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No. 151 15¢

WON
by the
SWORD

G.A.HENTY



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IN 1618, A FEARFUL STRUGGLE BEGAN AMONG THE NATIONS OF EUROPE. IT IS KNOWN AS THE THIRTY YEARS' WAR.

BY 1635, IT SEEMED THAT ALL OF GERMANY WOULD SOON FALL TO THE ARMS OF AUSTRIA, AS THE AID OF SWEDEN, AUSTRIA WOULD THEN BE ABLE TO DOMINATE FRANCE. TO PREVENT THIS, RICHELIEU, THE FRENCH MINISTER, BROUGHT FRANCE INTO THE WAR.

THEN BEGAN THE FINAL PHASE OF THE LONG AND BLOODY CONFLICT.

ONE DAY IN OCTOBER, 1639, A FRENCH OFFICER ON HIS WAY FROM PARIS TO ST DENIS SAW A SIGHT THAT MADE HIM SMILE.



FORWARD OF THE REGIMENT OF TURENNE ALWAYS WINS!



SO YOU ARE GENERAL TURENNE TODAY, WHO ARE YOU AT OTHER TIMES?

HECTOR CAMPBELL, SIR. MY FATHER DIED WITH A SCOTCH REGIMENT THAT FOUGHT FOR FRANCE. I LIVE WITH SERGEANT MACHDOON, WHO WAS IN MY FATHER'S COMPANY.



WHY DO YOU PLAY AT BEING GENERAL TURENNE? HIS ADVANCE IS DUE TO FORTUNE RATHER THAN MERIT.

NOT SO, SIR! LOOK HOW HE DROVE THE SWEDISHS BACK FROM MARBOURG AND HOW HE STORMED THE FORT AT BREISACH!



TURENNE HAS MUCH TO LEARN ABOUT THE ART OF WAR.

HE KNOWS MORE THAN ALL THE OTHERS, AND HIS SOLDIERS LOVE HIM, FOR HE NEVER TREATS THEM ILL.



WELL, YOUNG SIR, I SEE THAT YOU ARE TOO WELL ACCQUAINTED WITH SIEGES AND BATTLES FOR ME TO ARGUE WITH YOU.

THE NEXT DAY HECTOR'S GUARDIAN HAD A VISITOR

A GENERAL OFFICER IS DISMOUNTING. WHAT CAN HE WANT HERE?



SIT DOWN, MEN. I AM HERE NOT TO DISTURB YOU, BUT TO TALK WITH SERGEANT MACINTOON.



MACINTOON AND HECTOR LED THE OFFICER TO A PRIVATE ROOM

DO YOU KNOW ME, SERGEANT MACINTOON?

YES, GENERAL. YOU ARE VISCOUNT TURINNE.



TURINNE? AND I SPOKE SO FREELY TO HIM YESTERDAY?



THIS LAD SEEMS A CAREFUL STUDENT OF MILITARY HISTORY.

THAT HE IS, SIR. HE LOVES TO HEAR THE SOLDIERS TELL OF BATTLES, AND WHEN HE'S NOT READING BOOKS ABOUT WAR, HE'S WATCHING THE MEN DRILL.



I HAVE NEED OF A YOUNG OFFICER TO CARRY MESSAGES ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE. IF YOU CHOOSE, I SHALL TAKE YOU INTO MY HOUSEHOLD AND APPOINT YOU TO THAT DUTY.



THERE IS NOTHING IN THIS WORLD I SHOULD LIKE BETTER THAN TO BE IN YOUR SERVICE.



HERE IS A PURSE TO FURNISH THE LAD WITH CLOTHES SUITABLE FOR HIS POSITION. I WILL EXPECT HIM IN THREE DAYS.



REMEMBER ALWAYS, LAD, THERE'S MUCH TO LEARN ABOUT THE ART OF WAR.



WHEN TUDORNE HAD GONE, RECATOR TOLD HIS GOVERNESS HOW THEY HAD MET.

AND TO THINK HE OFFERS YOU A CHANCE TO MAKE YOUR FORTUNE, INSTEAD OF A WHIP ACROSS YOUR BACK FOR YOUR BOLDNESS! SERVE HIM WELL, LAD. HE IS A GOOD MAN.



On the appointed day, Hector presented himself to General Turcine.

I HAVE OBTAINED YOUR COMMISSION AS A LIEUTENANT FROM CARDINAL RICHELIEU.

THANK YOU, SIR.



WE BEGAN OUR JOURNEY FOR ITALY TODAY. THE DUCHESS OF SAVOY HAS CALLED ON US TO FREE HER TERRITORY FROM THE SPANARDS.



Hector met Turcine's other aids.

GENTLEMEN, THIS IS LIEUTENANT CAMPBELL, SON OF A SCOTTISH OFFICER WHO SOLD FOR FRANCE.



In a few minutes the party rode out to join Turcine's regiment.



**TURPIN'S REGIMENT
CROSSED THE ALPS
INTO ITALY. THEY
MADE CAMP IN SUVA
ONE DAY.**



CAN ONE OF YOU
RECOMMEND A
SERVANT TO ME?

MY BROOM'S BROTHER, PAULD, MIGHT SUIT
YOU CAMPBELL, BUT TO TELL THE TRUTH,
THE LAD IS FULL OF MISCHIEF AND HAS
LOST SEVERAL POSITIONS BECAUSE OF IT.

PAULD IS NO DOUBT A
PERFECT MAN, BUT HE IS
SHARP AS A NEEDLE. IF
HE CAN BE TAMED, HE'D
MAKE A USEFUL LAD.

I SHOULD LIKE TO
SEE HIM BEING
BUT A BOY MYSELF.
I COULD PUT UP
WITH HIS MISCHIEF.

**THE NEXT DAY PAULD WAS
SUMMONED TO BOSTON'S
QUARTERS.**

I SEEK A SERVANT,
AND I HEAR YOU ARE IN NEED OF A
MASTER. BUT FIRST A FEW QUESTIONS.



PAULD, COULD YOU
BE FAITHFUL?

I COULD TO A
MASTER I LOVED.

ARE YOU
TRUTHFUL?

AS TRUTHFUL AS
OTHER PEOPLE BE.





IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED, HECTOR SERVED AS FURCHER'S AIDE IN SEVERAL BATTLES WITH THE SPANARDS. ONE DAY

YOU HAVE SERVED WELL, AS I EXPECTED YOU WOULD, CAMPBELL. I WILL THEREFORE TELL YOU IN CONFIDENCE THAT I INTEND TO GET PROVISIONS TO OUR TROOPS IN THE CITADEL AT TOWN.



TOWN ITSELF IS HELD BY THE SPANARDS BUT OUR TROOPS STILL HOLD THE CITADEL. AT THE EDGE OF THE CITY THEY HAVE BEEN UNDER CLOSE SIEGE FOR EIGHTEEN MONTHS. THEIR STORES MUST BE WELL NEAR EXHAUSTED.

MY ONLY FEAR IS THAT THE GARRISON WILL LOSE HOPE AND ABANDON ITS POSITION BEFORE WE CAN HELP THEM.

BUT COULD YOU NOT GET WORD TO THEM THAT HELP IS ON THE WAY?



WE HAVE TRIED. SOME OF OUR MESSENGERS NEVER RETURNED. SOULLESS THEY WERE KILLED. OTHERS CAME BACK REPORTING EVERY AVENUE TO THE CITADEL IS SO CLOSELY GUARDED BY THE ENEMY, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO GET THROUGH.

DO YOU HAVE ANY OBJECTION TO MY MENTIONSING THIS MATTER TO MY LACKY, GENERAL?

YOU MAY IF YOU LIKE, CAMPBELL, BUT I DOUBT IF HE CAN SUGGEST ANY METHOD OF COMMUNICATION THAT HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN TRIED.



TWO HOURS LATER, RECTOR APPROVED HIS PLANS.

I HAVE TALKED OVER THE MATTER OF THE TOWN GARRISON WITH PAOLO IF YOU WILL ENTRUST THE MISSION TO US, WE WILL TRY TO DELIVER A MESSAGE THAT HELP IS COMING.

WE THINK TWO BOYS WOULD BE MORE LIKELY TO SLIP BY THE SPYING THIN MEN.

THAT IDEA HAS ALSO OCCURRED TO ME, BUT I SHOULD NOT HAVE PROPOSED IT HAD YOU NOT SPOKEN FIRST.



I SHALL NOT EXPECT YOU TO SUCCEED. THE CHANCES ARE A HUNDRED TO ONE AGAINST IT. HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF YOUR PLANS?

PAOLO AND I WILL DRESS AS COUNTRY BOYS AND ENTER THE CITY FROM THE SIDE OPPOSITE THE CITADEL. AFTER THAT, WE MUST BE GUIDED BY CIRCUMSTANCES.



I WILL WRITE A MESSAGE FOR YOU TO DELIVER TO THE GARRISON OF COURSE YOU WILL TAKE NO REPLY.

NOTHING BUT A LONG KNIFE SUCH AS EVERY PEASANT CARRIES.

TUDORIC WROTE THE MESSAGE AND GAVE IT TO RECTOR.

MAY FORTUNE ATTEND YOU DO NOT BE TOO RASH IF YOU ARE CAPTURED YOU WILL MOST CERTAINLY BE HANGED.





THAT WAS A GOOD IDEA, PAOLO. WE WILL BE LESS LIKELY TO DRAW SUSPICION IF WE SEEM TO BE TAKING SOMETHING TO MARKET.

THE FAGGOTS WILL BE EASY TO SELL. EVERY HOUSEWIFE WILL BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR WOOD BECAUSE OF THE FROST.



THEY PASSED THROUGH THE GATES OF THE CITY.

LARGE FAGGOTS FOR SALE! ONLY A CROWN AND A HALF!

I HAVE BEEN OFFERED AS MUCH FOR A CROWN.



THEN YOU DID WRONG TO REFUSE, SIGNORA. WITH TWO ARMS BENTING FIREWOOD, IT SHALL BE HARD TO FIND BEFORE WATCH IS OUT.



THE WOOD WAS SOON SOLD AND THE BOYS WERE FREE TO EXPLORE THE CITY. WHEN THEY ENTERED A STREET LEADING TO THE CHANCEL, THEY FOUND THEIR WAY BLOCKED.

LET US SEE IF THE OTHER STREETS ARE ALSO GUARDED.



THEY FOUND SENTRIES HAD BEEN PLACED AT EVERY STREET LEADING DOWN TO THE WALL ADJACENT TO THE FORTRESS.

NOTE THAT THE HOUSES ARE DESERTED, PAOLO. I HAVE A PLAN, BUT WE MUST WAIT FOR NIGHTFALL.



THAT NIGHT, THE BOYS WENT TO THE STREET'S LEADING TO THE CITADEL, THEY FORCED OPEN THE DOOR OF A DESERTED HOUSE AND ENTERED.



THEY MOUNTED THE STAIRCASE TO THE ROOF.

SOFTLY, PAOLO. IF THE SENTRIES HEAR US WE ARE UNDONE.



SLOWLY, CAREFULLY, THEY MADE THEIR WAY ACROSS THE ROOFS AND GORGING HILLS TO THE END OF THE STREET.

THIS SNOW IS BITTERLY COLD, BUT IT HELPS HIDE US FROM THE SENTRIES.



USING THE ROPE AND HOOK THEY BROUGHT WITH THEM, THEY DESCENDED INTO A NARROW LANE BETWEEN THE LAST HOUSE AND THE CITY WALL.



WICTOR HAD ATTACHED A LIGHT CORD TO THE END OF THE SOILING HOOK WHEN THEY WERE SAFELY BELOW. A QUICK PULL ON THE CORD LOCKED THE HOOK.



IT FELL SILENTLY IN THE SNOW.

WE WILL NEED IT AGAIN FOR THE CITY WALL.



CAREFULLY THEY FELT THEIR WAY UP STEPS LEADING UP THE WALL.

MASTER! I HEAR FOOTFALLS. SOMEONE IS COMING!

SHH! IT IS ONLY A SENTRY STAMPING HIS FEET TO KEEP THEM WARM.



WITH THE HELP OF THE HOOK, THEY DESCENDED THE WALL AND MADE THEIR WAY TOWARD THE CITADEL.

THE MOAT IS HERE SOMEWHERE. CAN YOU SWIM, PAOLO?

NOT VERY WELL, MASTER.



WHEN THEY REACHED THE MOAT, HECTOR FASTENED THE ROPE UNDER PAOLO'S ARMS, FASTENING THE OTHER END ACROSS HIS OWN SHOULDERS, HE SLIPPED QUIETLY INTO THE ICE WATER

WHEN I AM ACROSS, I WILL PULL YOU AFTER ME



SOON PAOLO WAS ALSO CROSSING THE MOAT



IN A FEW MINUTES, BOTH BOYS, DYING BUT SAFE, WERE IN FRONT OF THE CASTLE'S WALLS

NOW GIVE ME THE BOW AND ARROW



HECTOR ATTACHED TUDENE'S MESSAGE TO AN ARROW AND SHOT IT INTO THE FORTRESS



A SOLDIER IN THE FORTRESS HEARD THE SOUND OF THE BOW

WHO IS THERE? SPEAK OR I FIRE!



I AM A FRIEND I HAVE JUST SHOT
A MESSAGE INTO THE FORTRESS.
SEE THAT IT IS DELIVERED TO
YOUR COMMANDER.



THEY THEN TURNED BACK TOWARD FLYNN. THEY SAW
THE JOY BRANCH OF THE NIGHT AND HEARD
ABOUT TO SCALE THE WALLS WHEN

IF YOU MOVE I WILL
KILL YOU WHO ARE YOU?



HECTOR TURNED AROUND TO STRUGGLE
WITH HIS ASSAILANT



SUDDENLY HECTOR SAW HIS ENEMY FALL
LIFELESS TO THE GROUND

YOU WERE JUST IN TIME,
FELLOW THE FELLOW WAS
TOO STRONG FOR ME.



LEAVING THE CITY, THE BOYS
CAME TO A RIVER, THEY
FOUND A BOAT AND WERE
SOON SAFELY ON THEIR
WAY BACK TO THE
FRENCH LINES.



WHEN HECTOR GOT BACK TO SOGA, HE REPORTED TO TURENE.

I AM HEARTILY GLAD TO SEE YOU BACK SAFE AND SOUND OF COURSE, AS I EXPECTED, YOU FOUND YOUR TASK IMPOSSIBLE.

ON THE CONTRARY, GENERAL, YOUR DESPATCH IS NOW IN THE HANDS OF THE GARRISON OF THE CITADEL.



HECTOR TOLD THE ASTONISHED TURENE ALL THAT HAD HAPPENED.

THE SERVICE YOU HAVE RENDERED IS A GREAT ONE, AND WORTHY OF THE HIGHEST PRAISE I SHALL AT ONCE MAKE OUT YOUR COMMISSION AS A CAPTAIN.



WHEN HECTOR RETURNED TO HIS QUARTERS, HE TOOK PLEASURE OF HIS NEW RANK.

THAT IS GOOD NEWS, INDEED.

WELL, IT SEEMS ASSURED THAT I SHOULD BE SO SOON A CAPTAIN, AND HERE ARE TWENTY PISTOLS FOR YOU, A GIFT FROM THE GENERAL.



TWO WEEKS LATER, TURENE WAS READY TO PROVISION THE CITADEL. A FRENCH ARMY MARCHED ON TUREN AND BEGAN A CANONADE AT A POINT FAR REMOVED FROM THE FORTRESS. WHEN THE ADVANCED BATTALIONS HURRIED TO REPEL THE ATTACK, ANOTHER FRENCH FORCE SUDDENLY APPEARED AT THE CITADEL. IN A MOMENT, THE GATE WAS IN SPLINTERS.



FRENCH SOLDIERS Poured THROUGH THE BREACH, FOLLOWED BY CARTLOADS OF PROVISIONS. VICTOR PLACED HIS COMPANY ATOP THE CITY RAMPARTS.

GET READY! THE SPANIARDS WILL BE BACK IN FORCE WHEN THEY LEARN THEY HAVE BEEN TRICKED.



SOON THE EMPTY SUPPLY CARTS WERE BE TURNING FROM THE FORTRESS AND STREAMING AWAY FROM THE CITY.



MEANWHILE, VICTOR HAD MOST OF THE SPANISH GARRISON SPIES.

THE SPANIARDS ARE IN FOR A SURPRISE WHEN THEY TRY TO USE THESE.



WHEN THE ENEMY TROOPS RETURNED...

FIRE!



HECTOR'S MEN FEEL THE SPANGERS AT
DAY BREAK. THEIR COMMANDS WERE
SAFELY BEYOND THE CITY WALLS.

WELL DONE, MEN! NOW GET READY
TO FALL BACK IN GOOD ORDER!



THEY WITHDREW AND QUICKLY JOINED THE
MAIN BODY OF FRENCH TROOPS.

HURRY YOUR MEN ON,
CAPTAIN! THE ENEMY
WILL SOON BE ON
THE BARRIERS TO
OPEN FIRE ON US!



THEIR GUNS ARE
USELESS, SIR!
I HAVE SHIPPED
THEM!



THEN YOU HAVE SAVED US FROM A
HEAVY LOSS! THEY WOULD HAVE
SHIPPED OUR BARRIERS
AS WE WITHDREW.



IN THE CAMPAIGNS THAT FOLLOWED, HECTOR AGAIN CONDUCTED HIMSELF WELL. HE WAS SEVERELY WOUNDED AND SPENT MANY MONTHS RECOVERING. WHEN HE RETURNED TO TURENE...

OUR ENEMIES ARE PREPARING TO INVADE FRANCE. I MUST STAY HERE, BUT I AM SENDING YOU TO SERVE UNDER DUC D'ENGHEN, WHO WILL COMMAND OUR ARMY ON THE RHINE.



THE NEXT DAY, HECTOR PRESENTED HIMSELF TO THE DUC D'ENGHEN.

I AM HAPPY TO SEE YOU CAPTAIN CAMPBELL, BOTH FOR YOUR OWN SAKE AND THAT OF TURENE, WHOM I GREATLY ADMIRE.



ENGHEN'S ARMY MARCHED FORWARD.

THE SPANIARDS HAVE PLACED ROCDRI UNDER SIEGE. IF WE FAIL TO DRIVE THEM AWAY, THE ENTIRE PROVINCE OF CHAMPAGNE WILL FALL TO THE ENEMY.



LAKE ONE AFTERNOON...

GENTLEMEN, THE SPANIARDS, WITH 22,000 TROOPS TO OUR 22,000, ARE IN POSITION BEFORE ROCDRI. WE ATTACK TOMORROW.



THAT NIGHT, AS THE ARMIES RESTED FOR THE MORNING'S ENCOUNTER?

I INTEND TO RECONNOITRE THE AREA. THAT IS WHAT TROUPE WOULD DO IF HE WERE HERE.

I WILL GO WITH YOU



HECTOR AND FAGEL SLIPPED OUT OF CAMP AND INTO THE AREA BETWEEN THE TWO ARMIES.

MASTERY! I HEAR A NOISE COMING FROM THAT HOLLOW

I AM NOT SURPRISED IT IS A PERFECT PLACE FROM WHICH TO LAUNCH AN ASSAULT



THEY CREEPT CLOSER AND PEERED INTO THE DARK WOODS.

SPRAWLED! HUNDREDS OF THEM!

LISTEN TO THEM SNORE!



HECTOR AND FAGEL HURRIED BACK TO THEIR LINES.

SO, THEY PLAN TO TAKE US BY SURPRISE AS WE ADVANCE AGAINST THEIR MAIN ARMY!



AT DAWN, HECTOR REPORTED WHAT HE HAD SEEN.

YOU HAVE RENDERED A VITAL SERVICE, CAPTAIN. NOW THAT WE ARE FOREWARNED, WE SHALL KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH THE AMBUSH.



WHEN THE TRUMPET SOUNDED, THE FRENCH TROOPS BEGAN THEIR ADVANCE.



ENGHEN LED HIS CAVALRY FORWARD, THEN TURNED SUDDENLY ON THE WOODED AREA WHERE THE ENEMY LAY IN AMBUSH. THE SURPRISED HUNGARIANS WERE CUT TO PIECES.



THEN THE FRENCH CAVALRY FELL UPON THE SPANISH INFANTRY, HEAVY CANNON FIRED DESTRUCTION INTO THE FRENCH RANKS.



HECTOR'S HORSE WAS SHOT FROM UNDER HIM. HE LAY POWED TO THE GROUND. CANNON SHELLS AND MUSKET SHOTS WHISTLED OVER HIS HEAD.



FRENCH AND HIS MEN WERE FORCED TO FALL BACK BUT THEY SOON RETURNED TO THE ATTACK AGAIN AND AGAIN THEY THREW THEMSELVES UPON THE ENEMY. AT LAST THE SPANARDS BROKE. THE FRENCH WERE VICTORIOUS.



WHEN THE BATTLE WAS OVER, TWO SOLDIERS HELPED HECTOR FREE HIMSELF.



WHEN HE RETURNED TO CAMP.

THANK GOD I SEE YOU ALIVE AGAIN, MASTER, ARE YOU WOUNDED?

MY FOOT IS BRUISED A BIT OTHERWISE I AM UNHURT



HECTOR REPORTED TO ENCHEN.

I AM INDEED GLAD TO SEE YOU I WAS TOLD YOU HAD BEEN STRUCK DOWN AND I FEARED YOU WERE SLAIN.



I WAS JUST TELLING THESE GENTLEMEN THAT IF YOU HAD NOT DISCOVERED THE AMBUSH THINGS MIGHT HAVE GONE DIFFERENTLY TODAY, A VOLLEY FROM A THOUSAND HIDDEN MUSKETS WOULD HAVE PLAYED TRAVEL AMONG US.



FOR THIS GREAT SERVICE, RENDERED WITHOUT ORDERS, I APPOINT YOU TO THE RANK OF COLONEL. WHEN YOU RETURN TO TURENS, TELL HIM I OWE HIM THANKS FOR HAVING SENT YOU TO ME.

I THANK YOU, SIR, FOR PROMISING ME SO FAR BEYOND MY MERITS.



YOU WILL ALSO HAVE THE HONOR OF CARRYING DESPATCHES BY TODAY'S VICTORY TO PARIS. YOU WILL LEAVE TOMORROW.



IN PARIS, HECTOR PRESENTED HIMSELF TO QUEEN ANNE AND HER MINISTER, CARDINAL MALTAPEL.

WE HAVE ALREADY HEARD OF THE VICTORY AT ROCROU. NOW WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE THE PARTICULARS CONTAINED IN THESE DESPATCHES.



WE WILL PERUSE THESE AT OUR LEISURE. I SHALL, I HOPE, SEE YOU THIS EVENING.



WHEN HE LEFT THE QUEEN, HECTOR WENT TO SEE HIS FORMER COMMANDER, SERGEANT MACHINDSH.

WELL DONE, MY LADY YOU HAVE REDEED MADE YOUR WAY FOUR YEARS IN THE ARMY AND ALREADY YOU ARE A COLONEL!



THE OLD SERGEANT MADE HECTOR TELL HIM ALL THAT HAD HAPPENED.

SO ENGLISH CUT THE ARMSHIP TO PIECES, DID HE? LUCKY! YOU HAD SPICED OUT THE GROUND. NOW TELL ME ABOUT TURENE.



THAT EVENING, HECTOR WENT TO A RECEPTION AT THE LOUVRE. HE WAS THE CENTER OF AN ADMIRING CROWD.

I HAD LOOKED TO SEE A FIERCE WARRIOR, MONSIEUR, AND BEHOLD I FIND A YOUTH WHO APPEARS BORN FOR COURT RATHER THAN THE BATTLEFIELD.

THEN APPEARANCES GREATLY BELIE ME, MADAME. I WOULD RATHER FACE ENEMY CANNON THAN SO MANY BEAUTIFUL FACES.



LATER IN THE EVENING, HECTOR WAS CALLED TO A PRIVATE AUDIENCE WITH THE QUEEN AND MAZARIN.

TURNEY HAS REWARDED YOU FOR THE SERVICE YOU RENDERED HIM AT TURIN. THE DUC D'ENGHEN HAS REWARDED YOU FOR ROCROI. NOW IT IS OUR DUTY TO REWARD YOU FOR YOUR SERVICES TO FRANCE.



CARDINAL MAZARIN WILL HAND YOU IN MY NAME, THE DEED TO THE ESTATE DE LA VILLAR IN POUSSO, WHICH CARRIES WITH IT THE TITLE OF DUC DE LA VILLAR.



HECTOR WAS OVERJOYED BY THIS UNEXPECTED REWARD.

SHOULD THERE BE NEED, MADAME, I WILL WILLINGLY LAY DOWN MY LIFE IN YOUR MAJESTY'S SERVICE.

WHICH MEANS ALSO IN THAT OF MY MINISTER, WHO MAY NEED FAITHFUL FRIENDS EVEN MORE THAN I.



THE NEXT MORNING, HECTOR WENT TO THE CARDINAL'S HOUSE TO RECEIVE THE DEED TO HIS ESTATE AND HIS PATENT OF NOBILITY.

I ENVY YOU, SIR, YOU FIGHT OPENLY AGAINST THE ENEMIES OF FRANCE, WHILE I AM SURROUNDED BY SECRET ENEMIES



THE GREAT NOBLES FIND ME AN OBSTACLE IN THEIR PATH. HER MAJESTY AND I HAVE NEED OF GOOD FRIENDS.

BE ASSURED, YOUR EXCELLENCY, THAT YOU CAN COUNT ON ME TO THE VERY EXTENT OF MY LIFE.



AS HECTOR WAS LEAVING, THE CARDINAL'S CHAMBERLAIN GAVE HIM NEWS THAT PLEASED HIM MORE THAN ALL ELSE.

POSSIBLY THE CARDINAL DID NOT INFORM YOU THAT HE HAS APPOINTED YOU TO COMMAND A NEWLY RECRUITED REGIMENT.

PLEASE GIVE MY EARNEST THANKS TO HIS EXCELLENCY.



LATER, HECTOR JOINED PAOLO.

YOU ARE NOT TIRED, I HOPE, PAOLO. WE ARE LEAVING SOON TO VISIT MY ESTATE.

ESTATE? I NEVER BEFORE HEARD YOU SPEAK OF ANY ESTATE.



BECAUSE, PAOLO, I DID NOT HAVE IT THEN.



HECTOR TOLD FACED OF HIS GOOD FORTUNE.

I AM GLAD FOR YOU, MASTER, BUT NOW YOU ARE A NOBLE, YOU WILL NOT WANT A LAD LIKE ME BESIDE YOU.

INDEED I SHALL, HAVE YOU NOT SHARED IN ALL THE ADVENTURES THAT MADE ME A NOBLE? YOU WILL ALWAYS BE MY SERVANT AND MY COMPANION.



THEN HECTOR TOLD SERJEANT MONTESM WHAT HAD BEFALLEN HIM

I AM AS GLAD FOR YOU AS IF IT WERE A CHILD OF MY OWN THAT HAD YOUR GOOD FORTUNE!

OLD FRIEND YOUR HOUSE WAS MINE WHEN I SOFTLY NEEDED IT, MINE SHALL NOW BE YOURS. YOU SHALL MOVE TO POISSON AS THE CAPTAIN OF MY HOUSEHOLD TROOPS.

AH, I SHOULD LIKE TO BE IN YOUR SERVICE AND TO KNOW THAT I HAD A HOME IN MY OLD AGE.



HECTOR CHOSE FOUR MEN TO BE HIS BODYGUARDS. THEY MADE A SPLENDID SHOW WHEN THEY LEFT PARIS.

I HAVE PICKED SOME GOOD FELLOWS WHO, THE COUNTRY SHOPS KEEP BUT POOR STUFF.

AH! SO WE ARE GETTING LUXURIOUS ALL AT ONCE!



BEFORE LONG, HECTOR AND HIS PARTY WERE AT PORTOU THEY RODE THROUGH THE GROUNDS OF THE ESTATE.

THERE MUST BE AN ABUNDANCE OF GAME IN THESE FORESTS.

AND THE RIVERS SEEM WELL SUPPLIED WITH FISH.



THEY PASSED THE HUTS BELONGING TO THE TENANTS.

IT IS PLAIN THAT THE PEOPLE ARE HEAVILY TAXED TO SUPPORT THE ARMES OF FRANCE.



THEY INSPECTED THE CASTLE.

I AM WELL PLEASED WITH THE CONDITION OF THE ESTATE. I WILL RETAIN IN MY SERVICE ALL THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED ON IT SO WELL.



BEFORE RETURNING TO PARIS, HECTOR CALLED THE TENANTS TOGETHER.

I SEE YOU ARE ALREADY BURDENED WITH ROYAL TAXES THEREFORE, YOU NEED GIVE ONLY HALF YOUR ANNUAL PAYMENTS TO THE CASTLE UNTIL BETTER TIMES COME.



WHEN HECTOR RETURNED TO PARIS, HE HEARD OF NEW COURT INTRIGUES. A DODGESS INFLUENCED THE QUEEN AND WAS BANISHED BY MARSHAL, HER FRIEND, THE DUKE DE BEAUFORT, AND WROTE REVENGE. HECTOR WAS SUMMONED TO THE CARDINAL'S HOUSE.

MONSIEUR, I SHOULD LIKE YOU TO HOLD YOURSELF IN READINESS TO BE OF SERVICE IF THE NEED ARISES.

CERTAINLY, YOUR EXCELLENCY. THOSE WHO SHOW THEMSELVES YOUR ENEMIES ARE ALSO MINE.



HECTOR TOLD HIS MEN TO SPY OUT A POSSIBLE PLOT AGAINST THE CARDINAL.

KEEP THE RESIDENCE OF THE DUKE DE BEAUFORT UNDER CONSTANT WATCH WITH THE GUARDS AND SERVAITS, FROM THEM YOU MAY LEARN IF ANYTHING UNUSUAL IS GOING TO TAKE PLACE.



FIND OUT, BECAUSE YOURSELF IN ANY WAY YOU SEE FIT AND WATCH BEAUFORT CAREFULLY. GET SOME CHILDREN TO WATCH THE HOUSES OF BEAUFORT'S FRIENDS.

THIS IS A BUSINESS AFTER MY OWN HEART.



AND SO THE NOTCH WAS TAKEN UP.



SEVERAL DAYS LATER, HECTOR RECEIVED A NOTE FROM MARGARIT SAYING THAT HE WAS GOING TO DINE WITH A FRIEND SOON. AFTERWARD HECTOR'S MEN REPORTED

SIR, BEAUFORT AND A GROUP OF ARMED FRIENDS HAVE JUST RIDDEN FORTH!



A FEW MOMENTS LATER, HIGOLD CAME WITH MORE NEWS.

BEAUFORT AND HIS MEN HAVE GONE TO THE RUE ST HONORE.

THE CARDINAL MUST PLEDG THEM TO RETURN TO HIS RESIDENCE. THEY MEAN TO ATTACK HIM JUST AT THE END OF HIS JOURNEY TO MOUNT, MEN!



HECTOR AND HIS MEN TOOK SHUFFLE, UNTIL THEY MET THE CARDINAL'S CARRIAGE RETURNING TO THE CITY. THEY FELL IN BEHIND IT.



WHEN THEY REACHED THE RUE ST HONORE, ALL WAS QUIET. SEEING HECTOR'S MEN, THE CARDINAL'S ENEMIES DECIDED TO DELAY THEIR ATTEMPT AGAINST HIS LIFE.



WHEN MAZARIN WAS SAFELY HOME, HECTOR TOLD HIM OF THE PLOT.

I THINK YOU MOST HEARTILY BUT BEWARE! BEAUFORT WILL NOW SEEK REVENGE AGAINST YOU NOW I MUST GO TO THE QUEEN TO ACCURSE HER WITH HIS TREACHERY.



WHEN BEAUFORT NEXT VISITED THE LOUVRE, THE QUEEN CALLED THE CAPTAIN OF THE GUARDS.

ARREST MONSIEUR DE BEAUFORT! OUR ENEMIES SHALL LEARN THAT THE QUEEN OF FRANCE WILL NOT TOLERATE BEING DEPRIVED OF HER FAITHFUL MINISTER.



BEAUFORT'S FRIENDS WERE ALSO APPRIZED OR FLED THE COUNTRY. MAZARIN SUMMONED HECTOR AND OFFERED HIM WHATEVER REWARD HE WISHED.

YOU HAVE ALREADY REWARDED ME BEYOND MY DESIRS, BUT IF I MIGHT ASK A FAVOR, IT WOULD BE THAT MY REGIMENT BE SENT TO JOIN MARSHAL TURKENE.

THAT REQUEST IS EASILY GRANTED.



ONE MORE THING, SOMEBODY A FEW FEET HOSTILE TO ME MAY STOP YOU OF YOUR ESTATE AND FORCE YOU FROM THIS COUNTRY. I HAVE TODAY SENT 50,000 CROWNS TO ENGLAND IN YOUR NAME. IT IS BUT A SMALL SUM FOR THE SAVING OF MY LIFE.



HECTOR, THIS TIME AT THE HEAD OF HIS OWN REGIMENT, RETURNED TO THE FRONT. THERE THE ARMIES OF TURBANE AND EMCHEN PREPARED TO ATTACK THE ANATOLIANS, WHO HAD BESIEGED THE TOWN OF FREIBURG.

I MUST HAVE A RESERVE UPON WHICH I CAN RELY. BROUGHT UP AT THE RIGHT MOMENT, IT MIGHT DECIDE THE FATE OF BATTLE.



WHEN THE BATTLE BEGAN, HECTOR'S REGIMENT WAS PLACED IN RESERVE. AFTER FOUR HOURS, TURBANE CALLED IT FORWARD.

WE HAVE HAD TO FIGHT EVERY FOOT OF THE WAY AND WE HAVE LOST HALF OUR STRENGTH.



HECTOR'S MEN PUSHED TO THE FRONT. THEY Poured A FEARFUL VOLLEY INTO THE ENEMY RANKS.

ONE AND TWO RANKS FIRE!
THREE AND FOUR RANKS,
HOLD YOUR SHOT!



FOR THE NEXT THREE HOURS THEY BORE THE WHOLE BRUNT OF THE BATTLE. AS LONG AS THEY FACED ONLY INFANTRY, THE SECOND TWO RANKS HELD THEIR FIRE. BUT WHEN THE ENEMY MUSKETS DREW ASIDE AND THE CAVALRY THUNDERED DOWN, THE FIRST TWO RANKS FELL BACK AND THE SECOND TWO RECEIVED THE CHARGE WITH EVERY MUSKET READY.



THE BRIGADES, BELIEVING THAT MOST OF THE FRENCH WOULD BE HOLDING THEIR MUSKETS, WERE TAKEN BY SURPRISE IN THE WITHERING VOLLEY. THEY BROKE AND FLED.



THEN HE NOW ROSE UP TO HECTOR.

SPLENDIDLY DONE! HOLDING YOUR SECOND RANKS TO MEET THE CAVALRY CHARGE WAS A STROKE OF GENIUS!



THAT NIGHT, DUMAS TOLD ENIGHEN OF HECTOR'S STRATEGY.

A GOOD DEVICE, INDEED! IS THAT ONE OF THE LESSONS YOU TAUGHT HIM?

NO, INDEED! COLONEL CAMPBELL TODAY HAS GIVEN ME A LESSON.



FOR MANY MONTHS BATTLES RAGED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRYSIDE, GAVE MANY PEOPLE, WITH PAULD AT HIS SIDE, WHO WANTED NOT GO BACK TO HIS AUNT THROUGH AN AREA INFESTED WITH GREAT THINGS WHICH

SEIZE HIM!
HE IS OUR
PRISONER!



HECTOR WAS CAPTURED BY THE BARONS IN THE CASTLE OF MIDDLEBURY. HE WAS ALLOWED TO KEEP PAULD WITH HIM.

COLONEL CHARBELL,
IF YOU OWE YOUR
PEOPLE NOT TO
ESCAPE, YOU WILL
BE ALLOWED TO
LIVE MORE
COMFORTABLY
IN TOWN.

IF I WERE ON MY
KNEE, I WOULD
LOSE MY SOLE
AMUSEMENT--
PLANNING WAYS TO
ESCAPE. BUT I
MUST CONFESS, I
AM STILL WITHOUT
A GOOD ONE.



I SHOULD LIKE, THOUGH, FOR MY LUCKY TO BE FREE TO GO INTO THE TOWN. I MAY WANT SOME LITTLE THINGS WHICH I CANNOT GET HERE.

SUCH AS A FILE,
A ROPE OR A
DISBURSE?



I AM NOT
THINKING
OF THAT AT
PRESENT,
COLONEL.

I WILL TELL YOU WHAT
I WILL DO. I WILL LET
HIM FREE IN AND OUT IF
I HAVE YOUR WORD HE
WILL NOT BRING BACK
ANYTHING TO AID
YOUR ESCAPE.



DAY AFTER DAY NECTOR AND PAOLO TRIED TO PLAN AN ESCAPE.

IT STRUCK NE TODAY THAT IF I AM TO GET OUT, IT MUST BE IN SOME VEHICLE THAT COMES IN WITH SUPPLIES.



I WISH IT! SOMETIMES THE SUPPLY WAGONS REMAIN IN THE YARD OVERNIGHT AFTER THEY ARE UNLOADED. YOU COULD SLIP INTO A WAGON, COVER YOURSELF WITH EMPTY BAGS AND RIDE SAFELY OUT IN THE MORNING.

CAPITAL, FELLO!



I WILL GET SOME COUNTRYMEN'S CLOTHES AND HIDE THEM OUTSIDE THE GATES. THEY WILL DISGUISE YOU ONCE WE ARE AWAY.



ONE NIGHT, SOME WEEKS LATER, A SHADY FIGURE SLIPPED THROUGH THE CASTLE YARD AND INTO AN EMPTY WAGON.



AT DAWN, THE WAGGONS LEFT THE CASTLE GROUNDS. HECTOR LEFT WITH THEM.

WHY ARE YOU TRAVELING SO EARLY TODAY?

I MUST GET SOME SALVE. I AM MAD WITH PAIN FROM A TOOTHACHE.



WHEN THE WAGGONS HAD GONE SOME DISTANCE FROM TOWN, THE DRIVERS STOPPED AT A TAVERN.

NOW IS THE TIME, MASTER. THEY ARE ALL INSIDE.



HECTOR DRESSED HIMSELF IN THE CLOTHES HECTOR HAD BOUGHT FOR HIM, THEN THEY SLIPPED INTO THE WOODS.



SOME TIME LATER, THEY CAME TO A VILLAGE. THERE THEY BOUGHT KNIVES AND ARCS.

OUR PISTOLS. WE CAN KEEP HIDDEN BENEATH OUR GARMENTS.

I AM GLAD OF ANY WEAPON. THERE ARE MANY ROBBERS ABOUT.



THEY HAD WALKED SEVERAL MILES WHEN A SUDDEN THUNDERSTORM BROKE UPON THEM.

I SEE A LIGHT AHEAD. WE MUST SEEK SHELTER.



THE LIGHT LED THEM TO A GLOOMY INN,

THESE ARE A
ROUGH LOT,
MASTER. I
THINK WE ARE
IN A
ROBBER'S
DEN.

I SHOULD NOT BE
SURPRISED IF THESE
ARE DRUGS. LET
US ONLY PRETEND
TO DRINK THEM



KEEP YOUR HAND ON YOUR
PISTOL. IT WILL BE SEVEN
AGAINST TWO.



THECTOR AND PAOLO FEIGNED SLEEP.

AT THEM? THE DRUG
HAS TAKEN EFFECT.



BUT THE NEXT MOMENT,



TWO OF THE THIEVES FELL DEAD, A SHOT FROM HECTOR'S SECOND PISTOL, KILLED THE LANDLORD. THE OTHER ASSASSINS RUSHED AT THEIR VICTIMS, WHO MET THE ATTACK WITH THEIR AXES.



MIND THE BEAMS!

THE WARNING CAME TOO LATE. HUGO'S AX STRUCK A BEAM AND FLEW FROM HIS HAND. HIS ASSAILANT SPRANG UPON HIM.



HECTOR'S AX KILLED ANOTHER MAN, BUT THE OTHER TWO CLOSED IN ON HIM. HUGO ROLLED HIMSELF AND HIS OPPONENT AGAINST THE LEGS OF ONE OF THE ASSASSINS. THE MAN LOST HIS BALANCE AND WAS QUICKLY KILLED.



THE OTHER VILLAIN TRIED TO ESCAPE, BUT HECTOR'S KNIFE FOUND ITS WAY TO HIS HEART. MEANWHILE, HUGO HAD KILLED HIS FIERCE Foe.



THANK GOD YOU ARE ALIVE! I WAS AFRAID HE HAD KILLED YOU.

THEY LEFT THE ROBBER'S DEN AND SOON MADE THEIR WAY TO HECTOR'S REGIMENT.



IT'S THE COLONEL! HE'S BACK!

WHEN THE CAMPAIGN OF 1547 WAS OVER, HECTOR RETURNED TO PARIS. THERE HE LEARNED THAT BEAUFORT HAD BEEN PAROLED AND WAS BACK IN THE CITY. ONE EVENING, A LADY OF THE COURT BEGGINED TO HIM.

IT IS SPLENDID TO SEE YOU AGAIN, MONSIEUR LE BARON, BUT PERHAPS THE PARIS AIR IS NOT AS GOOD FOR YOU AS THAT OF THE ARMY.

SHE MEANS TO WARN ME THAT BEAUFORT IS PLOTTING AGAINST ME.



WHEN HECTOR SAW CARDINAL WALZING, HE TOLD HIM OF THE HEARING.

BEAUFORT WILL NEVER FORGET AN INJURY. BE ON GUARD. I SUSPECT HE WILL TRY TO KILL YOU BY HAVING ONE OF HIS SWORSMEN ENGAGE YOU IN A DUEL.

I SHALL TRUST TO MY SWORD TO FOIL THAT PLOT.



THAT DAY, HECTOR PASSED THROUGH DE BEAUVIS, A GOOD FRIEND OF BEAUFORT.

THERE IS THE SCOTCHMAN WHOM THE CARDINAL EMPLOYS TO DO HIS DIRTY BUSINESS.

IN ANY CASE, I AM NOT EMPLOYED AS AN ASSASSIN.



WE SHALL MEET BEHIND THE LUREMBOURG IN AN HOUR'S TIME, MONSIEUR DE VILLER.

I SHALL BE THERE.



A HOUR LATER, HECTOR MET DE BEAUMAIS ON THE FIELD OF HONOR



THIS SHALL BE A DUEL TO THE DEATH, MONSIEUR

YOU SHALL FIND IT MORE DIFFICULT TO KILL A QUEEN'S COUSIN, THAN TO STAB A CHURCHMAN

DE BEAUMAIS FELL FURIOUSLY UPON HECTOR, WHO, WITH A BLOST OF IRON, PUT ASIDE ALL HIS THROATS AND KILLED HIM



THEN ONE OF DE BEAUMAIS' SOLDIERS DEMANDED SATISFACTION HECTOR RAN HIM THROUGH THE SHOULDER



THE OTHER SOLDIER STEPPED FORWARD, HECTOR SENT HIS SWORD FLYING



YOU MAY MENTION TO THE PERSON WHO SENT YOU THAT I SHALL BE HAPPY TO ACCOMMODATE AS MANY OF THE GENTLEMEN OF HIS FOLLOWING AS CHOOSE TO TAKE UP THE MATTER.



THAT NIGHT AT THE PALACE, HECTOR AGAIN RECEIVED A WARNING.

REMEMBER, MONSIEUR, A STORM IS NOT FAST BECAUSE THE FIRST LIGHTNING DOES NOT STRIKE.



LATER, AS HECTOR, HIS FOUR ORDELAIS AND PHOOL, WERE ABOUT TO ENTER HIS LODGINGS

MASTER, LOOK OUT!



HECTOR'S ORDELAIS DREW THEIR SWORDS. THE ASSASSINS HESITATED.

LOOK AT HIM, FOOLISH! THEY ARE BUT SIX. YOU ARE FIVE AND TWENTY!



THE ATTACKERS PUSHED FORWARD.



HECTOR'S SHIFT BLADE BLEW ONE AFTER THE OTHER.

DOWN WITH HIM!
ARE YOU MEN THIS
TO GIVE WAY BEFORE
A SINGLE BLADE?

ARE YOU A MAN TO
SET OTHERS TO
FIGHT WHEN YOU
DARE NOT? WISE
WHENEVER YOU
ARE, YOU ARE A
COWARD!



WITH A FIERCE BATH, THE MEN PUSHED AT HECTOR - AS HE DREW HIS SWORD, HIS CLOAK FELL. IT WAS BEAUFORT.

THAT IS BETTER, MY LORD DUKE.
IT IS MORE HONORABLE TO FIGHT
YOUR OWN OBSESSLS THAN TO
HIRE ASSASSINS.



HECTOR RAN HIS SWORD THROUGH BEAUFORT'S SHOULDER.



AT THAT MOMENT, THE WATCH APPEARED AND HECTOR'S ATTACKERS FLED.



HECTOR HURRIED TO MARGARIT AND TOLD HIM WHAT HAD HAPPENED.

IT COULD NOT BE WORSE. YOU WILL HAVE ALL THE NOBLE ADHERENTS OF BEAUFORT BANNED AGAINST YOU. FRANCE IS NO LONGER THE PLACE FOR YOU. NEITHER THE QUEEN NOR I CAN HELP YOU NOW.



I WILL SELL YOUR ESTATE AND SEND YOU THE PRICE IN ENGLAND. YOU MUST FLEE TOMORROW— TOMORROW MAY BE TOO LATE.



HECTOR RETURNED TO HIS LODGINGS.

WE MUST LEAVE AT ONCE. WE GO TO MARTELS TO BOARD A SHIP FOR ENGLAND.



THEY WERE SOON ON THEIR WAY.



THE NEXT MORNING, A PARTY OF THE DUKE'S MEN RODE OFF IN PURSUIT.



BUT HECTOR HAD FOURTEEN HOURS' START.

HERE IS THE MONEY
FOR OUR PASSAGE
ACROSS THE CHANNEL.



HECTOR'S ENEMIES ROSE TO HUNT HIM BUT WHEN THEY REACHED THE CITY...

OPEN THE GATES!
WHY ARE THEY
LOCKED THIS
TIME OF DAY?



BY ORDER OF CARDINAL MIZRIM
TO DISOBEY THE QUEEN'S MINISTER
WOULD GAIN ME A CELL
IN THE BASTILLE.



THE CARDINAL
HAS BESTED US.
OUR PRY HAS
ESCAPED.

I CANNOT SAY I AM
SORRY. IT IS WELL
KNOWN THAT THE
SCOTSMAN HAS A
BRAVE HEART AND
THAT HE SERVED
FRANCE WELL UPON
THE FIELD OF
BATTLE.



When Hector arrived in England, he went to the Cardinal's mansion.

YOU HAVE CERTAIN MONEYS OF MINE IN YOUR HANDS, DO YOU NOT?

I HAVE MONEY SENT FROM FRANCE THREE YEARS AGO, AND I HAVE THE PURCHASE PRICE OF YOUR ESTATE AT POISSON.



With the money, Hector purchased an estate in Normandy.

MY NEW HOME, PROUD, YOU ARE TO BE IN CHARGE OF ITS CARE.



Before long, Sergeant Mouchet came to England. He and Hector's father, who moved into a house on Hector's land.

SEEING MY OLD FRIENDS TOGETHER REMINDS ME ONCE AGAIN OF FRANCE.



One day, late in 1648, there was news.

THE POST HAS JUST ARRIVED FROM FRANCE. HOSTILITIES HAVE ENDED. THE THIRTY YEARS' WAR IS OVER.



TELL ME, MASTER, DO YOU EVER REGRET THE CHAIN OF EVENTS THAT BROUGHT US HERE FROM THE FIELDS OF BATTLE?

NEVER, PROUD. I AM WELL CONTENT TO LIVE OUT MY DAYS IN PEACE IN ENGLAND.



THE END

NOW THAT YOU HAVE READ THE CLASSICS ILLUSTRATED EDITION, DON'T MISS THE ADDED ENJOYMENT OF READING THE ORIGINAL. AVAILABLE AT 50% A DOZEN OF OUR FINEST BOOKS.