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THE BLACKSMITH OF ANTWERP,
OR,
OR,
OR GENIUS

He imprinted a kiss upon ner winning in the present of the control of the contro

Never did father love his daughters with more fondness than Algini his child Eliza. Her good was his great aim pand as he was gorgeous plants which grow in wild untutored | an enthusiast in the art of the pencil, deemed luxuriance about the shadowy retreat. The that one of that profession would be most worthy of his child. These two passions of his soul mingled together in such a manner rosy hue to the face of the maid who sat therein, as she regarded with mournful tencanvass as a lasting monument for genius, dernets the youth seated at her side. "Nay, Quintin," said she; "say not so; it and that he would best consult his daughter's

happiness by uniting her to one who would be alive to all posterity by his works. Van Deghad been therefore selected, as he was the boast of his country, and the figures of his creation wanted nothing but motion to make them such as their originals. Besides he was wealthy, and would add-to the influvery ardent flame when it is so easily extinence of the family. Finally, his daughte guished by the perverse and obstinate tyranny was not old enough now to judge for herself; and though she had confessed that she was prejudiced against her proposed husband, a few years of connubial intercourse would overcome that, and she would ultimately be

benefited Just as he was at this point of his reflections on the ensuing day, a letter-carrier entered his apartment and handed him a letter, saying to his desires, her filial obedience told of so he would wait without for an answer, and had been bound by an oath not to disclose who had commissioned him to deliver the commu-

nication Algini was astonished at these words, and as soon as the other retired, broke the seal

and read : "If the parent consulted the daughter's happiness, would he not seek from her if she es not love another? I think she does. But if Van Deg is to possess the fair being, may I be mistaken. May her marriage to the man of your choice not hurry her to another world! Her obedience causes her to submit. I lay claim to her affections; but with thes You have the reputation of patronising merit as it appears in painting. Defer the nuptials The expiring rays of the setting sun fell on to this day twelve months, and let Van Deg has leatures as she carnestly glanced upon her on that day place his chef d'ouers on the left of the altar. If the one which appears on the right does not tell of a more skillful master, abide the result. If it does, then it is but fair to leave to your daughter the privilege of choosing her partner from the two.

The father was delighted with this proposa as it suggested a trial of skill in his favorite study. He accordingly returned word of his acceptance of the terms, and notified Van Deg you will be mine, and I'll join a company to

A year passed away, during which the lovers never met. Eliza had lost sight of Quintin, and in answer to her inquiries conceruing him, all she had been able to learn was that shortly after their last interview he had left the city, and gone, no one knew

The day was now arrived when she was to fices of the bridesmaid who assisted at her toilet ; yet she sustained a smile upon her face, although her soul was weighed down by grief. "My father's happiness is dearer to me than clad, was led to the altar by her father, the latter announced that her hand was to be bestowed on the artist whose skill was the most she asked. undeniable, to be determined by the merits of the pictures which stood velled on either side Captain as soon as the company leaves for the of the altar. Van Deg glanced triumphantly war."

And Pearl was pleased imof the altar. Van Deg glanced triumphantly

to their view. her attachment, and just when he had achieved as he did so, and well merited was that cry of usly had he labored to procure the victory over her confiding heart, all that approbation.

The scene of the piece was the chapel in which they stood, and the whole presented to the life. There were the priests all but breathing while bride and groom and their friends ppeared as if in the full flush as joy. Algini was about to speak in reptures of the performance, when suddenly the other curtain

was drawn saide, and a cry of horror burst from the multitude as they pressed forward to schold. Yan Deg gazed in breathless wona tender plant, how udsuitable his unsocial der, and Algini uttered a wild shrick of despirit for the angel who needed some congenial spair-" My daughter !" It was the delineation of Quintin's dream; each countenance in the picture was easy to recognize, except that of the youth, which was buried in the bosom of the bride. But ere, with wondering eyes, they had fully scanned it all, it was thrust aside and another appeared in its place. This represented a lovely arbor in which Algini, advanced to old age, was dangling a beautiful infant on his knee, which hore an expression public rejoicing, for Eliza, the daughter of on its face of Eliza, who sat on an opposite young man, whose arm encircled her waist.

Every one was charmed and delighted beyond measure, and as they beheld the youth they recognized him in a moment, and every tongue cried : "The blacksmith !"

"Blacksmith no more," said Quintin, stepping from behind the canvas, " but the artist, vho demands his reward !" It is unnecessary to say more than that

away, he rushed up and stezed her. She genius was rewarded; and to the happy husshricked and fell dead in his embrace. Her band, Quintin Matsy, the blacksmith of Antwerp, the world owes some of its finest relics He raised his eyes, saw the mystery in their of art, and among the rest, the inimitable countenances, and as his face fell upon the painting of "The Misers," now at Windsor bosom of his lovely burden he expired, and at | Castle.

A WAR ROMANCE

It has just occurred to me that I have never written a War Novel, -that I owe my counthis subject, something constructed on a whole foot, and addressed Fred those isely; hence. At one time the question was upper-

His first object was to seek the mural pic- most in my mind, whether I should write it now, or wait a century or two. But the apposite remark of the philosopher about "never dream, but there it stood as if executed by a putting off till a century or two what can be lone to-day," served to dispel that momenta-If this is the result of an effort with charry ides. Lest the reader should "mislike me coal," cried he, striking his breast in a delirium for my complexion"-that is, object to the romance on account of the subject, I will here remark that there is not much war in it,

any how. Here goes : CHAPTER 1. "I have sworn it, Fred.". And so she liad. But whether the oath was taken on Miss Braddon's latest novel she held in one of her snow-white hands, or on the ed on the marble top table in a distant part of

the room, deponent saith not. "Say not that we shall meet no more as The speaker-our beroine-was a superb lovers. Say that we shall meet no more, that specimen of the gentler sea. Her profusion will be sufficiently severe, for, Eliza, could of hair was as dark as midnight; it would we meet but to love, to upbraid fate which so have been blonde, had blonde been the style "I must away," said the girl, " if Quintin's at that period; diamond-like eyes, with heavy affection is pure he will condemn my tarry- drooping lashes; heachy cheeks; a Grecian Grecian bends were not en regle, or she would have surely possessed one. I don't know

He imprinted a kiss upon her willing lips. roine. Probably you have read of a heroine. Now, flitter, deorge, and T will tell you who was not beautiful. I never did. Her name was Postl Bravely, only eighteen years

old.—
And her haber had a large fortune in—greenbacks, and
7.30's and Government and biher bonds, and bank
stocks, and railroad abars anticle."
(Quodalros from Walt Whitman.) I admit the metre in the above lines is execrable, but the idea is admirably conveyed, I

think Pearl was prodigiously patriotic, but there vas some "sham" in her nature, withal. Sanitary Fairs were her hobby. She presided at a table at all the S. F.'s" in her immediate neighborhood. And on such occasions she would appear gorgeously arrayed Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like Pearl. I have frequently heard this remark flung at the fair sex. I can't see that it is at all applicable. It was not Solomon's business to be "arrayed like one of these."

Hardly Pearl was an attractive "fair" behind fair table. It was a little amusing to see her hold out an elaborately worked dressing gown, and in a half pitcous tone, ask a gentleman t purchase it for some poor soldier in the field who, she knew, must be suffering for a dressing gown. "Buy a dozen," she would say, and the soldiers will bless you." And if the gentleman didn't invest in dressing-gowns, Pearl would "bless" him:

The person called Fred-surnamed Fradewas a youth of twenty-two falls, and, for aught I know, the same number of all the other scasons of the year. He was rather a dell cate thap. A draft would give him a cold -and the year in which our story opens was a bounteous year for drafts. The oldest inhabitant didn't remember a more successful

It was the ardent wish of Fred's heart to transform Pearl Bravely into Mrs. Fred Frade-and he succeeded When Pearl attered the sentence with

which this "o'er true tale" commences. Fred " Will nothing alter your decision, Pearl?" "Nothing-but what I have sworn: that will never be your wife unless you take up

arms, and battle for your country—help t 'Sustain the star-flag of the Free win a name, and-and be sure and obtain an office. A captaincy will de." "For the privilege of calling this fair hand mine," clasping the maiden's digits, "l'd brave all the dangers of the earth-if I wasn't afraid," he added, aside. "Yes I'd-I'd," hesitating, "I'd join a company."

After this outburst, Fred sat in silence and an arm chair a few seconds, then, suddenly starting up, exclaimed-"Pearl! apple of my eye, -only promis morrow !"

"I promise," was the soft reply. The infatuated lover clasped the brave girl to his bosom, and imprinted thousands ofbut its none of our business. CHAPTER II.

Is the reader becoming tired of this story? I am. I was never so tired of any story in my life. The next time I will write on become a wife. Sad to her were the kind of subject I know something about—the Œcumenical Council, for instance, or the Schleswig-Holstein Question. But let us proceed One day has elapsed since the events record-The chapel was thronged by people anxious | ded in chapter I. Fred did join a company, to view the ceremony, and as the bride, richly and lost no time in acquainting Pearl with

the fact. " Did you secure a commission. Fred ? "Net yet, love; but I am to be appointed

mensely. shall be the happy day?" "As soon as you please, Fred, I am so hap And so she was. She had always loved the

youth, but detested his cowardice; and now that he had joined a company only had a ten dency to make that love stronger. So it was decided that a wedding should take place immediately, and no postponement on account of the weather. CHAPTER III. I am getting along better than I had anticinated with the romance. When I commenced it, I hadn't the wildest idea what I was going

to write about; and when it is finished, I ven ture to say, the reader will not have the wildest idea what it is all about. Dickens, as long as he has lived, never wrote a story like this. But he needn't let that grieve him, for I never expect to write a story like Dickens as long as I live. Night had attired the city of Blank in deep mourning. The exterior of Squire Bravely's mansion was wrepped in silence. Inside, Fred and Pearl, who were wrapped up in one another, were getting bound together until

hours were abandoned to the giddy waltz, to please the giddy young folks, and at a late hour the newly married couple retired. "My dear husband," said Pearl at the breakfast table, the following morning,

"H'm-well," stammered Fred "our Company is not going to the war." common sense, what kind of company have you joined ?". taste hever. The comparison would hardly "The Union Hose Company," demurely

hysterics." As soon as Pearl could command her voice sufficiently. she opened the door leading to the street, stamped her little " Go !"

He went; but he had scarcely reached the idewalk before she said ---" Come back !" Fred came. He was very obliging that wide extent of country, and as there is no And now, should you, some fine day, stop

in the village of Dash, and ask who is the father of those five children you see romping in front of that cottage embowered in trees and vines, the answer will be "Mr. Frederick

Frade.'

replied her husband.

Such is life My romance is finished. It is hardly necessary to remark that it is not a true story. The veriest ninny must know that there never was a bride who was particularly anxious that her husband should depart for the war on the first day of their wedded life. Not much. But the story is full of morals—a litte hard to find, parhaps; but if you read it over carefully ten or twenty times you will discover them. You will see the force of those good old maxims, "The early bird gathers no moss," " rolling stone catches the worm," etc - Witminglon Commercial.

A SPONGE.

"What is sponge made of?" said George,

gasping, snuffing and winking under a Croton

wlist a sponge is.

The very sponge which washes your face was brought up from the bottom of the ocean, and was part of a living animal. For a long time sponges were supposed to be plants, but later observations have decided them to:be animals, and they are placed in

the class Protozon, the class most resembling animala When first found in the water their appearance is very different from this which you now

This is the skeleton only, the part corresponding to our bones. When this was a complete living thing, deep down under water, it was covered all over the outside, and filled in every one of these little holes with a soft substance something like the white of an egg, and this was like our flesh; it was fastened tightly to a rock, and its color was a blueigh black on the upper side, and a dirty white below. It was formerly supposed to be a plant, because it was always fast in one place; but for other reasons it is decidedly an animal. All through this mass is a regular circulation. like our blood and food. It has been seen to absorb nutritious matter-that is, to cat, or rather drink. You see all over its surface, orifices or holes: these communicate with each other throughout. Into the largest of these, called peres, the sea water is constantly entering; and out of the small ones, called vents, it is

And this strange animal produces others like itself : I will tell you how. From the soft part a little globule is seen to loat off, and after moving about awhile very briskly here, and there, as if looking for a place, fastens itself to some rock. Next, gradually begins to be seen the more solid skeleton (what we have here); the soft part increases, and so it grows; not very slowly either, for the divers find it at the end of three

regularly spouted out; and it doubtless finds in the sea water, minute admals which serve

it for food, and increase its bulk.

years large enough to bring away. To get these sponges from the bottom of the cean furnishes occupation for a great number of people. One thousand men are busy in the Grecian Archipolago alone; and thousands caides, with many hundred boats, are engaged ed in the Gulf of Machri, on the Barbary coast, and clsewhere; so that in many villages there, from May to September—the best diving time only old men, women and children are to be

The finest kind is brought from the Ægean sca. At daylight there, in the summer time, when the weather is pleasant—for it requires mooth water-the boats, each with six or eight men and pairs of oars, will leave the shore and proceed to where the water is eight or ten or even thirty fathoms deep; for those found in shallow water are very inferior. Here they stop, and the divers prepare to

lescend. Each one puts a hoop around his neck, and to this fastens a bag, in which the sponges are put as they are gathered. In very deep water the diver uses a rope with a stone to it. He sinks the stone to the spot he intends to reach, and this holds the rope steady, which he uses to assist himself in coming up again to the surface. After being busy thus till noon, they return

o some of those pleasant little nooks which abound en, the shores, of the Archipelago, to prepare what they have gathered fit for sale. The first thing is to press out the soft part of the animal, and then to bleach out the remainder in the sun; so they beat them, and stamp them, and trample them, till there is no in the sun until it is quite clean, and grows to

be this dull yellow color; then it is packed in

bags; and sent to market for sale-sent to all

From the Journal of the Farm.

parts of Asia, Europe and Ame:

Ingical Journal.

PHILADELPHIA BUTTER. A late article in the American Agriculturalist, commending the practice of coloring butter artificially, is copied I see into other papers. After giving directions how to do it, the writer proceeds ro say " The butter will in fact be much more saleable and really somewhat better. The most celebrated butter makers about Philadelphia, except those who have Jersey cows, color their butter with pure annatto, which gives it a deep orange color. In order that their city customers may not know any difference they use annatto in summer as well as in winter, and the rich color of the crack Philadelphia butter, which is fondly ascribed to some peculiar quality of Brandywine grass, is really the effect of the use of foreign matter." Possibly the writer may know whereof he affirms in regard to the aforesaid practice; but it seems utterly in credible, that butter makers should use annatdeath or an Indiana divorce did them part. to or any other coloring matter in the grass After the " I wills" and "I do's" had been season, when the color is just right without it This " gilding of refined gold," would be not only a "wasteful and rediculous excess," but said, and a XX handed to the clergyman, a few It would seem to be a deliberate and rediculous attempt at self deception to do it with the view of making it better to the taste. Knowing it to be thus treated the man who draws upon his imagination so far as to think he is when does your Company leave for the eating grass butter, or its equivalent, merely because it is yellow, might, I think, easily cheat himself into the belief that he was eating off the Duke of Buckingham's gold plate, going to be a Captain ! In the name of by simply daubing the dishes with yellow othre. Dye stuff in butter is a disgusting nulsance. It may deceive the eye, but the

This revelation produced a beautiful case of well paint a turnip yellow and eat it for an I have no means of knowing how far the aforementioned nasty, practice may have obtained among butter, makers, but if done at all I think their city gustomers have therein a more reasonable cause of complaint than in the high prices about, which they sametimes make such an ado.

Philadelphia is supplied with butter from a

be an exaggeration to say that you might as

grass distinctively known as "Brandywine grass," I presume much of her crack butter is taken from other districts. The green grass -as we call it—that grows so luxuriantly on the banks of the Brandywine and its tributaries, is common here in the East, wherever the land is rich and is left undisturbed. True. somebody a few years ago thought he had discovered in the sweet scented vernal grass, a cause for the superlor flavor of the butter made in certain districts, but aside from all other objections to this the superiority being merely an assumption-it seems to be quite premature to look for a cause. Milk! is the word here now. Cattle feeders and butter makers are, and have been changing that part of their business to the making of milk. Cows are consequently in demand, and high. A neighbor bought one off the road a few days ago for one hundred and twenty-five dollars; and almost any old bunch of bones brings from fifty to seventy-five dollars. Several dairies within a few miles of this place are quite large and under superior management, which I suppose insures a satisfactory return Within sight of my back door, a cow house has been built the last summer that is 100 feet in length, 48 feet in width, and including the with cows and corn fodder, with a nice stream

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THE DEST OF GREEN AND DRIED FRUITS. IN CASH OR TRADE.

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business and selling at low prices, to mean a more of public patronage.

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They were seated in a rich and shady arbor, then turned slowly and sadly away. over which the creeping vines wandered in every variety of curve, suspending large clusters of precious fruits, while the atmosphere was laden with the mellow fragrance of the fading light of day yet lingered and gave a

is feeling which actuates me-it is feeling which prompts me to say-it must not be. Had I not feeling for my father, do you believe I would act contrary to my own desires --would cause you unhappiness?" " Is this your love ?" said the other with a tone of fretfulness. "Methinks it cannot be

of a-' "Stay your words," interrupted she, as she laid her delicate hand tenderly upon his lips. You will respect the father if you esteem his The noble mind of the youth was struck with the reproof, and although it was averse

much pure and holy excellence that he instantly "Forgive me, dearest." he entreated. " I spoke lastily and unworthy of myself. But your words have crazed my soul, which builds its happiness on the possession of you. If it may not be that I shall be your husband, oh promise me that no other shall !"

virgin, "but if my father commands, can I disobey? I have had no mother's care since childhood, but I have scarce felt the loss, he has thrown by the coldness of a man and been a very woman in his affection for me. Shall I repay his kindness with ingratitude? Alas! Quintin, if he tells me to love another I cannot do not pretend to alter your determination do so, but if he bids me wed-Quintin; you

would not censure me ?'

"Ah," cried the youth, with a sudden start, s he struck his hand upon his brow, "why that blush, that agitation? Deceive me not, Eliza, you are not supposing a case. This has aready happened. I see it all. He has eleged a bridegroom."
The maid sunk her he

maid sunk her head upon his bosom

and brough her struggling tears she sobbed-

"Van Deg," she answered, sorrowfully.

"Do you love him, Eliza?"

"Will you marry him !"

"How can you ask ?"

Quintin, thou hast said it."

scarce audible.

Desperate was the conflict in the bosom the youth as he sat like one in a trance, his eyes fixed on hers, which like the sun breaking through the clouds of the passing storm gleamed from under their dripping lashes, and oon he saw the rainbow of hope "Who is my rival?" he asked with a voice

my own. Think you I would wantonly sac-"But why Van Deg ?" "Because he excels in my father's art." "Alas !" cried the despairing lover, "why had I not been a painter?" The bed of Quintin was one of thorns as he How vainly, yet how ardently had he loved,

he struggled for was lost-no, not lost-he could bear the thoughts of her death, he could weep over her grave, he could nurse the vegctation above it, he could—but to think that the prize must be torn from him to be given to another's embrace, there was madness in it. And then Van Deg, that rough, haughty, distant man, how unworthy he to possess a jewel of such value, how unfit to nurture such

soul to insure her felicity.

"Will she not droop, wither, dle in the cold atmosphere about him?" he asked himself, when at length exhausted nature yielded to weariness and he fell asleep. The mind, though, yielded not to the fatigue of the body; on the contrary, it seemed more filled with life. He imagined himself in the street. The bells rang, the people shouted, and gay equipages passed by. It was a day of Algina, was to wed Van Deg, the nation's seat with her head resting on the bosom of a favorite, the celebrated painter. The people ecounted the scenes he had delineated, and lauded the artist to the skies. All this grated on the mind of the dreamer, and he trembled and the cold perspiration gathered on his forehead as the nuptual cavalcade approached. They halted at the chapel, and the groom conducted the bride, all pale and frembling, to the altar. He looked up the sisle, when as the father was about giving his loved one relations and the priest all gazed in horror.

that moment awoke. Still the forms were before his eyes fresh in his recollection, as if he had beheld the awful scene by the noonday sun. Impelled by an unaccountable impulse, he arose and lighted his lamp, and taking a coal from the extinguished embers in his chimney, he commenced the portraiture of the group upon the wall. trymen-and women-, too-a masterplece on As he drew each face, each lineament, he recoiled in surprise as their perfect resemblance ly new and marvelous denouncement. And to the individuals became more and more im. I never suffer myself to owe any one very pressed upon him. He concluded the outline, long, not if I know it. No doubt the people he beheld in it a faithful transfer of his dream are heartly tired of war, and everything perwanting nothing but the variety of color. A taining thereto, and much prefer that I should thousand thoughts darted through his brain.
He was wild and wandering, he flung himself lieve this story of the late cruel war would be on his bed, and when he next awoke the rays read with greater avidity two hundred years of the risen sun had gilded his apartment. ture, and he trembled lest it had all been a

of joy, "what might I not effect with other means? What might be my reward?" As daylight sought its slumbers in the bosom of night the lovers were again together. "I am doing wrong," murmured Eliza, in meeting you again, since I am an affianced bride. This night must be our last. It is a sad thing to part with those we love. Yet I act as virtue dictates, and we must 19x24 volume of the Holy Writ which reposmeet no more, as-"

magic power.

cruelly divides us ?"

every bit as handsome as anybody else's he- be washed," and so the matter ended.

I will wander to some distant clime, and strive what en regle means; but it sounds well there. maid suggested that he "needn't be askin'

to bury my regrets in new scenes and smid Her testh rivalled pearls, and—well, the was such foolish questions, but just keep still and of water—so essential to cleanliness—running new companions."

WHAT IT IS, AND WHERE IT COMES FROM. bath. No one near me could tell him; and the cellar, three stories high. It is now stocked