THE FAIR GOD.

BOOK SEVEN.

CHAPTER XIII.

(Continued.)

Cortes' countenance became chill and sullen. "I cannot see the necessity——"

"Good!" exclaimed Olmedo. Whatsoever thou dost, hold fast to that. The captains will tell thee otherwise but——"

"What?" asked Cortes, with a sneer. "The treasure is vast—a million *pesos* or more. Dost thou believe they will go and leave it?"

But Olmedo was intent upon his own thought.

"*Mira*;" he said. "If the captains say there is a necessity, do thou put in thy denial; stand on thy opinion boldly; and when thou givest up, at last, yield thee to that other necessity, the demand of the army. And so——"

"And so," Cortes said with a smile, which was also a sneer, "and so thou wouldst make a servant of one necessity by invoking another."

"Yes; another which may be admitted without danger or dishonor. Thou hast the idea, my son."

"So be it, so be it—*aguardamonos!*"

Thereupon Cortes retired within himself, and the father began again to nurse the wounded hand.

And by and by the chamber was filled with captains, soldiers, and caciques, whose persons, darkly visible in the murky light, testified to the severity of the situation; rusted armour, ragged apparel, faded trappings, bandaged limbs, countenances heavy with anxiety, or knit hard by suffering—such were the evidences.

In good time Cortes arose.

"*Ola*, my friend," he said bluntly. "I have heard that there are among ye many who think the time come to give the city, and all we have taken, back to the infidels. I have sent for you that I may know the truth. As the matter concerneth interests of our royal master aside from his dominion—property for example—the Secretary Duero will make note of all that passeth. Let him come forward and take place here."

The secretary seated himself by the table with manuscript and pen.

"Now, gentlemen, begin."

So saying, the chief dropped back into his seat, and held the sore hand to Olmedo for further care—never speech more bluff, never face more calm. For a time nothing was heard but the silvery tinkle of the falling water. At length one was found sturdy enough to speak; others followed him; and at last, when the opinion was taken, not a voice said stay; on the contrary, the clamor to go was, by some, indecently loud.

Cortes then stood up.

"The opinion is all one way. Hast thou so written, Senor Duero?"

The secretary bowed.

"Then write again—write that I, Hernan Cortes, to this retreat said, No: write that, if I yield my judgment, it is not to any necessity of which we have heard as coming from the enemy, but to the demand of my people. Hast thou so written?"

The secretary nodded.

"Write again, that upon this demand I ordered Alonzo Avila and Gonzalo Mexia to take account of all the treasure belonging to our master, the most Christian king, with leave to the soldiers, when the total hath been perfected and the retreat made ready, to help themselves from the balance, as each one may wish. Those gentlemen will see that their task be concluded by noon to-morrow. Hast written Duero?"

"Word for word," answered the secretary.

"Very well. And now"—Cortes raised his head, and spoke loudly—"and now, rest and sleep who can. This business is bad. Get ye gone!"

And when they were alone he said to Olmedo:

"I have done ill——"

"Nay," said the father, smiling, "thou hast done well."

"Bastante—we shall see. Never had knaves such need of all their strength as when this retreat is begun; yet of what account will they be when loaded down with the gold they cannot consent to leave behind?"

"Why then the permission?" asked the father.

Cortes smiled blandly.

"If I cannot make them friends, by my conscience, I can at least seal their mouths in the day of my calamity."

Then bowing his head, he added:

"Thy benediction, father."

The blessing was given.

"Amen!" said Cortes.

And the priest departed; but the steps of the iron-hearted soldier were heard long after—not quick and determined as usual, but slow and measured, and with many and long pauses between. So ambition walks when marshalling its resources; so walks a heroic soul at war with itself and fortune! He flung himself upon his couch at last, saying:

"In my quiver there are two bolts left. The saints help me! I will speed them first.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE KING BEFORE HIS PEOPLE AGAIN.

Guatamozin's call at the royal palace to see the king, Cuitlahua, had not been without result. When told that the monarch was too sick of the plague to be seen, he called for the officer who had charge of the accounts of tribute received for the royal support.

"Show me," said the 'tzin, "how much corn was delivered to Montezuma for Malinche.'

A package of folded aguave leaves was brought and laid at the accountant's feet. In a moment he took out a leaf well covered with picture-writing, and gave it to the 'tzin, who, after study, said to a cacique in waiting, "Bring me one of the couriers," and to another, "Bring me wherewith to write."

When the latter was brought he sat down, and dipping a brush into a vessel of liquid color drew upon a clear, yellow-tinted leaf a picture of a mother duck leading her brood from the shore into the water; by way of signature he appended to one corner the figure of an owl in flight. On five other sheets he repeated the writing; then the missives were given each to a separate courier with verbal directions for their delivery.

When he left the palace the 'tzin laid his hand upon Hualpa's shoulder, and said, joyfully:

"Better than I thought, O comrade. Malinche has corn for one day only."

The blood quickened in Hualpa's heart, as he asked:

"Then the end is near?"

"To-morrow, or the next day," said the 'tzin.

"But Montezuma is generous—',

"Can he give what he has not? To-night there will be delivered for his use and that of his household, whom I have had numbered for the purpose, provisions for one day, not more."

"Then it is so! Praised be the gods! and you, O my master, wiser than other men!" cried Hualpa, with upraised face, and a gladness which was of youth again, and love so blind that he saw Nenetzin—not the stars—and so deaf that he heard not the other words of the 'tzin:

"The couriers bear my orders to bring up the armies. And they will be here in the morning.

* * * * * * *

In the depth of the night, while Cortes lay restlessly dreaming, his sentinels on the palace were attracted by music apparently from every quarter; at first so mellowed by distance as to seem like the night singing to itself; after awhile, swollen into the familiar dissonant ministrelsy of conch and atabal, mixed with chanting of many voices.

(To be continued.)

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Rocky Point, West River and Southport Ferry Table.

For public convenience we condense the time table of the Rocky Point, West River and Southport Ferry:

ROCKY POINT.

Steamer leaves Ferry Wharf, Charlottetown,—

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY—9.30 a. m; 2 p. m.; returning 8.30, 10 a. m.; 2.20 p. m.

WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY—8.30, 9.30 a. m.; 2 and 4 p. m.; returning at 9 and 10 a. m.; 2.20 and 4.20 p. m.

SUNDAY—9 a. m.; 1 p. m.; returning 9.30 a. m., 1.30 p. m.

Sail Boat leaves Connolly's Wharf,—

MONDAY AND THURSDAY—9 and 11 a. m; 2, 4 and 6 p. m.; returning 8 and 10 a. m; 12.30, 3 and 5 p. m.

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY—11 a. m.; 3 and 6 p. m.; returning 8 a. m.; 12.30 and 5 p. m.

SUNDAY—4.30 p. m., coming from Rocky Point at 3.30 p. m.

WEST RIVER.

Steamer leaves Ferry Wharf for Shaw's Wharf,—

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY—4 p. m., calling at Rocky Point and Westville, coming from Shaw's Wharf same day at 7 a. m., calling at Westville and Rocky Point

SOUTHPORT

Steamer leaves Charlottetown on week days, commencing at 6 a. m. and continues until 10 p. m., running at intervals of every half hour. Returning leaves Southport first trip 6.15 a. m., and continues until 10.10 p. m., running at intervals of every half hour.

ON SUNDAY leaves Charlottetown, first trip at 7 a. m., and every hour until 10 a. m., then leaving at 10.30 and 12 noon, 12.30 and from 1 to 5 p. m., then regular trips at 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30. Returning leaves Southport at 7.30, 8.15, 9.45 10.15 and 10,45 a. m; 12.15, 12.45, 1.15 and every hour from 2.30 until 5.30 and afterwards at 6.45, 8 and 8.45 p. m.

THE SUMMER TIME TABLE.—For the convenience of the public we condense the hours of departure and arrival of trains (local time):

FOR THE WEST.

7 and 9.45 a. m.; 4.30 p. m.

FROM THE WEST.

10.35 a. m.; 4 and 8.10 p. m.

FOR THE EAST.

7.30 a. m. and 4.15 p. m.

FROM THE EAST.

10.20 a. m. and 7.15 p. m.

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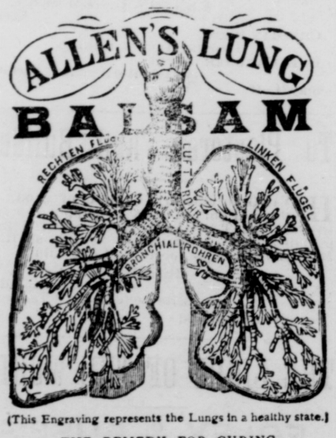

(This Engraving represents the Lungs in a healthy state.)

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Every Tuesday morning, at 4 o'clock, will leave Charlottetown for Orwell Brush Wharf, leaving Orwell Brush Wharf at 7 a. m., for Charlottetown, calling at China Point and Halliday's Wharves; leaving Charlottetown at 3 p. m., for Halliday's, China Point and Brush Wharves, where she will remain over night.

Wednesday morning, at 7 o'clock, will leave Brush Wharf for Charlottetown, calling at China Point and Halliday's Wharves; leaving Charlottetown at 3 p. m., remaining at Brush Wharf over night.

Thursday morning, at 7 o'clock, will leave Brush Wharf for Charlottetown, calling at China Point and Halliday's Wharves; leaving Charlottetown at 3 p. m.; leaving Brush Wharf about 6 p. m, for Charlottetown. The Steamer will call at China Point Wharf when possible.

Friday, will leave Charlottetown for Cranberry Wharf, East River, at 4 a. m.; leaving Cranberry Wharf at 7 a. m. for Charlottetown, calling at Hickey's Wharf; leaving Charlottetown for Hickey's and Cranberry Wharves at 3 p. m., returning to Charlottetown same evening.

Every alternate Friday, steamer will go to Mount Stewart.

Saturday, at 3 o'clock, a. m., will leave Charlottetown for Crapaud: leaving Crapaud at 7 a. m. for Charlottetown; leaving Charlottetown at 3 p. m., to return to Crapaud: returning from Crapaud to Charlottetown same evening.

FARES:

Cabin, to or from Orwell and Wharves, 30 cts. Deck, 20 cts.

Cabin, to or from Mount Stewart, 20 cts.; Cranberry and Hickey's, 12 cts.

Cabin, to or from Crapaud, 40 cts.; Deck, 30c

Excursion Tickets will be issued to Orwell every Thursday, and to Crapaud every Saturday.

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Ch'town, P. E. I., May 10, 1889—1aw tf pat

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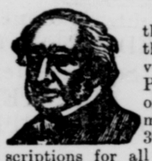

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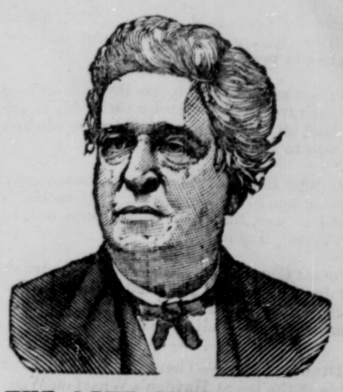

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