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No. 109

WOODVILLE, THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1879.

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Poetry.

IF I SHOULD DIE TO-NIGHT,

My friends would look upon my quiet face, Before they laid it in its final resting place. And deem that death had left it almost fair; And laying snow-white flowers against my

And fold my hands with lingering caress;

If I should die to-night, My friends would call to mind, with loving thought,

Some kindly deed the icy hand had wrought; Some gentle words the frozen lips had said; Errands on which the willing feet had sped; The memory of my selfishness and pride, My hasty words would all be put aside, And so I should be loved and mourned to-

If I should die to-night. Even hearts estranged would turn once more

The eye that chilled me with averted glance Would look upon me as of yore, perchance, And softened in the old familiar way. For who could war with dumb, unconscious

So I might rest forgiven of all to-night.

Keep not your kisses for my dead, cold brow, The way is lonely, let me feel them now; Think gentle of me ; I am travel worn ; My faltering feet are pierced with many a

Forgive, oh, hearts estranged, forgive, I plead!

THE HAUNTED HULK;

The Wreck on the Spanish Main.

BY GEO. MANVILLE PENN.

(Continued.) You know, I don't want to say supernatural things were like everyday things, but that

pale wavy light was the same as is seen over fish when it has been caught for a few hours. 'Let's go Bill,' I says, as soon as I could get my breath ; and, not feeling that I should like to go back the way I came, I took a big jump of some fifteen or twenty feet of the side, into the soft sand; and when Bill saw that I had landed safely he jumped, too, and the Indian girl came and clung to

him, delighted to see him safe back. 'Let's get back,' I says.

Appraiser for the Canada Permanent Loan that I'm right, and that this is one of the Get back? what, when we've just seen old Spanish galleons. No, Jack, we'll wait till daylight if you like, but I'm not going to give up. Spirits can't hurt men, and that gold's no good to them now.'

'Not when they stop there and watch ?' I

'No; and, besides, it's a kind of fancy. There are no spirits there, only we, getting on board the old vessel, naturally enough seemed to see the crew as they used to be all those years ago, when they used to live."

'And do you mean to go aboard again?

· Go aboard? Yes; and make sure of the gold, and then come back and fetch it.'

As Bill spoke, there came another curious sighing breeze off the sea, and, as it swept over the old galleon, it seemed to carry away with it the soft faint light that had been playing over the vessels stern; and directly after she lay there black and grey, and gloomy, under the shadow of the great, tall cocoa palms.

Being a stubborn kind of a fellow, I said no more ; only pulled out and filled my pipe which I lit and began to smoke, waiting to see what was to be the end of the adventure while Bill sat down on the saud by his litgirl, and began talking to her in a low tone.

We had not long to wait for morning. I don't suppose we had been sitting there an hour before the east was all full of golden flecks and orange spots, then the blue sky was fretted with gold, and near it there were the most brilliant colors you ever saw. Soon after the great golden sun rolled slowly up, and the gray rotten hulk that lay on the sands seemed to turn to gold in its turn.

With the bright clear morning, and the sun dancing on the water came plenty of courage, and I was quite ready to laugh at my fears and those of the Indian girl, as followed Bill, and climbed up the rotten wood till I stood on the ruins of the deck once more.

I looked directly for the huge poop and its deck-plank and guns as I had seen them last night, but there were only some ragged ly, there, sure enough, sunk down and lying | do see a ghost or two.'

in sand and rotten wood were partly exposed three of the brass guns -not bright but covered with a bluish green rust-while the breech of the long swiveled piece, upon which the Spanish Don had seemed to sit was sticking out of the wreck, and seemed

about three feet below where I stood. It was very strange, for we had no idea before of those guns being there; and, as Bill said, if one part of what we saw was true, why the other part was sure to be.

We had a good look over the ship, to see what a grand vessel it must have beenclumsily built according to our notions, though the heaviness of her bunkers had made her hold together perhaps two hundred and fifty years.

As we had made out during the night, there was a great deal of sand in the hold, where it had drifted through gaping seams in the ship's side; but on leaping boldly down, shovel in hand, and thrusting it down Bill found it came in contact two or three times with something hard.

Then helping him up, we both went to the poop, and stood looking down at the sand below the guns.

I expect we both felt about the same-a sort of shiver of dread, but I would not show it; and, taking the spade from Bill's hand, I was about to plunge it down into the sand | you come. when a warning cry from the Indian girl made us hurry off the deck and run to her

The girl had run into the shelter of the trees, and, as we joined her, she made a sign to ensure silence; and then, in a whisper, made known to my mate that she had heard | the little Indian maiden together. And sure enough at the end of a minute

we saw a canoe paddled by two men, come into sight and one of the occupants stood vp and began to scan the shore with his hand shading his eyes.

' Is that the man?' Bill whispered to the girl and she shivered and clung closer to him, as she nodded quickly.

I saw Bill's face grow very thick and angry as he knelt under cover and watched the man in the boat till he had passed on out of sight, and then we rose and made our way back to the vessel.

For we had no leave to be away, and wished to avoid trouble if we could. What Bill meant to do in the future I could not say but for my part, gold or no gold, I felt as if it would take a very strong pull to get me to the side of that hulk again by night, after what I had seen.

We got back to the ship after a long, hot walk, and it was still so early that no one took any notice of our having been ashore; those who did see us return setting it down that we had got up very early, and gone ashore for a stroll.

All that day we were busy getting sticks of mahogany aboard, dragging them alongside and then slinging them up, and getting them in at a port-hole made on purpose in

the bows. Now, all the time I was at work there, thinking about what we had seen the night before, and Bill looked so quiet, that I could see he was thinking about it too; but I was not so deep on that as not to be able to notice something else, so that I was not a bit surprised when Bill said to me suddenly Jack Harris, just cast your weather eye ashore, by them logs, and tell me if you see anything.'

I gave a squint in the direction he meant, and then said ' No, I can't see any thing.' 'Nothing?' he says, curiously.

'Only that Indian chap who's been watching us all day long, if you mean him.'

'Yes,' he said, taking a pull at a rope, 'I do mean him. But don't take any notice so as to seem to be watching him. That's the Indian who's always running after my little Tezela, and she hates him.'

'Ho !' I said. 'Bit jealous, then !' ' I suppose so,' he said. 'I wouldn't go on shore at night then, Bill'

says. 'Why not ?'

Because Englishmen are jealous with their tongues, and when they are very jealous, it's with their fists.' 'Well?'

'But these Indian chaps are jealous with a very long knife, which they make a present to you, and sheath it in your ribs.'

'I'm not afraid of him, Jack,' he says, with a quiet smile; 'but, as to not going ashore to-night, I must; for we must have a try and get a specimen of the lading of that old galleon. Then it must rest till wa come again.'

'Why, you won't go and face what we did last night, mate?' I says.

'Indeed, Jack, but I will,' he said, with a curious smile on his lip as he looked round weatherbeaten uprights to show where it at me; 'and Jack Harris isu't the mate to had been; but on going over it very careful. hang back in such a case as this, even if we

I took another pull at the rope and the wetted my hands, and took another pull fore I answered. For, look you, I we deny it I was frightened, and the idea going and facing that party of uncanny-lo ing, old-world looking people scared me a little.

'Well, Jack,' says Bill, smiling, 'y won't hang back will you?'

'If you ask my advice, Bill, old ma what I say is don't go; but, if you do Jack Harris isn't the boy to hang back a let his messmate go alone."

'I knew you'd go, Jack,' he said, slidi his feet down the rope so as to get a g at my hand; 'and, look here, mate, I wo be shabby over sharing. It's a fortune f both of us; only I must have certainty I fore I can charter a ship to come and u lade her.'

'Do you think them Dons will let ye touch the cargo, Bill?' I says in a whispe 'Do you think wind would stop us, or the

figures we seen in a dream, Jack?' he say with the same quiet smile. 'There, ma don't be scared at shadows! I can't explain it to you; but what we saw last night wer only the shadows like of the men who use to watch over the treasures in that ship b fore she was cast away. Depend upon they were drowned at the time.'

' And have walked that deck ever since I says, with a bit of a shiver. 'Nonsense, man, there's nothing to

scared about,' he said. 'I'm more afraid that Indian fellow dodging us than of all th Spanish crew.' I didn't say any more just then ; but just as we were finishing for the evening, wit the skipper in rare good humor because c

the valuable timber sticks he had got aboar Bill says to me. 'She's going to be in waiting for us dark to-night, under the tree, so meet m there same as last night. We'll slip off different times. If I'm first I'll wait til

You may be sure I didn't like my job an the better for seeing that the Indian wa hanging about there, evidently watching the ship to see who went ashore; and could not help thinking it would go ver hard with my mate if this fellow saw him and

However I wasn't master. Bill said w were to go, so I had nothing to do but to follow him, and stick to him through thick and thin; and somehow I'd come to think that I'd do a good deal for such a little gir as that chief's daughter, even if her skir was of a dusky brown; while when it happened, too, that she could put me in the way of a good fortune, it was something to be

thought of-only there was the ghosts. 'Well, poor girl, she can't help them,' 1 said to myself, and, lighting my pipe 1 settled down for a quiet smoke and a think; and without appearing to notice, I saw that my Indian friend was still hauging about on the watch.

Now, as you may perhaps know, out there in those trophic countries there's no half light for an hour or so, but almost directly after the sun goes down the stars come out thick and bright, and it changes at once from day to night

So it was then. Down went the sun, and it was night; and the last thing' I seemed to see ashore, which was only twenty or thirty yards away, for we were moored by a rope head and stern to the cocoa-nut trees, which grew close to the edge of the deep harbor-I say, the last thing I seemed to see ashore was the swarthy figure of that Indian.

Our way to get ashore was to step down into a boat, fastened to a running line to one of the mooring ropes, and pull oneself ashore. Any one who wanted to follow or go back only having to take a pull at the line to do what he liked with the boat.

I waited my time, and sliding gently down

and into the boat., 1 got ashore without a sound, and stooping down got into the shadow of the trees without, as I thought, being As near as I could tell it was about the

time Bill had appointed; and after taking my bearings, I made for the big tree, wondering how long he would be before he came. It was blacker than ever beneath the trees

- not so much as a star shining through; and I was going softly along with my hands stretched out, so as not to run against the trees, when one of them came against a soft warm arm. 'Ah! you're there, are you, little one?'

I said, and I tried to catch hold, but my hand was brushed away; there was a slight rustle, and then all was still, 'Just as you like my dear,' I says to my-

self. 'I shouldn't have hurt my mate Bill's little sweetheart, but 1 won't frighten you by running after you.'

Just at that time I heard my name whispered. Jack !- Jack !' 'Here away !' 1 whispered back. didn't know you'd come, Bill.'

(To be Continued)

A NEW HEALTH ALMANAC. - We bave just received from the publishers the ILLUS-TRATED ANNUAL OF PHRENOLOGY AND HEALTH Almanac for 1879, 72 pp., price 10 cents. This publication should be a necessity in all well regulated families, for it is full of valuable reading matter relating to Phrenology, Physiognomy, Health, Hygiene, Diet, etc. It is han isomely printed, and must have a wide circulation; and we would say, send 10-cents in postage-stamps at once to the publishers, S. R. Wells & Co., 737 Broadway, New York.

If I should die to-night, Would smooth it down with tearful tender-

Poor hands, so empty and so cold to-night.

Recalling other days remorsefully;

Oh friends I pray to-night,

When dreamless rest is mine I shall not need The tenderness of which I long to-night.