

# The Bradford Reporter

WEDNESDAY,

Regardless of Denunciation from any Quarter.—Gov. PORTER.

BY E. S. GOODRICH & SONS.

Vol. IV.

TOWANDA, BRADFORD COUNTY, PA., JANUARY 3, 1844.

No. 30.

## The Grave Yard Flowers.

DO NOT PLUCK THE FLOWERS: THEY ARE SACRED TO THE DEAD.

And pluck the flowers, the fair young flowers,  
The free glad gift that summer brings;  
The children of the sun and showers,  
Who do they rise, earth's offerings,  
Then be the dew upon you shed,  
Then be the bough that o'er you waves,  
Then be the watchers by the dead,  
Then be the dwellers 'midst the graves!

And pluck the flowers! their sweet perfume  
From the wandering zephyr cast,  
Linger over the lonely tomb,  
Like the memory of the past,  
Flourish freshly, though beneath  
The dark dust and creeping worm;  
They speak of Hope, they speak of Faith,  
They smile, like rainbows through the storm.

Do not pluck the flowers—the sacred flowers!  
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Do not pluck the flowers! In days gone by  
A beautiful belief was felt,  
That airy spirits of the sky,  
And the trembling blossoms dwell  
Upon the dead have many a guest,  
Brighter than any that are ours;  
They speak of Hope, they speak of Faith,  
They smile, like rainbows through the storm.

[From the United States Gazette.]

## Winter.

BY THE AMERICAN BARD.  
The spirit of tempest and storm  
Comes bleak from his home in the north,  
The snow wreath he shakes from his form  
As he hurries his chariot forth.

Crashing loud on the hurricane's voice  
We hear him approach from afar,  
While his mantle of glittering ice  
Rattles over the wheels of his car.

He carries nor stops in his speed,  
While he throws off his beautiful gem—  
There is nothing his spell can impede,  
When the current of nature he stems.

Yet shrouds are veiled in each tear  
That hang on his cold frozen cheeks;  
His presence makes up the full year,  
And Spring's cheer his glory bespeaks.

He wears as his mantle of snow  
Lays broad over the valley and plain,  
And will the glad farmer know  
That gold swells his garner of grain.

Winter! the frigid thou art,  
Enveloped in storm and in gloom,  
And kind is thy part,  
To adorn holy nature in bloom.

And moral instruction we find  
In thy picture of seeming decay,  
To improve the intelligent mind,  
That life in its time must pass away.

The spring of our childhood is o'er,  
Our summer and autumn have fled,  
And winters of our youth are no more,  
And winter appears in their stead.

[From Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine.]

## Leap-Year.

CHAPTER I.

In the summer of 1838, in the pleasant little county of Huntington, and under the shade of some noble elms which form the pride of Lipscombe Park, two young men might have been seen reclining. The thick, and towering, and far-spreading branches under which they lay, effectually protected them from a July sun, which threw its scorching brilliancy over the whole landscape before them. They seemed to enjoy to the full extent that delightful retired openness which an English park affords, and that easy effortless communion which only old companionship can give. They were in fact, fellow collegians. The one, Reginald Darcy, by name, was a ward of Mr. Sherwood, the wealthy proprietor of Lipscombe Park; the other his friend, Charles Griffith, was passing a few days with him in this agreeable retreat. They had spent a greater part of the morning strolling through the park, making short journeys from one clump of trees to another, and traversing just so much of the open sunny space which lay exposed to all the 'bright severity of noon,' and gave fresh value to the shade, and renewed the luxury of repose.

'Only observe,' said Darcy, breaking silence after a long pause, and without any apparent link of connexion between their last topic of conversation and the sage reflection he was about to launch—'only observe, that to have it intimated even in jest, that I would take advantage of my position in this family to pay my ridiculous addresses to Miss Sherwood—I do declare, Griffith, I never will again to you, or any other man, touch upon this subject, but in the same strain of unmeaning levity one is compelled to listen to, and imitate in the society of coxcombs.'

'At all events,' said Griffith, 'give me leave to say that I admire Miss Sherwood, and that I shall think it a crying shame if so beautiful and intelligent a girl is suffered to fall into the clutches of this stupid baronet who is laying siege on her—this pompous, empty headed Sir Frederick Beaumantle.'

'Sir Frederick Beaumantle,' said Darcy, with some remains of humor, 'may be all you describe him, but he is very rich, and, mark me, he will win the lady. Old Sherwood suspects him for a fool, but his extensive estates are unnumbered: he will approve his suit. His daughter makes him a constant laughing-stock, she is perpetually ridiculing his presumption and his vanity; but she will end by marrying the rich baronet. It will be in the usual course of things: society will expect it; and it is so safe, so prudent, to do what society expects. Let wealth wed with wealth. It is quite right. I would never advise any man to marry a woman much richer than himself, so as to be indebted to her for his position in society. It is useless to say or to feel, that her wealth was not the object of your suit. You may carry it how you will—what says the old song?

'She never will forget;  
The gold she gave was not thy gain,  
But it must be thy debt.'

'But come, our host is punctual to his dinner hour, and if we journey back at the same place we have traveled here, we shall not have much time upon our hands.' And accordingly the two friends set themselves in motion to return to the house.

Our readers have, of course discovered that, in spite of his disclaimer Reginald Darcy was in love with Emily Sherwood. He was indeed, very far gone, and had suffered great extremities; but his pride had kept pace with his passion. Left an orphan at an early age, and placed by the will of his father under the guardianship of Mr. Sherwood, Darcy had found in the residence of that gentleman a home during the holidays when a school boy, and during the vacations when a collegian. Having lately taken his degree at Cambridge, with high honors, which had been strenuously contended for, and purchased by severe labor, he was now recruiting his health, and enjoying a season of well earned leisure under his guardian's roof. As Mr. Sherwood was old and gouty, and confined much to his room, it fell on him to escort Emily in her rides or walks. She whom he had known, and been so often delighted with, as his little playmate, had grown into the young and lovely woman. Briefly, our Darcy was a lost man—gone—head and heart. But then—she was the only daughter

of Mr. Sherwood—she was a wealthy heiress—he was comparatively poor. Her father had been to him the kindest of guardians, ought he to repay that kindness by destroying, perhaps, his proudest schemes? Ought he, a man of fitting and becoming pride, to put himself in the equivocal position which the poor suitor of a wealthy heiress must inevitably occupy? 'He invites me,' he would say to himself, 'he presses me to stay here, week after week and month after month, because the idea that I should seek to carry away his daughter never enters into his head. And she—she is so frank, so gay, so amiable, and almost fond, because she has never recognized, with the companion of her childhood, the possibility of such a thing as marriage. There is but one part for me—silence, strict, unbroken silence.'

Charles Griffith was not far from the truth. When he said that it would be difficult to find a better specimen of her fascinating sex than the daughter of their host. But it was not her beauty, remarkable as it was—it was not her brightest of blue eyes, nor her fairest of complexions, nor those rich luxuriant tresses—that formed the greatest charm in Emily Sherwood. It was the delightful combination she displayed of a cheerful vivacious temper with generous and ardent feelings. She was as light and playful as one of the fawns in her own park, but her heart responded also to every noble and disinterested sentiment; and the poet who sought a listener for some lofty or tender strain, would have found the spirit that he wanted in the gay and mirth-loving Emily Sherwood.

Poor Darcy! he would sit, or walk by her side, talking of this or that, no matter what, always happy in her presence, passing the most delicious hours, but not venturing to say, by word or look, how very content he was. For these hours of stolen happiness he knew how severe a penalty he must pay, he knew and braved it. And in our poor judgment he was right. Let the secret, stealthy, unrequited lover enjoy to the full extent the presence, the smiles, the bland and cheerful society of her whom his heart is silently worshipping. Even this shall in future hours be a sweet remembrance. By and by, it is true, there will come a season of poignant affliction. But better all this than one uniform, perpetual torpor. He will have felt that mortal man may breathe the air of happiness; he will have learned something of the human heart that lies within him.

But all this love—was it seen—was it returned—by her who had inspired it? Both, both. He thought, wise youth! that while he was swallowing draught after draught of this delicious poison, no one perceived the deep intoxication he was revelling in. Just as wisely some veritable toper, by putting on a grave and demure countenance cheats himself into the belief that he conceals from every eye that delectable and irresistible confusion in which his brain is swimming. His love was seen. How could it be otherwise? That instantaneous, that complete delight which he felt when she joined him in his rambles, or came to sit with him in the library, could not be disguised nor mistaken. He was a scholar, a reader and a lover of books, but let the book be what it might, which he held in his hand, it was abandoned, closed, pitched aside the moment she entered. There was no stolen glance at the page still left open; nor was the place kept marked by the tenacious finger and thumb. If her voice were heard on the terrace, or in the garden—if her laugh—so light, merry and musical, reached his ear—there was no question or debate, whether he should go or stay, but down the stairs, or through the avenues of the garden—he sprang—he ran; only a little before he came in sight he would assume something of the gravity becoming in the senior, wrangler, or orator to look as if he came there by chance. His love was seen, and not with indifference. But what could the damsel do? How presume to know of an attachment until in due form certified thereof? If a youth will adhere to an obstinate silence, what we repeat, can a damsel do but leave him to his fate, and listen to some other who, if he loves less, at least knows how to avow his love.

## CHAPTER II.

We left the two friends proceeding toward the mansion; we enter before them and introduce our readers into the drawing room. Here, in a spacious and shaded apartment, made cool, as well by the massive walls of the noble edifice as by the open and protected windows, whose broad balcony was

blooming with the most beautiful and fragrant of plants, sat Emily Sherwood. She was not, however, alone. At the same round table, which was covered with vases of flowers, and with books as gay as flowers, was seated another young lady, Miss Julia Danvers, a friend who had arrived in the course of the morning on a visit to Lipscombe Park. The young ladies seemed to have been in deep consultation.

'I can never thank you sufficiently,' said Miss Danvers, 'for your kindness in this affair.'

'Indeed but you can very soon thank me much more than sufficiently,' replied her more lively companion, 'for there are few things in the world I dislike so much as thanks. And yet there is one cause of thankfulness you have, and know not of. Here have I listened to your troubles, as you call them, for more than two hours, and never once told you any of my own. Trouble! you are, in my estimation, a very happy, enviable girl.'

'Do you think it, then, so great a happiness to be obliged to take refuge from an absurd, selfish step mother, in order to get by stealth one's own lawful way?'

'One's own way is always lawful, my dear. No taboology. But you have it—while I—'

'Well, what is the matter?'

'Julia dear—won't you not laugh—I have a lover that won't speak. I have another or one who calls himself such, who has spoken, or whose wealth I fear, has spoken, to some purpose—to my father.'

'And you would open the mouth of dumb, and stop the mouth of the foolish?'

'Exactly.'

'Who are they? And first, to proceed by due climax, who is he whose mouth is to be closed?'

'A baronet of these parts—Sir Frederick Beaumantle. A vain, vain, vain, man. It would be a waste of good words to spend another epithet upon him, for he is all vanity. All his virtues, all his vices all his actions, good, bad and indifferent, are nothing but vanity. He praises you from vanity, abuses you from vanity, loves you and hates you from vanity. He is vain of his person, of his wealth, of his birth, of his title, vain of all he has, and all he has not. He sets so great a value on his innumerable and superlative good qualities that he really has not been able (until he met with your humble servant) to find any individual of our sex on whom he could, conscientiously, bestow so great a treasure, as his own right hand must inevitably give way. This has been the only reason—he tells me so himself—why he has remained so long unmarried, for he has rounded the arch and is going down the bridge. To take his own account of this delicate matter, he is fluctuating, with an uneasy motion, to and fro, between forty and forty-five.'

'Old enough, I doubt not, to be your father. How can he venture on such a frolicsome young thing as you?'

'I asked him that question myself one day; and he told me, with a most complacent smile, that I should be the perfect compendium of matrimony—he should have wife and child in one.'

'The old coxcomb! And yet there was a sort of providence in that. Now, who is he whose mouth is to be opened?'

'Oh—he! can't you guess?'

'Your cousin Reginald, as you used to call him—though cousin I believe he is none—this learned wrangler?'

'The same. Trust me, he loves me to the bottom of his heart; but because his little cousin is a great heiress, he thinks it fit to be very proud; and gives me over many thanks to him, to this rich baronet. But here he comes.'

As she spoke, Darcy and Griffith entered the room.

'We have been canvassing,' said Emily after the usual forms of introduction had been gone through, 'the merits of our friend, Sir Frederick Beaumantle. By the way, Reginald, he dines here to-day, and so will another gentleman, whom I shall be happy to introduce to you, Capt. Garland, an esteemed friend of mine and Miss Danvers.'

'Sir Frederick seems,' said Griffith, 'by way merely of taking part in the conversation, at all events a very good natured man. I have seen him but once, and he has already promised to use all his influence in my behalf, in whatever profession I may embark. If medicine I am to have half-a-dozen dowagers, always ailing and never ill, put under my charge the moment I can add M. D. to my name, not to speak of certain mysterious hints of an introduction at court, and an appointment of physician extraordinary to Her Majesty. I suppose I may depend upon Sir Frederick's promises.'

'Oh, certainly,' said Miss Sherwood, 'you may depend upon Sir Frederick Beaumantle's promises; they are inexhaustible.'

'The fool!' said Darcy with impatience. 'I could forgive him anything but that ridiculous ostentation he has of patronizing men who, but they have more politeness than himself, would throw back his promises with open derision.'

'Reginald,' said Miss Sherwood, 'is always forgiving Sir Frederick every fault but one. But then that one fault changes every day. Last time he would pardon him everything except the fulsome eulogy he is in the habit of bestowing upon his friends, even to their faces. You must know Mr. Griffith, that Sir Frederick is a most liberal champion in this commodity of praise: he will give any man a bushel full of compliment who will send him back the measure only half-filled. Nay, if there are but few cherries clinging to the wicker work he is not wholly dissatisfied.'

'What he gives he knows is trash,' said Darcy; 'what he receives he always flatters himself to be true coin. But indeed Sir Frederick is somewhat more just in his dealings than you, perhaps imagine. If he bestows excessive laudation on a friend in one company, he takes it all back again in the very next he enters.'

'And still his amiability shines through all; for he abuses the absent friend only to gratify the self-love of those who are present.'

'The door opened as Miss Sherwood gave this coup de grace to the character of the baronet, and Sir Frederick Beaumantle was announced, and immediately afterwards, Capt. Garland.

Miss Sherwood, somewhat to the surprise of Darcy, who was not aware that any such intimacy subsisted between them, received Capt. Garland with all the cordiality of an old acquaintance. On the other hand she introduced the baronet to Miss Danvers with that slightly emphatic manner which intimates that 'the parties may entertain a high consideration' for each other.

Some years ago, Dr. Goodman, of Philadelphia, (now deceased) related that in a voyage to sea in early life, he had seen a lad who had just begun to be a sailor, going out to some projected by a spar, and he was looking below him for a rope which ran across, on which his feet should be. The rope flew from side to side, and it was evident that the poor fellow was becoming dizzy, and in danger of falling, when the mate shouted to him with all his force, 'Look aloft! you sneaking lubber! By thus turning away his eyes from danger, the dizziness was prevented, and he found his footing.'

And this incident the Doctor said, often occurred to his mind in after life—when his troubles grew heavy upon him, and he could hardly find ground whereupon to tread. At such time he heard the mate's shout in his ears, and turned his eyes 'aloft' to the prize on which had placed his hope. We cannot part with this beautiful illustration, without asking each of our readers to apply it to a still nobler purpose; to steady themselves in all the tempests of adversity, by looking towards that life in which there is rest and peace evermore—and when our flesh and heart shall fail us, and we find no support under our feet, to seek it by 'looking aloft' to Him who is the strength of our hearts, and our portion forever.

THE TEXAN WILD HORSE.—The mustang or wild horse, is certainly the greatest curiosity to those unaccustomed to the sight, that we meet on the prairies of Texas. They are seen in numbers, oftentimes of exceeding beauty. The spectator is compelled to stand in amazement, and contemplate this noble animal, as he bounds over the earth with the conscious pride of freedom. We still meet with many in the low countries, and during summer, hundreds were seen in the neighborhood of Houston, darting over the plain, and seeming to dare the sportsmen for a contest in the chase. There was among those that were sometimes seen near the city, one remarkable above the rest for his perfect symmetry and great beauty. Many an eye was fixed on him, but he fled before his pursuer like the wind, and so long as I knew anything of him; he had not met with his equal in speed.

ABSENCE OF MIND.—A girl once blew her lover out of doors, and then kissed the candle.

CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.