

Denesmore and her attendant Dinah on a voyage to Guiana, with Atalyn de Montville in command. They encountered the storm off the Azores, the crew deserted the ship and perished to a man; but the Essequibo outrode the storm, and tied up to an ancient stone pier in an undiscovered country. This region was a picturesque island, a few miles in extent, on the features of which Mr. Erskine expends a wealth of soberly told imagination. It contained parks and gardens, a palace, an aqueduct and many other marvellous things, to say nothing of rifled cannon and stores of ammunition. Atalyn, Katharine and Dinah had a good time there, disturbed on more than one occasion by cannibal savages, à la Crusoe, whom Atalyn terrified by electrical and pyrotechnic displays, and from whom they rescued, in the style of Friday and his father, Dinah's negro son Jim. The visitors to the island had been haunted by hereditary reminiscences at the sight of its wonders, one of which was the likeness of its palace to Eumaling Castle. Jim helped them to find and open a casket in a sanctuary of the palace, wherein were tablets which Atalyn, who had worked with Brasseur de Bourbourg over Maya inscriptions, interpreted. This, again, is a peculiar coincidence, for the Talker only the other day corrected the proofs of his interpretation, the first yet given to the world, of the tablets of Palenque, Copan and Chichen-Itza in Maya characters.

The document Atalyn translated was the last will and testament of Atlas, King of Atlantis, dated ages back in the past, giving a history of the great country, of its wealth, of its moral declension and consequent submergence, and of the migration thence of its twin royal families. Then followed a prophecy that the representatives of these families should come to what remained of Atlantis, take its treasures and depart before a final convulsion of nature should swallow it up forever. Further search led the discoverers to the treasure chamber full of gold vessels, jewels, and the peculiar treasure of kings, and then, presiding over all in a chair of state, they found, as if in life, the body of "a man of majestic form." Atalyn, Katharine, Dinah and Jim provisioned the Essequibo, filled her full of treasure worth millions, took on board the