

THE FAIR GOD.

BOOK SEVEN

CHAPTER XI. (Continued.)

Hardly were the captives out from the chamber became a scene of wild iconoclasm. The smoking censers were overturned; the sculpturings on the walls were defaced; the altar was riddled of the rich accumulation of gifts; faggots snatched from the undying fires in front of the sanctuaries were applied to the carved and gilded wood-work; and amid the smoke, and with shouting and laughter and the noisy abandon of school boys at play, the zealots despoiled the gigantic image of its ornaments and treasures—of the bow and golden arrows in its hands; the feathers of humming birds on its left foot; the necklace of gold and silver hearts; the serpent enfolding its waist in coils glistening with pearls and precious stones. A hundred hands then pushed the monster from its sitting-place, and rolled it out of the door, and finally off the azoteas. Tezca shared the same fate. The greedy flames mounted to the towers, and soon not a trace of the ages of horrible worship remained, except the smoking walls of the ruined sanctuaries.

Down from the heights marched the victors: into the palace they marched, and not a hand was raised against them on the way; the streets were almost deserted. "Bien," said Cortes, as he dismounted once more in front of his quarters. "My bien! we have their king and chief priests; we have burned their churches, disgraced their gods, and slain their nobles by the thousand. The war is over, gentlemen; let us to our couches. Welcome rest! welcome peace!"

And the weary army, accepting his words as verity, went to rest, though the sun flamed in the brassy sky; but rest there was not; ere dreams could follow slumber, the trumpets sounded, and the battle was on again, fiercer than ever.

The sun set, and the night came; then the companies thought to rest; but Cortes, made tireless by rage, went out after them, and burned a vast district of houses.

And the flames so filled the sky with brilliance that the sun seemed to have stood still just below the horizon. During the lurid twilight, Olmedo laid away, in shallow graves dug for them in the palace-garden, more than fifty Christians, of whom six-and-forty perished on the temple and its terraces.

CHAPTER XII.

IN THE INTERVAL OF THE BATTLE—LOVE.

The chinampa, at its anchorage, swung lightly, like an Indian cradle, pendulous in the air. Over it stooped the night, its wings of darkness brilliant with the plumage of stars. The fire in the city kindled by Cortes, still fitfully reddened the horizon in that direction—a direful answer to those who, remembering the sweetness of peace in the beautiful valley, prayed for its return in the morning.

Yet, in the hammock, had lulled herself into the sleep of dreams; while in the canoe Hualpa and the warman slept the sleep of the warrior and the laborer—the sleep too deep for dreams. Only Tula and the 'tzin kept vigils.

Just outside the canopy, in sight of the meridian stars, and where the night winds came sighing through the thicket of flowers, a petate had been prepared for them; and now she listened, while he, lying at length, his head in her lap, talked of the sorrowful time that had fallen.

He told her of the mantas, and their destruction; of how Hualpa had made way to the presence of Nenetzin, and how she had saved his life; and as the narrative went on the listener's head drooped low over the speaker's face, and there were sighs and tears which might have been apportioned between the lost sister and the unhappy lover. He told of the attack upon the palace, and of the fall of Izilil, and how, when the victory was won, Malinche flung the gods from the temple and so terrified the companies that they fled.

"Then, O Tula, my hopes fell down. A people without gods, broken in spirit, and with duty divided between two kings, are but grass to be trodden. And lo!—so young, so brave, so faithful!"

He paused, and there was a long silence, devoted to the prince's memory. Then he resumed:

"In looking out over the lake, you may have noticed that the city has been girdled by men in canoes—an army, indeed, unaffected by the awful spectacle of the overthrow of the gods. I brought them up, and in their places sent the companies that had fallen me. So, as the sun went down, I was able to pour fresh thousands upon Malinche. How I rejoiced to see them, the wall with Hualpa, and grapple with the strangers. All my hopes came back again. That the enemy fought feebly was not in fancy. Watching, wounds, battle and care have wrought upon them. They are wasting away. A little longer—two days—a day even—patience, sweatheart, patience!"

There was silence again, the golden silence of lovers, under the stars, hand-in-hand, dreaming.

The 'tzin broke the spell to say, in lower tones and with longer intervals: "Men must worship, O Tula, and there can be no worship without faith, and I next to renew the sacred fire and restore the gods. The first was easy: I had only to start a flame from the embers of the sanctuaries; the fire that burned there was borrowed from that kept immemorially on the old altars. The next duty was harder. The images were not of themselves more estimable than other stones; neither were the jewels that adorned them more precious than others of the same kind; their sanctity was from faith alone. The art of arts is to evoke the faith of men; make me, O sweatheart, make me master of that art, and, as the least of possibilities, I will make gods of things least godly. In the places where they had fallen, at the foot of the temple, I set the images up and gave each an altar, with censers, holy fire, and all the furniture of worship. By and by they shall be raised again to the azoteas; and when we renew the empire we will build for them sanctuaries richer even than those of Cholula. If the faith of our people demand more than—"

He hesitated.

"Then what?" she asked.

(To be Continued.)

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Take time by the forelock ere that rasping, hacky cough of yours carries you where so many consumptives have preceded you; lose no time, but procure a bottle of the rational remedy for Lung and Bronchial Diseases, Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil, with Hypophosphites. It will cure you. Sold by all Druggists at 50c. and \$1.00.

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Wheat Germ Meal only 5 cents a pound at Beer and Goff's.—127 21

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, Charlotte-town.—

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 TUESDAY—9 and 11 a. m.; 2 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 Charlotte-town 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 Charlotte-town, 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.

Hosiery, gloves, flowers, feathers, ribbons, laces, dress goods, so low that we are confident we cannot be undersold.—Stanley Brothers, Brown's Block. w21

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