

# THE FREE LANCE.

*"His good blade carves the casques of men, for the Free Lance thrusteth sure."*

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## IS OUR COUNTRY SECURE?

IN THE drama of the world's history various forms of government, theocracy, monarchy, and democracy, have played their part. Each has appeared on the stage and presented to mankind its own peculiar principles and legitimacy. One has swayed its scepter under the guise of a divine right and to-day only exists in a few Asiatic countries; the idea of monarchy to-day, does not share the respect it had in past centuries; and, in the century just past, democracy has come upon the arena to engage the governments of the world in mortal combat.

When we study the history of monarchy and learn how revolution after revolution has taken place, we rejoice that the land of our birth has no such form of government; but when we also make inquiry into the countries which have been called republics, we see that they have not, as a rule, exhibited that kind or degree of durability that we desire for our own free nation. Switzerland exists simply because any attempt to overthrow her would plunge the whole of Europe into an international war. The so-called republics of Greece and Rome, and the two French republics have perished, and to-day, Mexico and the South American governments are by no means secure; for the embers of revolution are continually smoldering ready to burst forth whenever