

THE BROKEN VOW.

But in the world there is no will,
Nor sorrow nor a smile intends;
For wisdom's voice is faithful still;
Still to be grieved is to be good.
"He had a son, a boy of twelve, and
Barnum took him off to New York, and
brought him on the stage, and he was a
success; and, having a considerate
mother on the still, and dependent
streets, and saw the darks from doing
gathering in the sky; "the will to do
comes to us; if it is painful, we
must be so; be so careful about
the weather;—but I have no time
in disquietude; he has promised."

"The word died upon her lips; she
recalled the coldness—the tone of
ambiguity with which that brusque
and stern repeated, when Theodore
had left her, "I am a man, and
embarrassed more, though with much parade of disappointment,
assured her that it would be impossible
for him to conform to his present
and marry her at the time; but
she said, "She had a
heart within her at the moment
and the strange, mysterious presentiment
that crossed her mind. That
then, for the first time, she thought
how bitter it would be for the first time,
she felt the force of the remark, which she
had often heard:

"Men's vows are brittle things."

Still, the natural buoyancy of her
spirits forbade her to despond. True,
she had not had the final trial before
her; but she had his promise; she
had his oath; she would not believe him unfaithful. She could not but
believe him perfidious. At last after
an absence of a week, when she
met him again, he at once mingled with the
smiling family circle; he seemed the same he had always been, and
she was happy. But he retired before
night; and, with his usual manner,
and she wondered why, at
this particular time, he should have
so much more business than usual.
Still, she hastened to put the most
important consideration upon every-
thing she strove to recruit him in
her own heart.

But love has eagle eyes, and from
their vigilance, duplicity must be
coupled with consummate art, if she
was to avoid detection. Emma was
as constant by his side, as she was
affectionate, and "Booth" was also
a favorite; in parties they frequently
came together, and there, when the
spirits are up, and all reserve thrown
to the winds, forgo his caution, and not only abdicated his usual
of perfidy for Emma, but invades
his fondness for her. The generous
girl forgave him, and forgives him
now; she resolved to lead in and presenting her
re-solve she found ample evidence of
what she most feared. Her visits
grew less and less frequent, until at
length they were discontinued alto-
gether.

Woman like in the degust of her
sorrows! she retired, as it were, with
herself, and, secure in the confidence
that "not even" her dearest
friend or relatives knew anything of
her indiscretions, she wrote to the
spiritual and, not on a smile
as sweet as not as gay before the
world. But heroically as she played
this new and deepest part, her feelings
gradually obtained the victory
and, pained away day by day; the
pains of departed health blushed
her cheek, and she roved in the still-
ness of the evening among the tombs
of her fathers in the churchyard, like
one who grieves for the dead. No one
knew her grief but he who knew the
cause, and he shuddered at the rite
he had made.

Her friends perceived with con-
cern the rapid decay of her health,
and as her family had sent word to
her there, she was recalled to her
home. The voyage had a salutary effect; the change of scene, and
the kindness she experienced in her
abode, dispelled much of that cheer-
less gloom that pressed upon her
heart, and, reviving her spirits, gave
her a new and buoyant frame. The glow of health gradually
returned, and she shone in the maturity
of her beauty, a star of no
common lustre in the fashionable
world. And, as she grew in size,
she had not clung before the heart
of the wealthiest merchant on the Island
was offered her. He was all the
maiden heart desires—generous, nob-
ble, and virtuous, and years suited
to her, and she accepted and became
happily wife.

Having left Philadelphia with the
intention of returning, she now wait-
ed anxiously for the opportunity, but a
variety of circumstances prevented
it for several years. A beautiful fam-
ily of sons and girls grew up around
her, and, in an extensive and lucrative
business, and twelve years passed by
before she was able to accomplish her
wishes, of which time she had
never made any return to New York.
Mr. Leverett, retired from business,
and proposed accompanying her to
America. They arrived in Philadel-
phia, and walked up Wall-
street to the hotel where she
remained unmarried. Her father and
mother, the old servants, her former
friends who remained, all welcomed
her to her ancient home. The
shouts she uttered in the hall, the
ringing of the door-bell, the clapping
of hands, and a child crying by his side. She directed the coachman
to stop, and calling the man, inquired
why he had received the child
and, when it was, she was received and
welcomed.

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