

THE DAI-HOOM.

A bar to heaven, a door to hell—Whoever named it, named it well.

THE UNIVERSAL POST.

An incident described in the Independent by Professor E. A. Groverman gives a striking illustration of the fact that Longfellow's poems have sung themselves into the hearts of men and women of many nationalities.

"One evening, as we were quitting the streets of Honolulu, some one remarked, 'though Victor Hugo was born in Paris, the French language of his life was received in English, close to which we were passing. One of the party spoke of him as the exponent of what is best in humanity.'

"The Russian lady exclaimed in English to the gentleman, who had just spoken: 'How can you, an American, give to him the place that is occupied by your own Longfellow? Longfellow is the universal poet. He is better known, too, among foreigners than among us, except their poets.'"

"The captain of the Donal was not her regular commander, but an officer of the national French Legion, who was in charge only for a few voyages. To our astonishment, in accents so Gallic that one discerned with difficulty that he was attempting English, he intoned:

"'You must find that impellent in your speech inconsequential terms. Mr. B—?'"

"'No; everybody has his little peculiarity. Stammering is mine; what is yours?'"

"TOO MUCH WORK!"

Roxanna Brent had come back from a day's shopping in company with two of her intended bridesmaids, and as she lifted a great heap of silk ruffles out of a chair and dropped into it, her face wore the look of one who finds her responsibilities too heavy to bear.

"Well, you three girls have spent this whole day looking at the model gowns and trying to decide how the bridesmaids' dresses shall be made," began Roxanna.

"The three women looked at each other despairingly. Mrs. Brent and Roxanna tried to be comforting, but the dressmaker knew as well as they that the goods were an imported novelty, and they had bought because it was the only thing of its kind in the city, and they did not like to be out of it."

"As that instant Roxanna was called downstairs. In the front hall, glowing with the joy of surprising her, stood the man she was getting ready to marry. He had travelled a hundred miles to spend one day with her, but she had not expected him. He had met a distracted-looking maiden who hung herself into a chair at sight of him, and sobbed hysterically."

"That was one of the times when a man's crude idea about what is and is not necessary in a wedding saved the day. To be sure, a few dozen people wondered, when the quiet ceremony took place, why Roxanna Brent had been so changed in her plans about her marriage, but except for that the world went on just the same; and Roxanna, well and happy, is today a radiant witness to the truth that a wedding need not necessarily be 'too much work' after all."

Many of our cars are but a gloomy view of our privileges.—Sir Walter Scott.

In character, in style, in all things, the supreme excellence is simplicity.—Longfellow.



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