# THE HAUNTED HOUSE.

Before he had finished his sentence, the door, which neither of us then was touching, opened quietly of itself. We looked at each other a single instant. The same thought saized both-some human agency might be detected here. I rushed in first, my servant followed. A small, blank, dreary room without furniture-a few empty boxes and hampers in a corner-a small window-the shutters closed-not even a fireplaceno other door but that by which we had entered-no carpet on the floor, and the floor seemed very old, uneven, worm-eaten, mended here and there, as was shown by the whiter patches on the wood; but no living being, and no visible place in which a living being could have hidden. As we stood gazing round, the door by which we had entered closed as quietly as it had before opened, we were imprisoned.

For the first time I felt a creep of undefinable horror. Not so my servant. "Why, they don't think to trap us, sir; I could break that trumpery door with a kick of my foot."

"Try first if it will open to your hand," said I, shaking off the vague apprehension that had seized "while I open the shutters and see what is without."

I unbarred the shutters—the window looked on the little back-yard I have before described; there was no ledge without-nothing but sheer descent. No man getting out of that window would have found any footing till he had fall-

en on the stones below. F--, meanwhile, was vainly atturned round to me, and asked my per- "Is that you, sir?" mission to use force. And I should here state, in justice to the servant, that, far from evincing any superstitious terrors, his nerve, composure, and even gaiety amidst circumstances so extraordinary, compelled my admiration, and made me congratulate myself on having secured a companion in every way fitted to the occasion. I willingly strong man, his force was as idle as his milder efforts; the door did not even shake to his stoutest kick. Breathless and panting he desisted. I then tried human figure, but shapeless and un- house. substantial-move before us, and ascend It was but for a moment that I rethe stairs that led from the landing mained undecided whether or not to into the attics. I followed the light, follow my servant; pride and curiosity and my servant followed me. It enter- alike forbade so dastardly a flight. I ed to the right of the landing, a small re-entered my room, closing the door garret, of which the door stood open. after me, and proceeded cautiously inentered in the same instant. The to the interior chamber. light then collapsed into a small glo- countered nothing to justify my bule, exceedingly brilliant and vivid; servant's terror. I again carefully rested a moment on a bed in the cor- examined the walls to see if there were ner, quivered and vanished. We ap- any concealed door. I could find no proached the bed and examined it-a trace of one-not even a seam in the in attics devoted to servants. On the was hung. How, then, had the Thing, drawers that stood near it we perceiv- whatever it was, which had so scared that I had encountered the eyes. ed an old faded silk kerchief, with the him, obtained ingress except through needle still left in a rent half repaired. my own chamber?

priated to myself, and I then remark- ed my Macaulay. ed that my dog had not followed us Perhaps in order not to appear seekwhen we had left it. He was thrust- ing credit for a courage, or rather a ing himself close to the fire, and trem- coolness, which the reader may conbling. I was impatient to examine the ceive I exaggerate, I may be pardoned letters; and while I read them, my ser- if I pause to indulge in one or two vant opened a little box in which he egotistical remarks. head, and then occupied himself in cumstances that led to it, so I should soothing the dog, who, however, seemed say that I had been long sufficiently

ly, and the effort ceased.

to heed him very little. The letters were short-they were dated; the dates exactly thirty-five years ago. They were evidently from a lover to his mistress, or a husband to some young wife. Not only the terms of expression but a distinct reference to a former voyage, indicated the writer to have been a seafarer. The spelling and handwriting were those of a man imperfectly educated, but still the language itself was forcible. In the expressions of endearment there was a kind of rough wild love; but here and there were dark unintelligible hints at some secret not of love-some secret that seemed of crime. ought to love each other," was one of the sentences I remember, "for how every one else would execrate us if all was known." Again: "Don't let any one be in the same room with you at night-you talk in your sleep." And again: "What's done can't be undone; and I tell you there's nothing against us unless the dead could come to life." Here there was underlined in a better

the same day as-." I put down the letters and began to muse over their contents.

handwriting, a female's, "They do!" At

the end of the latter latest in date the same female hand had written these

Fearing, however, that the train of thought into which I fell might unsteady my nerves. I fully determined to keep my mind in a fit state to cope with whatever of marvellous the advancing night might bring forth. roused myself-laid the letters on table-stirred up the fire, which was still bright and cheering-and opened my volume of Macaulay. I read quietly enough till about half-past eleven. I then threw myself dressed upon the bed, and told my servant he might retire to his own room, but must keep himself awake. I bade him leave open the door between the two rooms. Thus alone I kept two candles burning on the table by my bed-head. I placed my watch beside the weapons, and calmly resumed my Macaulay. Opposite to me the fire burned clear; and on the hearth-rug, seemingly asleep, lay the dog. In about twenty minutes I felt an exceedingly cold air pass by my cheek, like a sudden draught. I fancied the door to my right, communicating with the landing-place, must have got open; but no-it was closed. I then turned my glance to my left, and saw the flame of the candles violently swayed as by a wind. At the same moment the watch beside the revolver softly slid from the table-softly, softlyno visible hand-it was gone. I sprang up, seizing the revolver with the one hand, the dagger with the other; was not willing that my weapons should share the fate of the watch. Thus armed, I looked round the floor -no sign of the watch. Three slow. loud, distinct knocks were now heard tempting to open the door. He now at the bed-head, my servant called out,

"No; be on your guard." The dog now roused himself and sat on his haunches, his ears moving quickly backwards and forwards. He kept his eyes fixed on me with a look so strange that he concentrated all my attention on himself. Slowly he rose up, all his hair bristling, and stood perfectly rigid, and with the same wild gave him the permission he required. stare. I had no time, however, to ex-But though he was a remarkably amine the dog. Presently my servant emerged from his room; and if ever 1 saw horror in the human face, it was then. I should not have recognized him had we met in the street, so altered the door myself, equally in vain. As I was every lineament. He passed by me ceased from the effort, again that creep quickly, saying in a whisper that seemof horror came over me; but this time ed scarcely to come from his lips, "Run it was more cold and stubborn. I felt | \_run! it is after me!" He gained as if some strange and ghastly exhala- the door to the landing, pulled it open, tion were rising up from the chinks and rushed forth. I followed him into of that rugged floor, and filling the the landing involuntarily, calling him atmosphere with a venomous influence to stop; but, without heeding me, he hostile to human life. The door now bounded down the stairs, clinging to very slowly and quietly opened as of the balusters, and taking several steps its own accord. We precipitated our- at a time. I heard, where I stood, the selves into the landing-place. We both street-door open-heard it again clap saw a large pale light-as large as the to. I was left alone in the haunted

The kerchief was covered with dust; I returned to my room, shut and lockprobably it had belonged to the old ed the door that opened upon the inwoman who had last died in that house, terior one, and stood on the hearth, and this might have been her sleeping- expectant, and prepared. I now perroom. I had sufficient curiosity to op- ceived that the dog had slunk into an en the drawers; there were a few odds angle of the wall, and was pressing and ends of female dress, and two let- himself close against it, as if literally ters tied round with a narrow ribbon striving to force his way into it. I of faded yellow. I took the liberty to approached the animal and spoke to possess myself of the letters. We found it; the poor brute was evidently beside nothing else in the room worth notic- itself with terror. It showed all its ing-nor did the light reappear; but teeth, the slaver dropping from its we distinctly heard, as we turned to jaws, and would certainly have bitten go, a pattering footfall on the floor me if I had touched it. It did not seem -just before us. We went through the to recognize me. Whoever has seen at other attics, in all four, the footfall the Zoological Gardens a rabbit fascinstill preceding us. Nothing to be seen ated by a serpent, cowering in a cor--nothing but the footfall heard. I had ner, may form some idea of the anguthe letters in my hand; just as I was ish which the dog exhibited. Finding descending the stairs I distinctly felt all efforts to soothe the animal in vain, my wrist seized, and a faint soft effort and fearing that his bite might be as made to draw the letters from my venomous in that state as in the madclasp. I only held them the more tight- ness of hydrophobia, I left him alone, placed my weapons on the table beside We regained the bedchamber appro- the fire, seated myself, and recommenc-

had deposited the weapons I had ord- As I hold presence of mind, or what ered him to bring; took them out, plac- is called courage, to be precisely proed them on a table close at my bed- portioned to familiarity with the cirfamiliar with all experiments that appertain to the Marvellous. I had witnessed many very extraordinary phenomena in various parts of the worldphenomena that would be either totally disbelieved if I stated them, or ascribed to supernatural agencies. Now, my theory is that the Supernatural is the Impossible, and that what is called supernatural is only a something in the laws of nature, of which we have been broke forth with words like these-"I ghost rise before me, I have not the right to say, "So, then, the supernatural is possible," but rather, "So, then, the apparition of a ghost is, contrary to received opinion, within the laws of nature-i. e., not supernatural."

sert truly, still the living material light. The dark Thing, whatever it for all he knows how and keeps for form of the magician is present; and might be was gone-except that I could be read it, is bound, to get ahead." be is the material agency by which, yet see a dim shadow, which seem: from some constitutional peculiarit in strange phenomena are repre-

words: "Lost at sea the 4th of June, sented to your natural senses. paper, produced by no discernible hand as far as the wrist. It was a hand, be a human being like ourselves by ary drama had commenced. whom, or through whom, the effects presented to human beings are produced. It is so with the now familiar phenomena of mesmerism or electrobio'ogy; the mind of the person operated on is affected through a material living agent. Nor, supposing it The Scotch-Irish Minister and the Little true that a mesmerized patient can respond to the will or passes of a mesmerizer a hundred miles distant, is the fluid - call it Electric, call it Odic, call it what you will-which has the power of traversing space and passing Hence all that I had hitherto witnessed, or expected to witness, in this strange house, I believed to be occasioned through some agency or medium cessarily prevented the awe with which those who regard as supernatura things that are not within the ordinary memorable night.

As, then, it was my conjecture that quil a temper for observation as any practical experimentalist could be in though perhaps perilous, chemical com- The preacher began by saying: bination. Of course, the more I kept my mind detached from fancy, the strong daylight sense in the page of my Macaulay.

I now became aware that something interposed between the page and the that this globe upon which we live is light-the rage was overshadowed; I looked up; and I saw what I shall find it very difficult, perhaps impossible, to describe.

I cannot say it was of a human form and yet it had more resemblance to a human form, or rather shadow, than anything else. As it stood, wholly

self, "Is this fear? it is not fear!" I may become an author and a poet and strove to rise-in vain; I felt as if his name may yet appear among those weighed down by an irresistible force. now entombed at Westminster. He Indeed, my impression was that of an may become a great warrior, and lead posed to my volition;-that sense of ess and valor may change the map of England the other day? utter inadequacy to cope with a force Europe. Methinks I hear the plaudits beyond men's, which one may feel of the people at the mention of his physically in a storm at sea, in a conflagration, or when confronting some terrible wild beast, or rather, perhaps, the shark of the ocean, I feit morally. Opposed to my will was another will, as far superior to its strength as storm, fire and shark are superior in

material force to the force of men. And now, as this impression grew on Ann." me, now came, at last horror-horror to a degree that no words can convey. Still I retained pride, if not courage; and in my own mind I said, "This is horror, but it is not fear; unless I fear, I cannot be harmed; my reason rejects this thing; it is an illusion-I do not fear." With a violent effort I succeeded at last in stretching out my hand towards the weapon on the table; as I did so, on the arm and shoulder fell to my side powerless. And now, to add to my horror, the light began s'owly to wane from the candles-they withdrawn; it was the same with the fire-the light was extracted from the fuel; in a few minutes the room was with that dark Thing, whose power was so intensely felt, brought a reaction of through the spell. I did burst through is that if we want a fortune we've got was a shriek. I remember that I to work for it. do not fear, my soul does not fear;" without working. Oil may spout up heard a habeas corpus case. and at the same time I found the out of the ground one owns and cover strength to rise. Still in that pro- him with riches. Another man may any way, testimony showed, exception of the first ber by found gloom I rushed to one of the find iron ore in his land, and so on. that he had rudely taken off her windows—tore saids the curtain flows. windows—tore aside the curtain—flung But such cases are so few in number net and thrown it into the fire open the shutters; my first thought that they don't count, the chances of court refused to grant the writ of was-Light. And when I saw the moon our getting rich in that way are real- beas corpus, holding the detention beas corpus, holding the detention Now, in all that I had hitherto wit- high, clear, and calm, I felt a joy ly not worth considering. If we would it legal. nessed, and indeed in all the wonders that almost compensated for the pre- be rich we must work for it. And work which the amateurs of mystery in our vious terror. There was the moon, there early and late; all the time. Plug at it, The Court of Appeals reversed the grant late. age record as facts, a material living was also the light from the gas-lamps and keep plugging at it. There is pracagency is always required. On the con- in the deserted slumberous street, I tically no other way. who assert that they can raise spirits. moon repetrated its shadow way. who assert that they can raise spirits. moon penetrated its shadow very pale- or fails to make the best possible use Assume for the moment that they as- ly and partially-but still there was of it, stays poor; the man that worl is

> the shadow of that shade, against the apposite wall. My eye now rested on the table, and A German professor reports he has

musical or other sounds- writing on round table) there rose a hand, visible -articles of furniture moved without seemingly, as much of flesh and blood apparent human agency-or the actual as my own, but the hand of an aged sight and touch of hands, to which no person-lean, wrinkled, small too- a bodies seem to belong-still there must woman's hand. That hand very softly be found the medium or living being, closed on the two letters that lay on with constitutional peculiarities capa- the table; hand and letters both vanble of obtaining these signs. In fine, ished. There then came the same three in all such marvels, supposing even loud measured knocks I had heard at that there is no imposture, there must the bed-head before this extraordin-

To be Continued.

#### A STORY BY MARK TWAIN.

Baby.

The following anecdote, related by response less occasioned by a material Mark Twain, has never appeared in being; it may be through a material print. At an entertainment given for the benefit of the seamen on board the steamer Kaiser Wilhelm II. on her obstacles, that the material effect is voyage from New York to Genoa, Mr. communicated from one to the other. Clemens was posted for an address. On being introduced he rose and in his peculiar tone of voice and manner said:

"My friends, I see that my name is as mortal as myself, and this idea ne- on the programme for an address. As this was done without consulting me, I shall give you an anecdote in its place. operations of nature, might have been | Now, you know, there are anecdotes, impressed by the adventures of that and anecdotes, short meter and long meter. I shall give you a long meter, all that was presented, or would be one with a snapper at the end. It is presented, to my senses, must originate about a Scotch-Irish minister who in some human being gifted by con- thought he was called to preach the them, and having some motive so to Gospel, while he knew that he had the do, I felt an interest in my theory gift of oratory, and he never missed an which, in its way, was rather philoso- opportunity to display it. An opporphical than superstitious. And I can tunity was afforded on the occasion of sincerely say that I was in as tran- a christening. There was a considerable audience, made up of the relatives, awaiting the effects of some rare, friends and neighbors of the parents. "'We have met together, my friends,

more the temper fitted for observa- on a very interesting occasion - the tion would be obtained; and I there- christening of this little child-but I fore riveted eye and thought on the see already a look of disappointment on your face. Is it because this infant is so small? We must bear in mind made up of small things, infinitesimal objects we might say. Little drops of water make the mighty ocean; the It was a Darkness shaping itself out | mountains which rear their hoary of the air in very undefined outline. heads toward heaven and are often lost in the clouds are made up of little grains of sand. Besides, my friends; we must take into consideration the apart and distinct from the air and possibilities in life of this little speck light around it, its dimensions seemed of humanity. He may become a great gigantic, the summit nearly touching preacher, multitudes may be swayed by the ceiling, While I gazed, a feeling his eloquence and brought to see and of intense cold seized me. An iceberg believe in the truths of the Gospel. He before me could not more have chilled may become a distinguished physician time I was afflicted with nervousness me; nor could the cold of an iceberg and his fame as a healer of men may have been more purely physical; I feel | reach the uttermost parts of the earth, convinced that it was not the cold caus- and his name go down to posterity as These pills cured me and invigorated ed by fear. As I continued to gaze, I one of the great benefactors of hu- nervous system which is now strong thought-but this I cannot say with manity. He may become a great as- healthy. They restored restful sleep best precision- that I distinguished two tronomer and read the heavens as an removing the distressing heart pains with eyes looking down on me from the open book. He may discover new stars formerly gave me so much anxiety height. One moment I seemed to dis- which may be coupled with that of trouble. tinguish them clearly, the next they Newton and other great discoverers. seemed gone; but still two rays of a He may become a distinguished states- a box 8 for \$1.25, sold by druggists or 10 pale-blue light frequently shot through man and orator, and by the strength by mail. T. Milburn & Co., Toronto, O. half-tester, such as is commonly found dull-brown paper with which the room the darkness, as from the height on of his intellect and eloquence he may which I half believed, half doubted, control the destinies of nations and his name be engraved upon monuments er-I strove to speak,-my voice utterly ected to perpetuate his memory by his failed me; I could only think to my- admiring and grateful countrymen. He immense and overwhelming Power op- armies to battle and victory; his prow- Citheroe," whose death occurred deeds and name. He may become -'er

'er-he might-'er-' "Turning to the mother: "'What is his name?"

"The mother-'What is the baby's "'Yes, what is his name?" "The mother-'It's name is Mary

#### THE QUEST OF FORTUNE.

#### ure to be found, Says Mr. Gozzleton, if

One Takes the Right Road -the Road, "The longer I live the more firmly am convinced," said Mr. Gozzleton, 'that a man who wants a fortune has got to do something besides wish for I received a strange shock, and my arm it. Fortunes, large and small, are shy, wealthy. The parish church of the very shy. In one form and another roe was in her patronage and she they are passing by all the time, but were not, as it were, extinguished but they won't stop for the mere asking, their flame seemed very gradually however polite and graceful and ear- ed by her husband, carried away nest the invitation may be. We might house at Blackburn, and there details sit out on the verandah from now till ed practically as a prisoner. The hoing in utter darkness. The dread that doomsday and rise and bow and scrape der "siege," and supplies were came over me, to be thus in the dark at every one of 'em that came along ed by the garrison by means of low and ask 'em all in, but never one of let down from an upper window. nerve. In fact, terror had reached 'em would stop. They might want to that climax, that either my senses must come in, but nothing short of actual have deserted me, or I must have burst collaring would bring 'em in. The fact of the law hesitated to intrude,

"Men have made fortunes, to be sure, even by her husband, and the

### SOTERIA IN WINE.

of Spirit Manifestation in America — out cloth or cover—an old mahogany had been bottled 25 or 30 years.

B4444444444

Don't scoll the little ones? the bed is we in the morning

isn't the child's fault, West kidneys need strengthening. that's all. You can't afford to risk delay. Neglect may ental a lifetime of suffering.

#### DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS Strengthen the Kidneys and Bladder, then all trouble

Mr. John Carson, employed at M. S. Bradt & Co.'s store, Hap. ilton, Ont., savs:

My little boy seven years of an has been troubled with his kidney since birth and could not hold s water. We spent hundreds of & lars doctoring and tried many a ferent remedies, but they were of me avail. One box of Doan's Kidter Pills completely cured him."

# PAIN IN THE HEART

Too serious a condition neglect. A Guelph harness maker w

how he was cured.

Mr. Wm. Dyson, the well known all and harness maker of Guelph, Out .m the following statement: "I heardly



commend Milburn's Heart and Nerre! to anyone suffering from nervousness heart trouble. They are a spin medicine for such complaints. Forsit pain in my heart, which was especial severe at night, often destroying my m

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills 50 0

Laxa-Liver Pills cure Constipation

## A MODERN MARTYR.

The Beath of Mrs. Jackson, "of Clithers Recalls a Famous Case. Who was that "Mrs. Jackson,"

It is probable that the reader utterly forgotten her, or at most a hazy recollection of the lady's Bill Yet the case in which she won crown of martyrdom was perhaps most celebrated of the country, and experience was instrumental in set ing a wider measure of freedom for the

sex half the world over. Briefly, Mrs. Jackson was a independent wealth who married 1887 one E. H. Jackson. It was a reaway match, and Jackson seems to ma been an adventurer for whom his w retained no lasting regard.

Mr. Jackson left the country h time his wife refusing to follow company him. On his return to land Jackson got a verdict for restitution of his conjugal rights. Mrs. Jackson refused to live with It has been said that the lady

guarly attended its services. One day in 1891, just as she was ing the church, Mrs. Jackson was was described at the time as

Jackson had a number of stout unprincipled retainers lady in his stronghold, and the office Englishman's house is his Still, it was felt to be intolerable to a prown woman could be impriso

Jackson had not molested his wife

What a howl of indignation follows courts while retaining the power to or were deprived of the power to come the restitution. The lady was release

and that was the end of it. The House of Lords was appealed but there was no law legislation gally, therefore, at this day in En land, a husband can secure a to compel his wife to live with Accept again, as truthful, the tales from under the table (which was with- found living bacteria in wine which against her will, but he can't enforce the decree.

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