

Illness of one of the Members Necessitates Division of
the Party—Hospitality of New Friends—Wilderness
Entered—Wretched Roadway.

WRETCHED ROADWAY.

In two hours we had reached the last ranch house, and at the same time the top of the mountain. The view was beautiful beyond description. Far in the distance was the ocean, between it and us was an ocean of mountains covered with dense evergreen forests through which we must pass. The descent began immediately and so did the bad roads. Seldom are horses taken along here, and the Indians on foot can make a better trail. The heavy work has always been done with the machete in cutting away the brush or in cutting a tree. We had, therefore, the greatest difficulty in making any way at all. Often a large tree would be cut down and the trunk used under the necessity of cutting around it. When this happened on the side of a

steep mountain, the difficulty was greatly increased. In places the path was so narrow that the rain itself was so ten or even twenty feet wide. It so narrowed that several times our packs wedged in, necessitating the unpacking of the animals. In one place a tunnel is formed. The path has worn at the level of a foot and the trees and bushes over it have made a complete cover. At times the descent was so steep that the animals would slide down, and often we were in fear of their going heels over head. One pack mule slipped and fell, but fortunately was rescued with no more injury than a bruised head and a cut lip. Another, in jumping across a bad place on the side of a hill struck her upper jaw against a tree and was literally thrown down the mountain. The fall of seventy-five feet, rolling over several times and finally landing against a tree. We thought every bone in her body was broken, but when we unpacked her, she was as good as new. She stood on her feet, badly bruised and with her head with good limbs. The whole afternoon was taken up in this kind of travel. At one moment a mule down, at another moment, one wedged in the narrowest place. At last we were able to get down to our discomfort the rain came down in torrents, filling the path with water, wetting us from head to foot. Of course riding was out of the question. It was with difficulty that we walked down. At last we were able to get up on a ridge and here camped for the night. There was poor feed, but plenty of water, for the rain continued half the night. An hour was spent in a vain attempt to make a fire, after which, without supper, we rolled into wet blankets for the night.

The next day our roads were steeper, but with the absence of narrow defiles that lodged our packs. We continued on, and at last, about the middle of the afternoon the rain poured again. It was nothing to do but to take it, it

tween them waxed hot. And other said: "He is a fool, but peradventure he will grow wiser when he hath been shorn of his locks and hath given his raiment to a rummage sale."

And the manner and bearing of the youth were like unto his raiment, and the atmosphere in which he move was that of continual smoke. And he said: "What lack I? Am I not already an artist?" And the thought was pleasing unto him and he ceased to labor overmuch.

But the second youth abated naught

of his zeal to become an artist. And his fairiment was fashioned after the manner of the men of that time, so that the men marked it not, but such as were not so marked, and that were not so seemingly and not bluish. And he wore no ring upon his finger and he caused his locks to be shorn at regular intervals, so that he might walk and converse in the streets, and his conversation was such that he was called a "comely youth." And it was so that he found favor both with men and with women.

And it came to pass that one day these two young men met at a place of festivity where there was music and dancing and all manner of eating and drinking. And each one bore his part in the making of melody. And as the music made him glad, so did the women. And the damsel was beautiful and well-instructed. And she said to him of the inn: "What readest thou?" And he said: "I read nothing but music." And she said: "How canst thou yonder painting?" And he said: "I read nothing but music." And she spoke to him yet again, in an unknown tongue. And he said: "I speak not with thee, O daughter of a musician." And she turned from him and she said to herself: "Verily, thou art but a poor one; thou art a loaf half-baked." And she spoke to the other youth and she said: "Readest thou ought but music?" and he said: "Verily, I read Shakespeare and Caesar and divers others, and I have learned somewhat of foreign tongues." And he said to the damsel: "I have learned of the Greek tongue." And she went in with him to the inn, and they discoursed of Shakespeare and *Caesar* and of some other matter. But the other youth at his supper with the musicians who were about discourse of *Nauplius* and *music* and who had football hair.

And after many days each youth sought from the learned men of music to be made acquainted with a superscription and seal thereupon. And he was granted unto them. And they went each his own way.

hemia, and a great joy entered into heart and dwelt therein. For the artist liveth not to please himself, but to help his fellow-men.—E. C. N. in **E. Conservatory Magazine.**

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