



*I seized a penknife that lay open on the desk and steadily and deliberately plunged it into my finger. "Feel my pulse," I said, as I withdrew the blade.*

bed the better. Go to sleep and get some rest and you won't want much of my medicine. The fact is, many of you clever fellows don't make your team pull even. You let the leaders do all the work, without making the wheelers take their share. You're just letting the brain drag the coach, without keeping the body up to the mark."

When Phil was in bed and quietly asleep under the influence of the composing draught, Dr. Elliott signed to me to accompany him down stairs, and my heart again beat quick in painful anxiety as I noticed the gravity of his countenance.

Carefully shutting the drawing-room

door, he turned and said with sharp decision:

"Miss Forsyth, your brother must have rest. Continue much longer this unnatural strain of mind and body, and one or other, possibly both, will assuredly give way. As regards this journey, you can see for yourself without many words from me that it is simply an impossibility. He would never even get to Berlin. He will himself be aware tomorrow that it is physically impossible for him to attempt it."

I wrung my hands in helpless despair. "Oh, Dr. Elliott, dear Dr. Elliott," cried I, the misery of my heart showing itself in my trembling voice. "Can nothing be

done for him? What will he do? What can he do? This is the turning point of his life. All his future, all his happiness depends upon the success of this journey."

The doctor looked at me compassionately. With tender gravity he took my hand.

"My dear Miss Forsyth," said he, "were it in my power, were it in the power of any man to enable him to go, I would risk much to give him the chance; but believe me, it is impossible. It is my duty to tell you of the danger that threatens him, of the gravity of his condition. Do not misunderstand me," he continued hurriedly, as he noticed the wild terror my face expressed, "there is no immediate danger;

with caution, indeed no danger. Care and rest will completely restore him, but care and rest are imperative at present. Both mind and body have been grievously overtaxed and overstrained.

"Is there no one," he asked kindly, "whom you can trust to take his place? If you stated the circumstances to the firm, would not they take into consideration that it is his energy for them that has caused this illness?"

"No," I replied sadly, "there is no one; there is nothing to be done. His hopes are destroyed. The prize he has struggled for has been dashed to the ground as he was about to seize it; there is no hope. My poor, poor Phil!"

And throwing myself on the sofa I hid my face among the cushions as I sobbed bitterly in the keenness of my sorrow for him.

"Nay, nay," remonstrated the doctor, "you take too gloomy a view. On the contrary, be thankful that serious illness

may be arrested. Be thankful even that the attack came before he had started. Think of your anxiety had he been taken ill in some distant place. What would not have been your sufferings had you been hastily summoned to him under such circumstances? As it is, there is every hope of his being thoroughly well again ere long, and warned also in time to be a little more prudent for the future. I will look in again early tomorrow. In the meantime I recommend you to go to bed, and," added he kindly as I hastily shook my head, "sleep will enable you to think more clearly, and you have until tomorrow evening to find a substitute. I have already taken the liberty of directing your servant to prepare a bed for you in the little room next your brother's. I believe he will sleep quietly through the night; at any rate through the greater part of it, but I have written down the few directions I wish attended to. I do not foresee any necessity for my presence. Still, I wish, for your satisfaction, I could have