A CHANCE ACQUAINTANCE.

To have met but once, but once,
And swept forever apart
On the world's dark tide that rushes on
And sunders many a heart!
To have looked on eyes like yours,
To have touched such a rose leaf hand
And never, never again to meet,
But in Memory's dreamy land!

Once in the lonely dark
It stabbed me through and through.
The sudden thought of your sweet young

face:
And once, ere the early dew
Was dry on the springing grass,
And the morning wind blew free,
I almost met you beneath the firs,
Where the path turns down to the sea.

And your smiling shadow lives In the chambers of my brain,

Where my spirit wanders, a homeless ghost
Seeking your face again;
and if you be living yet,
Or where, I cannot know,
But my sprit clings in a bootless dream
To our meeting long ago.
—M. Falconer in Chambers' Journal.

PIERRE'S FOUNDLING.

It was Pierre who first called her that, Pierre was a creole, and Felice, his wife, was a creole, and so they both was a creole, and so they both that. And very white she did look to Pierre that morning in the early spring, many years ago now, when he found her lying on the doorstep, a fleecy white shawl all around her, and only her little, round, baby blue eyes showing out of

"See what the good God has sent me. Felice," said Pierre, taking the little, ing, Felice used sometimes send her up to Sieur Antoine's room with a slice of hands and carrying it in to his wife, "a And Felice turned back the shawl

from the baby's head, and there, pinned Pierre bent down to see he read, "For Pierre and Felice.

"Did I not say, Felice," he cried. "See, it is for us-the good God has sent it."

When Felice bent down to kiss the rosy lips that cooed and smiled up at her she smelt the perfume on the little baby's clothes, and then she thought of the sweet, pale, gentle lady whose hair she had dressed a few nights before, and of the tall, dark man whom the lady had not called her husband, but her "friend." But she did not tell Pierre all this. What she did tell him was that they would take their new treasure and show it to the priest, and Pierre-good, simple arted Pierre-went along very close beside Felice, wishing mightily that he could take the little white, soft bundle in his own arms.

And Pere Martin, when he looked into the little baby's eyes, remembered the slight, graceful woman who had knelt so long at vespers the evening before, and the sweet, gentle voice in which, when the service was over, she had questioned him about the coiffense, Felice, and Pierre, her husband, who lived in a room in the crumbling gray cose beyond the church. He remem-ered also that the hand that dropped into his the heavy purse of gold, telling him it was to be given to this same Felice and Pierre, if they should need it, had baby's face and murmured, "Another ter it in flakes about her head. lamb into the fold." But he, too, did "Whiter than that," he w not speak of what he remembered. In-stead, he told them he would himself go ranged, and that the next day after head in the air, whence it fell in little mass they might bring the child to be water bits upon the pavement.

now white she was when they found r, and snow white Felice always tried dress when he took her in his arms, and room. when he kissed her he always looked to see that he had not left the impress of to Felice one day: "she no longer likes his lips on hers. It was marvelous to the candy; she no longer comes for her see what a change the baby's coming bit in the morning." de in the lives of the two, Pierre and Felice. Somehow Pierre'e step grew lighter and his laugh grew cheerier. His fellow workers noticed it down at indeed grown paler, and the little form the big warehouse where he hauled cot- thinner. ton on the dray, turning and pulling the bales with his sharp hook.

"Oh, I must not be so rough," he said I may disturb with my big stepping."

tripped about at her tidy housework, and weaker, and fading away like the and her fingers were defter as she did her roses in Pere Martin's garden. hair dressing, and her coiffures were more elaborate and graceful than ever

"It makes a difference, is it not so, lift me." dame?" she said as she was dressing

carling and sticking in hairpins."

It did seem that all the little household was changed. There were not many,
to be sure, for besides Pierre and Felice
there were only Marta, and Babette and
Sieur Antoine in the little gray house.

Marta lived in the first floor and form. Marta lived in the first floor, and from ar apartments there came always the ng odor of burnt sugar, for it was n her own little back room that she of her whitest and crispest candy, sucking it till it ran down her wrists and chin ad upon her white dress in streams of

Marta would say to her customers, re shall I ever see it?"

nbering Snow-white's enjoyment of the dainty. "Will you not try some today? It is nice.'

And so she would go through the day with a lighter step and a heavier purse than of yore.

But it was Babette who always took care of Snow-white when Felice was away. Babette was a blanchisseuse, and was always washing, washing, washing in the big tubs down in the court. So when Snow-white was old enough and the days grew mild Babette would take her shawl, and spreading it out on the warm bricks that paved the court put the baby upon it, shading her little face from the sun by one of Pierre's big straw hats hung upon a stick. The baby grew to love Babette, with her broad, round face and her plump, white arms grew to love the warm court where there was so much sunlight, and always the splashing of water and the flapping of snowy clothes on the line.

Then there was Sieur Antoine, with his violin, whom Snow-white soon learned to love too. At first he would only pause when he met Felice or Pierre upon the stair, and inquired in his sweet, gentle voice after the little one; but by t, "Snow wide," but then they meant and by he grew to stopping on his way now white," and everybody called her up to his room to see the lady, all white up to his room to see the lady, all white and soft and clean, tucked away in her little bed. Sieur Antoine spoke but little, but he played, oh, so beautifully, sitting away up stairs by himself. His vi-olin talked for him, he would say. He was always sad and often hungry, Pierre said. So when Snow-white was able to climb the stair without the fear of fallbread or a bit of meat that he might find it waiting for him on his table.

It was Pere Martin himself who used to come for the little girl when she was to her little dress, was a card, and as old enough to run about, and carry her with him to the church and his own cozy little house with its vine clad porch and its garden of roses behind. He would pluck the heavy headed buds that brushed her cheeks as she passed by them, and take her back home with her apron full of flowers, or her two hands full of the yellow oranges that grow upon the tree beside his window.

"May I not give the Virgin one?" the child would say, as she picked the finest flower of her bunch to lay at Mary's feet as they passed the church

Thus among her good friends grew and prospered the little God given child of Pierre and Felice.

"How white is the snow, maman?" she would say to Felice; "is it so beautifu. that you would have me like it?" "By and by we shall see, Petite," Fe-

lice would answer. But the sweet, warm, sunny weather came and went. There were chilly days now and then; days when Pierre would come home shivering in his big overcoat: when Sieur Antoine's face would look paler and more pinched than eyer: when Babette would lift the tubs to her room, and hang the clothes on lines before the fire; when the roses in Pere Martin's garden would be blighted with the cold. but the snow never came.

"How white is the snow, papa?" the child would ask, and Pierre would take no ring upon the third finger, and Pere a sample of cotton from the pocket of Martin sighed as he looked into the his blouse, and, tearing it into bits, scata sample of cotton from the pocket of

"Whiter than that," he would say, "but we shall see, Petite." "Whiter than this," Babette would with them to the office of the old notaire tell her, taking the frothy suds from her on the corner and that all would be ar- tub and throwing it about the child's

"Whiter than these," Pere Martin And so they did and gave her the would say, as he lifted her to his broad and scrubs, but now, as never of yore, the tears run down her round cheeks and would have suited her half so well. was buried in the mass of orange blos-

soms above. I have told you that Snow-white grew to keep her. She was never too busy to and prospered, and so she did, only ere put a few dainty tucks in baby's little yet her eighth year was passed, when white slip, or to wash her face or to curl the winter came on Pere Martin felt the her golden locks. And Pierre never burden grow lighter as he lifted the came up stairs without stopping to wash his hands at the big tub down in the thought the little footsteps were less sourt so that he might not soil the baby's brisk as she mounted the stairs to his

"Our little one is not well," said Marta

And that night when Snow-white lay asleep in her bed Felice knelt down beside her, and saw that the little face had

"What if the good God should take again the child he has lent us, Pierre?" she said despairingly, and together they to them, "since there is now a little one knelt beside the child's couch and prayed. The next day the child could And Felice's songs were gayer as she not rise; she lay there growing weaker

"Am I going to be a baby again, maman?" she would say sometimes. "I cannot walk, and you have always to

What a sad household it was when the the hair of a fond young mother, who little one's step was heard no more on at the while gently swinging the cradle the stair and her voice sounded no more of her first born; "it makes a difference in the halls! As the week passed on that there is now a little heart for your Felice's song was hushed, and she went big one to hold. I know. It is all out but seldom. Pierre's comrades noed with me, now that the good ticed the poor fellow's sadness and pitied God has sent us a little one. It does not him. Babette would leave her tubs for matter so much now that I must go up hours to sit by the dear one's bed. Marand down the stair, that I must bring ta's voice was heard less cheerily on the the water from the cistern in the court, street, and she found her way often to that I must be forever crimping and the old cathedral, where she might say a prayer for Snow-white.

"I remember, Pierre, the last time it snowed here. It has been eight years ago, for the little one had not come to de the white and golden ropes of us then. I remember it looked still and

and the next morning were they not

"Ah, is it so beautiful, the snow?" "It is by the reason that the little one asked the child, lifting up her little hand that I make this cream candy." that had grown so white and thin, "and asked the child, lifting up her little hand

"Surely, surely," answered Pierre: "God is good."

"Will you not take your violin, Sieur Antoine, and tell me how the snow looks?" said Snow-white.

And Sieur Antoine played, Those who knew felt the inaudible falling of the flakes, thicker and thicker, but gently as the drawing of a shroud. Sieur Antoine kept his eyes upon the little face, and he saw her waiting, listening. Suddenly a twang of the strings and the twist of his bow sent out as on the crisp air the jingle of sleigh bells, the sound of merry voices, and the child's face was glad. But Sieur Antoine had forgotten: with the sounds of gladness there came always for him the after note of sorrow, and he played on and on in the minor chords till the tears stood in the little one's eyes, and Felice put out her hand to stay him.

All during the night that followed there sounded in Snow-white's dreams the merry "snow music" and then the sorrow that came after it. "Will it be like that—and that?" she asked herself. While it was yet dark she heard below in the street the muffled rumble of a cart, and the cartman was singing. What was it he said? As he came nearer she heard in the man's deep voice, "Wash Me and I Shall Be Whiter Than Snow.' She knew not what the words meanthow could she? But over and over again she kept saying the words to hereself till morning broke and daylight shone between the curtains, pale and strange. Something, she knew not what, sent a thrill through the little weak frame and eagerly she peered across the room to the streak of light that showed.

"Maman," she called by and by very softly. But Felice was by her side in a moment. She said nothing, but pointed with one hand toward the window ..

"Ach, Pierre, Pierre, the snow, the snow!" shouted Felice, in her excitement forgetting the little sufferer on the couch, who leant upon her elbow trying to see the street below.

"Did I not say?" said Pierre, springing to his feet. "Surely God is good." Together they lifted the little one's bed to the window that she might see, and she, with full heart, could not speak for

joy; only her lips parted and her eyes overran with tears. Marta and Babette were not long in coming to see the little one's joy, and Sieur Antoine too, only he did not tarry, but looked into the child's eyes and went away to Pere Martin. They came together by and by, shaking the white

softly in the hall. "See, the snow has come, father," said Pierre, "and she knew, the little one, without seeing it, that it was come."

The little eyes were bent only on the window, where without the snow lay white and soft o'er street and housetop far as the vision went, but the priest. kneeling down beside the bed, took one little cold hand in his, saying: "She is very near to God now; he told

"The snow has come," said the child's voice. "I knew it would, God told me." Aye, God told her, and drew her nearer and nearer to him, for with her last breath the pale lips faltered out the

words she had not understood. "Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow." The snow was soon gone and with it the little one, but to the white vault that bears her name come often Pierre and Felice, burdened with the grief of their empty hearts. Marie still sells her candy on the street, but in her tray is found no longer the dainty bits for the "little one." Alone in the court Babette still scrubs drop into her snowy suds. The roses bloom and wither in Pere Martin's little garden, and the orange blossoms fade. and the fruit falls upon the ground. Up stairs in his garret Sieur Antoine plays ever of the little snowflakes that glistened in his way of the spirit that is "whiter than snow."-Patience Oriel in Philadelphia Times.

Early Electric Phenomena.

An Englishman put on a pair of woolen stockings over his silk ones on a cold winter day. At night he pulled the stockings off without separating them and was astonished by the crackling noise and even the sparks of electricity which followed. When he drew the silk stockings out of the woolen ones the electrical attraction was so manifest that the stockings would incline toward one another when held more than a foot apart. It happened that the silk stock-ings were black and the woolen ones of light color, but when he tried the experiment with both stockings of the same color there was no electrical appearance. This stocking experiment soon got to be the fashionable "fad" in England. Leydon jars were charged by the stocking process, and great fun was had by giv-ing light shocks to persons and domestic animals.—Exchange.

The German Emperor and Speechmaking. The following anecdote is related of the German emperor during his journey in the iceboat to Stettin. During the dinner on the Haff, Herr Haker, councilor of commerce, rose, and was about to thank the emperor in the name of the merchants of Stettin for the interest which he had shown by his journey in which he had shown by his journey in the trade and communications of Stet-tin. The emperor noticed the intention and forestalled him by saying: "Dear councilor, let us leave this for today, otherwise I shall have to reply, and we are just now so jolly. Your health!" Of course the speech remained unspoken.—London Tit-Bits.

Big Collections in New York Churche A collection taken up at the church which Gornelius Vanderbilt attends one and the white and golden ropes of and the white she sold upon the street every ay. Marta's delight knew no bounds han Snow-white was able to sit alone and hold in the little chubby fist a stick I would not cover my tubs, thinking to catch the rain I thought was coming, high as \$3,000 or \$4,000, and at Grace and high as \$3,000 or \$4,000 Trinity there are occasional collections as large as \$10,000. This one, however, is believed to be the largest collection ever taken up on an occasion not extraordinary.—New York Cor. Philadelphia

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