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THE BRADFORD REPORTER.

## TOWANDA:

Saturdan Morning, October 28, 1854,

## Selected Poetry.

BEYOND THE RIVER

Time is a river deep and wide; And while along its banks we stray We see our lov'd ones o'er its tide Sail from our sight away, away.

Where are they sped, they who return
No more to glad our longing eyes? They've passed from life's contracted bourne To land unseen, unknown, that lies Beyond the river.

'Tis hid from view; but we may guess How beautiful that realm must be; For gleamings of its loveliness, In visions granted, oft we see. The very clouds that o'er it throw
Their veil, unrais'd for mortal sight, With gold and purple tintings glow, Reflected from the glorious light

And gentle airs, so sweet, so calm, Steal something from that viewless sphere; The mourner feels their breath of balm, And soothed sorrow dries the tear.
And sometimes listening ear may gain Entrancing sound that hither floats, The echo of a distant strain Of harps' and voices' blended notes, Beyond the river.

There are our lov'd ones in their rest : They've cross'd Time's river; now no more They heed the bubbles on its breast,
Nor feel the storms that sweep its shore. But there pure love can live, can last, They look for us their home to share; When we in turn away have pass'd,
What joyful greetings wait us there,

## Selected Cale. IDLE WORDS

I was visiting a surgeon's family in-, and as the house was large, and the master independent and hospitable, and the country attractive, several persons besides myself were assembled, and among them, an old gentleman, long since retired from the practice of the law, and some young people, relatives of the host. These young folks, like most others of their age, were thoughtless and hasty, rath er than deliberately wicked, and talked a great deal more, and used a great deal stronger language than they had any idea of.

If it is true that standers by see more than those who play, it certainly may be supposed that listeners hear and understand more of the merits of eager, silly talkers, than they suspect, and that in them exceedingly. And this was mme and Mr. know something of her." Falconer's lot, one day, during our visit to Mr. Lindesay, when playing at chess, we overheard the recess of a great bay-window in the breakfast

which had been made in the morning to Mrs. Lindesay, by a young girl of the most winning and pre possessing manners, for her interest with the la dies' committee of one of the neighboring chari'y schools, for the situation of teacher, which was just

Now, although my good friend Mrs. Lindesay i she has a fair share of the leaven of ostentation in her composition; and therefore, instead of granting the applicant's request for a private interview, had her shown up into the room where we all sat, and where ten pairs of inquisitive woman's eyes were raised to stare at her when she came in.

Certainly, this was very bad taste, if not goite bad feeling; for the poor girl, taken aback by the audden and unexpected introduction to so many strangers, colored painfully, scarcely seeming to know whether to retreat or remain. Still, confused and bewildered as she was, she was not ungrace. ful; but, recovering her courage, commenced her business in a manner that convinced me and Mr. Falconer that her present position, as a candidate for the post of a charity school teacher was very different to what she had beeen accustomed.

And, unfortunately for her, Mrs. Lindesay-net usually very discerning or imaginative-quickly suspected the same, and subjected her to a crossexamination, which was not either peculiarly lady like or kind, seeing that it had, for its sole end and aim, the gratification of an essentially vulgar passion-curiosity.

The young girl, however, bore it well. That she was mortified and hurt, was evident; but nevertheless, her answers were frank and dignified .-Her father had been a merchant at C-, she said -had failed and died, and her step mother was now in ill health, and broken spirits, wholly dependent upon her. Circumstances had made the Position of governess in the-charity school most desirable; and being informed that Mrs. Lindesay's had ventured to call and seek it.

"You can bring testimonials, of course," said the patroness, flattered by the power ascribed to her. "I really have so many applications for my interest in this matter, and is an affair of so much importance, that I cannot consent even to name I dare say it was a fabrication." any one unless their references are first rate. And bankrupts, you know, pray excuse me, I would not hurt your, feelings for the world-but when a blemish attaches to one member of a family, people are are so sadly apt to consider it as extending to all. Your testimonials, however-"

"Shall be respectable madam. Of my qualifications, the committee may judge for themselves, as I am perfectly willing to teach the school gratuitously for a week, which will give them an opportunity of learning if I am competent to fulfil the duties they require."

"I will consult my mother, and call again this

And raising with a graceful curtesy, but crimson ed cheek, she left the room.

" Poor girl !" said Mr. Falconer, in a low voice when the door closed, "she has drank a bitter cup this morning."

The remark was unheard by every one but myself, for the rest were chattering altogether very much after the fashion of a nest of magpies. so that it was difficult to distinguish any thing in the din. At least we heard our hostess say-

"It certainly was strange. One would have thought that, knowing reference must be required, she would have been prepared with them, instead of having to consult her mother. Yes, now you mention it Miss Lowther, it does look strange; I

" Nor I; but then I do not like her manner throughout. Her story, too, struck me as being a lame one. If she is respectable, why doesn't she get a better place than this charity school? A resi dent governess in a good family, for instance. The salary would be quite as good, I dare say, and the situation much more respectable."

"Yes; but I understood that she had a sick step mother. Perhaps she requires attendance and nursing, and the house and firing offered to the charity school governess, therefore may be of great importance. She alluded to some particular circumstances, if you remember," said Mr. Falconer.

"Oh, yes, I remember," replied Anna Lowther, with a pert laugh. " She made nothing but allusions, I think." "Pardon me, young lady; I thought her infor-

mation respecting herself very honest, and quite as explanatory as strangers had a right to expect." " Strangers! Why if people go to ask favors of strangers, they must prepare to explain and satisfy them. I know I should.

"Certainly. But Miss Rayner did not, I think come to ask favors from us, only from Mrs. Lindesay; and probably if she had seen Mrs. Lindesay alone, she would have been as explicit as even your heart could wish."

" My heart could wish? Indeed, Mr. Falconer, my heart has no wish about her. I date say she is scarcely be too explicit." somebody we are all a great deal better for knowing nothing at all about. Even if she is what she says, bankrupt's only daughter are not likely to be gant, giddy things! they are oftener the cause of their father's ruin than people fancy."

to the committee until I am perfectly satisfied .-They all think so much of what I say,"

" Of course; and therefore you ought to be doub. ly particular. By the tye, does not Mrs. Forddoing so, they often hear what vexes and mortifies anything of a merchant, she would be certain to ness."

"To be sure. That never struck me before. It knitting, netting, crocheting or drawing, filled the she will return to dinner. But just now, you see, punish all spoken there. No man can go into a and when Mr Hay refused to give either, urged said, when she went out, that if the new drawingroom paper come, she might not get back until tea. How very tantalizing it is. And now that you have excited my suspicions, I shall be quite fidgety until they are satisfied. What a good thing it was I promised nothing. I might, very likely, if she had stayed longer, and your looks had not put me on my guard. Well, we must wait until Mrs. Ford-

> And so they did. And now Mrs. Fordham had come back, and every body was talking to her, and telling her of Miss Rayner's visit, and asking her whether she knew anything of her, and what?-Lowther, " and if there are, or were such people at C\_\_\_\_, you must know them."

"Oh, I don't know half the people at Cand the Rayners were quite out of my way."

"How?" asked Mrs. Lindesay. "Oh, I don't know; for no particular reason that

I am aware of " " Now that's only an excuse ; only your good nature, Mrs. Fordham. You are not the sort of person to do things without a reason."

"Well, perhaps not," returned the lady, half flattered, half bored. "But in this case I am afraid I did ; for I certainly never had any particular reason for avoiding the Rayners."

"Oh, then you did avoid them ?" "No, not exactly. I met them occasionallybut they were a good deal talked about at one time. And then Mr. Rayner's bankruptcy, and

"Oh, I see, I see," replied Mrs. Lindesay, look ing very wise. "Thank you. I quite understand." "Do you?" said Mr. Falconer, in a subdued and sarcastic voice. "Then you must be a greater genius than I took you for,"

At this moment a servant entered with a letter for his mistress; after perusing it, Mrs. Lindesay

"Well, how strange. Talk of a certain person, and he's sure to appear, they say. Here's a note influence was very great with the committee, she from Miss Rayner, written quite in a lady-like manner, and referring me to Mr. Bentley, a solici-

"Bentley! Oh, he was Mr. Rayner's lawyer: and at one time it was said-but, good gracious! what is the use of repeating all the tales one hears?

"No doubt. Still let us hear it, and judge for ourselves, Mrs. Lindesay ought to know all she can; and you remember the old saying, "No smoke without some fire." "But really it is so long ago, and he is married

Oh, dear, dear, what a very little spark will kin dle gunpowder!

At these words, a significant glance of intelli gence passed around the circle; and Mr. Falconer who had Been very busy making some memorandum in his pocket book, looked up too.

curiosity, some late visitors arrived; and under the Alice that, if ever he had the slightest reason to full impression that Miss Rayner was no better suspect Major Rydal of playing, even at the al than she should be, and that Mrs. Lindesay had had a narrow escape of being taken in, the subject

Not entirely, though, for Mr. Falconer and I recurred to it many times during the evening; and more than once he used the term we had so often discussed, " idle words-idle words."

Now it happened that the next was a rainy day real downright English rain, without half an hour's pause, or one moment's break in the dull, leaden clouds-and therefore we were all compelled to resign the hope of our usual walks and rides, and content ourselves at home. I said all: but I ought to have made an exception in the case of Mr. Falconer, who went out directly after breaklast, and did not return until luncheon, when we saw the drive from the London roads, and walk briskly up to the house, nodding to us as he passed our er arise.

With the luncheon tray, however, he came in, and, rather more silently than usual, took his cuslomery place.

sorts of nonsense was talked, and more than one smart ill natured thing said, more to make the hearers laugh than to gratify any real malice in the speaker. In the middle of one of these sharp eeches, Mr. Falconer said-

" What have you done about your charity school

"Oh, dear, no, certainly not. After what Mrs. Fordham said, I couldn't think of such a thing." "Indeed! I understand Mrs. Fordham to say that she knew but very little about the young la-

" But that little was quite enough. I perfectly understood what Mrs. Fordham meant. It is not and decide a prejudiced man like my uncle, who always necessaay to be explicit in such matters." went home, commanded his daughter to break off

"Ah! you are a lawyer, Mr. Faiconer." "Yes, and therefore I know so well what is the

great acquisitions to one's acquaintance. Extrava- how very often terrible hints come to nothing when was bound up in the other; and proud though he they are investigated. During the time I was in was, the Major made every effort to soften and practice, more than one case came to my knowl-"So they are, Miss Lowther. I must be careful edge, where irreparable mischief was done, and ru- never liked the handsome soldier; never forgiven how I act; for it would not do to recommend her in caused by idle words. The false witness God himself for the consent he had vouchsafed; and behas forbidden us to bear against our neighbor, in lieving all the while that by this inflexibility he was polite society is spoken daily."

"Oh, Mr. Falconer, what a shocking accusation! Nobody bears witness except in a court ham come from C-? If the girl's father was of justice, and nobody even then bears talse wit-

laws knew the danger of idle words: and although learn the reason, his indignation was boundless.will be a capital way to find out all labout her .- they could not stop their corrency in society, they Positively and haughtily he denied the charge, de-What a pity Mrs. Fordham is out. I wonder if could in a witness box, and therefore resolved to manded the names of his accusers and their proofs; be well for us all if the same rule prevailed in father violated his. private life; we should hear no ruinous slander

"Slander! Oh. Mr. Falconer, what a hard word."

"Yes; and it describes a hard thing; for what reputation, and insinuates falsehoods it has not the courage to speak openly."

"Well, whatever I think, I am sure I shail always have the courage to say," replied Miss Low-"For it's rather a remarkable name," said Anna ther, fancying that the lawyer's keen eye fell upon her as he spoke; " and as for this Miss Rayner or Hailer, or whatever her name is, that you cham pion so indefatigably, Mr. Falconer, I think Mrs. M for Rydal exchanged with a regiment under or- all agreed upon; so now to business. Why have Lindesay has done very wisely in having nothing

"Why?" answered the young lady with a toss Oh, there are plenty of reasons.'

" Are there? Then pray give me one? There was a pause which nobody seemed dis

posed to break; and Mr. Falconer said-

"Once in my life, Miss Lowther, when I was not much older and wiser than you are now, a eireumstance happened in the family of a relative, which made so strong an impression on my mind that I resolved ever after, not only to keep a strict guard upon my own words, never speaking idly or thoughtlessly that which, if taken seriously, would njure others, but never, if I could could help it, to suffer such words to be spoken in my presence, without making an effort to have them explained at

Over and over again, since that resolution was made, it has been sorely tried, for I am naturally flippant of speech, and the temptation to say a sharp contemptuous, or little things, has often been almost irresistible. Still, God helped me, I have rethis strong language, Miss Lowther; and so it isbut when I give you the heads of the sad story with me that no language can be too strong to repudiate a practice which may involve such consequences.

shall call Alice Hay, formed an attachment to an officer of dragoous, whom she knew from childhood, but whom, she loved most sincerely, her father would not receive as a suitor, because he disliked was to exculpate or condemn the dead. the army, and the lover was poor.

"Time however, 'and Alice's unfailing obediher life, softened Mr. Hay at last, and he consent although reluctantly, to the engagement; not graamong which was a tirade against gambling, "the had passed; and the other half amazed and shock. to retrench."

tar, the marriage should be broken off.

"This threat was very painful, as showing the ill feeling which still existed in Mr. Hay's mind; but as Alice knew that her lover never played, it soon ceased to vex her, and she began, with great joy and eagerness, to make preparations for her

vorite child, he could not bear the prospect of parting with her, and so repented the consent he had given, I cannot tell; but certainly my uncle grew more morose and strange in his manner, especially towards Major Ridal, who being a very proud man -could searcely brook the way in which he was received. Still, however Mr. Hay might regret his mpliance, he was too much a man of honor to nim, galooned, coated and umbrellaed, turn into withdraw it, except in the event he had fairly warned them of, and which Alice felt certain could nev-

"I ought, perhaps, to have said that my uncle was a very unpopular person, especially with young people, who thought he had used Alice and Rydal very cruelly; and many knowing his horror of gamblers, but neither the threat to Alice, nor the misery that would accrue to her in the case her father suspected Major Rydal of playing, would have gone to almost any extremity to torment him.

Well, in certain circles, this aversion of Mr. Hay's was talked of so much that at last it began to assume a dangerous shape; and from being spoken governess, Mrs. Lindesay? Are you going to have of as a dislike of his, came to be whispered about as a habit of his intended sen-in-law.

"No one of course asserted it, because no one could trace whence or how the rumor had risen, but every one hinted it; and at last, one day after a large public dinner, that report reached Mr. Hay.

"All that was said was vague and idle enough; but, heated with wine, it was sufficient to enrage "Do you think not? Now in anything affecting all communication with the Major, and then wrote a person's character or credit, it appears to me that to him, withdrawing his consent to the marriage, those who ask and those who answer questions can and forbidding him not only to enter the house again, but to hold any correspondence with his be-

real value of half sentences and insinuations, and to both Alice and ber lover; the happiness of each conciliate Mr. Hay. But in vain; my uncle had consulting his daughter's welfare, sturdily refused to listen to a word. For a long time this was carried so far that neither of the parties most deepty and nearly interested, knew the cause of the sad and sudden change which had fallen like a blight "No; because why? Those who framed the upon their happiness; but at last Major Rydal did

"But Alice, although she loved her betrothed too gentle and dutiful a child to seek even her hap- of Miss Lowther, made upon her." piness at the expense of her tather's, And therefore, although her heart was breaking, and in part- detest fending and proving." else but slander is the gossip which chatters away ing with him she had so long looked upon as her | "Nay, Mrs Lindesay, you are not doing you husband, she knew that she was bidding farewell self justice; your are too good hearted to detest to all earthly joy, she did part, and listened to the anything that may do a fellow creature service, and

> shaken, though, as the event proved, not unmoved. "Frantie with rage and disappointment, unable to discover his enemies, or disprove reports which were even at the worst but vague and shadowy, ders for India, and within a week of his landing you refused your interest to Miss Rayner? tell a victim to yellow fever.

"From the day the intelligence reached Engof parting, drooped visibly; and at last even her father, to whom she was as the apple of his eye. could not but see that she was dying.

a Still agonized and miserable as he was, his conscience seemed tree from any self-reproach, for believing most thoroughly that Major Rydal had een guilty of that sin which above all others, was inexcusable in his sight, my uncle persisted in maintaining that he had but done a parent's duty in preserving his child from a marriage with a gambler; and that, sad as was her fate now, it was in finitely preferable to that which, by his means, she

had escaped. "It was strange, seeing how completely his dar. ling's happiness depended upon it, that Mr. Hay had never, after that first passionate night, eithe investigated the accusation made against the sol dier, by those, if he had been candid and unprejudiced, he must have seen talked idly and at random, or suffered Alice to know their names that sisted; and therefore, knowing what may be done she might do so. But now that she was dying, and -1 can never pardon or excuse the heartless indul- implored him, by her constant day and obedience. gence of so great a sin in other people. You think to gratify her last request, and give her the melan choly satisfaction of at least attempting to exoner ate the memory of her lover, M Hay could hold which justifies it, you will I hope and believe, agree out no longer; and the words so idly uttered, so terribly remembered were repeated to the dying girl, with the names of those who had spoken

> "At this crisis I was sent for. My cousin and I had been friends from infancy, and now that I had returned to settle near her, she sent for me, and telling me all, entrusted to me the inquiry which

"Ah! young lady, what an inquiry that was .-One half the men whose idle words had done such | ed ol." ence, added to a savere illness which threatened horrible mischief, had utterly forgotten that they had over used them; untounded, and almost in-

Unluckily, however, for the gratification of our soldier's vice," as he called it, and a warning to ed at results never anticipated or suspected, sorrowfully acknowledged the idle words they had spoken were mere gossip-completely, entirely without foundation; that the whole thing had arisen from a wish to teaze Mr. Hay, and passing from mouth to mouth, had been repeated by some who knowing nathing of the pase or its merits, choose to imagine a gossiping supposition a fuct; and so at last, what was at the onset but mere fancy and suggestion, became magnified and exaggerated int

"I wish for all your sakes, young people, that I could describe the remorse, not only of those wh had borne thus idly "false witness against their neighbor," but the wordless grie; of the rash old man who had been misled by it. Both were terrible, because all repentance and sorrow were unavailing. A brave man been done to death by scandalous tongues; and now his gentle, faithful, unoffending betrothed, was following him to the

"Over that grave, soon opened for both father and child, I took the solemn resolution with which I began my tale, never either to be seduced into speaking idle words, which if constructed literally or unfaithfully, might work sorrow or wrong to others; or suffer such to be spoken in my hearing, without at least striving to obtain that explanation. which would deprive them of power to do harm.

" For nearly forty years I have kept my vow, and I hope I have done some good by it. It has made me some enemies, and thwarted some mischief; but for the sake of the last, I am content to accept the first, and to go on. Say, Miss Lowther, am I right ?"

" Perfectly."

"Frankly said, young lady, " replied Mr. Falco. ner, holding out his hand. "You will not condemn me then if, taking you at your word. I entreat that the " idle words,"-nay, do not flinchwhich have deprived Miss Rayner of a situation, may be repeated, scrutinized and explained."

"Oh!" replied Miss Lowther, with an embarrassed laugh, "this is taking me at my word, in-

"Yes; and let me hope that the result may be good-"idle words," meaning to my fancy nothng: and as the equally groundless inferences therefrom have, in our circle at least, ruined a girl's character, and prevented, as far as the influence of any one in this house goes, her earning her living; now it is not fair and just that these words should be explained ?"

Yes I dare say it is; but I have forgotten them only the impression remains."

"But I have not," said the old man. " In here," and he drew forth the memorandum book in which I had observed him writing, "I took down short hand notes all of that Mrs. Fordham said; all the half sentences and unmeaning phrases of which so

"Oh, Mr. Falconer," cried Miss Lowther and Mrs. Fordham together; "what a terrible compa-

she is so uncertain in her movements; and she court of law and hint away his neighbor's life, fame Alice, with all the vehement passion of which he You must forgive me if use plain words. I would or credit. What he says there he must prove; and was master, to fulfil an engagement so unjustly and not willingly offend you; but the practice and reif he wilfully speaks talse, he is punished. It would wickedly broken, and keep her pledge, even if her solution of forty years must not be broken now. I hope to make converts of 'you both; and as a first step, I must ask Mrs. Lindesay what impression with all the truth and faithfulness of her nature, was your remarks, Mrs. Pordham, and the comments

"Gh, I don't know. Nay, don't bring me in; I

Major's passionate upbraidings and prayers un- put honest bread in the mouth of an orphan," "Oh, yes of course, I hope so. But all these in

vestigations are so dreadfully unpleasant."

"So they are, and so is spandal; and, to escap the one you must avoid the other. But that we're

"Well, ready-upon my word, Mr Falconer, said our hostess, half amused, half affronted, "on land, Alice who had never rallied from the shock | would think Miss Rayner had retained you as her "Al'ce Hay did in behalf of all mankind," was

the solemn reply. "But my question is why did you refuse your interest to Miss Rayner 27 "Because-because-I really can't define why

exactly. I had an unpleasant impression." " From what?"

"Oh, I can't say precisely; the tone of the conversation-the remarks." "I though so, and now to analyze these remarks Mrs. Fordham's are those you ailude to I suppose.

else knew the girl." "Oh, I know nothing about her," cried Anne pray don't involve me deener. Mrs. Lindesay.

"Yes, and Miss Lowthet's ; of course, no one

only judged from what Mrs. Fordham said." "And what did Mrs. Fordham say?" aske Mr. Falconer, turning to his book. "Why, first, than she didn't know half the people in C---, and that the Rayners were quite out of her way. Both of which are very common circumstances, and perfectly compatible with the respectability of each party. However, as this was the key stone of the whole, I will ask Mrs. Fordham to be so good as to explain what she meant by these expressions.

"Nothing. I do not know a quarter of the Cpeople; and Mr. and Mrs. Rayner were quite out of my way, as they kept a great deal of expensive and fashionable company, which I could not afford to do, consequently we seldom met."

"Very well. Now the next thing I find down is that you say " you had no particular reason for avoiding the Rayners; and upon this mysterious remark being seized hold, of, as evidence that you did avoid them; but they were a good deal talk-

suddenly, having involved the firm very much, vented at the moment, they had been forgotten as and the people said that the Rayners were very ciously though, nor without many hard words, soon as the impulse of fun, which they had served, foolish to live in such style as they did-they ought " And they did not?"

"Oh, yes, they did at last; they sold their house at B---, put down their carriages, and come into

"Ha! Well, to go on. The next remark was on Miss Rayner's reference, whom you stated " to have been Mr. Rayner's lawyer, and that at one time it was said-" what you did not state. May I ask for the conclusion of the sentence ?"

"I don't quite remember what I meant when I said that; but I suppose it was that there was a rumor of Mr. Bentley being engaged to Mr Rayner's vounger sister "

"Oh! then were there any peculiar circumstances which prevented the match, and of which you thought when you said, " that the tale might be all a fabrication-that it was long ago, and that he had married since ?"-all sentences which to very imaginative people, would convey the idea that some. thing rather disgraceful was attached to the broken

courtship." "Oh, dear no -at least, nothing at all disgraceful to the lady or the Rayners quite the contrary .-Simply that Miss Churton gave up her fortune to assist her brother-in-law to meet his creditors, and that Mr. Bentley's father refused his consent to his son's marriage with a portionless and romantic girl. There was a great deal said at the time, a great many rumors, and I dare say a great many stories; but none that I remember as injurious to Miss

Churton " "Thank you. Then, on the whole, you know nothing in any way detrimental or derogatory to Miss Rayner ?"

"Not except that people said they were an ex-

travagant, dashing set." "That is they lived up to the fortune they supposed they had; and when they lost it relinquished their house, carriages, and style, and were assisted to pay their debts, in which others had involved them, by a relative, whose generosity had cost her a husband ?"

"Yes."

"Well then, Mrs. Lindesay, as we have now epeated the whole of the conversation, I must ask for which of all these sins you discard Miss Rayner; and in which parts of all that Mrs. Fordham has said, do you, Miss Lowther, find a ground for the inference that she is unworthy of notice?"

"I do not say that she is unworthy; but I maintain that I was fully justified in supposing her to be so, from the tone of Mrs. Fordham's remark vesterday."

"I agree with you, Anne; though I must confess, as I said at the time, that if you had not aroused my suspicions by pointing out the ambiguity of

"Oh! spare me," cried Mrs. Fordham, earnestly. "Surely I am not at all to blame. You were prejudiced against Miss Rayner when I came home; and hall the disjointed sentences, to which so much meaning that I never intended was given, were broken by yourselves. If they had been fin-

angry eye at this implied accusation; and to di-

vert it, Mr. Falconer said-"Let us not waste time now in determining who had been most or least to blame. That idle, thoughtless words have been spoken, we all agree and lament, but happily for our future peace, their worthlessness had been discovered before the mischief they have done had time to be accomplished; for satisfied in my own mind from what you all said vesterday, and what I saw of Miss Rayner myself, that she was innocent of any sin except poverty, I went to her residence this morning, saw and interrogated both her and her mother, and anticipating the present result, have not only taken the liberty of requesting her to come here to morrow, but have actually gone so far as to promise her the reward of your best interest, Mrs. Lindesay. Nay, don't frown; I know that in your heart you commend me, and I expect not only praise, but thanks, when I tell you that on my way home I met two men from C-, who knew the Rayners in their palmy days, who have promised a subscription of five guineas a year to the funds of the school, so long as Ellen Rayner is governess there." "Two men !" repeated Anne Lowther in a low

significant voice. The tone caught Mr. Falconer's ear. He turned hastily round; and the look, half contempt, half pity, which he gave the incorrigible scandal monger, brought even a flush to her cheek. Then he

said slowly and sternly-"Yes, Miss Lowther, two men. Men in the highest sense of the world-men who can feel for the fatherless and widow, and who think the knife of the assassin far less infamous and cowardly than the slander which, without foundation, hints away a woman's credit and good name.

"But lest the fact of these gentlemen's subscrip ion should be tortured into mischief, I beg to say that one of them is the rector of C-and the other your good old grandfather; both of whom are, I trust, even safe from Inte Words!

A Scorch Recognition -A Scotch woman, when on her way to Glasgow, met two young saifors, one of whom abruptly accosted he-

"How are you, good woman? How have you been this long time ?" Looking with surprise at the young man, whom she did not remember to have seen before, she

"Not know me, old woman! I am the devil's

sister's son.' "Are ye the devil's sister's son ; hech, when I take a better look of you, mon, but you are like vonr unele "

REVENCEFUL -An Irishman lost his hat in a well and was let down in a bucket to recover it; he well being deep, his courage failed him before he reached the water. In vain did he call to those above him; they lent a deaf ear to all he said, till at length, quite in despair, he bellowed out, " By St Patrick if you don't be after drawin' me up sure,