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Poetry.

DEFEAT.

BY BARTON GREY.

He took her hand and looked at her;
No sound did that deep stillness stir;
Even the weary, wandering rain
Had ceased to beat upon the pane;
Only about the perfect mouth
A sign more faint than the faint south
Hovered a moment's space, and then
Died into nothingness again.

The words he spoke were brief and slow—
What could he say, she did not know.
What pulse of that impetuous soul
But owned her calm, serene control?
No need for him to test her heart
With cunning fence or verbal art;
Only to ask and wait her will,
And winning, losing, love her still.

Perhaps she wavered—aye, perhaps
The shadow of the cloud that wraps
The future from our questioning gaze
Let in some glimpse of after days.
Some hint of all she might possess
In that true spirit's tenderness,
If but her weaker life might move
Unto the music of his love.

Perhaps! who knows? he only knew
The large grey eyes were dim with dew;
Saw only on the mouth's sweet bloom
The shadow of reluctant doom;
Felt only one sad, gentle word—
And thus through that deep stillness heard
Once more the weary, wandering rain
Beat dull against the window pane.

Interesting Tale.

AN ADVENTURE IN SPAIN.

By Jove! what a beautiful girl! Look quick, Sidney, before she vanishes, like a beautiful vision, from our mortal gaze.

These were the words, uttered half in jest and half in earnest, which broke from my friend and fellow traveller, Charlie Alston, as wayworn and weary, we rined up our horses, in the rich glow of an autumn sunset, at the door of a low hotel which in Spain does duty for a posada, or inn. We had left Malaga, en route for Grenada, at 11 o'clock on the previous night, and after a forest ride by moonlight, the memory of whose enchanting loveliness no after-dreams of beauty can blot out, we had taken what refreshment, in the way of grapes and light wine, the peasants could supply, and started afresh on what proved to be the hardest day's ride that even I, accustomed as I have been to the saddle from my nursery, ever remember to have taken.

We had been riding for more than an hour with not a sound to break the stillness of the air, save the occasional tinkling of a goatherd's bell, when Charlie's exclamation roused me from the state of stupor into which I had fallen, and I glanced out from under the shadow of my sombrero in the direction indicated by his eye. Before us stood the "posada"—a long wooden building, the roof rising somewhat in the middle and sloping gradually off to either side. At the door lounged a group of villainous looking peasants, with our grey, swarthy host at the head; and escaping by what seemed to be a back entrance, and passing rapidly down a side walk, was as splendid a specimen of womanhood as my eyes had ever lighted upon. She was tall and slight, and her form less fully developed than is common among Spanish girls at her age, but it had the lilianness, and her step the elastic spring, of the young antelope. She wore the picturesque costume of the Andalusian peasant, and as we rode up she turned her head to look at us, thus enabling me to see the delicate oval of the face, the large dark eyes, the scarlet dimpled mouth, and, rarest of all combinations in a southern clime, the wealth of golden hair which floated like a halo of glory round her small, well-set head. Altogether, it was, as Charlie said, almost like a heavenly vision bursting upon our sight, and for a moment I shared his apprehensions that she might vanish as suddenly and mysteriously as she had appeared. Being, however, an old traveller, and of an eminently practical turn of mind, I checked my own curiosity and Charlie's burst of enthusiasm, and requested him in a few sharp words to "keep his eyes and ears wide open to what was passing around us, and to think of something beside a woman if he could."

By this time we had dismounted and entered the inn, where, in our rough travelling garb, with pistols and daggers in our belts, we might easily have been mistaken for the robbers that we were armed against. The building bore the usual appearance of a Spanish posada, consisting of a long dark apartment, one end of which served as a

kitchen and dining room for family and guests, and the other being partitioned into rudely made stalls for man and beast under the same roof. It was a dismally rough and comfortless looking place, and smelled so villainously of a mingled compound of garlic, stable, and unwashed humanity, that my friend Charlie started and turned back as we entered the door.

No help for it old fellow, I said, in sympathetic tones; sleeping outside would be dangerous at this season, and, besides, our horses must be cared for. You'll get used to the perfume in a little while.

Perhaps so, replied Charlie, with a shrug of his handsome shoulders, but if ever I travel through Spain again I'll have my olfactory paralyzed before I start.

And have your head made bullet proof at the time, I rejoined, which is rather the more important of the two. Keep wide awake, Charlie, and listen to every word you hear spoken, without appearing to understand, I have been in Spain before, and I don't at all like the look of this place or its occupants.

As I spoke we seated ourselves close to the fire, which was throwing out any quantity of smoke and gas, but, as far as I could see, was capable of warming nothing but itself.

The night was however, closing in damp and chilly, as is common in those latitudes, and both Charlie and myself were glad of the protection that the humble roof afforded.

To add to our complacency, the beautiful vision that had delighted our eyes in the open air passed in and out several times, laying the cloth for supper, and engaged in a variety of sufficiently mundane occupations to convince us that she belonged essentially to this lower sphere. It was difficult to form any opinion as to the relation in which she stood to the wretches who surrounded her, as she scarcely spoke or raised her eyes in reply to remarks that they made her, and took no more notice of their muttered oaths and imprecations than she did of my friend Alston's insinuating efforts to attract her attention. As she was the only female to be seen about the place, however, I concluded that she was well paid for her services, and would only remain while treated with consideration and respect. I also decided in my own mind that she probably belonged to some gypsy tribe, and had gentle blood in her veins—perhaps English or Scotch—which would account for her long fair hair, combined as it was with an Oriental richness of complexion, and eyes that had the darkness and softness of the gazelle.

She seemed to have some unexplained purpose in delaying her womanly arrangements for supper, which called forth more than one impatient "Caramba" from the ruffian who called himself our host. There were three men besides myself in the posada, every one of whom, I was ready to swear, had been guilty of deed of blood. I watched them as I sat with half-closed eyes beside the fire, and made up my mind that, if ever weary travellers were in danger of their lives, we were that night. Then I racked my brain to recall the last sign of human habitation that I had seen that day, and, after satisfying myself that it was too far off to be of any use to us, I began to calculate our chances of resistance in case of an attack. We were well armed, and three to four, supposing our guide would help us; but a glance into a distant part of the stable department, where he lay sleeping, or at least feigning to sleep, convinced me that no assistance could be counted upon from that quarter.

Well, the situation was not a cheerful one, certainly; but Charlie and I had youth and strength and British pluck, and I hugged up the belief that had been instilled into me from my childhood that those qualities were more than a match for foreign perfidy and cunning.

So, after a few words to Charlie (whose whole soul seemed to be absorbed in the movements of the gypsy girl), cautioning him against any drink that might be offered to us as liable to be drugged, I possessed myself with patience, and turned towards the fire. I supposed I fell into a doze, so weary was I with nearly eighteen hours in the saddle; and when I opened my eyes it was to see the Andalusian standing with me and the table at which the rest of the company were seated, and to hear, "Supper is ready, Senor!" pronounced aloud in Spanish, and "Sleep not an instant under this roof!" from the same lips in fairly good English, but in a low hissing tone, inaudible to all but myself. Between sleeping and waking as I was, I shall never forget how like a heavenly vision she looked, as she stood in that low den, with the light from behind illuminating her golden tresses, and her finger on her scarlet lip enjoining silence. It was but for a second, but I understood the danger and warning as well as if it had been written in letters of fire upon the wall; and, curbing by a mighty effort, my desire to hear more, or even to give a glance of responsive gratitude to the girl, I rose and seated myself at the filthy, uninviting board. There was little to eat beside the usual provision at a Spanish inn, "plio," which I

verily believe to have been made after the nursery recipe for the manufacture of naughty boys of "sticks and snails and puppy dogs' tails."

So indecisively revolting was it to our English palates; and as both Charlie and myself were firm in our refusal of the so-called wine which was repeatedly pressed upon us, our host soon rose from the table, and with a movement of his thumb, indicated the ladder which would conduct us to our sleeping room above.

We were to start again an hour before daybreak and Charlie would, I think, have much preferred passing the night in the kitchen, with a chance of getting an occasional glimpse of the fair Andalusian, but, knowing the danger in which we stood, I was quite firm in my determination to see what could be done in the way of fortifying and barricading the apartment appropriated as above. So, to prevent all chances of escape on his part, I placed Charlie before me on our upward march, and after nearly breaking my neck and his own in his frantic efforts to catch a last look at his innamorata, I finally succeeded in getting him to the top of the ladder, and sent him bounding, like a shot out of shell, into the middle of the room.

Then closing the door, and perceiving, as I quietly expected, that it had neither lock nor bolt, I proceeded to scrutinize our position. The room was large and not very low, with the raked rafters above and the roof sloping down on either side; one window directly opposite the door, in front of which stood two low beds, and a very large and heavy piece of furniture, half secretary and half bureau, on the right hand side.

What the deuce has come over you, Sidney? were the first words that Alston uttered after he had recovered from his surprise at being so unceremoniously propelled into the room. Arise, you going to elope with the Zingara, or to dare all those devils down stairs to single combat? There's the fire of determination in your eye, as we used to say at Balclutha. What's the matter, old fellow?

Nothing but that we are going to be murdered to-night, and those devils down stairs are preparing at this moment to do it. Whetting their knives, eh, Sidney? and sharpening their knives to chop us with? Well, you'll make pretty good kindlingwood, old fellow—your bones must be dry enough by this time; they won't find me so useful.

A brandy flask sim-d at his head put an end to further chaffing, and we sat down gravely, on one side of the bed, to speculate upon the meaning of the Zingara's warning. As to forming our plans for the night. After some discussion we decided, as we were both quite worn out with fatigue, to watch by turns an hour at a time each, one waking the other at the expiration of the sixty minutes. As Charlie was younger than myself, and less used to roughing it, I insisted upon giving him the first chance, and looking at my watch as he threw himself on the bed, perceived that it wanted a few minutes to ten o'clock. Previously to this, however, we had, by the exertion of our united strength, succeeded in moving the ponderous bureau in front of the door, where, by entirely blocking up the entrance, it seemed to me to form an effectual barricade in that quarter. A very few seconds sufficed to throw Charlie into an amiable slumber, and then silence the most profound settled down over the house.

For the first fifteen minutes I lay wide awake, watching Charlie as he looked carefully to the priming of his pistols, and placed them fully cocked by his side. Then my eyes closed, and for half an hour I slept. A touch on my arm awoke me, and at a gesture from Charlie, who was still sitting where I had last seen him on the side of the bed, I checked the exclamation that was rising to my lips, and turned my eyes upon the antique secretary, which formed our only fortress and defence, against our enemies.

Look sharp, said my friend, in a breathless whisper, and you will see it more.

At first I thought it was an hallucination of Charlie's always vivid imagination, but a steadier gaze convinced me that he was right. The moon was now well down towards the hills, and its almost horizontal beams fell straight across the room. Yes, there could be no doubt of it; the huge thing was moving towards us—almost imperceptibly—without the slightest noise, but steadily and surely it was advancing into the room. I glanced towards the top and could distinctly see that, whereas we had placed it with its back close against the door, so that not a sheet of paper could have been introduced between, there was now an open space there of more than an inch in width. I looked at Charlie, and his honest blue eyes returned the gaze; both felt that an hour of peril was at hand; and as we grasped our pistols, and stood side by side ready for the first shot, I think a prayer for mercy and forgiveness went up from both our hearts.

Our movements up to this point had been as stealthily as those of our assailants, and there was probably very little doubt in their minds that we were wrapped in the deep and motionless slumber which excessive fatigue engenders. On the contrary, with eyes almost starting

from our heads, we were watching the regular advance of the huge secretary, and preparing for an attack at any moment, when a low note, which might have been uttered by a bird or insect, struck the ear of both at the same time.

Motioning to Charlie not to relax his vigilance, I turned towards the window, and glancing out, perceived a ladder resting against the sill, the other end of which was firmly held by the hand of the gypsy girl below. Without an instant's delay I snatched his pistol from Charlie's hand, and motioned him to descend. He hesitated a moment, as loath to leave me alone, but I was so remptory in my entreaty to go instantly, and there would be time for both, that he clutched the ladder with one hand, swung himself lightly from the window, and disappeared, just as the body of a man, crawling on his hands and knees, became visible from behind the shelter of the bureau.

As soon as the villain saw that we were up and ready for him, he sprang to his feet and uttered a hoarse cry for help. At the same moment I pointed my pistol at his head and fired; and in the confusion and obscurity that ensued from the rush of others into the room, and from the smoke of several pistols discharged simultaneously, I seized the end of the ladder and was on terra firma and flying down the narrow ravine between Charlie and the Zingara, before the inmates of the posada were aware of my escape.

The girl was as swift footed as a deer, and sped on rapidly before us, until we plunged into what seemed to me a primeval forest, and in whose friendly shades we knew that we were safe.

Then the girl opened her lips and told us that she had heard of the plot to murder the two young English travellers, three days before; that our guide was one of the gang of ruffians, and was pledged to bring us to that posada, instead of to the one a few leagues further on, where, respectable travellers always stopped, and to which she was guiding us now. The placing the piece of furniture as a barricade against the door had been anticipated and provided for by her long and the pan of the door, which had been removed so noiselessly that even Charlie, wide awake as he was at the time, had heard not it; and then, when the secretary had been pushed sufficiently forward, the five ruffians hoped to crawl in on their hands and knees and murder us in our sleep.

And I could not come sooner to your rescue, Senora, continued she, because I was suspected and so closely watched; but the instant I saw them all at the top of the ladder which led to your room, I rushed round to the window to give you the chance of escape. And you are safe, the Virgin Mary and all the blessed saints be praised! Marichita has done one good action more; and she raised her large eyes to heaven with a glance more mournfully pensive than that of Guido's Magdalen.

We had been walking now for nearly two hours, and the purple light of morning began to tinge the tops of the distant hills. Then the heavens were suffused with a rich crimson hue which shone up in brilliant rays to the very zenith and spread in fire and intensity as it touched the horizon.

We part here, Senora, said Marichita, as she stood in the pomp and glory of the sunrise, her delicate features standing out in clear relief against the eastern sky, and the golden masses of hair shining and shimmering in the sun's first rays. You'll be the inn where you will find fresh horses and a more trustworthy guide. May the Virgin and all the saints protect you!

Stay, Marichita, cried Charlie, springing forward and seizing her by the hand; you shall not go back into that den of thieves. Go with us to Granada. Let us, at least, leave you in safety there; and, if the devotion of my life will prove my gratitude for this night's service, Marichita, I offer it to you now.

He was going to lay his hand and all his worldly possessions at her feet; but she drew herself up and waved him gently back. Senor, it can not be, she said. Marichita thanks you for your noble offer, but she would be out of place in your far off English home. One little souvenir is all she asks, and then, placing her hands upon Charlie's shoulders, she motioned him to kneel before her, and, taking a small dagger from her girdle, she severed one of the short fair curls that lay so thick upon his head. Thrusting it hastily into her bosom, she turned, and with an Adios, Senora, disappeared in the mazes of the forest.

We never saw her again; but we heard at Granada that Marichita, the gypsy of Malaga, as she was called, was well known for her deeds of love and mercy in all the country round. Of her origin or early life we learn nothing, and the Spaniards shrugged their shoulders when we asked where and when we could hope to see her again. She was of Zingara blood, they said, though she was seldom with her tribe, and no one knew where she lived, only occasionally she was heard of in connection with some brave and kindly action.

It took my friend Charlie a long time to recover his nerve and spirit after this little

adventure, and I am inclined to think the wound made by the fair Andalusian was deeper than seemed at the time possible to my more phlegmatic nature. At any rate he has never married, and when I ask him why he means to close a mistress for his ancestral halls, his answer is:

When I can find another Marichita, amigo, mio; not before.—English Paper.

THE PURCHASE OF THE ENGLISH RAILWAYS BY THE STATE.—A movement has been set on foot, under the auspices of Mr. Bass, member of Parliament for Derby, to secure the purchase of the railways by the State. With this object in view, a requisition has been signed by members of Parliament and others asking the Lord Mayor to convene a public meeting in the City of London to consider the subject.

THE LARGEST BRIDGE IN THE WORLD.—The London "Builder" gives the following dimensions of a bridge to be constructed over the Firth of Forth:—The structure will be by far the largest bridge in the world. It will be 150 feet in height, and will contain nearly 100,000 tons. The greatest span in the centre will be 1,500 feet wide, or nearly a third of a mile in extent, dimensions which are without parallel for any similar piece of architectural construction; and the smaller openings or spans will be 150 feet in width, being considerably beyond the average dimensions of the largest spans in ordinary bridges. It will cost at least \$10,000,000.

LONGEVITY IN ENGLAND.—The mortality returns for the year 1871, which have just been completed, record the death of 718 persons registered as 95 years of age and upwards when they died. Sixty-nine of these were registered at the following ages, viz: 27 at 100, 17 at 101, 10 at 102, five at 103, three at 104, two at 105, two at 106, one at 107, one man 108, and one woman 109. Of these reputed centenarians 25 were males and 44 females. The return shows that from 1861 to 1871 inclusive the registered deaths at 100 years of age and upwards have amounted to 836—namely, 231 males and 605 females—so that, on an average, 21 men and 57 women go to their graves every year with the renown of centenarianism attaching to their memories. "It is worthy of note," says the Registrar-General, "that the experience of life assurance societies in England supplies only one example of an insured life completing its hundredth year." The man and woman who had attained the reputed ages of 108 and 109, respectively, resided—the former at Ledbury, and the latter at Chester.

A MIRACLE.—The "Univers" says that the extraordinary favour accorded to a young girl at Blois, who was a deaf-mute from her birth, but was made whole at Lourdes, has been the subject of an episcopal inquiry. A commission was appointed to investigate the miracle on the following heads: The past and the present state of the child, and the course of cure; whether means or circumstances pure y natural might have brought about the result; the conditions necessary to make the cure a miracle, whether, in the present case, the result should be considered as a miracle proper or as one of those surprising favours which the Church is not accustomed to regard as miracles, and which it ranges among the extraordinary blessings of heaven. After long and minute investigation on oath, the commission has given in its opinion that the cure is really a miracle. The Bishop, considering all its facts, has declared that it must be so regarded.

They are building, in Philadelphia, an immense storage reservoir, covering 404 acres, 12 feet deep. The basin will contain 750,000,000 gallons, sufficient to supply the city for twenty-three days. It is said to be the largest reservoir in the world, not excepting that of Berlin, Prussia, and one third larger than the storage reservoir of New York. Three thousand laborers are now at work on the excavation, at weekly salaries amounting to \$300,000. The whole work is to cost \$4,000,000, and is to be completed in time for the nation's centennial in 1876—to be a part of the great show of that year.

A Louisiana man put a two-ounce can of nitro glycerine inside a chicken, tested the chicken to an alligator, and that alligator doesn't trouble that bayou any more.

The New Castle Journal says: "It don't look very proper to see well dressed young men each carrying a pint bottle of whiskey to church on Sunday evening, that is to frequently done, and that too in New Castle."

Lord Gordon is said to be the illegitimate son of Rev. Dr. Hossy, rector of Hayes, in the county of Kent, England. His blue blood is principally in his eye.

Chicago travellers have got a trembler now that holds only a pint, but no girls until the contract is made for a pint.

& CAPS

FOR VARIETY,

ford, Dolly Varden, Duke, other styles to numerous to mention. Shakspeare Paper, its perfect fit and durability, its line of Gents. Furnishing

Switches in Jute and Linen, and small ware. Ladies' BOOTS & SHOES, worked

and OETAMANS.

ite and colored, plain, striped, and in bleached and un-; Miller's White Cottons, &c. Small Profits and quick ek shall be sold at the lowest. re on the corner of Water ad opposite H. O'Neill's Mar-en for the elegant "Davis, hich has been so celebrated, a sample of which can be or price and conditions en.

JAMES BRADLEY, St. Andrews.

TIOR.

a serious accident occurring saving obstructions on the; the public are hereby no- person leaving rubbish or e streets or side walks in this uted on the penalty according.

ews, 20th Nov., 1872. THOMAS BIPWELL, Commissioner District No. 1.

IC NOTICE

hat the following Non-Res- the Parish of St. George, has der for the year 1872, and together with the cost of ad- dition three months from ill be sold according to law. m Property \$8.00. RONALD CAMPBELL, 28, 1872. Collector.

MACHINES.

FAMILY SHOULD HAVE iginal Weed Sewing achines.

l Machines are now on sale- the public are invited to r themselves.

JAMES STOOP, Agent.

Farm for Sale.

offers for sale his Property at h commands a splendid view Bay, the Islands and sur- The place is pleasantly situ- shore of the Bay, the Saint rough i, rendering it a most sidence and farm, in a plea- within six miles of the town he farm contains 100 Acres, s under cultivation; cuts 25 od pasture, is well watered eed; on the premises are a ing House, with two large

be sold with or without the r particulars, apply at the or to

JAMES ORR, Jr., on the premises.

ACK TEA.

ointer from New York.

SOUCHONG TEA.

or duty paid at lowest rates

FOOD CLEWLEY & CO., St. Stephen.

ANGE HOTEL

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ada Ate.

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J. W. STREET

by given, that His Excellency, General, by an Order in Coun- 26th instant, and under the him, by the 2d section of the 0, has been pleased to order, following articles be transfe- on, which may be imported duty, viz:

1 Wollen Netting and Flush- store of Glasses and Mitts.

By Command, R. S. M. BOUCHETTE, Commissioner of Customs.

IPORTATION.

idges & Son's best Steat

ess" Dub in-Porter, quar

J. W. STREET.