

2237.

THE PASTOR'S REVERIE.

The pastor sits in his easy-chair, With the Bible upon his knee...

"Not clear nor dark," as the Scripture saith The pastor's memories are;

"In love hath bound us up." Free flies his thought over many a field...

He thinks of the day when first, with fear And falling lips...

He enters again the house of toil, And joins in the homely chat...

But who to-day are the poor, And who are the rich? Ah! him who keeps...

Once more the green and the grove resound With the merry children's din...

Once more he lists while the camp fires glow On the waving mountain-side...

And now he beholds the wedding train To the altar slowly moving...

And the solemn words are said that seal The sacrament of love...

And anon at the font he meets once more The tremulous youthful pair...

With a white-robed cherub crowning response To the consecrating prayer...

By the couch of pain he kneels, again; Again, the thin hand lies...

It is not in vain that he has trod This lonely and toilsome way...

And living another's load, Doh! lighten your own, and shorten the way...

And brighten the homeward road, And brighten the homeward road...

Wayfarers. The way is long, my darling, The road is rough and steep...

Your feet are tired, my darling— So tired, the tender feet!

But think, when we are there at last, How sweet the lamp is lit!

For lo! the lamps are lighted, And yonder gleaming door, Before us, shining like stars...

We've lost the flowers we gathered So early in the dewy dawn...

But, oh! my love, press onward, And faster flowers will rob us...

Wait for us at home. Art cold, my love, and fainished? Art faint and sore-limbed?

For oh! the sun is shining, And joyous, as a first, Within that land of bloom...

The wind blows cold, my darling, Adown the mountain steep...

And thick across the evening sky The darkening shadows creep...

But, oh! my love, press onward, And faster flowers will rob us...

Wait for us at home. Art cold, my love, and fainished? Art faint and sore-limbed?

Robbin Hood and Another Hood.

BY LATE W. HAMILTON. DAILY found the book one rainy Saturday when he could not be out...

of doors, and so, of course, ranged through the whole house, from applebin in the cellar to the oldest and boxes stowed away in a attic...

Among the treasures of these last he discovered a little worn volume "Robbin Hood and his Merry Men," and, curled up there under the eaves, with the rain pattering unnoted above his head, Ray was still for the rest of the afternoon, his fancy revelling in the marvellous exploits of a far away greenwood.

The bold outlaw and his gay, daring band, quite captivated the boy, his head was full of them long after the story was finished, and, very naturally, several other boys, Dick, Bob, Ned and Charles, were soon in the same condition. The book was read again when the whole party were together—began on the hay left in the barn, and completed by the light of a bonfire on the common. Soon there came a great demand for stout tins; there was an immense amount of waiting in the back yard; haws and arrows increased, and the pumpkins Hiram had stored in the shed suffered as targets.

The very first holiday took the entire country, armed with their new weapons, off to their own greenwood, a pleasant forest about a mile from the small town where they lived. Ray, the founder, was also the leader of the band, and they dubbed him "Robbin Hood" at once; while the others made free with the name of Little John, Friar Tuck, and the rest of the "merry men," according to their fancy. It was a bright autumn day. The wood was brilliant with golden leaves and scarlet vines, and the boys enjoyed their free roaming—now sending a shower of arrows into some thicket, now running wild races in pursuit of imaginary deer.

"I wish we could have some of the real adventures they did, you know hunting, and stopping people, and all that," said Dick, leaning back against a tree. "Shouldn't think they'd just as lief been outlawed as not. Sush a jolly life!"

"I know what we can do," announced Bob, with sudden animation. "I'll go with Carey went out to his grandfather's this morning, and he'll be coming back by and by. He nearly always comes through the woods, and can spring out and surprise him, and make him join the band. He's a real good fellow, anyhow."

"Great surprise!" laughed Ray, "when he knows every one of us as well as he knows himself."

"Oh, we'll cover up our faces some way, and change our voices so he can't tell us just at first, until we lead him in to our cave by the old rock," persisted Bob.

"That might do," began Ray, doubtfully; but his voice was drowned by the hearty acceptance of the others, and the whole party went busily to work to make masks from the leaves about them. It was not an easy task to fasten them securely together, and there were many failures and much laughing and planning before they finally succeeded. Then they made their way over a batten path led through the wood, and concealed themselves behind trees and bushes.

"Must be nearly time for him to come," said Bob.

"Hush!" whispered Dick. "There was a noise of rustling leaves, a sound of footsteps drawing nearer, until they were opposite the ambush. Then the boys started up with gruff shouts:

"Stand and deliver!" "Your money or your life!"

A wild scream answered them, and a voice was dropped at their feet, and two figures went flying down the road with a speed almost like that of the wind.

The boys stared at each other in astonishment; there had evidently been a mistake. Ray regained his senses first, and called after the runaways:

"Hello! they 've come back!" "But he was only answered by another scream, and the twinkling bare feet of a small boy, and a girl's fluttering dress disappeared at a turn in the path. Neal started in pursuit, but presently returned, breathless and unaccomplished.

"Such a run! I couldn't get anywhere near them!" he panted, throwing himself upon the ground. "Frightened nearly out of their wits!"

"We might have known it said Will Carey, if we had stopped long enough to have known anything," said Ray, in dismay. "What shall we do with this?"

"Lift the wits." "We'll send it to them, of course," answered Charlie, glibly.

"Well, who are they?" "Why—oh—" Charlie paused; and it was not in vain that he had wrought in the vineyard all the day; for nobody knew who they were.

"Must have been simple to think we were robbers in real earnest," muttered Bob, breaking the silence. "What's in the old trap, anyway, Ray?"

"Don't know. It's heavy, but it's locked," Neal answered.

"I expect we might find out," observed Neal, drawing a nail from his pocket, and beginning to examine the lock. But Dick interposed.

"Enter let alone. You see, fellows, if those two run into town and tell some great story about being robbed in the woods, it'll be kind of queer for us, you know, if it's found out who did it. We really did tell them to stand and deliver, and all that."

"A 'Taw!' just in fun!" exclaimed Charlie, stoutly.

"But there's the law, you know," pursued Dick, doubtfully. "Why, they might call it real highway robbery, I don't know much about the law, but I know of things, if a thing is done, they don't pay much attention to whether it's done in fun or not."

"The boys began to look troubled. 'I wish they had the old thing,' said Neal, sounding an anxious glance over his shoulder to see that no one was near them.

"We might take it over to our cave and think what to do with it afterwards," said Ray, shaking the same anxiety. "Better not let Will Carey or anybody know about it, I guess."

The party hurried away, as desirous now of avoiding their school-mates as they had before been of surprising him. There was no more hunting or shooting that day; the band spent the remainder of the afternoon in solemn council over their booty, which seemed to grow more and more troublesome the longer they thought of it. They dared not tell anybody about their fear of falling into the hands of that powerful law officer, who they dreaded so much, and of which they knew so little except that it forbade highway robbery. They dared not carry it home for the same reason. They disliked to hide it, for that seemed to make their case look blacker; but it was heavy, it might contain an immense sum of gold, and what if it should be stolen from them before they could restore it to its owners!



(The above will but faintly illustrate the great rush we expect to greet the announcement of our Monster Closing Sale.)

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Wholesale Butchery of Choice Goods. Everybody invited to share the spoils. Our entire spring and summer stock must be sold, regardless of value, bring what it will!

Immense Bargains for everybody. We want and must have room. Come early and get the First Choice.

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We now invite you all to come and judge for yourselves, and by an impartial visit of examination find out whether there is truth or humbug in the advertisement of

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For Sale in F'n. FINEST possible building lots, situated on the E. side of Shore Street, also a corner lot on Westmount and Green Streets.

Molasses & Sugar. JUST RECEIVED, and for sale at lowest market rates, in Bulk, or by retail.

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SEEDS! Choice Selected, Field, Pottery, Tree, Grass, Herb, Vegetable and Honey Plants.

LIME. 150 CASKS FINE LIME, 20 BUSHES GRASS SEED.

SEEDS! SEEDS! GARDEN, FIELD, & FLOWER SEEDS.

Furs Falling. RAW FURS fall 30 per cent, at the Hudson Bay Sale this month in London.

Plaster. 100 BARRELS Fresh Lime Plaster, 30 Bushels Fresh Collected Plaster.

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