

thought how long it might be before surgical assistance could be procured for her father.

Reading her thoughts in her anxious countenance, Max said: "When you are in safety, Helen, I shall return to Heliopolis in Fauna's canoe, and bring a surgeon to Mr. Blachford."

"Oh! no, no," exclaimed Helen, "you shall run no farther risk for me." Then fearful of having ~~been~~ with too much fervor she turned away her head. Max made no answer, but his resolution of returning to Heliopolis remained unchanged.

"Well, Miss," said Orrin as he assisted Helen to step from the canoe on the firm ice. "I guess you must have been properly skeared, and there was no small danger, I tell you."

"I was undoubtedly a little alarmed," answered Helen, "and I am much obliged to you, Mr. Fisk, for coming to our assistance."

"Oh! I don't grudge what I've done, which aint much neither. If I ant glad to see you safe, it's a caution, but I hope you wont go pleasure-walkin' again on the ice, which air a ticklish thing at best in doubtful weather. But where in the name of wonderment is that gal goin'?"

"Fauna!" exclaimed Max to the Indian girl who was again pushing her canoe from the ice, "where are you going?" Fauna waved her hand towards Heliopolis and replied "Yonder." "You shall not go," exclaimed Max "you cannot tell what danger there may be on the other shore. At least wait till I am able to go with you."

But Fauna shook her head. "Do you think" she said, "if there ~~were~~ danger I wouldn't gladly share it for the sake of those who are dear to you? But there is none. The heavens are calm and fair and will remain so for some time, and already the water has ceased to swell. Do not grieve, Helen; your father shall soon have the assistance he needs." And before Helen could add her entreaties to those of Max to detain Fauna, she was already many rods from the place where they still stood.

"I reckon it would take in a knowin' jockey to rein in that filly," said Mr. Fisk, "it was as much as I could do to keep foot with her as she flew along the ice and no mistake. But I do suppose there aint no danger, for them Indians knows the signs of nature well. And now, gentlemen, don't you think wed better be movin'?"

During their walk homeward, Helen was silent and thoughtful, which independent of her anxiety on her father's account seemed natural enough after the fatigue and excitement she had suffered. Whether from sympathy or some other cause

Max was equally silent, but this mood by no means extended itself to Colonel Fisk, whose loquacity was proof against every discouragement. Finding it impossible to draw Helen or Max into anything resembling conversation, he fell behind with Brian whom he hoped to find more sociably disposed. "Well, sir," commenced Mr. Fisk, "how came you on the ice?"

"Faix, sir, I kem on shanks' mare," answered Brian.

Nothing daunted by this brief reply; Mr. Fisk proceeded to question the young Hibernian about Helen's adventures on the ice and the arrival of Max to her aid, and Brian replied in as short and unsatisfactory a manner as his naturally obliging and good-humoured disposition permitted. Yet still the Colonel assailed him with divers queries as to the past and present circumstances of Mr. Blachford and his family, and finally asked when Miss Helen's marriage was to take place.

"Is she goin' to be married?" asked Brian.

"Well I can't say, but I guess you're likely to know best."

"It seems I dont thin', for I never hard a word about it."

"Well, I guess there aint many young men ed look as if they was goin' to make a die outright let a gal be in ever so bad a fix, if it hadn't gone beyond sparkin' between him and hern."

"I'm thinkin, sir," said Brian, "you're not up to the ways of the ould cuntry. In my own the poorest gosssoon that's in it, let alone a born gentleman, as I undherstand Mr. Max is as well as his father before him, wouldn't risk life and lands sooner nor let ere a colleen he knows break her little finger."

"Well, I know you ant much sence to Ireland, but then he's from Garmany where I guess they're sothen tamer. I be shot if I thought he'd a spark of fire in his whole carcass till to-day. But I guess you're a cunnin' young coon. You can keep your mouth shut when you like."

"Throth, sir," said Brian, "I'm of the same mind wid them that made the ould saw, 'ax me no questions, and I'll tell you no lies'; For myself I never ax any, and thin how can I answer others if I was ever so well inclined."

They were now met by Gottlieb Hetes, and several men with a hand sled, poles, and ropes. Among them was Yankee Jose, whose hard features shewed a gleam of pleasure at the sight of Helen in safety.

"God bless you, gal," he said, "I'd have been everlastin' sorry if harm had befallen you. But dont be so venturesome again. Trust to an old