

regular absurdity in nature, a super-THE CARLISLE HERALD. breath. fluity, a fifth wheel to a carriage." Such were my reflections! I did not II. ublished every Thursday morning. by

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FATHOMING BRAINS. I once took a fancy to fathem the brains Of these I might meet on Life's highways and lanes; 'So I beught a good lead line of monstreus longth, And one that was noted for toughness and strength I resolved that, like David of old, I would sing, And chronicle all the great deeds of my sling.

Well, the first one I met was a man with a hol-Imported, no doubt, from the " Emerald sod " Three in my line, and prepared to find out The depth of the brains he carried about, When, lo I-don't disture it i-the lead, at full stop, Brought up, with a-thump, very near to the top

The next a remarkably dressy young man, Whose kids kent his hands fro And—truly !-- the lead, with a sudden re-bound, Bounced out of his cranium on to the ground ! I was not surprised, for I scarcely expected To find it much better in one so affected

Then I canno to a peet, with manners much sweeter Yet I thought I could fathom his brains in she metre, And threw in the "deep soa" and paid out the butch.

twine, And found that it t ok quite a volume of line. No wonder! for surely it shall be no worse When the man had completed such volumes

The fourth was a doctor as grave as the dead--I wondered what wisdom was stored in his head; But—sad to relate of this curer of ills, With his lotions and potions, and piksters and pills His brains, ill comporting with such knowing boke Were deceiving as pools in dark, shadowy nocks i

The fifth a philosopher, plodding slong, And arguing right out of everything wrons I found that the brains 'neath his forehead so salls Were frequently muddy, and often quite shallow; That, though he could tell that red ink was no Ills whys and his wherefores were just clear as mud;

A minister, then, w th his cap and his gown, lame jugging along on his way to the town awaited my chance, then threw is the lead, To find that, in this good old reveroud a head, The doetrinal rocks—with fissurb and seam, And sectarian sundbars—had choked up the str

I next met a farmer, all roughened by toll. Whose hands were as brown as the freshly-pla

se voice was as rough as the low of his kine And his garmonts were certainly not very fine ; But the depth of his brains could by no means c

With his surface appearance and countryfied air His wife was a good, honest, quiet old soul,

Who looked just as deep as a supplate or howl; Who looked just as deep as a supplate or howl; Yot I heaved out my lead—it went in with a splus Sank deeper and deeper—and, quick as a finsh; I made up my mind that appearance inforfor is no kind of gauge to the hidden interior!

A statesman soon after my notice engaged-A maker of laws for the young and the aged---But I found that his brains were so muddled h that the lead I heaved over I could not make sink And this introduced a long train of sad thought

was sound asleep. About the amount of distress rum had wrought |

ration.

and went up stairs again, quite out of dare to open my razor, for fear that the The surprising manuer in which Voi invincible force of my logic should in-Spreckdal had just appeared threw me spire me with the courage to put an end quite into ecstasy. "'Yesterday," said to myself. After having well argued inthis manner, I blew out my candle and

which glittered in the sun-" yesterday left the result for the next day. I formed the culpable design of cutting, This abominable Rap had completely my throat for a few miserable florins, brutalized mo. I saw nothing as regards and now to-day a fortune falls from the art but silhouettes, and my only wish clouds. Decidedly I did well not to was to have money to rid me of his open my razor, and if ever the temptaodious presence. But that night a tion to put an end to myself assails me singular resolution was made in my again, I shall take care to put it off unmind. I waked about one o'clock; I til-the next day."

re-lighted my lamp, and wrapping myself After these, judicious reflections,] in my old gray coat, I drew upon paper seated myself to finish the sketch. Four! a rapid sketch in the Dutch stylestrokes_of my pencil, and it would be something strange, wild, and which had no connection with my habitual condifficulty awaited me. It was impossiceptions. ble for me to make those four strokes. Imagine a dark yard, inclosed in high,

I had lost the thread of my inspiration ottering walls. These walls are furthe mysterious individual would not denished with hooks at seven or eight feet tach himself from the limbers of my from the ground. One guesses at the brain. It was in vain that I invoked first glance that it is a slaughter house. him-that I skotched outlines, and tried On the left there is a wooden trellisagain and again. He was no more in work; you perceive through it a quaraccordance with the whole than a figure tered ox, hung to the ceiling by enormous of Raphael's would be in one of Tenier's pulleys. Large pools of blood flowed smoking scenes. The drops stood on over the flags into a trench, which was my brow.

full of shapeless remains. The light At the finest moment Rap opened the comes from the top, from between the door without knocking, according to his chimneys, whose weathercocks are cut laudable custom. His eyes fell on my out against a corner of the sky as large heap of ducats, and, with a squeaking as one's hand; and the rocfs of the oige, he cried : neighboring houses cast dark shadows "Ah ! I have caught you ! Will you on the lower stories. In the farther end ay again, Mr. Painter that you have no of this place there is a shed ; under the nonev ?!! shed a pile ; on the pile some ladders, And his crooked fingers advanced with

some heaps of straw and of rope, a coop that nervous trembling which the sight for chickens, and an old, worn-out rabbit of gold always produces with misers. I remained stupefied a few seconds How did it come that I imagined all Then the recollection of all the insults ! nese whimsical details? I do not know. which this creature had heaped on me, I had no analogous recollection ; and yet his avaricious looks, his impudent smile, ach pencil stroke seemed the result of exasperated me. With a single bound

observation. Nothing was wanting. seized him, and, pushing him with But on the right a corner of the sketch both hands out of the room, I flattened emained blank. I did not know how his nose with the door. o fill it in. There something was mov-This was done with the "crickerack ng Suddenly I saw a foot-a foot and the rapidity of a jack-in the box.

which was reversed and not on the ground. In spite of this improbable But outside the old usurer uttered piercing cries : position, I followed the inspiration with-"My money, robber !---my money !" out accounting for my own thought. The lodgers came out of their rooms The foot ended in a leg. On the leg, sking : "What is the matter? What

which was stretched out with effort, and I stepped out_resolutely, after him ias happened ?" loated the skirt of a gown. In short, an We passed through long galleries I opened the door suddenly, and, with old woman, wan, emaciated, disheveled, lighted at certain distances by windows blow of my foot in the spine of Master appeared at last, lying .on the edge of a Rap, I sent him down more than live side. I saw behind some bars the fawell, and fighting with a fist which was steps nous Tick-Tack, who was to be expressing her throat.' It was a scene of "That is what is happening," said I ecuted the following day. He was wear-

murder which I was drawing ! The penbeside myself. cil fell from my hand. Then I shut the door, and fastened it. while shouts of laughter saluted Master This woman, whose attitude was quite startling, with her loins doubled on the Rap in his flight.

brink of the well, her face contracted I was pleased with myself : I rubbed for you on my right." with terror, her two hands grasping the my hands. This adventure restored my The two police agents and the god of arm of the murderer, frightened me. I animation. I recommonced work, and the Caribbees looked at each other with was going to finish the sketch when an a smile, while a cold shiver crept all did not dare to look at her. But him. the man, the owner of the arm. I did unusual noise struck my ear. down my back.

not see.' It was impossible for me to It was the butt end of rifles being pu finish it. "I am tired," thought I, down on the pavement of the street. while my forchead was bathed in perspilooked out of my window and saw three "There is only this figure to gendarmes, with their rifles lowered, be done; I will finish it to-morrow. It drawn up at the door of the house. will be quite easy." "Can that wretch Rap have broken And I went to bed again, quite terri- anything ?" said I, in a fright.

old oak-a figure with its arms extended fied at my vision. Five minutes later I And such is the strange contradiction | and head sadly falling on its shouldersin the human mind that I, who the even- | inspired me with a religious fear over ing before had wished to cut my throat, and above that caused by my actual The following day I was up at dawn.

hang me if Rap was dead.

All is not couleur de rose in this world. another one was in front. The two cor arms were bare, his elbows stuck out, and his head was bent down; his floating hair, like that of Salvator's "Sicumbre," concealed his face from me, but at the first glance I started. "It is he !" said I to myself, and all my From the claws of Rap I fell into a stables were still there. On the road dungeon from which most poor devils one of thom offered his companion a ave small chance of escaping. Great pinch of snuff. Mechanically I put out dark yard ; rows of windows, as in a niy finger towards his shuff-box,; he drew "It is he?" said I to mysolf, and all my J blood flowed back to my heart. I got down into the dungeon, quivering to the tips of my fingers, feeling my checks growing pale, and stammering wit a stifled voice: "It is he! He is there-there, and I am to die to expite his erime. Oh, God! what shall I do?" A sudden idea, an inspiration from "above, occurred to me. I felt in the pocket of my coat-my fusec-box was b there. Then, rushing to the wall, I began tracing the scene of the murder with incenceivable rapidity. There was a no more uncertainty, no more groping. L-knew the man-1 saw him-he was hospital; not a tuft of grass, not a leaf back quickly. The blush of shame of ivy, not even a weathercock in per- covered my face, and I turned away my spective. That was my new lodging. | head to hide my emotion. It was enough to make one tear out "If you look out," said the man with one's hair by handfuls. the snuff-box, "we shall be obliged to

The police agents, accompanied by put you in handcuffs." the jailor, incarcerated me temporarily "May the devil strangle you, infernal

in a lock-up. scoundrel !" thought I. The carriage The jailor, as tar as 1 can remember, stopped; one of them got out whilst the was called Kasper Schlussel. With his other held me back by the collar ; then, gray woolen cap, his short pipe between seeing his comrade ready to receive me, his teeth, and his bunch of keys at his he pushed me out rudely. These numerwaist, he appeared to me like the god of ous precautions for the safety of my porthe Caribbees, who is an owl. He had son did not look well for me; butil was' done. But here au incomprehensible great, round, yellowish eyes, which far from foreseeing the gravity of the looked as if they saw by night, a pointed accusation which was weighing on me, nose, and a neck which was lost in his when a frightful circumstance at last shoulders. opened my eyes and threw me into 'de-Schlussel shut me up as quickly as spair. I had just been pushed into a

one puts away clothes in a cupboard, low passage, with broken, unequal pavethinking of other things. As for me, I ment; there flowed along the wall a remained more than ten minutes in the yellowish oczing, from which a fetid same place, with my hands closed be- smell exhaled. I was walking in darkhind my back and my head hanging ness, the two men behind mo. Farther lown. At the end of this time I made on there was a dim light from an inside the following reflection : "Rap, when yard.

he fell, called out, 'They are mordering The farther I advanced, the table did me !' but he did not say who. 'I shall my terror increase. It was not a natural say that it was my neighbor, the old feeling ; it was a fearful anxiety, unman who sells spectacles. Ho will be natural as a nightmare. At each step I hanged in my place." instinctively drew back. This idea comforted me, and I heaved ""Come now !" exclamed oud of the

deep/sigh. Then I looked at my constables, pressing his hand, on my It had just, been newly white- shoulder. "Get on !" orison. vashed, and the walls were quite bare, But what was my terror when, at the

ničket.

rere already pressing my throat Al-

nost at the same moment I heard

Schlussel crossing the passage; he opened

111.

'Schlussel pushed me into a high room

appeared, and my lips moved as I

murmured a prayer. For a long time

always recalls us to thoughts of sub-

In front of me, on a high seat, were

wo persons whose position with their

backs to the light left their figures in

shadow. Nevertheless, I-recognized

Von Spreckdal by his aquiline profile.

which was illumined obliquely by a ray

from the window. The other was fat;

he had full ted checks and wors a judge's

Von Spreekdal, raising his voice, said : "Christian Venius, where did you get

robe, as did also Von Spreckdal.

except in one corner, where my predecess and of the passage, I saw the yard which I had sketched the previous night, with its walls garnished with hooks, its col-lection of old iron; its hen coop, and its rabbat hutch! Not a window, small or large, not a cracked pane, net a detail booking at the sketch. I had sunk I had sketched the provious night, with sor had sketched a gibbet. The light came from a little window, nine or ten its walls garnished with hooks, its colfeet from the ground. The furniture lection of old iron, its hen coop, and its consisted of a heap of strew and a rabbit butch ! Not a window, small or had been omitted. I was thunderstruck I scated myself on the straw, with my by this strange revelation ! ands round my knees, in inconceivable Near to the wall were the two judges espondency. I hardly saw clearly:

Near to the wall were the two judges, Yon Spreekdal and Richler. At their a saited an hour of deliverance and fast by the old woman on her back, her ong gray halt, disheveled, face blue, nd of a sudden, remembering that Rap night have denounced me before his feet lay the old woman on her back, her long gray halr, disheveled, face blue, time are as long as conturos - mose who have not gone through the poignant death, I tinged in every joint, and 'got up conghing, as if the hempen cravat

"Now," said Von Spreckdal, selemnly,

Now, 's said Von Spreckdal, sclemnly,
"what have you to say?"
I did not reply.
"Do you confess to having thrown
this woman, Theresa Beeta, into this
pit, having first strangled her in order
to rob her of her money?"
"No l'I cried. "No ! I do not know
this woman; I have never seen her.
May yon being witness !"
"That is enough," repliet he, drily;
and without adding a word, he and his
companion went out quickly. the door and told me to follow him. He ras still assisted by two men with staves, ing a strait-waistcoat, and was singing in a loud voice, "I am the king of the iountains !'' Seeing me, he criedcompanion went out quickly. 'Hullo ! comrade, I will keep a place The police then thought it their duty to put handcuffs on me, and I was taken

back to the Raspelhaus in a state of stupor. I hardly knew what to think; step or. I hardly knew what to think; even my conscience was confused. I asked myself whether I had not mur-dered the old woman. In the even of lifed into the arr. This hasted at least a mining the state of the second second second second second dered the old woman. In the even of stupor. I hardly knew what to think ;

my fillow I'W. s at Cuff of att you. a minute. which was very dark, and furnished J will not detail to you all that I felt head hanging, his eyes bloodshot, his hat night in the Raspelhaux, when, hands fastened behind his back. He with seats in a semi-circle. The appearance of this deserted hall, with its two scated on my heap of istraw, with the little window in front of me, and the gibbet of perspective, I heard the watch-man eving in the silence—(1) Shon inhigh-barred windows, its Christ of dark man crying in the silence-" Sleep, in- night?

The young wife understood her hus tracted attention in places less toleran band's sorrowful glance, but she tried to to varieties of costume than a busy little "come, Philip, your letter; I thought written to tell you that they cannot do without you any longer."

Was it foreboding of coming ill that made Philip hesitate before he opened on the edge of the wire blind, the merthe envelope, conscious of a vague feeling of uncasiness as he glanced at the shoulder. She seemed so full of hopeful anticipation, to which he was unable to respond, for he could not divest himself of a strange indefinable fear connected with the letter. At ten o'clock the jailor entered my "What is the matter, Philip ; are you

At ten 6 clock the panor entered my prison. His owl-like passiveness was re-placed by admiration. "Is it possible !" cried he, stopping 111 2''

short on the threshold question, as she saw her husband suddenly drop the letter and hear his "Go and fotch my Judges," said I to im, while I continued my work with ineasing excitement. half-stified cry. When she caught sight of his ghastly paleness and altered man-

"They are waiting for you in the hall instruction," replied Schlussel. "I have something to reveal to them," ner, she hastily picked up the letter exexclaimed, drawing the last head of claiming, "Oh, Philip! what is it !" ny mysterious subject. That somothing in the letter was the

-there before me

my mysterious subject. It is connect anvo; no was fearful to be-hofd. His foreshortèned figure stood out wondarfully on the white wall. That somothing in the letter was the cause of his agitation, she now felt sure. Her first caro was to soothe him, and she did it in her tender womanly fashion that seldom fails of its power over the gaile stupefied. I extended my hand, and, trembling in every limb, said to them: "There is the murderer " After a short silence Von Spreckdal turned to me, "Has name?" "I do not know it, but he is at this moment in the market", he is cutting ym ment in the street of the Trabans." "What do you think of this?" said he to his colleague. "I do not know it he felt as you go in from the street of the Trabans."

heart blessed her for the comfort which her loving, couragoous words had given him.

"Come," she urged, with fond per istence that was not to be turned aside. back on the straw, with my head be-tween my knees, quite overgome. Soon footsteps sounded in the distance under 'tell me the worst; it cannot be anything very dreadful. The doctor says you are getting better, and while you are spared to me, Philip, I think I could bear anything."

"He tried to smile, but it faded from his her eyes unnaturally open, and her tongue Tetween her teeth. It was a horrible sight ! Now," said Von Spreekdal, selemnly, Jips as he pushed the letter which she had placed on the table towards her, faltering, "read for yourself, darling. It is from the firm ; they sent me notice of dismissal." It was true. Philip's employers, Messrs. Hardman & Joyce, had written a few cold, curt words to apprise their clerk that his continued absence had caused inconvenience, which had made it necessary to appoint another to supply

his place, and as this arrangement had proved satisfactory to them, they begged to inform him, Philip Holt, that his services were dispensed with from that bio saveen. A new tins man of blood with the large shoulders, looked, grew pule, and with a yell which froze us with terror he throw up his arms and sprang backwards to upset his jailors. Then a fearful struggle took place in the pas-save. We heard nothing but the part date.

At last the murderer re-entered; his

"So you think she may be your little eroine of the red cloak. I am not "" Of course not; how absurd for me to forget that. I should like to see those patients of yours. Can't you take me with you? they would think me another medical man." divert his > thoughts, saying playfully, town. This was a scarlet cloak, with the hood drawn over her bonnet and fityou were in a hurry to read it; now I ting round her face-like a frame. It am getting impatient to hear what the gave out a warm gleam of color against firm have to say; perhaps they have the snow, and invested its wearer with me resemblance to the red riding hood of the sweet, old fairy tale. Standing there, with his hands resting

bright face that was smiling over his ure, and noted that the fresh, pure face

This was the young wife's anxious

of his own, who had faded in her first bloom. And as he watched the advancing fig-ure he murnured, "Evory day she grows more like my little Helen. I fould almost fancy it was herself, get-ting paler and thinner; poor child I wouder if she has any one to cars of the part of the speaker. vouder if she has any one to care for

her." At that moment a group of boys ushed towards the young lady, the forenost of the noisy crew, exclaiming, in lerisive allusion to her red cloak,

'Hallo, Bill ! let's put out the fire." The words were followed by a loud augh and a shower of snow balls. In the effort to avoid "the snow balls the young lady slipped and fell.

With the fear of a policeman Lefore With the fear of a policemant Lefore their eyes the boys scampered off, leav-ing the prostrate figure on the ground; but aid was at hand. A youth with a pen behind his ear made a rush from a building on the opposite side of the street, followed almost immediately by a white baired, add, as where the time when Mr.

more serious than she was aware-she had severely sprained one of her ankles. and the effort to stand caused inexpresible pain. "Let us help her into my office,

"homas," said the old man, "then we will see what can be done." IV. A few minutes more and the stranger ound herself seated in an easy chair by

bright fire. She could not help looking-her grateal surprise at the unexpected kindness.

of the old gentleman. She did not guess that her face had become to him familiar The husband and wife looked at each as something which had entered into other in silence. It was a cruel blow his daily life. He saw her glance at which was thus unexpectedly dealt him ; the clock, and noted the anxious exboth could realize what it was to be cast pression of her pale face. out of employment during a time of "Are you far from home ?" he asked commercial depression, and knew all that it would involve, if the coming "Yes," she faltered, "but I shall not be going home for hours. I am engaged

winter days found him still on the every day teaching; my pupils will be forlorn list of the unemployed. Looking waiting now. I must try to walk; it is at his thin face, her heart ached for him getting so late." in the trouble which had come upon "Walk ! why you cannot even stand ; them, for he was yet far from being the thing is impossible." She seemed strong, and the little home comforts had so much distressed that he said hastily

medical man." The doctor smiled, considered a mo-ment, then said, "Yes, I think we can manage it." As he spoke, the brougham stopped at-Standing there, with his hands resting on the edge of the wire blind, the mer-chant had watched, morfing after morn-ing, the passing of the picturesque fig-ure, and noted that the fresh, pure face which had first attracted him was gradu-ally growing paler and thinner. This had gong of for weeks, until it became a part of the day's routine to watch for her. She was invested with a strango kind of interest to him by a fancied like-ness between her and a favorite daughter of his own, who had faded in her first bloom.

eroine

The next moment they were in the

room; but the old merchant stopfed short on the threshold grazing in undis-guised amazement at the inmates. One gamee at the features of the oung wife identified the wearer of the Young wild identified the wearer of the red cloak—a discovery for which he had been half propared, but it was the face of the husband that arrested his atten-tion. "Bless me!" he murmured "that face seems familiar."

At that moment the young man raised imself gur his elboy, saying excitedly, Mr. Hardman here !?

white-haired old gentleman, who loyce, with whom he had never been a a white-haired old gentleman, who showed considerable anxiety and solici-tude in ascertaining if the young lady "Not mfch," was the murmured re-ply, while the sweet voice added some words of thanks for the assistance which had been rendered. Her hurt had been more serious 71±2. Her hurt had been words gent as you work as the work as she was able to obtain.

she was able to obtain, Here was a new reading of his little romance of there deloak, and it is cer-tain that it did not lessen the interest in tain that it did not lessen the interest in the wearer; but he could not readily ex-case himself from the blame, which he took to his own account, for allowing his partner's summary dismissal of an old cleck to remain without inquiry. He determined that the injury to Philip Holt should be atoned for, and he kept his word. When the young man re-covered he was restored to his old place, in which he had ample opportunities for pushing his way, and gaining even the respect and confidence of Mr. Joyce. Like a day of sunshine following a clouded morning, prosperity blessed the

Like a day of sunshine following a clouded morning, prospecify blessed the young couple, and the loving, patient wife had her reward. Philip always traced their good fortune to the cloak, which she had worn be-cause it washer mother's; and from that day he decided that it should be treas-ured as a relic. Years afterwards, when he was a prosperous merchand, and Grace a bappy matron with couldren grown up around her, he would say, in allusion to their early days of trial, "My dailing, if you tind me growing selfish and forgetful of you and my duty, show me your old red cloak—it will preach a sermon that will be sure to set me all sermon that will be sure to set me al

right !"

I fathomed the wealthy, and oft found that gold I had just dressed myself, and was pre- now shuddered to the marrow of my position. Took the place of the brains that for pulf they had sold--That, though they were styled the polite and reparing to go on with my interrupted bones at the thought that they could work, when two little taps sounded on the door.

They quite often lacked in roluement of mind I-fathomed the poor in a similar manner, And often found reason 'neath Poverty's banner ! I found that great statesmen and merchants of

rank Oft into oblivion hopelessly sank

When compared with their anighbors of means dogree-And therefore I came to the conclusions that follow That the most solid looking are often most bollow

That those who appear to have least depth of mind We often the test informed scholars may find-That ronginess may, not unperside scalared, Histo beauteous gons in its forthous cell-And that those who are highest in Church or l

Are not of necessity always the great !

THE MYSTERIOUS SKETCH. I.

Opposite to the chapel of St. Sebalt's, at Nuremberg, at the corner of the tention to these details, and, scating street of the Trebans, stands a little inn, narrow and high, with gabled front dusty panes, and the roof crowned with a plaster Virgin. It was there that] passed the saddest days of my life. he did not finish his sentence. I had had gone to Nuremberg to study the old scated myself on the edge of my bed, German masters ; but, for want of ready and the sudden attention accorded by money, I was obliged to do portraits. such a person to one of my productions And what portraits ! Fat gossips, with

their cat on their knees ; aldormon, in fear. wigs; burgomasters, in three-cornered After a minute Von Spreckdal raise hats-the whole colored in ochre and

his head. vermilion. From portraits I came down "Are you the author of this sketch? to pencil-sketches, and from sketches/to said he, looking at me attentively. silhouettes. There is nothing so "Yes, sir," wretched as having the laudlord of a "What is its price ?" hotel constantly after one, with pinched "I do not sell my sketches. It is the lips, shrill voice, and imupdent manner, idea for a painting. coming every day and saying : "Come "Ah I" said-he, raising the paper wit now | do you intend to pay me soon the point of his yellow fingers. He drew a glass from his waisteen sir? Do you know how much your bill is? No : that is nothing to you. You pocket, and began sto study the sketch eat, drink, and sleep quiotly. The Lord in silence. giveth food to the little birds. This The sun shone obliquely into the attic. gentleman's bill amounts to two hun Von Spreckdal did not utter a word; dred florins, ten kreutzers.' It is hardly his great, hooked nose, his wide eyeworth speaking of." Those who have brows, were contracted, and his chin not heard this song sung can have no

protruding to a point, formed a hundred little wrinkles in his long, thin checks. idea what it is. Love of art, imagination, sacred onthusiasm for the beautiful, The silence was so prefound that I dis are all dried up before the breath of such tinetly heard the plaintive buzzing of a a scoundrel. One becomes awkward, fly which was caught in a spider's web. timid ; all one's energy is lost, as well as the feeling of one's personal dignity, "And the dimensions of this painting; Master Venius?" said he at last, with and 'one salutes with great respect the out looking at me. burgomaster Schnugans when he passes

"Three feet by four." in the distance l One night, not having a penny, a "The price?" "Fifty ducats." usual, and being threatened with prison by this worthy Master Rap, I resolved Von Spreckdal re-placed the drawing to ohght him by cutting my throat, on the table, and took from his pocket

a large green silk purse. He drew off With this agreeable thought, seated on the rings. my pallet-bed opposite the window, I "Fifty ducats," said he. "Here they gave myself up to a thousand philo ophical reflections which were more or are."

I was dazzled. less pleasant. "What is man?" said I to myself.

The Baron had rison, -He bowed, and "An' omnivorous animal. His jaws, heard his great ivory-headed cane which are, provided with fangs, incisor sounding on each step to the foot of the and molar teeth, are proof sufficient staircase. Then, recovering from my thereof. The fargs are made for tearing stuper, I nembered all of a sudden meat, the incisors for eating ratin, and that I had not thanked him, and I far that I had not . thanked him, and I flew the molar teeth for masticating, grinddown the five stories like lightning ; but, ing. and triturating animal and vegota- when I arrived on the threshold, it was ble substances which are agreeable to in vain that I locked to right and leftthe taste and smell. But when there is the street was deserted.

nothing to masticato, this thing is a "Dear me-that's, funny " said I;

The staircase was filled with confused "Come in !" sounds. It was a rising-tide of hollow I had never prayed, but misfortune The door opened. A man, already steps, the clark of arms, and rapid old, tall, thin, dressed in black, appeared words. Suddenly some one tried to open mission. Man is such a poor creature 1 on the threshold. The features of this ny door. It was fastened. man-his eyes, which were close to-Then there was quite a clamor. gether, his great eagle nose, and wide, "Open, in the name of the law !"

bony forehead-were somewhat severe. I rose trembling, with shaking legs. He bowed gravely. " Open !" repeated the same voice. "Mr. Christian Venius, the painter ?" The idea of saving myself oper the aid he. "! I am he, monsieur." ofs occurred to me; but hardly had I put my head through the little window Ho bowed again, and added : than Edrew back seized with vertico. 1 "Baron Friedrich von Sprockdal." had seen, as in a lightning flash, all the The appearance in my poor house of windows below, with their gleaming

the rich amateur Spreckdal, Judge of panes, their flower pots, their bird cages, the Criminal Court, impressed me deeply. their gratings; and, lower down, tho I could not help throwing a hasty glance balcony; lower down, the street lamp; at my old, worm-eaten furniture, at my lower down, the sign of the Tonnelet

damp bed-hangings, and dusty door. Rouge, covered with crampons ; then, at I felt humiliated by such dilapidation. last, the three glittering bayonets, which But Von Sprockdal seemed to pay no atonly awaited my fall to impale me. On the roof of the house opposite a great red himself before my little table, he began cat, on guard behind one of the chim-"Master Venius, I come-" neys, was watching a troop of sparrows But at that instant his eyes we who were chirping and quarreling in the caught by the uncompleted sketch, and gutter. It is impossible to imagine to

assauf.

seizo me.

what clearness, to what power and rapidity of perception, the life of a man can attain when stimulated by fear. At the third summons-"Open the the kick I gave Rap." made my heart beat. with undefinable door, or we will break it open !" I saw

that flight was impossible; and, Von Spreckdal; "what is the subject approaching the door with trembling of it?" steps, I'drew back the bolt. "It is a fancy subject." Two fists immediately seized my collar, "You have not copied all these de-

and a little, thick-set' man, smelling of tails ?! wine, said : "I arrest you !" "No, my lord, they are all imaginary." "Pgisonor," said the Judge, severaly, He wore a bottle-green overcoat,

I give you time for reflection; do not buttoned up to the chin, and a hat shaped like the pipe of 2 stover. He had I reddehed, and exclaimed with som great brown whiskers, rings on all his

fingers, and was called Passauf. It was excitement. "I have told the truth." the head of the police. "Put this down," said Von Spreckdal Five bull-dog heads, with little flat o the clerk.

caps, were observing me from without. "And this woman," pursued the Judge, "this woman who is being "What do you want?" asked I of murdered on the edge of the pit-was "Come down !" exclaimed he, roughshe also an imaginary figure ?" y, making a sign to one of the men to

"T did it."

"Gortainly." "You have nover seen her ?" The latter dragged me away more "Nover." dead than alive, while the others turned

Von Spreckdal rose, as if. indignant; my room upside down. I went down, supported under the thon, re-seating himself, he_consulted in arms like a man in the third stage of a low voice with his fellow-judge. These consumption-my hair falling ovor my two black profiles standing out against face, and stumbling at each step... the light background of the window, I was thrown into a fly between two the silence of the hall-everything made

fellows who had the charity to let me me shudder. see the end of two staves fastened with "What do they want with mo? What a strap to the wrist. Then the carriage have I dono?" I murmured. set off. I heard the steps of all the Buddenly Von Spreekdal said to my

gamins of the town running after us. iailors : "Take back the prisoner to "What have I done ?" I asked one" of my guards.

He looked at his companion with a strange smile, saving : "Hans, he wants to know what he has done l"

This smile froze my blood. Soon a profound shadow enveloped the carriago-the horses' feet sounded under an arch AWe were entering the Raspel-

haus, of which one might well say :

abitants of Nuremberg! The Lord I was saved three o'clock have struck !" All my ideas of false accusation dis-

Every one can form an idea of such a night. It is all very well to say that it is better to be hung innocent than guilty. For the soul it makes no differ-gnee. On the contrary, it curses its fate; and seeks to escape, knowing that the dord will put an cond to its part. Added to that, it regrets not to have taken encugh enjoy ment ext of life, and to have listened 'to the soul a crime, perpetrated by a taken encugh enjoy ment ext of life, and to have listened 'to the soul a crime, perpetrated by a that is chance 2 Ha' And, after all but known !' it exclaims, I should not was an end to its part. Added to that, it regrets not to have to have listened 'to the soul a crime, perpetrated by a that is chance 2 Ha' And, after all but known !' it exclaims, I should not

preached abstinence. "Ah! if 1 and but known?" it exclaims, I should not have been leid by your hig words, your grand pleases, and magnificent senten-traction is a senten-traction of the sentence of the s be, as did also Von Spreckdal. Below was spated Contad, the clock, He was writing at a low table, in order to look at me with considerable genri-to me delightful moments which will the was mediant for the body site spreaks her radiant some delightful moments which will move ration ! It is all over ! You said that the was moved for the body site spreaks her radiant which will the was moved for the body site spreaks her radiant to be the body site spreaks her radiant the was writing the some delightful moments which will the was write the body site spreaks her radiant which will which does not share in share in the was moved by the weak moved by the wea say; but at times inspiration bet; the secret of those notturnal dights." to me, ' Curb your passions !' Well, I this drawing?" He showed me the for having dono so. I am going to be circuit in the realities than the human hanged, and in time you will be called mind in its imagination !

sublime spirit, stoical soul, martyr to After having examined it, I answered, the mistakes of justice. I shall no THE ROMANCE OF A RED OLOAK. longer be thought of ?" Such were the

There was rather a long silence, and, sad reflections of my poor body. Frace ?'' ourad wrote down my answer. I The day came, at first pate, "Yes, dear, and here is a letter for listened to his pen running over the cided; it sent its feeble rays" through paper, and I' thought: "What is the meaning of the question they have just asked mo? It has nothing to do with the kink Large Ban'? cants' loaded with vegetables, and the good peasants of the Schwarzvoula with their baskets goog by... Some chickens in coops cackled as they went past, and the sellers of butter chatted to each "You did this drawing," continue

other. The market opposite was being opened. They were arranging the from you."

other. The market bipposite was being opened. They word arranging the benches. J At last it was quite day; and the great murmur of the growing crowd of housewives who were assembling with their baskets under their arms, going, coming, discussing, and bargaining, showed me that it was eight o'clock in "the morning." Some of my black iddas The more that to use of my black ideas disappeared, and I felt a great desire to see what was going on outside. Some of my predecessors had pulled theniselves up to the window; they had

The pen again squeaked on the paper. made some holes in the wall by which to made some holes in the will by which to ascend more easily. I elimbed up in yny turn, and which seated in the oval recess with my back bent, and my head, incessed forward, I could see the orgord, the life, the morement. Tears flowed rapidly down my checks. I the longer thought of suicides I felt an extraordi-uary desire to live and to breather. "Ah !?" said 1 to myself, "is it do-lightful to live ! What do I care if they make me drag a barrow or if they

boy make me drag a barrow or if they fasten a bullet to my leg, as long as they The old market, with the roof shaped life an extinguisher supported in heavy pillars, was a splendid sight. Old women soated in front of their baskets of vegetables or eggs, or of their coops full of poultry; -behind them the Jewish dealers m old clothes, with their darket faces; the butchers with their barro

arms, cutting up the mean in their scalls the country people, with their large fel hats planted on the back of the head Jailors: "Take block the prisoner to the carriage; we are going to start for the Metzer Strasse." Then turning to mo, he exclaimed : "Christian Vonius, you have started on a sad course; recol-lect yourself, and remember that if hu-man justice is inflexible, there still, re-man justice is inflexible, there still, re-

mains for you-God's morey. You may deserve it if you confoss your crime " These words struck me as if with the blow of a hammer. I strotched out my arms, screaming, "Oh I what a dreadfal" New, while I was thus looking out a

habitants of Nuremberg! The Lord I was saved! Muny years have passed since this three o'clock it woo'clock! twoo'clock is three o'clock have struck i'' Every one can form an idea of such a traits of burgomasters. By means of the serious inroads upon the slender is of burgomasters. By means of the serious inroads upon the slender is of burgomasters is of burgomasters. By means of the serious inroads upon the slender is of burgomasters is of burgomasters. By means of the serious inroads upon the slender is of burgomasters. By means of the serious inroads upon the slender is of burgomasters in the series in the series in the slender is of burgomasters. By means of the series in the slender is of burgomasters is of the series in the slender is of burgomasters. By means of the series in the slender is of burgomasters is of burgomasters. By means of the series is of the slender is of burgomasters is of burgomasters. By means of the series is of the slender is of burgomasters is of burgomasters. By means of the slender is of burgomasters is of burgomasters is of burgomasters. By means of the slender is of burgomasters is of burgomasters is of burgomasters. By means of the slender is of burgomasters is of burgomasters is of burgomasters. By means of the slender is of burgomasters is of burgomasters is of burgomasters. By means of the slender is of burgomasters is of burgomasters is of burgomasters. By means of the slender is of burgomasters is of burgomasters is of burgomasters is of burgomasters. By means of the slender is of burgomasters is of bur

it would be useless. Mr. Hardman

H.

act against Mr. Joyce, for he almost be-""Was that the postman's knock, lieves he cannot do wrong."

you-from the firm, 'I know the envelope." And answering her husband's quick glance of interest, the young wife placed "You forget, Grace, that all our savthe letter in his cagorly extended hand, ings are nearly spent, and that I may adding with a smile, "If I did not find some difficulty in getting another know that it is business, Philip, I think situation."

I should claim my privilege and peep The half-irritable tone of his voice hurt the young wife, who had struggled so hard to hide from him her own feeings. over your shoulder while you read." "You are welcome to do it my darl-She burst into tears, murmaring, reing ; you know that I have no segrets proachfully, " I forgot-I forgot, dear ; but I can't pray that we may be spared

"Very well, sir, I will consent to stay from such trials," here until you have read your letter ; it has just occurred to mo that you might vant-my-advice about something, for said. Oh ! if it had come at another you know that I am your 'better half.'" time." "More than half, little woman; you

are nearer the whole: I don't know , Snowing still, as it had snowed for what I should do without you, Grace: Maimed, helpless, where should I be but nours, the air was full of blinding mist

for your tender nursing, which is doing from the thickly falling flakes, which the wind drifted into masses through the nore than anything to make me well." cold white streets. The office clock As he spoke, Philip Holt looked with a sorrowful significance at his bandaged pointed to a quarter past ten on the leg, which was supported on a chair. bleak September morning when Stephen Hardman left his desk, and, re-adjust-He had been for some weeks suffering ing his gold rimmed spectacles, placed from a compound fracture; and other imself at the window, as he did every injuries sustained in a fall from a dog norning at the same hour. No matter what might be his occupation, at the time, it was made to yield to the inulgence of what appeared to those

ove as their chief worldly capital ; and agreed to a second. thanks to their united efforts-to the wife's talent and domestic management, never knew her to extend more than and the husband's habits of industry three or four seconds over the quarter; and oconomy-all had gone well with so punctual to her time that I might althem up to the date of his unfortunate most set my watch by her. Not coming ! accident: Until then there had been no Well, it's not fit weather for one like shadow of care in the little home, which her to be out ; she's to small and delicate

had been their earthly paradise, though looking. If she belonged to me I'd take it consisted only of two plainly furnished eare der Whŷ, bless me, there she

INTERESTING LETTER. The following letter was recently read a the Senate Chamber, at Harrisburg : Mr. Mumma sent to the clerk's desk e letter signed "Horace Greeley," which he desired the clerk to read. Mr. Billingfelt. Does that relate to ming? Mr. Mamma. No sir, it relates to

Minimar, No sir, it relates to culturary matters. [Laughter.]
 The clerk read the letter, as follows: THERE OFFICE, Jan. 27, 1872.
 MR. J. T. V., Reading, Pa.:
 MY DEAR SIR:—Your favor of the

twenty-lifth instant is just received in ref-rence to the admission of colored chairen into the public schools of your know who I have to thank for it. With all his oddities, Mr. Hardman would not have done such a thing." "Would it do any good to apply to him, Philip?" "No," returned the husband gloomily. "it would be useless. Mr. Hardman you need have no fears of nearowth. I am forming no opinion just now on the question, but think Mr. Sunner's bill will settle-the whole matter. A great deal of my time the past accord has been controle in comparison according to matter. it would be useless. Mr. Hardman, leaves all to his son-in-law, Mr. Joyce, it has a son-induced."
"Could I not go to Mr. Hardman, "Could I not go to Mr. Hardman," is an even of the hard service which had been replained explained to him?"
"No, Grace, I don't think he would act against Mr. Joyce, for he almost believelent cold merchant was thought in the house a great deal, I have been the was gone, jund he gained no in the house a great deal, I have been to be was somebody's daily governess. ""You forget, Grace, that all our sav.
"You forget, Grace, that all our sav.

teacher was nuable to continue her daily journeys. She had given him the im-pression of one who had to depend upon herself, but the reality might be still to worse; for anything he know me that a doughnut contains about eight times as much fat as is consistent with a doughnut. To overcome this diffi-culty, have gone to considerable philomight be others, even more helpless, de sophical research. By using only one-eighth of the usual, amount of fat for frying them, Mrs. Greekey assured me In spite of his brepeated disappoint-neuts, Mr. Hardman still took his post he doughnuts would burn. By- using eight times as much flour, I would have able excitement which he was unable just eight times as many doughnuts as I wanted. I therefore determined to use eight times the usual quantity of sots. Mrs: (i: mixed up the batter in the A month had passed, it was an un-nsually bright day for January, when My dear, dear wife, forgive; I am Mr. Hardman took his seat in his combread bowh, and having made most ex-act proportions, I put in one pint of sots. The next morning, on entering the kitchen, we found that, our batch of so miserable that it hardly knew what I fortable brougham in company with an said. Oh !'if it had come at another old medical friend, who had agreed to old medical friend, who had agreed to go home with him to dimer on condition that he would allow him to make one or ringo was turned in the direction of Winchløy. Assent was rendily given. "Certainly, doctor, you shall be set down whenever in a stable to the direction of the state of the state of the winchløy. Assent was rendily given. "Certainly, doctor, you shall be set down whenever in the state of the state down the batter, but all to no use. I poured in some fat, but it only spritzed and crackled, and I was montified to

doctor, you shall be set down whenever you wish; I shall not mind waiting in and choreet, and I was morthed to find my experiment a failure, as the doughnuts would not stick together. Too much sots in a doughnut is worse The lock, for we have plenty of time on our hands before dunrer." The doctor was about the same age as his friend the morohant, a portly old goutleman, with the kindest smile that

gontleman, with the kindest smile that could be infagined, and a benevelent face that must have considerably helped the healing-power of his prescriptions. "I will not detain you longer," said he destreet. nuts. To preserve the tone of the doughnut without the fat, I substituted alcohol for lard, but the consequence was that Mrs. G and myself narrowly le street. "This is a new case ; I was only called Escaped with our lives. We only enved three doughnuts out of the batch; two of which we-cat and sent the thard to

in the other day, but I am getting inter-ested in 'my patient-or I should say patients, for there are two, husband and notice of the patient of the patient of the patients, for there are two, husband and wife; my first visit was only to him, poor follow; he is ill from cold and over a control of a situation, and the wife met with an accident about a month ago; cost about seventy-three conts a piece. Lot me hear what your colored citizens are going to do with the school

merchant. "I fear not. As long as she could the a " A severely sprained ankle, caused by

out in the spring. Yours truly, Honacis GREELEY. P. 5.—When passing through Allen-"Bless mo! I wonder it is the blenged to this word by it own while I was the looking out a significant it own while I was the looking out a significant it own while I was the looking out a significant it own while I was the looking out a many wort by he had the was the looking out a many was nowing slowly along in the street; mons quarter of beef on his shoulder; bright about her." I would like to give them another that many we can alight, girlish figure, with a many mony of the about her." I would like to give them another that many mony is the street; mons quarter of beef on his shoulder; bright about her." I would like to give them another that in my green house. I happy the was the look a many we cand the can with the can write the many

ndent upon lier. 🧍

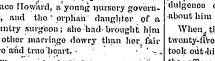
v.

relinquish

about him a most singular whim. When, the quarter had advanced to twenty-five minutes past the hour, he

took out his watch and compared it with The young pair had begun life within the office clock; as he expected, they "Not coming," he muttered : "I

111.



He had been about two years married to Grace Howard, a young nursery govern-

ess, and the orphan daughter of a country surgeon; she had brought him • other marriage dowry than her fair face and true beart.

cart. Philip was a clerk in a mercantile ouse, in the small town of Oldingham.