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THE PALSIED HEART.

AUTHOR OF "BOSING AND WINNING," (Concluded.)

He now saw her a high souled efficient without the support of any one; and, that he had lost it; never before had he been so much in love!

They were pointed at as the best siness, remarked: matched pair that! could be found! daughter had acquired under Mr. would do you any good.

ion on the subject, and it met her warm the disease of the family.'

influence. I hope you will prove the leaning on him for support. successful candidate.

three years before, his name had been a cup of tea.

mentioned as a candidate for the State · I shall write to you very often, gage in public business.

herself on his knee, 'only think how can readily understand how anxious many long weeks you may be from you will feel about the children.' home! How could I live so long without seeing you, so many tedious a different expression of feeling, and hours between us! O, I should pine after a silence of some length, saidto a skeléton in your absence!

now, though the distance between thought caused not the slightest agita- preserve it." tion, and gave rise to not even a sigh!

days. I feel no apprehension.'

are conscious they have been in the had driven it away. say-I have been to blame; pray par- hold dear.'

don me.

Some time intervened between his Terms-Invariably in Advance: but it hastened away, and the hour for Howard returned to the parlor, and cause for alarm. Her two brothers that we part friends. ler, the family physician, to call as if ask.' by accident, and ascertain if possible. There are moments of our lives, do. He called on Mrs. Howard to Howard. Helens undisguised indifbear so long a separation. After chat- wrung every fibre of his heart,

Perhaps it is well Mr. Howard goes months—for now she had to perform every way suited (to improve, and to Washington this winter. Such a to heartless duties; she had to pay make each other happy. Even Mr. pattern of a wife as you are, will of no heartless attentions. A burden was fection! Her heart swelled and gushed Atwood, high as his expectations had course be very domestic during his removed from her mind. She was a forth in love, in gratitude, and peni- fever has made dreadful havoc with dignity and strength of character his exposure to our cold northern air husband's absence she resolved to

the effects of Helen's influence over report as favorable as his conscience education of her children, and to the rock; and caused her heart to thrill him. He often sighed with regret would permit; but he confessed that cultivation of her own mind. She re- with emotion- Ah, thought she how Howard. that his wife could not have lived to Helen's symptoms were not such as ceived three letters a week from Mr. constant has that heart been to me, in see the happy couple that they were he could wish. Mr. Howard's deep Howard. They were full of interest, spite of all my coldness, my heartless now! How delusive are appearances! distress led him to add: 'But I hope as he detailed all that he saw or heard indifferent lit was many months after the wreck | much from her firmness of mind and which could either entertain or instruct | disdain!' of his domestic happiness, that Mr. equanimity of spirits. And after all, her. There was, too, a peculiar kind Howard was nominated for a member 1 shall probably think very lightly of of tenderness about them. Whenever of Congress. He asked Helen's opin- her complaints, were not consumption his own feelings were the subject, he pang on account of his absence, but the hope of seeing you has helped to

I believe you to be a patriot in the his feelings all in a turnult. Vain had suit or not. In each letter he urged remainder of the tedious session of Howard paced the floor, with sensabest sense of the term, said she, and been his endeavors to detect in Helen her to tell him everything concerning Congress; alas, would she still be tions which the feeling heart may conshould you be elected, you may do the slightest symptoms of regret at herself and the children, as the most an inhabitant of earth when it should ceive, but which no one should attempt your country much good. I know their separation. She appeared only trifling incidents—even the prattle of come to a close? but notwithstanding to describe. It seemed an age before itude, though soon to cease beating to describe. It seemed an age before itude, though soon to cease beating to describe. It seemed an age before itude, though soon to cease beating to describe. It seemed an age before itude, though soon to cease beating to describe. It seemed an age before itude, though soon to cease beating to describe. It seemed an age before itude, though soon to cease beating to describe. It seemed an age before itude, though soon to cease beating to describe. It seemed an age before itude, though soon to cease beating to describe. It seemed an age before itude, though soon to cease beating to describe. It seemed an age before itude, though soon to cease beating to describe. It seemed an age before itude, though soon to cease beating to describe. It seemed an age before itude, though soon to cease beating to describe itude, though so describe itude narrow and selfish party views, and ing of her country's good; the lofty him. your principles and talents must com- and independent-minded wife, enjoy- Helen wrote to Mr. Howard often, solemnity of her situation-how sweet | within his, to lead him to the chamber, mand respect, and exert a beneficial ing her husband's honors, but not and kept him well informed as to all did she find it again to love—love with

Flattering as this answer was to Mr. of Mr. Howard nearly overpowered that was communicable about the chil- and thoughts to Heaven, that her heart Howard's vanity as a man, it wrung him. To eat was impossible, and it his heart as a husband. Some two or was with difficulty that he swallowed and interesting questions about their Helen's next letter to Mr. Howard

Legislature, and it filled Helen with Helen, said he, abruptly. 'You will alarm. She entreated him not to en- not let all my letters remain unanswered?

'Only think,' said she, as she seated : 'Certainly not,' Helen replied; 'I

Mr. Howard bit his lips to prevent ·Will you promise me to take the Such had been her feeling-but best possible care of your health?

Surely, there, is little need of exthem must be doubled, and doubled acting such a promise from a mother? again, should be be called to Washing- answered Helen. A feel that my life ton, and though his absence must be is of some value to my little ones, and dren, and in reading; and in the fre- him; for he knew her too well to have for months instead of weeks, the of course it a duty to do all I can to

By thus referring to the children, In a softened voice, Mr. Howard both as the exclusive objects of his said-But, my dear Helen, how interest and her own, Helen comwould you get along during my ab- pletely closed the lips of her husband, friends laughed at her for pining on sion made use of in her letter. The sence, should I be called away? Your when he would have expressed tencares must necessarily be greatly mul-derness to herself. Her dignity and reserve seemed to form a magic circle 'The same good Providence,' she around her, over which he found; it replied, that has hitherto guarded me, Impossible to pass. The kindness of will do so, I trust, to the end of my! her actions, and the unvarying coldtness of her manners; her freedom of Mr. Howard's disquietude was in expressing her opinions, and her conexact proportion to Helen's self-pos- cealment of her opinious, kept Mr. session; but she could not endure to Howard in a constant state of wonder alarmed, but calculated to be out were conveyed in hunbering stage have it discovered, and arose and left and excitement, and gave rise to such again in a few days. It devolved upon coaches, and to a heart-racked by anxthe room. Probably the pride of most | conflicting emotions, and such contramen revolts from the expression of dictory thoughts, that one could not deep emotion, particularly when they obtain utterance before its opposite a hectic, and the father betrayed to When Dr. Miller's letter arrived it deep emotion, particularly when they obtain atterance before its opposite

wrong. Much as Mr. Howard, had done, this was the very thing he had Mr. Howard, while yet at the breaklest undone. He could be very kind fast table, 'you will feel less solitary necessarially alarmed; but the reand attentive, but could not stoop to than myself, separated from all that I membrance of her mother, brothers, him that Helen was undoubtedly in a had she been able to utter them. Her od self-command but looks heart-

The election came off, and Mr. How- solitary, son Helen. You must give and felt her doom was surely scaled. ard was the successful candidate. He | your mind to your country, and in | The confusion, the rush of thought could not but be gratified at the honest discharging your duties as a patriot which was incident to the first shock of absence from congress; and after trust conferred on him, yet the idea of and statesman, you will find enough soon passed away, and Helen calmly the unavoidable intervention of one leaving his wife while her feelings to engress your heart. And bosides, set herself to examine her present po- day from the receipt of the Dr's. letter, husband, as peacefully and gently as

formerly, though she made no compleint: indeed, the would acknowledge no indisposition, even when he

Both husband and wife remained to the last said offices to a departed friend, nothing is so matural departed friend, nothing is so

sumption at a much carlier age than voice as cheerful as she now ever spoke justice asserted her right, and Helen elso they would certainly have given tions when left to himself, after the inthat at which she had arrived; and in-for the light, glad tone of earlier was conscious that to please, her hus- him the truth, her mother had been taken away by days had vanished away together with band and render him happy, had been Slow as Mr. Howard's progress the contents of his secretary and written same unerring destroyer. Mr. the wretched smiles that had accomthe same merring destroyer. Mr. the wretched smiles that had accom-Howard's auxiety, became so great panied it— Friends! assuredly we withstanding this she was willing to of locomotion, he at length reached last turned by her own hand. He sufthat a week or two before he started do! and most sincerely do I wish you believe that sho had often given him the place of his residence in safety. fered not a scrip of paper that bore on his journey, he requested Dr. Mil- success as will leave you nothing to just cause for displeasure. With in- He occupied the back seat of the mail the mark of her hand to pass unread:

that which was far higher proof of ele- She confessed, that as the cold weather words to each. As he replaced the on her mind. vation and strength of character, equal came on, she felt some diminution of youngest to the carpet, Helen presented to bearing her own sorrows without strength, and occasional pains in the her hand. He took it without uttering ing manner, been discharging her conthe aid of sympathy. In truth, the chest, 'but nothing, 'she added, 'to a sylable, pressed it firmly, and then jugal duties, what had been Mr. How- breath, and could with difficulty com- before their marriage; one written by

were the envy or the admiration of rated. He, however, made no com- there was no very marked change in had hitherto remained entirely unfelt driven to Mr. Howard's. the little world in which they moved, ment, and without any apparent unea- Holen's health. She was really happier than she had been for many long Howard's influence; and equally so at To Mr. Howard, the doctor made a and devote herself to the comfort and ness that had before fallen as on a The morning of his departure found whether what he said would aid his days. How was she to endure the

that was in progress among his friends tenderness and ardor! and with fer-At the breakfast table, the feelings and acquaintances; she told him all vent gratitude did she raise her eyes except to answer his direct inquiries | in direct terms her new found love .-for her health, and this she did in the | but its spirit broathed it in every line.

matter. without any of that tenderness ex- the last she wrote. pressed which always precedes the Joy and grief contended in Mr.

out weariness or discontent. But though scarcely aware of it her- He had stronger proof of her indispo sulf, Helen was much altered. Her sition and debility than any expresaccount of Mr. Howard's absence, but tremulousness of the hand that had Dr. Miller looked on with deep soli- written it was but too obvious. It citude. In the beginning of Febru- was entirely different from Helen's ary, Helen took a drive with the chil- neat and beautiful hand writing when the solace of years! dren when the air was humid from in usual health. On the instant he the desolving snow, and she took a wrote to Dr. Miller to learn the worst very severe cold. Its fatal effects were he had to fear. Ten tedious days must soon visible, she was at once confined pass before he could hope to receive to her room. Still Helen was not an answer, for at that time the mails Dr. Miller to give the alarm to her liety they seemed to travel a small's his daughter the Dr's. opinion. At more than confirmed Mr. Howard's first it was a stunning blow to her, worst apprehensions. The Doctor then she thought that the Dr. was un- had actually begun to write before he and her sisters rushed upon her mind; You will not, you must not feel looked fairly at her own symptoms,

were in their present state, caused him who can talk of solitude in the midst sition, and as the Scriptures express he commenced his homeward journey. an infant falls asleep in its mother's it, set her house in order preparatory cample time had he to reproach him- arms. unutterable anxiety. He conjectured, of Washington society?'
it, set her house in order preparatory emple time had he to reproach himtoo, that her health was less firm than 'The mind is its own palace, said to the last change. The first thing self and every body else, while seated

aroused by the horn of the stage coach | youth, in the bosom of her father's | Miller! Why had not Mr. Atwood in | left behind. Particularly do we love sounding at the door. The table was familyd how sunny and how joyfully election and the period he was to take deserted in a moment; and after throw- the first years of her married life, liby These, together with other thoughts his seat in the National Legislature; ing the stage-waiter his baggage, Mr. dark the clouds that had more recently far more bitter and grievous, were sition in which the lost one placed overshadowed her! For this who was his departure for Washington was closed the door. 'The bitter moment to blame ! Her natural freedom from rapidly increased, as the time for him has at lnegth come, said be. We a self justifying spirit, together with Dr. Miller, the fact was that they both diary, in which the thoughts and feelto leave her drew near. He had some must part. O's Helen, in pity say the fearful thought that she was soon knew the frequency of Helen's letters ings of the departed have been last that we part friends.'

to appear before her final judge, distorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, the ignorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, and the ignorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, and the ignorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, and the ignorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, and the ignorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, and the ignorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, and the ignorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, and the ignorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, and the ignorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, and the ignorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, and the ignorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, and the ignorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, and the ignorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, and the ignorance under which he labored, 'One of Mr. Howard's first occupations, and the ignorance under which he ignorance u tense anxiety she reviewed the last coach, and as it drove up to the post- He found much that was interesting; year and a half and asked herself, what office, he involuntarily drew himself much that was calculated to exalt his whether Helen was really diseased, or when the most bitter wailings of grief she had done for his happiness while back, dreading to read the fatal news wife in his opinion in respect to the whether his fears were only the off- would be sweeter to the ear than the her affection for him had been dor- in the countenance of any who might qualities of both her head and heart. spring of a distempered imagination. gladdest strains of music, and thus it mant. She could find no special neg- perchance get a view of him. From In searching the desk, he found in its The doctor did as he was requested to was, in the present instant with Mr. lect of duty of which to accuse herself his partial concealment he glanced most secret compartments, a large -yet, the remembrance of duties around and with others, saw Dr. Mil- packet; carefully enveloped in white see, he said, how she was likely to ference even at the moment of parting, heartless performed gives little satis- ler a few rods distant; coming to- paper and tied with a riband. This faction-and to Helen, the whole wards the carriage. In his eagerness he laid aside until he had examined all ting with her for an hour on the com- With a look of intense, feeling he seemed a dark, and troubled, and guilty to read the doctor's face he leaned the loose and apparently less impordischarge of the duties of her station, mon topics of the day, he made some turned to the children, and pressing dream. Now that she was awaking a little forward and their eyes met. leading remark concerning her health. them to his bosom, murmured a few it left a gloom and painful impression

life, was restored to her in all its por- hope, and what to fear !"

wrote like a timid lover, as if in doubt now she felt a loneliness as in former keep her alive.'

father, and of their impatience for his was very different from those which return; but of herself she said nothing, had preceded it. She did not express most indefinite manner possible. She | Towards the close she mentioned havwas as well as usual-health much ing taken a severe cold, and gave some the same, or there was no essential imitation of Dr. Miller's opinion as to change, was the whole amount of the the result. . She subscribed herself; Your own true grateful and affec-She was truly ingenious in trying to tionate Helen.' This was the last close her letters with courtesy, and yet letter she ever sent him, though not

signature of a wife, when writing to a Howard's heart as he read this epistle; husband she loves. In receiving and joy exquisite and unalterable, that the writing letters; in tending to her chil- affection of this wife was restored to quent visits of her father and Doctor a shadow of doubt respecting her sin-Miller, Helen's time passed away with- cerity; and grief and alarm the most harrowing with regard to her health.

could not be protracted to many weeks.

taken. He asked and obtained leave

formed him of his daughter's danger?' to touch and look at those things which continually revolving in his mind.

Slow as Mr. Howard's progress the contents of his secretary and writ-

memory; and at once the beloved of alighted at his own door and grasped testified how weak and tremulous was her youth, the idol of her early wedded his friend's, hand, twhat have I to the hand that guided the pens. It was

The doctor shook his head. The over before you could reach us.'

able to speak to you. Since yesterday and yet I am summoned away! How indifference, and sometimes, I fear, my she has spoken but one word at a shall I bear to leave my husband and time, and that in a whisper. But I, children! For a long time after Mr. Howard's must hasten to prepare her to meet departure from home, Helen felt no you. I have sometimes thought that

this reawakened regret on account of Dr. Miller returned, but he came at anti-city bershusband's absence—and the awful length, and taking his friend's arm. Dr. Miller came in and caught me have support within his, to lead him to the chamber, in the act of writing; and he perem

in a situation to bear strong excite- be a consolation to you to receive a ment?

Mr. Howard spoke not; but the have loved so faithfully. doctor felt his whole frame tremble as ilt is a comfort to me to write, and tell he leaned on his arm. Helen's eyes you again and again of the love and

her cheeks were like the rose. To the children all the time. unexperienced eye she might have appeared the picture of health as she My dear husband, you were my

kisses impressed on her fevered brow! destruction. and how precious were the single I have been a source of great unwords of whispered love that fell from happiness to you, my dear husband, her quivering lips! ah, a treasure to ever since we were united. Had you

scarcely left her day or night. For that it was my sincere and constant Mr. Atwood's, as the sight of them came short of it. O. forgive me, for home to give and take the last parting | trouble you no more! kiss. As the youngest child was taken from her, Helen looked at the father, looked at the little ones, and father; and to consider him during then raised her tearful eyes to Heav- life, as a parent. It is very touching confirmed hectic and that her life face expressed far more than language broken at the prospect of losing his could have done, and its meaning was lest remaining child, O, strive to con-Mr. Howard's resolution was at once engraved on her husband's soul. Two sole him in his utter loneliness! May Helen breathed out her spirit, while Ah, how unworthy am I of all this her head reclined on the bosom of her liove and regret!-

In the solitude, the utter desolation solicitously made inquiries on the silent; and in a short time they were bright and chooses; appeared her as not sooner to have written to Dr. as to examine every relic they have

have not been removed from the pothem. Above and beyond all is the With regard to Mr. Atwood and value attached to any memoranda, and

tant papers. This done he took the "Thank heaven!" exclaimed, the chair which Helen used to occupy, and doctor as he sprang to the side of the placing it at her table, proceeded to . And while she had, in this unfeel- coach-"thank Heaven you have come!"; open the packet. It contained all heart of his wife had never before interfere with my avocations, or to darting from the house, seated himself; and's deportment toward, her? The mand his voice to say—"then I am her to each of her children, to be appeared to him so great a treasure, affect my spirits.' With the freedom in the coach which the next moment prospect of her own dissolution, product of an old friend and family practi-rolled away. It was toward the latter part of effect that the death of her husband yet lives," and the coachman at that opened with trembling heart. It was found it hot and dry; he felt her pulse, November when Mr. Howard left would have done. His increasing instant drawing up the reins, Dr. Mil- dated a few days later than the last he Meantime, Mr. and Mrs. Howard and they were considerably accele- home, and for a great number of weeks gentleness, his forbearance—which lor took the soat at his side and was received from her while in Washington; but it was written at intervals and unnoticed, came thronging on her 'Tell me,' said Mr. Howard, as he and with evident effort. The writing as follows:

My dear, dear Husband:

The days of your own Helen are been raised, was astonished at the absence, and I doubt whether much very tender mother; and during her tence. His recent letters were all her strength, said he; 'within the numbered and almost finished. Yesbrought forth, and reperused, and all last week she has sunk rapidly. I terday I solemnly adjuted Dr. Miller forego all society as much as possible, those expressions of love and tender- sometimes feared that all would be to tell me the worst of my case; and the says that a few weeks must end ·Will she know me? asked Mr. my earthly course. And must we part forever and so soon! The very 'Oh, yes-but she will hardly be morning of my life is scarcely past,

> For many long months past my heart has seemed as if congealed in my bosom, and in looking back, all The doctor left the room, and Mr. seems like a troubled dream. Have I been in a kind of sleep! Thank Heaven, I am now awake! and my heart beats with fervent love and grat-

torily forbids it. But how can I en-Now compose yourself, my dear tirely refrain! Perhaps I may never sir; remember Mrs. Howard is not speak to you again; and I think it will letter as from the grave of her you were fastened on the door as it opened. gratitude that swell my heart. I think They sparkled like diamonds and of you, and pray for you and the dear

was of beauty. She made an effort to idol. I lived only for you and myself-raise herself, but in vain; and by a Happy—O, how happy in your love. forcible grasp of his arm, the doctor 1 forgot the hand that 'loaded me constrained Mr. Howard to walk across with benefits —that showered bless the floor, instead of springing towards ings in such profusion upon me! I her. When he had led him quietly needed all the chastisement I have across the room and seen his wife's received, to rouse me from forgetfulhands clasped in his, he left them. has and ingratitude. But O, what world of grief can the human heart endure at the same moment of time! How sweet, yet how ago-breaking, I should never think of connizing the meeting! How did Helen secrating myself to Him, who has done drink in the words of love and tender- iso much for me! Dearest husband, ness that her husband murmured in avoid my example as you would avoid her ears! How soothing were the the pain of remorse, and perhaps, find

he solace of years! found a wife free from such defects as Beyond expectation, Helen lingered 1 unfortunately had, how happy you a week after Mr. H.'s return; and he had been! My only consolation is, some time the children had been at wish to please you, however far I. seemed too exciting in their mother's every pang I ever cost you-and sinking state; but once after their think of me with kindness and lenity, fathers return they were brought when my many imperfections can

I know I need not enjoin it on you, my dearest husband, to be kind to my days after parting with her children, he be sustained by Almighty strength.

Permit me to request, dearest, that you will praise the children when they do well. The human heart needs commendation, for its encouragement [Concluded on fourth page.]