

Faint Heart.

Faint heart wins not lady fair; Victory smiles on those who dare.

If she answers thee with No, Wilt thou bow and let her go?

Never heed her pretty airs! He's no lover who despairs;

Aim as certain not to miss; Take her as thou wouldst a kiss!

—W. J. Linton.

THE FAIR GOD.

BOOK SEVEN.

CHAPTER V.

(Continued.)

"There," said, in the same strain of simplicity, "there, in the shadow of the hills, I gathered the people of the valley, and the flower of all the tribes that pay us tribute."

"No, you are now Anahua," and, as deeming the point settled, the 'tain turned to Tula. "O good heart," he said, "you have been a witness to all the preparation. At your signal, given there by the palace gate, I kindled the piles which yet burn, as you see, at the four corners of the temple."

"I see them," said Cuiclahua. "What are they?"

"For the first time the 'tain acknowledged a passing sentiment; he raised his head and swept the air with a haughty gesture."

"What are they? Wait a little, and you shall see the lines on the causeway grow into ordered companies, and the shadows under Chapultepec become a multitude of canoes;

"And silence fell upon the three—the silence however, in which hearts beat like drums. From point to point they turned their eager eyes—from the causeways to the lake, from the lake to the palace."

Slowly the converging lines crawled toward the city; slowly the dark mass under the royal hill, sweeping out on the lake, broke into divisions; slowly the banners came into view, of every color and form, and then the shields and uniforms, until, at last, each host on its separate way looked like an endless unrolling ribbon."

When the column approaching by the causeway from Tlacopan touched the city with its advance, it halted, waited for the others, which, having farther to march, were yet some distance out. Then the three on the *teocallis* separated; the princess retired to her *chiampa*; the Lord Cuiclahua, with some nobles of the 'tain's train, betook himself to the new palace, there to choose a household; the 'tain, for purposes of observation, remained on the *acrotas*.

And all the time the threatened palace was a picture of peace; the flags hung idly down; only the sentinels were in motion, and they gossiped with each other or lingered lazily at places where a wall or a battlement flung them a friendly shade."

CHAPTER VI.

IN THE LEAGUER.

By and by a Spaniard came out through the main gateway of the palace; after brief leaving-taking with the guard there, he walked rapidly down the street. The 'tain, observing that the man was equipped for a journey, surmised him to be a courier, and smiled at the confidence of the master who sent him forth alone at such a time."

The courier went his way, and the great movement proceeded. After a while Huamp and Lo' came down from the turret where, under the arm of fire, they too had been watching, and the former said:

"Your orders, O 'tain, are executed. The armies all stand halted at the gates of the city, and at the outlets of each canal I saw a division of canoes lying in wait."

The 'tain looked up at the sun, then past meridian, and replied: "It is well; when the chiefs see but one smoke from this temple they will enter the city. Go, therefore, and put out all the fires except that of Hutzil!"

And soon but one smoke was to be seen. A little afterwards there was a loud cry from the street, and looking down, the 'tain saw the Spanish courier, without morion or lance, staggering as he ran, and shouting. Instantly the great gate was flung open and the man taken in; and instantly a trumpet rang out, and then another and another. Gustafuzin sprang up. The alarm note thrilled him no less than the Christians; the palace, before a slumberous, became alive. The Tlascalans poured from the sheds, that at places lined the interior of the parapet, and from the main building forth rushed the Spaniards—bowmen, slingers, and arquebusers; and the gunners took post by their guns, while the cavalry clothed their horses, and stood by the bridles. There was no tumult, no confusion; and when the 'tain saw them in their places—placid, confident, ready—his heart beat hard, he would win—on that he was resolved—but ah, at what mighty cost!

(To be continued.)

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L. VANKOUGHNET, Deputy Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs.

Department of Indian Affairs, Ottawa, 11th May, 1889. may20-3m 2aw

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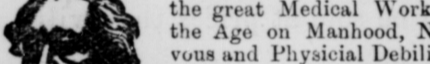
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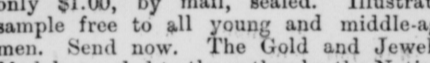
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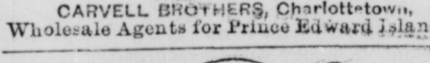
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(This Engraving represents the Lungs in a healthy state.)

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