

that he may say farewell to the sun. Anon, he will be clothed in violet, then in sad garments the color of ashes, afterward he will sleep. Sleep thou also, little one ; to-morrow there will be no wind from the desert. Sleep thou, and the good Shepherd will watch thee."

"I hear some one knocking," said the woman. She arose and advanced to the parapet which overlooked the street. "It is our neighbor, Simon ; he hath returned from his journey to Jerusalem and will tell thee of it. Give me the child ; he will sleep now," and taking the little one in her arms she descended to the terrace.

A slow step on the stair presently announced the new-comer. He was a stout man and breathed heavily as he set his foot on the roof level. He was also grumbling aloud. "Had I a garden below, such as thine, friend Ananias," he said, "I would not climb to the roof."

"Greetings, friend, and a welcome," returned Ananias with a quiet smile. "Jehovah grant that thy ways have been prospered. My garden is indeed good, but this is better, for here one can feel the breath of the mountains, the fragrance of the eternal snows on Hermon yonder."

Simon replied with a shrug of the shoulders and an inarticulate grunt, as he settled himself upon a bench. "There are tidings of evil," he said abruptly. "Hast thou heard?"

"Nay, I have not heard ; what hath befallen?"