

E.J.Goolm

him round the castle and driving him

fair crazy. It went some against the

grain with me to worry the ghost of a

gentleman-born in this way: but I

thought of my dear old colonel, and I

never let him be. Heaven forgive me

for the hard words I gave to that poor

ghost: the bad names I called him, in-

sulting him worse and worse every night. Och! I led him a life.

says he, with pitiful tone which pretty

nigh went to my heart:

that ghosts often do that."

persecution?"

ghost.

have you to offer?"

very sad and sorr

long as I live."

fort in that."

At last one night he turned on me and

Will nothing make you cease this

"Well," says L "that depends What

"Why, now," says I, "look here,

good thing? Don't you know of a hid-

den treasure somewhere? I have heard

"I know of none," says he, looking

"Well," says L& I thought you could

do nothing, and was only trying of you.

I don't want any treasures. I only

want you to get out of this place, and so, if need he, I mean to haunt you a

"Ah," says the ghost, "there is com

Couldn't you put me up to a

What can I offer?" says he. -

IL

Och! murder! you should have seen the folks when I walked through the village of Ballykillin the next morning. If I'd have been a ghost myself, they couldn't have looked more seared, and it was some time before they would come near me or touch me. But Biddy came running out, and threw her arms around me in the street before all the people.

"Och! Tim darlin, "she says, 'and have you come back and left none of your wits behind you? Och. praise he to the saints for this mercy! But don's go near the bad place again; don't, Tim darlin'."

Then she went on to ask if I had seen the ghost, and so did all the neighbors and the colonel himself. But niver a word would I tell them of what I had seen. I kept my mouth shut till the next night, and after that, too, and just an hour before midnight, started off for the castle again.

I made myself snug once more in that room with the sound window, and waited for the ghost. It struck mid-night at last, and I listened for the groanings and the creakings, but niver a sound could I hear.

"Well, I says to myself, "the ghost's getting into had habits. I shall have to tell him to keep better time."

One o'clock came, and still there wasn't the ghost of a ghost.

"What's up now, I wonder?" says L "Sure he hasn't cleared out of this already. Perhaps he's gone to get some other ghost to come and help turn ma out, and can't find one at liberty. Well, I'll give him to sunrise, anyhow.

But the sun rose, and never a token of the ghost could I see or hear. So I just rolled myself up again on the window-seat and went to sleep.

It was the same again the third night, and, faith I began to get un-6357.

"What's to become of him, I won-der?" thinks I. Then, when I had considered a bit over the matter. I says to myself, "Sure, he's hiding away somewhere. I must go and see what he's after, at all."

So I takes up my candle, and walks along the passage, and across the great hall till I got to the east wing of the castle. There I stood and listened a bit. Sure enough, I heard a groan, but a long way off.

So I shouted: "Hallo! ghost: where are you, at all?"

It was at the end of the long gallery in the cast wing that I found my gentleman at last. There he was, looking out through the window, as though he was admiring the pretty country under the moonlight. But he didn't seem enjoying himself, poor creature, and kept on groaning worse than ever.

"What a chap you are for greaning." says I. "as though that could do any good. If you're sorry for what you used to do when you were alive, why can't you think it over and keep quiet?' As soon as the ghost heard me, he turned about and, if you'll believe me,

be looked fairly startled. ready for him. Why do you trouble me, man?' he

I am under the turf, will just get another boy like himself-there's lashings of them about-to learn the business, and take his place after him, so it will go on if you stay here forever. Arrah! now, ghost, how do you like that lookout anyway?"

Och! the poor ghost was a sight to be seen just then. He stamped, and he swore, and he fumed, and he secwled at Thady; but it was all of no use, for Thady, seeing he couldn't do any harm, laughed in his pasty face, and was mad to worry him.

Well, we led him a pretty dance that night and the night after, and Thady just enjoyed the fun, he did.

We hadn't been at it for more than a week or so, when one night we couldn't find the ghost anywhere. We tramped through all the galleries, upstairs and downstairs; but it was all quiet, and never a creaking, or a groaning, or a token of the ghost did w

"What's become of him, anyhow?" says Thady, "Whist" says I, "look yonder,

Thady."

And, och! it was a preity sight we saw. Far down in the long welk, between the trees, what should we see but the old ghost, with his sword tucked under his arm, and his bundle on his shoulder, walking off as fast as he could tread, with his old wig trailing down his back behind and his spurs

gleaming in the moonlight. "By the powers, Thady!" says I, "we have made him clear out at last." And we both shouts out of the window

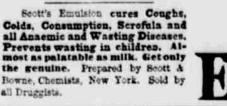
together as loud as we could: "A good-night to you, ghost, and a

safe and pleasant journey!" Well, if you believe me, Thady and I watched night after night up at the old castle, to see if the ghost was to change his mind and come back; but never a token of him did we discover.



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"A GOOD-NIGHT TO YOU, GROST !"

Is there, indeed?" says I. "How de you make that out?"

"You will continue to haunt me a long as you live?" says he. "He it so But do you forget? What is your mit evable speck of life to mine? Have not lived in the spirit for nigh 20 years, and shall I not thus exist to al eternity? The little that is left of you base life is but a drop in the ocean c my own. For that short space I mus be patient.

I could scarcely keep myself from laughing in his face, for I knew that was what he'd be coming to, and I wa

"Och!" savs I at it, is it? Sure, thin, ye make a big mistake entirely. "What mean you?" says the ghost

we let the secret out to the neighbors, and the colonel, and all the country round. At first they wouldn't believe it, but sure, they couldn't hold out long; for the colonel himself went up to the castle at night with us, and saw the ghost wasn't there at all, which showed it was true as a miracle.

And then what doings they had! Sin Peter, he brought down builders and carpenters and gardeners from Dublin. and had the old castle made as good as new, and all the ugly weeds pulled up out of the pretty walks and gardens. Then they furnished the place like any palace, and the family came down a

58.YS. 'Begone and leave me in peace "Och!" thinks I, "is that your tune? It's a very different sort of note from what you sang the other night." So I GO.VS:

Sure, I am waiting for some of those terrible things you threatened to do to me. When are you going to begin?"

"Base slave"' says the ghost, elapping his hand on the ghost of a sword.

"Wirrasthrew!" says I, "it's no use your doing that, anyway. Your sword can't do more harm than this pipe of mine; not so much: and you know it."

You should have seen the look of the ghost's face as I said these words. He meemed just bursting with passion; his eyes opened wide, but they couldn't fish, as all the fire had gone out of them long ago. Sure, no one ever saw a ghost in such a rage before.

Then he threw a look of contempt on me, and turned on his heel and made He didn't run exactly, for that would not be genteel in a ghost, but he lipped away pretty quick, and I had a bit of trouble to keep up with him, with my game leg. But I followed him pretty close through one gallery after another, and at last he stopped short.

"Soldier," says he, more quiet and civil than ever he had been before, "I beg that you will leave me in peace. doom is terrible, condemned as I am to walk the earth by night in expiation of my crimes. Why add to my

"Why?' says L "Sure, don't I wan't to get you out of this place, where, as I said before, you've got no busi-ness to be, and which belongs to my old colonel? If you must haunt something, go and haunt some ruins that nobody lives in, and not a decent castle like this, that only wants a bit of plumbing and carpentering to be made all snug and comfortable for living folles."

'I cannot leave it," says the ghost; "it is my home. It would increase my punishment tenfold were I doomed to haunt a strange abode." "Faith"' says I, "I don't care a straw

for that. But if you won't come out of this, sure Pli turn the tables on you. and haunt you every night, whether you like it or not."

Och! the groan the ghost gave when yet. Then the creature was off again. and I followed him up till the sunrise. when he melted away like butter in the

well, I had rare sport with him Night after night I hunted him up and left him no peace at all. Sometimes I tailed to him, and sometimes I didn't;

and I could see that he was bothered all over. "Sure, I'll show you what I mean to morrow night," says I: "if I live, please

God." Well, he couldn't get a word more out of me, for I had got a scheme up my sleeve which I meant to keep to my-

self for the present. Now, Biddy O'Rourke, my pretty sweetheart, bless her' had a bit of a younger brother, 14 years old or there-

abouts, who was always getting into scrapes and mischief, breaking win-dows and chasing the pigs, and fight-ing the other boys as bold as a soldier.

So when I goes down to the village again, I gets Thady into a cornet all quiet, and nobody by, and says Is "Whist! Thady, my boy; would you like to see the ghost?"

Thady, he turned pale a bit at first, and then those wicked young eyes of his lighted up, full of mischief, and he grinned.

"Sure, Tim." says ha. "that would L Is there a ghost, then, anyway?"

Then I up and told him all about the "bad baronet" and what a poor creature he was, with never a haporth of harm in him; and how I'd been chivying him all around the castle night after night, till I'd half worried the life out of him. And Thady laughed, and was just mad to go with me and see the ghost. By St. Patrick! that boy had no more fear in him than there is in an old wooden gate-post, and he never shook a limb when we got into the cas-

"Who is this urchin?" says Sir Roderick, fuming and glaring in the old way.

"Och!" says I, "shame on my bad manners for not introducing him. This is Thady O'Rourke, my brother-in-law that is to be, and he has come here to help me with this job."

"I do not understand you," says the ghost, looking more bothered than

"Maybe you don't," says I; "but I'll soon make you. I have brought I staid this! It was the best I had heard | this boy with me to help me to haunt you, and he's just coming here with me night after night, to learn the business. so as he can take it up when I've done with it."

Never a word did the ghost say: but he started back a step or two and gave a groan

"And," says I, "that won't be the end but I was always at his heels, chasing of it; for Thady when he grows up, and

lived in it, and gave a ball to all the quality for miles around.

And the colonel was as good as his word, and better; for when Biddy and me was married he gave us the £50 he promised, and situations at the castle with nothing to do but to keep the old gaost out

As for Thady, he had a job, too, or the demesne; and proud he was of the work he'd done, helping to make the eviction.

And I gathered a lot of other lade about me one day, and I says to them. says I:

"Look here, boys, don't you take heed of ghosts, or any such like. The world's just full of 'em, and there's not a ha'porth of harm in 'em if you pluck up and face 'em, and show 'em you ain's afraid. Half the troubles and botherstions o' life is nothing but ghosts, and if you let 'em haunt you they'll do it; but if you turn round and laugh at 'em. it won't be long before they take them-selves off like the morning mists before the blessed sun."

The Kaffirs are great swimmers. They can do things in the water which other boys would look upon with astonishment. For example, a Kaffir boy can ford a stream, shoulder high, running as swiftly as if shot from a torrent. The way they accomplish the feat is this: Just before entering the water they got a huge stoma cometimes as heavy as themselves, and with the help of a companion place it upon the A weight like this gives the head. boy balance, and he can keep his footing against the heaviest stream. If he were to drop the stone he would be so light the water would sweep him off his feet. And this is just one of the Kaffir tricks to accomplish things against tide and flood.

Why Brick Carriers Founder.

Cargoes of brick have to be stowed in the most careful manner, says the Philadelphia Record, or else the vessels carrying them will founder in the mildest weather, owing to the strong tendency of the brick to absorb the water caused by the leakage which necessarily occurs on all wooden vessels. The brick will absorb the water as fast as it runs in from an ordinary leak, and the increased weight of the brick enuses the vessel to settle until she makes the final plunge, and the crew are frequently at a loss to know the cause. To new shoals, defective work in the vessel's construction and other causes are attributed the disas-

