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Altoona



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ALTOONA, PAI, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1860.

NO. 36.

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You are very lovely, lady! Soft and fair your skin; Beauty's pencil has been there, Blending colors fresh and rare: Is all fair within? Yes; that blush with modest glow, Sweetly tells what I would know. You are very gentle, lady!

Humble and discreet! Let not words of artless praise Kindle anger in your gaze. Praise is not unmeet, When the lips of truth doth find Language for th' approving mind. You are very dear, sweet lady ! Will you hear my suite?

Honest is my love, and pure: Lasting while my days endure Ah! you smile and blush and sigh; I do ask no more reply.

Select Miscellany.

THE MYSTERIOUS LODGER.

In September, 1852, I occupied a room in a two-story frame building on Stockton street, in San Francisco, in which were perhaps half-n-dozen lodgers-possibly more. As I seldom visited fashioned subscription plan. Send for a classified Catalogue, and every information will be given in reference to agen. -or, if I did, it was without my knowing them. With two of my fellow lodgers I became partially acquainted. One was a middle-aged man. occupying a room adjoining mine, and divided from it by a thin partition. Against that thin boundary stood our beds—the middle aged gentleman's and mine-not to exceed three inches apart. The middle aged gentleman was wedded to the habit of snoring. And his was a peculiar snore, not a periodical accompanying every made no reply. fourth or fifth inspiration, but a terrific and unsnuffles, with the addition of teeth grinding and that you are not to be made an exception?" occasional plunges of the extremities against the door. I was desperate. He rose, struck a light, thing but favorable." and for the first time we met face to face. I had prepared myself to deluge him with sarcasmto abuse him with Billingsgate—to sink him with bluntly replied.

abuse. His face was round and jovial, and his He smiled as h head so entirely destitute of hair, that I could not summon courage to utter a single harsh word. For a moment we peered into each

others faces. "Can I do anything for you?" I inquired. Smith, for that was his name, must have read my thoughts-must have known he snoredmust have been aware of the object of my visit -for he immediately replied:

"Yes, my friend, join me in a glass of brandy have the proof you require." and water—I have a few drops of something genuine. Permit me to insist," he continued, observing my hesitation, "you will sleep all the better for it," and he gave me a looks welling over with commiseration.

I meekly followed him to his sideboards, and we pledged each other in a glass of ancient vintage. He then pressed me to smoke a cigar. I him we touched glasses several times, and I firmbrandy was playing strange tricks with my fancy and I felt as though something was whispering, as though to "Macbeth"-" Sleep no Order any book that you may want, remit the retail price, together with the amount required for postage, and one trial will assure you that the best place in the country to purchase books is at the Gift Book Establishment of CE RGE G. EVANS,

Was beautiful as a poet's dream. Strolling more." Irritated at my wakefulness, I drew moon rode high in the heavens, and the night around the street as far as Clay, I suddenly turned the corner, and encountered a crowd of half-drunken rowdies, stanling in front of a enter. In the act of retracing my steps, I heard

some one exclaim, in a boyish tone : "Not to-night, gentlemen, some other time. but not to-night; please excuse me." The speaker in passing along the street had

"Bah !" exclaimed a number of voices, "you must come to the scratch—either drink or fight."

of the neck, and found myself leaning against covered from a serious illness under which I the side of a house. I was not stuffned but ex- | was laboring, I took passage for this State. I asperated beyond measure. The liquor of my arrived six months ago.

I once, says John B Gough, the eloquent bald headed fellow lodger steeled my nerves to "He is here, for I have seen him, and he can temperance lecturer, in a late speech, picked up once that his name was Richard Janson; that the brave little fellow my hand, and he felt that go back again." "I musn't go back—I won't he was answered. In silence we returned to my wife is better without me than with me.

the first time, that he occupied a room in the the odium of the supposed theft to me. That same house on the same floor with myself. Thus | night Smith snored louder than usual. I became acquainted with two of my lodgers.

at my office, and then remained less than five not felt better for years. minutes. How he spent his time I did not inquire. He was a mystery. I spoke of him to had never seen him, but from my description of | He placed his fingers significantly to his lips, him ventured the opinion that he was either a | and we separated. gambler or a genteel pickpocket. I was reluctantly forced to the conclusion that Smith was right, and after that I treated the young man with unusual coldness. He observed the change, I half repented having harbored the suspicion of my venerable looking friend, who was fearfully averse to all mysteries.

Occasion called me to my room one evening open the door.

"Would you not prefer taking a walk?" he inquired. "The night is benutiful." "I believe not to night," I replied, "some other time." I was piqued that he should persist in remaining outside the door.

"I should be much pleased to have you," he in justice to myself, and..."

sharper, and I hoped that he might be able to the visit. prove to me that he was neither. ton street toward Happy Valley. For ten min- said the officer. utes not a word was spoken. Several times he seemed on the point of speaking, but he as oft- sir?" returned the lady.

en checked himself.

"You do not speak," he replied, observing "To be frank with you, Jansen," I replied, creaking foot board. For a week I stood up there is a certain mystery about your moveagainst the clatter. At length, I knocked at his ments calculated to give rise to suspicions any-

"Of what nature?" asked my companion.

"Make it appear so," I answered, "and you shall not want a friend." " Promise me that you will not divulge what

may tell you, or attempt by word or action, to thwart me in the accomplishment of a purpose to which I have pledged my soul," he said, looking me earnestly in the face, "and you shall "" If your purpose is not criminal, I promise:

if otherwise, keep your secrets," was my answer. "Tie what you would do, or any other man worthy of the name." "Then I promise; here is my hand."

walking slowly on. "I have a twin sister.-We were born in Georgia, and our parents were could scarcely do less. Sitting on the side of the the possessors of a hundred slaves, and a plan- The news excited Smith, and he went to bed bed, with his round visage peering through a tation large enough to give all employment.—
gauze of smoke, and his fat legs swinging good When we were fourteen our father died. At When we were fourteen our father died. At naturedly, Smith was a picture. Together we the age of sixteen, my sister became a convert would have afforded an amusing sketch for during a religious revival, and six months after, Punch. He talked incessantly, and before Heft in the face of the determined opposition of my mother, ran away and married a young preachly resolved that he might snore, night and day, er, to whose eloquence the revival owed its orifor a year to come, and I would not disturb him, gin. My sister did not love the man. Her bade him an affectionate good night. Smith's fancy wrought upon her by an unnatural infatuation. Learning they were married, my good mother sent for them, and they returned to receive her blessing. The plantation was placed "To be brief, before two years elapsed, the

wife was sent to the mad house, and in three Law, and death to all opposition! I felt that, as a conservator of the peace and months my poor old mother was laid in the champion of society it was my duty to interfere, churchyard. My grief bowed sister—but I will Smith's brandy told me so, and furnished the not speak of her. Turning the wreck of our death thus:- " By the stillness of the sharpened Smith s brandy told me so, and jurnished the nerve, in addition, to carry out the resolution. Stalking quietly in upon the crowd. I laid my hand upon the boy's shoulder and requested him to follow me. He turned to comply, when the first many complete the next moment I received a blow on the back.

In speak of ner. Turning the wreck of our property into money, I started in pursuit of the features, by the blackness of the tearless eye, secondrel who had dealt such a havor with our peace. Through a dozen States I tracked him, and returned with my mission of vengeance unaccomplished. One year ago by accident, I leave its mortal tenement, and is already closting its windows and putting out its fires.

The next moment I received a blow on the back.

action, and I threw myself into a position of de- not escape me now! He is even in this city; a man in the market place. They said, "He fence. Not doubting my perfect ability to scat- but he little dreams that the pistol is shotted to is a brute-let him alone." I took him home ter the crowd over an acre of ground, I invited send him to the great reckoning. I have made the unequal contest. The appearance of a policeman spared the impending slaughter, for the plicate others in a work of blood which must be frightened Mary out of her wits, one night chasparty suddenly left the field. My companion mine alone. Last night I followed him from the ling her all about the house with a boot in his informed the officer of what had occurred, and | El Dorado, where he spends most of his time, to | hand. But she recovered her wits, and he rehe started in pursuit of the retiring rowdies, a house on Powell street. He has visited it covered his. He said to me, "You wouldn't enjoining us to fight the way to our lodgings.—
Taking the arm of the lad we proceeded towards my room. He was a pale faced, interesting ding there. But he will not marry her for anolittle heart—my little Mary is as pretty a little looking young man of perhaps eighteen or nine- ther week shall not find him alive! You now thing as ever stepped!" said the "brute." I teen years of age, remarkably well bred and in- know all. Have I one friend in California ?" asked, "Where do they live?" "They live telligent. He was dressed in good taste with- To see so much spirit, so much determinative miles away from here." "When did you out affecting any of the airs of maturer years, tion, so much manhood exhibited by a beardless see them last?" "About two years ago." Then and I was quite taken with him. He told me at boy, surprised me beyond expression. I offered he told me his sad story. I said, "You must means; that he lived in Stockton street, and our lodgings. Bidding Jansen good night, I I will not go back any more; I have knocked visiting a friend that evening, had been detained stepped into Smith's for a moment. I found the to that unusual hour. In a few moments we old gentleman somewhat agitated. He had lost arrived at my lodgings, and observing that he a valuable diamond pin that day, and freely inevinced little inclination to part with me. I in- | timated that the " sleek young cuss," as he devited him to accept a portion of my bed for the boundated Jansen, had stolen it. I so strengnight. He smilingly declined, stating that he ously endeavored to dissipate the impression, was quite near his own; and then I learned for that I verily believe he felt inclined to transfer

Three days after, I met Jansen in the street, Janson and myself often met after that, but and learned that he had taken rooms on Powell it was always in the streets or on the stairway. street. I did not inquire the reason-I thought He never invited me to his room, or accepted an I knew it. The next day I again met him. invitation to mine. He visited me once or twice | His face was unusually pale, yet he said he had

"There is to be a wedding in Powell street to-morrow, at least so Mayhew says, but there Smith one day. Strange to say, that gentleman | will be no bridegroom! Do you understand?"

At eight o'clock the next evening, as Isaac Mayhew was mounting the steps of the house to which Jansen had traced him six days days be- gan to fumble about it. The knot was large fore, a pisto! ball pierced his heart, and hedropand his look wore a reproach so sorrowful, that | ped dead upon the pavement Some unaccountable influence had drawn me to the neighborhood, and hearing the report of a pistol, Jan- and she couldn't get it off; their eyes met, and sen's words flashed through my mind, and I the lovelight was not all quenched; she opened started with a dozen others, in the direction of her arms gently and he fell into them. If you at an earlier hour than usual. I heard a soft the tragedy. Before I arrived on the spot quite had seen those white arms clasped about his rap at my door, and opening it, found Janson a crowd had collected. The body of Mayhew neck, and he sobbing on her breast, and the vas lying on the sidewark, and over it in speech- | child looking in wonder first at one and then at "Come in Janson, I exclaimed, throwing less agony, stood the widow who was to have the other, you would have said, "It is not a been a bride.

"Who saw this?" inquired a policeman. "I heard the report of a pistol," said one of the crowd, "and, a minute after, saw a man enter that house yonder," and he pointed to a small frame building on the opposite side of the

In an instant, the officer, followed by the exrejoined. "I have a few words to say to you cited spectators, started for the house. Spring-"Enough," I interrupted: "I will go." I the policeman, and as he knocked at the door, felt assured he desired to tell me something of I was at his elbow. I felt that Jansen was himself, and I was all anxiety to hear it. It there. The door was quickly opened, and a ney, who were evidently trying to find out who was unpleasant to think him a pickpocket or a well dressed lady calmly inquired the object of

"We were looking for a man who a few min-We left the house and proceeded along Stock- utes since committed a murder across the street." And do you expect to find him in my room,

"No, Madam," replied the policeman, rather "Unless I may call you one, I have not a politely for one of his calling; "buf I will friend in California," at length he began; pla-cing his hand upon my shoulder. I bowed, but matter of form before proceeding to the other Uncle Nate, my mother's brother, who got up a

The officer entered, I closely followed. While She detected the movement, and quick as "That you are a gamaler, or even worse," I that she had slain the destroyer of her peace, it into a bar'l; clean dun. but Martha Janson, my former fellow lodger .-He smiled as he replied:

He smiled as he replied:

Yes, yes, I see; yet the suspicion wrongs

Heavens what a discovery! And for me to have been so confoundedly blind too but no matter. the pork-packing business up thair, and didn't The policeman searched the house but did not know but he might want tu git wun.

The next day I met Martha on Montgomery street. She smiled and bowed, and I confess I thought her an exceedingly pretty woman., A week after she quietly left; the State for twin brother, Richard.

When I informed Smith, as I did one evening, that the "sleek young cuss" whom he had view- Mr. Filkins?" as the cooking. "Listen," he resumed, taking my arm and ed with so much suspicion was a woman, he waited for me to repeat the assertion, and then checked himself in the act of calling me a liar. that night and snored as he had never snored

before. She who was to have been the third wife of Mayhew still lives in San Francisco. She was married in August last. I met her in the street | In a neighborhood on the creek lived and labora few days ago. How vividly the sight of her ed a son of Vulcan, who, with his limited means, face brought to mind the incidents I have relafor a year to come, and I would not disturb him. gin. My sister did not love the man. Her ted. She will read this little story, perhaps, land and to obtain a scanty living for his rising and learn for the first time, why she did not become the wife of Mayhew the bigamist.

WHO WOULDN'T BE A SON OF TEMPERANCE. Quaker young ladies in the Maine Law States. in charge of my sister's husband, and he relin- it is said, still continue to kiss the lips of the quished the gospel. He frequently visited New Orleans, and other of the large Southern cities, during the first year of his marriage, but the ful young girl approaching the young temper-circumstance excited no suspicion. officer, and the innocence of a dove, with the large estate owned by my father was swept from | charge :- " Mr. ---, the ladies believe you house they had either just left or were about to us, and we were almost bankrupt. He had in are in the habit of tampering with liquor, and duced my mother to mortgage the plantation, have appointed me to examine you according to with the view, he said of purchasing more ne- our established rules, are you willing?" You groes to work it, but the money was squandered nod acquiescence. She gently steps close to and the slaves he secretly sold, by fives and you, lays her soft white arm around your neck, tens, till less than a dozen remained. When dashes back her raven curls, raises her sylphbeen stopped by the rowdies, and invited to asked to explain by my mother, he had no ex- like form upon her tip-toes, her bosom against cuse to offer. In the midst of this great grief, your own, and, with her angelic features lit up another wife of Mayhew-that was the villain's with a smile as sweet as heaven, places her rich, ust come to the scratch—either drink or fight." name—suddenly made her appearance at the rosy, pouty, sweet, sugar, molasses, honey, but"But, gentlemen, I cannot," insisted the plantation. Learning the residence of her husstranger, struggling to free himself from the band, but not knowing of his second marriage, honeysuckie, tort, cream, baby-jumper, apple his luck, and on Sunday evening attired in his can do so by acting as an Agent for this establishment.

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Oliver Wendell Holmes vividly describes

WAS HE A MAN. OR A BRUTE?

her, and kicked her, and abused her; do you suppose I will go back again ?". I went to the house with him I knocked at the door, and his wife opened it. "Is this Mrs. Richardson?" Yes, sir." "Well, that is Mr. Richardson.-[Laughter.] And Mr. Richardson, that is Mrs. Richardson. Now come in the house. We went in the wife sat on one side of the room, and the "brute on the other. I waited to see who would speak first: and it was the woman. [Applause.] But before she spoke she fidgeted a good deal. She pulled up her apron till she got hold of the hem, and then she pulled it all down again. Then she folded it all up closely, and jerked it through her fingers an inch at a time, and then she spread it all down again, and then she looked all about the room and said, "Well, William?" And the "brute" said, "Well, Mary?" [Laughter.] He had a large handkerchief round his neck, and she said, 'You had better take the handkerchief of William ; you'll need it when you go out." He beenough; he could have untied it if he liked; but he said, "Will you untie it Mary ?" and she worked away at it; but her fingers were clumsy, brute: it is a man with a big warm heart in his

A YANKEE STORY.

Once while steaming down the Ohio, I heard one that was genuine. I had been sitting in an arm-chair under the lee of one of the chimneys, and on the hurricane deck, reading a late novel. ing through the crowd. I reached the side of in which I was so much shorbed that I did not notice what was passing around me, until thy could tell the most unbelievable yarn. The cockney led the way; and turning the

subject upon hog killing, told of a gang of six hands in Merrie England, who would kill six hogs a minute, and clean them. "Wal, squire," responded the Yankee, "I believe I know o' sumthin' a leetle shead o' that. notwithstandin' that's a purty big un."

"'Ow's that?" leetle the cussedest masheen to cleen hogs with interrupted combination of snorts, groans and my silence. "I am to understand. I presume he was examining the room, I for the first time all Natur', but it worked mi'ty slick. Tou see, that you ever did see. It wan't like nuthin' in obtained a fair view of the lady's face. Invol- Uncle Nate spent his hull life at it, and got it untarily, I threw up my hands in amazement. just e'en a'most perfect. He'd drive a hog in, and wun knife would stick it; and then hot thought, placed her finger to her lips. In a water'd squirt on to it; then another knife'd moment I comprehended all. Richard Janson scrape off all the brussels, and take out inards; stood before me. No-Richard no longer, now and a consarned thing would cut it up, and drop

"Wal, Sur, Uncle Nate got the thing in run-nin' order, and then fetched the feller out to look at it. I happened in just then, so Uncle Nate got me to drive in the pig, while he let on steam. He hadn't more'n touched the lever. Georgia, where she is now residing. After the till the thing started, and you ought to bin thair. sailing of the steamer I received a note through You know a pig allers squeels when be is stuck. Wal, Sur, I heard that pig squeel, and I heard and thanked me for the assistance I had render- 'im fall into the bar'l after he was cut up; but ed her, and the kindness shown to her imaginary I swan to man, I never could tell which happened first."

"Will you 'ave something to drink with me. "Don't care if I do kornil," replied Mr. Filkins. And as they went down after their drink, again turned to my novel.

THE JOKE OF THE OIL REGIONS.

The following story is current in Titusville. taught to shoot but little in any direction towards knowledge or refinement, and he little expected to be more than the village blacksmith. But when the oil fever broke out, learning of the success of his neighbors in finding oil, he thought that he might while away his spare hours in drilling a hole upon his homestead lot: and, having tools convenient, he went to work. and, after a few weeks of patient industry, was successful in obtaining a good show of oil.

It was soon noised about the village, and the olacksmith was somebody at once. He had a daughter, also, who had blossomed into maidenhood almost unnoticed and unknown, but who now became more an object of interest to the few young men in that small community. It at once became a question how to break the ice of former indifference, and to secure a favorable acquaintance with the heiress of the oil well. For a while the natural timidity of the boys kept them aloof; but, at last one of the boldest and best favored among them determined to try independence that would have done honor to a Broadway belle, replied in language more severe than chaste: "Nonsence! you can't come that! Dad has struck ile!"—Buffalo Courier.