

## THE LAND OF THE SPIRIT

deed and expressing her readiness to suffer the penalty of the law. When interrogated as to her motive, her only reply was, 'I loved him, and could not give him up.'

" 'She wanted to plead guilty,' said my young informant, 'but the judge would not allow it. He knows his business. He ordered her plea withdrawn and appointed that young man there beside her to defend her. He isn't afraid. But it is a dead open-and-shut case; he hasn't a point. You see, she confessed everything, and she murdered him all right, too. All he can do is to throw himself on the mercy of the court, and God have mercy on her soul! The old judge there is of cast-iron! Besides, society must be protected. He knows it.'

"I took a good look at the judge, and, in truth, he appeared so. His proud, stern face was set like stone, his bulky frame, crowned by his massive head with its large features, gave an impression of strength, which might have been one of mere brute force but for the powerful chin, stern mouth, clear, bold, calm eyes, and commanding