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ALL THAT'S BRIGHT MUST FADE. All that's bright must fade,

The brightest still the fleetest; All that's sweet was made But to be lost when sweetest; Stars that shine and fall, The flower that droops in springing ;

These, a'as, are types of all To which our hearts are clinging. Who would seek to prize Delights that end in aching?

Who would trust to ties That every hour are breaking? Better far to be In outer darkness lying, Than be blest with light, and see That light forever flying.

LADY GUILFORT.

A TALE OF TERROR The following story is derived from the authentic work of M. Peuchet, Les Archives de la Police de Paris. The period to which the narrative refers is that of the reign of Louis XIV.

Monsieur de la Regnie had filled for several years, to the general satisfaction, the functions of Lieutenant-General of Police, when, on a sudden, terror spread itself through Paris in consequence of the extraordinary disappearance of several persons. In the course of four months, twenty-six young men, the youngest seventeen, and the oldest twenty-five years of age, had been spirited away from their inconsolable families. The most extravagant and contradictory rumors were in circulation upon the subject, particularly in the Faubourg St. Antoine, which had to deplore the loss of four or five young men, the sons of rich and respectable upholsterers residing in that quarter of the city. Among other gossiping stories whispered about upon this subject, it was pretended that a princess, who was suffering from a dangerous liver complaint, had been advised by some foreign charlatan or quack doctor, to make use from time to time, as a that the unfortunate missing persons had been immolated for the purpose. Another equally horrible surmise was, that they had been made away with by the Jews, who, out of hatred and derision of the crucified Messiah, were accustomed to put Christians to death upon the Cross. Fortunately for the poor Jews, this latter opinion took no hold of the public mind.

Whatever the secret cause of these disappearances might have been, terror and desolation reigned in Paris. The Duke de Gevres having mentioned the facts to the King, his Majesty sent for the Lieutenant-General of Police, and reproached him with suffering the existence of such a system of kidnapping, which, in all likelihood, he added, must have very bad humor to Paris, and sent immediately for one of his most experienced agents, named Lecoq, a man whose services on many difficult occasions he had good reason to value. To him he made known the embarrassment in which he found himself, told him of the king's answer, and held out to him the prospect of so great a reward that Lecoq, carried away by his cupidity, exclaimed, "Ah, monsigneur! I see that, in order to take you out of trouble, I must renew the sacrifice of Abraham. I ask you to allow me eight days, in which time I hope to give you a good account of the attair." Lecoq said no more; and Monsieur de la Regnie, who looked upon him as his best agent, dismissed him with a sign which gave him to understand that he had at his disposal all the resources of the police. At that time it was the custom in the police department to make use of mute signs on extraordinary occasions of this kind, the meaning of which was known only to the principal and most con-

Lecoq, who was not married, had a natural son, to whom he was greatly attached, and over whose conduct and education he carefully watched. This lad, called by his companions L'Eveille, from the precociousness and sprightliness of his disposition, was gifted with no common intelligence. Though little more than sixteen years of age, nature had not only given him reason beyond his years, but had also been prodigal to him of external gifts. Young Decoq, besides possessing a handsome face, was tall, and so well and strongly formed, that he looked more like a man of five-andtwenty than a youth of sixteen. L'Eveille, whose real name was Exupere, obtained from his father all that could flatter the vanity of a young man; for his handsome person was always set off by costly and modish clothes. He, however, quitted the house but seldom, for the elder Lecoq knew but too well the danger to which handsome young men like his son were exposed in the streets of Paris; and on the rare occasions when Exupere was allowed to go abroad, he was always accompanied by one or the other of the police spies whom his father had at his back.

fidential agents.

Lecoq, on returning from his interview with Monsieur de la Regnie, shut himself up with his son, and had a long conversation with him. In the afternoon of that day, Exupere was seen quitting the house alone, and splendidly dressed. Around his hat and suspended from his neck were gold chains; he wore two watches; and, from the chinking of his purse as he walked, it was evident that it was filled with good broad pieces of gold coin. But what still more surprised the neighbors (for the profession of the elder Lecoq was unknown to them,) was to see the handsome and finelydressed L'Eveille go and return home several times during four consecutive days, without being accompanied, as had always been the case before, by his uncle (in reality his father,) or some friend. It has been already stated that L'Eveille, besides the remarkable comcliness of his face and person, was endowed with a lively intellect, courage, prudence, and savoir fare. The confidential conversation he had with his father had awakened his ambition; and he easily understood that he might acquire both honor and profit should he succeed in discovering, for the Lieutenant-General of Police, the cause of the extraordinary disappearance of so many young persons. Accordingly, in the rich dress befitting a young man of family, he walked about the streets, on the quays, in the gardens of the Tuileries and Luxembourg, and in the Salle des Pas Perdus at the Palaise de Justice, and in the galleries of that vast edifice, then a favorite haunt of the gay and idle among the

Lecoq the elder had conjectured that the ensuared to their ruin by the seductive charms are as numerous around our nouse as occasion of some frail beauty; and he foresaw that, by

putting his son in the way to meet such a this bandage on your eyes. This is a delicate a public exposure of these numerous and atro-creature, he exposed him likewise to a similar attention shown by our Parisian gallants to clous murders, took measures for the prompt fate; but, reckoning upon his being forewarn- their mistresses, and with which I know Maed, he hoped he might escape the snare that demoiselle Jeborouski (for so my mistress is had been fatal to so many others. The fifth called) will be not a little pleased, and will reday, towards three o'clock in the afternoon, ward you for it." "No, by my faith," replied young Lecoq, in all the eclat of his fine letter expressly forbid me ever to do so." garden of the Tuileries next the river, when "Well, then, let us proceed," said the woman, a remarkably beautiful young woman passed "without it, since your papa has forbidden close by him. She was walking alone, but you. I shall explain that to mademoiselle." better order his lace ruffles-in a word, gave himself the airs of a man who had the presentiment of an adventure, hoping all the time that it was that for which he had his instructions already. To make sure of this, he passed and repassed several times before the lady, and at length took a seat upon one of the benches of the labyrinth which then existed in front of the Champs Elysees. He had not been there many minutes when he saw the friend, or suivante, of his beauty approach the spot where he was, and, after a few-turns, seathat, as was the custom, and soon after entered into conversation; and, thinking the game already in his hands, he asked the suivante who the young lady was in whose service she appeared to be. "Oh, Sir," replied she, "the history of my mistress is almost a romance." "A romance!" exclaimed L'Eveille, "you interest me deeply; probably your mistress is ___." "Yes," replied the suivante, in a means of cure, of a bath of human blood, and | confidential tone, "you have guessed right; she is that interesting young person, of whom all Paris is still talking; and, since you have so readily chanced upon her name, I will no longer conceal from you her history. You must know, my dear sir, that the father of my mistress was a rich Polish prince, who came to Paris incognilo, and whilst there formed a connection with the daughter of a tradesman in the Rue St. Denis; a child (my mistress) was the result of this intercourse. The prince said that he had been set upon by brigands and murdered. The King of Poland, however, having been made acquainted with the unwor-

> appear to be, you ask singular questions. Adieu, monsieur." "One word more," cried L'Eveille; "one veille's turn to speak; and he told the old wonot ill provided; for my father is generous, having no other child but me; and, besides watches, chains, and rings, I have two hundred pistoles in my purse, and leisure and disposi-

so charming a person as your mistress." The old sorceress chuckled and smiled, with a mingled expression of pleasure and contempen to me. You have not escaped my mistress' notice. She was struck with your person and manners, and desired me to find out who you knees, and clasped his hands in a delirium of were. I am charmed that her choice should terror and despair. have fallen on one so worthy of her. Station yourself, this evening, a little before nightfall, in front of the principal door of the church of St. Germain l'Auxerrois. I will meet you there, and bring you, I have no doubt, good tidings. Take care to come well dressed, and of a threadbare-coated, pennyless student." This point being settled they separated.

L'Eveille, in his joy, scarcely touched the

felt convinced that he had discovered the decoy that had lured so many young men to their taken place, Lecoq shared in the suspicions and hopes of his son; but, as the hour of trial drew nigh, paternal tenderness filled his heart young man was about to encounter. However, in order to diminish that danger as much house led to no other discovery worth noticas possible, he summoned a number of his most ing.

Thus far in the words of Peuchet, whose trusty police agents, to whom he briefly explained the nature of the service, and recom- explanation of this strange history is as folmended them to keep close to his son, without, however, compromising, by their too near factors, whose crimes had often merited the approach, the success of the coup de main he was about to attempt. He himself was to walk a short distance before them, resolved that, and daring chief. This arch villain had in the as far as in him lay, the expedition should not course of his wanderings fallen in with a rich fail. A little before nightfall L'Eveille, still but most profligate Englishwoman-a modern more richly dressed than in the morning, pro- Messalina. She lent herself to serve as a deceeded to the place appointed. The church coy, by means of which young men who had doors were about being closed when an old wo- the appearance of wealth were lured to the man meanly clad, and with her face nearly den where young Lecoq had had so miracuconcealed under a hood, emerged from the lous an escape. They were murdered, and church, and after throwing a furtive glance a- their heads seperated from their bodies. bout her, recognized L'Eveille, and made a latter were disposed of to the surgical stusign to approach her. "I should never have dents for anatomical purposes; and the heads, known you," cried L'Eveille. "What a strange after being dried and embalmed, were kept unfigure you have made of yourself?" "Oh, it til a safe opportunity offered of sending them. is a necessary precaution, my son, in order to to Germany, where a high price was given for escape the eyes of the numerous adorers of them by the secret amateurs of a science then interest, beset me whenever they see me in noise in the world-under the name of pherthe streets. Good gracious! these puppies nology, or the system of Gall and Spurzheim. ensuared to their ruin by the seductive charms are as numerous around our house as bees are

The government dreading the effect on the

was followed at some distance by a kind of humble friend, or gouvernante. She appear-paces in advance of L'Eveille, and the police agents following at a cautious distance. They agents following at a cautious distance. They humble friend, or gouvernante. She appeared to be about 25 years of age, was elegantly dressed, and had not only much beauty in her face and shape, but a certain foreign grace her face and shape, but a certain foreign grace Lavandieres, Mauvaises Paroles, Deux Boules, Lavandieres, Mauvaises Paroles, Deux Boules, a lucrative place. The marchioness expression and at length stopped in the lady Gnilfort. (which title, like that of Jaest upon the fine form and striking features of Rue des Orievres, not the least hideous street the unknown fair one. His glances were not of that infected and black mud-covered quarthrown away, but were answered by timid and ter of Paris. There near the chapel of St. Elio, half-downcast looks. He drew himself up, and opposite a tolerably good looking house, arranged the frill of his shirt, disposed in the old woman halted, and said "my dear sir, my mistress does not reside in this poor place, but the house belongs to her, and it was her wish to receive you here first. I shall go up and let her know you are here."

The old demoness entered the house, leaving L'Eveille at the door. His father to en courage him-though he trembled himselfcrossed the street and squeezed his hand. He had scarcely moved away when the old woman reappeared, and after again endeavoring, but in vain, to persuade L'Eveille to let his eyes be bandaged, conducted him into the fatal house. herself on the same bench. He took off his L'Eveille, though armed, felt no little misgivings and fears of being attacked as he followed his faithless guide in atter darkness through a long passage and up some flights of stairs. However, he met no obstacles of the kind, and of her being transferred to the prison at Pignerwas, after some time, ushered into a room lighted with wax tapers and richly furnished. At one end of the room, upon a crimson-colored sofa, fringed with gold lace, reclined, in a most seductive dishabille, the daughter of the Polish prince, Mademoiselle Jaborouski. At the sight of the stranger, her hand sparkled with brilliants, (no doubt from the Polish mines,) readjusted over her half disclosed bosom the two open folds of her robe, and after saluting her visitor with an encouraging smile, she

made a signal to her duenna to retire. The young man forgetful for the moment of the object of his mission, felt as if under the spell of enchantment, and fascinated by the beautiful person before him, he had scarcely quitted Paris, and never returned. It was power to speak or move. She, seeing his emarassment, arose from the sofa and held out her hand which he eagerly seized and kissed. This but served to put more completely to thy conduct of the prince, wished to repair, as far as in him lay, the evil he had done; and, scious of the infamous and dangerous nature been followed by violent deaths, as none of those missing had ever been heard of afterwards. Monsieur de la Regnie, in despair at the displeasure of his Majesty, returned in world. The King of Poland, on being inform- power of her whom he had come to surprise,

ed of the circumstances, caused the child to and deliver into the hand of justice. The elder Lecoq, who with the police agents be declared heiress of the vast wealth of the Prince. Happy the man who shall call her were impatiently waiting in the street, not his own!" "Happy, indeed!" exclaimed hearing the signal agreed upon with his son, "Happy, indeed!" exclaimed L'Eveille, "the man who could entertain even | put a whistle to his mouth, and blew it loudly. a hope of pleasing her," at the same time | The shrill sound reached the ears of young Leheaving a deep sigh. "Ah, young man, to coq, and put his illusions instantly to flight. please, you must sometimes dare-" "To do He started from the sofa, and the siren under what?" asked L'Eveille. "How should I whose fascinations he had been, under preknow ?-to be amiable." "And how is that | tence of giving directions to her old suivante, to be done?" "Oh, you question me too went into an adjoining chamber. L'Eveille, closely; and, for an intelligent youth, as you profiting by her absence, made an inspection of the room, in one corner of which stood what apperaed to be a kind of Indian screen. Wishing to see what was behind this, he endeavorword more, I conjure you." The suivante, who | ed to close up its folds, but finding them imhad risen, sat down again. It was now L'E- movable, he shook them with some violence, when he heard a click, like that of a spring givman, with as much apparent ingenuousness as Ing way, and one of the folds descended into he could muster up, that he was the son of a | the floor, and left unmasked a deep and ample wealthy physician of Mans, and that he had recess or cupboard, upon the shelves of which been sent to Paris to attend the course of lec- were ranged twenty-six silver dishes, and in tures at the university; and added, "Here I | each a human head, the flesh of which had have been for the last ten days, and, as you see | been preserved by some embalming process. A stifled cry of horror burst from the youth's lips, which, but a moment before had been breathing the accents of admiration and passion. But his agony of terror was still farther increased, when looking toward one of tion to devote myself to the task of pleasing the windows of the room, he thought he saw several other cadaverous faces fixing upon him through the panes their glazed but fiery glantuous pity. She then took L'Eveille by the ces. He grasped at the back of a chair, to hand, and said, "You have entirely won my keep from falling, his hair stood on end, drops heart, and I feel a kind of motherly affection of cool perspiration covered his forehead, his for you, of which I will give you proof. List- cheeks became paler and more livid than the faces of the dead that confronted him, and his nerves at length giving way, he sank upon his

At this moment the window was burst in, and his father, followed by the police agents, jumped into the apartment, for the elder Lecoq, alarmed by the silence of his son, and dreading that he might be assassinated, had bravely mounted to the assault of the house, with all your finery; for it might spoil all were | which he was enabled to do by means of ladyou to appear before my mistress in the guise | ders, which the agents procured from a neighboring house-builder's yard. This fortunate and daring act of Lecoq's did in fact save his fort silently locked the doors of their apartson's life for immediately after the noise made ground along which he hurried home, as he by Lecoq and his police agents breaking into the apartment, Madamoiselle Jabrouski, followed by four armed ruffians, rushed from the ruin. On acquainting his father with what had adjoining chamber; but the police agents being superior in number, and equally well armed, resistance was in vain, and the fair murderess and her four accomplices were sewith fear, and he trembled at the danger the cured, and, after being manacled, were carried off to prison. A close examination of the

lows :- A number of the most desperate malegibbet and the galleys, had formed an association under the command of an experienced my mistress, who, hoping to gain me to their in its infancy, but which has since made a

but secret punishment of the culprits. The four robbers were hung, and their female accomplice was also sentenced to death; but destiny ordained otherwise, as the sequel will

prove. The conclusion of this strange eventful his tory is thus narrated by Peuchet. The Chev-alier de Lorraine, the Marquis de Louvois, and the Chancellor of France happened to be present in the Marchioness de Montespan's apartment, whilst Louis XIV. was relating to brouski, was one of the many names assumed by the Englishwoman, her real name having never been discovered,) and asked the King if the execution of so base and fiendish a creature should take place. Louis XIV. re-plied that the law would take its course, and then changed the conversation. Soon after the Duke of Orleans and the Chevalier de Lorraine took their leave. After quitting the apartment, the Chevalier said to his royal highness, "This Englishwoman must be a rare piece of womanhood; suppose we have her to sup with us?" The prince cried out, "shame shame !" but the extravagance of the proposal pleased him; and on the favorite renewing his entreaties he consented. The Englishwoman being confined in the Bastile, a blank lettre de cachet was procured and filled up with an order to the governor to deliver to the care of the bearer, Lady Guilfort, for the purpose ol. The governor of the Bastile delivered up his prisoner; but shortly after having done so, he came to the knowledge of the trick that had been played upon him, and in the first moment of alarm and anger he talked of complaining to the king; but on the name of the Duke of Orleans being mentioned, he resolved to hush up the matter, which was done by means of a proces verbal certifying the sudden death and burial, within the precincts of the Bastile, of the female prisoner in question.

Lady Guilfort, who supposed that her remo-

val from the Bastile was only for the purpose of being taken to the Conciergerie, preparatory to her execution, soon perceived, however, that the carriage took the direction of one of the barriers of Paris; after quitting which, and at the end of two hour's drive, it stopped. A kind of equerry came and opened the door, offered her his hand to descend, and after passing through a long corridor, and up some flights of stairs, ushered her into a brilliant were persons of high rank. One of them immediately on entering, put an opera glass to his eye, and examined with haughty curiosity Lady Guilfort; the two others threw themselves into arm-chairs. Lady Guilfort, after the first surprise was over, had no difficulty in recognizing in the persons before her the king's brother the Duke of Orleans, the Marquis d'Effiat, and the Chevalier de Lorraine. She quickly conceived the motives which led to her being brought into their presence; and though, under other circumstances, she would have willingly joined in the wildest orgies with the persons in whose company she then found herself, yet the recollection of her dungeon in the Bastile, and the terrible death impending over her, left no thought but that of making her escape. She affected not to be aware of the rank of the personages before her; but, seeming to enter into the spirit of the adventure, she exerted all her powers of fascination, and soon made captive to her seductive influence the Chevalier de Lorraine and the Marquis d'Effiat. But the Duke of Orleans, never a great admirer of the fair sex, and who could not vanquish his horror of the Englishwoman, tired before long of the scene; and bethinking himself that the gratification of his curiosity might be too dearly purchased by the risk of the King's displeasure, should the circumstance reach his Majesty's ears, and having refused to stay for supper, was conducted by the Chevalier de Lorraine and the Marquis d'Effiat to his apartment, for this scene took place in the palace of Verseilles, and in the lodging of the Marquis de Lafare, the use of which he had given to the Cheva-

lier de Lorraine for twenty-four hours. The two gentlemen, after returning to the room where lady Guilfort was, sat down with her to a pelit souper. The most exuberant gai-ety, and not the most refined gallantry, was the order of the night. At the close of a supper which had been prolonged into the small hours of the morning, Lady Guilfort on a sudden rose up, and taking up a taper, made her lowest courtesy, and wished the gentlemen good night. She then quitted the room. Soon after the two gentlemen moved off to their respective chambers, when Lady Guilments, and hurried back to the supper-room, where, tying together the table-cloths and napkins, she fastened one end of this impromptu rope to the balcony, and, by means of it, let herself down into the park, where she lay concealed until the gates were opened in the morning. She then slipped out, and hurrying into the town of Verseilles, took the first vehicle that offered, and arrived in Paris before her two imprisoned admirers were released from durance, as they dared not, during the night, make a noise in the palace by calling or ringing for the servants, to have the doors of the rooms in which they were locked up forced open, lest it might lead to the discovery of their participation in the criminal trick played off upon the Governor of the Bastile, and the

escape of Lady Guilfort. On arriving at Paris, lady Guilfort hastened to the Rue Plat d'Etain, where, in an obscure and miserable looking house, but admirably ment, lived one of the chief agents of the band of malefactors with whom she was connected. There, after explaining to her accomplice the means by which she had recovered her liberty, she found a secure asylum. In a little time aided by this villain, Lady Guilfort organized a new troop of bandits, upon whom she could reckon, offensively and defensively. She, as chief of the association, planned the expeditions, appointed to each the part he was to play, partitioned the booty, and, at times, took a personal part in the expedition. The individual in whose house she had taken refuge,

was lieutenant of the troop.

As it was no longer possible to allure vic-

personal attractions, the efforts of the band were principally confined to house robberies; but murders were avoided, unless where they became necessary to the safety of the robbers.

Besides the feeling of hatred arising from the loss of four of the troop, including the captain, and the diminution of their gains effected by young Lecoq's interference, Lady Guiltort nourished a deep desire of personal vengeance against him for having been duped by him, and resorted to the following stratagem to gratify that teeling. Young Lecoq, enriched by the bounty of the king, and possessed of a lucrative place, led a regular life, undisturbed by any fears of Lady Guilfort's vengeance, he supposing her to be dead, when, one day, a grave-looking and respectably-dressed man called upon him, and, after requiring a promise of secresy with regard to what he should tell him, asked if he should like to be put in the way of detecting a set of smugglers, who carried on an extensive and thriving trade between Belgium and Paris, in Brussels lace and other prohibited goods. Lecoq, whose ruling passion was avarice, eagerly accepted the offer, and agreed to the terms proposed. His informant was to point out Lecoq as a sure agent, to whose house the smugglers might consign their bales and cases of contraband merchandize. Ten to twelve days after the conclusion of this bargain, a cart stopped at Lecoq's door, and from it were taken two large wooden cases, which, according to Lecoq's orders, were placed in a store-room on the ground floor of his house. The carter, after in vain he must have left them at the stage where he had stopped the night before, but that he would return thither, and bring them to Lecoq the next morning. From some over-acting on this man's part, and from observing that these cases were perforated in seven or eight places with small holes Lecoq had his suspicions awakened. He communicated his doubts to a friend of his, a courageous and resolute young fellow; and in the evening, when everything was very quiet in the house, they both, armed with pistols, descended with noiseless steps the stairs, and took their posts near the door of the store-room, which had been left purposely unclosed.

They had been for a considerable time on the watch; and Lecoq's triend, getting impatient, was about abandoning his post, when an indistinct noise from that part of the storeroom where the cases were placed, struck their ears. They redoubled their attention-the noise increased; and they were soon afterwards able to ascertain that it came from the cases. Lecoq squeezed the hand of his friend-the signal was understood-they both cocked their pistols. "John," said a voice in the lowest possible whisper, "are you there? We appear to be alone in the house. Let us breathe a little air, for I am stifled in this cursed box. We can lie down again when the pe house come back." "Do you think they have any suspicion?" "Not the least; with all his cunning, Lecoq is blinded by his avarice; the English woman judged him rightly, and tonight, at twelve, she may satisfy her vengeance in the heart's blood of the infamous mouchard (police spy.") "Fire!" cried Lecoq, at the same time discharging his pistol in the direction of the cases; his friend did the same; and the explosion was followed by a double cry of agony-the balls had taken effect. Lecoq ran into an adjoining room, where he had placed a lighted lamp in a cupboard, and bringing it with him into the store-room, he and his of the cases, one dead, and the other having his thigh broken. The roise of the fire-arms bro't several of the neighbors to the house and soon after the patrol arrived. This circumstance greatly annoyed Lecoq; as the public rumor of the discovery of the two robbers would, if it reached the ears of the rest of the band, prevent them from keeping their engagement for midnight, and thus frustrate, his intention of securing them all. He however, endeavored to repair as much as possible the evil, by enjoining silence on those who entered the house. He also informed the lieutenant general of nolice, who sent him a company of soldiers, disguised, and who came to the house only one by one, where they were conveniently posted for the reception of the robbers.

It had scarcely struck midnight when the noise of several feet was heard approaching, and soon after they stopped opposite the door of the house, whilst, at the same time, five knocks were given upon one of the windows of the store-room; the door after a moment's delay, was cautiously half opened, and four men successively entered, followed by another figure in female attire. The door was then slammed to violently, a whistle was blown, and instantly numerous torches and tapers were brought from the adjoining rooms, which lighted up the hall, and exhibited to the stupefied banditti the muskets of thirty soldiers leveled at them. In despair they dropped their arms, and were seized, bound, and carried off to prison. Befofe their departure, Lecoq went up to the female figure, and putting a lamp to her face, beheld features totally unknown to him. The woman was not Lady Guilfort. Lecoq's disappointment and astonishment were extreme. The next day, however, he received a note, which in some measure cleared up the mystecy. This note, which exists in the archives of the police, was brought to him by a porter, who said it had been given to him by a lady in a thick veil. The contents were as follows

"Tremble !- One of us must perish ! Yesterday I was near your house, when the impatience of my two agents rendered abortive my plan; but wishing to revenge myself on the new captain of our troop, and the unworthy rival he has preferred to me, I did not warn him of the fate of our advanced guard. but allowed him to proceed on the expedition, knowing that he would thereby become your and the police's prey. I have succeeded, and they will now explate the scorn they treated me with. You may judge from this if my vengeance knows how to reach those that incur it. It is your turn next, young fanfaron, who imagine that you are secure from my blows, by having made yourself a mouchard when at best you are good for nothing else than to be . . . "

Peuchet adds, in a note, "after this letter, the conclusion of which is expressed in too energetic terms to be repeated to ears polite, the report breaks off abruptly, several pages having been torn out of the register. We are, therefore, ignorant of the denouement of Lady Guilford's history; but from what we have seen of it, it is abundantly clear that this was not the last of her adventures."

Michael Stover captured a straw-colored rac-

A SWEET FASHION.

There are many strange vagaries of fashion and that of our European friends over the water, for skunk furs, is one of the most recent a most eccentric. A sudden skunk fur fancy has "pervaded the bosoms" of French and German belles, and they now take to their hearts and wrap around their shoulders articles of peltry which, a few years ago, a Yankee ploughboy would not touch with a tennay, not with a twenty foot pole. The following extract from the New York Journal of Commerce explains in detail our remarks:

"The traffic in skunk skins has suddenly become a most important branch of the fur trade, and the skins of an animal which, three years ago, were deemed of no value whatever, are now in the greatest demand. They are collected for exportation alone. The principal markets are Russia and Turkey, though some are sent to Germany, where they are sold at large profit, as the fur of the genuine "fisher." The black skins are valued the most, and during the past winter the market price has been as high as \$1 per skin, while mottled skins brought only 70 cents. These prices, however, have recently depreciated considerably, on account of the immense exportation. Upwards of 50,000 of these skins have been shipped from this city alone within the past two months, and one firm in Maiden Lane bave now on hand about 18,000, ready for shipment. These are designed for the Leipsic sales-Leipsic being, next to Novogorod, in Russia, the most important fur entrepot in Europe. searching his pockets for the keys, said that The first intimation received in this market of the value of this new description of fur, came from the Hudson's Bay Company, which, baving shipped a few to London at a venture, found the returns so profitable, that they immediately prosecuted the business on an extensive scale, and now so large has been the exporta-

tion, that a glut in the market is anticipated." Perhaps, after a year or so, these skunk skins will be re-imported, under some fancy foreign price. Then Madam Blank will return from Paris in a complete set, say of skunquetto furs; and there will be a rage for the article, and the creatures will perhaps be exterminated. Every thing is ordained for wise endsperhaps the fashion is intended to put an end to a most noisome animal. There is a droll Jack Downing and Sam Slick saying of "let every man skin his own skunks," meaning that he who has a disagreeable duty to perform need not attempt to shirk it off on others. Just now the proverb is void of significance; he who has the most skunks to skin being decidedly the best off of the party.

ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE LIFE.-There is nothing short of revelation that more beautifully or satisfactorily proves the existence of an Almighty mind than the fewness and simplicity of the ultimate elements of animal and mentary principles essentially necessary, and but six generally employed, to form every variety of organic life: nifrogen, carbon, oxy-gen, and hydrogen are the bases, to which sulphur and phosphorus may be considered supplementary. With these, infinitely varied in their atomic proportions, are built up not only the whole animal kingdom, but also every variety of the vegetable world-from wheat, the "staff of life," to the poison of the deadly Upas tree. It is also worthy of remark that these four elemental principles are those also of which both air and water are composed, so that air and water may be considered in truth friend saw the robbers stretched at the bottom | and fact as being the original elements of organic life .- Dr. Toulmin.

> A MAN COMING TO LIFE AT HIS OWN FUNER-AL.-In Orange, N. J., week before last, a man named John Knox, while engaged in painting of the third story of a house, fell to the ground, and was taken up for dead. He was conveyed to his residence, laid out, and his afflicted relatives and friends in due time proceeded to make the usual arrangements for the funeral, which was appointed for Sunday. Shortly before the hour appointed on that day, the body exhibited signs of returning animation, and in a few moments afterward, to the astonishment of all, the young man in the coffin, who was of course believed to be dead, was able to converse with his friends! It is a singular case, and the man's escape from being buried alive was truly miraculous. The physicians, however pronounce his present condition as extremely critical, and it is doubted whether he may survive the injuries sustained by the fall.

RENOVATION OF THE PEACH TREE .- The editor of the New England Farmer says that a gentleman residing in Cambridge informs him that charcoal placed around the roots of the deceased peach stock was valuable. He immediately removed the soil from around the trunk of a sickly tree in the garden, supplied its place with charcoal, and was surprised at its sudden renovation and subsequent rapidity of its growth, and the tenacity with which the fruit held on the branches and the unusual richness of its flavor when matured.

The New York French Courier des Etats Unis says that a new expedition for the conquest of Cuba is now on foot. It also asserts that part of the expedition has already sailed, and that within a few days the whole affair will be made public. The plan, as sketched by the Courier is, to land on some remote point on the Cuban coast, where they are to maintain tnemselves until a general rising in the Island shall summon them to march upon Havana.

A correspondent of the New York Courier says when the Controller of that city negotiated with the Rothschilds concerning the Croton Loan they wrote him that they could not imagine what use for an aqueduct of forty miles in length there was for New York, a city surrounded by fresh water!

SHOCKING .- It is stated that a young lady on Boston Common, dressed in the extreme of fashion, was mistaken by some boys for a circus tent, and they actually crawled some distance under the canvass before they discovered their mistake.

The members of St. John's Lutheran church, Lancaster, Pa., "surprised" their paster, Rev. D. Steck, on the 31st March, by presenting him a purse containing \$100 in gold.

Hail stones, measuring 10 to 12 inches in circumference, fell at Natchez, Mississippi, ou the 24th March. One was found which measured twenty-two by sixteen inches!

Thirty citizens of Tamaque, Pa., have left that place for Pike's Peak.