

ELSIE'S GRANDMOTHER.

Though her noble features seem
The embodiment of rest,
Like the statue of whom we dream
In the heaven of the bliss,
Yet she's weary! Many a day
Has she marched with life's gay throng;
Those she loved have dropped away—
Why must she live on so long?

Worried of unrighted wrongs;
Frightened by the world's dark frown;
Life's best art is done; she longs
For the certain to go down.
Slowly with each peaceful breath
Days and years creep toward their sum.
Yet she never asks for death;
When God wills it, let it come.

Dearest, are you near the end?
Are you loved ones dying fast?
Have you not one little friend
Who will love you to the last?
Oh, when life's great edifying whirl
Leaves me stranded somewhere, too,
May I have some little girl
To love me as I love you!

—Robert Beverly Hale in Youth's Companion.

A REDEEMING ACT.

Dave was a coward, and he had always borne the reputation of arant cowardice ever since he had crawled over the side of his dugout cradle to wallow along with the underfoot world on the white sand, before his parents' cabin door. Though county born and bred, a passing thunderstorm struck him with terror, and the sight of the black waters of the "crick" caused a remarkable agitation of his knees. He was a coward pure and simple. The bristling of a oon roused him unconditionally, and a determined possum could rob the henroost before his very face. Indeed, Dave was a coward, and his cousin, Sue Spivey, laughed uproariously when the poor fellow perpetrated his initial and only act of boasting. He had said to her one day very solemnly and no doubt sincerely:

"Toe puttee yo' honah an happiness I 'd throw away my wuthless life."

Ordinarily Dave's speech was unpolished and provincial, but on this occasion it rose to the dignity of what he felt the occasion demanded.

Sue knew full well his timorous disposition and would have thought it safe to count on his politeness in any event. But a day was sadly near which proved to her the full worth of the poor fellow's grandiloquent assertion.

Long before the late unpleasantness and until this day Honeypath was only a siding, where occasional trains took water and passed each other. Two or three log shanties, without special pretensions to any architectural dissimilarity, marked the site of the town, distinguishing it from the vast area of impenetrable swamp that backed it and the arid waste of sandy bottom through which the gleaming, polished rails of the grand trunk line writhed and sinuated. Along that gleaming metal highway troops of both armies passed and repassed, gazed at curiously by the few old women and senile males left in the village, but exciting no other emotion than a blank curiosity that died out even before the white mist of the fine sand stirred by the soldiers' feet had settled behind the retreating bands.

Dave was a native of Honeypath and lived with an aged father in one of the shanties. Sue dwelt with her mother in another near by. Dave's father was a hot blooded southerner, whose patriotism answered to the first call to arms, but Dave was timid, fearful of the smell of powder and refrained from action, preferring to suffer the opprobrious epithets which were liberally bestowed upon him and the contempt of the county generally to facing he knew not what horror upon the battlefield. He was not a philosopher and could not plead in extenuation of his neutrality that the martial slaughter of his brother man was a crime and that the wholesale sacrifice of human life was immoral.

Dave was simply a coward and accepted meekly the obloquy which the condition imposed, not even the taunts and cutting sarcasm of pretty Sue Spivey being able to rouse the instincts of battle in his craven soul.

Before the strife ended Sue's mother was gathered to her final rest, being put out of sight in the little sandy graveyard, with only the comment of the two remaining neighbors. And then Dave and Sue toiled early and late in order to wring from the starving acres an unvaried livelihood of yams, corn bread and bacon, more often the corn bread without the embellishment of potatoes and bacon, particularly during the weeks after a hungry foraging party had passed that way.

One day Dave was working among the young potato vines in an open arid field behind the cabin, when Sue ran out to him in troubled haste.

"Oh, Dave, I'm pow'ful skeered!" she panted.

"Skeered of what?" he asked, without intermission of the bent labor.

"Some—some soldiers just went down the road, an they spoke to me—sassy like." Sue hesitated, and Dave looked up to see her pretty face scarlet and her brows bent together in angry lines.

"Well, what did they all say?" he demanded in his accustomed slow drawl after waiting in vain for her to proceed.

"They 'lowed they all was a-comin back."

"Who was they ennyhow?" he asked uneasily, his face blanching in anticipation of the martial visit.

"They was Mosby's men, I 'lowed, an they was five of 'em."

"Our fellers?" a little surprised and straightening his back. "Come on back to the house, Sue," and, shouldering his hoe, he trudged stolidly on before.

"Don't you be skeered," he continued as they reached the yard. "I reckon they won't do nothin."

Of the two it would have been manifest to the most casual observer that he was the worst "skeered," but he walked on till they reached the house, and Sue cried out:

"Yonder they come now—all five."

Dave's face blanched to a sallow whiteness, but he pulled her quickly inside the door.

"What you gwine to do?" Sue asked nervously, keeping near her cousin, but he apparently did not hear. He had

taken down a rifle that had belonged to Sue's brother, who had also offered up his life on the altar of the cause, leaving his weapon to his sister as a means of defense in just such emergencies as this.

"What you gwine to do, Dave?" the girl persisted, coming closer and laying her hand on his arm. Dave shook several cartridges into the cylinder of the Winchester and waited in silence, apparently not aware that Sue had touched him. Only a few more moments to wait and then the last act in the commonplace little tragedy. A loud pounding at the rickety cabin door and a derisive, imperative voice demanded:

"Hi, in there, open up, or we'll make splinters of yer ole door." The threat was garnished by several strong explosives and accompanied with more vicious pounding.

Then for answer went the spiteful snap of the Winchester, followed by a surprised howl of pain, more voluble profanity and footsteps in rapid retreat.

Dave went to the window, and though a knothole in the shutter reviewed the situation of the enemy. Then though the aperture the rifle again spoke with decisive, leaden emphasis, and when the smoke cleared away the man inside beheld one of the besiegers lying prone across the freshly hoed potato rows, while another limped painfully in the rear of the retreating trio.

In the short silence that followed the last shot the arid topography of Honeypath seemed to flash before Dave's vision, each peculiarity standing out strong and clear. The fine, white sand, covered everywhere with fat leaved prickly pear and cactus that bloomed perpetually in big butter colored flowers; the bright, blazing sky, the heat that rose up and hung heavily over man and beast, the many insects that sat out in the furnace like sun, rattling shrilly with very joy. Then the dense shade of the murky shadowed swamp and the big scaly back scorpions and dainty multicolored lizards that played an eternal game of hide and seek among the rotting rails of the old snake fence.

The trio had disappeared into the swamp, and Dave calmly refilled his rifle, waiting as though lost in thought. Presently from the rear of the cabin came the harsh command:

"You cowardly bushwhacker in there, come out an fight like a man! If ye don't, we'll burn ye an yer shanty an the gal with ye."

There was no opening in the rear of the cabin, the logs were thick and the chinks were well stopped with clay, so that Dave could not return a leaden answer to this brutal challenge. He fingered the rifle nervously and looked at Sue.

"Oh, Dave, don't open the door," she pleaded, meeting the earnest look bent on her face from beneath the brim of Dave's frowzy slouch hat. "I ain't afeared toe burn."

His lips blanched, his knees were wobbly with fear, but he had not forgotten the one boast of his poor, pinched life, uttered so long ago. "Toe puttee yo' honah an happiness I 'd throw away my wuthless life." He uttered the words again monotonously, fingering the rifle that was held limply in his shaking hands.

Poor Sue! There was no answering laughter in her soul now for those grotesquely sententious words which broke in husky monotone on her hearing like a last prayer.

In that moment Dave, who had always been a coward, who had all his life long borne meekly the scorn and opprobrium attached to the character, he whom heretofore nothing could arouse to a sense of his degradation, calmly arose to the very pinnacle of heroism.

"I'm coming out," he called and shooting back the bolt he stood on the cabin step before them.

"Fall back and give him a show; he's coming out, boys!" Sue clung to him, pleading: "Dave, don't! There's four to one. Don't go!" But he pushed her gently backward into the room.

"Bolt the door behind me!" he said and passed out.

Sue stood motionless in the center of the room waiting for it to begin. Dave pulled the trigger of his gun and turned the corner and instantly four weapons barked with one voice.

Sue heard something heavy fall against the side of the cabin; then instantly the sharp, clear utterance of a Winchester answered the carbines again and still again. One carbine only answered; then all was still; only the fretful warbling of a wren in the nearby Cherokee rose hedge breaking the tense silence of the drowsy afternoon hush.

Anxiety conquering terror, Sue drew back the bolt, throwing the door wide open. A broad stream of yellow light and a rush of heat met her, passing over a figure on its knees that always trembled at the sight of deep water. Dave was gasping his last breath. Bleeding and shattered, he crept to her feet, after the manner of a faithful dog, to die. In the grave gray eyes that were raised to hers there was the light of the exaltation of a passing spirit, triumphant over the shadow of death which already darkened them. His lips moved in the contortion of a smile that broke into an articulate murmur.

"I done said that toe puttee yo' honah an happiness I would 'd throw away my wuthless life—an I done hit."

And Dave, with the crimson glory of his "wuthless life's" blood streaming from many wounds, passed to the judgment reserved for him from the beginning of all things.

The wren shivered out her fragmentary song to heaven, the perfume of the Cherokee rose filled the air of the fading day, and the setting sun, streaming through the cabin door, touched the still figure of Dave, wrapping him in molten splendor as though with the face of a dying god.

Poor Dave! Though a coward all his life long, he had earned the reward of heroism at the very end. "Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friend."—Detroit Journal.

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Legal Notices.

Administrator's Notice.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE undersigned has been appointed by the county court of Clackamas county, administrator of the estate of L. R. Hobbs, deceased. All persons having claims against the estate of said decedent are hereby notified to present the same duly verified for payment to the undersigned at his office in Oregon City, Oregon, within six months from this date, or at the office of Brownell & Campbell, Oregon City, Oregon.

Dated this 10th day of August, 1896.

L. L. PORTER,
Administrator.

BROWNELL & CAMPBELL,
Attorneys for administrator. S-14, 9-11

Citation.

In the county court of the state of Oregon, for the county of Clackamas.

In the matter of the estate of Philip Moore, deceased.

To Rev. H. Moore and to R. J. Moore and to all other heirs of the said estate, known and unknown.

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON, you and each of you are hereby notified that the county court of the state of Oregon, for Clackamas county, sitting in and for the county of Clackamas, Oregon, do hereby enter and render an order in the above entitled matter requiring all persons interested in said estate to appear on September 29th, 1896, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m., and show cause, if any there be, why an order should not then and there be made authorizing and directing the administrator of the said estate to sell the real property belonging to said estate, which real property consists of 240 acres of land lying in a body and described as follows: The NW 1/4 of sec 25, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 26, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 27, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 28, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 29, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 30, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 31, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 32, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; 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the NW 1/4 of sec 231, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 232, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 233, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 234, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 235, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 236, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 237, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 238, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 239, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 240, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 241, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 242, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 243, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 244, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 245, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 246, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 247, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 248, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 249, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 250, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 251, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 252, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 253, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 254, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 255, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 256, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 257, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 258, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 259, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 260, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 261, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 262, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 263, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 264, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 265, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 266, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 267, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 268, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 269, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 270, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 271, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 272, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 273, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 274, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 275, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 276, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 277, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 278, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 279, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 280, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 281, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 282, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 283, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 284, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 285, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 286, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 287, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 288, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 289, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 290, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 291, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 292, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 293, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 294, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 295, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 296, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 297, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 298, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 299, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 300, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 301, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 302, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 303, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 304, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 305, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 306, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 307, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 308, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 309, t 5 s, r 1 e, 10 acres; the NW 1/4 of sec 31