

THE SUSQUEHANNA REGISTER.

"THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE IS THE LEGITIMATE SOURCE, AND THE HAPPINESS OF THE PEOPLE THE TRUE END OF GOVERNMENT."

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For the Susquehanna Register.

Old Susquehanna's Hills.

Sweet thoughts of thee, my dearest home,
Are crowding round my mind,
For, though in other lands I roam,
The home I left behind,
Shall still in memory's soft embrace,
Present its fair and lovely face,
On Susquehanna's rugged hills,
Along her pleasant vales,
Beside her gently murmuring rills,
Her fair and verdant dales,
In Fancy now I wander still,
As oft in childhood's time,
When not a bitter thought could chill
My ardent hopes of Fame.

The dream has passed away and gone,
And, in its vacant place,
The hand of Time has harshly drawn
Stern Disappointment's face.
Yet still I love to ponder o'er
The scenes that passed in days of yore,
On Susquehanna's rugged hills,
And in her pleasant vales,
Beside her gently murmuring rills,
And on her verdant dales,
In Fancy now I wander there,
And, in my blissful dream,
I plucked the flowers I thought so fair
From Disappointment's wreath.

For the Susquehanna Register.

To Phoebe.

Farewell, farewell, poor gay coquette,
I ne'er will see thee more,
Thy words say love me fondly yet,
I've loved for thee in store.

Once on a time, I used to while
An hour away with thee,
I misconstrued thy daily smile,
'Twas only fading me.

A chat with thee, me thought was bliss,
My lips to thine was joy,
But now I know 'twas Judas' kiss
That spelt my Father's boy.

Farewell! a long and last farewell!
Adieu, a long adieu,
Back to the trees, the quiet vale,
I wonder what you'll do!

Montrose, May 11, 1850. PELEG.

The Dying Child's Request.

"Mother, don't let them carry me away down to the dark church yard, but bury me in the garden—
in the garden, mother!"

"Mother! in yon church yard drear
Lies not your living one,
Where marble tomb-stones o'er the dead,
Are shining in the sun;

I know dear mother! I must die,
But let me not go there,
In that sad place to lie,
It is too cold and drear.

In our sweet garden I will build,
Beneath the orange shade,
The nocking-bird there builds her nest,
And she will sing o'er me.

And there, next spring, will roses too,
Bloom red upon their stalks,
And hyacinth and heart's ease blue,
Grow by the orange tree.

The dying child could speak no more;
When her last wish was told,
Death's pale hand spread her visage o'er,
Her lips grew white and cold.

Her narrow tomb amid the flowers,
Was in the garden made,
And of that mother's weep for hours,
Beneath the orange shade.

And when those flowers bloom and blush,
With rich and varied dye,
She thinks, and but her tears wash,
"My flower blooms in the sky."

LOST SUFFRERS.—"I wonder what has become of the sufferers!" said Mrs. Johnson; "I have been looking for them all the evening, and can't find them high nor low."

Nobody could give her any information concerning them. After awhile the hired Dutchman, getting sleepy, commenced pulling off his boots preparatory to going to bed. "All day," said he, "I think I got some little grabble stones in my pocket. I kiss 'em out now." He turned up his hose, and but rolled the sufferers.—*N. Y. Spirit of the Times.*

Miss Doris.—A Kentucky member of Congress wrote to his wife on his arrival at Washington city, that he had "formed a connection with a very agreeable Miss, and expected to spend the winter very pleasantly." Unfortunately, to the surprise and mortification of the good lady, he had inadvertently married the e in the word *Miss.*

Here is a specimen of the mawkish twaddle heard in the fashionable circles of our cities:—"Good morning, Miss Pimp—how's your health, since you took the wataw cuaw?" "Much better, I thank you. My legs are so much stouter and fresher, she shall send me again next season."

"So there's been another rupture of Mount Vesuvius," said Mrs. Partington, as she put down the paper and put on the spectacles; "the paper tells us all about the burning hills running down the mountain, but it doesn't tell us how it got afire."

"Well, wife, I don't see for my part how they send letters on them wires without tearing 'em all to bits."

"La me," replied the knowing spouse, "they don't send the paper, they just send the writing in a fluid state."

"Shall we know one another in heaven?" asks a poetaster in the Olive Branch. We can't exactly tell, replied the Investigator, but there is no question that a great many people don't know each other on earth, if we may judge from their treatment of them.

LIZZIE LEIGH.

BY CHARLES RICKENS.

Concluded.

IN FOUR CHAPTERS—CHAPTER III.

That night Mrs. Leigh stopped at home; that only night for many months. Even Tom the scholar, looked up from his books in amazement; but then he remembered that Will had not been well, and that his mother's attention having been called to the circumstance, it was only natural she should stay to watch him. And no watching could be more tender or more complete. Her loving eyes seemed never averted from his face; his grave, sad, care-worn face. When Tom went to bed the mother left her seat, and going up to Will where he sat looking at the fire, but not seeing it, she kissed his forehead and said, "Will, I've been to see Susan Palmer."

She felt the start under her hand which was placed on his shoulder, but he was silent for a minute or two. Then he said: "What took you there, mother?"

"Why my lad, it was likely I should wish to see one you cared for; I did not put myself forward. I put on my Sunday clothes, and tried to behave as you'd like me. At least I remember trying at first; but after I forgot all."

She rather wished that he would question her as to what made her forget all. But he only said, "How was she looking, mother?"

"Will, thou seest I never set eyes on her before; but she's a good gentle looking creature; and I love her dearly as I've reason to."

Will looked up with momentary surprise, for his mother was too shy to be easily taken with strangers. But after all it was natural in this case, for who could look at Susan without loving her? So still he did not ask any questions, and his poor mother had to take courage, and try again to introduce the subject near to her heart. But how?

"Will," said she, "jerk me out in sudden despair of her own powers to lead what she wanted to say." "I told her all."

"Mother! you've ruined me," said he standing up, and standing opposite to her with a stern white look of fright on his face. "No! my own dear lad; dunnot look so scared, I have not ruined you," she exclaimed, placing her two hands on his shoulders and looking fondly into his face. "She's not one to harden her heart against a mother's sorrow. My own lad, she's too good for that. She's not one to judge and scorn the sinner. She's too deep read in her new testament for that. Take courage, Will; and thou mayst, for I watched her well, though it is not for one woman to let out another's secret. Sit thee down, lad, for thou look'st very white."

He sat down. His mother drew a stool towards him, and sat at his feet.

"Don't you tell her about Lizzie," asked he, hoarse and low.

"I did; I told her all; and she fell a crying over my deep sorrow, and the poor wench's sigh. And then a light came into her face, trembling and quivering with some new glad thought; and what dost thou think it was, Will, lad? Nay, I'll not misdo, but that thy heart will give thanks as mine did, afore God and His angels, for her great goodness. That little Nanny is not her niece, she's our Lizzie's own child, my little grandchild. She could no longer restrain her tears, and they fell hot and fast, but still she looked into his face.

"Did she know it was Lizzie's child? I do not comprehend," said he, flushing red.

"She knows now; she did not at first, but took the little helpless creature in, out of her own pitiful loving heart, guessing only that it was the child of shame, she's worked for it, and kept it, and tended it ever since it were a mere baby, and loves it fondly. Will, won't you love it?" asked she beseechingly.

"He was silent for an instant; then he said, "Mother, I'll try. Give me time, for all these things startle me. To think of Susan having to do with such a child!"

"Ay! Will and to think (as may be yet) of Susan having to do with the child's mother! For she is tender and pitiful, and speaks hopefully of my lost one, and will try and find her for me when she comes, as she does sometimes to thrust money under the door for her baby. Think of that Will. Here's Susan, good and pure as the angels in heaven, yet like them full of hope and mercy, and one who like them, will rejoice over her as she repents. Will, my lad, I'm not afraid of you now, and I must speak and you must listen. I am your mother and I dare to command you because I know I am in the right and that God is on my side. If He should lead the poor wandering lassie to Susan's door, and she comes back crying and sorrowful, led by that good angel to us once more, thou shalt never say a casting-up word to her about her sin, but be tender and hopeful towards one who was lost and is found. So may God's blessing rest on thee, and so mayest thou lead Susan home as thy wife."

to her father's house. My lad! I can speak no more; I'm turned very faint."

He placed her in a chair; he ran for water. She opened her eyes and smiled.

"God bless you, Will. Oh! I am so happy. It seems as if she were found; my heart is so filled with gladness."

That night Mr. Palmer stayed out late and long. Susan was afraid that he was at his old haunts and habits—getting tipsy at some public house; and she thought oppressed her, even though she had so much to make her happy, in the consciousness that Will loved her. She sat up long, and then she went to bed, leaving all arranged as well as she could for her father's return. She looked at the little rosy sleeping girl who was her bed-fellow, with redoubled tenderness, and with many a prayerful thought. The little arms entwined her neck as she lay down, for Nanny was a light sleeper, and was conscious that she, who was loved with all the power of that sweet childish heart, was near her, and by her, although she was too sleepy to utter any of her half formed words.

And by-and-by she heard her father come home stumbling uncertain, trying first the windows, and next the door fastenings, with many a loud incoherent murmur. The little innocent twined around her seemed all the sweeter and more lovely, when she thought sadly of her erring father. And presently he called aloud for a light; she had left matches and all arranged as usual on the dresser, but fearful of some accident from fire, in his usually intoxicated state she now got up softly, and putting on a cloak, went down to his assistance.

Alas! the little arms that were unclosed from her soft neck belonged to a light easily awakened sleeper. Nanny missed her darling Susan, and terrified at being left alone in the vast mysterious darkness, which had no bounds and seemed infinite, she slipped out of bed and tottered in her little night-gown towards the door. There was a light below and there was Susan and safety! So she went onwards two steps towards the steep abrupt stairs; and then dazzled with alpineous, she stood, she wavered, she fell! Down on her head on the stone floor she fell! Susan flew to her, and spoke all soft entreating, loving words; but her white lids covered up the blue violets of eyes, and there was no murmur came out of the pale lips. The warm tears that rained down did not awaken her; she lay stiff and weary with her short life, on Susan's knee. Susan went sick with terror. She carried her up stairs, and laid her tenderly in bed; she dressed herself most hastily, with her trembling fingers. Her father was asleep on the settle down stairs; and useless and worse than useless if awake. But Susan flew out of the door, and down the quiet resounding street, towards the nearest doctor's house. Quickly she went but as quickly a shadow followed as if impelled by some sudden terror. Susan rung wildly at the night-bell—the shadow crouched near. The doctor looked out from an upstairs window.

"A little child has fallen down stairs at No. 9, Crown-street, and is very ill,—dying I'm afraid. Please for God's sake, sir, come directly. No. 9, Crown-street."

"I'll be there directly," said he, and shut the window.

"For that God you have just spoken about—for his sake,—tell me are you Susan Palmer? Is it my child that lies a-dying?" said the shadow, springing forwards, and clutching poor Susan's arm.

"It is a little child of two years old—I do not know whose it is; I love it as my own. Come with me whoever you are; come with me."

The two sped along the silent streets as silent as the night were they. They entered the house; Susan snatched up the light, and hurried up stairs. The other followed.

She stood with wild glaring eyes by the bedside, never looking at Susan, but hungrily gazing at the little white still child. She stooped down and put her hand tight on her own heart, as if to still its beating, and bent her ear to the pale lips. Whatever the result was she did not speak; but threw off the bed-clothes where with Susan had tenderly covered up the little creature and felt its left side.

Then she threw up her arms with a cry of wild despair.

"She is dead! she is dead!"

She looked so fierce, so mad, so haggard, that for an instant, Susan was terrified—the next the holy God had put courage into her heart and her pure arms were round that guilty wretched creature, and her tears were falling fast and warm upon her breast. But she was thrown off with violence.

"You killed her—you slighted her—you let her fall down those stairs! you killed her!"

Susan cleared off the thick mist before her and gazing at the mother with her clear, sweet angel eyes, said mournfully—

"I would have laid down my own life for her."

But Susan only said, "The little child slept with me; and it was I that left her."

"I will go back and make up a composing draught and while I am away you must get her to bed."

Susan took out some of her own clothes, and softly undressed the stiff, powerless figure. There was no other bed in the house but the one in which her father slept. So she tenderly lifted the body of her darling; and was going down stairs, but the mother opened her eyes, and seeing what she was about, she said,

"I am not worthy to touch her, I am so wicked. I have spoken to you as I never should have spoken; but I think you are very good; may I have my own child to lie in my arms for a little while."

Her voice was so strange a contrast to what it had been before she had gone into the fit that Susan hardly recognized it; it was now so unspeakably soft, so irresistibly pleading, the features too had lost their fierce expression, and were almost as placid as death.—She could not speak, but she carried the little child and laid it in its mother's arms; then, as she looked at them, something overpowered her, and she knelt down, crying aloud,

"Oh, my God, my God, have mercy on her, and forgive me and comfort her."

But the mother kept smiling, and stroking the little face, murmuring soft tender words, as if it were alive; she was going mad, Susan thought; but she prayed on, and on, and ever still she prayed with streaming eyes.

The doctor came with the draught. The mother took it with docile unconsciousness of its nature as a medicine. The doctor sat by her and soon she fell asleep. Then he rose softly, and beckoning Susan to the door, he spoke to her there.

"You must take the corpse out of her arms. She will not awake. That draught will make her sleep for many hours. I will call before noon again. It is now daylight. Good-by."

Susan shut him out; and then gently extricating the dead child from its mother's arms, she could not resist making her own quiet moan over her darling. She tried to learn of its little placid face, dumb and pale before her.

"Not all the weeping tears of care
Shall wash away that vision fair;
Not all the thousand thoughts that rise,
Not all the sighs that dim her eyes,
Shall ever usurp the place
Of that little angel-face."

And then she remembered what remained to be done. She saw that all was right in the house; her father was still dead asleep on the settle, in spite of all the noise of the night. She went out through the quiet streets, deserted still although it was broad daylight, and to where the Leights lived.—Mrs. Leigh who kept her country hours, was opening her window shutters. Susan took her by the arm, and without speaking, went into the house-place. There she knelt down before the astonished Mrs. Leigh, and cried as she had never done before; but the miserable night had overpowered her, and she who had gone through so much calmly, now that the pressure seemed removed, could not find the power to speak.

"My poor dear! What has made thy heart so sore as to come and cry a-things-ones. Speak and tell me. Nay, cry on, poor wench, if thou canst not speak yet. It will ease the heart, and then thou canst tell me."

"Nanny is dead!" said Susan. "I left her to go to father, and she fell down stairs, and never breathed again. Oh! that's my sorrow! but I've more to tell. Her mother is come—is in our house! Come and see if it's your Lizzie."

Mrs. Leigh could not speak, but, trembling, put on her things, and went with Susan in dizzy haste back to crown-street.

CHAPTER III.
As they entered the house in Crown-street they perceived that the door would not open freely on its hinges, and Susan instinctively looked behind to see the cause of obstruction. She immediately recognized the appearance of a small parcel, wrapped in a scrap of newspaper, and evidently containing money. She stooped and picked it up.

"Look!" said she, sorrowfully, "The mother was bringing this for her child last night."

But Mrs. Leigh did not answer. So near to the ascertaining if it were her lost child or no, she could not be arrested, but pressed onwards with trembling steps and beating, fluttering heart. She entered the bed-room, dark and still. She took no heed of the little corpse, over which Susan paused, but she went straight to the bed, and withdrawing the curtain, saw Lizzie—but not the former Lizzie, bright, gay, buoyant, and undimmed. This Lizzie was old before her time; her beauty was gone, deep lines of care, and alas! of want (or thus the mother imagined) were printed on her cheek, so round, and fair, and smooth, when last she gladdened her mother's eyes. Even in her sleep she bore the look of woe and despair which was the prevalent expression of her face by day; even in her sleep she had forgotten how to smile. But all these marks of the sin and sorrow she had passed through only made her mother love her the more. She stood looking at her with greedy eyes, which seemed as though no gazing could satisfy their longing; and at last she stooped down and kissed the pale, worn hand that lay outside the bed-clothes. No touch disturbed the sleeper; the mother need not have laid the hand so gently down upon the counterpane. There was no sign of life, save only now and then a deep sob-like sigh. Mrs. Leigh sat down beside the bed, and still holding back the curtain, looked on and on, as if she could never be satisfied.

Susan would fain have stood by her side

and grovelled among the bed-clothes, and lay like one dead—so motionless was she.

Mrs. Leigh knelt down by the bed, and spoke in the most soothing tones.

"Lizzie, dear, don't speak so, for thy mother, darling, don't be afraid of me. I never left off loving thee, Lizzie. I was always a-thinking of thee. Thy father forgave thee afore he died." There was a little start here, but no sound was heard.

"Lizzie, lass, I'll do ought for thee; only don't be afraid of me. Whatever thou art or hast been, we'll ne'er speak on't. We'll leave the old times behind us, and go back to the Uplouse Farm. I but left it to find thee, my lass; and God has led me to thee. Blessed be his name. And God is good too, Lizzie. Thou hast not forgotten thy father. I'm bound, for thou wert always a scholar. I'm no reader, but I learnt off those texts to comfort me a bit, and I've said them many a time a day to myself. Lizzie, lass, don't bid thy head so, it's thy mother as is speaking to thee. Thy little child, clung to me on yesterday; and if it's gone to be an angel it will speak to God for thee. Nay, don't sob a that; say; thou shalt have it again. Heaven; I know thou'lt strive to get thee for thy little Nanny's sake, and I'll be true to thee God's promises to them that are patient; only don't be afeard."

Mrs. Leigh folded her hands and strove to speak very clearly, while she repeated over tender and merciful text she could remember. She could tell from the breathing of her daughter was listening; but she was so dizzy and sick herself when she had done that she could not go on speaking. It was all she could do to keep from crying aloud. At last she heard her daughter's voice, "Where have they taken her to?" she asked.

"She is down stairs. So quiet and peaceful, and happy she looks!"

"Could she speak! Oh, if God—if might but have heard her little voice! I thought, I used to dream of it. May I see it, once again; Oh, mother, if I strive very hard and God is very merciful, and I've got to have I shall not know her—I shall not know my own again—she will shun me as a stranger, and cling to Susan Palmer and to you. O, woe! oh woe!" She shook with exceeding sorrow.

In her earnestness of speech she had covered her face, and tried to read Mrs. Leigh's thoughts through her looking. As when she saw those aged eyes brimming full of tears, and marked the quivering lips, she threw her arms round the faithful mother's neck, and wept there as she had done in many a childish sorrow; but, with a deeper, more wretched grief.

Her mother hushed her on her breast, and held her as if she were a baby; and she grew quiet.

"Don't get thus for a long time. At last Susan Palmer came up with some tea and bread and butter for Mrs. Leigh. She watched her mother take her sick, unwilling child, with every food meant to eat which she could devise; they were of them took notice of Susan's presence on the ground beside them.

They took the little corpse (the little uncooled sacrifice, whose early calling home had reached her poor wandering mother) to the hills, which her lifetime she had never seen. They dared not take her to the grave, as Mrs. Leigh had done, but they laid her in a coffin, and carried her to the Uplouse Farm.

"I do think of her," said she, "I remember the promise I gave her last night. Thou shouldst give me time. I would do right in time. I never think it over in quiet. But I will do what is right and fitting, never fear. Thou hast spoken out very plain to me; and misdoed me, Susan; I love thee so that thy words cut me. If I did hang back a bit from making sudden promises, it was because not ever for love of thee, would I say what I was not feeling; and at first I could not feel all at once as thou wouldst have me. But I am not cruel and hard; for if I had been, I should not have grieved as I have done."

He made as if he were going away; and indeed he did feel he would rather think it over in quiet. But Susan, grieved at her incoherent words, which had all the appearance of harshness, went a step or two nearer—paused—and then, all over-blushed, said in a low soft whisper—

"Oh, Will! I beg your pardon. I am very sorry—won't you forgive me?"

She who had always drawn back and been so reserved, said this in the very softest manner; with eyes now uplifted beseechingly, now dropped to the ground. Her sweet confusion took more than words could do; and Will turned back, all joyous in his certainty of being beloved, and took her in his arms and kissed her.

"My own Susan!" he said. Meanwhile the mother watched her child in the room above.

It was late in the afternoon before she awoke; for the sleeping draught had been very powerful. The instant he awoke, her eyes were fixed on her mother's face with a gaze as undimmed as if she were fascinated. Mrs. Leigh did not turn away; nor move. For it seemed as if motion would unlock the stony command over herself, which, while so perfectly still, she was enabled to preserve. But by-and-by Lizzie cried out in a piercing voice of agony—

"Mother, don't look at me! I have been so wicked!" and instantly she hid her face

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