

# American Volunteer.

BY JOHN B. BRATTON.

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## THE AMERICAN VOLUNTEER.

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Office:—The office of the American Volunteer is in the second story of James H. Graham's new stone building, in South Hanover street, a few doors east of the Court House, where those having business are invited to call.

## Poetical.

We publish below a beautiful piece of poetry written by Geo. D. Pennington.

From Graham's Magazine for May.  
LINES WRITTEN IN A BEAUTIFUL MOON-LIGHT.

Beneath moon, I love thee, yet I grieve  
To gaze on thee, whose light is so serene,  
It tells me of that last dear one  
I passed with her, my soul's delight.  
Hill, vale, and wood and stream are dyed  
In the pale glory of thy beams,  
As though we had been here,  
Once more to tell her burning dreams.  
My fond arms round her living ones,  
My hand within her hair and breast,  
And love upon each earnest tone,  
And rapture in each breathing word.  
And many a high and fervent vow  
Which she has heard, and which I made,  
While the calm light was on her brow,  
Like pure religion's vest and shade.  
We knew, alas! that we must part,  
We knew we must be severed long,  
For love was deep, and faith was strong,  
And thou wert here, and I was gone.  
A thousand memories of the past  
Were busy in each glowing breast,  
And hope upon the future cast,  
For I was here, and thou wast here.  
I craved a boon—oh! in that hour  
When she was here, and I was here,  
Ah, didst thou ever gaze, sweet moon,  
Upon a more impassioned pair?  
The parting scene—oh! moment brief  
Her hand in mine, and mine in hers,  
And I was here, and thou wast here,  
And I was here, and thou wast here.  
To me, sweet moon, for thou dost tell,  
Of passion still unchanged in her,  
Do thou give me her heart, sweet moon,  
Among her many worshippers.  
Say, does she sometimes wander now  
As she has done, and I have done,  
To raise to heaven her angel voice,  
And breathe her loved one's name?  
Oh, when her gentle face is seen,  
I pray thee, mark each falling tear,  
And tell me, when she looks at me,  
Is it as I once looked at thee?  
Ay, tell me, does her bosom thrill  
As widely as of yore it did,  
Does her young heart still love me still,  
Or is that young heart cold like this?  
I'll tell thee, when I see her face,  
I'll tell thee, when I see her face,  
I'll tell thee, when I see her face,  
I'll tell thee, when I see her face.

## Miscellaneous.

From Dickens' Household words.  
A THRILLING STORY.  
FATHER AND SON.

One evening in the month of March, 1798—that dark time in Ireland's annals, whose memory (looking at minor subsequent events) is still preserved among us, as the year of the rebellion—a lady and gentleman were seated near a blazing fire in the old-fashioned dining room of a large lonely mansion. They had just dined, and the fruit was on the table, but untouched, while Mr. Hewson and his wife sat silently gazing at the fire, watching its flickering light becoming gradually more vivid as the short spring twilight faded into darkness.  
At length the husband poured out a glass of wine, drank it off, and then broke silence by saying—  
"Well, well, Charlotte, these are awful times; there were ten men taken up today for burning Conner's house at Knockane, and Tom Dwyer says that every magistrate in the country is a marked man."  
Mrs. Hewson cast a frightened glance towards the windows, which opened nearly to the ground, and gave a view of a wide tree-haunted lawn, through whose center a long straight avenue led to the high road. There was also a footpath at either side of the house, branching off through close thickets of trees, and reaching the road by a circuitous way.  
"Listen, James!" she said, after a pause; "what noise is that?"  
"Nothing but the sighing of the wind among the trees. Come, wife, you must not give way to lugubrious fears."  
"But really I heard something like footsteps on the gravel, round the gable end—I wish—"  
"A knock at the Parlor door interrupted her.  
"Come in."  
"The door opened, and Tim Gahan, Mr. Hewson's confidential steward and right-hand man, entered, followed by a fair-haired delicate looking boy of six years old, dressed in a blue frock and white breeches.  
"Well, Gahan, what do you want?"  
"I ask your Honor's pardon for disturbing you and the mistress, but I thought it right to come and tell you the bad news I heard."  
"Something about the rebels, I suppose?"  
"Yes, sir, I got a whisper just now that there's going to be a great rising in the morning; thousands are to gather before daybreak at Killeen bog, where I'm told they have a power of pikes hidden, and then they have to march and sack every house in the country. I'll engage, when I heard it, I didn't let grass grow under my feet, but came off straight to your Honor, thinking myself you'd like to walk over this fine evening. Warren's and Conner's will have their part to do."  
"Oh, James! I beseech you don't think of going."  
"Make your mind easy, Charlotte; I don't intend it, not that I suppose there would be much risk; but all things considered, I think I'm just as comfortable at home."  
"The steward's brow darkened, as he glanced nervously towards the end window, which jutted out in a gable, formed a deep angle in the outer wall.  
"Of course, it's just as your Honor pleases, but I'll be bound to say there would be no harm in going. Come, Billy," he added, addressing the child, who by this time was standing close to Mrs. Hewson, "make your bow, and bid good night to master and mistress."  
"Thank you, ma'am," said the steward hastily—"Don't go yet, Gahan; I want to speak to you by and by, and you know the mistress always likes to bid little Billy."  
Without replying the steward left the room; and the next moment his hasty footsteps resounded through the long flagged passage, that led to the office.  
"There's something strange about Gahan, since his wife died," remarked Mrs. Hewson. "I suppose 'tis grief for her that makes him look so darkly, and seem almost jealous when any one speaks to his child. Poor little Billy; your mother was a sorrel to you."  
"The child's eyes filled with tears, and pressing closer to the lady's side, he said:  
"Old Peggy would wash and dress me as nicely as a mammy used."  
"But your father is good to you?"  
"Oh, yes, ma'am, but he's out all day busy, and I've no one to talk to me as mammy used to for me." "Old Peggy would wash and dress me as nicely as a mammy used."  
"I wish I had you, Billy, to take care of and to teach, for your poor mother's sake."  
"And so you may, Charlotte," said her husband. "I'm sure Gahan, with all his odd ways, is too sensible a fellow not to know how much it would be for his child's benefit to be brought up and educated by us, and the boy would be an amusement to us in this lonely house. I'll speak to him about it before he goes. Billy, come here," he continued, "jump upon my knee, and tell me if you'd like to live here always and learn to read and write."  
"I would, sir, if I could be with father too."  
"So you shall;—and what about old Peggy?"  
"The child paused—  
"I'd like to give a pen'orth of snuff and a piece of tobacco every week, for he said the other day that that would make her quite happy, if he were here."  
Mr. Hewson laughed, and Billy prattled on, and seated on his knee, when a noise of footsteps on the ground mingled with low suppressed talking was heard outside.  
"James! listen! there's the noise again!"  
"It was now nearly dark, but Mr. Hewson, still holding the boy in his arms, walked towards the window and looked out.  
"I can see nothing," he said; "stay—there are figures of men at the trees; and a man running round to the back of the house—very like Gahan he is to!"  
"Seizing the bell rope, he rang it loudly, and said to the servants, "There's a sign of men about the house. Eaten the shutters and put up the bars, Conner, and then tell Gahan I want to see him."  
The man obeyed; candles were brought, and Gahan entered the room.  
"Mr. Hewson remarked that though his cheeks were flushed, his lips were white, and his bold dark eyes were cast on the ground.  
"What took you round the house just now, Tim?" asked the master, in a careless manner.  
"Upon that point, sir, I'm at a loss, for I don't know, nothing in life, sir; but just that as I went outside the kitchen door to take a smoke, I saw the figure that I have just told you of, and I was sent to inquire you, that they might shoot you. A faint heart I had for the bloody business, for you were ever and always a good shooter to me; but I was under an oath to that effect, and I was bound to do my duty. Gahan spoke with unusual volubility, but without raising his eyes from the ground.  
"Who were the people, asked his master, who were seen moving through the garden gate?"  
"The people, sir, were a sign of men, people moving there, I'll be bound, barring the pigs."  
"Then," said Mr. Hewson, smiling to his wife, "the mischief of Conner must have been reversed, and the men for undoing the shutters, the dark figures I saw, were thin beings."  
"Come, Billy," said Gahan, anxious to turn the conversation, "will you come home with me now? I am sure it was very good of the mistress to give you all them apples."  
Mrs. Hewson was going to propose Billy's remaining, but her husband whispered—  
"Well, till to-morrow." So Gahan and his child were allowed to depart.  
The next day the magistrates of the district were on the alert, and several suspicious looking men found lurking about were taken up. A hat which fitted one of them was picked up in Mr. Hewson's grove; the gravel under the tree where it was found was actually broken, and there were marks on the wall as if a gun had been fired against it. Gahan's information touching the intended meeting at Killeen bog proved to be totally without foundation. Not a single rifle or single pike or weapon of any description could be found there. All those circumstances combined certainly looked suspicious; but, after a prolonged investigation, as no signs were actually brought home to Gahan, his name was dismissed. One of his examiners, however, said to him, "I advise you to take care of that fellow, Hewson. If I were in your place I'd just trust him as far as I could throw him, and not an inch back."  
An indolent, hospitable Irish country gentleman, such as Mr. Hewson is never without a always around him, and often his prime minister, who saves the master the trouble of looking after his own affairs, and manages everything that is to be done in both the home and foreign departments,—from putting a new door on the pig sty, to letting a farm of an hundred acres on lease. Now in this, or rather these capacities, Gahan had long served Mr. Hewson, and some seven years previous to the evening on which our story commences, he had strengthened the tie, and increased his influence considerably by marrying Mrs. Hewson's favorite and faithful maid. The child was the result of this union, and Mrs. Hewson, who had no family of her own, took much interest in little Billy, more especially after the death of his mother, who, poor thing, the neighbors said, was actually broken by grief, and died in a few days after she had been married to Mr. Hewson. Gahan had long served her, and she had changed her lonely cottage for the ease and service of her former mistress.  
Thus, though for a time Mr. and Mrs. Hewson regarded Gahan with some doubt the feeling gradually wore away, and the steward regained his former influence.  
After the lapse of a few stormy months the rebellion was quelled; all the prisoners taken up were severally disposed of by hanging, transportation or acquittal, according to the nature and amount of the evidence brought against them; and the country became as peaceful as it is in the volcanic nature of our Irish soil ever to be.  
The Hewson's kindness towards Gahan's child was steady and unchanged. "They took him into their house, and gave him a plain but solid education; so that the little William, who yet a boy, was enabled to be of some use to his patron, and daily enjoyed more and more of his confidence.  
Another evening, the twentieth anniversary of that with which this narrative commenced, came round, and Mr. and Mrs. Hewson were still hale and active, dwelling in their hospitable home. Tim Gahan, now a stooping, grey-haired man, entered the house of the squire next day.  
The cook, directing a silent significant glance of compassion towards her fellow servants, said; "Nelly, do you like a drink of elder? Tim, or will you wait and take a cup of tea with myself and Kitty?"  
"Whose's elder?" he asked, after a pause, in a quick hurried tone, looking up suddenly at the cook with an expression in his eyes, which, as she afterwards said, "took away her breath."  
"Oh, never heed Billy!" I suppose his busy with the master."  
"Where's the one, Nelly," said the cookman, in a hiding of his face. "Say, sooner or later he must know it," Tim," he continued, "God

knows 'is sorrow to my heart this blessed night to make yours sore—but the truth is, that William has done what he ought to do to the man that was all one as a father to him."  
"What has he done? What will you dare say again my boy?"  
"Take money, then," replied the cookman, "that the master had marked and put by in his desk; for he suspected this some time past that gold was missing. This morning 'twas gone; a search was made, and the marked guineas were found with your son William."  
"The old man covered his face with his hands, and rocked himself to and fro.  
"Where is he now?" at length he asked, in a hoarse voice.  
"Locked up safe in the inner store-room; the master intends sending him to goal early to-morrow morning."  
"He will not," said Gahan slowly. "Kill the boy that saved his life—no, no."  
"Poor fellow! the grief is setting his mind astray, and sure no wonder!" said the cook compassionately.  
"I'm not astray!" cried the old man fiercely. "Where's the master?—take me to him."  
"Come with me," said the butler, "and I'll ask him will he see you?"  
"Withering steps the father complied; and when they reached the parlor, he trembled exceedingly, and leaned against the wall for support, while the butler opened the door and said:  
"Gahan is here, sir, and wants to know will you let him speak to you for a minute."  
"Tell him to come in," said Mr. Hewson, in a solemn tone of sorrow, very different from his ordinary cheerful voice.  
"Sir," said the steward advancing, "they tell me you are going to send my boy to prison—is it true?"  
"Too true indeed, Gahan. The lad who was reared in my house, whom my wife watched over in health, and nursed in sickness—whom we loved almost as if he were our own, has robbed us, and that not once or twice, but many times. He is silent and sullen too, and refuses to tell me what he has done. I will not let him hold him from me, when he wanted it. I can make nothing of him, and must only give him up to justice in the morning."  
"No, sir, no. The boy saved your life; you can't take his."  
"You're wrong, Gahan. You won't say so."  
"You remember this very night twenty years ago. I came here, with my motherless child, and yourself and the mistress pitied us, and spoke loving words to him. Well for us all you did so! That night little William fell—I was ordered to hold him from him, when he wanted it. I can make nothing of him, and must only give him up to justice in the morning."  
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