

The Mountain Divide

"And there they are!" concluded Bucks, wiping the dampness from his forehead.

The receiver continued to click. "Bill thought I would be worried and he cut in on the line right away to tell me what had happened."

"Now give your orders to No. 2 to back up to Castle Springs and let the rail train get by. Recall your relief train," added Scott. "And bring that freight engineer in here in the morning and let Stanley talk to him for just about five minutes." The key rattled for a moment. Scott, going to the farthest corner of the room, picked up "The Last of the Mohicans." "Bucks," he murmured insinuatingly, as he sat down to look into the book again, "I want to ask you now, once for all, whether this is a true story?"

"Bob, put that book where it belongs and stop talking about it."

Scott hitched one shoulder a bit and returned to the fire, but he was not silenced.

"That reminds me, Bucks," he resumed after a pause, "there is another friend of yours here at