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## Poetru.

### The Knight's Leap at Altenahr.

"So the forman has fired the gate, men of mine, And the water is spent and done; Then bring me a cup of the red Ahr-wine; I never shall drink but this one.

"And fetch me my harness, and saddle my horse, And lead him me round to the door; He must take such a leap to-night perforce As horse never took before.

"I have lived by the saddle for years a score, And if I must die on tree, The old saddle tree, which has borne me of yore, Is the properest timber for me.

"I have lived my life, I have fought my fight, I have drank my share of wine; From Trier to Coln there was never a Knight Laved a merrier life than mine.

"So now to show bishop and burgher and priest How the Altenuhr hawk can die. If they smoke the old falcon out of his nest, He must take take to his wings and fly.

He harnest himself by the clear moonshine And he mounted his horse at the door, And he took such a pull at the red Ahr-wine As man never took before.

He spurred the old horse, and he held him tight, And he leapt him out ever the wall; Out over the cliff, out into the night, Three hundred feet of fail.

They found him next morning, below in the glen.
And never a bone in him whole: But heaven may yet have more mercy than men On such a bold sider's soul.

(Fraser's Magazine.

## Selections.

### Legend of the Fatal Ring. A GERMAN STORY.

We were three friends-Ferdinand Wphysician; and myself.

Having no particular calling, I spent most of my time in reading the various publications that issued from the German press .-I became of the opinion that there was hardly one that made an effort to raise the ment, I consented to remain. The Lady lifeless body, her fair hair covering him as female figure advancing steadily towards ing. I was in good practice, and very had not gone with the Count. She immepublic taste. With the intention of fulfilling, in a more effectual manner, the duties prepared for me, and begged me to take required of a journal, my friends and I established a periodical. Whether we ever realized our fond hopes, is not for me to say. Ferdinand was to contribute the learned leaves; Auerbach the elegant; and I, who could not boast of either learning or elegance, to attend to the minor departments, We had our meetings as our more ad-

vanced cotemporaries. As soon as my good Rhenish wine, we made our criticisms. One evening, when Ferdinand was more than usually late, and had wearied our patience waiting, we resolved to commence proceedings without him. The two newest publications lay on the table-Freidenker. a favorite German periodical, and Wochentliche Zeitung, then in its zenith. With the uncut leaves of these before us, we had no time to loose. I seized Die Wochentliche Zeitung. The first few pages contained an unfayorable review of a story in the Freidenker, called the "Gray Boom." I read it with pleasure, as this subject had been the cause of more than one dispute between me and my friend Auerbach; and I now ed belief in the appearance of spirits. I and curtains were black as abony, as also sommenced with the remark. "That of all all the wood-work in the room. I lighted the periodicals, I had the greatest respect two pair of candles to chase the gloom; but for the Freidenker, and could not imagine it was like the mere illumination of a how they had given their pages to each ingredible stories as the Gray Room. I was making the darkness more visible, curious to see how they answered the objections, to my mind most reasonably urged and placed my candles upon it to impart an against them, by the Wochentliche Zei- air of comfort to my black palace-but even tung."

"How will they answer them?" cried Auerbach. "With contemptuous silence as tending, and get to bed. I must mention they deserve."

I can see him now, with his head resting on the back of his shair, his pipe in his hand, his hair thrown back, and his deep every case they attended; to accomplish this loving eyes looking fixedly before him, as if he was then holding communion with the invisible. "But," said I, "who can believe

ted," said my friend sagerly. "Either the her without delay. I dressed, and hastened death; a smile seemed to rest on her features. dead bride! I felt as if voices of thunder sed," said my triend sagerily. Indicate the pressed the Count to allow him to his strength, which gradually awake as you are now. And, besides, the inspect the apartment, and so put a stop to and in less than a year he died.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING | guilty of falsehood; and I think even you various winding passages, at the chamber of happy hour of childhood had visited her ears. I flung myself on the floor, howling fatal ring; what else could that mean?" the reports circulated about its being hauntfredo would relate a thing for a fact that had not occurred. Believe me, you cannot know, and have not the epportunity of knowing what we medical men learn, coming in contact as we do with the caprices of nature. What she can or cannot do, is

not for us to say." "I never met with any one," said I, "who sitting upright, staring as if her eyes would ever appeared to him. It seems from the she whispered: whole tenor of the story, to have been related to him; neither does he pledge him- he see the ring?" self for its veracity, except in the negative way of repeating the story. Now, be honface to face, with any one who saw a spirit?"

last, having taken a turn up and down the till at length she cried out: room, and drawn a whiff from his pipe, and a sip from his glass, he turned full upon don't pass for a Geisterscher; but I have in- touch it. That fatal ring!" deed seen a spirit once-a time never to be forgotten, for it made a change in me that I have never recovered. And, strange enough the room with which it was connected was called the 'black chamber.'"

Much as I had vaunted my disbelief of ghost stories, I confess that as we were then approached, he started. "For Heaven's my spending a night in the haunted chammer evening, with the shadows lengthening here!" through the deep recesses of the window, my companion's enthusiastic nature quite carried me with him; and with rapt attention, and an undefined feeling of pleasure. mingled with fear, I proposed to hear the less, so strong, that, when he walked to the overthrowing the theory of apparition. I hope, no dawning of morning in that black horrors of the "black chamber," which I now relate in his own words:

I had concluded my university education and to finish my studies in medicine, became, for some years, the in-door pupil of enjoyed the most extensive practice in Blenso great, that in a few years my old master case." made over a number of his remote country patients to my care, his advanced age rendering it impossible for him to take long journeys. One evening I was hastily sum-Count Albrecht Von Silberstein, who had died at Milan, only a few months before the from which there is no awaking. second marriage. It was, however, to attend the Count's sister that I was sum- Theresa is dead." moned; she was dying of nervous fever. I could render but little assistance, as I saw she was beyond earthly help; but I ordered her in the world; she would not leave me wall, and that it was occasioned by some of some sedatives, and left written directions, alone." a celebrated lawyer; Auerbach, the court to be followed till my return next day. I was preparing to take leave, when the Count | the body. rushed in, and begged of me, as I valued his friendship, not to leave the house that night. He was devotedly attached to his Von Silberstein gave orders to have a room Count would require my attendance the mothis, she wished me good night, and left the room.

When left alone I could not help reflecting on that gloomy castle, with its dark its inmates. It had not even a cheerful prospect, situated as it was, in a barren flat country, more like the stronghold of a tribe avocations—one in distracting the minds of banditti than what one would expect to his clients, while the other performed the interior was not one whit more inviting or they usually met at my house; and with cheerful. The room I was in was fearfully our tobacco pipes, and over our glass of sombre; it was a long narrow chamber, only half-lighted by the small loop-hole windows; the furniture and drapery old and

What could have induced the Countess to marry that man? thought I—she so young and lovely, he so dark and gloomy. I also noticed, during the short time I saw them together, a shadow passed over her, when ever her husband addressed her, indicitive more of fear or dislike than love. In the midst of my reflections I was interrupted by the servant, announcing that my apart ment was ready. Conducted to it I found it even more dismal than the one I had just left. It was spacious; the old-fashioned heavy doors were of massive oak; the tables were covered with dark cloth; the hangings

I sat down at a small table near the fire. that] failed. I had determined at once to write the particulars of the case I was atthat one particularity of Dr. W---'s was, that each of his pupils should give him in writing, a most circumstancial account of

I had just finished my medical technicalithe nonsense that is put forward in that ties, when I was called to attend Lady Thepaper about the appearance of Gertrude!" resa; she had awakened much worse, and turned to look on the beautiful creature be-"Only account, then, for all that is related the Count sent to beg that I would go to fore me. There she lay in the stillness of round the walls that I was wedded to a

scene that here presented itself."

No one could doubt the Count's affection for his sister; yet now he seemed to be perfectly unconscious of her bodily sufferings, eagerness to the words she occasionally uttered. She herself, wretched creature, was

people affected by visions in similar cir-She sprang from her bed, and clung to her him to remain all night." He remained silent for a time; and at | brother, still uttering incoherent sentences,

"I feel its little arms: there—there—it is clinging to me to save it. I cannot bear me, and said, "I have sen a spirit. Mind, I the glare of its eye. I cannot I dare not tive companion related many stories con- the hateful ring should I fling it out of which I raised the lid, and took out a very in this way, he exclaimed suddenly, 'I have

Then, exhausted, she fell senseless on the floor. I called the Count to assist me in replacing her in bed; but when I looked round he was leaning against the wall, pale and motionless.

I rang the bell violently. As footsteps sitting in the dim twilight in that still sum- sake," cried he, "let not mortal enter ber. The very idea gave me a thrill of years, it may be for centuries, it had clung I let the ring fall on the floor, and ran to which Fritag had been led the night before

"I must have assistance" I said. great deal. But his will seemed, neverthe-

the bell having been rung, I looked in as- pected fell asleep. tonishment. Turning to me he said: "Docthe famous Dr. W-, who at that time lead the poor sufferer to imagine scenes they account for the noise, for it seemed to pro. worldly cares, and my mind was liable to heim. My progress in my profession was eminence told me that this was always the which I knew was as outside wall, and way I argued to myself, knowing, ay! feel-

After a short interval. Lady Theresa remoned to the the country residence of the bathed her hands. On a sudden she looked up, with a bright smile, and said softly, A slight wind, like a breath, passed over lately returned from Italy, with his second two or three times, "Rudolphi" then wan wife a beautiful young heiress, whom he dering among scenes afar off, gently fell eyes as though I could penetrate the darkhad just married; his first; it was said, had asleep, and from that passed into the sleep ness. The sound had greatly increased, yet

I turned to the Count and said: "Lady

"Dead!" he cried: "dead! she cannot she must not die, and leave me. I had but

tiful tresses, in a vain attempt to sever a a faint light, coming from the same direclock; but his trembling fingers refused tion in which I had heard the sound. I I would marry her! I walked to the mir- sempled at breakfast, one of the domestics a vail, he lay motionless. Much as I dis- me. She had long bright hair, falling over liked the Count, this outburst of genuine her shoulders, and her drapery was pure as gotten. He seemed as if clinging to the make the least movement, lest I should at ped, and she gathered flowers and played They thought at first he was dead; but, perfair angel whose spirit had fled.

self, and rose to leave the room. I was At last it perceived me, for it hastily advanheavy towers, frowning, as if in anger with only too glad to follow. I felt sick at heart. The wretched death-bed I had witnessed, arm, seized my hand! and the feeling of dislike I had felt to the quiet hour in my own room.

making an apology that he had letters to write, left me. I hastened back to my own chamber, but not to sleep. I piled wood en the fire, and sat down in a large chair opposite to it, recalling minutely every word that Lady Theresa had uttered. I could think of nothing else-what could have befallen that young girl? That she was implicated in some dark deed, there could be no doubt; the awful visions that haunted her were not the raving funcies of delirium. Her brother -he, too, shared her secret. I had a dim recollection of a tale that I had heard when over the Count's house. One of his sucesthe problem. I thought again and again of had prevented me from speaking to her! even her sister's; her only companion was berstein's family. her brother.

I smiled at the idea, for he seemed really place cheerful, yet I had no fear. I was as arranged the furniture so that no trace was open. skeptical then as you are now. My talka- left of my impotent fury; and the ringlistened, in hopes I might find a clue to No, I dare not part with it; throw it where engraved on it; and, true enough, the her- finger, he moved a heavy door sliding into Lady Theresa's ravings, but all were con- I would, send it to the most distant part aldic bearings of the Count Albrecht Von the wall, so as not to be perceptible outside. nected with events that had occurred years of the world, it would still come back to Silberstein's family. I felt a nervous, creep. This led to a flight of steps also made in the before. However inclined I might have me, and perhaps in a way that would ex- ing sensation; the perspiration hung in wall; then another spring door opened into been to have kept this young man with me, pose me to the whole world. I knew its drops on my forehead. As to Auerbach, he a set of rooms in the tower, that belorged I now determined to place no obstacle to power; it fixed itself on its possessor. Had seemed read to fall.

door and gave some orders, to account for went to bed, and much sooner than I ex- forever.

After some time I was aroused by hearnow, indeed, to feel nervous, and sat up. me, but still I saw nothing. I strained my I was conscious there was something, be it

watching with a beating beart, I argued myself into the idea that the noise must have been at the other side of the inside the servants, who had perhaps been up "It is no use," said I, drawing him from late, and so, turning on my side, tried again to compose myself. I had not been settled Bfter some little time he recovered him. moment withdraw my eyes from the figure.

I fell back insensible. How long I re-Count, combined to make me long for a mained in this state I don't know; but I awake before it was light. I sprang from We descended to the saloon; the Count my bed, lighted a candle, and looked everywhere to see had my supernatural visitor left any trace behind, but I could find no clue to the mystery. I thought I must have had a frightful dream, till my eye fell on a ring upon my finger that I had never seen before. What could this mean? Who could that mysterious being have been? I her, would guard her as a tender flower, if a noise proceeding from the further extremtried to recall the features. They seemed familiar to me. I had seen them previously, but when or where? Yes-yes-I remember they were none other than those of the Lady Theresa. Now it was, too, that I recollected distinctly the same beautiful a child, of some heavy curse which hung hair. The eyes, though wild, still had the same loving, melancholy expression-that tors had treated his wife with cruelty, and look that none but she could have! Could her troubled spirit have come to reveal to with a bitter curse attached to it, but what could that poor girl have to do with a child haps it was to ask me to bear a message. and a ring? It was all mystery, and the Oh! that I had been able to question her! incoherent story furnished little solution to How I cursed my trembling timidity that

all that I had ever heard about Lady The- In this excited state of mind I sat down. resa; but that was not much. She was very listening intensely in fear of hearing her young, and had latterly not appeared abroad footsteps. I took off the ring to look at the in the world. Some said her engagement gift of the dead, when oh! horror more terto an officer had been suddenly broken off; rible than words can express too terrible others that she had become ascetic. Be this even for imagination-I saw engraved upon as it may, she certainly shunned all society, it the heraldic bearings of Count Von Sil-

The Legend of the Patal Bing burst, as I tried to turn my thoughts to other chan- it were, upon my mind; the whole thing nels, but to no purpose. I felt a great wish seemed only too clear. It had been the to see her again, and yielding to the tempta- Lady Theresa, but not come for sympathy tion, crept back to her room and gazed once -no. She had removed the fatal curse more on those features which had made so hanging over her brother's house-that now, and resign myself to sleep, was all my deep an impression upon me. All was brother she had loved so dearly—and I was hushed; averything had been arranged, selected out of the whole world to carry Morning had dawned, and the gray light the dreadful weight with me to the grave. streamed through the open casement. I I clasped my hand over my eyes, for it had examined every part of your room so for one moment till he came.

would be slow to acknowledge that Gual the young lady. Never shall I forget the wenried spirit before it went forth on its in the madness of despair, and calling down And he relapsed into a state of abstraction. ed;' but somehow the Count always consolitary journey. I felt I was polluting a fearful imprecations on the head of the sanctuary by harboring for a moment the being whom a moment before I almost rousing him than for any real obstacle it vented any further obstacle, and without thought that she could be implicated in any revered as an angel of light. At length presented to my mind, "the ring is the delay Herr Saltag, accompanied by the crime, and, pressing a kiss on her cold nature exhausted itself, and I fell into a stumbling block to me. If the appearance Countess and Fritag, searched every part of and only stood near her bed to listen with cheek, I took away one of her bright curls. deep sleep, from which I did not awake till is not a deception, it must have been a spirit; the room, but without any result. It was The next day lady Theresa was buried, the bright beams of the sun showed me but I cannot a spirit having anything to do all in vain that they shifted the bed, took The Count asked me to stay that night, that the morning was far advanced. I with the fading things of this world. It down the curtains, changed the position of which I gladly did, as I was worn out with looked round in surprise at finding myself leaves all that behind." had himself seen a spirit; and though, as start from their sockets. I approached her; my vigit of the night before. Just as I stretched on the ground, though an indeyou say, I have every confidence in Gual- she turned from me; sheltering herself be- went about to consign myself to rest, I was scribable weight pressed me down. I could fredo, still he does not say, that Gertrude side her brother, and pointing wildly at me, interrupted by the jager, who knocked at not at first recollect what had occurred. By then you must define the exact way they ed-it was solid masonry. There was not my door to inquire if I had any commands. degrees the truth flashed across me. I ought to appear. Such inconsistency! But a panel that could slide up or down. The "Did he see it? Did he hear it cry? Did He was a lively, pleasant fellow, and in sprang on my feet, examined the door to perhaps you will not be so skeptical if I Countess declared that there was no passage clined to be communicative. We sat talking learn whether any one had entered the show you the ring. I have never worn it connecting that room with any other in the I sought to calm her, having often seen for awhile. When he rose to leave the room and seen my delirious frenzy. All since that fatal night, now years gone by; tower. Still Fritag persisted in his story; room, he looked around with a shudder, was as I left it—doors and windows barred est," I continued; "have you ever spoken, cumstances, but there was no quieting her. and asked, "If I felt lonely, or would wish fast. My secret was my own. No mortal Who knows but it may be a warning that I the place till he could account satisfactorily knew what had happened, and no one am soon to join my spirit-bride?" should ever know.

afraid; and although I did not think the I dressed myself with scrupulous care, nected with the chamber, to which I eagerly the window, or bury it deep in the earth? old-fashioned ring, with strange characters it! I have it!' and by pressing hard with his pleasure. I left no portion of my apart- to Count Von Silberstein's name, and now assist Auerbach, who had fainted, crying was to the left of this narrow passage, bement unsearched, so that I could not by by her means; I date not mention her name, out: "I can do anything you require," replied possibility be played upon. I secured the fulfilling the prediction, it would cling, he, making an effort that I saw cost him a door and windows, and having made all my fasten, eat into my very life; and for how arrangements with the view of practically long? There was no second removal, no

I soized the ring and hid it in my bosom. tor, it is so strange and fearful to hear the ing a sound like the dropping of a heavy 2 childish fancy. I would never think of ravings of delirium. How invariably they weight, as it fell step by step. I could not it again. I ought to marry; I had no never witnessed. A medical man of great | ceed from the other side of the wall, and | be infected with strange delusions. In this there was neither room nor stairs beyond. ing, from the bottom of my heart, bound I looked around, but all was dark. Think. body and soul to a spirit. I hastened to vived; but no longer in her former state of ing I must have been mistaken, I settled to the salcon—none of the family had made excitement. She lay quiet, with her eyes sleep again, when the sound was repeated their appearance. Again I was alone; the began: closed. I tried to smooth her pillow, and even more distinctly than before. I began solitude I had fled from above pursued me here. I examined the pictures, which I had seen many times before; wondered who to a large ball at the Castle of Silberstein. they represented; had they a secret to hide? The night proved a tempestuous one; thun-Again, at that terrible thought, I turned mortal or spirit, in the room with me. After from them, and reckoned the panes of glass in each window. Did she, the Countess, The Count said that he also had an early who left that fearful legacy, ever stand here engagement, and that they could go together where I was standing? Perhaps it was in Under these circumstances, Fritag was very this spot that thought first presented itself to her mind.

I looked at the breakfast table; it was laid for four-the Count, his wife and my-Subbing like a child, he caught her beau- many minutes. however, when I perceived self. Who could the fourth be? The Countess' sister? Ah, here was a chancel departed without him. When the party astract her attention; but I could not for one with the little boy. I watched her for some ceiving he still breathed, they used the usual time. Oh! that I knew who she was-that remedies, and he soon showed signs of re-I could get acquainted with her. She turning consciousness. They then entreated would marry her; yes, she should be my stated that the night before he noticed the wife. I would love and protect her. She gloomy appearance of the room to his atwas poor, I would make her rich-I would tendant, who said it had hardly been used make her a lady. She would never refuse since the late Countess' death. It was the me; and once married, I should be safe, room that she and the Count had occupied, and could defy the spirit. Without a mo- and since her demise it had the reputation ment's hesitation I hurried along the of being haunted.

ful secret. Fearful of meeting any one, I left the terrace and hurried down the steps into but so covered with dust that it seemed as the thicket. I saw servants out looking if no mortal had been in it for years. She for me, and the young woman I had been speaking to pointing to them the direction I must have taken. I lay hid under a bush, not moving a limb lest they should see me; and when they had returned, I left my re- The next thing he was conscious of, was the treat and ran, almost flew, home. Those I | buzz of voices round his bed. met on the way looked at me with a vague clance that might have been sympathy. My first thought was to secrete the ring; this accomplished, I lay down and longed, oh! how earnestly for death! From that hour disease that Lady Theresa had died of. When I left my sick-bed I was another creature; I no longer strove to shut out the hateful truth from myself, but humbly submitted to my fate.

testify on oath all I have stated."

"I cannot but allow it is most strange," said I; "and had you not assured me you "As I stated," replied Auerbach, "deHe interrupted me:

Saying this he took from his breast a cu-

Just then I heard a footstep; trembling,

"I come-I some." Immediately I heard a voice exclaiming: the matter?"

To my infinite relief, I recognized Ferdi-Why should I indulge the feeling? It was got poor Auerbach to bed, where, after ad- window-sill itself might be raised; but there ministering some remedies, we succeeded in

restoring consciousness. When I related to Ferdinand what had passed, he started convulsively.

"I have been," he broke forth, "kept at court all day, on account of that identical Black Chamber."

I urged him to relate kis story, and he

"You both know Fritag," said he .-"Count You Silberstein lately invited him would willingly, save that he had an ap- Count's first wife." pointment early the next morning in town. glad to re remain beneath so good a shelter. The next morning, it seems, the jager

knocked at his door to tell him the Count was waiting; but, receiving no answer, concluded he had left the eastle. So the Count akfast: but there was n

corridor and down the terrace. A turn in | "Fritag was not afraid of spirits, and setthe path suddenly brought me before the tled himself for the night without any apgirl. I knelt at her feet, caught her dress, prehension. He had been in bed about a told her I adored her, would live but for couple of hours, when he was awakened by she would but unite her fate to mine. The ity of the room; he sat up, and was terrified poor creature thought I was mad; she by seeing a tall female clad in white, with screamed, caught the child in her arms and glaring eyes, and bright golden hair hangran into the castle. I saw what I had done; ing over her shoulders. Stalking up to the she would give the nlarm; they would all bed, she silently beckoned to him, and be consider me insane: I should be shupped mechanically rose and followed her through by every one, and left alone with my dread a long narrow passage, when she turned aside into a room, quite brightened by the moonlight streaming through the window. raised the lid of a chest, and with a wild scream, held towards him the skeleton of a child. At this moment he descried all changing and becoming black as pitch .-

"All the listeners to this mysterious story were struck with amazement. The old in bed, in the frenzy of the moment put the housekeeper said the room was frequented fated ring on his finger, and then returned, by a spirit, and so said all the credulous. before she was detected, into her own apart-The skeptical portions of the household tried ment. The next time she was not so fortu-I was ill three months of the very same to persuade Fritag that he must have had a nate. The second visit was when her nurse

"The Countess, a woman of strong mind, insisted on sending for the magistrate, and band his murdered child. It was just then having a thorough inspection of the room. the woman discovered her, and hore her Accordingly a carriage was dispatched for laway. "Now, what do you say to thisf for I can that functionary without delay. It was sometime before he arrived, as the distance from the castle to his residence is about ten miles. The Countess resolved not to leave the room constitution had received from that strange

take the commission of investigation. He to a supernatural being, were too much for ception here was impossible. I was as wide had often pressed the Count to allow him to his strength, which gradually gave way,

"Well," said I, more with the idea of trived to put it off. His absence now prethe furniture-there was no trace. Fritag showed the exact place of the spirit's en-"You first deny the existence of spirits; trance and exit. The wall was next soundbut something urges me to look at it to-night. and the magistrate said he would not leave for it.

"Accordingly he ordered a ladder, and rious looking box, and handed it to me to mounting it, passed his hand carefully over the wall, if by chance he might discover a I can hardly describe the sensation with hidden spring. After about an hour spent to a super-annuated nurse of the family who lived in these apartments. The room into fore coming to the steps. Into this the magistrate went. It was as Fritag described, covered thick with dust; but they perceived "Where in the world are you? What is the trace of a naked foot. Following this foot-print they came to the window-sill, but no chest was visible. After examining all nand's voice, and calling him to my aid, we around, the Countess suggested that the neither seemed hinge nor lock. However, the planks were lifted, and, awful to relate, the skeleton was found there.

"Herr Saltag would not allow the Countess to proceed any further; and giving the body of the child to one of his attendants, he proceeded with Fritag. They descended the steps, and going to the door, which was easily opened, there they saw the identical white figure cronched in a corner, her beautiful golden hair hanging disheveled over her; and the witch-like nurse, with the arm. raised about to strike her wretched victim. were they pursued by a spectre, to whom der and lightning, and torrents of rain; so fell, when, to his utter consternation, he be-Fritag caught the woman's arm before it they belonged without hope of release? they pressed Fritag to remain. He said he held in the ghastly misery of madness, the

This fearful tragedy is soon elucidated. Count Von Silberstein and his wife, a beautiful but portionless girl, whom he had married, were traveling abroad, when they met with Mademoiselle Clara Dugue, the daughter and only child of a wealthy merchant.

The Countess was near her confinement, and the Count saw, if he could only get her out of the way, he might easily obtain the hand and fortune of Mademoiselle Clara .sister; and, as I had no particular engage— their affice, and again sinking beside her leoked up, when, to my horror, I saw a tall rors, and thought I was good enough look- announced to the Countess that Herr Fritage The fiendish thought no sooner presented itself to his mind than he hastened to put it highly educated; many a girl would be only diately sent to let him know they were waitin execution. He traveled back in disguise to his Castle of Silberstein, near Blenheim. rest while my patient slept, as she know the feeling completely overcame me, and with snow. She stood still in the centre of the country of t feeling completely overcame me, and with snow. She swoot still in the centre of the duning. In the minus of these selections of the duning it tears I looked at the heart-broken man, all room, gazing about her. I was paralyzed a pretty young women, with a child, passed broke open the door, when they found poor to be reported in Rome that they had gone ment the Lady Theresa awoke. Saying his hardness and repulsiveness quite for- with terror; I held my breath, dreading to the window just opposite to me; they stope for the window just opposite to me; they stope fo child, he himself strangled the new-born babe in the mother's presence. The sight of her murdered infant deprived the poor Countoss of reason. He then placed her under the care of the old hag with whom she was found, thinking, perhaps, she was as safe there as in her grave; and by this means tried to quiet his conscience by not having deprived her of life. The only being to whom he confided his secret was his sister, but she was in no way partaker of the deed, not having heard of it till after his second marriage. The weight of this dreadful secret broke her heart.

Count Von Silberstein bastenened back after this foul deed to Rome, and there caused it to be circulated that his wife and child were dead. A few months after he sought from Monsieur Dogue the had of his fair daughter. The ambitious old merchant was dazzled by a glittering coronet, and forced his reluctant child to marry the Count. The poor maniac had always occupied the "Black Chamber." The first night I have introduced her as making her appearance there, her nurse had gone to a feast in the lower stories, and thinking she had left her charge asleep, ventured down the private passage I have described, the existence of which was only known to hersolf. The wretched creature missing her guardian, and seeing the door open, hastened down the steps; pushing the other door back, she instantly recognized her own reom; and, thinking she saw her husband was engaged in a similar manner as before. and she gave, as she thought, to her hus-

My poor friend Auerbach's health improved only for a short time; the solution of the mystery came too late. The shock his visitant, and the indissoluble contract by "Herr Saltag was only too glad to under- which he had supposed himself to be bound