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until forbid, and charged accordingly.

Boetry. MY BIRTHDAY.

to birthday! oh! what myriad momories sing the chards that have been silent long they are breathing such rich melody at tears and smiles are blended in my heart ets the notes I list. They're coming now a sold exulerance of childish glee; he music sweet is laushed in mournfulness Las, thus in life is over mingled muth. And salmess, light and gloom.

My birthday! oh! I w of hat thou been welcomed by form

And there was one whose smiles was dearer fa-Truey young heart than others o'er could be. Illumining her spirit's depths.

E'en now la thou hast field forever from my gaze, fy angel mother, yes, e'en now I think, I look up to the soft stars at night, hat I can trace the hely radiance thy blest smile that from its realm of bliss less its sweet light of love and purity bearity saddened spirit; and I feel last in thy home in Paradise there'll be place beside my mother for her child en the wild tide of time shall swell above spirit launched upon the boundless sea, are waves shall guide me to eternity,

lise I will dwell in happiness with thee. a comist to me when ghelsome earth i

sch hexariance with fruit and flower: accounts when apring's soft bedding levell-

to burst in summer's brightest, gayest bloom; the yet his sadly I count greet thee now, r the around me seems the sun to throw rend splendor; and the very air theigh screens laden as it fares my check, off c'en nature could divide the thoughts thin the depths of my sail heart.

w very like my spirit, is the month t ushered it into existence. Warm, petuous, impulsive, as the glow at sunlight flings o'er morning's smiling sky at at creation's hour were kindled there e the affections burning in its depths.

right month! thy every levely that must fade fragrant flowers must droop and wither all; Autumn, with its gentle sadness, come;

et, smiling Spring, must come and go ere door was thrown fully open. thou

gladden earth again. And she, perhaps, ally greets thee now, will lie beneath

sat'ring flowers in that sweet dreamless he spake a separate enigma. e'en the very wearlest heart can rest-

s morn and eve bright dew drops, Heaven's

worite flowers—the flowers she used to love

It find her among the living ones of earth. dawn, its light will find her happier, ly welcomed by her joyous smiles. u.s., July 16, 1858

ly ripe peaches from a fruit seller, and green under the skin, the seller having | prehend thems. ted the skins red in order to make them

RIA Coring. (if publish intender plyania-ind mounantike maper copy CHRIS

NCE.

and Missouri They are all demo- had to guess at.

THE MIDNIGHT ASSASSIN.

BY GIACOMO S. CAMPANA.

WHEN I was a much younger man than I No subscription will be taken for a shorter am now, I saw no inconsiderable portion of Europe, with a knapsack on my shoulders. France particularly, I traversed, in its length and breadth, on foot. It is the only mode of travelling that was ever satisfactory to me. Above all things, I like to be free, untrammelled and independent; and travelling with could secure these requisites in anything like perfection

The knapsack, to be sure, must not be too large or too heavy; and to keep it from becoming so, it is indispensably necessary to send the weighty articles ahead, establishing certain depots, or head-quarters, along the route, and putting upon your back only a few changes of i nen, for present use.

But I am neither writing a eulogy on pedestrianism nor a hand-book for the practice of it. Eleough of this, therefore.

"Once upon a time," in the early fall season, just as the vineyards were beginning to blush with the ripening of the grapes, was trudging along a solitary mountain path leading from Lous-le-Sauluier to the village of St. Amour, in the Department of Jura It was a wildly picturesque and romantic region. My way, for the most part, lay along a beautiful stream, a tributary of the Ain; and the attractions of the scenery had given me so many excuses for loitering, that it was becoming every moment more and more evident that it would be impossible for me to reach Sc. Amour that night.

As the sun left me, I was descending into a much more level country, but still a wild and uncultivated one, affording no sign of human habitation. The twilight passed away, the shades of night descended, and the stars came out, one by one, and looked as though they were winking and blinking at me, in mockery at my vaiu attempt to find a place of shelter.

For more than an hour I groped along the uncertain path, inwardly berating myself for He, a was a saide wreathed by the hallow'd light | the tazy, leitering, lounging disposition which had led me into such an extremely disagree-

At last, I sat down upon a wayside boul der, and resting my chia upon the palm of my right hand, I began to reflect seriously upon what was the best course for me to pursue. I felt that I might walk on half the night without finding a shelter, and I was therefore not long in coming to a conclusion that I could not do a better thing than to take the boulder for a bolster, the knapsack for a pillow, and all out-of-doors in general for a bed to lie upon till next morning.

While making the few arrangements neces sary for the disposal of my person in this eminently primitive and unnecessarily aired bed chamber, my cars were saluted by the welcome sound of the barking of a dog. Hastily picking up my pillow and the rest of noise, "travelling by the bark," as the backwoodsmen do, when they distinguish the While tying in this condition, I heard a iosa growing upon them.

This light a followed up steadily until it directly below.

true and changeless too as the bright rays unshuttered window, on the ground-floor.

As I approached the door, I heard the till called off by a hardly less villanous-look- | would let him alone. ing man Hu was a tall, dark-browed The half-whispered conversation still went Winter's cheerful hours must pass, and peasant, with a sour, forbidding look, as I on below, and with increasing animation. I my ability to make a creditable resistance I

fly, with a patois that rendered every word ally make out their meaning.

two hundred.

place and St. Amour?" asked I. the enigmatical peasant.

prayer is now that when her birthday next the way was strewed with gold Napoleons."

but which I will not now undertake to ex- on one side, and the old woman, with one of After the dull sound of the retreating foot-The New York News states that a themselves nearly unintelligible to those who as I could make out, some being in an entire next? The murderous wretch assuredly would purchased some beautiful red and ap- speak it in its purity, are nevertheless able, and others in a fragmentary condition. Am- not forego his horrid purpose because of such most generally, to understand what is said ong them were the following: by the latter tolerably well-much better | "Rich? To be sure he's rich, or well off then, was he preparing to do? mon peeling them he found them per- than the said pure speakers are able to com- at any rate, if he does travel on foot."

peared to understand my French (which was thousand francs He has a ring, too, on his compulsory inaction, in such cases, is harder Ten members have been elected to the Parisian as fur as it was anything) very finger, that I'm almost sure is a diamond; for to beat than any thing else

In the last house they stood seven After my broad hint about the ledging, have told you." This does the man eyed me attentively from head to "But haven't I told you, over and over-" ready one leg out of the bed, when a sudden Well, well, I see you all will have interruption of the oppressive silence attracted

might take a notion to repent of it, I shot | With my teeth chattering and my hair acthrough the door with all possible expeditually bristling with horror, I rose and stole

built very much after the same pattern as thus coolly doomed to destruction. the man, and evidently his wife. Both of | The room was quite dark, but there was,

a knapsack is the only way in which I ever place were as unlike the jolly, good-natured, of this sort, I knew it would be altogether un-

fied with the place and the people, and I be-gan to have serious doubts whether it would Besides the old people, there were now five would have been unpleasant enough to have whether the "big one" or the "little one" hang-dog looking mortals; but in this wild, at them my attention was attracted by a harsh

umstances, was not rather too good to be altogether an honest one.

When one's gastric apparatus is highly in this instance. My misgivings disappeared one by one, and by the time I was ready for | ned to make a jump for it. bed I was ready to laugh to seem all my fooland an empty stomach.

I was shown up a dilapidated staircase into a bedroom over that in which I supped. It contained two beds, one of which was already occupied, apparently by a traveller who had preceded me. The beds were placed, with their heads towards each other, near the wall farthest from the door. With this anexpected room-mate I would willingly have dispensed, but there was no help for it, so I wisely | doors. determined to think no more about him, and go to sleep as soon as possible.

But resolutions of this kind are sometimes not quite so easily kept as made. Weary as I was, I found it impossible to put such a tether upon my thoughts as would serve to keep them in decent subjection to my will .-They would wander away, like unruly childeen, running into all sorts of out-of-the-way nooks and corners, in spite of my exertions to prevent them. By-and-by I began to grow nervous, to a ridiculous extent, and to be anmy bed-furniture (belster excepted) in one noved by the most trifling noises, so that even hand, I started off in the direction of the the loud breathing of my somnolent companion was a torment to me.

north from the south side of the trees by the maise at the door of the cottage, which was seen afterwards opened, giving admission to The bark did not last long enough to be of | several persons-men, doubtless-the noise much use to me, in and of itself, but it led me to of whose wooden shoes was distinctly audible. make an important discovery, namely, a light | Presently, too, I heard their voices, though shining in the same direction, which had pre- in suppressed tones, and soon afterwards i viously been constaled by a patch of swampy | could see a light streaming through the maground covered with a growth of stunted by cracks and crevices of the floor; for they were in the same room where we had supped,

led me to a small stone house, standing in | This incident brought back all my distrust, solitary bleakness upon the desolate-looking and in a magnified form. Who were these moor. The light proceeded from a lamp or men, visiting this lonely cottage at such an tipathy to cold steel. "Villanous saltpetre," candle shining through an uncurtained and unusual hour? That they came for any good and its compounds, are nothing to it. I bore purpose was altogether unlikely.

bark again, and this time the dog accom- I wake him? Perhaps he was an accomplice against one of my ribs-then I "caved in," panied it. It was a villanous-looking our, of the people below. Perhaps he was put and acknowledged myself a scared man. and it sharled and shapped about my beels there on purpose that I might waken him. I

could see by the increased light when the could no longer refrain from listening to it. "Good evening." said I. "Will you be on one side, placed my ear directly over one I could readily seize it, I cocked the pistols, kind enough to tell me how far it is to St. of the holes. In this position I could hear and held one in each hand, just underneath "About two leagues," said the man, gruf- to think over the words, I could very gener- result with such calmness as I could command

I soon found that there was an animated As far as my capabilities were concerned, discussion going on among them, but it was naked foot, but nevertheless a heavy one, rethe two leagues might just as well have been some time before I could form any distinct sounded upon the stairs. The room door was idea of what it was. By degrees, however, "Is there any public house between this enough of the truth unfolded itself to make me feel very decidedly uncomfortable. Cloth-"There is no house of any kind," replied ed in a patois so excessively uncouth, many of the ideas expressed must necessarily slip "In that case, my friend, you will have to by me; but still, as I have stated, I managed supply me with a ladging for the night. I to make out the most of it, and what I did to long trial, during which my feelings were

right end foremost. It is a fact which I have often observed, The majority of the speakers seemed to be the attempt, and gave it up.

Of this phenomenon I had an example in woman) "I noticed his gold watch, and I terrible danger hanging over your head, while this instance The dark-faced peasant ap- am very certain it couldn't be bought for a all efforts to avert its fall are denied you. The

if I liked, but I would find his accommoda- it your own way; but still I must sry that if my attention. It was a noise outside, but of New Orleans on the 26th ult.

tions of the poorest quality. Of that I felt persuaded already, but I had not the slightest idea of refusing his invitation; and lest he er reason why I think—" what nature I could not for some time determine.

While I sat with my eyes and ears both in-

softly to the bedside of my sleeping compan-Inside was a tall, dark-browed woman, ion, to see whether he or I was the 'big one'

them looked to be over sixty years of age. nevertheless, light enough to verify the fact, The woman nodded, without saying a word, the fatal fact, that the man in the other bed and then pointed to a rickety old chair, in was decidedly below the middle size, while I which I was glad enough to seat myself

The house and furniture were much like those of the French peasants generally; but degree of latitude. I had expected nothing the sour-looking, taciturn occupants of the better, it is true, for, in a casual comparison talkative rustics I had been in the habit of reasonable for me to aspire to the hope of tursceing in my travels, as could well be imagin- ning out to be a "little one." Yet it was

The longer I stayed the worse I was satis- | the greater part of the room below, and hear, |

not have been better to have trusted myself or six young men, stout, strong, stalwart, to the tender mercies of the open heath. It strapping fellows; all debating the question been cooped up anywhere with two such should have his throat cut. While looking solitary spot, many miles away from any hu- I grating sound in one corner Ugh! it was inte anxiety.

It turned out, however, that the supper which they set before me was by no means a my eyes had ever rested upon. Even when lying quietly in a knife box, such an instrument has a "pokerish" look; but just imagine bad one, and its discussion had a decided ten- it undergoing the process of sharpening pre-

Huaian nature could stand no more! I jumped up, and, as hastily as I possibly co'd, strung by exercise, a really good meal has a without making a noise, I slipped on my newonderfully fortifying effect. I found it so ther garment, took the rest of my effects in my hand, and went to the window, determi-

Just as I was beginning cautiously to open ish suspicions, as mere baseless nonentities, the window, my proceedings were suddenly engendered by irritated corns, aching legs, brought to a stand still by a glimpse of one of the tall young men, standing like a sensinel directly beneath the place where I was. Still determined to get out, if possible, crossed to the window on the opposite side,

which was in front of the house. But escape in that quarter was still less practicable, for the door was open, and some one of the people on the inside was every now and then coming to the threshold, if not quite out of Like a hunted beast, I knew not which way

to turn; but at all events' escape, for the present at least, was impracticable. I returned to the hole in the floor. The very tallest, and the ugliest, too, of the whole batch, was taking off his sabots-his wooden shoeswith one hand, while he held that horrible knife with the other. After the shees were removed, he felt the edge of the knife, and with diabolical complacency exclaimed:-"I'll cut his throat with that, and do it so

dick that he'll never know it!" If you had been in my place, dear reader, dare say you would have acted very bravely, and I dare say you will feel a great deal of contempt for me because I was not more courageous; but I must "tell the truth an I shame the devil," though I am sorely afraid that it will look more like shaming myself

The simple truth is, that I was just about as thoroughly scared as any one could well be, so much so that my knees actually smote together as I staggered off to my bed. It was that long bladed, sharp-pointed, buckhorn-handled, pekerish-looking knife that did the business. I have always had a moral anit all tolerably well, till I saw that murderous My room-mate still slept soundly. Should man-sticker, and fancied that I felt it grating

I was not so abjectly frightened, however, as not to take the necessary steps for defending myself, nor was I at all doubtful about had a brace of loaded pistols and a dirk, be-I arose from my bed, and lying upon the floor neath my tillow. Placing the dagger where much of what was said, and by taking time | the bedelothes. In this position I waited the

> I was not kept long in suspense. Less than five minutes had elapsed, when the tread of a fastened by a wooden belt, tolerably stout. Would the midnight assassin break it open?

He did not. When he found that it was fastened, he fumbled about it for some time, with some sort of an instrument, trying, I suppose, to push the bolt back. After a pretcouldn't travel another league if evey foot of get hold of I felt very sure of having secured certainly not of a very enviable character, he became satisfied, apparently, of the futility of

plain, that those who murder their mether- | the men, on the other. What the question | steps had died away, a profound silence reigntongue in the most hideous manner, making | was I was left to infer from such expressions | ed throughout the place. What was to come a triffing obstacle as a wooden bolt. What,

of Congress from two States -Ar | well, while at least half the words of his I I know about such things better than any of At last, the noiseless, motionless suspense you. But still I go for the little one, as I became so intolerable, that I resolved to waken my companion, at all hazards. I had al-

. .

tent upon catching something from the quarter whence the sound appeared to proceed, I saw a light shining from without upon the window opposite my bed, and presently a human hand, with that terrible knife in it, was produced from behind a curtain which hung tures? It isn't the color nor the drawing before the the window

behind the curtain. The curtain itself was of the long-haired, bad hatted genty who fastened at each of the four corners, by bits paint pictures, and they never agreed what it of tape, to nails driven in the wall. There was. It is a sort of mellow complexion over was something unearthly in the look of that the whole thing, and is as different from bony hand, brandishing the long, glittering color as the bloom upon a ripe grape or plum

direct its motions, the armless hand plied the ence ? No? Well, then, come to Nahant, ed. Hoping that their reserve would wear with a more tottering step, and a still further knife until the two lower tapes were cut; it and you can study every variety of blush off, I rattled away upon all sorts of topics, sinking of the heart, that I resumed my post then proceeded to turn the button, and care- and bom upon the ripening fruit in Mr. and did my best to arouse their curiosity of observation.

fully and noiselessly to open the sash, which an undertaking in which I had never yet Feeling a desire to see as well as hear, I was fixed upon hinges. Now the whole arm fences, that strain these rough sea winds failed in the cot of a French peasant-but all searched out a still larger hole, and put my made its appearance, then the right shoulder, into soft zephyrs before they touch his trees. eye to it. I found that I could get a view of then the head, and finally the entire raw-boned long-limbed body.

very muscular, and perhaps my superior in strength. My only hope was in my weapons, or rather in my pistols. He carried a small dark-lantern, and suffered just light enough to escape to direct him to his object. His first act, after he had fairly entered, was to turn the light first upon my face, and then man habitation, the unpleasantness might one of the tall young men whetting one of upon that of my companion. This was done well be excused for degenerating into absolute most underiably murderous looking knives with a great deal of care and caution, and as French woman will make you handsome and one of us was sleeping soundly, and the other pretending to do so, his scrutiny, no doubt, terminated in a perfectly satisfactory manner.

With the stealthy step of a prowling tiger, dency to raise my spirits, though I felt sev- paratory to making acquaintance with your the fellow approached my bedside, with the full with women. Young men get over it eral times a vague disposition to ask myself own jugulars and carotids—I tell you what, lantern in one hand and that fearful knife in by brayado—older men with a kind of silent, the question whether the supper, under the now, it is not a thing to joke about, at all, the other His gaze was now fastened upon me, superior, condescending air Now, if you d my eyelids were open just enough to enable me to see what he was doing, without

his being aware of it He paused. Slowly and carefully I disengaged from the bedelothes the muzzle of my right hand pistol, and levelled it at his heart. His next step 1 was resolved should be his my forefinger upon the trigger, and gradually increased the pressure, so as to make the discharge of the weapon simultaneous with the next forward movement. He moved-but it was to turn upon his heel and walk away towards the bed of my companion. The "little one" then was to be the victim, after all. Astonishment for an instant almost paralysed me, but then came the thought, can I lie quietly here while that poor fellow is murdered within a few feet of me? Humanity forbid!

I should feel like an accomplice in the crime Still grasping the pistol, I raised myself quietly with my other arm, and beheld-the young peasant very quietly removing, from a little pen between the two beds, a rabbit! There were two of them, a 'big one" and

"little one," and it was the former of course, that the "midnight assassin" was after, with the fixed resolution to cut his throat that night, and have him ready for our early breakfast next morning, at all hazards.

Yes, dear reader, there was nobody in danger of midnight assassination but the rabbit. The worthy old couple and their six sons constituted a very respectable family. That unmitigated old scamp Piron quotes that still unmitigateder old scamp Rabelais as saying, of anything more bipedal than a rabbit, or at

least a chicken. Poor though they were, these humble people were resolved to do the best they could for "the stranger within their gates," who they agreed was "rich, or at least well off," (a mistake by the way.) and therefore accustuned to good living. The more frugal mother, and one of the sons, contended that the for the "big one," and honest Jean Louis | where could be stay, or what could be do !clared that it should bleed that night,

of them say: "Vla qui est fini-nous allons or sit so amiably in the parlor, I think the manger le gros lapin," But I had often heard | manners of the reverend gentleman would be the word lapin used as about synonymous so winning and entertaining that the young with our slang term "coce;" and manger is men would view him without jealousy and daily employed to convey the idea of putting | the eld without cynicism. The young women

an end to a thing, in any fashion. I have merely to add that as it was considered an important point not to disturb the stranger, when Jean Louis found the door bolted, and was unable to open it, he procured a ladder and got in at the window, taking the knife along with him merely for the purpose of cutting the tapes of the window-curtain, and retaining it in his hand afterwards. He other dreams of the night would the fancy was so busily engaged that he saw nothing of

my movement with the pistol. I never made any allusion to my blunder, and to this day worthy Jean Louis, has no idea that he was ever so near being food for gunpowder. My room mate, who was a dis- son's merals were good, but his manners tant relative, and from a distant part of the were certainly offensive. country, too, was not disturbed, and, the sight of the rabbit having dissipated all my Johnson? You have seen me whirling in misgivings, I was seen at ease in the arms the polka with Tom Dyce at the hotel, or

of Morpheus. In the morning of course, all became clear to me. I found that the presence of the young man under the window, where I supposed he had been placed as a sort of sentinel, was altogether accidental The unusual soberness There are few situations more trying, even of the old people was also easily accounted for. "Well, I don't dispute it." (This was the to the strongest nerves, than one like this; a They had, only the day before, buried a beloved child-a lovely little girl-the hope and joy of their declining years. This did not however, prevent them from giving me a very good breakfast, nor did it prevent me from giving them a practical illustration of my revised version of the ambiguous phrase-man-

ger le taupin, (to eat the rabbit.) Sixty deaths resulted from yellow feyer in men. You profess to honor us-your mouths

What it is to be a Belle.

BY A BELLE.

It isn't enough to be pretty and modest to be a belle. Good manners are not in the secret, neither is great beauty alone, though that comes nearer than anything else. But don't you know what people call tone in piconly-it is a sort of something not to be de-I knew there was a broken pane of glass scribed; at least, I have asked a great many With just light enough thrown upon it to fruit-or did you never notice the differvery much as a fine tooth-comb would transform the rummy breath of any old sailor on Though tall and spare, the intruder was the coast into a kind of music before it pol-

luted a baby's lungs. All this means tact. To be a belle it is necessary to be handsome, well made, of great good manners, and of consummate tact. Now, any girl can have almost anypositively squint-eyed or of deformed resoof good figure. Manners you must manage for yourself. I have found the best rule perfect kindness-I mean, of course, kindness of manner. Most men are a little bashstudy never to take advantage of this shyness, which makes men doubly sensitive-so that many a clever man is conscious of being a perfect fool with women-if you never wound them by look, or word, or insinuation, or implication, and never seem to league with any one man against any other-why a little last. His right foot moved forward. I pressed ludierous flattery of manner only, not of words, does the whole business-the man is

Have you never noticed that very "smart" women are never belles? There are, of course, what may be called "loud" young ladies from some western cities, and from New York, sometimes, who smoke and drink sherry-cobblers at night, and call the gentlemen by their christian names, and are always very conspicuous; but there is the same difference between such people and belles that there is between notoriety and fame.

The difficulty is that tact is not to be taught It is the sublimest sympathy constantly on the alert. Its aim is to pleasepositively, by saying and doing what is agreeable; and negatively, by omitting all allusions that are not so. "Never speak of hemp to a man whose father was hanged." is the negative way of stating fact. "Ail things to all men," is the positive way. There is no need of asking me about the morality of this. I am treating of belles and manners, not of saints and moral philoso-

One thing, however, I am free to say to you in strict confidence; and that is, that Call me secondrel, thief, liar, robber, and good manners are not always indicative of assassin, if you will, but call me not respecta- good morals. I mean, of course, using the ble." But, in spite of the wittiest of French- word manners in the usual sense. If you men, we must assert that our young peasant | see a man or woman every day, you would was much too respectable to be the assassin naturally presently discover their sympathics and tastes. They would be ray them involuntarily. For instance, if a man cared nothing for children-if he were impatient or ill-tempered-he could conceal it for some time, but not for a long time, unless he had some very desirable end to serve by playing a huge and difficult game.

But for all that, if the great D --- should ever come to Nahaut, or Newport, or Saralittle rabbit would do, but the majority voted | toga, which, of course, he never does-for whetted his knife, put off his sabots, and de- and, entering his name upon the book as the Rev. Mr. Lamb, should mingle in the I may here mention that I heard some one | charming groups that swarm along the piazza. would consider disparity of years nothing where hearts were truly united; and the old ladies would seriously ponder how much they might reduce the necessary figures for their daughters, in consideration of certain personal advantages in the husband. Old and young would go to bed charmed with the manners of their new acquaintance; nor, among the obtrude itself that, when the Rev. Mr. Lamb went off, he disappeared in smoke, and that the gentlemanly companion of an eyening could such an awful "tale unfold."

On the other hand, I suppose Dr. John-

You are surprised that I speak of Dr. racing over the beach with him in his wagon Very well, it is true, I am that young lady. I wear two bracelets and ear-rings, and these very hoopy skirts. I bowl, bathe, dance, dine, flirt, drive, sigh, smile, pick up mosses, and wander over the rocks in a broad brimmed hat and a very becoming morning dress, which the girls here will call peignor, apparently not knowing that peignor is the dressing-gown-mine is a short gown, in which we sit when the hair is being brushed. I am that same young lady-aged somewhere between seventoen and twenty-three, and I have spoken of Dr. Johnson-I know about him and about a good many others, and you are surprised. That is always the way with froth with compliments. Suddenly we show