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Poetry.

TOO MUCH OF A LADY.

When Eve in the garden was plucking the And enjoyinging the Eden walks shady,

I wonder if ever she turned up her nose, And sighed, "I'm too much of a lady ! Too much of a lady,' dear Adam, to work, A helpmeet was made to be petted ; You keep things in order, I really must shirk, Though the fact, dear, is deeply regretted."

To-day she has daughters whose delicate hands Are wholly unfitted for labor;

It almost fatigues them to flutter their fans, When they languidly call on a neighbor : Their mission on earth is to gossip and dress, And live upon life's sweetest honey, And they havn't a bother or trouble unless Their masculine bank fails in money.

It isn't the lovliest thing to be sure, To dabble in cooking and dishes, But never a home was kept tidy and pure By dainty æsthetical wishes. am free to confess there is something in life

More attractive than putting a stitch in, And many a weary, industrious wife Isn't deeply in love with her kitchen. But duty is duty, and dirt always dirt,

And only the lazy deny it, Crocheting is nicer than making a shirt, But man never yet was clothed by it. To sit in a parlor in indolent ease, Till one grows all fragile and fady, Or flounce through the streets silly gazers to

Is being too much of a lady. Too much of a lady to darn up her hose Or govern her house with acumen, Too much of a lady wherever she goes,

To ever be much of a woman ! The muscles that God made are useless to Except to be wrapped up in satin. And as for intellect—she would prefer

A bonnet to mastering Latin.

Too much of a lady to own a grand heart, To be a true daughter or mother, Too much of a lady to bear the brave part That ne'er can be borne by another. By fashion or birth quite too fine for this

When it comes to the judgment's great pay-day, Though our Lord may delight in the lillies Will he smile on "Too much of a lady ?"

"Aus He Guilty?"

A STORY OF LOVE AND PRIDE.

Continued.

'Jessie,' he exclaimed, laying his hand gently upon her arm, 'what is the matter ?' 'Nothing,' she replied, 'only I'm lonesome and homesick, and I wish I'd gone to

New York with Mr. Bellenger.' 'Why didn't you then?' was Walter's cool reply, and Jessie answered, angrily :

'I would if I had known what I do now.' 'And pray what do you know now?' Wal: ter asked, in the same cold, calm tone, which so exasperated Jessie that she replied:

'I know you hate me, and I know you didn't write all that valedictory, and everything.

'Jessie,' Walter said sternly, 'what do you mean about that valedictory. Come, sit by me and tell me at once.'

In Walter's voice there was a tone which, [dollars.' as a child, Jessie had been wont to obey. and now at his command she stole timidly to his side upon the rustic bench, and told him all her suspicions, and the source from which they originated.

There was a sudden flash of anger in Walter's eye at his cousin's meanness, and then, with a merry laugh, be said :

'And it sounded familiar to you, too, did it? Some parts of it might, I'll admit, for you had heard them before. Do you remember being at an examination in Wilbraham, when I took the prize in composition, or rather declamation? It was said then that my essay was far beyond my years, and I am juclined to think it was; for I have written nothing since which pleased me half so well. I was appointed valedictorian, as you know, and in preparing my oration I selected a few of those old ideas and embodied them in language to suit the occasion. I am hardly willing to call it plagiarism, stealing from myself, and I am sure you would never have recognized it either if Mr. Bellenger had not roused your suspicions. "Is my explanation satisfactory?" It was perfectly so, for Jessie now re-

membered where she had heard something like Walter's valedictory, and with her what it was. doubts removed she became much like her- I 'When she said this Mr. Graham changed

self again, though she would not admit that William's insinuations were mere fabrications of his own. He never heard it before, she knew, but some of Walter's old Wilbraham associates might have been present and said in his hearing that it seemed familiar, and then it would be quite natural to think so too.

Walter did not dispute her, but said : What else did my amiable cousin say against me?

Clasping her hands over her burning face, with a look upon his face as if bereft of rea-Jessie answered faintly :

'He told me that your father had done a horrible thing, though he didn't explain what it was. I knew before that there was so much to know. What was it, Walter !'

drawing Jessie nearer to him, he replied : · It will pain me greatly to tell you that sad story, but I would rather you should

hear it from my lips than from any other,"

he,' Jessie asked, unconscious of the pang erable distinctness, and he saw a man come her question inflicted upon her companion, out of the bank, lock the door, put the key

lengers, of coure, were fearfully enraged, covered. house, -and was happy in that little room which we call yours now. Father was anxious that she should have everything she wanted, and it is said was sometimes very extravagant, buying for her costly luxuries

which he could not well afford.' 'But my father,' said Jessie. 'What had he to do with it?'

'Everything,' returned Walter, with bitterness, 'Old Mr. Graham had a bank in Deerwood. Your father was cashier, while mine was teller, and in consideration of a large remuneration, performed a menial's part, such as sweeping the rooms, building the fires in winter, and of course he kert the keys. They were great friends, Richard Graham and Seth Marshall, and people likened them to David and Jonathan. At last one of the large bills my father had made came due, and on that very night the bank was robbed of more than a thousand

'Oh, Walter, how could be do it?' cried Jessie, and Walter replied :

'He didn't; He was as innocent as I, who was then unborn. Listen while I tell you. There was in town a dissipated, goodnatured fellow, named Heyward, who had sometimes taught singing-school, and sometimes fiddled for country dances. No one knew how he managed to subsist, for he dressed well, travelled a great deal, and was very liberal with his money, when he had any. Still none suspected him of dishonesty; he did not know enough for that, they said. Everybody liked him, and when on that night he came to our house, apparently intoxicated, and asked for a shelter. grandfather bade him stay, and assigned him a back room, in which was an outer door. In the morning he was, or seemed to be, still in a drunken sleep. Your father brought the news of the robbery, and while he talked he looked suspiciously at mine, especially when my mother said innocently :

'The burglars must have tried this house, too, for I woke in the night, and finding my husband gone, called to him to know where he was. Presently he came in, saying he thought he heard a noise and got up to find

Color, whie!

isen after

so that the si

that hour, as th them. The robbe. door, while there were from our door to the bas shoes just fitted in these tra measured them with the wres looking on in a kind of torpid apath utterly unable to comprehend the mea. of what he saw ; but when Richard, his best friend, whispered to him softly, 'Confessit, Seth give up the money and it won't go so hard against you,' the truth burst upon him and he dropped to the ground like one scathed with the lightning's stroke. For hours he lay in that death-like swoon, and when he came back to consciousness he was guarded by the officers of the law. They led him off in the care of a constable, he all the time protesting his innocence, save at

intervals when he refused to speak, but sat

. The examination came on and the upper

r om, where the court was held, was crowd-

ed to overflowing, all anxious to gain a sight something unpleasant, and once asked father of my father, though they had known him about it, but he wouldn't tell, and I want from boyhood up. Grandpa was there, and close behind sat or rather crouched my For a moment Walter hesitated, then wretched mother. She would not be kept back, and with a face as bright as marble, and hands locked firmly together, she sat to hear the testimony. Once the counsel for my father thought to clear him by throwing and then, unmindful of the cows, which, suspicion upon Heyward, who with a most having waited long for their accustomed foolish expression upon his face had declared summons, were slowly wending their way that he heard nothing during the night. homeward, he began the story as follows: People would rather it had been he than 'You know that old stone building on the | Seth Marshall, and the tide was turning in hill near the village, and you have heard favor of the latter when Richard Graham also that it was a flourishing high school for | was called to the stand. He was known to girls. There one pleasant summer my mo- be my father's dearest friend, and the audither came. She was spending several ence waited breathlessly to hear what he months with a family who occupied what is | would say. He testified that, having been now that huge old ruin down by the river | very restless, he got up about two o'clock in side. Mother was beautiful, they say, and the morning, and as his windew commanded so my father thought, for every leisure mo- a full view of the bank. he naturally looked ment found him at her side.' in that direction. The moon was setting, But wasn't she a great deal richer than but he could still discern objects with tolwho replied : in his pocket, and hurry down the street. 'Yes, he was poor, while Ellen Bellenger My father then wore a light gray coat and was rich, but she had a soul above the fool- cap of the same color, so did this man, and ish distinctietion the world will make be- thinking it must be he, Mr. Graham called tween the wealthy and working class. She him by name; but if he heard he did not loved my father, and he loved her. At stop. Mr. Graham then remembered that last they were engaged, and then he pro- the day before my father had procured some posed writing to her parents, as he would do | medicine for my mother, and had forgotten nothing dishonorable; but she begged him to take it home. This threw some light not to do it, for she knew how proud they upon the matter, and thinking that mether were, and that they would take her home at had probably been taken suddenly ill and once. And so, in an unguarded moment my father had gone for the medicine, Mr. they went together over the line into New Graham retired again to rest, and gave it no York, where they were married. The Bel- further thought until the robbery was dis-

denouncing her at once, and bidding her | 'Do you believe the man you saw leaving never cross their threshold again. But this | the bank to have been the prisoner ? asked only drew her nearer to her husband, who | the lawyer, and for an instant Mr Graham fairly worshipped her, as did the entire hesitated, for with the white stony face of family, -for she lived in the old gable-roofed his early friend upturned to his and the supplicating eyes of the young wife fixed upon him, how could he answer yes? But he did, Jessie, -he did it at last. He said, 'I do,' and over the white face there passed, a look of agony which wrung a groan even from your father's lips, while the pale young creature not far away rocked to and fro is her hopeless desolation.'

> 'Oh, Walter, Walter !' caied Jessie, 'don's tell me any more. I see now so plain that fair girl-wife crouching on the floor and my father testifying against her. How could he ?! ils as vilroimonene bus vilroiuma!

Walter had asked himself that question

many a time, and his bosom had awelled with resentment at the act; but now, when Jessie, too, questioned the justice of the proceeding, he answered. 'It was right 1 suppose, -all right. Mr

Graham believed that to which he testified and when he left the stand he wound hi arms around my father's neck and said :

'God forgive me Seth, I couldn't help it But he could,' said Jessie; 'he needn have told all ne knew.'

Walter made no reply to this; he mere went on with his story :

Then the deision came. There was prosufficient for the case to be presented before the grand jury, and unless bail could I found to the amount of one thousand dollar my father must go to jail, there to await I trial at the county court, which would he its next session in three weeks. When the decision was made known, my father presse his hands tightly over his heart for a mi ment, and then he clasped them to his ea as the stillness in the room was broken ! the plaintive cry

Save my husband, somebody. Oh, sa my darling husband !'

The next moment my mother fell at feet, a crushed, lifeless thing, her hair fallif down her face, and a blue, pinched loger about her lips, while my father bent ov her, his tears falling like rain upon her fat Everybody cried, and when the questicial was asked, 'Who will go the prisoner bail ?' your father answered aloud : 'I will.'

To be continued.