XIII

MIDDLEBURGH, SNYDER CO., PENN'A, NOVEMBER 17, 1887

When the frost is on the pumpkin and

the fodder in the shock, And we hear the kyouck and the gobble of the struttin' turkey cock, And the clackin' of the guineys and

the clookin' of the hens. And the rooster's hallylooler as he

tiptops on the fence; O, it's then the times a feller is afeelin' at his best,

With the risin' sun to greet him from a night of peaceful rest,

As he leaves the house bareheaded and goes out to feed his stock, When the frost is on the pumpkin and

the corn is in the shock. There's something kindo' hearty-like

about the atmosphere When the heat of summer's over and the cooling fall is here-Of course, we miss the flower and the

blossoms on the trees. And the muble of the humming-birds and buzzin' of the bees; But the air's so appetizin' and the

landscape through the haze Of a crisp and sunny morning of the early autum days

Is a picture that no painter has the eolorin' to mock-

When the frost is on the pumpkin and the fodder in the shock. The husky, rusty rustle of the tassel on

the corn. And the raspin' of the tangled leaves. as golden as the morn ;

The stubble in the furries-kind o lonesome-like and still

A-preachin' sermons to us of the barns they helped to fill; The straw-stack in the meader, and

and the reaper in the shed; The hosses in their stall below-the clover overhead-

O, it set my heart a clickin' like the tickin' of a clock,

When the frost is on the pumpkin and and the fodder's in the shock.

CARRYING OUT A JOKE.

A snowy, blustery, windy, stormy evening, verging towards night An evening in which even a dog would have besitated to leave the shelter of bis kennel, but through the blinding drifts a slender girl, well wrapped from the cold, was struggling on to

Her face, bidden by a brown veil. could but dimly be seen, yet her figure and step showed her to be young. She carried a dressmaker's basket on her arm, and was evidently a serving girl, returning from bre daily tasks.

As she turned a corner she ran fairly against a gentleman who was harrying in an opposite direction.

'Beg pardon, Miss!' he hastily exclaimed, as be put his bands out to prevent her falling. A gust of wind blew her veil aside, and he suddenly added, 'Wby, it is Miss Daroall What can she be doing out on such an evening!

'I have been sewing at Miss Elliott's all day,' returned the girl, '! tried to get through one dress, but ly could not. And it got too late to stay longer, I am taking it home to finish.

'And did Laura allow you to come so far alone, in this storm, at this late bour?' cried the young man, a pleasant !' thrill of indignation in his tones. 'She should have kept you all night.

'Ob, no, I could not stay. It would leave my mother all alone!' hastily said the girl.

'Very well, I cannot let you carry turned Norton Davis, kindly, 'So

just give it to me.'

liott might not like it! 'Nonsense/' answered Norton,

'Miss Elliot would not like me if I She attempted to quiz Eva about sweet, sweet Eva! Will you dar- intimated to them the truth-there ply." did so ungentlemanly an act as to Mr. Davis' attentions to her, and ling? Could you learn to love me?' was no hope. leave you in this storm. So just succeeded in tormenting the sensi- He drew her head to his shoulder, hand me that basket, and let us has- tive girl until she imagined that and Eva, bewildered, frightened but them, who would tell her.

way!' said Mis Darnall, as he took by her own cruelty. the basket from her half-frozen fin-

return!' he said, smiling.

growing duck so fast. It would be make him help me to my revenge ! He urged it at once, saying there Not-there was only one other. dark before she could reach home and she was afraid Surely if Mr. For there was born in Laura's brain, tirely free. Laura berself had set from the book he had been playing Davis was willing to be so kind just then, a plan for revenge cruel him free, and he would like to make with unnoticed by them all and askwas no harm in accepting his kind- enough for a fiend much more for a Eva his own before any gossip got ed gravely :

turbed even when, a moment or two Be very cautious, lest you cut your ing her merely because he really lov- wer he sped from the room and up- "Can you explain how you calcu later, a handsome sleigh dashed by, own fingers !

'Mr. Davie, I am afraid she will be him be too attentive !'

'A pleasant walk to you!'

When the Frost is on the Pumpkin. displeased at your walking with

'I have answered you once on that point, Miss Darnall. But I will ex-

home, glad and grateful for his pro- love her a little ! tection.

this slender girl out to walk alone outrage another. in the storm.

did not think she could be so unkind to your scheme?' he asked. to this modest, lady-like little thing!

be thought. bappy Laura ought to be with the the fan, love and care of such a man. There for ber !

'Laura rode on, furiously jealous little, mean jealousy which only a shallaw, selfish nature can feel-

room every day when he was there do with your 'joke.'

I'll not do it again, I'm sure !' So the next day when Norton Davis came for his usual call, Miss Elliott must seem very much in earnest, me; and turned my heart from you and the polish which makes him easy met him at the door of the sewing room, and took him into the par-

After a few moments she said to

·How long since have you been taking evening walks with my seam-

Norton colored slightly, but it was with indignation at her tone not at what he had done. In a few rapid words be explained to her how be happened to be with Eva.

'I am sure you would not have had me do otherwise,' he added, gently Laura tossed her head and answered speeringly:

Of course, if you want to const tute yourself the squire of all the forlorn damsels you meet, it's noth ing to me! I dare say you enjoyed

'I should have enjoyed seeing you take her home in your own sleigh, Laura, said Norton, very gravely.

'What?' and Laura's eyes flashed. 'No. thank you! I only contracted to furnish her work, not to constitute myself her associate after- you.

wards. I leave that for you!' Norton was stung into retorting. 'I certainly found her society very gether.

'I dare say! Pleasanter than miue, no doubt !' snapped Laura.

'Come, child, this is unbecoming to you and me,' said Norton, gravely. Do not let us quarrel over a ly earnest air for a man who was are dependent at this moment upon matter that is really nothing.'

'He changed the subject at once. that heavy basket so far 'alone,' ' re- But Laura did not forget it. Too joke ! It is as true as truth can be ! A few weeks ago the young wife she was yet proud of Norton's wealth have seen how good and true and die.

with her rights, even in fancy. Eva's blushes and confusion were oh! so happy, let it lie there, as she Bat it will take you out of your caused by thoughts of Norton, not confessed that she had learned al-

'The little fool has dared to fall is Laura excused E-a from working love with him herself l' she thought, any more, and Norton took her be left childless and alone ! 'Not so far but that I shall speedily in a jealous rage. 'Oh, but I'll pun- home, where he asked, and gained Eva resisted no more, It was her out ! And Norton, too! I'll, riage.

woman. Take care Miss Laura! wind, He convinced both Eva and 'Is my mamma doing to die?' So she walked on, and was undis- You are playing with edged tools! her mother that he was not marry- Then without waiting for an ans-

and Laura Elliott's voice said with a 'Well, Miss Darnall,' she said. py. She needed his care and his carry him. mocking tone which Norton knew turning to Eva with that wicked pleasant home, he said, and as last Friends and neighbors were explained or taught. It comes to a well, though innocent Eva did smile still on her face, 'I will pardon she consented. you both this time. But you see, So while Laura sat at home that wonderingly noticed the pale face of Mr. Davis has fallen in love with afternoon, laughing over her fine fan, the child as he climbed on the bed son that failed in mathematics at col-

Eva, coloring painfully.

plain it to Mise Elliott, to satisfy you | Laura. 'I dare say he'll tell you so with a minister-Miss Eva, you had better take my some time, and if he does, I yield Eva had tremblingly arrayed her-

likes you better,' And Eva placed her hand upon And Miss Laura flounced out of upon the floor, leaning upon Norton everybody, he whispered. 'Mamma. the arm of Norten Davis, who was the room, leaving poor, frightened Davis' arm, and the Reverend Doctor dear 'ittle mamma, donn' be 'fraid to to marry Laura Elliott in a month- Eva to cry and think, and to wish- Barbour was speaking the magic die, 'ill you.' indeed, it was a part of one of the oh, so much ! that it were not wrong words which made her Norton's wedding dresses she had in that bas- to think of Norton and to hope that wife ket-and walked on to her humble some day some one like him might

An evening or two later Laura She did not know that in his heart revealed her plan to Norton, and Laura Elliott herself! Norton was severely condemning the besought his aid to carry out her heartlessness of the selfish who could 'good joke' on Eva. Norton looked wrong in him to clasp Eva to his come directly the same road in her at her aghast. He could not believe beart and kiss her as he did the very warm, comfortable sleigh, yet send one woman could be willing so to moment the ceremony was ended; up his little hand,

'Laura, are you in earnest ! Do 'I knew Laura was selfish, but I you actually wish me to lend myself

'Certainly I do. It will be the At her mother's door, he bade Eva She will think it is all in earnest, but an earnest minister of the gosgood-night, and burried back. While and won't she be sold, when she finds pel and doing a very daring thing baby Charlie said : 'It was all light she went into the house thinking how it is only a joke?' And Laura besides ! kind and noble he was and how laughed heartily in anticipation of

Norton looked steadily at her, and would never be anything like that kept down a feeling which wanted to show itself in his face.

'I think she will, indeed !' he said, at meeting them together, with the grimly. 'Well, Laura, I consent Only you must break the ice for me. Since you began it you must carry it 'I dare say he walks home with her a little further. I don't know just every night !' she thought 'Eva how to begin such an affair. You Darnall is a pretty little thing, and say the first words, and I'll follow. I've been a fool to let her be in the Otherwise, I'll not have anything to

then she might have besitated to go est. on with her plan.

the room where she usually worked, she found Miss Laura and Davis

Turning, with a blush, she was about to retire instantly from the room, when Miss Laura called out: 'Come in, Miss Dargall. We were waiting for you!'

'For me ?' repeated Eva, pansing,

You come here and shut the door. Mr. Davis bas something to say to you, and he is afraid you will be augry, so I have agreed to belo him. Miss Darnell, Mr. Davis and I mutually agreed that we are tired of each other, and have broken our engagement. He wishes to marry you and he is afraid to ask you. There, new. I've told it; settle it between

And Laura vanished from the room, leaving Norton and Eva to-

Eva, too, tried to run away.

'Oh, let me go !' this is too cruel a

But Norten caught her and held Worse than the dark before." ber fast, as he said, with a singularplaying a joke:

:No, by Heaven, Eva, it is not a shine of their lives.

ready, and promised what he seked.

And she smiled—a terrible smile was no need of waiting. He was en- and at this moment be looked up tors?" ed her and wanted to make her hap- stairs as fast as his little feet would late?"

you, and I shan't like it if you let and waiting to hear from Norton and laid his small head on his moth- lege, and it doesn't appear in any how soon the wedding would take er's pillow.

'Ob, Miss Elliott! How can you place, that she might assist in carry- 'Mamma.' he asked in sweet caay such cruel things?' pleaded poor ing out the farce, a neighbor or two ressing tones, 'is you 'fraid to die?' met in Mrs. Darnall's pretty cottage The mother looked at him with 'Tisn't cruel, it's true !' jusisted and very soon Norton Davis came in swift intelligence. Perhaps she had

arm .- These drifts are getting ted- my claim ! I don't want him if he self in her beat dress, and in a few asked, faintly. moments more she was standing

> 1f Norton Davis was carrying out s joke he was doing it in a manner so cruel as to exceed even Miss

And it was, in that case, very 'ill be all light there.' and whisper:

one's taking from me !'

Really, Norton Davis wore a very strange manner for a man who was best joke in the world !' cried Laura. deceiving not only a trusting girl,

That night Laura waited for Norton, who would come to tell her bow ber plan prospered. She would have to lend him to his new lady-love for few days, but afterwards she would be fully repaid for that, by enjoying his thousands of admirers on this her reverence upon poor Eva.

There was a ring at the door. 'There he comes I' thought Laura But it was not Norted, only a note from him And it read thus:

'Laura. Eva and I were married this afternoon, as fast as Church, State and Dr. Barbonr could tie us-'All right, I'll do that much,' said When you thought 1 would lend nobility. Despite his wild life he Laura, gayly. 'But you know you myself to such a deed, you mistook early managed to acquire an education Norton, or she will not believe you. forever. 1 broke with you in earn- even in royal society.

Forton Davis.' Poor Laura ! She ges a cry, and sank, balf senseless; in her chair. She had played with sharp toolsand cut herself to the beart.

Laura is now fast growing into a cross old maid And whenever she are due to her. sees Norton Davis and his happy wife drive by, she thinks of the past not perfection. Under date: "Buffalo and vainly wishes that she had been Bill's Wild West Co., London, Sept 19 true and kind like Eva. and never 1887," D. W. Shoemaker of the Cowthought of playing so wicked and Boy Band writes: "Some weeks ago beartless a joke against the peace of an innocent girl. And she knows that her punishment is a just one.

SHE HAD PASSED BEYOND

PAINS OF A MOTHER.

Children are happy conselors They are to our bard, practical, everyday lives what the stars are to the beavens, or the flowers and birds to the earth.

"Ah what would the world be to us If the children were no more ? We should dread the desert behind me

There is a family in this city who a little child for all the present sun-

Oh, please not, Mr. Davis! said and position, and of her own distinc- gentle you are, and I love you, and I It was so sudden, so dreadful ran his pencil up the columns and put the girl, blushing deeply, Miss El- tion, as his fiance. And she could want you for my own little wife! when the grave family physician down the total in less time than it not tolerate the least interference If you will have me, 1 will try all called them together in the parlor, takes to tell it. my life to make you happy, my own and in his solemn professional way

to let the man of science go to their seconds. dear one on such an erraud. Not the aged mother, who was to

Nor the young husband, who wa bands and rebellious beart.

watching by the sick woman. They

been thinking of this. 'Who-told-you Charlie?'

'Doctor an' papa an' gamma-

'No. Charlie,' said the young mother after one supreme pang of grief; 'no, mamma wou't be afraid!' 'Jus' shut your eyes in 'e dark mamma; teep bold my band-'au' an' when you open 'em, mamma, it

When the family gathered awe stricken at the bedside, Charlie held

'Hu-sh ! My mamma doan' to 'My own now forever, past any sleep. Her won't wake up here any more !

And so it proved There was no beart-rending farewell, no agony of parting, for when the young mother woke she had passed beyond, and as there !

Buffalo Bill Abroad

The success of "our own" Buffalo Bill, in England is very gratifying to

There was more truth than many imagined in his reply to the inquiry "What are you doing in England?" "Chiefly playing poker with the Ducheses.

The English nobility quickly "cot toned too" Buffalo Bill because they recognized that he belonged to a higher order than their own-natures

'I promise to seem so much in est, and my beloved, good little said of a young love experience. earnest as to astonish even you, an- Eva is now my wife, in truth, not in When a young man in the plains, swered Norton. And had Laura jest. We wish you well, and hope wild, wooly and unkempt in appearage the expression of his face just that in future you will be more hon with a dashing little school teacher. with a dashing little school teacher. Full of pluck and faith in himself, he

After a time he braced up, bought some books and began to study.

His defeat proved his victory. The girl was his mascot, and his successes

Magnificent specimens of manhood though they may be"Bill's boys" are was suffering from great disorder of the liver and kidneys and generaprostration. I was forced to quit work and take my bed. One of the best physicians in the realm was furnished me free of charge by the no bility is recognition of Cody's univer sal popularity which is extended even HOW A CHILD SOFTENED THE DYING to the least of his employees. With John L. Sullivan and Buffalo Bill in England all honors are full and even Uncle Sam has to take a back seat.

Lightning Calculator.

"Lightning calculators? Lightning humbugs! That's what they are. said a gray bearded gentleman, who had grown old in the accountant's office of one of the most prosperous insurance companies in New York. I am 65 years old, probably the oldest active accountant in the country, and I can beat those lightning fellows at their own game. Have you a piece of paper? Now put down a dozen numbers of five or six figures each, selfish to love anything very deeply. I have broken with Laura, and I and mother was stricken down to and see how long it takes me to find

their sum." The old gentleman took the paper

"Now, give me a number to multi-

1,854,342, to be multiplied by 5,668. He Then the question arose among placed the second number under the first, drew a line below them, and put Not the doctor ! It would be cruel down 10,454,196 in less than fifteen

"I was once called in to make out the accounts of a firm dissolving partnership. It took me two hours to go over all their accounts. They sent the result to their lawyers, and ish her well for it! Oh, but I'll pay her mother's consent to their mar- walking the floor with clenched it took two men three days to verify it, and they found an error of only ! cent in my accounts."

"But how about lightning calcula-

"They are frauds. I once exposed one at a public entertainment. It took half a minute to add a column. I offered to bet him \$1.000 that I cou'd do it is half the time, but he refused the wager."

"No. It is something that can't be person naturally, at least it came to me without any effort that I know of member of my family.

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nd it as superior to any present

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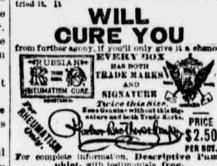
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