

A
ROMANCE
OF THE
WEST



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"HIS DAUGHTER LU,
A PRETTY MAID"

A Romance of the West

A Tale of the Iroquois and
Delaware Indians

(told in verse)

Composed and Illustrated

By

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AN INDIAN
ENCAMPMENT

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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

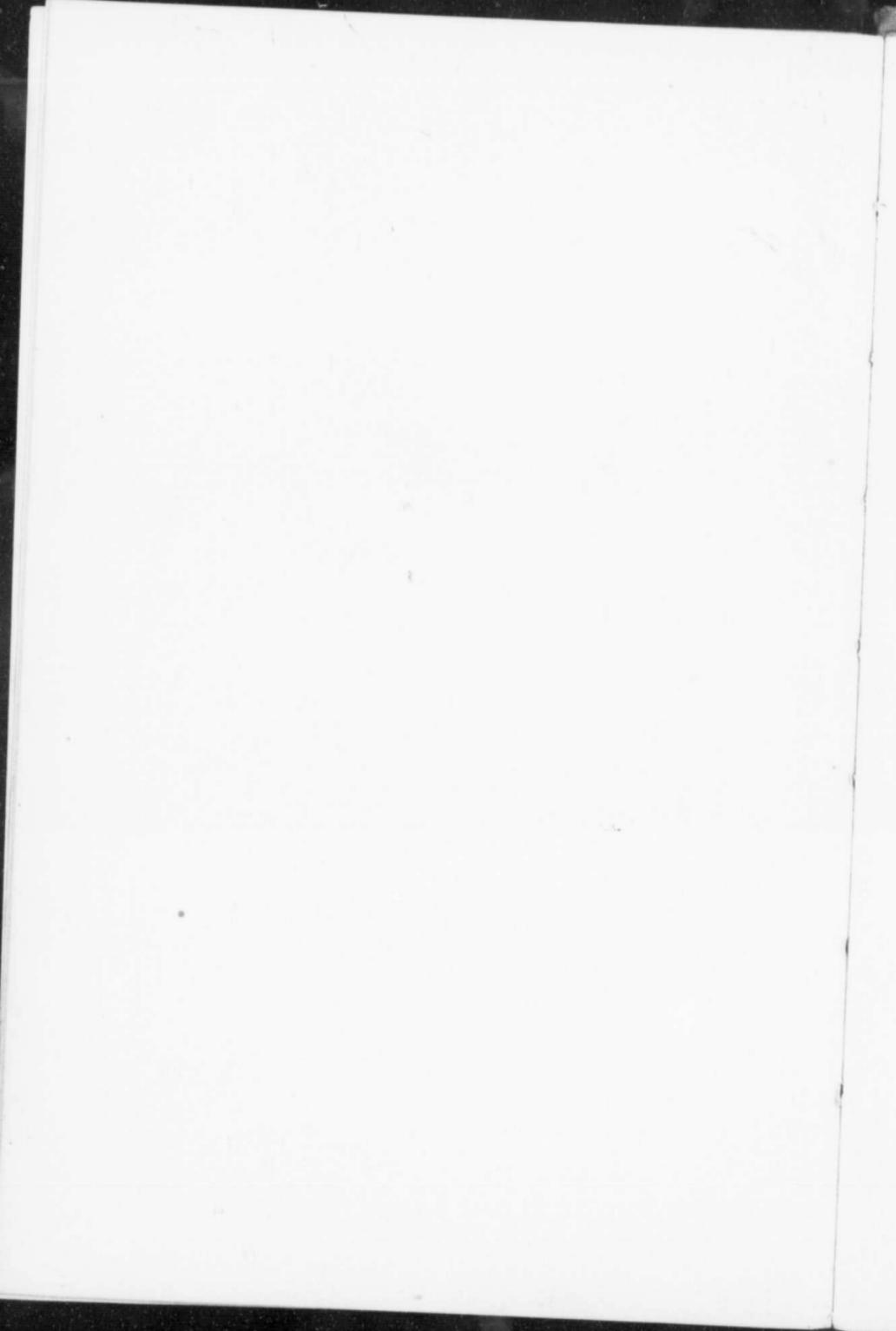
	Page
1. "His daughter Lu, a pretty maid" - Frontispiece	
2. "For Brandt, his son, to take his place" - - -	7
3. "The brave Tecumseh did appear" - - - -	11
4. "Black Eagle was this Old Chief's name" - -	16
5. "And soon his camp came into sight" - - -	20
6. "Fierce Indian tribes roamed to and fro" - -	24



A Romance of the West

OUT in the far West, long ago
 Before the white man owned those lands,
Fierce Indian tribes roamed to and fro
 The terror of the weaker bands.
Most daring deeds were done, 'tis said,
 By braves to please the squaws and maids ;
And heavy toll had to be paid
 The Chiefs successful in those raids.

The Iroquois and Delawares
 Had been for years most bitter foes—
Should either be caught unawares
 Their camp was filled with lasting woes ;
For countless warriors would be slain,
 And heavy booty also made—
Then quiet for a space would reign,
 Till this cruel deed could be repaid.



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

Tecumseh led the Iroquois,
And to his tribe was much endeared ;
He had a lovely girl and boy,
Their father's pride, so it appeared.
This boy had been for many a year
Their daring leader in the chase,
His dauntless spirit knew no fear
For he came of a fearless race.

The daughter, Lu, a pretty maid,
Was brave, yet gentle as a lamb ;
She always took delight, 'tis said
Attending to their old wigwam.
This lovely flower grew so wild,
Out on the prairie where she thrived ;
Her nature was that of a child
Whose hopes from Heaven are derived.



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

The Delawares had an old Chief
Who'd been their pride for many a year ;
He was as artful as a thief,
Which caused his foes his name to fear.
He longed to lead one final raid
Before his fighting days were past —
He had an old score still unpaid
Which must be settled now at last.

Black Eagle was this old Chief's name ;
He had black hair and small brown eyes,
Was known to every tribe by fame,
For oft he'd caught them by surprise ;
But now he's getting very old,
His strength is also failing fast,
Yet he's a picture to behold
For he's Black Eagle to the last.





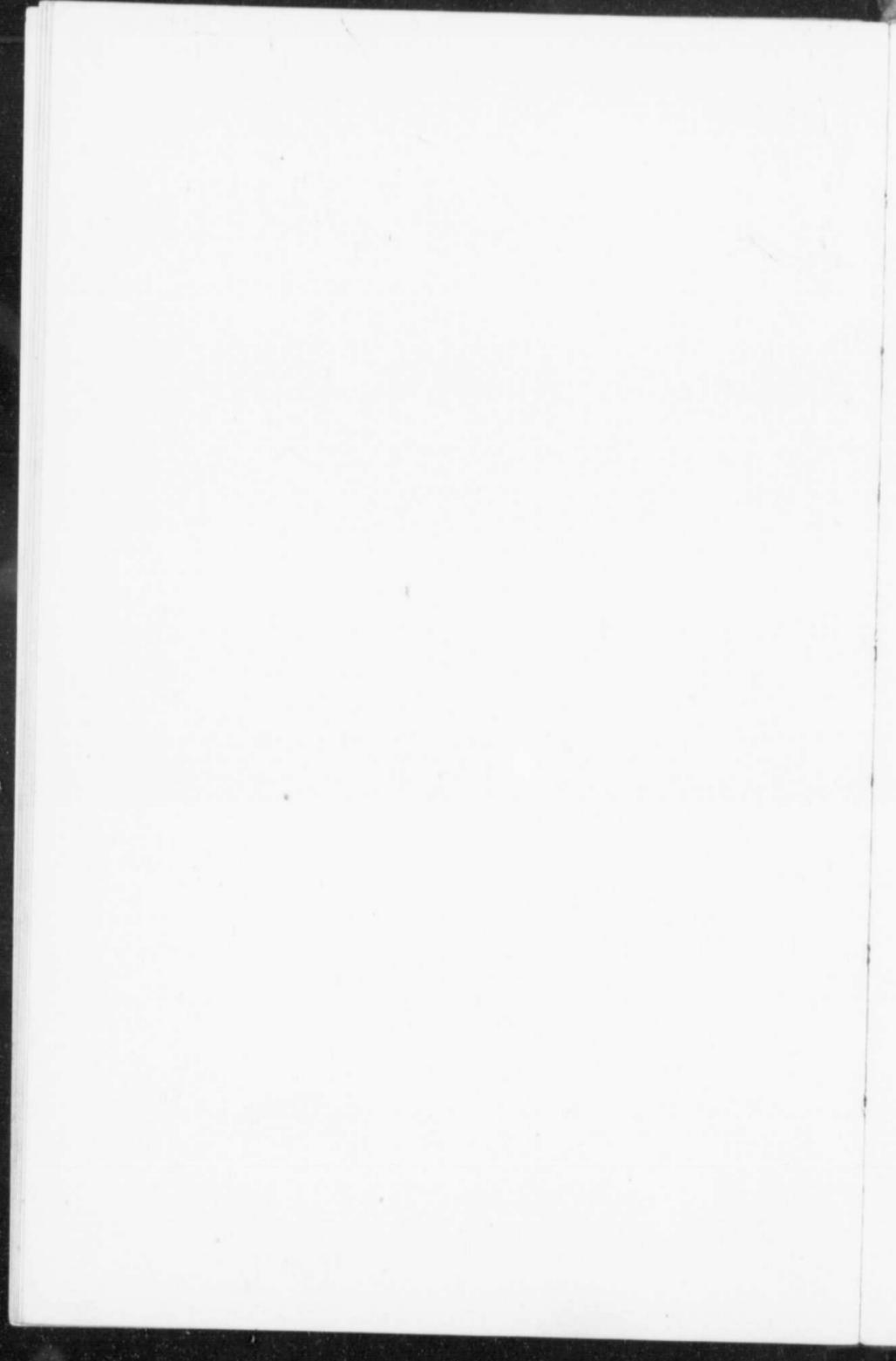
“FOR BRANDT, HIS SON,
TO TAKE HIS PLACE”



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

He held a council with his race
And told them he'd arrangements made
For Brandt, his son, to take his place
As soon as this last score was paid.
The son was like his father—bold,
Had won renown in many a fight ;
His daring deeds were oft retold
As they sat round their fires at night.

Black Eagle then made known his plan
To Brandt, who was without a doubt
The very picture of a man—
A warrior bold, and clever scout.
One summer eve they struck the trail
And hurried forward day and night,
They never thought that they could fail,
So eager were they for the fight.



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

'Twas late one night their scouts came back,
Their foe was then two miles away—
Advised their usual flank attack
Which should be made at break of day.
Black Eagle heard this news with glee
And ordered Brandt to take command
Whilst he himself would go and see
If they could slay the entire band.

Tecumseh had been warned of this
In time to circumvent the foe,
And waited with impatient bliss
The signal for their blood to flow.
His braves were watching all that night
Expecting that the blow would fall
Before the dawn of morning light,
Such raids their memory would recall.

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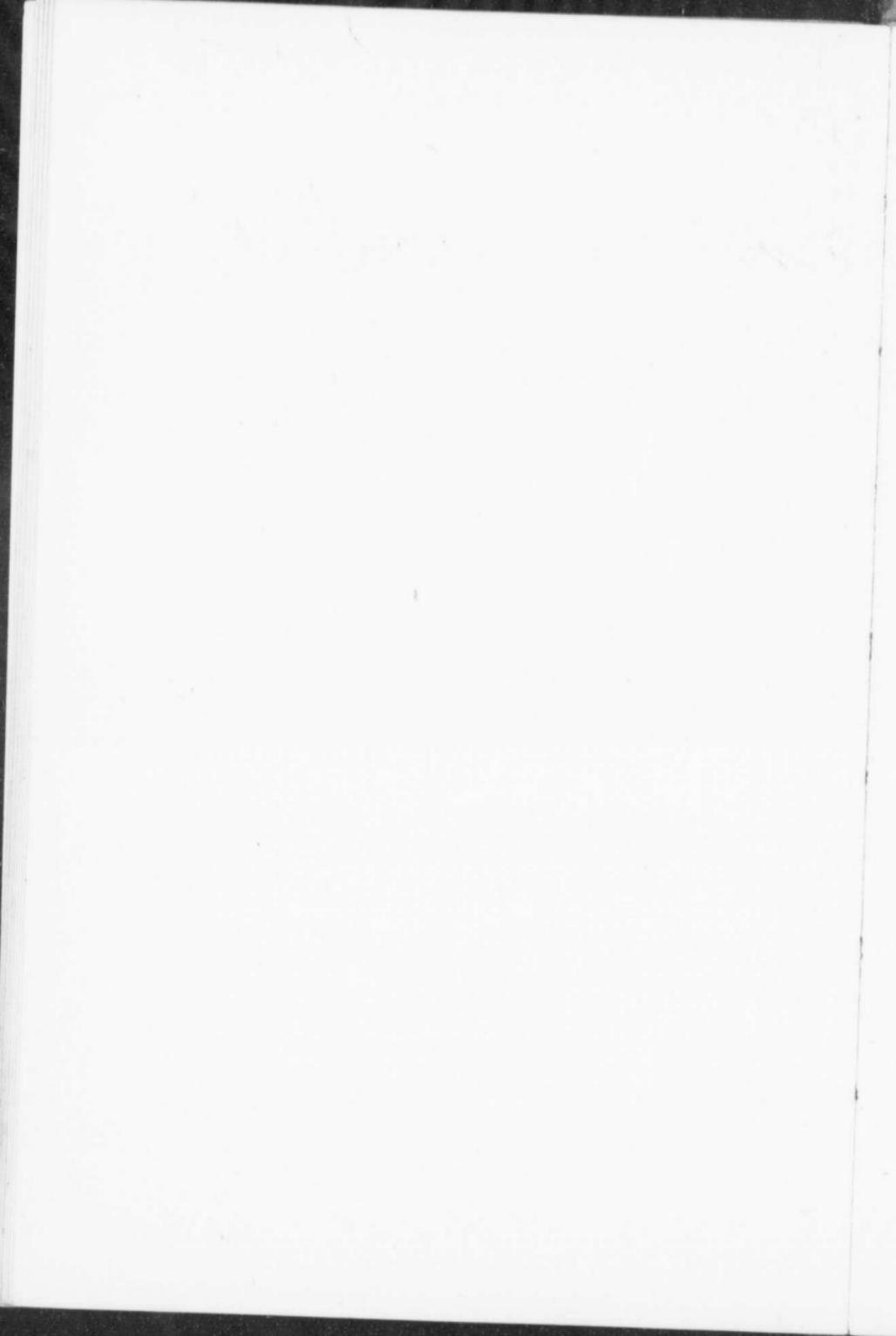
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A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

As when a wild beast leaves its den
To hunt its prey—great is its joy,
So Brandt with stealth leads forth his men
To fall upon those Iroquois.
Nearer they creep, for now they thought
Their old foe was within their power—
Then rushing fiercely on them—fought
Like demons, for the next half hour.

Their awful work went on all round,
And groans were terrible to hear,
When like a phantom from the ground
The brave Tecumseh did appear
Leading his warriors as of old
Right in the thickest of the fight;
No braver deeds will e'er be told
Than he performed that dreadful night.





"BLACK EAGLE WAS THIS
OLD CHIEF'S NAME"

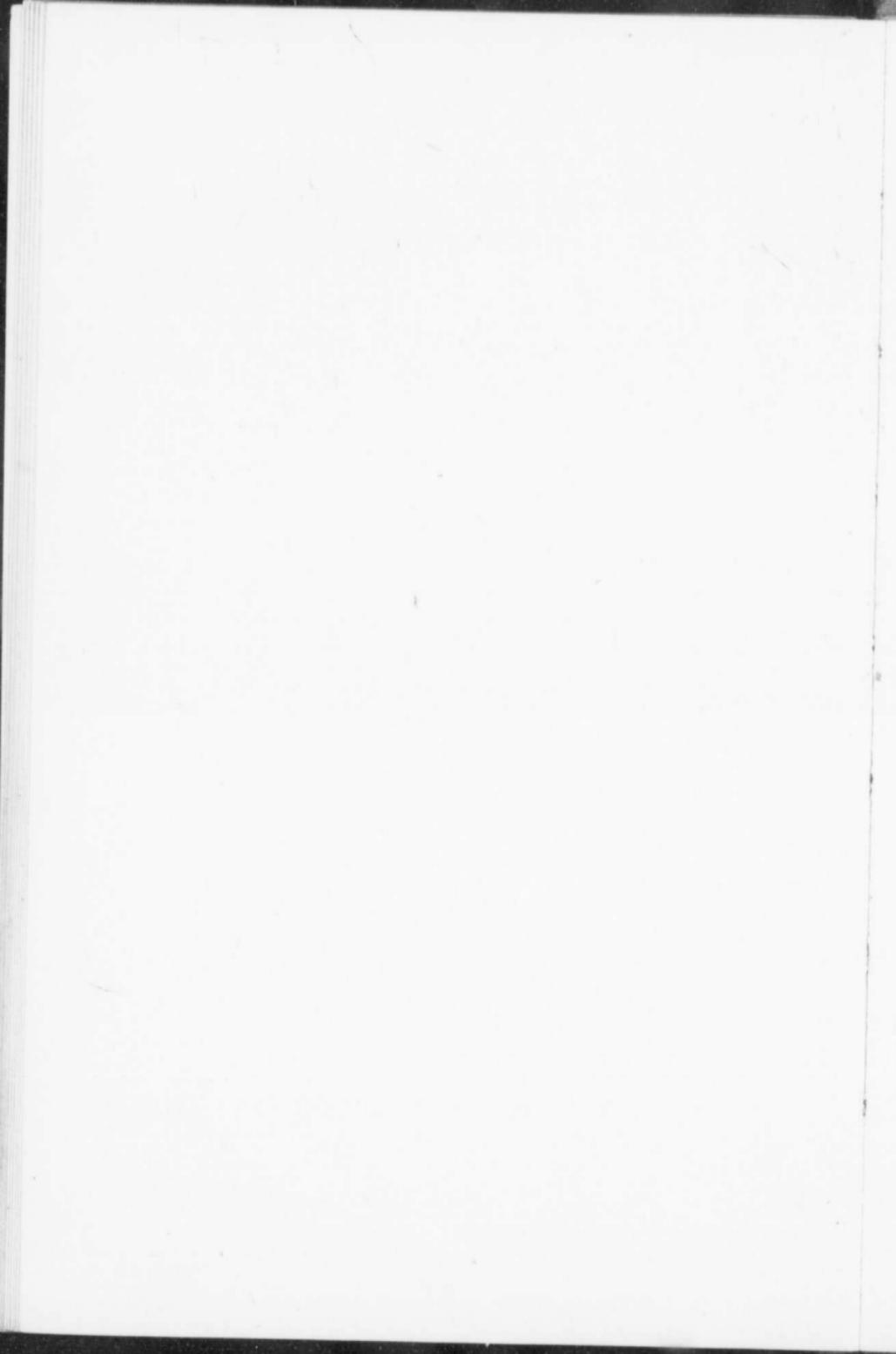


A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

The fight was fierce, and for some time
Their savage natures held full sway;
With tomahawk they rushed the line,
And Brandt knew then he'd lost the day.
He tried to make one final stand,
His warriors rallying to his side,
But savage foes were near at hand
Who soon the ground red crimson dyed.

* * *

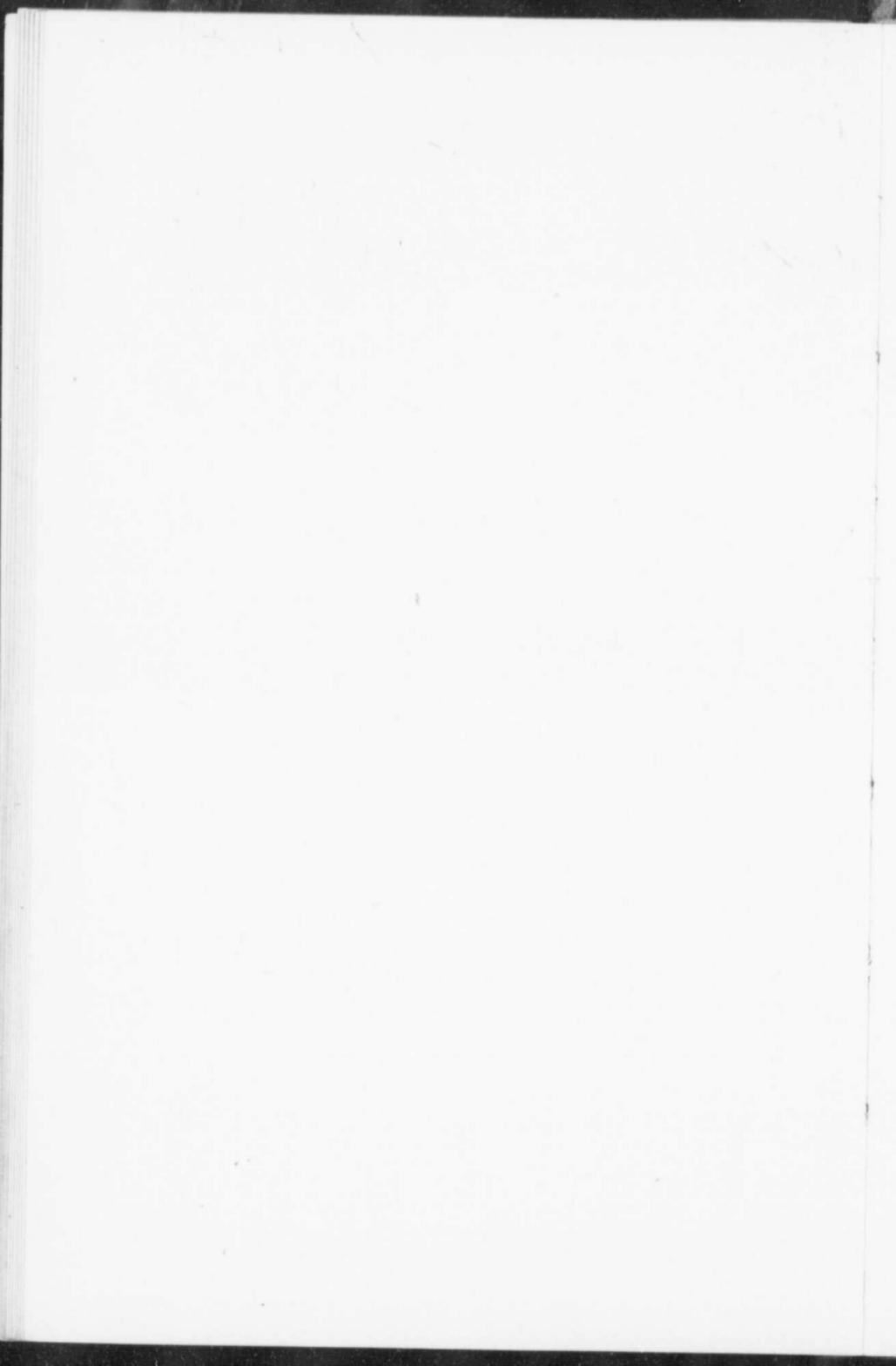
Victorious shouts the camp now swelled
And great rejoicings filled the air ;
The fierce attack had been repelled
By actions bold, and courage rare.
Brave Brandt had fought a losing game,
Was wounded almost unto death ;
Black Eagle, too, among the slain
Lay near his braves of noble birth.



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

As Brandt lay wounded on the ground
 He ran great risks of being slain —
By chance some squaws passed by and found
 Him lying there in mortal pain.
'Twas Lu who first discovered him
 And said she'd try his life to save
Although his chances looked so slim,
 He lay unconscious as the grave.

They bore him to her father's home
 And laid him gently on a skin,
The only sign—a feeble groan
 Showed there was still some life in him.
But it was ebbing, so they fast [wound
 Staunched the red stream, and dressed his
And Lu who helped, believed him past
 All earthly aid—then quickly swooned.



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

When consciousness returned again
 She did not fear at once to run
And seek her father to explain
 The noble deed that she had done.
She prayed that he Brandt's life would spare
 And on her knees in tears did plead;
But anger drove him to despair—
 He cursed her for her foolish deed.

Still she implored, and made him see
 That mercy shown to this poor youth
Would add fame to his victory
 And bring renown, in very truth;
She told him that all through the West
 This mercy was indeed so rare,
He wavered--then at last confessed
 That he must yield, and grant her prayer.



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

Her heart was glad when she heard this--

His word was like his bond she knew,
He sealed his promise with a kiss

And from his presence she withdrew.
She told the squaws of her success

And said that she would undertake
To nurse him with due carefulness
So he a speedy cure could make.

'Tis often so, when hope is past

And human power can do no more,
A patient rallies at the last

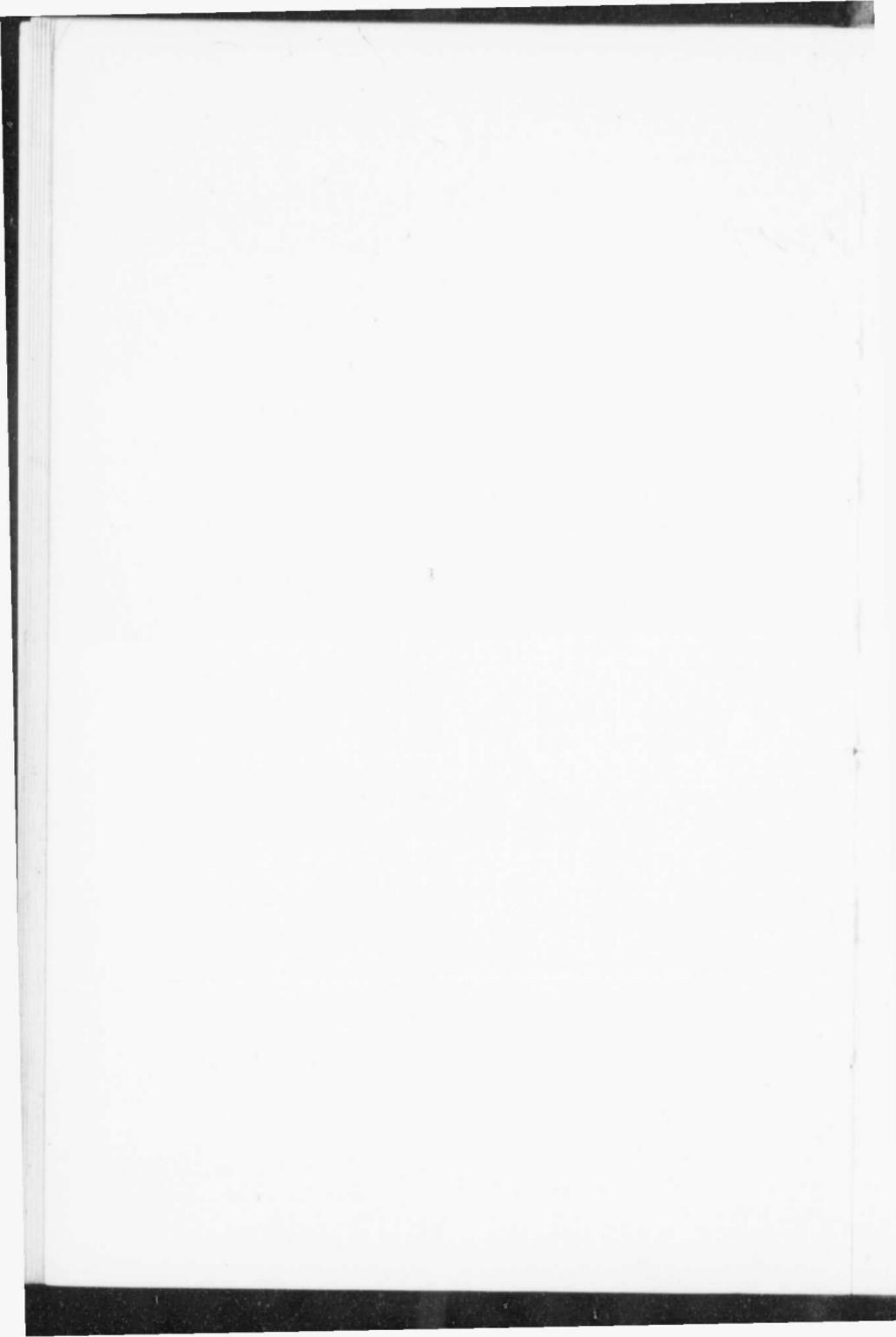
And is perchance snatched from death's door.

It was thus in our hero's case,

When all were waiting for the end

The unexpected did take place

And slowly he began to mend.





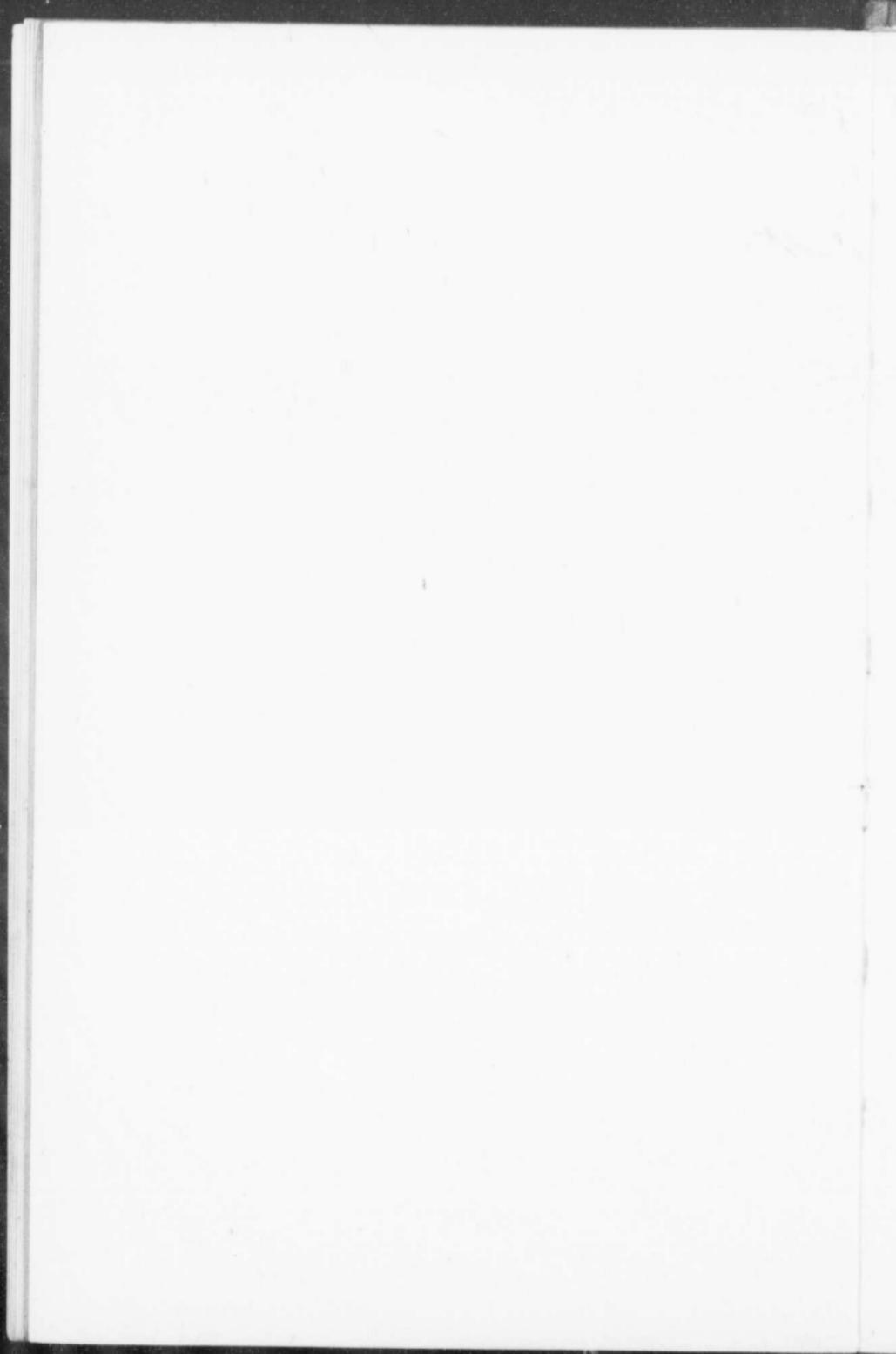
"THE BRAVE TECUMSEH
DID APPEAR"



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

Each day she watched him stronger grow,
And noted how his wound did heal,
When color in his cheeks did show
He summoned courage to appeal
For news about the recent fight,
And how it was his life was spared
For memory had failed him quite
He knew not how his braves had fared.

With frankness then she told him all,
E'en to the fact that he was free
To join his tribesmen in the Fall,
When he could make the long journey.
At first he could not trust his ears,
For such a thing was never known
In all the fighting of past years,
That mercy had been ever shown.



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

He thanked her with a grateful heart,
But something seemed to cause regret,
For she had played an angel's part
That thenceforth he could ne'er forget.
His heart already she had won
And to her care he owed his life,
There was but one thing to be done—
To ask her to become his wife.

Her answer made him happy feel
For now his joys were so replete,
And many kisses he did steal,
Making his happiness complete.
Thus Summer passed and Autumn came,
The time when he would have to go,
But promised he'd come back again
Before the plains were white with snow.

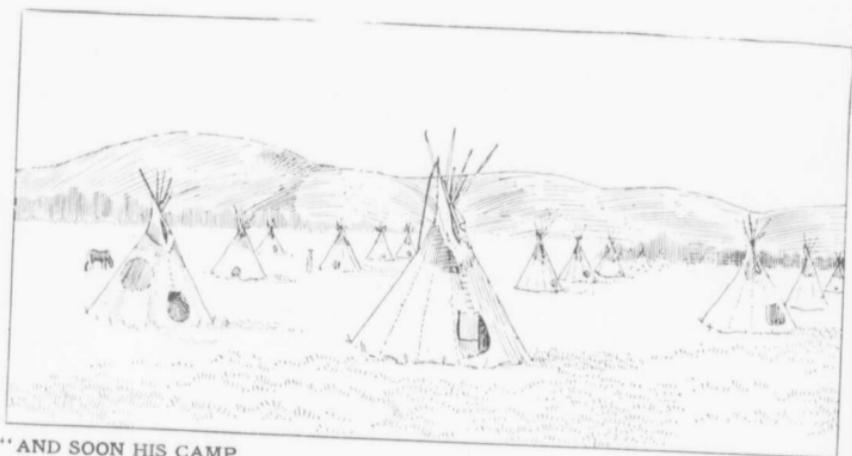


A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

The sun was rising in the East
 When he set out one autumn day,
The pains of parting e'er increased
 As he pursued his dreary way ;
He hastened forward with all speed,
 And soon his camp came into sight,
His tribesmen were surprised indeed
 When he rode in one starlight night.

They were so sure that he was dead,
 Killed with Black Eagle in the fight,
The news of his return soon spread
 Throughout the camp, causing delight.
Their simple ways left them no choice,
 They knew he'd fallen in the rout,
But when they heard his well-known voice
 No longer had they any doubt.





“AND SOON HIS CAMP
CAME INTO SIGHT”



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

Then many questions they did ask
 About him since that fatal fight—
This proved a long and tedious task
 In answering all, so late at night.
He told them how his life was spared
 (This caused a deafening yell to ring)
He also told them how he'd fared,
 In fact he told them everything.

He said he'd one request to make
 Before he could make Lu his bride;
He wanted them to undertake
 A promise—and by it abide,
No more to fight their former foe,
 That they should all forget the past
In future side by side they'd go
 And thus become staunch friends at last.



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

When he had done, there were loud cheers
From all the members of the band
But one old brave said he'd great fears
That such a peace could never stand.
But then, said he, one never knows
These dreadful raids might really cease.
If called on, he'd be one of those
Who'd go to smoke the Pipe of Peace.

So he and Brandt and two braves more
Were asked this work to undertake,
All being trusty men therefor
As great results were now at stake.
A few days rest Brandt first required
Before the ride he could resume,
And when he felt no longer tired
Delay his patience did consume.



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

So off they rode at break of dawn
With Brandt as guide, and in command,
All being now as fresh as morn
The journey did all haste demand ;
Riding as only Indians can
Their journey soon came to an end,
And children playing—frightened ran,
They did not know Brandt was their friend.

Tecumseh was the first to greet
Them, and was glad his friend to see
But thought it strange and indiscreet
That he had brought companions three.
But Brandt the reason soon explained,
Which caused surprise throughout the land
For truly—joy and friendship reigned
Amid that brave and warlike band.





"FIERCE INDIAN TRIBES
ROAMED TO AND FRO."



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

Lu hastened to her lover's side
She was so glad he had returned
For she would now become his bride
A recompense she had well earned.
His friends with gladness she did greet
And kissed them for her lover's sake ;
They thought her charming and so sweet
That she a lovely bride would make.

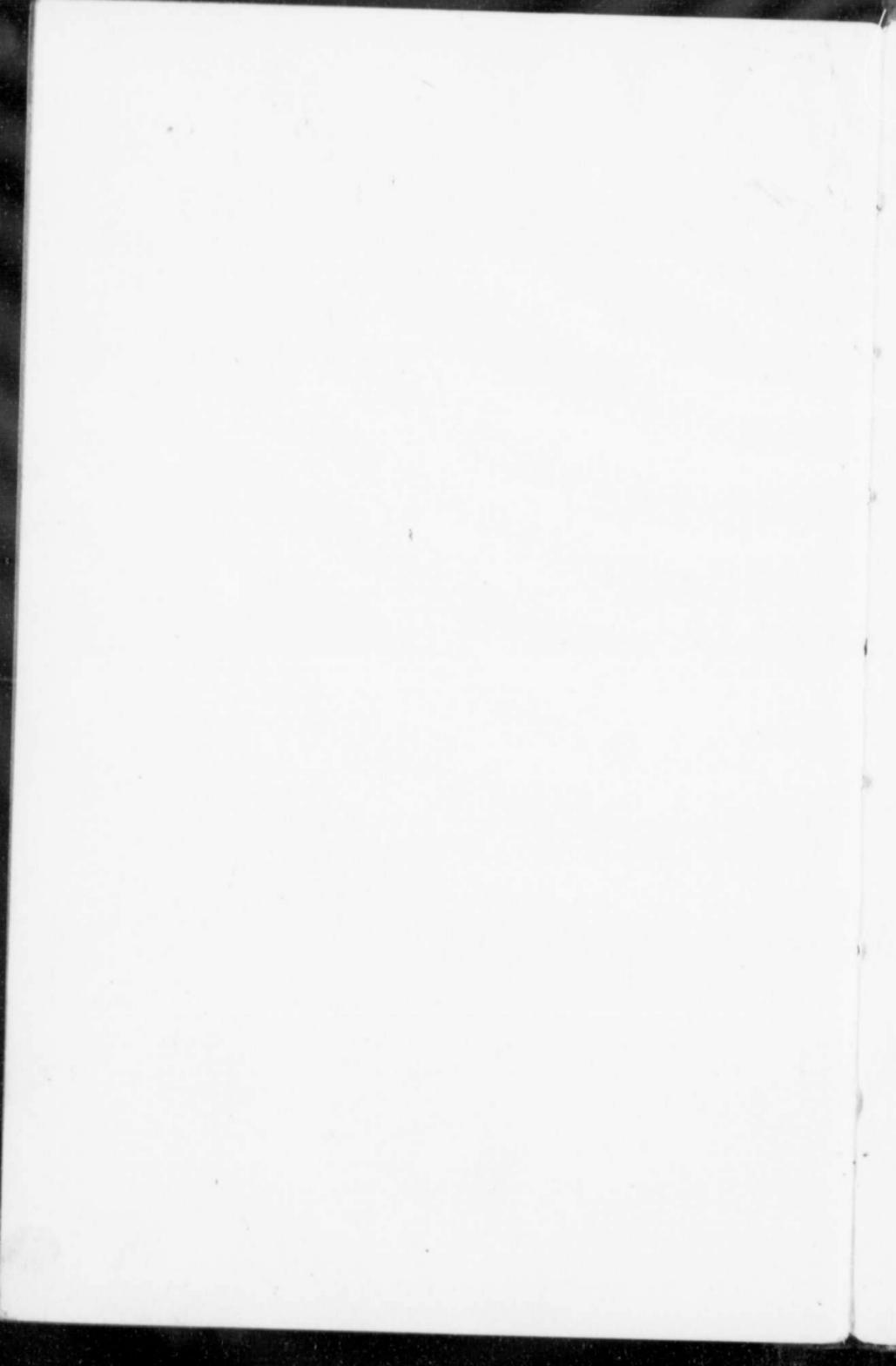
Her happiness was now supreme
She had her loved one safely back,
Those cruel doubts had been a dream
There's nothing now that she did lack
She had prepared all for the feast
That should take place the happy day
When she should be a queen—at least
So all her women folk did say.



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

She knew these guests must hungry be
So hurriedly prepared a meal
In order that these braves might see
They were with friends—thus easy feel.
Therefore with pleasure they sat down,
And very soon became quite gay,
While they devoured the steak so brown
Nothing was left to throw away.

Tecumseh, when the meal was o'er
Perceived his guests were at their ease
And as they sat upon the floor
Proposed they smoke the "Pipe of Peace."
This filled them with delight supreme
For well they knew 'twould end their cares
That henceforth peace would reign between
The Iroquois and Delawares.



A ROMANCE OF THE WEST

One thing remains yet to be told
And then my story will be done ;
How dancing both by young and old
Was kept up till the rising sun.
The bridal pair sat side by side
Looking like flowers that bloom in May,
For Brandt at last had won his Bride,
Thus all his troubles passed away.

[The end]