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"My husband was all that was good, and

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SAMUEL WRIGHT, Editor and Proprietor.

## COLUMBIA, PENNSYLVANIA, SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 29, 1859.

be sure, the decided stand which Bertha her. 1 suppose she thought I was young her son, and one, too, who set her will at a child who must be managed by love and had made her, and blamed herself more ment that my love was strong enough to **PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING** Office in Northern Central Railroad Ccm-pany's Building, north-west corner Front and Walnut streets. caused Mrs. Hamilton to raise her eye- keys, however, and have no fear of any bickerings as he foresaw, and wondered

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# Selections.

#### The Mother-in-Law.

With a spark of something more than mischief in her dark eyes, and with lips more compressed than the gentleman at her side thought quite consistent with amiability, Bertha Donaldson hummed: "I'll be no submissive wife; no, not I; no,

not J."

"Psha. Bertha!" said her companion, somewhat petulantly, "don't be foolish; I matter, you know, and if you prefer having should have been Bertha's place as quietly the wedding at Beechwood; and starting as though she had sat there and poured tea from thence on our tour, I am perfectly the score of trouble. I suppose."

Bertha's fingers trembled so that the piece of fine cambric which she was embroider- her of such terrible duties when she felt so ing received a rent as she jerked the working floss through it, and the flushed cheek and tapping of the little foot, and the suppressed tones of her voice, all betrayed the excitement under which she labored.

"She is kind," replied Bertha, without looking up, "but let her rest assured that the servants at Beechwood think nothing too much trouble for their mistress. My wedding takes place in my old home, by the sanction of my old guardian."

Cecil Hamilton looked steadily at his betrothed as she uttered her determination in a firm voice, and a shade of annoyance passed over his fine and dreamy face, as visions prophetic of discord, and scenes which he detested, rose before him as he thought of his calm, domineering mother, and his passionate but high spirited bride.

And so the wedding took place at Beechwithout a near relation in the world, and until she knew Cecil Hamilton, Beechwood been guilty before. seemed to be the only thing for her love, py childhood, and the loving eyes and voices man, quivering with indignation; "I can't of her parents.

During a visit to a school companion one summer vacation, Bertha became acquainted with Mr. Hamilton, who was also a guest in the house. She was at once fascin- ing. ated by his elegant person, his wonderful

brows for a moment, but she looked upon it one usurping your place." Bertha said this apparently very calmly, could not live happily together. as the ebulition of temper of an unrestrained child, and speedily forgot it. So, as we but in reality with her anger rising overy Cecil Hamilton was in everything a man said before, Bertha Donaldson's wedding moment. She now saw that she held the of compromise, and, like all persons of that took place at Beechwood. It was a disagreeable drizzling evening on which Cecil Hamilton and his young gain her ploce. An appeal to her husband himself up with the old dramatists, to revel

wife returned from their wedding-tour; an evening, that albeit June had come with her roses and all her summer glories, made wou?d be either against his wife or mother tism, had not troubled himself to read. the fire which blazed in the little sittingroom look cozy and confortable to the tired, that he must give judgment. Poor child! Mrs. Howell had played the of her way" in haughty silence, always wet travelers. The fire was the only thing

which lighted the room in the twilight, but had been living, and made her taste of the but this was a mood to which her son was the quaint silver tea-service which stood on tree of knowledge much against her wishes. so accustomed that he did not even remark the already prepared table, glittered bright-That very day some guests were to dine at it; and consequently the change in his ly in the light, as if rejoicing in its kindly Beechwood, and its young mistress soon de- wife's manner struck him the more forcibly. old-fashioned way that a mistress once more

reigned in Beechwood. Bertha Hamilton was both tired and neryous as she approached the tempting teatable. The novelty of the position as mistress of the house made her feel as awkward as it was possible for one of her frank and said in a low tone, "I am much obliged caress and light kiss which he used to reindependent disposition to feel; and with a to you, mother, but I will take this seat for ceive so frequently. He was a most un- rushed upon the child. \_ Marion was so enshy, half lingering step, but with a smile the future."

breaking over her face as she thought how ridiculous she would look presiding at the but her eyes flashed, and a white circle the warm heart of his wife. So time passed, tea-tray, she reluctantly approached the spread around her mouth. She withdrew Bertha yearning for a reconciliation with fright, upon Mrs. Hamilton's face as she merely mentioned it as a proposition of my head of the table. Mrs. Hamilton made a little to one side, and stood with a kind her husband, for which her proud spirit seized her by the arms with a grip which mother's; but we can do as we please in the her comfortable at once by taking what of conspicuous humility till all were scated. forbade her to ask since her former repulse, her anger made like iron. Blow after blow ing of this quiet warfare. A look of annoy- lance should be over. ance and reproach, which did not escape out of that very pot for years. The poor willing. My mother only objected to it on tired little little wife said nothing, but was the anxious eyes of his wife, was cast upon of the table, nor interfered with Mrs. shake and a push that sent the little thing her as he asked his mother to be seated. secretly grateful for what she considered her mother's kindness and tact in relieving

> reply. nervous. The next day and the next Mrs. Hamilton again took possession of the seat at the not now claim her place as mistress of the as she said in a half apologetic, half laugh-

> family. Yet something in the manner of ing tone, "Ladies and gentlemen, "you see her mother-in-law deterred her from making for the first time at the head of my own the proposition. The love which Bertha table, for mamma has been kind enough to forced back into her own bosom by Mrs. Hamilton's cold, self-sufficient manner. places."

Another trouble too aroused the new wife to a sense of her real position at Beechwood. Old Mrs. Howell, had been housekeeper there since the last Mrs. Donaldson had aradvantage. rived as a bride, suddenly appeared in Bertha's room one morning, jingling her ba-ket of keys in her excitement, and plumping

down into a chair without waiting for an wood. The heiress willed it so, for she was invitation; a piece of disrespect of which the formal, old fashioned lady had never "I can't stand it any longer, Miss Berconnected as it was with memories of a hap- tha; it's no use," exclaimed the good wo-

> play second fiddle to nobody," "What is the matter, Mrs. Howell!" queit for you." ried the young wife looking up with astonishment from the book which she was read-

"Why," said the old lady, "there is you, conversational powers, his refined intellect, the mistress of the house, that never gave and above all by the calmness of his man- | an order but just like a lamb, while madam ner, which she thought was the repose of a she goes dictating about, just as if Beechgreat mind, and not as it really was, the in- wood was hers!" dolence of a dreamy nature.

took at having the wedding at dear old and inexperied, and has kindly intended to nought; whilst Cecil thought of the annoy- not harshness, for severity seems to call out than she need have done for the domestic make up for all deficiencies. Beechwood, and asking all her friends, relieve me as much as possible. Take your ance it would be to have such constant all the bad qualities of her character." After four years of marriage Cecil Hamilton was beginning to have glimmerings of had caused it all. why two people whom he loved so much his wife's heart through his child.

But what Mrs. Hamilton had said was true. position of guest rather than of mistress at class, he pleased neither party; so he greatest possible eztent; for her whole na- her mother's room, and she was about fol- miserable.' Beechwood, and she was determined to re- quickly walked into the library, and shut mother's manner. At that very moment she had espied a bed of fine carnation pinks, she knew was out of the question, for she in their delineations of character, when loved him too much too be willing to dis- there was a page of human nature in the Mrs. Hamilton's especial favorites and care. tience, and when an hour passed by and he very shame. gust him with a woman's quarrels, and it next room, which he, in his indolent ego

Mrs. Hamilton "pursued the even teno: Eve in the little Paradise in which Bertha frigidly polite, but never cordial to Bertha; wreck; then gathering up some of the flowers in her apron, she scated herself on the cided upon her life of conduct. As they He saw nothing for her to resent, and sepiazza steps to play with them. The nurse's voice was heard calling Marion, and child's entered the dining room, Bertha quietly cretly regretted what he thought her sullen answer from the bottom of the steps caused stepped up to the head of the table, laid disposition. All the spars le and vivacity her hand upon the back of the chair, which which formerly characterized her had dis-Mrs. Hamilton to look out of the window. Mrs. Hamilton was already approaching, appeared, and Cecil sadly missed the tender In a moment her sewing was tossed on the floor, and with the swoon of a hawk she demonstrative man, and little knew how his grossed with her flowers that she did not

Mrs. Hamilton made no remonstrance. coldue-s and indifferent manner had chilled bear her grandmother's approach, and with a scream she turned her eyes, wild with af-Till that moment Cecil had noticed noth- and he coolly waiting till her fit of petu- reddened the little face and neck, and the sharp finger nails sank into the child's flesh Mrs. Hamilton no longer took the head as she pulled her along the hall. With a

Howell, nor too closely scrutinized Jane's reeling against a shelf, she pushed Marion "I really did not know where to sit, as I work; yet her influence was felt neverthe- into a dark pantry and locked to door. The had not my accustomed place," was the less. The servants complained that there child's screams attracted Bertha, who was was no possibility of pleasing her in any- in another part of the ground giving direc-

A feeling of constraint and uneasiness thing they did, and those who had lived in tions to the gardener. Fearing some dreadpassed over the guests, as they all felt as the family for years constantly threatened ful accident had happened, she flew to the though they had been the usurping party. to leave. It required all the tact and dig- house, and on entering the hall the whole bate in her own mind whether she should Poor Bertha's face flashed a painful crimson nity of Bertha's character to retain her was explained by her mother-in-law's face, servants, yet not to compomise her mother- the broken flowers and the shriek from the closet. With a bound she reached the door, in-law.

A year passed thus at Beechwood. Bertha turned the keyg and seized Marion, who was Hamilton's heart was now suffering for the almost in convulsions from pain and terror the proposition. The love which Bertha most of latentiating der been kind enough to and the and how sharing for the share in containing from pain and terror had seemed so so ready to give her seemed relieve me of this duty heretofore, and we want of early discipline, Her temper had of the darkness. Without a word she carare not accustomed yet to the change of become haughty and irritable under the ried the child to her chamber, where her cold surveillance of Mrs. Hamilton. She husband was soon attracted by the continued

had formerly yearned for the old carers and crying. The fact and pleasant manner of the young wife soon made all as comfortable as kind words of her husband, for which her they had been before, and Cecil secretly pride forbade her to ask; but she was now thought she had never appeared to so much manner in which he yielded everything to she still gazed into Marion's face, and Never once during the rest of the day did Mrs. Hamilton address her daughter- how he could have been so mistaken in a with her in her urms endeavoring to quiet in-law, and only answered in the shortest possible manner if Bertha spoke to her, way, always appeared to greatest disadvan- subsided into sobs, and the little thing sunk

possible manner if Bertha spoke to her, way, nively appeared to greatest distant and been apprised of her decease. We en-making the poor thing as unconfortable as tage before his mother. It pained him to into a fevered sleep on her mother's boson. had been apprised of her decease. We en-wards her, and she would occasionally lift possible. As they stood on the piazza to- the heart to think that it had only been a gether in the evening, bidding adicu to the childish fancy on Bertha's part for him, beside Bertha, in her hurried walk, not the seeper. She was a woman in the prime (just as he had smilled upon me a thousand departing guests, Bertha said in a recon- and he determined not to trouble her with daring to ask a question, as he saw her stern, of life and hore traces of great beauty.ciliatory tone, "Are you not afraid of taking remonstrance: so the two went on outwardly white face. cold without your shawl, mother? I'll get indifferent, but inwardly sorrowing, with

Mrs. Hamilton swaying her son as of old. "Do not trouble yourself, Mrs. Hamilton."

was the icy reply. The daughters eyes filled with tears, and the young monte and the bosom, and her hand trembled as she twitched off a as she pressed her child to her bosom, and your preference is soon made. I thought apartment. A little table stood in the cor-spark of love for me, than to see him little thought that now she would have some one when my baby was born you must love me: ner, beneath the grated window. A Bible by little drawn away by the syren, till perwig of jessamine to hide her emotion. Cecil walked up and down the piazza to love her exclusively, though for a mo-but I was mistaken. It was no little thing, lay upon it, and as I took it up a paper slid haps I should be utterly deserted, and left

trouble, declaring that now she saw that it was only her pride and haughty temper that | noble, and generous. I was eften passion-

ate and unreasonable. But he would take Mrs. Hamilton was herself alarmed at the me to his bosom, kiss me so tenderly, and effects of her violence, as little Marion con- | say so gently, 'You must subdue this un-Little Marion defied her authority to the tinued her screams after being carried to happy temper, Aggy. It is making you

ture was roused to antagonism by her grand- lowing to make what amends she could "Then when he was gone, I would fly to when she saw her son go into the chamber. my chamber, lock the door, and give myself She awaited his return with much impa- up to an uncontrollable fit of weeping for

which she had been ordered not to touch, did not make his appearance, she felt that "We had been married about a year .---and with a mischievous laugh she flew at it, he was no longer under her authority, that One evening (would to God I could blot and commonced pulling off buds and blos. her "kingdom was divided" already. This from the record of time that fatal night; bat soms, her little hands trembling with haste, fact, combined with the events of the day, it lives like a hissing fiery serpent in my lest she should be discovered before the and Bertha's independent disposition, made memory, and has doomed me to utter dework of destruction was complete. With a her determine to accept from a bachelor spair in this world, and I fear the next!) my sigh of satisfaction Marion contemplated the brother, who had returned from India but a husband did not return at the usual hour. short time previonsly, an invitation to take I watched long at my accustomed place, at the parlor window. His slippers and dresscharge of his house.

Cecil and Bertha in the meantime were ing gown were warming by the grate. and debating as to the kindest mode of asking everything was in readiness for him; but he Mrs. Hamilton to leave; Bertha, with her did not come. Twilight deepened into darksudden revulsion of feeling, caused by her ness, and I began to grow uncasy. All my happiness, having in vain endeavored to selfish feelings were roused, and I felt mypersuade her husband to let her remain.- self sorely grievel. An hour more, yet be But he was inflexible. Cecil Hamilton now came not. I paced up and down the floor understood both wife and mother too well to in a fit of impatience. A ring at the door, see much chance for happiness in such an ar- 1 waited to hear his step upon the stairs: rangement, and he had suffered too much for but it was a lighter step than his, accomfour years to be willing to run another risk. panied by the rustling of silk. Nellie They did not all meet again till dinner- B-----, an intimate friend, bounded in .---time, when Mrs. Hamilton said she had re- She was dressed for the opera. She said ceived another letter from her brother that their carriage waited at the door for myself morning, renewing his request for her to and Ernest. I told her Ernest had not yet live with him, and that she had already refurned from his office, and I could not go. written to say that she would accept the in- She looked disappointed. A sudden thought vitation. Both Cecil and Bertha breathed seized me. Would it not be capital revenge m re freely, for it was an unpleasant duty for his neglect of me to find the parlor deto ask a mother to leave the house. serted when he came? I went to the opera. At the end of the week they were stand. We were scarcely seated in our box when a

adieu, though little Marion to the last re- rushed back to my heart, and my pulse fused to be friendly.

since the departure of her mother-in-law.

## The Maniac's Confession.

"What is this?" I asked, as I held up the

"Oh, that is probably some of Aggy's

paper, and she would write over several

sheets, and then destroy them. This is

"Why, yes, if you wish to," she replied.

I presume," said the woman.

left the premises.

I asked if I might retain it.

asked, as we left the building.

replied. "Let us examine it."

and asked me to be his wife.

A few yours ago I visited an insane asylum. The woman in charge conducted us well, and begged to be left to myself. almost beginning to despise him for the nearly killed the child," was the repiy, as through various apartments, giving us all his mother. Cceil, on his part, wondered walked hurriedly up and down the room she was able, and kindly answering all the wards my husband, and his 'guilty paracharacter. His wife, in some unaccountable her. It was a long while before the shricks one of the patients had lately died, and now formance intensely, but he seemed to see What great sorrow had bereft this beautiful with renewed devotion.

creature of her reason? and by what relashe turned upon her husband like an angry tive, and for what motive, had she been in-And thus it was when an heiress was liones, "your mother and I can live to-arcerated in this living tomb? were queries demon possessed me; I think I must have "Do not trouble yourself, Mrs. Hamilton, | And thus it was when an herees was gether no longer. You must choose now which were in my mind as I gazed upon her heen my when I yowel a terrible revenge. between her and me and your chid. You lifeless remains. the houghters eyes filled with tears, and The young mother shed wild tears of joy ceased to love me years ago, so I suppose My eyes involuntarily wandered over the die while yet there existed in his heart a

paper.

ing on the piazza, bidding Mrs. Hamilton party entered the box opposite. The blood stood still as I recognized Ernest, my Er-Many years have passed since then, and nest, my husband, and leaning upon his there are other little feet now beside Mar. arm one of the most beautiful young creaion's, pattering through the garden walks tures my eyes ever beheld. This was my and along the halls, and Bertha Hamilton first impression, for there quickly followed has proved to be all that her Cecil's fancy so deadly and jealous a hatred as made her had pictured her before he was marrried, look positively ugly. I quickly drew down and she only counts her life as really begun my veil that my husband might not discover me, and from my concealment, I watched them with glaring eyes. I heard nothing, saw nothing else; and once when rallied by my companions, I replied that I was not

"Then with fierceness of a tiger fearful! the information in regard to the occupants of loosing his prey, I turned my eyes toquestions, until we came to a room where mour.' She seemed to be enjoying the perbut of the plateness have a start of the friends, who nothing but her. If is head was bowed to tered, and gazed reverently on the face of her eyes to his face. Then I saw him smile times.) while he bent still lower over her

"Each movement was like a red hot dag-

"What is the matter, Berthu?" asked Cecil. "Nothing, except that your mother has

Cocil had paced up and down the room

"Cecil Hamilton," said she, at last, as

by the beauty, the wit, and vivacity of Ber- kind in my mother," was the reply.

ing wonder as to what she would do or say stand calmly by and see another interfere to think that she only must be in fault, next, but it gave him no trouble. He was with her rights. not obliged to arouse himself to exertion, "Why," continued the old housekeeper, for her quaint thoughts brought out his own "from the very day you were married and allade to the insult which I received to day, presence one evening Mrs. Hamilton prowithout effort; and beside that, he knew of she was left in the house, she has been were it not to request that, hereafter, for posed it to her, but her color rose and her the reply, as the mother bared little Marion's

times seen her eyes cast down, her little we were a pack of slaves. Just now she there are no guests in the house to make a hands folded Madonna-wise, and a holy quiet came while I was putting up my strawber- display of your authority." settle ever her face and form, and he at ries, that's as beautiful and clear as crys-once recognized in these moods the ideal tol, and told me that preserves done in that Bertha's eyes were dried up by the flash of which he had so long sought to find real- way would'nt keep. Just as if I didn't indignation which shot from them as she know! She says she will do the rest of the replied, "I did not mean to insult you,

jzed. The engagement soon followed, with the preserving herself. Well, she may; but if madam! I have too much respect for my-

ing a bachelor, was glad to be so easily rid and she may take the keys." of what he considered to be a troublesome, "Mrs. Howell," said Bertha, in a tone I felt that it was a duty I owed to my flighty girl, who was to lead him an ignis intended to be severe; but poor child, it was guests as well as myself to appear herefatuus chase through society after a husband. all sho could say, for domestic difficulties after in that character. I am obligod for Indeed, the good man had at one time se- were such new things for her to manage: the charge which you have heretofore riously thought of marrying her himself in Mrs. Howell, however; was in too full a tide ' taken of my affairs, but I will relieve you order to eccape the vexation and responsi-bility of guardianship. bility of guardianship.

half timid reproof, so she went on with in-

Of her future mother-in-law Bertha Don- creasing excitement. aldson knew but little. With her sanguine spirit and unchilled affections, she was pre- been under my control ever since she was room. She awaited her husband's coming son. pared to love deeply one who was so nearly as high as my knee; madam looks after her, with some anxiety, not knowing from his related to Cacil, and at once proposed that and takes a hair-pin and goes around the manner on the piazza whether to expect his mother should live with them after their edges of the carpets to see if they are clean sympathy or reproach. His presence did between her grandmother and her parents. marriage, for Cecil was an only child, and in the corners; but she don't find much not relieve her much. The whistling still Mrs. Hamilton's life would be very monoto- dirt I know, for I'll back Jane against the continued, interrupted only by the mono-

ilton's intention. Her son had a fortune carriage; and John too, he says she knows Cecil?" the half-reluctant "Yes," and the self. Bertha watched every encroachment band's change of manner; for had she not as large as Bertha's, and if the heiress would ence to any other place, why then she felt

under no obligation at receiving hospitality. Mrs. Hamilton had been accustomed all her life to manage for those around her .-ment.

She had completely swayed her intellectual "I think, Mrs. Howell," said the young her in the darkest colors. but dreamy, indolent husband, and as a mistress, "that you have all been so accusmatter of course she now swayed her intel- tomed to having no one to interfere with most uncomfortable for all. The wife felt really believe the child takes a pleasure in Marion. lectual, dreaming, indolent son. That that you, that you must have mistaken my moth- that her prace-offering of the night before disobeying me." son's wife would rebel at such long estab- for's manner. She is naturally distant to had been only half accepted-the mother of only half accepted-the mother of only half accepted to be indifference for a wife, I soon silenced it with the argu- kiesed his lips, I strove to rouse him, but lished authority never occurred to her. To every one, and you have misapprehended that another now stood between herself and her nurse," argued Cecil. "I think she is she confessed how unhappy his indifference for a wife, I soon silenced it with the argu- kiesed his lips, I strove to rouse him, but son's wife would rebel at such long estab- er's manner. She is naturally distant to had been only half accepted-the mother

Cecil walked up and down the piazza is lot at the start of her bet week my happiness so from between the leaves and fell at my feet. with all my blind love eating away my with his hands in his pockets, whistling a woman's destiny, "to make idols and find carelessly as you did, but your mother has I raised it. It was a closely written sheet, heart strings like a consuming fire. tolence of a dreamy nature. "I really do not know what you mean, disconsonate air in raise time, pitying his them cluy," as she herself had done. Cecil ever stood between us. My child's temper and a glance convinced me that it was some that it was some that it was some wife, whom he dearly loved, yet feeling as them day, at my request we left the opera at an irritable as mine has sort of a revelation which had been written early hour, and with a terrible purpose en-

by the beaaty, the wit, and vivacity of Ber- kind in my mother," was the reply. the Doualdson. The light which ever Mrs. Howell was more indignant than able way the injured party. In truth, Mrs. lavish tenderness which Bertha bestowed benome through her presence; and if she there during the last hours of the life that tered my home. But what was that home the Donaldson. The light which ever Mrs. Howell was more indignant than all way the injured party. In truth, sirs, and is control become through her presence; and if she there dur flashed over her face, the gay reparted over on finding that her young mistress did Hamilton had a knack of always making on his daughter, and seetly envious light Mrs. Howell was more indignant than all there dur flashed over her face, the gay reparted over on finding that her young mistress did Hamilton had a knack of always making on his daughter, and seetly envious light Mrs. Howell was not a give you no had fled. masned over her face, the gay reparted ever on finding that her young mistress did frammon face a know of always making chains daughter, and the gay reparted ever on finding that her young mistress did frammon for a know of always making conscious little thing, whilst Mrs. Hamilton choice for decision-for I'll take her and which sprang from her lips, and the sprakle not advocate her cause. She, who had held people feel this, in spite of their better conscious little thing, whilst Mrs. Hamilton choice for decision-for I'll take her and

of her manner, kept him in a kind of dream- undisputed sway in Beschwood so long, to judgment, and Bertha was beginning to declared that the mother was too delicate leave your house!" "But what was the matter to day. Bertha?" when her mother approached her and said, and its own, a wet nurse must be provided. 2sked her husband, in a voice which differed Bertha listened in silence when in Cecil's very much from his usual nonchalant tone. "I should not so far forget my dignity as to "Look there, and there, and there!" was

Bertha's dream-side also, for he had some- domineering and dictating to us, just as if your own sake, you will select a time when oyes flashed long before her mother-in-law shoulder, and pointed to the check and arms, "Madam," said the young mother, "you gers still lingered. "Marion was to blame. have governed your own child through his I have no doubt; but I was the proper perhis whole life, and I shall do the same by son to punish her in a suitable manner .-mine. In this thing I will not be thwarted. Had she been shut up in that dark closet I am perfectly able to nurse my baby, and five minutes longer she might have been an I would rather lay her in the ground than idiot for life."

approbation of Bertha's guardian, who, be- she's going to be housekeeper, I'll leave, self to forget what is due to these connected on another's bosom. This is never to be The father's brow grew dark as he lis with me; but as the mistress of Beechwood mentioned to me again." tened. In Bertha's excitement the whole "But, Bertha," commenced Cecil, who story of her trials with her mother-in-law was really alarmed for his wife's health, was poured into her husband's ear, the more

readily perhaps, that he had never evinced from his mother's representations. "I have desided the matter," interrupted so much interest in them before.

the wife, in a tone of such icy coldness that it left no room for further remonstrance. Mrs. Hamilton lifted her eyes and hands

with the air of a martyr, which graphic pan- close my eyes to your troubles. I have been dued or restraine l. My parents were not me, giving his love to another. I thought conciliatory, and with a defiant air Bertha "And there's Jane, the housemaid, that's entered the house and retired to her own tomime was not lost on either Bertha or her

mother, without knowing the fact, perhaps, So till little Marion Hamilton was three and I was really afraid that my wife-was years old, was she a source of contention becoming irritable and unamiable without a tremely passionate. While every pains was ment I heard his night key in the latch, cause, little thinking or noticing how much Mrs. Hamilton looked upon the child as be- you had to annoy you."

longing to herself quite as much as to its "I could have borne it all if she had only grown and choked by the briers and thorn. whole nation for tidiness. William says he syllables with which he replied to his wife's mother; she interfered with its food, its exleft me your love, Cecil; but to take that, Little did Bertha know that even without expects that next she'll go out and show remarks, and when she said humbly, "Will ercise, its dress; she scolded its nurse, and Little and Bertha know that even without expects that next she'll go out and show remarks, and when she said humory, "Whit it to his lips, strain to a passion, passionately attached to my friends, and as him lift it to his lips, strain to a passion, passionately attached to my friends, and as him lift it to his lips, strain to a passion, passionately attached to my friends, and as him lift it to his lips, strain to a passion, brought on by her hus long as they did not cross my imperious fell fainting to the floor. too!" and here Bertha burst into a passion-

carriage; and John too, he says she knows coold die had been such a contract of the section and the new heartily sympathised more about forcing the hot-house vegetables kiss smothered by a cullen eigh, made her upon her maternal authority with jealous been sure that he now heartily sympathised repent having made the request. The eye, and often with angry words: and Cecil with her, her old pride would have forbidlive at Beechwood, she argued, in prefer- than he does." ence to any other place, why then she felt Mrs. Howell stopped here for want of wife's tears were again quenched by anger, metted his darling, and appealed to his den her to regret to him a love that was

breath, or it is most probable that Bertha and after tossing restlessly for many hours, mother with regard to its elucation. lost. "I tell you Cecil, she will grow up as "My poor little wife! you love me yet, as would have found a separate grievance in she at last cried herself to sleep, in conseeach separate department of the establish- quence of her fertile imagination having headstrong and passionate as Bertha hermuch as when we were first married, and so quence of ner lettile imagination matters go on in this way." happy, do you not?" and Cecil imprinted a was wild with joy, when one day he came thicker and shorter, and his pulse beat but said Mrs. Hamilton, one morning. "Her tender kiss on her forehend, as she lay sob- to me, and in eloquent language told me faintly.

mother humors her in every whim, and I bing on the bed where she had at last placed how long and devotedly he had loved me, The breakfast the next morning was

Bertha threw her arm around her hus-"She is perfectly obedient to Bertha or band's neck, and amid tears and blushes a twinge of distrust of my own qualifications upon my heart. I chafed his hands, I

now to me? The love that had brightened it was no longer mine. Some demon furnished me with resolution to execute my desperate purpose.

scribbling. She used to call for pen and "It had been our custom sometimes to drink a glass of sweet wine of an evening when we were slone. I drew the table to probably one of them-of no consequence, Then with trembling hands I brought a deadly opiate; the nature of which I well knew. The first effect it produces was a I hid it away in my bosom, and we soon deep sleep, which in a few hours terminated in the deep sleep of death. I filled the "What could you possibly want of that "What could you possibly want of that erazy woman's scribbling?" my companion All was done with rapidity lest my resolution should fail me.

"I fancy there is something here worth "When all was ready I paced up and preserving," I replied. "Let us examine it." down the room, nursing the fire which As we rode homeward, I real it aloud to raged within my bosom, by recounting to myself the wrong which I had suffered. I my friend. It was written in a trembling pictured to myself my idolized husband ly-"I was the only and idelized daughter of ing stil and cold before me, and I fell into a wealthy parents. I possessed a haughty passionate fit of weeping. Then I drew another picture. I saw him drawn from of all the agony I had suffered that night, religious, and no care was taken to impress and imagined how much deeper would be upon my mind religious truths. Consemy wrong if I spared him. At that moquently I grew up unprincipled and exand he soon entered the room. I stood in taken with my education and accomplishments, my heart was left to run wild, over- the recess of the window, where he did not at once observe me. The wine first attracof selfishness and love of tyranny; yet I was ted his attention, the fatal glass. I saw him lift it to his lips, strain its contents, and

"I knew no more for several hours. When "Thus I grew to womanhood. Chance I ralied I was lying upon the sofa; the threw me into the society of a young lawyer lamp was burning dimly-an easy chair of distinguished abilities, who had begun was wheeled to my side, and in it I saw the what was predicted to be a brilliant career. form of my husband. I sprang quickly up. I soon learned to love him with all the depth The drug was doing its work. He was in a of my passionato and impulsive nature; and heavy slumber, and already his breath came

"My anger had passed away, and all the wild worshipping love which I had cherished "We were married. If I occasionally fell towards my husband came rushing back

hand, and read as follows: "But, Bertha, I never suspected all this!" he said at la-t. "I have done wrong in let. ting my indulence and love of peace so long and imperious temper, which was never subaccustomed all my life to being ruled by my