

THE COLUMBIA SPY.

(SAMUEL WRIGHT, Editor and Proprietor.)

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DR. HOFFER.
DENTIST—OFFICE, Front Street 4th door from Locust, over Taylor & McDonald's Book Store, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

THOMAS WELSH.
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

DR. W. MIFFLIN.
DENTIST, Locust Street, a few doors above the Old Fellows' Hall, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

H. M. NORTH.
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

J. W. FISHER.
Attorney and Counsellor at Law,
Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

S. Atioe Beckius, D. D. S.
PRACTICES the Operative, Surgical and Mechanical Departments of Dentistry.
Office, Locust Street, between the Franklin House and Post Office, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

CHEWING TOBACCO.
AT HENRY FEAGLES' latest assortment opposite the Franklin House can be had GUBA LEAF, CONGRESS, and several other brands of the best chewing tobacco, to which the attention of smokers is invited.
May 1, 1858.

IMPORTED Lubin's, also, Gleam's Double Extracts, for the hair, by HENRY FEAGLES, Locust Street, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

ROOMS—100 Doz. Rooms, at Wholesale or Retail, at H. FEAGLES', Locust Street, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

SINE'S Compound of Syrup of Tar, Wild Cherry and Licorice, for the cure of Coughs, Colds, Whooping Cough, Croup, &c. For sale at HENRY FEAGLES', Locust Street, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

Patent Steam Wash Boilers.
THESE well known Boilers are kept constantly on hand at HENRY FEAGLES', Locust Street, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

Oats for sale by the bushel or larger quantity by HENRY FEAGLES', Locust Street, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

TOBACCO and Segars of the best brands, wholesale and retail, at HENRY FEAGLES', Locust Street, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

JUST in store, a fresh lot of Breeding & Fertilizing celebrated Vegetable Cattle Food, for sale by HENRY FEAGLES', Locust Street, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

Soup.
Boxes of Duffey Brown Soap on hand and for sale low at the corner of Third and Union Streets, August 6, 1859

Suffer no longer with Corns.
At the Golden Mennery, the best cure procure an article which is warranted to remove Corns in 48 hours, without pain or soreness.

Fly Paper.
A SUPERIOR article of Fly Paper, for the destruction of Flies, &c., has just been received at the Drug Store of R. WILLIAMS, Front Street, Columbia, July 30, 1859.

Harrison's Columbian Ink.
WHICH is a superior article, permanently black, and not corroding the pen, can be had in any quantity at the Drug Store of R. WILLIAMS, Front Street, Columbia, June 9, 1858.

In Hand.
MRS. WINSLOW'S Scented Syrup, which will greatly facilitate the process of teething by reducing inflammation, relieving pain, &c. is a very valuable medicine. For sale at R. WILLIAMS, Front Street, Columbia, Sept. 17, 1859.

REDDING & CO'S Russia Salve! This excellent remedy is prepared for the cure of external ailments is now for sale by R. WILLIAMS, Front Street, Columbia, Sept. 24, 1859.

SALT by the Sack or Bushel, and Potatoes in large or small quantities, for sale at the corner of Third and Union Streets, at HENRY FEAGLES', Locust Street, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

FRANGIPANI Extracts and Scented, an extraordinary perfume, at HENRY FEAGLES', Locust Street, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

CISTERN PUMPS.
THE subscriber has a large stock of Cistern-Pumps and Rams, to which he calls the attention of the public. He is prepared to put them up in a substantial and enduring manner. H. FAHLER, Locust Street, December 12, 1857.

FANCY TOILET SOAPS.
THE finest assortment of Fancy Toilet Soaps, ever offered to Columbians, at HENRY FEAGLES', Locust Street, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

COLOGNE WATER by the pint, quart or gallon. Gleam's Extract for the hair, and all the latest and most fashionable perfumery, at HENRY FEAGLES', Locust Street, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

Just Received and For Sale,
200 Bls. Ground Sifted, 50 Bls. Family Flour, 25 Bls. Land Oil of best quality, 50 Bls. Ground Alum Plaster, by B. F. APFOLD, No. 1 and 3 Canal Basin, March 26, '59.

JERKINS' Celebrated Black and Green Teas, Baker's Cocoa and Chocolate, at Corner of Third and Union Streets. [Nov. 20, '58]

GRAHAM, or Bond's Boston Crackers, for Dyspepsia, and Arrow Root Crackers, for invalids and children—see articles in Columbia, at the Family Grocery Store, April 16, 1859.

Teas.
of the celebrated Teas of Jennie's, L. O. & H. BRIDGER, No. 1 and 3 Canal Basin, Aug. 6, '59

NEW CORNED BEANS RAISINS.
THE best for Pickling, &c.—fresh supply at HENRY FEAGLES', Locust Street, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

Goodness Raising!
A LOT of very choice Seedling Raisins, just received at HENRY FEAGLES', Locust Street, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

Turkish Prunes!
FOR a first rate article of Prunes, just received at HENRY FEAGLES', Locust Street, Columbia, Pa. [August 21, 1858]

Selections.

Aunt Janet's Diamond.

CHAPTER I.

LOST.

"I am glad you like the style of the setting my love; it certainly is old fashioned; but the taste is very good, and the stones are particularly beautiful. Directly you become my son's wife, I shall give them up to you. You wonder I should like to part with them at my time of life! The truth is, for all their beauty, they afford me a very little pleasure; their sparkling brilliancy recalls the saddest events of my life. It wants half an hour to dinner, I shall just have time to tell you the story."

These diamonds were a gift from my Aunt Janet, my mother's sister. I was left an orphan at an early age, and went to live with Aunt Janet. She had a very pleasant home on Clapham Common, with a large garden; and she possessed an excellent income, arising from various sources. Aunt Janet was a widow, and her property had been left her by her husband in her sole control. She had no children; and she brought me up as her daughter; not that I was by any means spoiled; in truth, I was by no means as great a favorite as a little cousin of mine, Josiah Wilson, a child of my own age, who used to come and stay occasionally with us. On the plea of little Josiah being a visitor, I was always forced to give way to his whims and fancies, and let him be first in everything. Even at that early age, I am sorry to say, I began to dislike my cousin; and my dislike was increased to positive hatred by his being constantly held up to me as a pattern-child. I believed that Josiah was naturally better behaved than I was; but even at that early age I could perceive that he was particularly sly, and always took care to put on his best behavior in my aunt's presence. I can recollect, too, I was constantly punished for his faults; he used stoutly to deny everything; it was useless for me to speak; he was always believed, and I received the punishment.

When my aunt purchased these diamonds Josiah and myself were taken as a great treat to the shop—a very old fashioned jeweler's in the town. I was too young at the time to know anything about the value of diamonds, but I perfectly recollect seeing the man in the shop show this very set to my aunt for her approval. After some demur at the price, she gave a check for the money, and took the diamonds home with her in the carriage.

It happened on that day my aunt was in excellent humor with me; and while Josiah and myself were playing in her dressing-room, she called me to her, and put the diamond necklace on my neck, in order, as she said, to see how it looked on another person. I was delighted at the glitter, and ran off to survey myself in the glass. My aunt promised me, in reply to my expressions of admiration, that if I grew up a good girl those diamonds one-day would be mine.—Thereupon Josiah began to cry furiously; and he declared, with childish vehemence, that he would have the diamonds.

I suppose this early recollection would never have come to mind, but for its connection with subsequent events.

As we grew older, Josiah was sent to school, and we only met during his holidays. At these periods he was always spoiled by my aunt, and his amusements were playing and teasing me; any appeal to my aunt was useless, for she always took his part. When Josiah's education was finished he was placed in a stock-broker's office to learn the business; and to my dismay, it was arranged that he should reside with us.

However, matters did not turn out so unpleasantly as I had anticipated. Josiah, whenever we were thrown together, was civil and courteous; and though I could never tolerate his sly manner, and the false way in which he always treated my aunt, yet we contrived, on the whole, to live harmoniously together.

At last Josiah came of age. I recollect how surprised I was, on the morning of that day, when he presented me, in the presence of my aunt, with a very handsome bracelet. As he was my cousin, and as we had been so much together, I never dreamed for a moment that there could be any significance in the gift, and I saw from my aunt's manner that she would have been hurt had I refused it. My aunt gave a grand party in honor of the birthday, and I was still more surprised to find that all Josiah's attentions were paid to me, although there were several very pretty girls present, who, I knew, would be nothing loth to receive the addresses of Mrs. Wilson's favorite nephew.

I should be left without a protector; it was the dearest wish of her heart to see me Josiah's wife.

I trembled at her words, for I knew with all her kindness, that my aunt was of a very determined disposition, that she could never bear to be thwarted.

I replied that Josiah's conduct had never led me to suppose, that he regarded me other than in the light of a sister. "Ay," replied my aunt, "I have talked the matter over with your cousin, and he confessed that he has liked you very much for years past, but that your manner towards him has all ways checked any demonstration of his true feelings; I then told him," continued my aunt, "that it was for him to take the initiative in a courtship."

I was sick at heart, and escaped as soon as possible, from the room, on some household-keeping excuse. I understood the matter clearly enough; Josiah saw how deeply my aunt had set her heart on our marriage, and he resolved, for his own interest, not to be the person to thwart her.

My persecution began from that day. I was to be taught to like Josiah Wilson. My aunt devised all sorts of plans for forcing us together; he used constantly to bring me home presents from the city, jewelry, bouquets, and the like, which I was forced to accept. My aunt frequently told her friends that we were very much attached to one another, and that she supposed, one day or other, we should ask her consent to our union. My greatest distress was to see how piqued and angry Edward, Mr. Huntly, was at the attention I received from my cousin; he evidently thought I was on the point of being engaged. My lips were sealed; it was impossible for me to give him any indication of my real feelings. Josiah was always at my side, paying me the most assiduous court.

After a short time Josiah made me an offer, and I refused him without hesitation. I was certainly astonished by the warmth with which he pressed his suit, for I had fancied he was only acting out of compliance with my aunt's wishes. He begged and prayed that I would not pronounce an ultimate decision; he had perhaps been rather premature in his declaration; he only asked further time to prove the sincerity of his love. He would take no refusal; and we parted.

As might be imagined, my aunt was very angry at my conduct; she expostulated earnestly with me; and in order to show how deeply she had the matter at heart, she detailed to me the plans she had formed for our future mode of life. We were to live with her; at her death she would bequeath us all her property; and on the day of our engagement she intended to present us each with five thousand pounds.

I was placed in a most delicate position; I was wholly dependent on my aunt; I had not a single relation in the world who could help me; Mr. Huntly, as was natural under the circumstances, had ceased to pay me any attention.

Things took the course I feared; my aunt finding that her arguments in Josiah's favor were unavailing, had recourse to threats; she reminded me that the disobedience was wholly on my side; she declared that it would be the worse for me if I persisted in my refusal; and she concluded a very painful conversation by desiring me to give her my final decision after the dinner-party to which we were going on the following evening. In the meanwhile I was to think over the matter well.

When she had ceased speaking, my aunt recollected she had left the book she was reading in the summer-house, near the end of the garden; she was about to ring for the servant to fetch it; I said I would go instead of her. It was a lovely summer night, and the cool air was very refreshing after the excitement I had gone through.

I found the book in the summer-house, but I did not return immediately, the intense calm of night was so delightful. I was in a strange condition, half-musing, half-crying, when I heard voices behind the summer-house. I felt frightened, and drew back into the shade. Listening very intently, I could distinguish my cousin's voice, then another voice—a woman's—'my aunt's maid, Lucy! To my utter amazement, I heard him ask the girl to meet him at that spot on the following evening, after we returned home from the party. It was my cousin's voice—I was certain of that.—They passed away. This was the excellent man my aunt wanted me to marry! I was quite overcome with anger and indignation. I would denounce his conduct at once!—When I had sufficiently recovered myself I hurried back to the house; my aunt was not in the drawing-room; I had time for reflection. How did matters stand? Why, only my word against his! Of course the girl would deny everything; his word from childhood had always been preferred to mine; my aunt, at most, would believe I had mistaken the voice.

gentlemen came up, that Mrs. Huntly and myself were left alone together in one of the drawing-rooms. She addressed me, and laughingly said she supposed she would soon have the pleasure of congratulating me on my engagement; with my cousin; I longed to speak out to her, to tell her how I disliked my cousin, and loved her son, but I dared not. I strove to say something; my tongue was powerless; I burst into a flood of tears. Fortunately, I recovered myself before my aunt caught sight of me.

We left the party at about eleven o'clock. As soon as we got home, my aunt bade Josiah good-night, retired to her dressing-room, and sent for her maid. When my aunt wore her diamonds it was the custom for me to take them from her dressing-room and put them away, and they were kept in a room opening into the dressing-room, which was a large fire-proof safe, in which, on the outside, had the appearance of an ordinary chiffoniere. I was in such a state of nervous agitation when I entered my aunt's room to obtain the diamonds, that at moments I seemed to lose my head. Lucy was assisting my aunt to undress; the diamonds lay on the dressing-table. I placed them in their box; and took them out of the room without saying a word. To my dismay I found Josiah in the boudoir. There was always some difficulty about the lock of the safe, which was very elaborate; he took the keys out of my hand, and opened the door for me, and almost before I had placed the diamonds in their usual place, he renewed his hateful offer. It was on my lips to tell him that I knew of his baseness; luckily, as events will show, I restrained myself; but I did solemnly declare that, come what might I would never be his wife. He tried to frighten me with my aunt's displeasure.—In the midst of our discussion, in came Lucy from the dressing room with a message that her mistress wished to see me immediately.

It was a relief, at all costs, to be out of Josiah's presence.

My aunt was sitting in her easy chair, wrapped in her dressing-gown. Her manner was all kindness towards me—she made me sit close by her. To my surprise she did not say one word about the marriage; she began talking, accidentally as it were about the alterations she intended to make in the house; she asked my opinion of her different plans. I replied incoherently enough. I'm sure, but she took no notice of my manner.

As we lived in the neighborhood of London, it was Josiah's custom very frequently to discharge a pistol out of his bedroom window. Hearing the report recalled to my mind that I had left the keys of the safe with him. My aunt kept these keys in a secret place in her room, and was always very careful to see that they were safely deposited before she went to bed. I was puzzled by my aunt's conduct, and I was very anxious to see that they were safely deposited before she went to bed. I was puzzled by my aunt's conduct, and I was very anxious to see that they were safely deposited before she went to bed.

The conversation about the improvements was resumed, and I soon found that all this had really reference to our marriage—my aunt choosing to assume, by implication, that I had consented to the match.

It was a warm sultry night, and, on pretence of wanting air, I went to the window. How my heart beat! Looking out, I could just perceive in the breaks of light on the path, a figure hurrying down the garden; I strained my sight hard to be assured of the fact. The time had come to tell my aunt of my cousin's conduct.

I turned abruptly from the window, and threw myself at her feet. "Aunt, I can not marry my cousin!" At that moment, to my utter astonishment and dismay, there was a knock outside the door; it was Josiah; he had come to ask me whether Lucy had delivered the keys.

My aunt answered Josiah's question, and he went away; then turning to me, she asked, in a severe voice, what I had to say. I knew it was in vain for me to speak without proof. I was silent through painful helplessness. My aunt, waiting a while for me to speak, sternly declared I had fully cast away my best chance in life; henceforth she should never recur to the subject, and she bade me good-night. I reminded her that this was my first act of disobedience to her wishes; I declared I would never marry without her consent.—It was all in vain; notwithstanding my tears and protestations, I could not move her to forgiveness.

But however great my distress of mind, it was for the time lost in bewilderment at Josiah's conduct. It could not have been more than five minutes after he had inquired about the keys, that he hurried into my aunt's dressing room without so much as knocking at the door, and told us, in going the rounds of the house, he had found one of the dining-room windows, which opened on the garden, unbarred, and the window open. He was certain there was some collusion with people outside; thieves might even now be secreted in the house. He rang the alarm-bell which was connected with the room. His manner seemed so perfectly natural, that I began to believe I must have mistaken the voice. The women-servants, dreadfully frightened, came hurrying into the room, all but Lucy! Where was Lucy? Nobody knew; she was not up stairs. Josiah and the two men were to search the house. The Butler declared he

had himself shut, and barred the dining room windows. Presently, we heard voices outside in the garden, and Josiah came back to my aunt's room, laughing; he said it was all a false alarm. The butler and footman had pounced upon Lucy just as she was coming in at the window. The wretched girl was hurried into my aunt's presence, and cross-questioned, Josiah standing by quite unconcerned. What had she been doing? she was so scared and frightened.—All we could gain from her was, she had gone to meet her sweetheart.

My aunt gave her warning on the spot, and declared she should leave the house next day.

I was far too excited to sleep that night. Josiah's voice was it Josiah's voice? I could think of nothing else.

Early in the morning Lucy came into my room, crying bitterly. She begged and prayed I would intercede for her with my aunt.

"Tell me, Lucy, whom did you really go to meet?"

"Why, miss, only my young man," she replied.

"What an hour to choose, Lucy!"

"Yes, miss; but he's at work in London all day long."

I was determined to solve the mystery about Josiah.

"Listen to me, Lucy," I watched her closely as I spoke. "The night before last, about half-past ten, I went to fetch a book from the summer house." She blushed scarlet at my words. "I heard the meeting between you and that man arranged? I knew your voice, Lucy, and I knew his voice too."

She turned deadly pale, and sank to the floor.

"O miss!" she said, in a low tone, "you never can forgive me! It was very wrong; but if you knew all you would pity me. Mr. Josiah promised to get my brother let off being a soldier—he did indeed!—Mother's broken-hearted about poor James."

I knew it was true that Lucy's brother had enlisted.

"Have you any proof to give of Mr. Josiah's promise?" I asked.

"Only my word; but that's worth nothing now," she replied, in accents of despair.—"I've told one lie; nobody will believe me."

The girl's confession, which was so greatly to her detriment, left no doubt in my mind respecting my cousin; but the motive for his extraordinary conduct was still hidden in mystery. I cautioned the girl not to say a word about the affair with Mr. Josiah, which, unsupported as it was by any sufficient evidence, would only render her case worse with my aunt.

My aunt, of her own accord, after very serious admonition, awarded to Lucy the grab of a month's warning.

Never again did my aunt allude to my marriage with Josiah; but she treated me with the utmost coldness and distance.

It appeared that Mrs. Huntly had perfectly comprehended the reason of my silence and tears when she addressed me at the dinner. In a few days I received a letter from her son, making me an offer.

Rejoiced as I was at this evidence of Mr. Huntly's love, I could have given anything that my avowal should have been postponed till my aunt had become more reconciled to my rejection of Josiah.

I placed the letter in my aunt's hand, telling her that I held myself fully bound by my promise not to marry without her consent. She read the letter without making any remark on its contents, told me to acknowledge its receipt, and say the subject should be fully answered in a few days. I little imagined the reply that letter was destined to receive.

I would have willingly escaped from the room but my aunt ordered me to remain.—Mr. Chapman placed his chair so that the light from the window fell full on Lucy's face as she stood before him.

"I was in perfect agony; I knew the girl was innocent. There was a sickening presentiment, weighing in my mind, striving against it as I would, that Josiah was involved in the affair."

Mr. Chapman stated to Lucy, that in consequence of something which had just transpired, it was necessary for him to know the name of the person she had gone into the garden to see.

The girl looked anxiously at me; I averted my eyes, but I felt my face burn beneath her gaze.

She said it was her lover.

"His name?" demanded Mr. Chapman. She refused to give any name, and though he pressed her on the point, she remained obstinately silent.

"Now, Lucy," said he, "this is how matters stand; your mistress's diamonds were placed in that press; the keys were last in your possession; the diamonds are gone." "Gone!" exclaimed the girl in terror.—"Not me, sir, you don't suspect me?"

Mr. Chapman made no reply. Lucy turned from him to my aunt, and vehemently protested her innocence.

"It is in your own power, Lucy," said Mr. Chapman, "to clear yourself from suspicion by telling us the name of your lover."

In sheer desperation the girl uttered some name. Mr. Chapman noted it down.

"Now the address. Mind I shall send a person instantly to verify what you say."

She stammered, prevaricated, and threw herself in an agony of grief on the floor.

Mr. Chapman told my aunt that a constable had better be sent for.

At this juncture Josiah entered the room; he was not himself—I could see that; he peered anxiously round.

To my amazement Lucy started up. "I will tell you who this man is, sir," she exclaimed to Mr. Chapman. "There he is," and pointing to Josiah, she looked him steadfastly in the face.

"The girl's mad," said Josiah, with affected coolness.

"This is a sheer loss of time," said Mr. Chapman; "we had better send her off."

"I'm not mad," cried the girl. "He knows he asked me to meet him in the garden; he promised to get off my brother if I would."

I saw Josiah wince at her words.

"It's a base lie," interposed my aunt.—"Mr. Josiah never went into the garden the night you were found there."

"Wretched creature, this falsehood won't serve you," exclaimed Mr. Chapman, indignantly.

"But I've a witness," she retorted boldly. "We were overheard the night before."

I saw Josiah turn pale. "Really, aunt," said he, "you won't believe this nonsense?"

"Of course not," replied my aunt; then turning to the girl she told her to produce her witness. Lucy flew up to me, and with determined energy drew me into the middle of the room. "Speak for me," she exclaimed.

It was a terrible moment; to speak was to criminate Josiah.

"You must speak," said the girl fiercely; "if you don't it will be on your conscience to your dying day."

I shall never forget the terrible ordeal of questioning and cross-questioning I underwent. Lucy, now that the truth was out, had grown quite reckless and defiant, and she positively forced the words out of my mouth. My aunt, on the other hand, was strangely calm and composed, and seized with eagerness every weak point in my narrative. I had stated that I heard Josiah ask the girl to meet him. "And I seen Josiah!" inquired my aunt; "that was the great point."

to go down stairs, telling her she would be strictly watched.

From the moment my aunt and Mr. Chapman began to discredit my evidence, about Josiah, the girl's boldness had ebbed away, and utter despair again took possession of her. She begged and prayed most piteously not to be sent down stairs; they might lock her up where they liked, but she dared not face the other servants.

My aunt, without noticing me, in the slightest degree, left the room with Mr. Chapman. Lucy dragged herself with effort to where I was sitting.

"O miss!" said she, "I know you don't think me guilty. But do say, the words would do me good; it's so terrible to hear I assured her that I fully believed her innocent."

"Ah!" she continued, "I know I've got you into trouble, telling as I did, about Mr. Josiah. Any other way, they might have burnt me before I'd have told it; but to be accused of stealing those diamonds—I could not hold my tongue."

I gave the poor girl what comfort I could, and then hurried away to my own room, for I was afraid to encounter my aunt. I heard what was going on from one of the servants, who came up to me from time to time.

Josiah returned from London after an absence of about three hours; a Bow street officer was to follow him immediately. From my bedroom window I saw a strange, forbidding looking man with a slow, heavy step, come up the house-walk from the common. He was admitted into the house. I listened anxiously over the staircase to hear what was going on below. I heard all—my aunt, Mr. Chapman, and the man—go to the room where I knew Lucy was. The man's heavy tramp went pit-pat with my heart. I felt perfectly ill with suspense.—Then I heard the man's footsteps going towards my aunt's boudoir, tramp, tramp, down the passage; all was silent. Presently the footsteps returned down the passage to the room where they were all assembled. There was a sudden, loud shriek—Lucy's voice. I sank down, clinging to the banisters. I don't know what time had elapsed when one of the servants rushed up, breathless.

"Thank God! they're found!" she exclaimed.

"The diamonds?"

"Yes, miss; they were all the time in the safe."

"Impossible!" I replied. "I searched it myself; and I hurried down stairs to learn the truth."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Shetland Marriage.

All the Shetlanders marry about the age of twenty; that is, the men marry at twenty, as for the women, they follow quite a different rule. It sometimes does happen that both the man and woman about to be married are of an age, but this is seldom; the greater number of marriages are between youths of nineteen and maids of thirty-two. Whenever a young man can act his part in the manning of a boat, he has arrived at the height of his ambition, and therefore there is no wonder at his marrying early; but why he pitches on an old maid, instead of a young girl, is not so easily accounted for, unless it be that young men have a peculiar affection for old maids; as old men have a peculiar affection for young girls. This system of marrying holds good only with those who never leave their native soil. He who becomes a sailor, cannot generally marry as young but he is always sure, before leaving his home, to single out the object of his future affections. In no country is a lover so faithful to his mistress as in Shetland. I never heard of a Shetland sailor who was guilty of a breach of promise, although he should be absent for ten years. Not only does he not break his engagement, but he never fails to write to his beloved one in affection of the most endearing nature, always beginning or ending his epistle with "My Pet," "My Jewel," "My Waird," or "My Diamond." Years before the celebration of the marriage, the woman is by no means slack in telling all her neighbors of the particulars of the engagement, and of the year, and of the month, and of the day, and of the hour when it is to be celebrated. Such an extraordinary license of anti-nuptial tattle would be hardly suitable for countries where the bride sometimes, misses the bridegroom, even at the horns of the altar. The woman has another license, which is more peculiar, she is allowed to have a temporary lover during the absence of the true one. The license is given by the absent lover himself, but the moment he returns home, the temporary lover must desert, from making any more visits. How far the temporary lover may carry on his suit, I could never accurately ascertain; but it is generally understood that they may joke, kiss at the back of the door, and squeeze hands when parting. The absent lover, is allowed no license of this sort, but must walk as circumspectly as though he was married. Whether he strictly adheres to such a course of chaste behavior, cannot always be found out; but it is certain that, if alive, he will return home, and marry her who is as dear to him as life itself. When the marriage ceremony is performed, not by a priest, for there is not a Roman Catholic clergyman in the Shetland Islands, one of some dissolving communication, of which there are many, the marriage party, a mixed assemblage of old and young, set off immediately on a short tour, until it draws