

[WRITTEN FOR THE EXAMINER.]

"God is Good."

BY JACOB B. DOCKENDORF.

What beauties greet the dwellers here In this our fruitful isle, When, robed in summer's fairest hue, She wears her choicest smile;

Fair fields that stand excelled by none, In richest verdure crowned, Do homage to the breeze that spreads Delicious fragrance round;

Like messengers of happiness With songs of liberty The bright-robed warblers flit about Each scene of industry;

The peaceful herds at noontide sought The cooling shade and brook; While each contented husbandman His homeward journey took

Old-fashioned homesteads in the midst Of plenty charm the sight, While music from the barnyard fills The ear with new delight;

We look in vain for poverty Where industry abounds; We hear no wail of misery Where happiness resounds;

Others may boast a broader land But none more rich than ours; Others may sing of brighter climes, They have no fairer flowers;

THE FAIR GOD. BOOK SEVEN. CHAPTER XVII. LA SACHE TRISTE.

As the yells of the infidels—or, rather, their yell, for the many voices rolled over the water in one great volume—grew clearer—their design became manifest.

"Dost thou remember the brigantines?" "What of them?" "Only, father, that what will happen to-night would not if they were afloat. Now shall we pay the penalty of their *ay de mi!*"

The report of a gun, apparently back in the city, reached them. "They are attacking the rear guard! Mesa spoke to them. On the right hand, and on the left! Mother of God, if our people stand not firm now, better prayers for our souls than fighting for our lives!"

A stone then struck Avila, startling the group with its clang upon his armor. "A slinger!" cried Cortes. "On the right hand—can ye see him?"

"Well done, Magarino! Forward, gentlemen—forward all!" so saying, Sandoval spurred across; after him, in reckless haste, his whole division rushed. The platform, quivering throughout, was stancher than the stone rejections upon which its ends were planted; calced by fire they crumbled like chalk.

"The crowd then crossing, sensible that the floor was giving way under them, yelled with terror, and in their frantic struggle to escape toppled some of them into the canal. None paused to look after the unfortunates; for the shouting of the infidels, which had been coming nearer and nearer, now rose close at hand, muffling the thunder of the horses plunging on the sinking bridge. Moreover, stones and arrows began to fall in that quarter with effect, quickening the hurry to get away.

Cortes reached the bridge at the same time the infidels reached the causeway. He called to Magarino; before the good captain could answer the waves to the right hand became luminous with the flashing of countless paddles, and a fleet of canoes burst out of the darkness. Up rose the crewers, ghost-like in their white armor, and showered the Christians with missiles. A cry of terror—a rush—and the cavaliers were pushed on the bridge, which they jammed deeper in the rocks. Some horses, wild with fright, leaped into the lake, and iron-clad like their riders, were seen no more.

On the further side Cortes wheeled about and shouted to his friends. Olmedo answered, so did Moria; then they were swept onward.

Alone, and in peril of being forced down the side of the dyke, Cortes held his horse to the place. The occasional boom of guns, a straggling fire of small arms, and the unintermitted cries of the infidels in tone exultant and merciless, assured him that the attack was the same everywhere down the column. One look he gave the scene nearby, on the bridge a mass of men struggling, cursing, praying; wretches, their shrieks shrill with despair, the lake white with assailants! He shuddered, and calling on the saints. Then the instinct of the soldier prevailed:

"Ola, comrades," he cried. "It is nothing. Stand, if ye love life. Stand and fight, as ye so well know how! Holy Cross! Christy o Santiago!"

He spurred into the thick of the throng. In vain—the current was too strong; the good steel seconded him with hoof and front;

now he prayed, now cursed; at last he yielded, seeing that on the other side of the bridge was Fear, on his side Panic.

When the signal I have described, borne from temple to temple, the rearguard were yet many squares from the causeway, and had for the most part become merely a procession of drenched and covering stragglers. The sound alarmed them, and divining its meaning, they assembled in accidental groups, any so hurried forward.

Nenezin and Marina, yet in company, were startled by the noisy shells. The latter stayed not to question or argue; at her word, sharply spoken, the slaves followed fast after the central division, and rested not until they had gained a place well in advance of the non-combatants, whose slow and toilsome progress she had shrewdly dreaded. Not so Nenezin; the alarm proceeded from her countrymen; feared she, therefore, for her lover; and when, vigilant as he was gallant, he rode to her and kissed her hand, and spoke to her in lover's phrase, she laughed, though not understanding a word, and bade her slaves stay with him.

(To be continued.)

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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.

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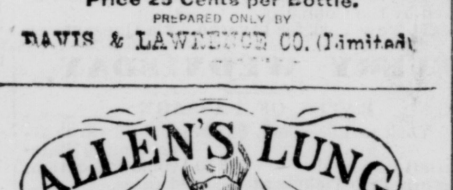


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