

My mother replied, "that I was proud and ungrateful—that Mr. Carlos had raised me out of the dirt, and I ought to be ready to lay down my life to serve him."

I returned. She grew angry, and for the first time in my life, she went to bed without kissing and bidding me good-night, or wishing that God might bless me.

I fell the commission keenly. It seemed as if my good eyes had forsaken me. I was alone for a long time sitting and brooding over the fate of the commission. My thoughts were full of sin. I went to the cupboard where my mother kept a few simple medicines and a small bottle of brandy, in case of accidents or sudden illness. I hated ardent spirits, and seldom took anything stronger than a cup of tea or milk, or when very tired, a little home-brewed ale. But this night I took a large glass of brandy. The first liquor I ever drank in my life. Strapped and overpowered, I soon found relief from torturing thoughts in a heavy, stupid sleep.

Breakfast was on the table when I unclasped my eyes. The remains of the brandy were replaced in the cupboard, and my poor mother was regarding me with a sad countenance and tearful eyes.

"Oh you are ill, Noah, last night?"

"I am," I confessed head-down.

"And you did not tell me?"

"Oh you parted with me in anger, mother, I felt so miserable. I never had a quarrel before, and I took the brandy to raise my spirits. It had a contrary effect. It made me drunk, for the first time in my life."

"I hope it will be the last."

"Yes; if the repetition does not prove more agreeable. My temples throbbing, my limbs tremble—everything is diseased. Who could feel pleasure in a rice pudding?"

"Habit, Noah, reconciles us to many things that at first awaken only aversion and disgust. All pleasure which has its foundation in sin must end in self-condemnation. Drunkenness is one of those vices which when first indulged creates the deepest shame and humiliation, but custom renders it a terrible necessity."

My mother could preach well against any vice to which she was not particularly inclined. Her lessons were like a glass of wine of spirits in my life. This was a word of indignation; all strong drinks were disagreeable to her taste.

I took a cup of tea, and after immersing my head in cold water, the nausea from which I was suffering gradually abated, and I soon felt well again. While I was standing at the open window I saw Adam Haws and Bill Martin pass by. They were in earnest conversation. I called to Adam and asked him, "if he were going to the circus tonight?"

He answered, "That it depended upon the loan of a horse. Harry Barber had promised them his; but it had broken pasture, and they were going in search of it."

I did not believe this statement. I was certain that it was intended for a blind fold. Adam said that, in case he did not find Barber's horse, I would lend him mine. He was a profane of thanks, but did not accept my offer. He was certain that he would find the animal himself, and was going to drive over his farm tomorrow, and my mare did not go in harness. I took no notice of his companion. For many months we had never spoken to each other—not even to exchange salutations. At four o'clock in the afternoon I heard that they were drinking in the tavern just out of the village. If I did not keep my appointment with Squire Carlos, I felt convinced that they would

[TO BE CONTINUED]

The Man who Advertised his Farm, and the Man that did Not

Every body is acquainted with Sam A. Walker, Esq., the celebrated auctioneer, and almost every body has an opinion as to why he sells every thing he can lay his hands upon. The auctioneer was sitting in his office, reading one of the daily papers, when a well appearing man entered and inquired for Mr. Walker. The auctioneer said in his happiest manner that he was the individual, and at the same time desired his visitor to be seated. The stranger gave his name, and said he was a stranger on the board, and he had come to the city on business. He stated to Mr. Walker that he was a man of property, and he had some land in the State of New York. He stated to Mr. Walker that he was a man of property, and he had some land in the State of New York. He stated to Mr. Walker that he was a man of property, and he had some land in the State of New York.

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