Moodmille Advocate

JOS. J. CAVE, Publisher.

"PRO BONO PUBLICO,"

TERMS ONE BOLLAR PER ASNUM Strictly in Advance

VOL V.

WOODVILLE, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1880.

NUMBER 209

The Woodville Advocate, VH ugh d. sinclair,

IS PUBLISHED

EVERY THURSDAY MORNING,

-AT ITS OFFICE,-

King Street, Woodville.

SUBSCRIPTION-One Dollar per year, Strictly in Advance, ADVERTISING- Yearly Advertisements paid

quarterly; Transient Advertisements, when ordered.

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Poetry.

THE LUCKY HORSESHOE.

A farmer travelling with his load Picked up a horseshoe in the road, And nailed it fast to his barn door, That Luck might down upon him pour, Might crown his homestead and his wife, And never any kind of harm Descend upon his growing farm.

But dire ill-fortune soon began To visit the astounded man. His hens declined to lay their eggs; His bacon tumbled from the pegs, And rats devoured the fallen legs; His corn, that never failed before, Mildewed and rotted on the floor; His grass refused to end in hay ; His cattle died, or went astray ; In short, all move I the crooked way.

Next spring a great drought baked the sod And roasted every pea in pod; The beaus declared they could not grow So long as nature acted so; Redundant insects reared their brood To starve for lack of juicy food; The staces from barrel sides went off As if they had the hooping cough, And nothing of the useful kind To hold together felt inclined; In short, it was no use to try While all the land was in a fry.

One morn, demoralized with grief, The farmer clamored for relief; And prayed right hard to understand What witchcraft now possessed his land; Why house and farm in misery grew Since he nailed up the 'lucky" shoe.

While thus dismayed o'er matters wrong An old man chanced to trudge along, To whom he told with wormwood tears, How his affairs were in arrears, And what a desperate state of things A picked-up horseshoe sometimes brings.

The stranger ask d to see the shoe, The farmer brought it into view ; But when the old man raised his head, He laughed outright, and quickly said, "No wonder skies upon you frown-You've nailed the horseshoe upside down! Just turn it round, and soon you'll see How you and Fortune will agree."

The farmer turned the horseshoe round, And showers began to swell the ground; The sunshine laughed among his grain, And heaps on heaps piled up the wain ; The loft his hay could barely hold, His cattle did as they were told; His fruit trees needed stardy props To hold the gathering apple crops ; His turnip and potato fields Astonished all men by their yields ; Folks never saw such ears of corn As in his smiling hills were borne ; His barns were full of bursting bins -His wife presented him with twins; His neighbors marvelled more and more To see the increase in his store. And now the merry farmer sings "There are two ways of doing things; And when for good luck you would pray, Nail up your horseshoe the right way." -James T. Fields, in Harger's Magazine for December.

LOVE WORKS WONDERS.

BY BERTHA M. CLAY.

"If I am not to give my opinion," said Pauline, serenely, "I should not be asked for it."

"Pray, Miss Hastings, do not check such delightful frankness," cried Sir Oswald, angrily. his hands trembling, his face darkening with an angry frown.

He said no more; but the captain, who thought he saw a chance of recommending himself to Miss Darrell's favour, observed, later on in the evening :

"I knew you would not like our visitor, Miss Darrell. She was not of the kind to attract you."

"Sir Oswald forced my opinion from me," she said , "but I shall not listen to one word of disparagement of Miss Rocheford from you, Captain Langton. You gave her great attention, you flattered her, you paid her many compliments; and now, if you say that you dislike her, it will simply be deceitful, and I abominate deceit."

It was plain that Pauline had greatly annoyed Sir Oswald. He liked Miss Rocheford very much ; the sweet, yielding, gentle disposition, which Pauline had thought so monotonous, delighted him. Miss Rocheford was so like that lost, dead love of his-so like ! And for this girl, who tried his patience every hour of the day, to find fault with her ! It was to irritating ; he could not endure it. He was very cold and distant to Pauline for some time, but the young girl was serenely unconscious of it.

In one respect she was [changing rapidly. The time had come when she had been indifferent to Darrell Court, when she had thought with regret of the free, happy life in the Rue d'Orme, where she could speak lightly of antiquity and grandeurs of the race from which she sprung; but all that was changed now. It could not be otherwise, considering how romantic, who, impression-

able she was, how keenly alive to everything beautiful and noble. She was living here in the very cradle of the race, where every tree had its legend, every stone its story; how could she be indifferent while the annals of her house were filled with noble retrospects? The Darrells had numbered great warriors and statesmen among their number. Some of the noblest women in England had been Darrells; and Pauline had learned to glory in the old stories, and to feel her heart | him. beat with pride as she remembered that she, too, was a Darrell.

So, likewise, she had grown to love the Court for its picturesqe beauty, its stately magnificence, and the time came soon when almost every tree and shrub was dear to her.

It was Pauline's nature to love deeply and passionately if she loved at all; there was no lukewarmness about her. She was incapable of those gentle, womanly likings that save all wear and tear of passion. She could not love in moderation; and very soon the love and pride, there was within a coal of fire, of Darrell Court became a passion with her. She sketched the mansion from twenty of the character he could not read. when he points of view, she wrote verses about it; suspected there gmight be some soul she lavished upon it the love which some girls lavish upon parents, brothers, sisters and friends.

She stood one day looking at it as the western sunbeams lighted it up as though it were bathed in gold. The stately towers and turrets, the flower-wreathed balconies, the grand arched windows, the Gothic porch all made up a magnificent picture; the fountains were playing in the sun-light air, the birds singing in the stately trees. She turned to Miss Hastings, and the governess saw tears standing warm and bright in the girl's eyes.

not tell you-I have no words to tell youhow I love my home."

The heart of the gentle lady contracted with sudden fear.

Pauline, do not love it too much ; remember how very uncertain everything is."

"There can be nothing uncertain about my inheritance," returned the girl. "I am a Darrell—the only Darrell left to inherit it. And, oh ! Miss Hastings, how I love it ! but it is not for its wealth that I love it : it is my heart that is bound to it. I love it as I fancy a husband loves his wife, a mother her child. It is everything to me."

"Still," said Miss Hastings, "I would not love it too well ; everything is uncertain." "But not that," replied Pauline, quickly.

'My uncle would never dare to be so unjust as to leave Darrell Court to any one but a Darrell, 1 am not in the least afraid-not in the least."

CHAPTER XV.

BREACH BETWEEN UNCLE AND NIRCE. A few days later the tranquility of Darrell

Court was at an end. The invived guests were expected, and Sir Oswald had determined to do them all honor. The stateapartments, which had not been used during his tenure, were all thrown open ; the superb hall-room, once the pride of the county, was redecorated; the long, empty corridors and suits of apartments reserved for visitors, were once more full of life. Miss Hastings was the presiding genius; Pauline Darrell took far less interest in the preparations.

"I am glad," she said, one morning, "that I am to see your 'world,' Sir Oswald. You despise mine ; I shall be anxious to see what yours is like."

The baronet answered her testily :

"I do not quite understand your remarks about 'worlds.' Surely we live under the same conditions."

"Not in the same world of people" she opposed; "and I am anxious to see what yours is like."

"What do you expect to find in what you are pleased to call my [world, Pauline?" he asked, angrily.

"Little truth, and plenty of affectation ; little honour, and plenty of polish; little honesty, and very high-sounding words; little sincerity, and plenty of deceit."

"By what right do you sit in judgment?" he demanded.

"None at all," replied Pauline; "but as people are always speaking ill of the dear, honest world in which I have to live, I may surely be permitted to criticise the world that is outside fit."

Sir Oswald turned away angrily; and Miss Hastings sighed over the girl's willfulness. "Why do you talk to Sir Oswald in a fashion that always irritates him ?" she remonstrated.

"We live in a free country, and have each

of us freedom of speech." "I am afraid the day will come when you | be my wife t"

will pay a sad price for yours.

But Pauline Darrell only laughed. Such fear never affected her; she would sooner have expected to see the heavens fall at her feet than that Sir Oswald should not leave Darrell Court to her-his niece, a Darrell, with the Darrell face and the Darrell figure, the true, proud features of the race. He would never dare to do otherwise; she thought, and she would not condescend to change either her thought or speech to please

"The Darrells do not know fear," she would say : " there never yet was an example of a Darrell being frightened into anything."

So the breach between the uncle and the niece grew wider every day. He could not understand her; the grand, untrained, undisciplined, poetical nature was beyond him -he could neither reach its heights nor fathom its depths. There were times when he thought that, despite her outward coldness when he dimly understood the magnificence that could not be narrowed or forced into a common groove Nevertheless he feared her; he was afraid to trust, not the honor, but the fame of his har .

"She is capable of anything," he would repeat to himself again and again. "She would fling the Darrell revenues to the wind; she would transform Darrell Court into one huge observatory if astronomy pleased her -into one huge laboratory, if she gave herself to chemistry. One thing is perfectly clear to me-she can never be my heiress until she is safely married."

And, after great deliberation-after lis-"How beautiful it is !" she said ; "I can- tening to all his heart's pleading in favour of her grace, her beauty, her royal generos. ity of character, the elaim of her name and her truth-he came to the decision that if she would marry Captain Langton, whom "It is very beautiful," she said; "but, he loved perhaps better than any one else in the world, he would at once make his will adopt her, and leave her heiress of all that he had in the world.

One morning the captain confided in him, telling him how dearly he loved his beautiful niece, and then Sir Oswald revealed his intentions.

"You understand, Aubrey," he said-"the girl is magnificently beautiful-she is a true Darrell; but I am frightened about her. She is not like other girls ; she is wanting in tact, in knowledge of the world, and both are essential. I hope you will win her. I shall die content if I leave Darrell Court in your hands, and if you are her husband. I could not pass her over to make you my heir; but if you could persuade her to marry you, you can take the name of Darrell, and you can guide and direct her. What do you say, Aubrey ?"

"What do I say ?" stammered the captain. "I say this—that I love her so dearly that I would marry her if she "had not a farthing. I love her so that language cannot express the depth of my affection for

The captain was for a few minutes quite overcome -he had been so long dunned for money, so hardly pressed, so desperate, that the chance of twenty thousand a year and Darrell Court was almost too much for him. His brow grew damp, and his lips pale. All this might be his own if he could but win the consent of this girl. Yet he feared her ; the proud, noble face, the grand, dark eyes rose before him, and seemed to rebuke him for his presumptuous hope, How was he to win her? Flattery, sweet, soft words would never do it. One scornful look from her sent his ideas "flying right and left." "If she were only like other girls," he

thought, "I could make her my wife in a few weeks."

Then he took heart of grace. Had he not been celebrated for his good fortune among the fair sex? Had he not always found his handsome person, his low, tender voice, his pleasing manner irresistable? Who was this proud, dark-eyed girl that she should measure the depths of his heart and soul, and find them wanting? Surely he must be superior to the artists in shabby coats by whom she had been surrounded. And yet he feared as much as he hoped.

"She has such a way of making me feel small," he said to himself; "and if that kind of feeling comes over me when I am making her an offer, it will be of no use to plead my suit."

But what a prospect-master of Darrell Court and twenty thousand per annum ! He would endure almost any humiliation to

obtain such a position. "She must have me," he said to himself -"she shall have me! I will force her to

[TO BE CONTINUED.]