

BAD HOMBRE

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By—

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DEDICATED

To

All Comrades

of

The Globe and Anchor

The United States Marines

FOREWORD

On July 18, 1924, General Horacio Vásquez took oath of office as de facto president of the Dominican Republic, and with his inauguration, the dark skinned natives, wild with joy and singing their patriotic hymns, became a free and democratic people.

On the same day at Fort Ozama, that grim, old fortress guarding the approach from the Carribean Sea, another historic scene was enacted.

As rigid, khaki clad ranks of American marines and native troops stood in the compound at "present arms," the Stars and Stripes slowly descended from the flagstaff high over the white watch-tower.

With the last strains of the American anthem floating away in the torrid air, more rapidly the Dominican colors (squares of blue and red with dividing white cross) ascended the flagstaff and replaced Old Glory. Thus, Santo Domingo, long under American military control, became the — Republica Dominicana.

Great praise should be accorded the United States Marine Corps, for its work in setting to rights the badly disordered house of Dominicana; another glowing record with "Semper Fidelis" appended thereto.

A decree from Washington ordered the withdrawal of the marines, but with the departure of the last transport, the newly found republic suffered a great thorn in its side, to which the efforts in plucking out furnish the incentive for this novel.

W. WENDELL FLEWELLING.

Guantanamo Bay,
December, 1924.