

held from her until the last that the trial meant certain condemnation for him. Oh, those sweet, sad moments, in which he lifted himself out of the universe of worry and fear into that of her true love! What had she sacrificed to be near him! Hers was a love to brace a man for death. How she met him after the trial has been told, and when the soldiers pulled Rodrigo away from her, she was almost insane with dread and terror. To be so near her lover during his last few hours on earth, and to be denied the privilege of seeing him and saying a last affectionate farewell! it seemed must kill her.

She tried frantically to see the general, but uselessly. It was six o'clock. Twelve more dreadful hours for Rodrigo! The strain was terrible. She walked the corridors wringing her hands. She implored every officer she could find to help her, but all to no avail, and soon she was led back to the hospital where she spent the night in crazed, convulsive appeals to the Virgin to save her lover.

At last a feeling of hope begins to spring up in her breast. Was her prayer to be answered? Oh, God, that it might be! All night she paced the floor of her room in fearful agony of mind, until finally the faint tinges of rosy dawn began to light up the east. With haggard eyes she watched the color grow brighter and brighter, praying silently, hoping, dreading. The sun! the sun! The golden rim was just appearing. Every nerve was strained to its utmost. Higher—higher it rose, "he lives!" she cried, "he lives!"

"What! O, Heaven!"

Boom! A horrible, thunderous roar, and twelve Spanish rifles from the court yard of Morro Castle spoke the summons which called a noble soul into eternity.

With a shriek which awoke many a wounded soldier in terror, she raised her eyes with a cry of horror, "God!"

The cry ended in a wail, and then she fell to the floor—her heart had broken. And as the sun burst in all his glorious tropical splendor and brilliancy over the sleeping city two souls winged their way silently together to a land where cruel war can never be, where peace is eternal.