

THERE'S WORK ENOUGH TO DO.

The blackbird early leaves its nest, To meet the smiling morn, And gather fragments of its nest From upland, wood and lawn. The busy bee that wings its way Mid scenes of varied hue, And every flower would seem to say— "There's work enough to do."

A FORTUNATE MISTAKE.

It was on the evening of the 2nd of January, in 185—, that I went to hear the Duchess Strainevoyce, who, at that time, attracted the fashionable world to her concerts, for no other earthly reason, I suppose, than to have it to say that they had listened to a real duchess, while, at the same time, I firmly believe that superior talent went begging. I went to hear the Duchess, partly to kill time, and partly from a desire to hear and see for myself the marvellous foreigner whose name was in every body's mouth. When I reached the concert-room, it was crowded to its utmost capacity. It was so closely wedged that one could have studied anatomy, after a fashion, merely from the impression of your neighbor's bones. At the close of the concert, I was borne along with the crowd, and jammed through the doorway at the risk of breaking every rib in my body. Ere I could escape from the throng, and while I was shrugging my shoulders to assure myself that my collar bone was in its proper position, I felt a hand clasping my arm, and a musical voice exclaimed:—"You good-for-nothing, I thought I had lost you! What a frightful jam! I do believe my arm is broken, and my dress I know must be ruined, and all for the sake of hearing that Strainevoyce! I would not give Miss Dwight or Miss Floyd for a world of Strainevoyces!" I was on the point of replying that I agreed with her, but restrained myself, laughing inwardly at the novel position in which I was placed, and wondering who my fair companion could be. Evidently she mistook me for her brother, or, possibly, her husband, judging from the familiarity of her manner. "Why, Ralph, how forgetful you are! Here is the countess," she said, in a sympathizing tone, "Forgive me, Ralph—your poor head! I am sorry I made you come."

more justice in the distribution of the world's good and comforts. Don't say I'm silly and sentimental, Ralph. I know you will give your share towards Miss's education, like a good brother, as you are. I have been talking to her about it, and I know I can manage it so as to involve any scruples she may have against receiving anything from me. Here my companion became quiet, and the question presented itself to my mind, "How am I to escape from this awkward position honorably? Here I have been guilty of listening to a communication intended for the ear of another—have been guilty of an inexcusable deception, practiced upon a stranger and a lady knowingly. Perhaps the honest plan would be to acquaint her at once with the mistake, and solicit her pardon." I had at last summoned courage sufficient to clear my throat, and was about to commence my well-studied speech, when my companion gave a little laugh, as she said— "Really, Ralph, you are very entertaining in your own peculiar way; but if you are as dumb when you are in the presence of Miss Vincent as you have been to-night, she is to be pitied rather than envied. You are little better than a barbarian! But here we are at Uncle Graham's, and you know I promised to stop with Carrie to-night, so you will have no one to bother you the remainder of the road. How singularly you do act, to-night, Ralph! Well, I won't tease you any more." Suddenly, the driver drew up before an elegant residence, and, imagining I perceived a loop-hole whereby I might escape from my awkward predicament, I sprang out of the cutter, and assisted the lady to the ground. "Is your head still aching, Ralph? Good night, why you forgot to kiss me." As the fair face was turned to mine, with its tempting lips awaiting the kiss, I pressed my shawl down from my mouth suddenly, and let my head down to receive the most delicious kiss that ever was bestowed by maiden. "You need not wait; Carrie is coming—I hear her," said my companion as he tripped up the steps, while I stood irresolutely by the cutter. "Then, my dear fellow," I mentally ejaculated, "it is time you were off." And, seating myself in the cutter once more, glided over the sparkling snow, but whither I knew not. I only knew that I had lost a charming companion, whose lips, a moment since, were pressed against my own, and whom, in all probability, I might never meet again. And when I recalled her generous offer, her sympathy for the poor lame girl, and her self-accusing spirit, so unlike that of my acquaintance in general, I longed to know more of her. They again my cheeks tingled when I remembered the deception I had practiced. And what would she think of me when she ascertained—as she most certainly would, sooner or later—the truth? But my speculations were cut short by the abrupt stoppage of the cutter, whereupon I stepped out leisurely, picking up from the bed of the cutter, as I did so, an exquisitely embroidered handkerchief, upon looking at it closely, I perceived the initials "D. S." in one of the corners. I was reminded of my situation at that moment by the inquiring glance the driver bestowed upon me, as he observed my movements. Without vouchsafing a word of explanation, I turned away from him and walked homewards. Evidently, I bore a very strong resemblance to Mr. Ralph D., whoever he was. When his own sister and the servant were detected by the resemblance, it must certainly be very great. True, the cap was drawn down firmly, almost concealing my eyes, and the lower part of my face was muffled up in a heavy shawl; still, taking everything into consideration, I said to myself, the similarity of dress, feature, manner, must be wonderful, thus to deceive one's relatives. The winter air was in that communicative mood termed "nipping," and, remembering that I had a walk of four miles in my own shoes, my lodgings, I walked forward briskly, revolving in my mind the different aspects of my adventure, as they presented themselves, one after another, and resolving to keep my own counsel. I walked perhaps a mile, when I observed a gentleman approaching at a walk as rapid as my own. As he drew nearer, I was struck with his resemblance to me—height, size, manner, and dress, even to the plaid shawl around his neck, and the buttons upon his cap were the exact counterpart of my own. I think the resemblance must have struck him at the same time, for, as we were passing each other, we involuntarily passed, bade each other a pleasant "Good-night," scanning each other closely and curiously, then strode on. "Mr. Ralph D.," I said to myself, as I turned to look at him. Singularly enough, Mr. Ralph D. was at that moment looking at me; but the instant he detected me, he wheel around and resumed his walk. Ere I reached my lodgings, I resolved to ascertain, if it was possible, who the young gentleman was who had arrived from China so recently, that I might thereby assure myself to whom I was indebted for a delicious kiss, and whose acquaintance I was very desirous of making. Early the following morning, I sat down and wrote a few lines to Milly Walker, the lame girl, and inclosing one hundred dollars in the note, sealed it, and depositing it in my pocket, sallied forth in quest of the information I much desired. Wending my way to a friend's store, I encountered his errand boy, who was at that moment entering the door. "George," I exclaimed, affecting a careless manner, "are you acquainted with the— Road?" "Yes, sir, very well."

"Well, I can manage it for you, Mr. Clark. My uncle, Mr. Dean, lives out there." "Is Mr. Dean your uncle?" I inquired hastily. "Yes, sir." "There is a lame girl living with him?" "Yes, Miss Walker." "Can I trust you, George?" I inquired. "You may, sir, if you want to help Miss Walker without knowing who is doing it." "Well, this letter is for Miss Walker, as you will perceive. It is a money letter, and if you can convey it to her, that is all that is required. You will keep the matter to yourself?" I added, as I endeavored to place a small gold piece in his hand. "No, sir, not a cent, Mr. Clark, I only wish I could do twice as much for Miss Walker," exclaimed the manly fellow. "I shall put the letter where she will get it, and she will never know where it came from. I will go out there to-night." "Very well, George," I replied, as I left him, feeling satisfied that the note was in safe hands. A few evenings after this adventure, I was in attendance at a large party, and seeing the lady in the crowd, I inquired of a friend who she was. "That lady in blue?" said he. "No, the lady beside her." "Have you not made her acquaintance? That is Miss Dwight, and a very particular friend of Miss Floyd's." "Anything to Emma Dwight?" "No; they are quite intimate, however. Let me present you." I fancied that Miss Dwight bestowed a look of more than ordinary curiosity upon me as my cousin presented me, but I—I had the courtesy to meet her inquiring look, as if unconscious of the fact that I had met those eyes before, and had received from those lips a sisterly kiss. As I seated myself beside her, I overheard the words, "Taking everything into consideration, I think very little blame can be attached to the gentleman," uttered in a merry tone by a gentleman who was at my elbow, but whose face was turned from me. "Pray, have done, Ralph!" said Miss Dwight, as she tapped his shoulder lightly with her fan, and I felt a blush suffusing her cheeks. "But the coolness of the whole proceeding—" continued the gentleman, heedless of her remonstrances. "The fellow even gave her a brotherly kiss." "Ralph!" exclaimed Miss Dwight, energetically, as the blood mounted to her forehead, drying her face and neck crimson. "Come, come, Dwight! Don't ask us to believe in such a thing as a brotherly kiss." "Well, she cannot deny having complained to me, the next day, that he was exceedingly stupid—thinking I was the offender all the while—and scarcely uttering a word; that in fact, she had to do all the talking." "We will take that with considerable allowance, too," replied one of the listeners. "I met the fellow on the road," continued the gentleman; "and I must say I never encountered a man so like myself in all my travels." "In truth, you are a barbarian, Mr. Dwight, to tell such a thing upon your sister," exclaimed Miss Floyd, with a merry laugh. "As if I did not owe her ten times the amount! Ever since my return, she has been teasing me in every conceivable manner," he replied, turning around suddenly towards her, and, in doing so, encountering my steady gaze, "S's death!" he ejaculated, with a perceptible start, upon facing me. Miss Dwight flashed a meaning glance upon him, then suddenly turned towards me, as if to observe the effect his exclamation and manner would produce upon me, but I was equal to the emergency, and maintained an unflinching composure. "I did not hear the first of that, Miss Dwight," I said, as I cast a careless glance over the wondering group, and another of pretended astonishment upon Mr. Dwight, who evidently felt no little annoyance. "Perhaps it is just as well," was the reply, as she glanced at her brother. "Ralph is really unmerciful when he begins. I am glad that you did not hear the whole; but now that it is out, I may as well give a correct version of the affair. Like an attentive brother, he permitted the crowd to separate us, at the close of the Duchess Strainevoyce's last concert, and I was so unfortunate as to mistake a stranger for him, who accompanied me home with my error. Thinking that it was Ralph and that his headache prevented him from conversing, I did perform rather more than a fair share."

that Milly would one day make a great name for herself," she said, musingly. "But she made a greater reputation for herself than even I ever dreamed of. How glad she will be to bring back to me some of these rare performances! I have so often wondered," she continued, as she resumed her work, "who it was that gave her the money?" "You mean the gentleman who accompanied you to your Uncle Graham's from the concert?" "Yes. It was very singular, his giving the money in the way he did." "Doubtless he did it to secure your good opinion." "Then he has never had the satisfaction of knowing how it was received." "Or as a kind of penance, to atone for the deception practiced." "The gentleman's gift has accomplished much more than he has any idea of; he would, tho', very likely remember her, and doubtless ere this has heard the many flattering things said of her." "Of course he has." "How do you know?" inquired Mrs. Clark, looking up from her work. "He may be dead." "But he is living, Caroline?" "Who is living?" "The gentleman you so often think about who gave Milly Walker a hundred dollars, and whom you kissed?" "Mr. Clark?" exclaimed my wife, as the work fell from her hands into her lap. "Mrs. Clark?" I retorted. "You don't think!—How can you say such a thing? And a puzzled expression rested on my wife's face that, in spite of all my powers of resistance, forced me to laugh aloud. "Oh! I remember now," she said; "Ralph said something like that once at Miss Floyd's." "Then you have kissed him?" "She then threw down her work suddenly and arose, "Harry is it possible that it was you?" "And very probable, certainly!" "And you have concealed it all this time. You are the most deceptive of men!" she exclaimed. "Don't blame me for doing what neither you nor any other woman can do, and that is, keep a secret." "I will not believe it." "Deceive me, then, to surprise me into a confession, and failed," I replied. "Then let this be the proof." And I drew from my pocket (it was prepared for this scene) the embroidered handkerchief, and pointed out to her, her initials, whereupon she boxed my ears. A Difficult Question Answered. "Can anybody tell why when Eve was manufactured from one of Adam's ribs, a hired girl wasn't made at the same time to take care of him?" "We can, easy! Because Adam never came whining to Eve with a ragged stocking to be darned, a collar-string to be sewed on, or a glove to be mended, and she was sitting up and crying inside her never read the newspaper until the sun got down behind the palm trees, and then stretched himself yawning out, "Ain't supper most ready, my dear?" Not he. He made the fire and hung over the tea-kettle himself, and when Eve had any fresh pomegranates and the mango season was over! He never stayed out until eleven o'clock to attend a "ward meeting," hurrying for the out-of-door candidate, and then scolded because poor dear Eve was sitting up and crying inside her gates. To be sure he acted rather cowardly about apple-gathering time, but then that don't depreciate his general helpfulness about the garden! He never pulled the billiard, nor drove out horses, nor choked Eve with cigar smoke. He never loafed around corner groceries, while solitary Eve was rocking little Cain's cradle at home. In short, he didn't think she was specially created for the purpose of waiting on him, and wasn't under the impression that it disgraced him to have his wife's cares a little. That's the reason Eve didn't need a hired girl, and we wish it was the reason that none of her fair descendants did!

CAPTURE OF A SLAVER.—The U. S. steamer Mohawk, Lieut. Commander Craven, arrived at Key West on the 30th ult., with a slave, an American clipper-built barque, called the Wildfire, about 300 tons and eight years old. The Wildfire cleared for Key West on the 16th of last December, Stanhope, master, for St. Thomas. She had on board about 300 Africans, all quite young and in very good condition. She has a Spanish crew of 15 men, and a Spanish captain, Katsaborn, and eight men, Americans. The latter presented to passengers, but are probably the American crew of the vessel, the barque having a Spanish crew and an American crew. The Africans were taken on board the Wildfire at the Congo river. The crew was to receive \$800 for their portion of the proceeds of the sale of the negroes. They were out 30 days, and would have landed their cargo before had they not been becalmed four days where they were at the time of capture. A majority of the Africans are children of from 8 to 16 years of age. The females amount to about 70. The crew of the vessel made no resistance, and were taken and sent on board the Mohawk, and since her arrival have been delivered up to the United States marshal. The negroes will be landed as soon as a place can be built for their accommodation. Many of them have been confined in the hold of the vessel so long that they are not able to walk. About 80 died on the passage. Philadelphia is a moral city in the daytime. A young man the other night complained to the police that a colored girl on whom he had lavished some street gallantry, going so far as to offer her an oyster supper, had run away with his watch and purse. The police pursued and caught the deprecator, who had on his person a garb, it is true, but it was a man, an undeniable male negro. It appears that possessing effeminate looks, Parry Brown has been in the nightly habit of clothing himself in the habiliments of the other sex, and coming out to promenade the town. Whenever he succeeded in catching the eye of a well-dressed but immoral man, young or old, he would exert all his fascinations, and lure the victim into an unfrequented lane, then he would steal all he could, and make off. If the defrauded man was noisily disposed, Parry Brown had only to reveal his true sex, and the victim would become ashamed of his share in the drama that he would willingly give all he possessed to forget it forever. It is even now supposed that the black Brown will go free, because the green white youth will not appear against him. The new celebrated pony express, by which intelligence is obtained from San Francisco in ten days, traverses 1800 miles of a wild and unbroken country, infested by powerful tribes of warlike Indians. Nearly one hundred horses are employed, and only thirty-six couriers, each riding about fifty miles. The great wigwag at Chicago, to accommodate the National Convention, is one hundred and eighty feet long by one hundred broad, and capable of holding ten thousand persons.

THE JAPANESE EMBASSY. The United States steam frigate *Rancho*, 44 guns, Captain Wm. H. Gardner, commanding, bearing the flag of Flag Officer, William J. McClincy, Commander-in-Chief of the Home and Gulf Squadron, having on board the Japanese Embassy, arrived at the entrance to New York harbor on Wednesday evening, May 9th. Dispatches from the Secretary of the Navy were immediately taken on board, ordering the flag officer not to enter this port, but to return at once to Hampton Roads, Va., in order that the strange guests of the nation, who have come so far to make us a visit at our invitation, may be received first at the Capitol, before they take their view of the commercial metropolis. Two years ago, at a great fire in Japan, the English copy of the treaty between this country and the empire was burned, and Consul Harris, who has shown such remarkable ability in dealing with these people, had the address to induce the government to send an embassy to this country, to get a new copy signed by the President. Two ambassadors were accordingly appointed, attended by 18 subordinate officers, and 52 servants, making 72 persons in all. One of these was taken ill at San Francisco, and sent on board the *Candinamarrah*, the Japanese man-of-war which had preceded the embassy to that port. The first ambassador is Prince of Buleu, and Chamberlain to the Ycoon—one of the highest officers of the government. He is small, delicate, olive complexion, and rather good-looking—something of the Hebrew type. He is 41 years old. He dresses in a sort of loose dressing-gown, talma, *pajama*, and white gaiters. His under-dress is of white silk and linen, which comes up around the neck, instead of collar and necktie. The Japanese wear a great variety of colors—a custom among the servants as well as the upper classes—the favorite color seems to be sky-blue. The gown generally worn is a sort of slate color purple, the talma of sky-blue, and the *pajama* of crape silk of the most beautiful figure and texture. The shape of the *pajama* is a sort of loose trousers, fastened around the waist by a silk cord tassel, which hangs down by the side like that of a sword belt. The back part is drawn over a flat hoop or thin board, about two inches wide that fits close around the small of the back. The sides of the hip are scooped out, showing the gown down as far as the knee. This dress is not worn by servants. The style of wearing the hair is the same with all classes. The front part of the head is shaved, the hair which is quite long, is combed from the side and back part of the head, upon the part jet black, very stiff and glossy, made so by "obbo oil" and other ingredients which they use. His Excellency wears white cotton gaiters, which are only worn by princes and those of high rank; the lower classes are not allowed to wear them. He wears two swords, but no jewelry, and usually carries a fan; hats are seldom worn. They make beautiful *pajama* hats, but they seldom wear them. Upon the sleeves, back and front, of the talma are round white marks, about the size of a dollar, which indicate their rank, and are used in signing their name instead of writing it. They are family or master's marks; when of the former, they are only worn by the eldest son. Though their traveling expenses are all borne by our government, they bring \$80,000 in coin and purchases. Their baggage amounts to 80 tons, and in crossing the Panama Railroad it filled four cars. Some of their more valuable baggage—such as the "treasure box," containing the treaty—was taken along with the Commissioners. They never allow it out of their sight. One of the official's special duty is to look after the treaty box. It is about three feet long, two feet in depth, and eighteen inches wide. This is covered with red morocco and lined with velvet, and is studded with the edges. The box is inclosed in a light frame, made of slats about two inches wide and half an inch thick, resembling very much the frame about Herring's safes. This box is carried by two poles, about ten feet long borne on the shoulders of four men. There are, in fact, three boxes which form the one covered by leather. One box contains the letter from the Emperor (or Ycoon), to the President; one, the Japanese treaty in their own language; the other a copy of the treaty in English, which they bring to have signed by the President. When the cars started from the depot at Panama they showed not the least surprise, as they never do on any occasion; but expressed their delight by jumping up, laughing, talking, clapping their hands, smoking and all kinds of gestures. At the half-way station whilst the train was stopping, the Japanese were out making sketches of the locomotive, cars, station-house, birds, trees, plants, flowers, and almost everything they saw. There are some dozen or more artists, some who take drawings of animals, birds, &c.; some landscape sketches, &c., each having a distinct and separate department assigned him. The rapidity and correctness with which they sketch would astonish even a Yankee. They have articles of their own manufacture of every description, some of which will astonish our people when they see them. They have a beautiful specimen of Sharp's rifle (of their own manufacture) and one of those presented by Commodore Perry, made by Sharp himself. The one made by the Japanese is a decided improvement upon the original, as pronounced by all who have seen it. The improvement consists in cocking, priming and cutting-off the cartridges at the same time. The original does not cock on putting down the guard, which cuts off the cartridges but has to be cocked by the thumb. The Japanese rifle can be cocked or not on cutting-off the cartridge, according to will. The barrel is beautifully rifled, and is a fac-simile of the original. The workmanship and finish are equal, if not superior, to the original Sharp, or any other fire-arm ever seen. They have a large quantity of beautiful silks, brocades, linen, crapes, silk, pongees, &c., of every conceivable style and pattern, which would require an experienced dry-goods clerk to give the proper names to hundreds of articles which they have in the dry-goods line. It is not likely that they will visit any other city but New York, as their time for returning is limited to the 1st of October. Their great desire appears to be to visit "Ni York," Washington and America. Everything is either "America" or "Ni York." Japan is supposed to contain as many inhabitants as the United States. It consists of three principal islands, and about 8,600 small ones, which lie off the eastern coast of Asia, from latitude 28 degrees to 52 degrees, extending from the latitude of Florida to that of Labrador. The Japanese enjoy an old and complicated, but not very high civilization. Some of their mercantile establishments are of immense extent. A man may buy a piece of dry-goods, and if, on taking it home a thousand miles from the place of purchase, he is not satisfied with it, he may take it into a branch establishment of the concern of which he purchased, and receive his money back, delivering up the cloth. Their religion forbids them to eat any meat or even milk, butter or cheese. One of their most singular customs is that of suicide, which, under many circumstances, is inexorably demanded by public opinion. It is always affected by ripping-up the bowels, and is called the *harri-kari*, or "happy passage." The exclusion of foreigners from Japan is a comparatively modern measure, having been adopted in the early part of the 17th century (just about the time of the settlement of this country) from jealousy on the part of the government towards the Portuguese and other Christian missionaries. On Tuesday the 15th inst., the Japanese reached Washington City, where they excite a great deal of interest. On Thursday the President's reception took place, after which they were to respond to other invitations. Rooms have been fitted up in splendid style for their occupation, at Willard's Hotel, including thirty handsomely furnished bed chambers, twenty parlors, two dining rooms, a kitchen and laundry, for the use of their own servants, bath rooms, etc., entirely separate from the rest of the house. Provisions have also been made of fowls, birds, fish, rice, vegetables, and a profusion of sugar ornaments. Hot tea is to be in readiness at all hours, and sideboards are supplied with champagne. For smoking their little pipes, a balcony has been built, overlooking a court yard, in which there is a fountain. An immense amount of etiquette is involved in the exact rank of these new comers, and the Ministers, who have always insisted on taking precedence of the Cabinet and the Senate, will not, if they can avoid it, yield the *pas* to the gentlemen with two swords. The persons composing this embassy are reputed to be men of more than ordinary intelligence. A correspondent in noticing their arrival, says:—"It is fair to assume that they are of the class of whom Solomon wrote when he enunciated the aphorism, 'The wise man's eyes are in his head.' They will be men of observation, and they cannot fail to observe the rapid progress which the United States have made in commerce and its attendant arts. They are familiar with our history, as Commodore Perry very soon found in his intercourse with them. They know that as an independent people we are but two generations old, and seeing what we have already accomplished, they cannot fail to see that a future is before us, in commerce and in arts, that will make their treaty with us of value to themselves, and a contract which it will be to their interest to carry out effectually and in the most liberal spirit. They are familiar with our history, as Commodore Perry very soon found in his intercourse with them. 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