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No. 141

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Poetry.

WHAT A SERMON SHOULD BE.

It should be brief; if lengthy, it will steep Our hearts in apathy, our eyes in sleep ; The dull will yawn, the chanel lounger doze, Attention flag, and memory's portals close.

It should be warm; a living altar coal, To melt the icy heart and charm the soul; A soulless, dull harangue, however read, Will never rouse the soul, or raise the dead.

It should be simple, practical and clear; No fine-spun theory to please the ear; No curious love to tickle lettered pride, And leave the poor and plain unedified.

It should be tender and affectionate As his warm theme who wept lost Salemi's

The firey laws, with words of love allay'd. Will sweetly warn and awfully persuade. It should be manly, just and rational; Wisely conceived, and well expressed withal, Not stuffed with silly notions, apt to stain

A sacred desk, and show a muddy brain. It should posses a well-adapted grace To situation, audience, time and place; A sermon formed for scholars, statesmen,

With peasants and mechanics ill accords,

It should with evangelic beauty bloom, Like Paul's at Corinth, Athens, or at Rome; While some Epictetus or Sterne esteem, A gracious Saviour is the gospel theme.

It should be mixed with many an ardent To reach the heart, and fix and fasten there; When God and man are mutually addressed,

God grants a blessing, man is truly blest. It should be closely well applied at last. To make the moral nail securely fast; Thou art the man, and thou alone will make A Felix tremble and a David quake!

THE FATAL LOCKET:

A CURSE FROM THE GRAVE.

BY COLONEL PRENTISS INGRAHAM.

The moon streamed down through the graceful, weeping willows the were grouped on the bank of a small stream, and a white fence and snowy marble gleaned in its si very light.

It was a small enclosure, such as encircle the last resting-place of those who have gone to the " great beyond." There were several white marble tomb-

stones in the little bucying-ground, but two of them were just alike, and stood side by In the distance gammered the white walls

of a plantation home, and yet it seemed deserted, for not a ray of light shone in a win-Presently the dark forms of a horse and rider came slowly along through the forest,

and though the animal shied and snorted, as though with superstitions fright, the rider forced him up to the little graveyard fence, and sprang to the ground.

Hitching the horse, he entered the enclosure, and stopped before the two graves side by side.

The moon shone down upon the marble, and the black letters stood out in bold re-

Upon one the lonely visitor read-"SACRED TO THE MEMORY

> BERNARD BROWN, Died October 15th, 18-., Aged 27 years."

Upon the other tombstone was the inscrip-

"IN MEMORIAN, ELLA BROWN,

Wife of Bernard Brown--"

" Great Heaven ! was she his wife-and ! never knew it-oh, heaven, have mercy ! The man covered his face with his hands, and sobbed like one in terrible pain.

Then he controlled his emotion, and again glanced at the inscription :

" Died of a broken heart, May 1st, 18-. Aged 20 years."

"His wife, and I not suspect it !" groaned the man, and he bent his head upon the cold marble. 'After three years' wanderings, I return | St. John.

to find her dead-poor Ella; how much I wronged you I never knew until this moment; but as I have sinned, I will try in some way to atone for my sin.' For some time he remained in moody si-

lence, the moonlight falling lightly upon him and revealing a face of manliness, intellect, and yet a trifle stern and reckless; a form, tall, well-proportioned, and dressed in pertect taste. Suddenly

marble, and graveyard. Throwing

saddle, he urg

ed his k Seinto a gallop, and quickly left behind him are desolate resting-place of the

'St. John, do you bet on this race?'

'Oh yes, anything pour passer le temps.' ' And upon which horse ?'

dead.

'The dark one; I like sombre shades.'

! I'll bet you five hundred the gray wins.' 'I'll book the bet that he does not, and wager five hundred the black wins.'

'Taken; now let us get a good position in the grand stand. The two speakers were friends, belonged

to the same social and yacht club, and had ran down to the race-course near the city for a few days' sport. The one was Tremain St. John, a bachelor

of thirty-five, rich, elegant, and with nothing to do. The other was a young banker, Frederick Sinclair, also wealthy, and a bachelor, and a

year older than St. John. Obtaining a good position, they watched the race with considerable interest in the sport, rather than for fear of loosing. The black wins, Tremain !" exclaimed

Sinclair, as the splendid horse ran across the line, far ahead of the others in the race. 'And the gray comes in last, Fred.' 'Correct. I'm no jockey to ever pick

out the winning horse. I owe you one thousand, St. John-here it is; and he hand-'ed him a roll of bills. 'Is not that Mrs. Drummond sitting there

by the post?'

'Yes, and she is a fine woman, always getting up subscriptions to aid just charities -see, she bows.' Both men raised their hats and made their

way towards the Iady. 'Mrs. Drummond, I am glad to see you;

how do you enjoy the racing?' 'Very much findeed; only I feel deep sympathy for the last horse in the race, he has no friends, and catches a whipping to urge him on.'

· Your kind heart, Mrs. Drummond, ever causes you, to use a slang phrase, if you will pardon it, to sympathize with the under dog in the fight. I was fortunate enough to win on both the winning and loosing horses and I beg you to accept the sum for some charitable object;' and he placed in her hand the ten one hundred dollar notes given him by Fred Sinclair.

'Mr. St. John, there are a thousand dollars here; this is generous, indeed, and your offering shall go to aid in erecting a new orphans' asylum.' 'It will be well placed; if you need more,

command me." 'Thank you, but allow me to present my little daughter Alice," and a little maiden of four years, an exquisite, petite beauty offered her tiny gloved handed to the elegant gentleman, who took her upon his knee, and seemed as auxious to entertain her during the remainder of the race as though she had been a young lady.

A man, poorly clad, was walking across the Champs Elisee in Paris, and seemingly endeavouring to avoid attention.

drag to go by, and raising his eyes, met a face that was familiar to him. He shrunk back as though to avoid recog-

nition, but the gentleman in the vehicle, and who was driving, drew his horse back suddenly, while he exclaimed-

'Fred Sinclair ! can it be you ?' 'Yes, Tremain St. John, and twelve years have made sad changes in my life, while you

look just the same," said the other, sadly. 'I have heard of your misfortune ; get in, and go with me to my rooms, and tell me all about it,' said St. John, kindly.

'No, my attire is seedy, and ----'No excuses, come with me,'

Fred Sinclair entered the vehicle, and St. John drove to a fashionable tailor. 'Pardon me, Fred, but I wish to fit you

out-no remonstrance; come.' The two entered the establishment, and the tailor happened to have a suit that would just fit Fred, and taking it with them, they drove to the handsome quarters of Tremain

'Now, Fred, tell me of your troubles," said St. John, as half an hour after his arrival, Fred Sinclair came from his room, looking like a different man, for kindness and new clothes had done much for him.

Well, I foolishly ventured in sto ks, and then the crash came, and six months ago I turned over all to my creditors, and came here, hoping, as I spoke French and German, to get something to do; but noth. ips to the cold | ing came in my way, and I spent my last away from the franc yesterday.' ' Poor fellow !'

. But I do not care for myself so much,

though it is deuced uncomfortable, but fo others who banked with me, and lost all.

'There was poor Drummond, he had al his deposit in my hands, including mone deposited by his wife for charitable purpose and which had been collected for that pur-

Drummond blew his brains out, and h wife sold all her property to pay back the charitable fund, and is the matron of a

asylum.' 'Too bad! And her little daughter!

asked St. John, with considerable interest 'Not little now, for she is seventeen;

member, it has been twelve years since yo saw her last.' 'True; I have always remembered her

a child. Where is she?'

'In Paris, at school; I saw her on street some time ago; her mother keeps h here until she finishes her education.

' Do you know, I ran away when I say

her, for I considered myself indirectly guilt of the death of her father, and the loss all their property.' 'Speculating in stocks and gold, 'Fred and especially with other people's money i

a bad business; but poor fellow, you have had a lesson, and I will aid you. How much do you owe depositors?' 'About one hundred thousand, and half

of that was Drummond's.' 'Well if I set you up in a bank here will you promise never to speculate, but do

a legitimate banking business?' 'St. John !'

It was all he could say, for his heart was

He had long known that Tremain St John was a generous giver, and aided those in distress whenever he could find them worthy; he also knew that St. John had inherited half-a-dozen large fortunes, and was worth his millions.

interest that I wish to invest in business and I will make the firm Sinclair & Co. and I am to be the silent partner. 'We will share equally, and I will leave all in your hands ; but, from your profits] must beg that you will pay up every dollar

'I mean it, Fred; I have a large floating

prospers you can do that in several years, and then be once more a free man. 'There is ample room for another American banking-house in Paris, and mark my words, we will succeed beyond my expectations. Now what is the address of Alice

you owe depositors, and if our business

Drummond ?' 'No.-Champs Elisee; but, Tremain, cannot find words to---'

'Thank you, come in to dinner, Fred.'

'Mademoiselle Drummond, there is gentleman in the parlor who desires to see you on business important,' said the madam of the pension where Alice Drummond was

receiving her education. Entering the room, the maiden saw before

her Tremain St. John. She was about six years of age, when, in Italy with her parents, she had last seen Tremain St. John, yet she remembered him, for, straying a few yards away from her mother's side, while visiting an old ruin, she had suddenly been seized by an Italian bandit, and was being borne away, when a

rescuer appeared in the person of St. John. The bandit showed fight to save his prize, but St. John sprang upon him, a struggle ensued, and the Italian was slain.

Since that day Alice Drummond had nevs er forgotten Tremain St. John. He saw before him a maiden of surpass. ing loveliness, tall, a Venus in form, grace-

'My dear friend, Mr. St. John !' and she 'My sweet friend, Miss Alice," he an-

his own. 'Call me Alice, as in the olden time; but,

'Yes, I have heard of his sad death.' 'He lost everything by the failure of his banker, and knowing he would have to sell

'And mama has taken a place as 'matron in an asylum, to aid me in completing my education: but I will be through in another year, and will then teach music and French and take care of her, for she is in miserable

'There will be no need of that, Miss Alice for Mr. Sinclair has gone into business here and is doing well, and I called to tell you that he holds the amount that your father. lost through him, subject to your mother's order.'

'Can this be true? Oh, Mr. St. John, you are a good angel, and mamma will come to Paris, and get well.'

thousand dollars; write her to come over at once, and in case she needs funds, send her this draft of Sinclair & Co., for two thous. and dollars.'

parlor she could not but notice that the little French lady was almost abject in her politeness, for a poor girl and a rich girl are two different persons in the eyes of the

ful, vivacious, and exquisitely fascinating. held out both hands. swered, as he clasped the shapely hands in Suddenly he stopped, to allow a stylish oh, Mr. St. John, you know about poor papa of course !'

> his house to pay for the charity funds mamma had, he took his life-poor papa ! 'I feel deeply for you, Alice, in your sor-

'It is true, Alice, the sum is fifty-two

'Madam,' from a convenient corner, had heard all, and when Alice came from the

world at large.

Continued on eighth page.

[127-3m] LANDSAV.

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