The Bravest of Battles.

The bravest of battles that ever was fought,
Shall I tell you when and where?
On the maps of the world you'll find it not,
'Twas fought by the mothers of men.

Nay, not with cannon or battle shot,
With sword or nobler pen;
Nay, not with eloquent word or thought
From mouth of wonderful men.

But deep in a walled-up woman's heart—
Of woman that would not yield,
But bravely, silently bore her part—
Lo! there is the battle-field.

No marshalling troup, no bivouac song,
No banner to gleam and wave!
But, oh these battles! they last so long—
From babyhood to the grave!

—*Joaquin Miller.*

THE FAIR GOD.

BOOK SEVEN.

CHAPTER XVIII.

(Continued.)

Last man in the column was Leon, brave gentleman, good captain. With his horsemen he closed upon the artillery.

"Friend," he said to Mesa, "the devil is in the night. As thou art familiar with wars as Father Olmedo with mass, how readest thou the noise we hear.

The veteran, walking at the moment between two of his guns, replied:

"Interpret we each for himself, Senor. I am ready to fight. See!"

And drawing his cloak aside, he showed the ruddy spark of a lighted match.

"As thou seest, I am ready; yet"– and he lowered his voice—"I shame not to confess that I wish we were well out of this."

"Good soldier art thou!" said Leon. "I will stay with thee. *A la Madre todos!*"

The exclamation had scarcely passed his lips when to their left and front the darkness became peopled with men in white, rushing upon them, and shouting, "Up, up, Tlatelocos *O, O huilones, huilones!*"

"Turn thy guns, quickly, Mesa, or we are lost!" cried Leon; and to his comrades, "Swords and axes! Upon them, gentlemen! Santiago, Santiago!"

The veteran as promptly resolved himself into action. A word to his men—then he caught a wheel with one hand, and swung the carriage round, and applied the match. The gun failed fire, but up sprung a hissing flame, and in its lurid light out came all the scene about; the infidels pouring into the street, the Tlascalans and many Spaniards in flight, Leon charging almost alone, and right amongst the guns a fighting man—by his armor half pagan, half Christian—all this Mesa saw and more—that the slaves had abandoned the ropes, and that of the gunners the few who stood their ground were struggling for life hand in hand; still more, that the gun he was standing by looked point blank into the densest ranks of the foe. Never word spoke he; repriming the piece, he applied the match again. The report shook the earth, and was heard and recognized by Cortes out on the causeway; but it was the veteran's last shot. To his side sprung the 'tzin; in his ear a war cry, on his morion a blow, and under the gun he died When Duty loses a good servant Honor gains a hero.

The fight—or rather the struggle of the few against the many—went on. The 'tzin led his people boldly and they failed him not. Leon drew together all he could of Christians and Tlascalans; then, as game to be taken at leisure, his enemy left him. Soon the fugitives following Alvarado heard a strange cry coming swiftly after them, "O, O huilones! O huilones!"

And through the rain and the night, doubly dark in the canals, Hualpa sped to the open lake, followed by nine canoes, fashioned for speed, each driven by six oarsmen, and carrying four warriors; so there were with him nine and thirty chosen men, with linked mail under their white tunics, and swords of steel on their long lances—arms and armor of the Christians.

Off the causeway, beyond the first canal he waited, until the great flotillas, answering his signal, closed in on the right hand and left; then he started for the canal, chafing at the delay of his vessels.

"Faster, faster, my men!" he said aloud. Then to himself, "Now will I wrest her from the robber, and after that she will give me her love again. O happy, happy hour."

He sought the canal, thinking, doubtless, the Chriatians would find it impassable, and that in their front, as the place of safety, they would certainly place Nenetzin. There, into the press he drove.

"Not here! Back, my men!" he shouted.

The chasm was bridged.

And marvelling at the skill of the strangers, which overcame difficulties as by magic, and trembling lest they should escape and his love be lost to him after all, he turned his canoe, if possible, to be the first at the next canal. Others of his people were going in the same direction, but he outstripped them.

"Faster, faster!" he cried, and the paddles threshed the water—wings of the lake birds not more light and free. Into the causeway he bent so close as to hear the tramp of horses; sometimes shading his eyes against the rain, and looking up he saw the fugitives, black against the clouds—strangers and Tlascalans—plumes of men, but never scarf of woman.

Very soon the people on the causeway heard his call to the boatmen, and the plash of the paddles, and they quickened their pace.

"*Adelante! adelante!*" cried Sandoval, and forward dashed the cavaliers.

"O my men, land us at the canal before the strangers come up, and in my palace at ease you shall eat and drink all your lives. Faster, faster!"

So Hualpa urged his rowers, and in their sinewy hands the oaken blades bent like bows.

Behind dropped the footmen—even the Tlascalans; and weak from hunger and wounds, behind dropped some of the horses. Shook the causeway, foamed the water. A hundred yards—and the coursers of the lake were swift as the coursers of the land; half a mile—and the appeal of the infidel and the cheering cry of the Christian went down the wind on the same gale. At last, as Hualpa leapt from his boat, Sandoval checked his horse—both at the canal.

Up the dyke the infidels clambered to the attack. And there was clang of swords and axes, and rearing and plunging of steeds; and the voice of the good captain:

"God's curse upon them! They have our shields!"

A horse, pierced to the heart, leaped blindly down the bank, and from the water rose the rider's imploration: "Help, help, comrades! For the love of Christ, help! I am drowning!"

Again Sandoval:

"Cuidado—beware! They have our swords on their lances!" Then, observing his horsemen giving ground, "Stand fast, unless we hold the canal for Magarino, all is lost. Upon them! Santiago! Santiago!

A rally and a charge. The sword-blades did their work well; horses, wounded to death or dead, began to cumber the causeway, and the groans and prayers of their masters caught under them were horrible to hear. Once, with laughter and taunting jests, the infidels retreated down the slope; and once, some of them, close pressed, leaped into the canal. The lake received them kindly; with all their harness on they swam ashore. Never was Sandoval so distressed.

Meantime the footmen began to come up; and as they were intolerably galled by the enemy, who sometimes landed and engaged them hand to hand, they clamored for those in front to move on. "Magarino! The bridge, the bridge! Forward!" With such cries they pressed upon the horsemen, and reduced the space left them for action.

At length Sandoval shouted:

"*Ola*, all who can swim! Follow me!"

(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:

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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.

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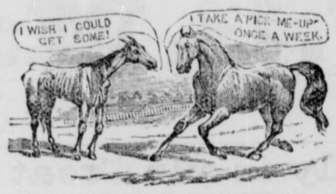

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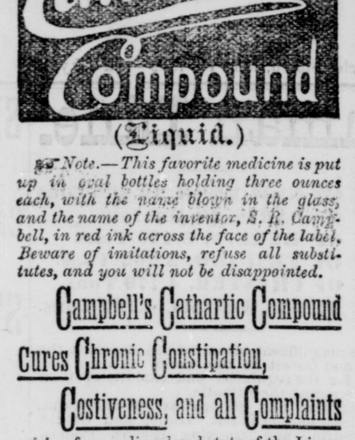

(This Engraving represents the Lungs in a healthy state.)

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