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An Independent Bennsplbania Journal for the Bome Circle.

## FRED'K L. BAKER.

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## The Second Wife.

They told me he had won before Another's heart than mine. And laid his first and deepest love. Upon an earlier shrine.

They said my spirit oft must grieve, . If I my lot would east With one who held so sacred still Remembrance of the past.

heeded not; my bark was launched With his own life's swift tide, And earth holds not a happier heart Than mine-a second bride.

I knew that he had loved and lost What life may never give back, The flowers that bloomed in treshness

Have withered in his track.

I knew that she -- the angel called --Looked out from you blue heaven, A watcher o'er the earth-bound soul From which her own was riven.

Together do we oft recall This dream of other years, Nor do I love him less to know, He once had cause for tears.

More blest am I that it hath been My love's appointed task To wake anew the 'charms of home, In which his soul may back.

DIFFICULTIES OF LAWYERS .- A testy lawver in court found himself bothered with a knotty witness who wouldn't explain, as he desired, the difference between the 'thick' and 'long' kinds of whalebone. Why, man,' said he, 'you don't seem to know the distinction between thick and long.' 'Ya'as I dew.' Explain it, then.' 'Wa'al you'r thickheaded, but you ain't long-headed, no how!' said he. Another was non plussed in the following conversation: Lawyer. Did the defendant knock the witness down with malice menense? Witness. No, sir; he knocked him down with a flat-iron. L.-You misunderstood me, my friend; I want to know whether he attacked him with any evil intent. W .- Oh! no. sir: it was out side the tent. L.-No. no. I wish you to tell me whether the attack was at all a preconcerted affair? W .- No, sir; it was not a free concert affair, it was in a

A maiden lady, not remarkable for either beauty, youth or good temper, came for advice to Mr. Arnold as to how she should get rid of a troublesome suitor. "O, Mary, marry him!" was the advice. "Nay, I would see him hanged first." "No, madam, marry him, as I me back again. What a man wents to said to you, and I assure you it will not be he will be; and there are men meant

The natives of Bombay, India, are greatly astonished at the lighting of the streets with gas. The lamplighter is followed by a large crowd every evening. They will sit for hours and watch. the flames, feel if the posts get hot, wonder why it don't, and thus they sit and argue the ins and outs of the question until they get tired and go home.

Tom Moore said to Peel, on looking at the picture of an Irish orator, you can see the very quiver of his lips." 'Yes," said Peel, "and t e arrow com ing out of it." Moore was telling this to one of his countrymen, who said, "he meant arrah coming out of it."

Lucy Stone says : "The cradle is n woman's ballot box." Then we've known some unlawful voting where two ballots were deposited at a time. What is that which occurs once

in a minute, twice in a moment, and not

Captain Jack Ballast's Story.

My story? Well, I don't see why I shouldn't scratch it down. There's nothin' to be ashamed of in it, so far as I know, and though you reg!lar story writers mayn't call it "romantic" I think the wind sets that way myself; and there's a bit of love in it, too, though yoe'd never think I was a subject for a love story to look at me. I'm old enough, dy'e see, to feel safe about the draft, and brown enough to be a Hottentot : and as for flesh-well, no matter; some of you slim young dandies will be as stout as I be if you live as long. Besides, that fracas at Gibralter didn't improve my looks. I'll tell you about that before the story is over, I reckon at present I'd better heave ahead,

Fat as I am and old as I am, there was a time when I was as slender a young fellow as ever shipped afore the most agin his parents' leave. They, Lord bless 'em! wanted to make a counter jumper of me, and I tried measuring rags about a year. Then I couldn't stand it any longer, and jumped the old counter for good, and cut and went to sea. I had a bankerin' for it a good while, and the only thing I ever regretted was the way my poor mother took it to heart. Wait a bit. Honor bright, there was one thing."

That was Jenny Blush, old Blush's only daughter, and the prettiest girl I ever cast eyes on. Her skin was just. as soft and fair as any baby's. As for her hair, I've got a bit in my old desk upstairs; and though it's crossed the ocean about a dozen times, it's so bright now, you'd take it for a gold chain coiled down under the bit of blue ribbon it's tied with.

Old Bush was my captain ashore. I mean to say, he was the head of the big dry goods store where they first sent me to measuring rags, and Jenny used to come over every day after ribbons and calico, and the like, and, Lord love yel-Ldon't find fault with the women folks looking after such things, though it don't seem a man's place to sell 'emg She looked mighty pretty when she put 'em on, did Jenny. Father and old Blush were fast friends, and when they found out that I was sweet on Jenny they put their heads together and resolved to sanction the match. I was to be taken into partnership, d'ye see, and was to step into the rag business when the old man stepped out. " Dry Goods, Wholesale and Retail." was the sign, but I

aiways called 'em rags. Well, Jenny and I were fond of each other, and knew it already; so, the old folks being agreeable, we saw a good deal of each other. Sundays and evenings, to say nothing of the errands she made to the store. And I used to wish I could make up my mind to it and stay ashore: but I couldn't, not if I'd died for it. I heard the waves beating about my hed in my dreams. I hated the cloth yard and the scissors so they made me ill. And one night I told Jenny so. She cried a bit; but by and by she owned that she didn't hate me for it. and got it." we talked of the time when I should be a captain, and she should make every voyage with me, and have a cabin like a parlor to herself.

Then she let me kiss her. P'raps she kissed me back : and I cut off the vellow curl I told you of with a pair of seissors-the only pleasant job 1. ever did with the confounded things in all my

That night I ran away, and though I blubbered like a baby when I passed mother's door, you couldn't have coaxed from their cradles for the water as sartin as the fish are.

I got a letter from old mammy that cut me up, I don't deny; but I knew ed up just as near Dayy Jones locker as she'd come round, and I didn't guess the worst-how should I? When it first came to me that a man that sold list; and as I'd laid up a handful of monrags was better than a sailor it took my breath away. This was when I first went home, d'ye see! Mamma, she scolded and cried, and kissed me; but Martha and Melinda, and brother Charles Augustus pitched into me ferocions. Says they: "You've disgraced your family—we have been respectable and kept them on bread and treacle; and ginteel folks all our lives, and now we're to have a common sailor for a is black frocks—they'd have felt just as brother." I caught it-a regilar gale; and father put in his our regarding disobedience. When that came I cleared out and marched over to old Blush's. Nobody was at home but Jenny, and she ran into my arms. Well, we were billing and cooing, as sweethearts mostly do, I reckon, when old Blush came home once in a hundred years? The letter to tea. I never heard a gale of what

Says I "Don't you recollect me, Mr.

Blush? I'm Jack Ballast." Says he "I recollect you well enough, and how dare you show your face here?" Says I "I came here to see my Jen-"Your Jenny?" says he. "My good

fellow. Miss Jenny Blush is no match for a common sailor before the mast; and whatever there may have been between you when you were entitled to my respect is all over now. You have your choice of walking quietly out yourself or of being kicked out.

Any one but Jenny's father would have been floored for that. I just looked down and saw my fists shut up of themselves, and tried to keep'em so.

Says I, cool as I could, 'I don't mean to be before the mast all my life, sir. I expect to be a captain some day."

"And," says old Blush, "a man with no advantages, brought up to the sea, might boast o' that; but you might have been a partner in our firm, sir. You might have been a gentleman, and had as good a business in the dry-goods line as any man alive. And you have chosen to be a roving rascal. And I'd see my daughter in her grave before I'd give her to you. Sam, show this person out."

That was the nigger just come aboard the parlor with the coal hod. And when he said that my fists were beyond my control, and the last I saw of old Blush he was on his back on the hearth-rug. Then says I to the darkey, "Touch me if you want to, you raspal." and started

I saw Jenny on the sly next day and tried to get her to run away; but the girl had a will of her own and knowed

Says she, "I can t disobey my father, Jack. I love you dearly, and I-linever marry any one else; but it must be all over between us. I don't think pa would have relented even- if you hadn t been so violent; but now he never will. You've done it yourself, Jack, she said, turning quite white and looking away from me, "You like the sea best, and you ve got it instead of me." Those were the last words she said

and I was going away when I heard her to him, and he'll foot 'em." give a little cry, and turning saw her I ain't bold with momen. I'm a bit arms stretched out towards me; then I went back and folded her to my bosom. and kissed her a hundred times. And I'm afraid Leursed her hard old father from the bottom of my soul, though 'twasp't loud, for mind ye, a woman is a woman, and words good shough for other men's ears ain't to be spoken before her. The sight of Jenny as I left her, with her yellow hair blown back under the bare tree branches, all bright with icicles, haunted me for many a long. day; and though I loved the sea, there were times when, looking over the side. I used to fancy a voice deep down in the waves whispering her words over again: "You've done it yourself, Jack, you liked the sea better than me, and you've

It doesn't take long for the years to go by, either on land or ocean. They went with me as with other folks. I got on well enough. Before I knew-it I was second mate, then first mate, then captain. I suppose I should have sailed the sea until they buried me in it if it hadn't been for my first; mate, John Hamlin. I loved that fellow as I might Jack; for I had caught her to my you to understand that I desire no one a brother; if I'd had a better one than Charles Augustus. At Gibraltar Ham. lin got into a row with some English soldiers. They'd allobeen drinking together ; of course I took his part. They had fire arms about them, and used them on each other. I didn't save Hamlin for they shot him dead; but I got a couple of bullets in me, and I was pickany man ever was who didn't go into it. I got well again, but was on the invalid ey and was past 40, I made np my mind to stay at home and take care, of John Hamlin's orphan children. He had two of them, both girls. I settled down in half starved creatures, for the woman they boarded with was given to drink, and as they told me I must, I put them bad in red-and settled down to be comfortable. Soon I looked out for a chaplain to pass Sunday as it ought to be and the Rev. Eben Tooker's church being handy, I shipped him along with the girls, and is I always did my duty,

never pretended hot to see the plate

when the steward shoved it up our pew.

Rev. Eben Tooker was a sociable man.

He used to drop in evenings and talk to

"What do you want here, sir?" says | me about my soul; and though I can't say but what I dropped asleep sometimes, he knowed his duty when he did chaplain's is another.

One day he spoke about poor Hamlin's gals. Says he, "You send them to | nineteen years I got my Jenny for my school, I hope." Says I, "I haven't own. done it yet-gals are better without learning, if they can read their Bibles and cipher out their butcher bills."

But he kept on, and pretty soon I let him examine 'em. Lord love ye, they or not, it's a happy one for me in the hardly knew their letters. The schoolin' as well as the board had gone for gio. "The poor heather are scarcely more benighted," said our chaplain. He insists on my saying pastor, but t'other sounds the best.;

"We must find an instructress for thom, captain."

"Surely," said I-I wanted to do the best by poor Tom's children that I could -" surely; just mention a schoolmarm, chaplain."

Said he, "My own are under the care of the person who plays the organ-a highly estimable lady in reduced circumstances. Her school is close by. No. Broome street."

So we wrote the name and address on card, and I promised to take the gals there. s

Monday morning we setsáil. I bought em spelling books and satchels and slates, and by nine o'clock we were at the door. Then I looked for the card, and, behold ye, I'd lost it! However, I was in port, and could hail the lady as " echool-marm."

Betsy was piping her eye, and Peg was bawling that she wanted to go home. But, says I-" No, no, gals, I don't want you to grow up benighted as the heath, en, and that's what the chaplain cails ye now."

So I lugged 'em in and made my reverence:

"Duty, ma'am," says I; "here's two gals as needs instruction. Rev. Eben Tooker recommended ye to give it to 'em, and whatever extra it is for playing the organilet 'em larn it; for it's you that works it in the top of the loft 'o Sunday's -you know how to do it. Cappen Jack Ballast at your service. Send your bills

bashful afore strange 'uns even yet. And I hadn't looked at her. But when I spoke out my name she gave a little scream and started back. Of course I couldn't help looking at-her then, and she was sitting down with her handkerchief-before her face.

Says I, "Beg pardon, are you ill, mum ?" က ခေတ္တန်း နှင်းလိန်းနည်း နိုင်ငံသွ

Says she, still not looking up, "Did you say your name was Captain Jack Ballast ?"

"Jack Ballast, at your service." said I. Says she, "Oh, Jack ! don't you know mė ?" Says'I, " Look up and I'll make sure."

-And she lifted up her face and I saw well, if it wasn't the pink-cheeked-girl I knew. It wasn't a girl at all, but in a minute it was Jenny Blush again-a great deal more than I was young Jack Ballast.

"Jenny," says I, "oh, Jenny, is it really you?"

And then the color come into her cheeks, and her eyes gliftered, and she whispered, "ob, not before the school, heart and kissed her.

We had not much time to palaver then, but I came for her again in the evening and took her for a walk. And she told me how the rag store had been shipwrecked, and old Blush dropped dead of apoplexy when he knew of it. And how my brother Charles Augustus had offered her his hand, but she had said no, and preferred to earn, her .own living to marrying one she did, not love while there was one living whom she did, And now it was lifteen years ago \_\_ fifteen weary years.

Then says I, "Jenny, darling, I love you better than ever, now-I've found you again. When you told my brother New York and fetched them home, poor there was some one living you loved did you mean me ?" "Yes, Jack," said she.

Says I. "Now you've seen me-a weather beaten scarred old sailor—do you think the same?".....

Says she; "Icalways shall, Jack." "Come on then," says I. And not another word until we came to the Rev. and warms by the very law of its own Eben Tooker's. There I rang the bell. Says she, "Why have you brought me here, Jack ?"

Says I, "To make the chaplain marry ue, love."

"No matter for people," says I And in we walked. And for all she told me that no woman was ever married it. A captain's duty is one thing, and a before in a delaine dress and straw bonnet, the chaplain didn't find it any obstacle, but spliced us. And so after

I don't think she's sorry for it, and I know I ain't; and as for poor Tom's children, she's a mother to 'em. And whether there's any romance in my story ending, as sure as my name is Jack Ballast.

INCREDULITY PERSONIFIED.—There is living on Martha's Vineyard an old man who has never been off the island, and the extent of his knowledge is bounded by the confines of his home. He has been told of a war between the North and South, but as he has never heard the din of battle, nor seen any soldiers, he considered it a hear. He is utterly unable to read, and is ignorant to the last degree. An excellent story is told of his first and only day at school. He was quite a lad when a lady came to the district where his father resided, to teach school. He was sent, and as the teacher was classifying the school he was called up in turn and interrogated as to his former studies.

Of course he had to say that he had never been to school, and knew none of his letters. The schoolmistress gave him a seat on one side until she had finished the preliminary examination of the rest of the scholars. She then called him to her and drew on the black-board the letter A, told him what it was and wished him to remember how it looked. He looked at it a moment and then inquired ( he stuttered ):

"H.h.how do you know it's A?" The teacher replied that when she was a girl, she had been to school to an old gentleman who told her so.

The boy eyed the A for a moment and then asked, "H-h how did he know?" This was almost a stunner, but the teacher suddenly recollected that he had told her that when a boy he had been to a school to a lady, who taught him that it was A.

The boy eyed the letter a little longer, when he burst out with "H-h-how did he know but she 1-1-lied?"

The teacher could not get over this obstacle, and the poor boy was sent home as incorrigible.

A QUAKER WOMAN'S SERMON :-- " MY dear friends, there are three things I very much wonder at. The first is, that children should be so foolish as to throw up stones, clubs and brickbats into fruit trees, to knock down fruit; if they would let it alone it would fall itself. The second is, that men should be so foolish, and eyen so wicked, as to go to war, and kill each other; if let alone they would die themselves. And the third and last thing I wonder at is, that young men should be so unwise as to go. after the young women; if they would stay at home, the young women would come after hem."

A shrewd preacher, after an eloquent charity sermon, said to his hearers: 'I am afraid, from the sympathy displayed in your countenances, that some of you may give too much. I caution you, therefore, that you should be just before you are generous; and wish who cannot pay his debts to put anything in the p'ate." The collection was

To be a woman of fashion is one of the easiest things in the world. A late writer thus describes it : " Buy everything you don't want, and pay for nothing you get; smile on all mankind but your husband; be happy everywhere but at home; neglect your children and nurse lap-dogs; go to church everytime you get a new dress."

The truest Christian politeness is cheerfulness. It is graceful, and sits well on old as well as young. It is the best of all company, and adorns the wearer of it more than rubies and diamonds set in gold. It costs nothing, and yet is valuable.

Genuine neighborly love knows no distinction of persons. It is like the sun, which does not ask on what it shall shine, or what it shall warm; but shines being. So there is nothing hidden from its light and heat.

A shrewd little fellow who had just begun to read Latin, astonished the master by the following translations :

Says she, "It's too suddep. I can't. "Vir, a man; gin, a trap-Virgin, man