

virgin ! God has conducted him to this secret land, therefore let him be cherished as a sacred guest.

"Surely these must be the children of Quetzalcoatl, the Good, whom he foretold would one day return to claim the inheritance of their father. They are fashioned in the very likeness of the beneficial teacher, who departed to the rising sun, and their faces are white and more glorious than the faces of the robbers of Malantzin, in the picture language of the Aztecs ; or that of him who was misnamed Tonatiuh—the Scorching-sun !

"Give homage to the descendants of the Feathered Serpent—the divinity of the air !"

Those to whom this singular address was alone intelligible, immediately complied ; and Conrad, to his astonishment, found himself an object of veneration to the gay throng that bent before him with an obeisance greater than the good King himself exacted from his subjects.

Ere he could speculate upon the cause, however, Unicum called one of those present, a noble looking personage, and delivered Conrad into his charge with a whispered injunction ; bidding his guest, at the same time, to be of good cheer until