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A Beautiful Story.

ORIGIN AND DESTINY.

Among those who aspired to the hand of Laura Woodville, was a young man named Percival, whose father, a poor day laborer, had, by self-denial through many years, succeeded in giving him an education beyond what was usually acquired at that time by those in the lower walks of life.

Mr. Woodville, to the hand of whose daughter, as has just been seen, Percival aspired, was a merchant in rather reduced circumstances, but connected with certain families more distinguished for aristocratic pride than virtue.

Laura, a beautiful and highly accomplished girl, was a favorite in all circles, and there were many among the wealthy and fashionable who, for her personal attractions alone, were ready to approach and offer the homage of sincere affection.

While this state of mind was in progress Laura met Henry Percival. A mutual regard was soon developed, which increased until it became a deep and sincere affection.

The day that followed this declaration was one of anxious suspense to Laura. She was alone, late in the afternoon, when her father came into the room where she was sitting.

"Laura," said he gravely, as he sat down by her side, "I was exceedingly surprised and pained to-day to receive from a young upstart attorney, of whose family no one has ever heard, an offer for your hand, made, as was affirmed, with your consent. Surely this affirmation was not true?"

"You may not be aware," continued Mr. Woodville, "that Mr. Allison has also been to me with a similar application."

"Mr. Allison!" The eyes of Laura were raised quickly from the floor, and her manner exhibited the repugnance she felt.

"Laura! Has it indeed come to this?" said Mr. Woodville, really disturbed.

"I regret rather his destiny than his origin," replied the daughter: for that concerns me far more dearly than the other.

"Are you beside yourself?" exclaimed the father, losing his self-command before the rational calmness of his wife.

A FAMILY JOURNAL—NEUTRAL IN POLITICS.

Devoted to Local and General News, Agriculture, Education, Morality, Amusement, Markets, &c., &c.

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"No father," replied Laura; "not beside myself. In the principles that govern Mr. Allison, I have no confidence; and it is a man's principles that determine the path he is to tread in life."

"Do you know," said Mr. Woodville, not giving the words of his child the smallest consideration, "that the father of the fellow, Percival, was a day laborer in one of Mr. Allison's manufacturing establishments. A mere day-laborer?"

"I have heard as much. Was he not an honest and honorable man?"

"Madness, girl!" ejaculated Mr. Woodville, at this question, still further losing his self-control.

As her father ceased speaking, Laura arose weeping, and left the room.

A few months later, and, fully avowing her purposes, Laura left the house of her parents and became the wife of Percival. A step like this is never taken without suffering.

Years went by, and it remained the same.—Many times during that long period did Laura approach the old home; but only to be repulsed. At last, she was startled and afflicted with the sad news of her mother's death.

Bracing herself up with an intense struggle, Laura pressed her lips to the cold brow of her mother, and then silently retired.

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a right-minded woman happy. And, in the second place, a man who regards neither virtue or decency in his conduct, is the one to make her life wretched."

"But is Allison such a man?"

"He is, to my certain knowledge. I knew him when a boy. We were school mates. He then gave me evidence of more than ordinary natural depravity; and from the training he has received, that depravity has been encouraged to grow."

"You astonish me," said Mr. Woodville.

"I cannot credit your words. He belongs to one of the best families."

"So called, but judged by a true standard, I should say one of our worst families."

"The virtues of an individual," replied the gentleman, "make his standard of worth.—The same is true of families. Decayed wood, covered with shining gold, is not so valuable as sound and polished oak."

Mr. Woodville was profoundly astonished.—All this he might have known from personal observation, had not his eyes been so dazzled with the external brilliancy of the period condemned, as to disqualify them for looking deeper, and perceiving the real character of what was beneath the brilliant gilding.

A few months later and Mr. Woodville was surprised at the announcement that the wife of Mr. Allison had separated herself from him, and returned to her father's house.

He was growing old, and losing the ability to do business on an equality with the younger and more eager merchants around him; who were gradually drawing off his oldest and best customers.

Such was her husband? A low vulgar fellow, raised a little above the common herd?—Such and only such did he esteem him; and, whenever he thought of him, his resentment toward Laura came back in full force.

Thus it went on, until twelve years from the time of Laura's marriage had passed away, and in that long period the father had seen her face but once, and then it was in the presence of the dead.

One day while walking with a gentleman, they passed Allison, when his companion said: "If that man doesn't break his wife's heart within five years I shall think she has few of woman's best and holiest feelings."

"In the first place," replied the friend, "a man with bad principles is not the one to make

At last the external affairs of Mr. Woodville became desperate. His business actually died out, so that the expense of conducting it being more than the proceeds, he closed up his mercantile history, and retired on a meagre property, scarcely sufficient to meet his wants.

But scarcely had this change taken place, when a claim on the only piece of real estate which he held, was made on the allegation of a defective title.

On consulting a lawyer he was alarmed to find that the claim had a plausible basis, and that the chances were against him.

He began by observing that he had something to say in the case ere it closed, and as he had studied it carefully and weighed with due deliberation all the evidence which had appeared, he was satisfied that he could show cause why the prosecution should not obtain a favorable decision.

On closing his speech he immediately retired. The decision was in Mr. Woodville's favor.

The man looked at him in surprise.

Another curious fact may be mentioned in this connection. It is that neither of the Presidents who had sons was elected for a second term.

you by land or sea, and will not quit you, though you be in banishment. There is a very whimsical circumstance, at the same time, attendant upon this paradoxical character.—Most people are reproached with loving him with the greatest partiality and boldness; and are greatly delighted, it is said, to hear him praised, yet very few seek to come to the knowledge of him or cultivate his acquaintance; nay, the greatest part, by all possible means, avoid encountering him.

It is surprising to see, say they, the pains that are continually taken, and the contrivances used to get rid of this continued phantom; some flatter him; some bully him; some endeavor to impose upon him, some carry him to the gaming-table, others to the bottle, and the like; but he never fails to detect their frauds, and to resent them with severity; like the reckoning, he appears after the banquet is over, and not unfrequently reproaches one with profusion, and another with satiety. Nay, so gallant are his reprehensions, and so troublesome his intrusion, that there have not been wanting instances, even in high life, of some, who not being able to help him otherwise off, have called to their relief the halber, the dagger, or the pistol; and fairly removed themselves into another world, to get rid of him.

First Seven Presidents.

Four of the seven were from Virginia. Two of the same name were from Massachusetts, and the seventh was from Tennessee.

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The Farmer's Department.

WORK FOR THE MONTH.—Farm.—Sow oats as soon as the ground is in order; harrow it thoroughly and then roll.

Pass the roller over mowing fields; also top dress winter grain not previously manured, with short manure or guano and plaster. Plow for corn, and subsoil before ground becomes too dry. Much of the success of the crop depends on good plowing and preparation of ground. Avoid such plows, as turn up and leave a smooth, glazed and unbroken furrow. The sun often hardens such into lumps impervious to harrow. Fine pulverization of soil is of great importance. Open seams and cracks in the furrow, which admit the air, greatly aid the subsequent operation of the harrow. Spread the manure or guano previous to plowing. In ordinary seasons there is no advantage in planting corn in this section before the second week in next month, but the ground should be often stirred previously.—Plant early potatoes. Plow and prepare for root crops. Also for sowing corn for fodder, when there is likely to be a necessity for it. Give particular attention to stock. After being well cared for all winter they often fall off in last month, before pasturing. Ewes and lambs should have allowance of grain and roots and good hay, daily turned out in fine weather on a pasture lot reserved for the purpose. Continue or increase the allowance of meal and roots to fresh cows. It is an old saying that stock well-wintered are half summered. They should go out to grass in good order. There is never any profit in keeping stock below the thriving point. To merely keep them alive will not pay. Do not turn out the stock to grass too early. Feed well all working cattle, both oxen and horses. Cut hay is of great advantage, as it economizes time, and gives animals more time to rest between working hours. It takes them less time to eat it, and is easier digested. Give all animals daily access to salt.

SMALL POTATOES FOR SEED.—Mr. C. T. Alford, of Wilmington, Vermont, says: "Some eight years since, at the time of planting my potatoes, I came short of seed to plant. Previous to this time I had used large whole potatoes, or the seed ends cut off, for seed and supposed that the seed would answer. I resolved to try the experiment of planting small potatoes; the largest being about the size of common plums, but the most of them being smaller. I carried several bushels of these little things to the field, and commenced planting them, putting from two to four in a hill. The potatoes in the different parts of the field came up at the same time, but the vines from the small potatoes were not so large and as thrifty as those from the large ones. At the first hoeing, there was some difference in the tops, but after that the tops from the small potatoes looked as well as any of the field, and continued through the season. When I came to dig them I found the potatoes, where the small seed was planted, to be as good, in every respect, as those where the large potatoes were planted. There were as many in a hill, and the potatoes were as large, and with as few small ones, as those from the large seed.

Many of the farmers in this vicinity, after seeing the experiment fairly tried, are using small potatoes for seed. This winter I have had several applications from dealers in potatoes for seed who inform me that the farmers whom they purchase from are generally adopting the way of using small potatoes for seed.

FRUIT ORCHARD.—Planting trees in this section can be done during this month. Select the best varieties of fruit trees, and plant apple trees from 35 to 40 feet apart; peach, pear, plum, and cherry trees 20 feet apart; dwarf pears from 10 to 12 feet apart. Grafting may be done this month. Prepare grafting wax by mixing three parts of bees-wax, three parts of resin, and two of tallow.

Plant out gooseberry and currant cuttings, first removing all the lower eyes. Trench and prepare the ground thoroughly with short manure. Grape vine cuttings should be planted with two eyes out of the ground, and a soil rather sandy and moist. Drain grape vines at once, if not already done, and dig in around the roots well rotted manure. Strip of all trees cocoons and larvae of insects, and apply wash before recommended. Apply salt to quince trees. Manure and clear up strawberry and raspberry beds, and make new plantations of each. Uncover such of the latter as were laid down last fall for protection.

TAR A REMEDY FOR HOARSE DISTEMPER.—Thomas W. Ladd, of Smithfield, Jefferson Co., Ohio, writes the Ohio Farmer, that he has found a remedy and cure for distemper in horses. He says: "Having three colts sick with this disease, an experienced farmer told me to use tar, and he thought that the sick colt would soon recover and that those who had not taken the disease would not have it all, or but lightly. I followed his directions, to my entire satisfaction. I gave the colts morning and evening as much as I could readily get into their mouths with a paddle. After a few applications, the sick ones commenced running at the nose, their appetites returned, and in a short time they had entirely regained what they had lost from disease. The others never took it to my knowledge.

GRAFTING WAX.—One of the most successful grafters we know, makes his grafting wax of two parts of rosin and one part of beeswax, adding a small quantity of lard or tallow—say one third that of beeswax. His object is always to make his wax of such consistency that it will not run in warm weather, and will not crack in dry, windy weather. These are the important qualities in grafting wax, of whatever it may be made.

WOMAN.

A pretty woman is one of the "Institutions" of this country—an angel in dry goods and glory. She makes sunshine, blue sky, Fourth of July, and happiness wherever she goes.—Her path is one of delicious roses, perfume and beauty. She is a sweet poem, written in rare curls, and choice calico, and good principles.—Men stand up before her, as so many admiration points, to melt into cream and then butter. Her words float around the ear like music, birds of Paradise, or the chimes of Sabbath bells. Without her, society would lose its truest attraction, the church its firmest reliance, and young men the very best of comforts and company. Her influence and generosity restrain the vicious, strengthen the weak, raise the lowly, flannel shirt the heathen, and strengthen the faint-hearted. Wherever you find the virtuous woman, you also find pleasant fire-sides, bouquets, clean cloths, order, good living, gentle hearts, piety, music, light, and model institutions generally. She is the flower of humanity, a very Venus in dimity, and her inspiration is the breath of Heaven.

Mahomet.

This great reformer was not free from superstition; he believed in jinn, omens and charms, and he had many superstitious habits. The jinn were, according to his opinion, of three kinds: some have wings and fly; others are snakes and dogs, and those of the third kind move about from place to place like men. Again, some of them believed in him, and others did not. He gave instructions to his followers that if a fly falls into a dish of victuals to plunge it in completely, then to take it out and throw it away, for in one of its wings is a cause of sickness and in the other a cause of health, and in falling it falls on the sick wing, and if it is submerged the other wing will counteract its bad effect. To make a bad dream harmless he thought it necessary to spit three times over the left shoulder. He was very careful to begin everything on the right side and end with the left; and he smeared the antimony first in the right eye. His ideas of omens, however, were more sensible; he admitted lucky omens but forbade to believe in unlucky ones.

Money in four purses will credit you—wisdom in your head adorn you—but both in your necessity will serve you.

SELF.

This insignificant intruder is at all times one of the most impertinent companions in the world: you may try every art and contrivance in your power to get free from his troublesome conversation: the creature will press upon your retirement, and force himself upon you in spite of your teeth: will be meddling in your affairs, setting them in such a light as cannot fail of putting you out of humour, or teasing you with reflections that make you weary of your life. No place is safe from him. He will force himself into the closet, hover about the bed, and penetrate through the thickest darkness, into the deepest recess: will travel with