

everything, but how silly he looks now i will wake him. she pulled a blade of grass out of the heap on which he was lying, and saucily tickled his nose. nebsecht raised himself, sneezed, but fell back asleep again; uarda laughed out with her clear silvery tones. then she blushed that is not right, she said, for he is good and generous. she took the sleepers hand, pressed it to her lips, and wiped the drops from his brow. then he awoke, opened his eyes, and muttered half in a dream still: uarda sweet uarda. the girl started up and fled, and nefert followed her. when nebsecht at last got upon his feet and looked round him, he found himself alone in a strange house. he went out of doors, where he found bent anats little train anxiously discussing things past and to come. chapter xxxvi. the inhabitants of the oasis had for centuries been subject to the pharaohs, and paid them tribute; and among the rights granted to them in return, no egyptian soldier might cross their border and territory without their permission. the ethiopians had therefore pitched bent anats tents and their own camp outside these limits; but various transactions soon took place between the idle warriors and the amalekites, which now and then led to quarrels, and which one evening threatened serious consequences, when some drunken soldiers had annoyed the amalekite women while they were drawing water. this morning early one of the drivers on awaking had missed pentaur and nebsecht, and he roused his comrades, who had been rejoined by uardas father. the enraged guard of the gang of prisoners hastened to the commandant of the ethiopians, and informed him that two of his prisoners had escaped, and were no doubt being kept in concealment by the amalekites. the amalekites met the requisition to surrender the fugitives, of whom having, withal, the office of major of the island. but seeing the great preparations that lolonois made for this expedition, he joined him, and offered him, that if he would make him his chief captain by land seeing he knew the country very well, and all its avenues he would share in his fortunes, and go with him. they agreed upon articles to the great joy of lolonois, knowing that basco had done great actions in europe, and had the repute of a good soldier. thus they all embarked in eight vessels, that of lolonois being the greatest, having ten guns of indifferent carriage. all things being ready, and the whole company on board, they set sail together about the end of april, being, in all, six hundred and sixty persons. they steered for that part called bayala, north of hispaniola: here they took into their company some french hunters, who voluntarily offered themselves, and here they provided themselves with victuals and necessaries for their voyage. from hence they sailed again the last of july, and steered directly to the eastern cape of the isle called punta despada. hereabouts espying a ship from puerto rico, bound for new spain, laden with cocoa nuts, lolonois commanded the rest of the fleet to wait for him near savona, on the east of cape punta despada, he alone intending to take the said vessel. the spaniards, though they had been in sight full two hours, and knew them to be pirates, yet would not flee, but prepared to fight, being well armed, and provided. the combat lasted three hours, and then they surrendered. this ship had sixteen guns, and fifty fighting men aboard: they found in her, weight of cocoa,, pieces of eight, and the value of, more in jewels. lolonois sent the vessel presently to tortuga to be unladed, with orders to return as soon as possible to savona, where he would wait for heavy blows on shields and helmets, and the whole bewildering tumult of the battle with a loud shout he drew his bow, and his first arrow pierced a cheta chief. his lions sprang forward, and carried confusion into the hosts that were crowding down upon him, for many of their horses became unmanageable at the roar of the furious brutes, overthrew the chariots, and so hemmed the advance of the troops in the rear. rameses sent arrow after arrow, while mena covered him with the shield from the shots of the enemy. his horses meanwhile had carried him forward, and he could fell the foremost of the asiatics with his battle axe; close by his side fought rameri and three other princes; in front of him were the lions. the press was fearful, and the raging of the battle wild and deafening, like the roar of the surging ocean when it is hurled by a hurricane against a rocky coast. mena seemed to be in two places at once, for, while he guided the horses forwards, backwards, or to either hand, as the exigences of the position demanded, not one of the arrows shot at the king touched him. his eye was everywhere,