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## Moetical.

GETTYSBURG---JULY 4, 1865. Thoughts on the Place and Time.

BY CHARLES G. HALPINE

As men beneath some pang of grief Or sudden joy will dambly stand Finding no words to give relief-Clear, passion-warm, precise and brief-To thoughts with which their souls expan So here to day-these trophies nigh-Our trembling lips no utterance reach; The hills around—the graves—the sky— The silent poem of the eye Surpasses all the arts of speech

To-day a nation meets to build A nation's trophy to the dead, Who, living, formed her sword and shield The arms she sadly learned to wield When other hope of peace had fied And not alone for those who lie . In honored graves before us blent Shall our proud column, broad and high Climb upward to the smiling sky, But be for all a monument.

An emblem of our grief, as well

For others, as for those, we raise For those beneath our feet who dwell. And all who in the good cause fell, On other fields, in other frays. To all the self-same love we bear Which here for marble memory strives No soldier for a wreath would car-Which all true comrades might not share-Brothers in death as in their live-On Southern hill-sides, parched and brown In tangled swamp, on verdant ridge, Where pines and broadening oaks look down And Jasmine weaves its yellow crown, And trumpet-creepers cloth: the hedge. Along the shores of endless sand, Beneath the palms of Southern plain Sleep everywhere, hand locked in hand, The brothers of the gallant band Who here poured life through throbbing

The same red glories glared and flew-The tossing flags, the bugle call, The whistle of the passing ball, The ethow-touch of comrades true The long, sharp growl of fire by file e thickening fury of the fray When opening batteries get in play; And the lines form o'er many a mile The forman's vell, our answering cheer, Red flashes through the gathering smoke Swift orders, resonant and clear, The shell-scream and the sabre-strok The rolling fire from left to right, From right to left, we hear it swell

Around the closing eves of all

e headlong charges, swift and bright, The thickening tumult of the fight And bursting thunders of the shell Now denser, deadlier grows the fight, And here we yield, and there we gain The air with hurtling missiles rife, Volley for volley, life for life-No time to heed the cries of pain! Panting, as up the hills we charge, Or down them as we broken roll, Life never felt so high, so large

And never o'er so wide a marge

New rantures waken in the breast Amid this hell of scene and sound The barking batteries never rest, And broken toot, by horsemen pressed. Still stubbornly contest their ground Fresh waves of battle rollnig in To take the place of shattered waves Torn lines each moment grow more thin-A blinding cloud, a maddening din-Twas thus were filled these very graves:

Night falls at length with pitying veil-

A moonlit silence deep and fresh; These features, blood-besprent and pale ainly the chill night dews assai For colder than the dews their flesh! And flickering far through brush and wood Go searching-parties, torch in hand-At dawn the fight will be revewed. They talk in whispers as they lie In line-these rough and weary men "Dead or but wounded?" then a sigh er!" "Guess we'll try To get those two guns back again, "We've five fings to their one! oho!" "That bridge-'twas hot there as we passed!

"The colonel dead! It can't be so Wounded and badly-that I know; But he kept saddle to the last. "Be sure to send it if I fall--" " A brown-hair ed, blue-cyed, laughing doll-Good night, boys, and God keep you all !" "What! sound asleep? Guess, I'll sleep too "Yes, just about this hour they pray For Dad -. " "Stop talking ! pass the word ! And soon as quiet as the clay Which thousands will but be next day

The long-drawn sighs of sleep are heard. Oh, men! to whom this sketch, though rude Calls back some scene of pain and pride Oh, widow ! hugging close your brood, Since he again is at your side : Should be a monument for all:

Confine a generous nation's praise To those who here have chanced to full. But let us all to-day combine Still other monuments to raise; Here for the dead we build a shrine And now to those who, crippled, pir Let us give hope of happier days! Through all the land with speed arise; Tongues cry from every gaping scar, ' Let not our brother's tomb debar

A noble city, a deed as good,

A noble scene in which 'tis done The Birthday of our Nationhood: And here again the Nation stood On this same day-its life rowon A bloom of bann A double calm of sky and soul : Triumphal chant and bugle blare, And green fields, spreading bright and fair.

Hosannas for the land redeemed, The bayonet sheathed, the cannon dumb; Passed, as some horror we have dreamed, The flery meteors that here streamed,

Threatening within our homes to come Again our banner floats abroad, one the one stain that on it fell-And, bottered by His chastening rod, ning eyes uplift to God, We say, "He doerst all things well,"

fost Beautiful Reply. - Not many ths since, while a number of young ole were discoursing upon the easiest e of leaving the world, whether ful, a Miss of fifteen was asked how wish to die the death of the right-

a but that.

## he wariste speralu

CARLISLE, PA., FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1865

TERMS:--\$2.00 in Advance, or \$2,50 within the year.

Miscelluneons.

VOL. 65.

THE LUCKY LEG.

"What unaccountable things people four or five of the ladies belonging to our a long time he called Mary Wigley Miss ty. It contaned the following lines: chapel, who had met at the minister's Kilmansegg, when talking to each other. to attend to the rule of appointing a reader, and forbidding gossip; a rule which the stump of her wooden leg, you no vantage. considerably lessened the interest and longer wondered that she was unmarried, popularity of our meetings.

The only single lady among us looked up upon hearing my remark, and dropping her work, as if for a long speech,

"What you said is very true; I do think the conduct of people at other times really sensible, during their engagements. to be the most incomprehensible and contradictory of all human beings. If a woman has a decided prejudice, she is certain to act in direct opposition to it. Last spring I was at a wedding of one of my cousins-you remember her, Mrs antumns ago-and, being a High Churchmajestic-looking virl, and has taken lesimposing to see her enter a room, or sail draper, who is such a rabid Methodist. that he will preach, though he has to stand on two bosses to raise his head sufficiently above the panels of the pulpit"

"Marriages are quite beyond our own management and contrivance," said Mrs. Turner, musingly; "my mother's was very romantic. In travelling from her father's house to her grandmother's. where she was going to live with the old lady, she had to stay a night in Hereford-it was in the time of coaches, you know-and her father wrote to a glover there, to meet her at the coach-office, and recommend her to an inn. He invited her to stay with his sister instead; and she was so smitten with his manners and ever I marry, I hope it may be to Mr. Harper.' She went on the next morn ing to her grandmother's, and lived with her fourteen years, never seeing or hearing anything of Mr. Harper of Hereford: and she actually refused several good of fers during that time. At last her grandmother died : and Mr. Harper, being connected with her family, he was invited to the funeral; and an acquaintance

followed, which ended in their marriage." "I am afraid," chimed in Mrs. Hyde, a lady who was a comparative stranger to all of us, "that if I confess the singular circumstances of my marriage, you will none of you think so well of me as I should wish you; but as we are talking of extraordinary matches, I am sure you will be amused at mine. When I was five and-thirty, I had not had a single offer; partly, I fancy, because I had a twin sister so like me. that no one was sure which he was in love with. Well. I was one of the few women who give up the idea of being married after they have turned thirty, and I settled myself down into a comfortable old-maidism. One afternoon, I was out upon some errand or other, when a tradesman, whom I had known all my life, a confirmed bachelor, over forty years of age, overtook me in the street. Before we reached the end of it, he had said, 'Miss Mary, I've had you in my eye a long time; do you think | no interest in the future !" you could be happy as my wife?' and I should.' 'Well, then,' he added; 'let us friend be married without any fuss, and if you want lots of clothes and things as women wife continued: do, let them come out of my pocket, in-

servation," said our minister's wife, who with no money. Even my husband said husband and I were, next to the parties to any one falling in love. they arrived, a sister of the elder lady ed as if she never could reconcile her ming: freezing &c. were the least called upon us, to announce their inten- self to the duties imposed upon her.

RHEEM & WEAKLEY, Editors & Proprietors. the merchant of Rotterdam, that the thronged street. worthy old lady began seriously to recap-

and in their choice of husbands or wives, | deprivation. Excepting that she had monies and contrasts of color, whichen- by no means consent. have noticed her face flush painfully at | ping through, and hearing no more of it.' Turner, she was over here two or three the too openly expressed pity of their o "Accordingly, soon after they returned to us all; my husband passed it with his her foot inside our chapel. She is a fine, Mrs. Wigley, however, was a thorough, velope, and the next post brought a let-

a tradesman's daughter, and the fluctua- and I remember the substance of it: bed in a snumer garden.

dearest triends; she knew a great deal the most profound respect, dear Madam. more than I did, and was very accomplished in music and painting; it really was an incongruity to think of her sitting behind a counter all her life. I remember her coming to sit with me 'one evening after my little Mary was born, when my husband had an appointment at a missionary meeting. I suppose we were n an unusually happy frame of mine that evening, for my husband was glad to see me up again, and he paid me some of those quiet tender attentions which we who are married understand so well. and she sat smiling at our affectionate expressions to one another. But when he was cone, and I returned to the study after seeing the children in bed, I found her burying her face in her hands, and erving. Of course I insisted on knowing the cause, and among other things

she said. I distinctly remember this. "If any human influence would make ne great or as good as a woman, it would be the guardianship of a child of my own- a woman's nature is only half developed till she is a mother.'

"What a beautiful remark, and true," interrupted Mrs. Turner, with tears in her eyes. (She was notorious for neglecting her children.)

"I said it was true,' resumed our minister's wife, "and I told her that all my powers of mind and body were doubled by it. My husband's love,' I said, 'and precious to myself."

joice in these domestic ties, and know

had answered, 'Yes, I really think I and self-respect," murmured our spinster Without noticing her, the minister's

were married in three weeks, though, I the tears from her dark eyelashes. I as to make her the chosen and intimate assure vou. I had not the remotest notion | could not tell her I thought she would | friend of my wife. So strong is the in-

themselves, chief actors in it; so I know "The morning after this conversation, all the circumstances well. It was in Mary went with her mother to Manches- gainst her settlement in life. the town where my husband first entered | ter to purchase goods for the spring fashupon the ministry, and where we had lions; it was quite a painful ordeal to which often means," she said, shrewdly, ing warehouse after warehouse, and as- and she avoided attracting the notice of fy me. that everybody knows and deplores cending and descending the innumera- the congregation), when the chapel-keep-

gs, and yourself outside the door, Sabbath the day before, and his spirits ing behind her, placed a letter in her hand, will call with a petition,"

"Mary hastened on her way to the itulate their pedigree, to prove there was lodgings where she expected to find her no connection between their families un- mother, and briefly recounting her addo in the way of marrying!" I said to less it were on Mr. Wigley's side. For venture, opened the letter with curiosi-

"If the young lady that receives this house, to form a sort of supplementary She was a pretty, sweet-looking girl, and note will kindly send her address in the Dorcas meeting; and, as there were so | so long as she sat still she looked unu- enclosed envelope, that which may have few of us, we considered it unnecessary sually attractive; but when she walked, appeared an obstacle to her settling in and you saw her obvious limp, or heard life, may eventually prove to be an ad-

> "The astonishment of both for she was poor as well, and very far Wigley and Mary were indescribable, above her present station. She was al- Mrs. Wigley poured forth a torrent of together unsuited for the business they questons which Mary was unable to an had commenced, for she had lived in a swer; she had not seen the stranger, and kind of elegant seclusion until her fa- all she knew was, that he had a pleasant and luxuries, to prevent her feeling her young lady, she wished the matter to be passed over in silent contempt: but to

> a single qualification for her work. I I shall follow it up; I hate a thing drop-

tions and anxieties of business were like " DEAR MADAM, - Let me apologize she would never marry a little man, a tablished herself in the good graces of the your acquaintance and that of your draper, or a dissenter; and now she has ladies of our town; and, though my hus daughter, whose appearance arrested my just married a very small, abject-looking band preached a very powerful sermon my attention the first moment I saw her. on dress (which I made him put off for If s e would honor me by a corresponsome months, lest it should injure the dence, under your sanction, we should strangers,) it had no chance against Mrs. [learn something of each other's character. Wigley's taste, and the pews in our Do not imagine me to be trifling; I desire chapel looked like the gorgeous flower- to be a sincere friend to her; farther acquaintance may greatly conduce to our " Mary Wigley soon became one of my | mutual happiness. Believe me to be, with

> " Yours, very truly, FREDERICK WILLIAMS. "Of course, Mrs. Wigley persisted in making Mary write; and, though it was no easy matter to compose a fitting an swer to such a letter, she wrote with a

charming measure of good sense and reerve. Mr. Williams prosecuted the and his letters manifested a well educated and intellectual mind.

and being few and far hetween, prize so did not choose to mention the matter to turn to Manchester; when this necessity most impatiently wait your decision on highly. We made no stranger of Mary, me; but as her interest in her unknown was forced upon him he came to us to beg my return. correspondent increased, she could not that I would aid him in persuading Mary conceal from me her frequent pre-occuhusband regarded it in a very different he had waited to obtain our sanction and light to what we did, and he urged Mary acceptance of his invitation before he had fog, and we were half afraid to grope to definite and uncertain. A.

"Let me write to Mr. Williams, he little difficulty in inducing Mary to acsaid, 'and he will see you have a friend | quiesce in it. able and willing to protect you. I will

ting his letter.

answered, 'when I felt how I could re- something, for I have made it very strong.'

"Mr. Williams promptly answered my "She should have more independence | band replied something to this effect: "'Miss Wigley is the daughter of a

ligns's name: tell her she's got big feet. The feet were in that state of reaction which made said hurriedly, Let me beg of you to But the next morning early there came were in that state of reaction which made said hurriedly, Let me beg of you to ne institution can stand most any bim inclined to laugh at anything, and grant my request; and before she could a note, inviting my bushand to dine with said the housekeeper.

the note to me with a comical mixture of consternation and fun. "This is really getting a serious af-

fair, he said, 'I will go out and see if I friend?' can meet this stranger somewhere, and take my measure of him." "I remained at home on thorns of cu-

turned; he was already delighted with &c., and said so much about them, that I thought they had forgotten Mary.

"By no means,' he said, 'I have in morrow evening, and we must invite a few friends, who are not in the secret, to take off the awkwardness?

ther's death; indeed he impoverished voice. Or course with the becoming up, and before Mary had left her bedr tion; and after a long deliberation, she himself to surround her with recreations bashfulness and sense of propriety of a room, I was there, announcing to her and decided upon not disturbing us with the great energy of character. her mother the actual impending interview with their unknown correspondent. quite an artistic appreciation of the har- this her mother, who was a widow, would Mary's agitation was extreme, quite hysabled her to arrange the windows and " You do not know what it may lead diciously entered into a discussion upon tention, that the others really grew unshowrooms with great skill, she had not to,' she said : 'however, hoax or no hoax, her dress, and I left her tolerably compo- conscious of my presence. We returned

customers; and their whims and caprices home Mrs Wigley sent her address and new friend, and, at the appointed hour, woman, she would not so much as put in dress used to surprise and annoy her her daughter's name in the directed en when I had engaged to be ready to receive him, and wonderful to say not beclever business woman She had been ter written to the mother. It was not long fore he brought him, and introduced him to me. Nothing could surpass the suav- cence. ity and easy politeness of his manner, and a game of chance to her. She soon es- for my presumption in seeking to form in a few minutes I felt as if I had known us with a grave and pre-occupied air, and evening was drawing on, and we began ification, and gifted with so much sweethim all my life. I watched him when we addressed Mary with a kind of tender heard Mary's step in the passage, and his melancholy; Mrs. Wigley was constraineyes lighted up with a pleasant smile; she | ed and rather fretful, and we others falllooked really beautiful after the first ing into their mood, the breakfast was a wkwardness of meeting him; her dress dull and brief meal. Then, with the unwas the most elegant and becoming her conscious ceremony that one uses when ill discovered. Then Mrs Wieleward was a widower for the second time. My mother's taste could advise, while her at ease, Mr. Williams invited us into the left Mary to replace the draftinent wife, with a caprice at variance with heightened color, and eyes cast down till library, and opening a drawer, took out the long lashes rested on her glowing cheeks, sufficiently beirayed her agitation.

The evening passed pleasantly in social unconstrained conversation in which the stranger took an annihilated part and when alterations made in my tree as that case the confine at the stranger took an annihilated part and when the stranger took an annihilated part and though I the stranger took an annihilated part and though I the stranger took an annihilated part and though I the stranger took an annihilated part and though I to stranger took and the strange

cort Mary and her mother home. I ran These keys will open every look in the

street.

accented.
"Mary and Mr. Williams were very "So long as Mary was acting against | happy for a few lovely summer days, and | home for the day, to give you an opporner own inclination and judgement, she then it became necessary for him to re-tunity for an investigation, but I shall to accompany her mother and me on a pution of mind, and in the course of a visit to his house, where, he said, we month she fully confided in me. - My | might find some alterations to propose; not to be entangled in any affair so in- named it to Mary. My husband was highly pleased with the plan, and we had

tell him I shall advise you not to contine days, and then he met us at the Bank Top he comes home. It is so noble and honue correspondence so calculated to unset. Station. To our astonishment our ham. ble luggage - and how humble it did look | bear to abuse his generosity.' " Dou yo think this stranger is try- I cannot describe was consigned to the ing to impose on Mary?' I asked, when care of two livery servants, while he conshe was gone; and my husband was wri- ducted us, with great empressement to an ture could not endure such a disappoint- mingled with a keen sense of the abelegant carriage which was waiting in the " I think he may have been misled scation yard. In silence and astonishby her appearance, he answered In these ment we were conveyed rapidly through days there is no judging a person's posi- the thronged streets to one of the pleasmy children's dependence make me tion by her dress; and Mary might be a ant suburbs about four miles from town, countess. It is an unaccountable affair where we alighted at a magnificent resi-"'And you asked me why I cry,' she altogether; but this letter will effect dence surrounded with pleasure grounds and numerous tokens of wealth. Within everything was on a fitting scale, and I shall never have them! Life is very husband's letter, and requested some in- who had noticed Mary's increasing palemonotonous and wearisome when one has formation repecting Miss Wigley's fam. ness, as she had leaned back in the carily, position, and character. My hus- riage silent and wondering, was not surpriged to see her burst into a flood of tears

when Mr. William's welcomed her to her surgeon, who left her and her mother in future home. How he soothed her and very reduced circumstances; they have manifested lover-like concern and attenmaintained themselves by a respectable tion, of course T need not describe; but, "She looked dreamily into the fire, millinery business. Her education was at last, she grew calm enough to bear with stead of your poor mother's.' And we and with a pretty tremulous motion shook that of a lady, and her character is such equanimity, the sight of a charming little room fitted up expressly for herself. "One soon acoustoms one's self to pleas of such a thing before that afternoon." ever be married, because men marry to be torest I feel in her welfare, that I should ant things; in a few hours the elegancies "I will tell you the most marvellous helped, or to be amused, or to have some carefully investigate the principles and surrounded us instead of oppressing, ele but I must say you are very foolish, occurrence that ever came under my ob. one to be proud of; and she was a cripple circumstances of any one paying his ad- vated our spirits. Mrs. Wigley and I en- Mary, and you quite forget you have no ber arm.

dresses to her. You may not be aware joyed them thoroughly; the stately houseis a little, merry, talkative woman. "My a wooden leg would be a serious obstacle that the limp, observible in her gait, is keeper, the obsequious servants, the con- will be a very long, tiresome day with your friend not to open this elesset, but the power of producing them; instead owing to the total loss of a limb; this servatories, the elegant equipages belong nothing in the world to do. You are too | wait and ask Mr. Gordon for an explana of all the radi of their mind tending, ed to us, and were part of our pomp and scrupulous, or sentimental.' circumstance has materially militated astate - while 'ary was engrossed with "The next Sunday Mary and I had Mr. Williams as to be almost oblivious of know you ought to be allowed to do what ness we can none of us conjecture, but rays in every direction, but these antascarcely taken our usual seats (she sat her grandeur. I like to see lovers, and your judgment dictates; so pray take the at present it is his secret. Let it remain gonistic forces destroy each other. what is called a very united people, Mrry, for she could not endure travers- with me, as our pew was near the door, those two were lover-like enough to satis- keys and use them on my account, only so. "We had been three or four days in

everybody else's failings and inconsis- ble flights of stairs, with the stump of er showed a stranger into our pew. He Manchester, when Mr. Williams proposed ty, and proceeded to get the aid of the tencies. Some years after our call there, her wooden leg upon the bare boards was a tall military looking man with dark to drive us to Dunham Park; Mrs. Wig housekeeper; how we tried keys and isfied at any cost. I wish to know the lug, of the destitute widows and others a young lady came with her mother to everywhere announcing her approach; it hair and moustache, which marked him ley cared little for rural pleasures, and wearied over refractory locks; how we worst. establish, if they could, a millinery busi- annoyed her to see people look round to of a different stamp to the usual frequent; preferred the enjoyment of the conse- turned over drawers and long-unopened ness. They belonged to us, and before see who was coming, and it really seem ers of a chapel, for who can associate the quence about her; so Mary and I went boxes which were filled with dresses and glad of the old lady's decision, though ideas of unworldliness and moustaches l'alone with Mr. Williams. If ever mostal articles of feminine adornment; how we it was opposed to my husband's judgment. A beard is more patriarchal and even enjoyed perfect worldly happiness, it was ransacked the china closets and plate I, too, was consumed by an inextinguishation, and to prepare us for the reception . "The last day had passed, and she was Scriptural The stranger bowed to us, Mrs. Wigley when she watched her daugh ohest, and rummaged through the stores ble curiosity to fathom our enigma. should choose to die. Her reply was, of new members. She told us quite a walking wearily homewards, congratulat- and then composed himself into an atti- ter driving out in the carriage of the man of linen; how we went back to the libra- Behind that door lay the mysteries that lly corrected. melancholy story of losses and misfor ing herself in having finished the busi- tude of profound attention. He pres nt she was going to marry. She re-entered ty from time to time to report progress. tunes; and, among other things, that of ness that brought them from their quiet ed himself again at the evening service. the house with a fullsblown delight. In All the fatigues and labor, and excitement into numberless forms within our busy ference meeting in the town of Dthe amputation of Miss Wigley's leg. country town; she lingered for a minute and my husband remarked to me, as we great benignity of spirit she entored into you. brains, and now to wait for Mr. Gordon's about thirty miles North of Boston, ad-If you want to start a young wo You know my husband is not an unfeel to look at an engraving which had caught walked home: 'I imagine he is a Polish conversation with the stately housekeep. At luncheon refreshed and strengthened, return, and then, perhaps, to be denied dressed his auditors one Sabbath evening right out of her moral economy and ing man; but he had a very fatiguing her artistic eye, when a gentleman, stand- or Hungarian refugee, and to morrow he or, and naturally introduced Mr. Wil- my spirits rose to my circumstances.

with allusions to Miss Kilmansegg and | crowd, passing and repassing in the principal hotel in our town. He threw ley, who then is the owner of these do shall not be surprised if we come upon a mains-of this mansion, these carriages, this grandeur? Who is the gentleman who is driving out my daughter and her of wine.'

> "'That is Mr. Gordon,' replied the housekeeper, 'the servants have noticed, ma'am, that you all called him by anothriosity and suspense till my husband re- er name, and some said it was Mr. Williams, but I did not think so; his name Mr. Williams's intelligence, information, is Frederic William Gordon, and if he is deceiving you, ma'am, I think it is only just to put you on your guard. To be vited Mr. Williams to meet her here to- there is never any good in hiding one's proper name.'

"In this Mrs. Wigley so heartily greed, that she immediately wrote to my With the first dawn of morning I was husband in much perplexity and tribuladiscovery till she received his answer.

"We had a delightful day at Dunham. I do not make a bad third, and so often terical in fact, but Mrs. Wigley most ju | found objects of interest to engage my atlate in the afternoon and found Mrs. Wig-"It was a busy and anxious morning ley moody and taciturn. Mr. Williams and Mary sat apart and conversed in low tones throughout the evening, while I lounged luxuriously in an easy-chair, and mentally reviewed the events which had domiciled us amidet so much magnifi-

"The next morning Mr. Williams met

we sophiated he asked permission to es- lishment as may seem desirable to you.

up stairs and watched them with intense house, and you will oblige me by devointerest till they turned the corner of the ting this day to making such inspection as you please. There is no key you may no one has ever passed through that door artifices, so that I determined to make all "Not to lengthen my story, I will tell not use, and no papers which you, Mary, may not read : but you will make discov eries that will surprise you, and perhaps. influence you against me I shall leave

"He was gone before any of us could answer, and we were left gazing at one another in profound astonishment. The atmosphere of a ystery in which we had been living was thickening to a dense the light that was offered to us. Mary positively refused to avail herself of Mr. Williams's absence.

"'Let us do nothing,' she said, 'and "Mr. Williams preceded us by a few leave it to him to explain himself when the secret we seck." orable in him to act so, that I could not

"But an intense curiosity was devour-

your own common sense and to mine, not to nše them '

"'My dear Mary,' I urged, 'you cerainly should reflect that little more than month since none of us knew this genexplanation.

"'Do as you please,' replied Mary, frankness '

do not ask me to join you.'

"Mrs. Wigley and I rose with alacri-

"This is quite a Blue Beard affair, were in that state of reaction which made said hurriedly, 'Let me beg of you to him inclined to laugh at anything; and grant my request;' and before she could a note, inviting my husband to dine with said the housekeeper.

In the door, and we all, even my husband, are going to him inclined to laugh at anything; and grant my request;' and before she could a note, inviting my husband to dine with said the housekeeper.

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In the door, and we all, even my husband, are going to him inclined to laugh at anything; and grant my request;' and before she could a note, inviting my husband to dine with said the housekeeper.

I intense gaze; but there was manifested to do not know any Mr. Williams, and anything and leaves anything and leaves anything and leaves anything any for better things l'are anything.

I intense gaze; but there was manifested anything and leaves anything and leaves anything anything

closet of skeletons, or bodies of deceased

" 'Horrible,' she ,interrupted; forget, too, that he has left us all his keys, and not forbidden us the use of

NO. 30.

". There is something to be concealed, however,' said her mother. 'He has paid his addresses to you under an assumed name, and that has a suspicious look' " 'Are you sure of it, mother? exclaimsure he is the owner of this property, but cd Mary, her face coloring with excite- isfy us or explain all the circumstances ment 'How did you find it out?'

Mrs. Wigley then recounted to us the discovery of the preceding day, which she had intended to keep secret till she heard from my husband; instead of the weeping her chair, and my husband and Mrs. and hysterics I expected, Mary displayed

"' Nay, then, mother,' she cried, it is time for me to open my eyes; I will work with you now.'

"So the search recommenced with ardor, it was no longer in linen-chests and china-closets. We rifled desks and cabinets, and curiously constructed drawers, of their contents, and poured bundles upon bundles of letters and papers into Mary's lap; we found banking accounts and check deeds and wills, and rolls of yellow parchment tied up with red tape, but still bor continued unintermitting, for the with a lady possessing the necessary qualto regret the wasted minutes of the morning. The mystery, like an ignis fatuus, her truly. It suited me to watch over appeared to fly before us.

ed under our scrutiny, and nothing was pened that, while quite a young man, I

the housekeeper; 'it is two years since I was engaged by Mr. Gordon to officiate as | tion and presumed object became known, the superintendent of his household, but I was made the victim of several unworthy except himself. I do not think you will future advances under an assumed name, find any key for it, ladies.'

"We tried every key on the bunch, down stairs to Mary.

" 'We have found Blue Beard's closet,' come, we must not waste a moment.'

"Every nerve I had quivered with impatience while Mary slowly ascended the ences of position and fortune, and by them stairs. How slow and sluggish all the won over your friends to my side. Yet movements were! But, in time, she when you were here, I had not courage to stood with us before the low, narrow door, tell you personally, and I suffered you to and with hands trembling from eager. find it out for yourself.

"At this moment we heard the loud

step and voice in the entrance hall. "Blue Beard is come back!' I cried. ing Mrs. Wigley and me, and human na- with a vague feeling of apprehension. "'It is your duty to yourself, my child.' into the gallery, and with jealous caution ed your solemn manner of reception?" said the mother, 'to take every justifiable peered into the lobby below. There

means for learning Mr. Williams's char- stood my husband. With an exclamaacter and circumstances. He has put the tion of relief, I again flew down stairs means in your power, and it is unjust to and threw my arms around him, crying, 'Oh, I am glad you are come!' His face was stern and grave, and he looked prepared for storms. I drew him into the great glory. library, and hastily explained our position. As I spoke, his eye rested upon tleman, and it is evidently his wish that a heap of papers on the sofa, and instant you should discover for yourself some se- ly detected a ring containing three keys. oret, and spare him the pain of a verbal I seized them joyfully, and ran up stairs, closely followed by my husband Mary was leaning against the locked door, in weeping, but let me, at least, trust to his the quietness of sheer exhaustion, and nonor and affection. There can be noth- large tears were falling slowly from her deprivations," added our minister's wife; ing to conceal where there is such open eyes upon the floor. With irrepressible eagerness she snatched the keys from me, "We certainly shall do nothing against and at once fitted the largest into the

father to act for you in these affairs. It " Mary,' he said, I advise you as all that is beautiful and great, without tion of his very mysterious conduct. What as in men of genius, to a single point, "'Oh. mother." Mary answered, 'I there may be to effect your future happi- they stand in the centre, and send forth

> " It is too late to wait now.' answered Mrs Wigley, impatiently, they have solemn, straight-bodied and most exem-

had been all day arranging themselves

no scene of horror or, mechanism for future purposes. In the darkness there was shaped out only two small mahogany boxes, something like violin cases : here. then, lay the very core and kernel of our haunting mystery—the solving of the problem on which Mary's future life de-

"Nothing could have stayed us now. Mary rapidly detached one of the keys for me, and we knelt down to fit them into the minute locks of the mahogany cases. We raised the lids simultaneously, and our eager, earnest eyes fell upon two wooden legs.

il I scarcely know what we felt the first few minutes. It was not relief; wives preserved in large bottles of spirits for, though our suspense was over, our astonishment was not lessened. We had not the dignity of being horror-stricken, nor the indignation of boing hoaxed: we were passively astonished. Mary silently relocked the cases and the closet and we adjourned quetly to the library. A spirit of deep musing had fallen upon us all. Out of the profound abvss of contemplation, suggestion after suggestion was summoned : but none could satof the case.

"We felt great excitement when the return of the master of the house was heard. Mary threw herself back into-Wigley rose to meet him as he entered the room. Glancing keenly round on our attitudes of expectation, and on the littered room, he advanced and placed himself behind Mary's chair.

"'Permit me,' he said, 'to give you an intelligible explanation of my conduct before you reproach me for my secrecy. My father made a match for me when I was very young with a relative who possessed much wealth, but who had suffered an hooks, and other indications of wealth; after our marriage; and bequeathed her amputation. She died about two years property to me, on condition that if I nothing to satisfy our curiosity. Our la- larly afflicted. A few years after, I met married again it should be a woman siminess and amiability of temper, that I loved and protect her, and we were very happy, " t last all seemed to have been pass- but for a few months only. Thus it hap-

"'I have never seen that open,' said and I have made it a rule to seek the acquaintance of those I met. As my posipleased with the notion that you loved but the door yielded to none. I flew me for myself; but when I came to know your excellencies, your cultivated intellect, your delicate sense of honor, and I cried, 'and there is no key for it: com. | your modest reserve, I did not dare to confess I had deceived you, until I had called to my aid the adventitious influ-

ness, she shook it till the handle rattled "Sir," interrupted Mary, rising, 'I noisily, but yielded nothing to her grasp, am asbamed to say that I have been guil-"'Here, then,' she said, turning and ty of contemptible curiosity this day; but fucing us with a ghastly smile, here is I have not read your paper. Forgive me;

this the last time I shall ever doubt you. "But what caused your very belligerringing of a bell, and the sound of a man's | ent aspect?" said Mr. Gordonsto my husband, after he and Mary had quite settled the question of forgiveness. "I shought you and Mrs. Wigley were both going to attack me; and if you did not know I surdity of our position. I stole quietly had been twice a widower, what occasion-

"'The two wooden legs !' I replied. "In four months after their first meeting, we had the grandest wedding that was ever seen in our chapel; which was registered for the celebration of marriages. Mary and Mr. Gordon left the town in

"Since then we have often visited them; and my one little Mary is now

being educated with their children. "I believe the two wooden legs still remain the dark little closet; but there is no apparent probability of a third defunct limb at present."

"We ought to be more patient under "for who knows all the advantages of disadvantages?"

MEN OF TASTE. -There are some men your wish,' said Mrs. Wigley, crossly, look; but, before she could turn it, my who stand on the debatable ground behusbond's restraining hand was laid upon tween talent and genius, without belonging to either; they have a strong love for

At a recent meeting of a parish, a roused our curiosity, and it shall be sat- plary deacon submitted a report, in writstanding in need of assistance in the "To own the truth, I was heartily parish. "Are you sure, deacon," asked another solemn brother, "that you have embraced all the widows?" He said he believed he had done so; but if any had been omitted, the omission could be eas-

COMICAL .- A good deacon, at a conan explanation, was a moral impossibility. as follows: "My friends, there is a new Mary slowly but resolutely opened dopprine going about now-a days. We