

well-shaped features, combined to make up a being which came as near to the ideal as I thought possible.

My observations were quickly cut short by her turning and disappearing below, but in those few brief glances I had received an impression which was ineffaceable.

On the first night out we encountered a light storm, and I at once succumbed to that ghastly malady common to a first ocean voyage, from which I did not recover till late the next day. Then, feeling that a breath of sea air would do me a bit of good, I picked up a Spanish novel which I had brought along and went up on deck.

Dropping into the first vacant chair I came to, I settled myself to enjoy my book and the cool sea breeze, which was blowing in fitful gusts. But precious little reading was I destined to do, for just as I had become rightly interested in the opening chapter I heard an angry exclamation, and looking up I beheld a sheet of paper, driven by the wind, come scurrying toward me, pursued by my study of the day before. Her eyes were fixed on the run-away paper, and rightly guessing that it belonged to her I picked it up after a few futile attempts to grasp it and handed it to her.

"Thank you, *senor*," she said; "you are very kind."

"Not at all," I hastened to assure her. "Your very glance well repays me for the slight service I have rendered you.

She gave me a sharp looking over, which I met with a smile, and then turned and recrossed to her seat.

"Gad!" thought I, "now I've done it. I'm entirely too impulsive; sorry I spoke. I do believe I've offended her, and I meant to pay her a compliment. I guess she isn't used to such Americanisms. Well, it's just my luck to have every pretty girl cut me dead; I guess I'm a sort of mild idiot. Sometime, maybe, I'll learn to hold my tongue." And I picked up my novel and left.

As for the fair unknown, I saw her quite frequently. But as far as I could tell she knew no one on the vessel, and many times was I tempted to break over all rules of etiquette and talk to her. This I would undoubtedly have done had not a kind fate decreed it otherwise.

I had often heard of the old quotation, "It's an ill wind that blows no one any good," and I had always believed it; but on the second night out my faith in it was entirely broken. We were pretty far south by that time, and I was anxious to see a big