

SIGNS OF SPRING.

When bull-frogs pipe nocturnal lays
When first the boys were skating;
When genial sunshine warms the days,

THE WAR-TRAIL!

CHAPTER LXVII.

ENCOUNTER WITH JAVALI.

I had no mark to guide me, either on the earth or in the heavens. I had an indefinite idea that the chase had led westward, and therefore to get back to the prairie, I ought to head towards the east.

Had I been in a forest of trees, surrounded by a northern sylvia, I could have made out my course. The oak or the elm, the ash-tree or maple, the beech or sycamore—any of them would have been compass sufficient for me; but in that thicket of thorny shrubs I was completely at fault.

More than once, when lost in the thick forest or in the boundless plain, had I reposed a similar trust in his instincts—more than once had he borne me out of my bewilderment.

But whether could he take me? Back to the path by which we had come! Probably enough, had that path led to a home; but it did not; my poor steed, like myself, had no home.

I surmised that if there was water near—his instinct might carry him to that—and much needed it both horse and rider. Should we reach a running stream, it would serve as a guide.

I dropped the rein upon his neck, and left him to his will.

I had already shouted in my loudest voice, in hopes of being heard by my comrades; by none other than them, for what could human being do in such a spot, shunned even by the brute creation?

Experience is trophy composed of all the weapons that we have been wounded with.

Habit is a cable. We weave a thread of it each day, and it becomes so strong we cannot break it.

Man has still more desire for beauty than the knowledge of it; hence the caprices of the world.

It is better to do the most trifling thing in the world for half an hour than to think half an hour a trifling thing.

The universe is but one great city, full of beloved ones, divine and human, by nature endeared to each other.

Platonic love is like a march-out in time of peace; there is much music and a good deal of dust, but no danger.

How many people are there in the world who would like to find out practically whether riches add to one's happiness or not?

If women will put a drop of honey on their tongues before speaking, they will be surprised to see how easily friends are made.

One of the strongest reasons why certain persons profess to hate the Bible is that the Bible hates what they are doing all the time.

Weakness is the egotism of goodness. When one hope departs the other hopes gather more closely to hide the gap it has left.

An Ambitious man whom you can serve will often aid you to rise, but not higher than his knee; otherwise you might be standing in his light.

Arab proverb—The idle word that I speak to-day, shall I not meet it again and at the crossings of the ways until the world shall be no more.

were assailed by the screeching of birds at some distance off. I recognized the harsh notes of the jay, mingling with the clatter of the red cardinal.

From the tones, I knew that these birds were excited by the presence of some animal. Perhaps they were defending their nests against the black snake or the crotalus.

It might be my followers approaching; it might be the steed—like me, still wandering in the chaparral?

I sprang to my saddle to get a better view, and gazed over the tops of the trees. Guided by the voice of the birds, I soon discovered the scene of the commotion. At some distance off, I saw both jays and cardinals fluttering among the branches, evidently excited by something on the ground beneath them.

At the same time I heard strange noises, far louder than the voices of the birds, but I could not tell what was causing them. My spirits sank, for I knew they could not be produced either by my comrades or the steed.

It was not far, and I determined to satisfy myself as to what was causing such a commotion in this hitherto silent place. I rode towards the spot, as fast as my horse could make way through the bushes. I was soon satisfied.

TO BE CONTINUED. Grains of Gold.

Noise is the music of industry. The greatest factor of eloquence is sincerity.

Let us respect grey hairs, especially our own. Affliction, like the ironsmith, shapes as it smites.

The two noblest things are sweetness and light. Difficulty enlists the strong, but it is the weak desert.

Beware, oh beware of the mother of a man that despises a woman! Wounds of the heart are the only ones that are healed by the opening.

Jealousy is the sentiment of property, but envy is the instinct of theft. Life is so short that it is the worst of stupidities to waste an hour of it.

It is a most degraded nature that will betray an honourable confidence. The clue of our destiny, wander where we will, lies at the cradle foot.

When nature is sovereign there is no need of austerity and self-denial. Kisses by people who no longer love each other are merely collated yawns.

In love, women go to the length of folly, and men to the extreme of silliness. In the present age mortality is a figurative rule, while custom is a practical law.

If common sense has not the brilliancy of the sun, it has the fixity of stars. Little minds are tamed and subdued by misfortune, but great minds rise above it.

To have the reputation of a bitter tongue get you enemies and invitations to dinner.

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Marriage resembles a village fair, where every one endeavours to trade off his lame horse or his vicious cow for a handsome sound and useful critter.

Genius is a great thing, without doubt; but if you have a capacity for hard work you have so good a substitute for genius that you can't tell the difference between the two.

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L. B. ARCHIBALD, Superintendent Railway Office, Charlottetown, Nov. 23, 1881 [67, wkly]

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