

## MARK TWAIN.

## Mark Twain's death removes from the international ield of letters the creator of American literary humor

 and one of its most distinguished litterateurs.and persuasive doers of things alive-borld-the militan and persuasive doers of things alive-have lost a gentte,
sympathizing friend and fearless champion. For almost 75 years he lived, and for two-score he numbered his admirers by figures that rival the census of the enlightened orld.
He drew his personal friends from every condition life and held them steadfastly by his en
personality and earnest understanding.

Snatched from the obscurity of his gentle birth fiekle fortune and reared in the university of the wor to become the master of wholesome humor, Mark Twai retained to the last his delieate distinctions of light and shade, giving to the world its dearest smiles and drawing
from it its most willing, ssmpathetic tears. For withal from it its most willing, sympathetic tears. For withal
his humor the public eve has seen no happy life punctuated his humor the public eye has seen no happy life punctuated
with deeper sorrows. He had known every travail of th with deeper sorrows. He had known every travail of the
soul, and few there are whose spirit of sound humor would have survived so-many onslaughts of a whimsical and cruel fate.
It was the same man who gave thís message to an anx ious world: "Rumors of my death are largely exaggerat ed"; who subsequently described his health as "not ruggedly well, but not ill enough to excite an undertaker," and who on return from Bermuda, two days prior to the sudden death of his favorite daughter Jean, the day before last Christmas, confirmed the belief of the newspaper re porters who met him at the gangplank, with his discouraging statement:

My active work in this life and for the world is don shall write no more boks nor attempt new work.
His humor seems to have been something apart from himself, for he has reiterated many times that he was born inwardly serious. The humor was but the froth of his deeper thought. It bubbled out in quaint, irresistible phrases without effort.
The character of his philosophy has never changed. Whether he has fought in the buoyant certainty of victory or in the resigned expectation of defeat, he has always been on the same side. He has been the consistent enemy of injustice and oppression.

The fighting spirit endured to the last. Although sad ness dissolved the humorous note in his familiar drawl, the author lent his voice to the cause of woman's suffrage only two days before the death of his daughter Jean. In fact, it synchronized his message to the world that his work was done.

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