as she and Kitty, with Anstruther, watched Jim and his men at

"Sit on? Who, the blank, said I work, "but I suppose Jim is right" The second distant

"He must be," 'asserted' Anstruther, but his tone belied his words. Come With the Crowds "It would be a terrible sell if the Indians really had gone for good, as to ROWE'S Ice Cream Parlors "We could put up with that, Kitty. don't you think, although I confess that I don't like seeing my buildings



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"Mrs. Rolt's, Miss Kitty's, your own. Constipation is caused by weakthat stallion (he will have mended by ness of the nerves and muscles of ed her school duties near Aber now), and two more. The two sorrels the large intestines, or descending deen. colon. To expect a cure, you Messrs. Ben Whitmore and Per-"What about Mr. Anstruther's hunmust therefore tone up and nock were taking in the wonders "His looks won't pay for his keep. strengthen those organs, and re- at the Toronto Exhibition last He ain't the horse for this job. We store them to healthier activity. aren't going fox hunting or hurdle

jumping, and he'd play out before he man cut a voluntary, but even then he serted Anstruther. "Arson at night got half way. The country breds are derlies on our guarantee. They man, Michigan, are visiting their the only ones that could stay the disare eaten like candy, and are par- friends in these parts at present ticularly ideal for children. They Born.-To Mr. and Mrs. W. "I think you underrate my horse's act directly on the nerves and Hargrave, a son. Anstruther had come in unobserved muscles of the bowels, They have Miss Millie Hopkins attended very calm in speech, he was very a neutral action on the other or- the Toronto Exhibition, and for a while after he spoke he knew affording dangerous cover for an at- white and his eyes glittered angrily. gans or glands. They do not ited friends there. "Maybe, but I wouldn't have purge, or cause any inconvenience The election is at hand, and we hought him any more good for the thought him any more good for this job than them things you was harding whatever. They will positively would solemnly ask the question They are valuable buildings in a job than them things you was hauling out of your trunk for Miss Kitty to overcome chronic or habitual conhow can any loyal British substitute overcome chronic or habitual conhow can any loyal British pritish look at. All right in the shires, no stipation, and the myriads of as- ject with a grain of true British doubt, horses and pink coat, and pa- sociate or dependent chronic ail- sentiment left, vote for the Lautent leather pumps, but not built for ments. Try Rexall Orderlies at rier Government at this coming Anstruther flushed and hit his line our risk. Two sizes, 10c. and 25c. election?

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