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" Pro Bono Publico."

No. 110

WOODVILLE, THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 1879.

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Poetry.

IF YOU SHOULD DIE TO-NIGHT.

If you should die to-night! Well, I would

And take your clay-cold form again within My arms, as when I fondly crowned you Of life and love. Then, looking on your

Passionless and tearless, I would touch your

And kiss the dark-fringed lids, whose shadowed eyes

Would feel the chill that had benumbed thine own; Methinks my spirit to be free would yearn, The hour that thine had from its prison

And when thy spirit toward its home was Methinks mine eyes could watch its angel

ward borne. Ere you had reached the Temple's hallowed

If you should die to-night-and with the Of living breaths should breathe my name,

sweetheart, That trembling whisper, as it left thy lips, Would come to me, tho' we are far apart.

THE HAUNTED HULK;

The Wreck on the Spanish Main.

chirrup, which was answered, and the next moment the little girl came panting up, and we started off for the hulk once more.

Did 1 scare you, touching you, little one?' I said after we'd been walking about half an hour.

with a similiar result. 'Whatdo you mean, Jack ?' said my mate. 'I mean did I frighten her when I touch-

me, I said. 'She says you are mistaken. You did not touch her,' said Bill after whispering to

· I'm sorry for it, then,' I said to myself, as we walked on, 'for if I din't touch her, I did somebody else, andmost likely some-

so, and then, coming to the spring, we sat down again for a rest, as we had done the night before, and while we slpped the .drop of rum-and-water we had brought with us, I sat wondering whether we had been followed, and got in quite a nervous state, as I couldn't help feeling that some one might spring upon us at any moment, knife in hand, from the darkness, and we have no chance to make a fight of it.

passing through the bushes once or twice; but, as that might be some small animal, little heed was given to it; and once more we set off, walking quietly for that part of the coast where the hulk was lying.

From a word or two I heard fall, I , knew that the little Indian girl was going unwillingly; but such was her devotion to poor Bill, that she would have gone through fire and water for him without hardly a word,

load a bit of a hitch, I tancied I heard sounds behind us, and that worried me so that at last, without saying a word to my mate, 1 stopped short suddenly, and slipped beside the track amongst some bushes, leaving those two to go steadily on, which they did, without noticing me, while I hoped to be able to over take them afterwards.

waiting and holding myself in readiness more than three minutes before I heard some one coming daintly along on tiptoe, evidently tracking us step by step. As far as I could make out there was

only one, but 'the darkness amongst the trees was so great that I could hardly make out the shape of a man.

'Now, p'r'aps you'll go your way and let

bound, and dashed off among the trees.

'That'll settle him for a bit,' I said to myself, as I trudged on, and after nearly looking my way, came upon Bill and the Indian girl waiting.

'What was that noise?' said Bill eagerly. us,' I said, 'and I let him have my hanger.'

as I said no more, he turned and went on, and in course of time we came out upon the sands once more where the sea gently rippled in, and rolled over all golden with phosphorescence.

There lay the hulk though, quite black, and without a sign of the dim light we had seen the night before.

'There, Jack,' Bill said, as the little over me, with his face all cut and blood maiden cronched down under the shelter of a bush; 'there's a good sign. Now, my lad, ax, spade, and a little activity, and we'll soon see whether the old fellow is worth powder and shot. Bring the lanthorn.'.

I took a firm grip at my courage, and hauled him home as laying down such things as I did not want, I lit the lanthorn, shut up the horn door closely, and then hanging it to my neck by a land yard, took spade and ax in hand, followed Bill to the hulk, and climbed up after him, till we stood once more on the ragged edge of the hulk, level with the deck.

'Give me the lanthorn, lad,' said Bill, and I gave it to him, when, to show me a good example, he leaped boldly on to the dried wood close by the long cannon, and called on me to follow.

'There, my lad,' he said, laughing; There's nothing to be afraid of, and we are not a pair of girls to be frightened at shadows. Give me that spade.' As he said there was nothing to be afraid

of, as far as I could see, but the darkness while the lanthorn, from where he had set it down, threw a'dim, yellow glow on the place where Bill was going to dig. The next minute, he had driven the shov-

el down into the sand and powdering wood, and thrown a shovelful aside; then another and another. 'We shall soon get to something, lad,' he

said, encouragingly, 'and the people are too much afraid of this place to come and interfere with it after we're gone. What's that?' He had started, and so did I, for at that moment the lanthorn fell over on its side,

rolled away, flickering a moment, and went · You must have caught it with the edge of the shovel,' I said with my mouth feeling

all dry, for I didn't believe he had. 'I suppose I did,' he said in a strange voice; 'but it dont matter, for there's light

enough, and he went on digging away. He was quite right, though my hair seemed to be stirred by a cold hand as I saw what I did; for, as he now fiercely drove in the spade, at every stroke there was a pale bluish light seemed to come out of the sand and spread and spread till there was a faint glow shining up, so that I could see the shovel quite plain, and Bill's figure as he stooped.

'Only phosphorus, out of dead rotten wood and bones, Jack,' he said, in a hoarse sort of voice; and he went on digging away till I heard the blade of the shovel giving a sharp jar, as if it had hit upon a piece of

' Now, Jack,' he said, as the shovel rattled once more, and, stooping down, he thrust his hand into the hole he had made, where the light was so strong that I could see them quite plainly, and that he caught up in them a double handful of shining gold pieces, nearly as big as crowns, but mixed up with sand and bits of rotten wood.

'Go'd !' I said, speaking now as hoarse.

'Yes, lad, gold! I've just cut through the side of a rotten keg. Look !' he said, chopping with the shovel, 'there's the hoops and down below here, and on the other side are any quantity. Look!' He drew his cutlass as he spoke, and

he thrust it down here and there, for it to jar and stop almost directly as if hitting something hard like metal. But I hardly noticed this, though I seem-

ed to take it in at the same glauce; for as Bill was doing this, I could see that he was working like in the middle of the black-looking Spaniard, who was just lowering down the keg as I had seen done when the deck was perfect. Worse still, just over mefor my head was about on a level with where the deck used to be-there was the Spanish Don sitting nursing his sword and twisting his pointed mustaches as he looked right full in my eyes with the most horribe stare I ever saw.

All round, too, sitting and standing about

pale glow, which had now grown bright, and I could see that every one his eyes fixed on me in the same terr stare as their leader.

I tried to call to my mate, but my ton stuck to the roof of my mouth, and I co not move hand or foot, while, to my ho there was Bill still mixed up like with great Spaniard, digging through him passing the shovel through his back or at every stroke.

All at once he stood straight up, and I now that he must see all that I did; bu terrible cry from the sands made him d the shovel and bound to the side.

'Here, quick, Jack, help!' he shouted, he flung himself down from the ship, fall heavily on the sand, while I, in a stray heavy way, as if my legs were of lead, dr ged myself after him.

I don't know how I got down from the horrible hulk, only that I half rolled, h 'Only some kind of a wild cat tracking fell, and then gathered myself up, stagger after Bill to the tree where we had left little Indian girl, and where it seemed me a struggle was going on. I heard a wild cry, and what sound

> to see a thousand stars, as I was dash down on the sands, where in a confus dim way, I seemed to hear cries and shrie and then all was blank. When I came to, it was to find Bill leaving

like a blow and smothered groan. I seem

and he was splashing water out of his c upon my face. I struggled to my feet to find it w broad day light, with the sun shining fu

, 'Where's--'

I didn t finish what I was going to say for I had felt what had happened-that the Indian had followed us up, and, after cu ting us down, carried of the girl, and Bi my poor mate, cut me short by pointing the woods.

getting his arm under mine, after one shu dering look at the hulk, I helped him alor drooping more and more after the first mi through the woods. Then he lay down and rested, and I four

'Back to the ship,' he said faintly; an

that the Indian had passed the knife rig through the poor fellow's chest, leaving to ugly wounds, that I was obliged to plug keep the life in him. 'Let's get away-farther away, Jack,' h

whispered, and we struggled on again, a 1 at a time, till we reached the spring, where I laid him down on the leaves, and bathe his face and made him drink out of a bi

That revived him for a bit; but I coul see a change in his face that told me wha was coming.

"Jack,' he said at last, 'come back som day, and get the gold. I leave it all to yo and if you see my poor girl again, tell he I loved her very true, and she should hav been my wife.' I didn't make him any promise, for

sooner had he said that than he gavela fair

kind of a sigh, and it was all over, leaving me crying like a great child-for Bill he been a good mate to me, and I felt left alor like in the world. I covered the poor old fellow over wit leaves and branches as soon as I could pu myself together, and then trudged back

was a case of jealousy, ter I had no mind t mention the hulk. The skipper was in a fine way; but I sent off a party of men with me, and a han mock, and we brought poor Bill on board where he had the regular sailor's burial from

the ship, and told the skipper, saying

a boat rowed out into the bay. The next day there was a fine trouble for the skipper threatened to burn the vi lage if the man who killed Bill was not hung and this roused the Indians, who came dow to fight, and the ship had to be unmoored and we set sail in haste, with not quite full cargo, though enough to give plenty profit to the owners.

That was in '42, and I've never been mg the place since for it's always seemed to a as the Spanish Dons kept watch over th gold; and though, as shadows, they couldn't of themselves do any harm to a living soul yet they could work on the feelings of other and that's how my poor mate came to his end

Of course I should have liked to have th fortune lying by the sea-shore; but life' better than gold, and it has always seemed to me that death was to be the share of hip who went and meddled with the Haunted Hulk.

THE END.

MINDEN, -SUICIDE. - A man named Alex ander Graham, a tinsmith by trade, cut his throat Saturday night or early Sunday morning he was found on the floor quite dead with the razor still in his hand. He had made several frightful gashes in his neck. Deceased was a steady drinker, and seemed very unsettled on Saturday. He was about thirty-five years old. Nothing is known of the whereabouts of his friends of relatives.

AGAIN POSTPONEE. -The suit to quash the sidewalk by-law, as also the one to quash the by-law incorporating the village of Cannington, were both before the Court on Tuesday and alarm, the Indian gave a tremendous | were the Spanish crew, in the midst of the last, and were again postponed for a week.

Tho' seas and mountains stretched our paths between. Bill gave me a double sort of a look, but

Were darkened in death's lingering eclipse. If you should die to-night! Methinks my

And catch its smile, like star-beams, earth-

BY GEO. MANVILLE FENN.

(Continued.) 'Hist!' he said, and then he gave the lew

The little girl gave a wondering sort of reply, and Bill asked her the question again

ed her in the dark, just before you called

her again. body else is following us.'

We went on in silence for another hour or

There was a faint rustle as if something

and on they went, and I last. Twice over when I stopped to give my

I found I was right : for I had not been

I was ready for him though, with my cutlass out, and giving it a swing upwards, I brought the blunt back of the blade against his head a tremendous crack.

us go ours,' I said, as with a cry of surprise