

A SONG OF LOVE.

I do believe her heart
Is something still to me;
She is the one that had no art
Save love that is to be.
She is the one who was so dear
And caught me with her golden hair.
My sweet remembrance makes
A melody of her!
No thrush that sings in all the brakes
Would I could I—prefer!
For when she spoke in love's sweet way
All the dear birds sang nigh and day.

For Rent Free.

It was an aristocratic-looking mansion, in the most aristocratic neighborhood of the aristocratic city of Boston, and inasmuch as it was offered rent free for one year to anyone who would agree to occupy it for that time, I did not hesitate long in making up my mind to take it. Upon inquiring the agent informed me that the agent informed me that it had the name of being haunted, and that the owner had been so unfortunate as to procure in succession a number of tenants all of whom were superstitious, and all of whom straightway moved out.

It had thus come to pass that the house had won for itself a reputation which had driven its owner to despair. He determined to live down the belief that it was haunted, and he had, therefore, concluded to offer it as before stated. I was pleased with the frankness of the agent, until I afterwards learned that the owner had come to the same conclusion a dozen years before, and that the only tenant he had secured since then, a young bachelor like myself, had been found dead in the drawing room floor the morning after the first night's occupancy. The police had been told to go there and look for him by the servant, who had fled from the house when the ghost first put in its appearance. The coroner's verdict was, "Died by heart failure. I am not superstitious, nor am I even nervous, and so it was but a few days before I had moved into the haunted house; but in that time I had nearly lost my mind. My father had bought him years before up at Fairfax Court house, and he tried to buy his sister, Calla Lilly, who was equally black, but she was sold to a higher bidder from Alexandria. After the war she went to live in Washington with Mrs. Lee Nelson, whom she called one of her "chilluns." Mrs. Lee Nelson lived at No. 1705, directly across the street from my father's house, and she had learned all about the "haunts" over to yondah house where you're gwine to live at."

Poor Mose; after all he had heard of the ghosts that had been seen there, I can scarcely blame him for his unwillingness to go with me to the quarters, and I do not wonder that I found him hard to persuade and finally reassured, as I eventually did.

The day after the furniture had been put in Mose and I were hanging pictures, unpacking the library, and at the same time investigating things, looking to see where this door went to, and that noise came from. Most of all we were curious about the great red stain on the floor in front of the mantel in the front drawing room. It was during this time that Mose was telling me that "Lilly dun told" him.

"Mahsa, Lilly she say dat we uns gwine be scared so bad dat our teef gwine shaken 'en our haid Lilly she say dat she reckuns she knows all 'bout dis 'ere house, and she say de young gen'man what commit de sooside yuz, cuz he war engaged to her young Missus Charlitt, what married her cousin Ricca'd Moncreux. Miss Charlitt's mammy she insist de do marry no northern man, but must marry qually people, and dat's how de trouble hit all come about.

"Prinche Cholly, dat's what dey all use to call him, cuz he war so sprittly in his mammas, he use to lib yer befo' de wah, an' he use to come down to Alexandria to see Miss Charlitt all de time. And Lilly she say she can't hope but think dat he was qually, even if he war a northeah. Lilly say he war a powerful pretty man, and dat Miss Charlitt cert'ly sot a heap of sto' by him. De pres'dant what war de pres'dant befo' Miss Lincoln war de pres'dant, he dun sent Prinche Cholly's pappy away to England to be de minister, and he take Prinche Cholly's mammy along with him. Prinche Cholly he tell his pappy he come in de spring. Lilly she say dat all dat wintah he come pow'ful close to libbin down to Alexandria, and Miss Charlitt she jest as smilin' as a basket of chips on a frosty morn'ing.

"When all de chairly trees and everything was bloss'min', Prinche Cholly he tells Miss Charlitt he got to go to England an' join his pappy and mammy to de summah, an' he take Miss Charlitt de won't get married to him then, 'sted of wait'n nuthah yeah. He want her to go long with him on a housewym and s'prise his folks. Miss Charlitt she mighty glad to do this, cuz her mammy dun try to get her to get her to marry Mistah Moncreux. Lilly say her mammy just put her feet down p'intidly, an' 'fused to let Miss Charlitt get married den, cuz she ain't ole nuff, and findly Prinche Cholly he have to wait by hisself, and Lilly say she dun have de mizry in her side fo' a week, cuz he look so moanful when he say good-bye to Miss Charlitt in de garden. Lilly say dat she ain't all de house niggahs was peepin', an' dey could see Prinche and Miss Charlitt in de moonlight by de lilac hedge, and den by mby Prinche Cholly he let go his hold of her, and machef off down de street, Miss Charlitt she standin' lookin' af him till he out of sight. Den she turn, and go into de house.

"Lilly she say she can't remembah ever seein' Miss Charlitt smile 'gain afteh dat day. All de trouble come den, fo' de next morn'ing yar come Mistah Moncreux, an' he try right 'way to make Miss Charlitt marry him, and Miss Charlitt's mammy she hope him all she know'd how. Miss Charlitt she wouldn't 'low him to coah her at all, so, an' she tell him, ef he don't go 'way she 'spise him. Mistah Moncreux he stay right dar' all de time; and de Lawd only know how dey do hit, but in August he an' Miss Charlitt's mammy done make her marry him. Miss Charlitt she declare all de time she jest hate him; an' Lilly she say she did too, cuz she seed it in Miss Charlitt's face, she look so contemptible like. Den dey move 'way, down to Fredricksburg, an' ain't no Prinche Cholly home 'gain, an' he find de lettah what Miss Charlitt done write to him de morn'ing she git married. Lilly say de evidence show dat, afteh he read de lettah, he drap hit on de

fo' in front of de mantel in de front pa'la, an' go up stayahs an' fling hisself on de bade, an' he must be pretty near 'stratched, too; cuz de sheet night, she smilin' right up stayahs an' shot hisself, cuz dat's whar de blood commenced, an' hit war splash'd all 'long de hall, an' down de stayahs, an' into de front pa'la; whar de big red stain is. Lilly say dat she ben tole dat afteh he shoot hisself, he tink 'bout de lettah he drap on de flo', an' he drag hisself all de way down dare an' burn it up 'all 'ceptin' a little piece 'thout no writin' on it, an' nobody ain't ever know what Miss Charlitt dun write to him. An' Lilly she say dat Prinche Cholly's ha'n crawls down dem steps, an' ober to de pa'la fireplace, an' burns dat lettah 'evry night."

"Yes," said I, "I presume it does, but what of Miss Charlitt?" "Jest gwine to tell you dat, Lilly she say dat when Miss Charlitt she heah what Prinche Cholly dun gone an' do, she up an' comes home to her mammy in Alexandry, an' doan eat nuthin', but jest lay by her bade, an' cry an' cry jest so her heart would break. An' den de fevah come an' she git 'stratched, an' doan know any body, not even her own mammy. She gwine worse ev'ry day, till she 'died, an' her body was buried in de hall, an' de doctor tell her mammy she ain't gwine live long, an' say she bettah sen' fo' her husban' but her mammy say no, not fo' him. Miss Charlitt she sleep right peaceful 'til de morn'ing, but she ain't nigh like, an' look most jest like she did befo' Prinche Cholly had to go 'way. Long towa'ds morn'ing Miss Charlitt she dun raise up in bade, an' reach up her arms jest so, an' cry out real Joy, nuthin' but jest say 'I love you, I love you no mo', She drap back on her pillar, an' de doctor say it was all over, an' he say hit too bad her husban' band aint dar, but Miss Charlitt's mammy she see the happy spreshun on Miss Charlitt's face, an' she say, 'No; hit am bettah he aint heah.' An' Lilly she heerd dat Miss Charlitt's ha'n is yer in dis house too."

The afternoon faded into the darkness of evening. After my dinner I had to remain with Mose while he finished washing the dishes, as he was afraid to be left alone for a moment. His work over, we adjourned to the front parlor, and I permitted Mose to smoke a cigar with me. As he seemed to come forth, I thought they might object to lights, and much to the disgust of Mose, I put them out in the hall and in the room where we sat. A soft radiance came in from the street, and we sat and smoked, and Mose, willing to appear courteous, was saying that he guessed that half the houses that were supposed to be haunted were not, and I was thinking of the beautiful Miss Charlitt, when suddenly a figure appeared in the doorway, and a noise from the hall door to the fireplace and then vanished completely.

"For God, mahsa, few see dat!" cried Mose, clinging around my neck, beseeching me in one frowl to protect him, and in another calling on the Lord to make him better than me. I have said that I am not superstitious, nor even nervous, but I had just seen what Mose had, and after his unearthly howling in my ear, I was nearly as much worked up as he was. We sat at one lighted table, and started an investigation, but discovered nothing unusual.

The next came after a long night, in which Mose and I made most unsuccessful efforts to sleep. Mose lay on the floor beside my bed, a complete misse on my flat refusal to allow him to hide his head under my sheet. The next morning he said to me, "Ez you're gwine to stay yar in dis yar house any longer, dis niggah and you is goin' to be a niggah, stay yar fo' any man and get confurjed."

I tried all my persuasion, but Mose was determined to go. We, however, settled that he should sleep at Lilly's and come to me early in the morning. I told him that there were such things as ghosts, and that I should no doubt soon find out all about the apparition of the night before. That evening after he had finished his work and gone to sleep across the hall, I again planted myself in the position that I could easily watch the door leading into the hall. I was in the dark, smoking, and I had not been seated long when a tall figure, seemingly that of a young man, passed hurriedly from the fireplace across the room and out into the hall. I called to it to stop. My voice echoed through the house and frightened me, it sounded so little like my own. I was about to start in search of the retreating figure, when I heard entered from the door two others, those of a man and a woman. They passed slowly enough for me to see them plainly, shadowy as they were, and I ran from the room and out the front door to the sidewalk. No, I was not mistaken, there were the man and woman, two negroes in flesh and blood—and down the hill at the corner of Second street was an electric light. I saw it all at once; anyone passing in front of the house would see a deep shadow in my drawing room. I called out to the couple who had just passed, "Hello, there! Wait!" At my first invitation to wait they stopped, but as they looked at me they saw that I was not the man and woman figure there came a howl from the woman: "Fo, God, Eph'am! Fo, de Lawd sake, look yondah, honey!"

Approaching them, I asked if they would not please walk back past the house again, as I wished again to see the phantoms float across my parlor. I was compelled to wait for other ers-by, however, for the gentleman addressed as Eph'am and the lady under his protection had put two blocks between us before I knew it. Upon re-entering the house and waiting for more ghosts, I was rewarded, for when anyone passed while the room was dark, a corresponding figure or figures would be seen, passing either in or from the fireplace.

The next morning I told Mose that the ghost racket was exploded, and explained to him what I had discovered the night before. I had expected to straightway persuade him to remain with me the nights from that on. Imagine my feelings when he said, "You keep on stayin' yar, and you git fool in de ha'd. You peep I'm gwine to listen to any such talk as dat? You cyant disqualify dem ha'n't by tellin' dis niggah no sech trash as dat!" A few days later Lilly told Mose that "a ha'n't what look for all de worl' like Prinche Cholly dun come out from dat house last Chewsaday night, an' hit dun chase Bruddah Eph'am, an' hit dun chase him clean from dare to de P street bridge, where, bein' as how hit war a ha'n't, hit couldn't go no faddah."

This flattered my vanity, but it was humiliated immediately, for Mose utterly refused to believe that the elegant figure of the ghost was no other than my own. I occupied the house a year, rent free, and have had it for six years at a minimum figure, but

Mose still goes across the way to sleep every night.

MINISTER OF NAVY.

The Man Who Is Winning Battles for Japan.

Owing to the fact that the most important events thus far of the struggle between China and Japan have been naval engagements, T. Saigo, minister of Japanese navy, is a person in whom there is manifested a great deal of interest. He is a man in the prime of life, is very intelligent, and his experience in naval affairs renders him well fitted to fill his responsible position at this critical time. In nearly all the naval engagements Japan has been victorious. It is stated that a Chinese ship carrying 1,100 soldiers was sunk by Japanese batteries a few days ago. If Japan comes out victorious in this struggle, the result will be the triumph of Japanese policy of commerce and progress, but should it be China, the victory would probably be followed by the policy of exclusion and stagnation.

GOVERNOR RICH.

The Michigan Republicans Want Him to Run Again.

John T. Rich, recently renominated by the republicans for their candidate for governor, is a farmer. His parents were Vermonters, who came to Crawford county, Pa., where the governor was born in 1841. Seven years later the family removed to Michigan. Gov. Rich was elected to the state legislature in 1872, where he served six years, being twice elected speaker. In 1880 he was a prominent candidate for governor. In the same year he was elected to the state senate, resigning his position upon his election to congress, where he served but one term. Returning to private life he has been active in agricultural circles. In 1886 and again in 1888 he was appointed state railroad commissioner.

NOT AT HIS POST.

Our Minister to China Is Off on a Vacation.

The war between Japan and China makes Colonel Charles Denby, United States minister to China, a personage of great interest, although he is absent from China on a vacation. Colonel Denby was born in Virginia, about sixty-eight years ago, and educated at Georgetown college and at the Virginia military institute. In 1862 he began studying law, was admitted to the bar and in 1865 was sent to the legislature. Although a Virginian he espoused the cause of the Union when the war broke out, and he served in the 11th Indiana regiment. In 1863 he resigned and for twenty-two years devoted himself to the practice of law. In 1885 he was appointed minister to China and has held the office ever since.

JUDGE COOLEY.

The American Bar association, of which Judge Thos. M. Cooley, of Ann Arbor, Mich., is president, will hold its twenty-third annual convention at Saratoga, beginning August 22d. President Cooley, the subject of this sketch, was born in Attica, N. Y., in 1824, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1846. In 1857 he was elected state law officer, and in 1862 he became reporter of the supreme court of the state and three years later was made chief justice. For some time he was chairman of the interstate commerce commission, but in 1891 ill health compelled him to resign and since then he has practiced his profession.

A SPEEDY SPEEDER.

The World's Record Again Lowered by Tyler.

Harry C. Tyler is the young bicyclist of Springfield, Mass., who has lowered the world's one mile record at Waltham by a full second. He lowered the record of 1:54.5, held by J. B. Bliss of Chicago, to 1:53.3. Tyler's brilliant work two years ago, winning all the short distance records from a standing start, has made him famous from one end of the country to the other. Last year at Springfield, Tyler rode a mile from a standing start in 2:01.5, breaking the world's record of 2:05.2 held by Willie Windle. Tyler is quite young, fine looking and intelligent and has long been the bosom friend of W. C. Sanger, the noted cyclist.

A POEM ON CHARITY.

The Statesman is in receipt of a spring poem (evidently delayed by the floods and Debs) on the subject of "Charity." A great quantity of the subject is indicated the patient reader hence only the first stanza is utilized. Charity covers a multitude of sins but its mantle is perhaps not capable enough to embrace more than the opening stanza. Here goes: One day as I wandered in the woods sad and lonely, I sat me to rest on the ground, rough and stony; And I thought of o'er my head hung a limb, And I mourned and protested and talked long to him, I told him of my troubles, my sorrows and cares, Told him of this world, its temptations and snares; I told him of the people, that need to be fed, Whose need is of shelter and raiment and bread; But that about which my soul most did grieve, Was, that I could afford them so little relief.

ONCE SAVED THE ARMY

The Hero of Chancellorsville a Recluse.

Gen. Pleasanton's Varied Career.

The Famous Cavalry Leader Now Sees Few and Lives Only in His Books and Papers.

Gen. Alfred Pleasanton, the famous cavalry commander of the Army of the Potomac, whose fame at one time was as wide spread as that of almost any leader of the civil war, still lives in Washington, the city of his birth. His existence has been almost forgotten, writes Allan P. Slauson in the Washington Post, for he has not left his room for the last five years, owing to painful bodily ailments, the result of the many years during which the great majority of his waking hours were spent in the saddle. He admits that he has a few close friends, but the sacredness of his chosen privacy, which those who serve him are careful to preserve inviolate. To strangers and to casual acquaintances of former days who come more out of curiosity to observe his present surroundings and mode of life, he invariably returns a polite refusal when their cards are sent.

Although the world has lost sight of him he has not lost sight of the world in which he once lived and moved, so brilliant a figure. Just half a block from the office of the Post he lives, in a low celled but most tastefully furnished room, from the little old-fashioned windows of which he can look out upon the busy thoroughfare that runs between the White House and the Capitol, at any hour of the day or night. In this same building he has lived for sixteen years. It is a quiet little hostelry known as the Greason house, the former proprietor of which was an old time friend of Gen. Pleasanton. Since the death of his wife, Pleasanton has been kept by his daughter, Martha W. Greason. The unpretentiousness of the place, and the undisturbed privacy which he is able to obtain there are very pleasing to the general. "It is because they obey orders," he said in speaking on the subject, "that I have remained here so long."

His wants are few and well supplied, for his pay and pension from the government amounts to not less than \$10,000 a year. He has a comfortable home, has an income from about \$50,000 worth of property left him some time ago by a sister at her death. Walking causes him great pain, and he moves about more and more from the bed to his chair and back again. He is surrounded by books and pictures, and is an omnivorous reader. He takes half a dozen daily papers as well as some of the magazines. His books are mostly of a military nature. He has a number of military companions. They always entertain him, and he does not have to talk to them about matters that do not interest him, an irksome task at any time, but more especially so when he is confined to his chair and back again. He is surrounded by books and pictures, and is an omnivorous reader. He takes half a dozen daily papers as well as some of the magazines. His books are mostly of a military nature. 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