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No. 148

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Poetry.

REST-ONLY REST.

My feet are wearied, and my hands are tired-

My soul oppressed-And with desire have I longed desired Rest-only rest.

'Tis hard to toil—when toil is almost vain In barren ways; 'Tis hard to sow and never garner grain In harvest days.

The burden of my days is hard to bear-But God knows best; And I have prayed, but vain has been my prayer For rest—sweet rest.

'Tis hard to plant in spring and never reap The autumn yield; 'Tis hard to till-and when 'tis tilled to weep O'er fruitless field.

And so I cry a weak and human cry. So heart-oppressed; And so I sigh a weak and human sigh For rest-for rest.

My way has wound across the desert years, And cares infest My path; and through the flowing of hot I pined for rest.

'Iwas always so; when still a child, I laid On mother's breast My wearied little head; e'en then I prayed, As now, for rest.

And I am restless still. 'Twill soon be o'er-For down the west Life's sun is setting, and I see the shore Where I shall rest.

-Father Ryan.

A GILDED SIN.

By the author of "Dora Thorne," "WEDDED AND PARTED," "A BRIDE FROM THE SEA," "FROM GLOOM TO SUNLIGHT," &c.

(Continued.)

'I am afraid,' said a deep musical voice near her, 'that you will take cold-there is quit a rush of cold air here.'

Veronica looked up suddenly. A tall stately figure stood between her and the light, dark gray eyes were looking into her own. She saw a handsome, noble face, a proud, princely head covered with clusters of fair hair. It was a face that from that moment stood out clear and distinct from all other faces. The gentleman smiled at the half-bewildered expression of the dark eyes.

'I must introduce myself again,' he said. 'Sir Jasper introduced me to you just before dinner, but I was one of so many, I cannot hope to have been noticed. You do not remember me ?'

'No,' she replied. 'Sir Jasper introduced so many people to me at once, and English names are so hard to remember. I should be glad if you would tell me yours,' she added with some little hesitation.

'You will say that it is a strange one per-

haps,' he said. '1 am Sir Marc Caryll." 'Sir Marc Caryll,' she repeated. 'I shall remember that in connection with the patron

saint of Venice-St. Mark.' She could not tell why, but the name seemed to sink into the depths of her heart like the echo of a song. Then she looked at him, and decided that although she had seen some noble men, he was by far the handsomest and noblest. There was an air of command, of power, of authority about him which pleased her. He looked like a man whose will was strong and relentless. whose purpose was fixed, whose judgment was clear and decided. Self-reliance, courage, bravery-all those qualities were written on the fair handsome face that hal in it at times a woman's sweetness and the simplicity of a child. A swift sudden thought came to her that a life would be safe in those strong hands of his-honor, fair fame, everything might be entrusted to him, and the trust would be kept.

Sir Marc smiled at her. 'I can read your thoughts,' he said; 'you have been estimating my character. I will

not ask you what you think of it; I will only say I hope your conclusions are favorable. Miss di Cyntha, try one dance with me,-Christmas Day is past; and an example has been set us."

Veronica remembered that Christmas night -it was the beginning of |a new life to her. The vague sweet possibilities that had thrilled her as she watched Katherine took shape now-vague, beautiful shape; something awoke in her heart which had never been there before-something so tender, so sweet, that the girl's whole soul was moved by it. Life was never to be the same again for her; she had inherited something of the quick love and quick hatred that characterised

the Brandons. She had in her more of her father's nature than her mother's.

'Your face is a poem,' said Sir Marc later on that same Christmas night-'a poem that I should never tire of reading.

She danced with him, she talked to him; more than one amused glance followed them -she with her dark Venetian beauty, he with his Saxon comeliness; they seemed to have forgotten the world. Once Sir Marc took her to the great western window in the broad corridor, and, drawing aside the hanging, he said to her-

'Look, Miss di Cyntha—I want you to see the poetry of an English Christmas.'

Veronica cried out in wonder and awe. The sky was of a deep, dark, tathomless blue; the moon was full, and shone with a clear, silvery light; the earth lay white, still, and beautiful under the pale clear beams, the hard frost made the tall leafless trees look darker, and the hoar-frost shone in the light of the moon. The wind wailed amongst the trees, bending their tall heads and swaying the huge branches.

nothing in all Venice so fair as this. thought there was no poetry in England; but it is full of it. This looks like fairy-

'You will try to love England,' he said.

'I do love it without trying,' she replied. 'I could almost fancy there was some mysterious reason why my heart should have warmed so greatly to it; it seems more my home than Venice ever did.'

He was looking intently at her with his dark gray eyes. 'You will not wish to return to Venice

then? You would be content to remain in

England all your life ?' She raised her beautiful face; the dark eyes looked at the blue wintry night-sky, at the fair white earth, at the quaint shadows the moon made through the trees; and then she turned to Sir Marc.

'Venice would seem a prison to me after this,' she said; and as she said it she wondered why he looked so bright and pleased.

'I should like you to see my home,' he remarked. 'It is, I think, even more beautiful than Queen's Chace. It is called Wervehurst Manor, and it stands in the loveliest part of Sussex. We have music there-nature's grandest. The sea lies at no great distance; and far away to the right stretches a chain of hills, purple hills, on which the light of the sun lies low. I have a passionate love for my home.'

She was silent. He went on. 'And I live there, Miss di Cyntha, all alone. Can you imagine that? I have no mother, no sister. There is a large household of servants, but I am quite solitary. want what the poets call an angel in the

house,' 'What is that?' asked Veronica.

'That is English for a wife,' he replied; and the beautiful face drooped before his. Her heart beat ; a strange pain, that was yet half pleasure, seemed to thrill her inno-

cent soul. 'I must leave you,' she said hurriedly. I am quite sure that Katherine wants me. 'Where you go I follow,' declared Sir Marc; and for that evening at least he kept his word.

CHAPTER VI.

A new life-a glorious new life, bright, hopeful, pleasant, full of poetry, full of wonder and romance! The time came when Veronica began to wonder what it was that had fallen over her life. What was the dazzling light that had fallen at her feet? Why was it that from morning to night and from night to morning she had but one thought-

and that was about Marc Caryll? Christmas had passed now, and the beau. tiful springtide had set in. The air was balmy with the sweet breath of flowers, yet Sir Jasper had not recovered much of his strength. The doctors would not allow him to return to his duties; he must rest if he would live. In vain the active, energetic statesman rebelled. He refused for a time to submit, until he saw the absolute necessity for it. Then he found Lord Wynleigh of great use to him. He had been returned as member for Hurstwood, and had made his maiden speech-to everybody's great surprise it was simply a masterpiece of eloquence. Sir Jasper gave up some of his duties to the young politician, about whom people prophesied great things.

The Baronet was very pleased. It had always been a source of sorrow to him that he had no son to succeed to his honours; but he loved the brave young nobleman in whom all Katherine's happiness seemed to be centred. When despondent thoughts came to him, he said to himself that he should have a successor. He insisted upon Lady Bran-

don taking Veronica and Katherine to London for part of the season at least, and nothing pleased him better than to read her ladyship's letter in which she told of Veronica's successes and triumphs.

'The girl can marry whom she will,' wrote Lady Brandon; 'her magnificent beauty has brought all London to her feet. She does not seem to care about any one in particu-

Veronica had suddenly become famous.-

Her rare style of face and figure, her wonderful grace and musical voice, had made her the observed of all. She [received more invitations than she could possibly accept. Everyone admired and liked her. But, when Lady Brandon had been in town a few weeks, she decided upon returning. Sir Jasper was no better, and the doctor attending him did not think it advisable that he should delay consulting some eminent physician. So they went home again, and, as he looked at his two daughters, the master of Queen's Chace was struck afresh. Katherine's animated loveliness and Veronica's pale beauty seemed to have acquired fresh lustre. Those few weeks in town had wonderfully improved Veronica-they had given a finish and elegance to her such as can be acquired only by mixing with the most refined. She had enjoyed her visit, but not much, because Sir Marc was away. The season had but little attraction for him. He was not a man of fashion. A cruise to Norway had more charms for him than a season in London. He had written to say that he hoped to pass through Hurstwood in July or August, and would very much like to spend a few days there, to which Sir Jasper had replied by sending him a most cordial invitation, guessing shrewdly what was the attraction; so 'How beautiful!' she cried. 'There is that Veronica had that to look forward to, and the knowledge of it made her profoundly indifferent to all the homage offered her, The old bitter struggle was still going on

in Sir Jasper's mind. What should he do? His heart was torn with a thousand doubts, a thousand fears. There was hardly an hour of the twenty-four during which he did not again and again review all his reasons and doubts. Do as he would, one or the other must suffer. Should it be Katherine, the bright fair child, the descendant of the proud Valdoraines; or Veronica, who looked up at him with dead Giulia's eyes? Which of the two should it be? He would have given his life to save either. One thing he had done. He had sent for a strange lawyer, and had made another will, in which he told the secret of Veronica's birth, and left to her the grand inheritance of Queen's Chace and Hurstwood. That will he kept by him .-Remembering it, he was more at ease whenever he thought of her.

He grew worse. The dectors did not apprehend any immediate danger; he was only suffering from overtaxed strength, from ills that might be remedied, He did not even keep his room. Sir Jasper himself was more alarmed than the people about him. Strange sensations came to him. There were times when he fancied, as he walked through the shady garden-paths, that strange voices called him; he saw strange figures in his troubled sleep, strange faces smiled at him from the picture-frames.

One day-how Veronica remembered it afterwards !-he had walked in the grounds, and when the sun grew warm he went into the drawing room to rest on a couch. Veronica was there. He asked her to read to him, and she did so until he fell asleep; then she sat and watched him, thinking how very ill he looked, how white and sunken his face was. Suddenly she saw his lips quiver; he opened his arms as though to clasp them round some one whom he loved, crying in a

passionate voice-'Giulia, Giulia, my heart's love ! She touched him gently, and his eyes opened and looked wildly at her.

'Giulia,' he cried again, 'where am I? It is you, and yet another.' 'Sir Jasper,' said Veronica, 'you are dream

ing-you are ill.' He looked in bewilderment at her. 'Giulia's eyes,' he said, 'but another face.

What does it mean?' 'You have been dreaming,' remarked the girl quietly. 'Can I get anything for you?

Shall I bring Lady Brandon?' He gave a smothered moan.

· I-you are right, Veronica-I was dreaming. No, do not call any one ; I want nothing. These June days are so warm.'

It was June then, when the days were at their longest, and the bright sweet hours were all filled with beauty-June, when Queen's Chace was a picture of loveliness with its lillies and roses, its rich green foliage and wealth of flowers. Veronica was troubled as she looked at Sir Jasper, for she had grown to love him. She remembered afterwards how he awoke from a fevered sleep and would have Katherine by Veronica's side. She remembered every detail of that his last day on earth. He would, not go into the dining-room, and it was Veronica by her own special request, who took him some little dainties and coaxed him to eat them. She knelt by his side, holding in her fingers a ripe sunny peach.

(To be Continued.

ALL the business portion of Shediac, N. B., was wiped out by fire on Sunday night. The total losses foot up about \$90,000, while the insurance is less than one-quarter of that amount. 'The fire is said to be of incendiary