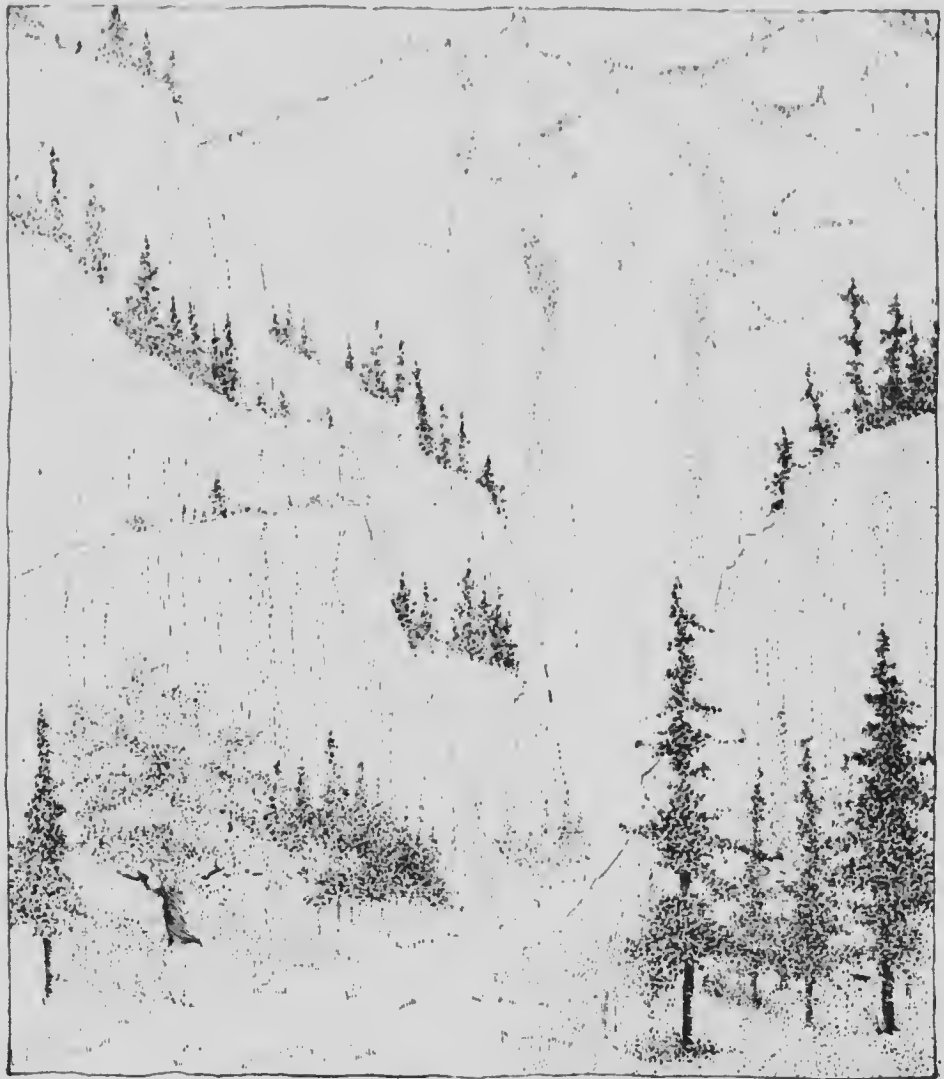


"People of Thebes, how foolish you are! Here you worship Latona and her son and daughter, while right in your midst is a greater even than Latona. Am I not more queenly than the mother of Apollo? Have I not seven sons as handsome as the god of the silver bow? Have I not seven daughters as lovely as Diana the huntress? Why pray to the gods? Your own king and queen can do as much and more for you."

Her words had the desired effect on the people. They turned their thoughts away from the gods and shouted loudly for Niobe and her children.



NIOBE BECOMES A MOUNTAIN SPRING