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 impatience. Ab, angels of mercy, a hutle, yet a
lutule longer, a and that worn, tried, but fathful lathe longer, and that worn, tried, but farthat
sprit shall be carried by thee to the footstool 'I canot bear this,' I murmured, as I
ticed a deadly pallor steal over his face ; Liced a deadly pallor steal over his face; 'relnet
must stll be sought. Nay, see jou not, Mag-
gie, this map be death even now approaching.The inroads of disease, the want of proper nou risiment, this fearful shock-all may basten the end which I feel assured is near.'
. Shail I leape you, Minane, in this desolat Louse, or will you go to St. Mary's? ask Maggie, who wr
puest I sought.
'I will reman with my falber,' I answered we may not heed the siance we feel. Margaret. For his dear sake we must stoop also to beg the
id of chanty. Ii you can meet with Father in.' tell bum how sore is the 'plight we are A long, lorg time seemed to interrene after
he departure of Margaret unil her retura. thad no light save that wiuch the remainas of
rush-cande bestowed, and which was alnost con sumed, and thy ejes often wandered uneasily around the dim obscurity beyond, for 1 could not
help fancying that once or twice I heard a slight help fancying that once or twice I heard a slight
noise, and then - Was it fancy, or do I really see flding, as it were, actoss the passage beyonds
or the door stood partally open? A thousand ladeous and suporsthious fear thronged thes and fast upon my mind, wy heart
too truly told me that I was to the presence of too truly told me that was a lo a pilingence or
the dying. A
throughout the house, and on the hand matires beside me lap ny father, has ashen countenance
aready wearang the bue of death; buried in a sort of stupor, I ondy knew he get breathed b the faintest percep.
which covered bun.
Wid every sense painfully on the alert, I stull sept the termporary seat 1 had endearored to
form, and wnll body straned forward, and eye paunfully fixed, saite of myself, on the opposte sigat or sound which had anooged me, in wardy praying that Margaret moght soon return. Ie
anain my heart beat thick and fast, my inugue clore o the root of tyy mouth, and
turned cold as ace, as that shadow agan more
across tue opposice wall. No time was to be lost, the rusilight wa
bout expire. I felt I had indeed not oerr alone and in. darkaess, to brare the horrors of
such a scene as has, and scarcelp conscious of What I did, I moved stealthily from toe place tand, I crept across the room. Yes, I was al wrong, there, in the landing beyond, surele siocd
the form of a maa. A cry rose, to my lips, but I thougt of my father, remembermg that in our
desolate and rumed home there was wo incentive o plunder. And though my teeth clattered, and quered :he mpulse to slriek, and left the room quered the mpulse the worst. Quick as thought the form of this nocturnal risitant ghded to the
taircaze, 1 followed, siading with my liand the fas expring light,suddenir it paused, $I$ lieard my name pronounced, though in a whisper: I was beck-
oned onwards, aud now, losing erery thought of ear an a sense of curios: Is, I rushed boldly dowa of the passege,
'In the name of heaven, who are gou, and what seek you in this abode of sorro

- Manie, Mionie, doa't be frightened-it is I, It 2 Arthur ,' exclaimed my wretched brother, grasping the rnund the waist with one hand, for
he sav I was ithout to fall, while he snatched the light from wy trembling hand with the
other.
Doubtless many of my readers have, ta some Doubticss many of ing readers have, th some
time or other during ther tires, known what was under the impulse of fear or other emotion be 11 what it inay, to act as did, carciess of
fear for the present, rusti on to know the worst, and then elther relapsed into insensibility as 1
had nearly done, or found relief in a conious lood of tears. To may inquiries, as soon as I
could speak, as to how be had entered the house could speak, as to how be had entered the house
without try knowledge, or for what reason be bad occasioned tone so terribl
me the following account-
It bappened liat in the morning bis wife had
passed along the street, had noticed the mufled passed along the street, had noticed the muffled
door and the confusion that prevalled, and had afterwards ascertaned in the neighborbood that an ex be added, 1 thaught I would get some
upon be and a few good thiogs for the poor gove
wine and Wine and a few good thiogs for the poor gov-
ernor, by abstainiag somewhat from drink, with.


## out which, unfortunately, I could not lise. snow houp badly you all thuls of ine,' he sai

 wiping a tear from his eye, ' aud I came ixere athe very moment when Margaret had for a fov ajar. I enteren, and storing away what I upougbt with me into the hatchen, crept soflly
up sairs to see if could get hold of you without, the kuowledge of father. I can't much wooder, he controued, 'if be does not wish to see me,
and as 1 can't bear reproaches, for 1 dou't supand as 1 can't bear reproaches, for 1 doin't supprortuanty tin could atrract your attention atter a slariek, and thank a thief badgot in the
bouss.' 'A thief hera!' repeated, lookng around on he bare walls of our wretched home; 'but gire come it will be,'
erness rushed over the ruder nalure bofish tenfor he drew me to him, kissed me, and rephed -Why, Minnie
sadly altered, so pale and tina, and so is Maggie no ; she is no longer bouny Maggie,' he mur were all sad scamps, no doubt,--the gits stoul Lot hare been left to do all;' then recoremg
fom his reverie, be continued, 'Matild ing ough bard wocaan, you tnow, sie's been roughls bred, and so forth; her parents of the servint
class, she herself one too, poor thing, when 1 bad wounan, and sile came home and totd
with tears how bard things fared with you all and we had a liulle money, and 1 bare got a
basket of good uoursting food liere; and irken
 0 , the light is juit out.' 'Grope your way up as well as fou can,' he
eplied, 'I will be bacls in a ferv moments with candles.'
I did
I did as he requested, and entering the sict oom agan, took iny siat by my father, in whom
no change was yet risible. The next innment, ounded on iny
taint accents asked who knocked so late, and betraging that
he sind was wanderng to delirium, whaspered plate uastairs, lest it siould be stolen, theng iga scenes of thie day, as in piteous acceuts scenes of the daf, as in pieous
peated the words I bad heard him
one bedi for my daugher; do not, I pray sou
take all away.
Hastuly 1 left the room, and admitted Ma
garet, who had waited, and ramily, for the priest eariog I sibould be alsimed at her long bissaice,
had deternined on returuing thome, and satistied berseli will learing a message,
In a few hasty words I spoke to my sister of
he opportune recurn of our misguded brother who on bus entratue, placing a fur thrgs in my
fand, begged me, with a dasta eren then of the talal carelessaess of manner which bad alwaj auls, addug, • I may be a better man yet Munse, and sow my wild onts still, so try and
make my peace with father ; for I stould lut hke the poor old gentleman to die whinst we are or a ferm minutes; 1 aur gong back to matilda se to you a fer things more which may be use to gou an: so go up, giris, and say all you
can tor me, so that 1 may see my father on my
returu, ' Ah, Arthur,' sald Margaret with a sigh, he door closed upon hum, there is no hope be lore of drinks:' 'Alas, alas! an afiectionate heart depraved, answered' as we returned to my father's room I wonder may we yet hope for reform.' Ocbe was sulficuenty himiself 10 receive the sof
bread dipped iu mane, which from lume to time gare to bitn, and which the poor old man swal
lowed with roractous eagerness; while Margaret, warming flannels by the newly-kindled
fire, ever and anon appled them to his feet and frequently, his miad dwelling on the past, mould he ramble in this way:- Change of ministry, -

nobilhty, some valger - parvenu;'-any one, any
Whilst thus he rambled, his attenuated fingers
were describing on the bedclothes a mathemati-
cal circle, and be proceeded as follows, some
times speaking in a low mensured tone, so lo that I could mith diliiculty catch the rords he continuing witb rapidity of utterance, counting 'Corregg: a, Mozart, Dante, Beethoven, Chat-
terton, Otway, Drydea. Ah, ah, ah!' he re peated ta a low, unearthy laugh, which chilled
us while we histeued; Has as while we histeued; -' Faydon, too, poor Hay-
don, whose beauiful panting fou will remember,
girls, hung in the Egypain Hall, which none Cared to behold, while hundreds noured in, beaeath the same roof, to see General Tom 'I'tumb
the poor litle duarf Ton Thiumb; and so, because 'Ton Thumb was a libel on our nature and our manluood, the nob poured ta to see hum, an ye got the white silrer and red gold, girls, and
Haydon, Haydon, -aih, let me see what was his end - Wty, Haydor. lost his senses throug trouble atd bunger, and committed sucide, and Ah, ah! the man was lefit to starre, and the naron left hum to the paverty ot a beggar and the
rave of a suicule.'
Then came a pause, and Margaret and mpselt eard hen let hinnself in by means of the be which I bad given him ; but Margaret motioned Whin belor for a white, till conscrousness fully re-
hurned; for we feared be eflect this presence might hare at present; yet we were, I need
bis tryugg moment.
Te cifered again lum, pilll coatinung his mourafui col
-They with himself.
"Thit to me hopes of a consulate, an apiontment in ludia; but it has all eaded in
nollaug. Seren, eight, nine languages, - yes, I kiow all these; but, go to, man of letters, ours
is a money-making country, a land in which
and commere thrye-we will hase none of
rons wa preter the cotton lord, thaugh, albeit,
his kiowiedge of has mother tongue sometumes laits him; but, neser mind rulgarity, you know,
they hare the thoneg, and so, sir, the roughin unducated hind of 10 -day may be, and often is, the sea, with all our stock of learned lore, are rot
tang in obscurity and wand, -hut soff, sir, $\cdot$ there andber aud a better worls
Mr lather paused ; the glassy ejes, so preter
naturally bright, filled with cears. We fell that unconsciously to himetif, he bad struck on a right
chord, and we blessed fiot for the change which

- Father, dear futher,' we exclamed, 'do gou
- Yes, a lille better,' he rephed: but bus roice
sas rery low: be was much exlasted by the Hort he had just made,--lie long widd delirum - Mincharet has fallen.
eutty urget, " he seen Artiur lately, father,
see you; - - ou witl see hing, will you not?
may I tell dum te may come?"
'Certululy, the rephed ; 'Arthur is more his
own enemy than ours; for he is ruining both
soul aud body?
'the is below stars, father; may he come
'In the bouse now?' he rephed, seemmagly
Alb, now 1 mind me,
cemas like a long drean; but we bad wo fire, no
and and and hiss is wime, giris, wae, -where ho
ou this; dhd Arthur brisg it you? A
por boy, why is he not always aflectionate an ood?'
The next moment Artbur kaelt besule the old
sole the tears, and promises of amendment were
made. And, alas! that I should have to say
tbat, for some tume, they were unstable as mould be letters written on the sand; for rare indeed the reformation of the drunterd
And as we sat aod talked, our spirits grew
more composed ; se beaped fresh
ire, covered up my father with the warm
blankets Arthur had brought, and when again
my poor father sank into that stupor which oc-
casioned us so much uneasiness, we to low
whispers conferred torether as to the possibility
our raising a litte moneg, so as to have $m$,
father remored on the morrow to a furaished
Sodging.
Arthur retired ummediately mono another rooma,
West eurered.
With the deepest sgmpathy the good alerg
man looked round the wretched room, afford
nan us the means at the same tume of providing
what was necessary for the greatest emergencies
of the moment.
confession, Margaret and prepared to make his
myself withdrew; and
shouid come on the following morning mith the
holy riaticum; at the same time isquring if wa This was, however, the case, and but little could now be doue. My tather bad long suffer less, by the phest hovever resolred to send a medical riend of his own to see if there was any hope masal.
What our feelings were gined than described on recerving any gentle comfortless home; but there was no belp - the rriug ordeal had to be gone through with as wuch composure as possible, Margaret hastening rith the first daivn of the followng day to order earest shop the neighborhood allordes from the It was sill earlf-about eight o'clock, and earance of somethong like decency to o $\vec{\sim}$ valid's room, who had again fallen toto that arburger of speedy dissolution.
hapter iv. - another meeting - life's
The sharp wind of one of our coldest January hrough the empty uncarpeted rooms of on gust old te house, while a heary snow-storm raged
without. With the aid of Arnor, rity on wr owa parts, and abore all which the good priest ${ }^{\text {tput }}$ into my hard, the chamber in which my father las presented wore combortable appearance; and new, with verything prepared, as far as our poor means Woutd permit, we sat with anxiovs fear depicte riends. I in rain strove to shate of that feel ong of gloom which hung over me, to which my wollen whih the tears I had shad ous the preced vell as, the scene atcount of my dear father, as hrill of horror would creen through my vens hat wretched aioole. While chus I inused, in yes fised on that paile face, over which the grey shadow of deatha seemed to pass, the loud
knock of the postuan-loud, hougis the knocker was mefled-scunded at the door, and the nors roused the in rald, who ultered a deep sighl, as tore for uogs, shoutu fate bape fulure woes in letter us ing hands, directed to my faller, $t$ is eges, ofer which a dull glassy film seeme ine to open the fetter. I dud so, and read aloud the munsis witen by the Ear or-, on had formerly becn indebted. The note wa bret; tut cach word occasioued me a sting of
oost acute anguist ; for rellef bad come ndeed The purport of the letter was to say that Her Majesty had been pleased, in consideration of the iterary services of Mr. Arthur Herbert, to order that a pension of $£ 200$ a year should be pald to
hum during the retaiader of his life ; and the anouncemen was couched is ance cour
- Father, dear Father !' i exclanned, ' we map We liappy yet. Heard yos not what 1 read?
added; for he seened to tace no notice of nnouncement, His lips moved, and I placed my ear to them to catch the sound which al-
ready seemed like the last cllort of expiring na-

He appearel as though be were bollung a col - Will sour lordship bear my petition to the title mart or her royal favor on $m s$ daugter Minne? I am going on a long jouraey, and ot frin bs Her Majest's kiadness aow. mental laculties had been so shaken by the trials hrough which we had passed, hat if not entire igorous intellect. I clasped my hands bis onc in the bitterness of the deepest despair, and we ll turned to the window, partly to conceal our
lears and parlly to watch for the priest, to whose arrival we now felt anxious, as well as for We were not many minutes in suspense ; for with a heavy snow-storm beating relenilessly in therr faces, by a cutting north-east wird, we
observed two gentlemen meei from apposite rections, speakk a fem words togeither, and and thien
crossing the street, crossing the street, advance in the directon of
our house; and with lighteped hearts we received I had felt full confidence in th
I had felt full confidence in the okill of my fa-
her's late attendant, who had often assured $m e$

