

Together.

Yes, neighbor, the old folks is gone. Strange, wa'n't it, goin' the same way?

As well, perhaps. 'Twould be forloran if one of 'em had had to stay. Jake was a stern, onbendin' man.

Known' em for years, yet never knew the day when Prue's sharp, worn old face

—Youth's Companion.

Venus Over the Monk's Tower

BY EMMA GARRISON JONES.

It was just sunset, and Sir Guy Thurston came whistling across the grounds with a brace of pheasants in his hand.

The shooting was fine down in the south copple, and half a dozen London friends were at the Larches to enjoy it.

The sun went down as he reached the park, and a sudden wind came up from the sea, bringing down the yellow leaves in showers.

"Come, when Venus shines over the Monk's Tower," Sir Guy read it thrice over.

"What the deuce does it mean?" he muttered, glancing through the larches at the Monk's Tower, rising black and grim against the glowing sky.

"There's some devilry on foot, I'll warrant. Some of the kitchen girls, or perhaps my lady's maid, Fanchette, I've caught her making eyes at Trelawny.

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and turning to the window he caught sight of her in the grounds below, and in the act of extracting a slip of paper from a crevice in the stone arch above the gateway.

All his passionate blood went throbbing to his heart. He loved this woman as he loved his own soul, and she was false to him.

"I'll have her life for it!" he hissed through his clinched teeth, his face growing black with rage.

He determined, however, to bide his time. The stormy day seemed endless. Dinner, with its necessary formalities, was a living torture; but they got through it, and night came, wild with wind and rain.

"I'm going to Corbet Hall. Don't sit up for me, Hildegard; I may not return to-night."

His lips grew white and quivered as he spoke, and his eyes shone with a dull, lurid fire. She drew near him and put her arm about his shoulder.

"Must you go, Guy? The night bids fair to be stormy, and you don't seem to be well. Can't you defer the ride?"

"No." His voice was thick and hoarse. The touch of her arm, the soft light of her eyes, fairly maddened him.

"You are not well," she went on; "or something has gone wrong with you. What is it, love?"

She bent forward and touched her sweet mouth to his forehead. He could have cried out in his agony.

He threw her from him and hurried out of the room.

Lady Hildegard clasped her white hands. "Oh, surely he does not suspect the truth!" she sobbed out.

Midnight came. The larches bent to the fury of the blast; the sky was thickly clouded. Venus, shining above the Monk's Tower, could not be seen.

But just as the tower bell struck, Lady Hildegard, wrapped in a long mantle, stole down the broad stairway, and made her way out into the gloom.

Like a phantom she few across the windy lawn and up the craggy eminence upon which the Monk's Tower stood.

rounds "at ironclads at close quarters," using 100 lbs. of hexagonal of cubical powder and a solid shot weighing 450 pounds.

Now, compare these results with the most powerful gun in our navy today, namely, the 12-inch 45-caliber rifle, which weighs 53.4 tons, has a total length of 45 feet, and with a charge of 360 pounds of smokeless powder fires an 850 pound shell with a muzzle velocity of 2,800 foot-seconds.

If we take account of the durability of a gun, the advantage will be strongly on the side of the modern piece, for whereas the 15-inch smooth bore was limited to twenty rounds under the given conditions, the modern 12-inch rifles, judging from the small amount of erosion developed with nitro-cellulose powders, should have a useful life of at least half a thousand rounds.

The gun of 1862 that answers to the modern secondary battery 6-inch rifle is the Parrott muzzle loading rifle, a cast iron gun which was strengthened at the breech over the powder chamber by shrinking thereon an iron hoop.

Compare this with the modern 6-inch rifle which weighs 8.5 tons, is 25 feet in length, and with a charge of 40 pounds of smokeless powder fires a 100-pound shell with an initial velocity of 2,900 feet per second and an initial energy of 5,838 foot tons.

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