THE OLD S. EEPING ROOM. BY REV. JOHN THEO, EXTERS,

come, a pilgrim wan and worn,
Back to the house where I was born—
I softly tread to-day!
My heart bears, as a noly thing,
The many memories I bring
From life's long, weary way;

Pausiliar are these stairs indeed, Which to the second story lead—
How natural to me!
Just as of old—I do declare—
The knot-hole in the wash-board that c—
Tis open still—just see! Nine steps-I need not count them through-

Nine steps—I need not count them I'll lay you what you will, 'his so; The short dight there has four. This hand-rall on the entry-side— What sport for boys adown to slide, As we were wont of yore. The window, at the head, is seen,

Venetian shutters, painted green, And they are closed up stuff. The ghouly light of evening talls So pale upon the stairs and walls, I feel a timid chill?

Half smiling now, and now half sad— Half weeping now, and now half glad, Do I as end the stairs. I reach the tep-1 touch the door— It opens as it did of yore— I did it unawares! The dear old room! how many a night,

The dear out room: now many light, From evening hear till morning light, Here, child and boy, I slept! There, in that corner, stood my bed— Here was the root, and there the head! All this my memory kept.

How sweet our childhood sleep appears; How sweet our childhood step appear One resize not so in after years— Ah! this too well I know! Life fills the anxious heart with cares A wakeful head the pillow bears, And night's dull hours move slow.

The moon is up, 'tis full and bright—
It pours its meltow fleed of light
Upon the bed and floor;
What moves upon the wall about?
The shadow c play of trees without—
I've seen that oft before. All, all is still—save but the wall

Of lonely crickets' evening tale,
Hid in the window-sill.
Hark! in the closet—tick—tick—tick!
It is the drach-watch's ghostly click—
I wish that worm were still! If there be ghosts—ah! who can tell?
This place, this hour, would suit them well—
Perhaps some may be near!
I see mangh! with my eyes that sreal;
Yet, in my sprin's sense, I feel
As if they might be here.

Yes, ghosts are here from childhood's hours, They have no forms, but come as powers, And give me pleasing rain; They mirror to my heart the plays, Of all my early has you days, Witch cannot come again?

Annels are here, so pure and rare,
They gray upon the inconbeams there,
They gride als ing the wall!
Back to this ark, the Noah's dove,
They bring their sprige of peace and leve—
I hall their relendly call.

These spirits muard us in our ways, So mather's floly Bible says—
And Likelieve it two.
Have we the "Our Father" said,
They watch that night around our bed,
Most certainly they do!

This did our mother often tell; We children all believed it well, And did as we were hid, out don't believe? your wiser—you? han mother and the fiblic too? Such folly makes you bold.

For me this faith wrought like a charm; I slept quite free from tear or harm, In peace till moreting light. I hold it still—I will believe. That they who was this prayer receive An angel-guard at night.

I've often wished I were again A child, as innecent as then— But time can never be; So I will keep, as best I can, The life of enidhood in the man— The chief-like nurse in me,

But, see, high up has gone the moon-How long I've wandered here alone! 'Tis time for me to leave,
sood-by, my fittle roam, good-by—
sood-by, my fittle roam, good-by—
there is something in my eye!
This parting makes me grieve!

Fanning, good reader. You have never heroine of her, I suppose I ought to de- you only sent him to a worse fate! I estimated at 10,000,000 gallons, against scribe her a perfect houri; tell of her will be merciful too," he continued, as 4,000,000 last year. classic brow, dreamy, thoughtful eyes, if struck with a new idea; "I will leave story-writers always keep a bountiful supply; and as "giving doth not impoverish us, nor withholding enrich us," we generally bestow them with the story wit lavish hand. But for once I will picture her as she is; simply because I like her

A plump, pretty, mischievous, brown-eyed, brown-haired little lassie, and you eyed, brown haired little lassie, and you have her; and I didn't give you time to the sun, which he had come out saves more man he saves more man he in setting up a single store."

Sargent, Greenleaf & Brooks also sell the sun, which he had come out saves more man he in setting up a single store." judge for vourself.

my story opens, Robert Lewis came to slowly over the sea, and the eager waves balmy breezes and sparkling sunshine, the health and vigor he had so recklessly expended during the excitement and rivalry of the completion of a long collegiate course. The change from the treatment of the Fast the Fast the figure and the firewing numbing alimete of the Fast the tide went out for it covered it collegists. freezing, numbing climate of the East | the tide went out, for it covered it only to our continual spring, and from close about eighten inches; but, weak and confinement and hard labor to complete exhausted as he was, he felt only too relaxation and sea-beach strolls, soon keenly that the first wave which swept loth to leave the genial climate, he said; but goesip gave to the bright eyes of Ella Fanning the magnetic power that detained him. Certain it was that he seemed perfectly contented | ment and heartfelt gratitude there was to remain under her father's roof, where a figure in the little boat, pulling steadchance had first led him to select his lily for the rock. For a moment the location, and that his friends in the thought darted over his mind that the East were surprised, to say the least, Spaniard, afraid to trust the waves, when he announced his determination to pursue the study of law for some but a few lengths more and he recog a resident of the little village.

efforts in this direction, his wooing softly; seemed to lag; for Miss Ella led him "Are over an uncertain way, making up by frowns to-day for fear of having bestowed too many smiles yesterday; in short, keeping a kind of debt-and-credit "Who stole the boat running account which she balanced regularly, and which, let him try his rose and turned to step out. utmost, he never found sufficiently in his favor to permit him to draw on for any considerable amount. Yet he was very far from being discouraged, for beheld his prestrate form. something that he once or twice saw away down in the depths of the little worse than steal the boat—he wounded maiden's brown eyes told that, after me, and left me here to drown, but for all, she might care for him more than you.' she was willing to make known. This the beach, or an occasional boating, when an incident happened which materially changed what a Yankee would term "this state of fix," and which is the cause of fix, and which is the cause of fix and which is the cause of fix and which is the cause of fix and the cause of fix and which is the cause of fix and the ca the cause of this little sketch ever being | bad as this.

written.

Not far from the ranch of Mr. Fanning a family of Mexicans lived occupying a low, dirty-looking adobe cabin, in a low, dirty-looking adobe cabin, subsisting in a kind of shiftless, uncersubsisting in a kind of shiftless and in the tain way, and strongly suspected of preying upon the flocks and granaries of their more enterprising neighbors.

She turned hastily as he spoke, gave of their more enterprising neighbors.

It consisted of an old wrinkled hag, almost ready to blow away, and two ing, by his side. She had neglected, the mind of the auditor. either sons, grandsons or great-grand- and now it had drifted already beyond sons of the old woman. It happened her reach. that Robert, while rambling, gun in hand, in search of game one day, came suddenly upon the younger of these brothers, engaged in cutting up and se
He saw in a moment what had occurred, and said, low and tenderly:

"Ella, my darling, I am content to die; but you—you are unhurt, and have and a perpetual calendar are added.

creting a fine young bullock, which he had driven into a deep, bushy ravine for that purpose. It is very probable that had he been unarmed he would never have left the canon to reveal the theft, but as it was he promptly arrested the thief, who was convicted and sentenced accordingly.

The other brother swore vengeance among his own class against Robert, as the cause of his brother's disgrace. which oath at length came to his ears; but knowing the man's revengeful disposition, he only laughed at any supposed danger.

One evening, a few days after the above event had transpired, Robert said, carelessly, to Ella: "I am going to row out to Selkirk Rock to sketch the sunset on the waves; would you like to accompany

"Very much," returned she, gravely, "but I could not think of marring your satisfaction at being for once monarch King's dinner, and criticise his artistic power after he returns,"

He turned away, just the least piqued at her chaffing, and started down to the beach, turning a moment to hear her call, as a parting volley:
"Don't be so enthusiastic as to re-

fuse to relinquish your throne when the tide comes in. You'd look frightfully undignified in wet robes."

"Selkirk Rock," as Robert had fancifully termed it, was a broad, rugged pile that had apparently become loosened from a near hillside, and rolled down with such force as to carry it out some distance from the shore, with which it was connected by a narrow neck of sand, on which, at low tide, the water was quite shallow, but at high tide the waves came in so as to render the approach to it very deep and dan-gerous, and, as Ella had intimated, suficiently high to cover the entire face of the rock itself.

It was, perhaps, three-fourths of a was mile down to the beach, and Robert her. walked leisurely along, enjoying the breeze that came so fresh off the waves, until he reached the point opposite the rock, where the bout was moored, and then pulling out to it, passed over to the side nearest the sea, and lay down at full length to enjoy the beautiful He had so lain for some time, being hidden from view of the shore by the arching surface of the rock, when he thought he heard a slight noise. He rose to his feet, when the sharp crack of a revolver rang out on the air, a stinging pain darted through his right thigh, and he fell helpless to the ground. The next instant the face of the Mexican who had sworn revenge on him peered with devilish malignity over the top of the rock. He had dogged Robert all the way from the farm-house, and wading silently out under the screen of the rock, had fired the moment he had arisen. He now advanced cautiously to the side of his victim, who, totally unarmed and help-less, expected nothing but instant death on the spot.

his features were a perfect study in the intensity of the passion the portrayed. to work for years in a filthy prison. Did you not know that I would kill

you? "I did not kill him," said Robert, restorative. with a calmness that surprised even himelf, as he met unflinchingly the glitter-Let me introduce her. Miss Ella ing, snaky eye of the Spaniard.

en her; and so, as I have made a very merciful; you did not kill him-

him thither, bid him a mocking adieu, and row for the shore.

He glanced helplessly around him. skip this paragraph before getting acquainted with her, either. You don't to watch setting, was sinking as if half see how I can possibly make a heroine of her? Well, just let your fancy ramble with me away down to this ranch in the southern portion of our Golden State, while I tell the story, and then indeed for worreelf. faced so bravely, fairly appalled him Six months before the time on which with its blackness. Darkness crept Wilhoft's Tonic is curative and protective. It the little town of S. to recover, amid its | were how lapping at his very feet, as he, did its work; but still Robert lingered, over would carry him away from his him out of the shafts and making him

was returning to complete his work; time under the guidance of Judge E., nized the form to be none other than that of Ella! She came steadily on un-But, whatever success attended his til close to the rock, and paused, calling

> "Are you there, Robert?"
> "Here, and safe," answered he joyfully, as with another stroke the boat "Who stole the boat away from you -that Spaniard?" asked she, as she

"Yes," he replied.
"Great God! what is the matter?are you hurt?" exclaimed she, as she use Lyon's Kathairon upon the hair. With rearly

"care," however, had not progressed Ella, as she hastily ran and knelt by his further than delightful little strolls on side; "I thought there was some

beetle-browed brothers-supposed to be in her excitement, to secure the boat,

yet a few minutes left in which you can reach the shore by passing over the bar. Go quickly, my darling, before the tide takes away even this last means of sav-ing yourself."
"And leave you here to perish alone?

long before I could bring succor," said she, "and I will stay with you and save you, or we will perish together." She had already bound up his wound as best she could, propped him up in a sitting posture, placed herslf by his side, and pressed a kiss of hope, of encouragement, or, it might be, of farewell, upon his lips, as the first wave broke over the rock, and the struggle

for life began. Higher and higher came the tide; wave after wave broke over their heads, of all you survey' by my presence, so I wave after wave broke over their heads, will remain at home and prepare the nearly strangling them and almost carrying them away from their frail sup-port; but still the brave girl held on. Heaven seemed to have pitied her and spoken to the waves, as of old, "Peace, be still," else she never could have maintained her hold during that long despairing time. But she never fal-tered until the rock was again bare, and the sea fretting against its sides as though in anger at having been deprived of its prey. Then she sank helpless as and an anxious call from the shore pro-

> succor was now at hand. Here my story ends; only pausing to was saved, and that he himself would hardly wait for his wound to heal before he claimed Ella as his wife.

And whatever you may think of her, I think she is a real, genuine heroine;

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regular faculty contain nothing that inder the screen of the rock, had fired the moment he had arisen. He now advanced cautiously to the side of his rictin, who, totally unsumed and helpless, expected nothing but instant death on the spot.

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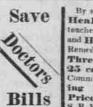
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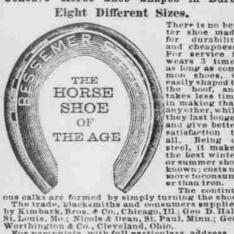
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