

could command, that every eye grew moist. And poor Effie saw in that hour the fearful result of wrong doing; she thought of her mother's peaceful, happy death, and all the suffering they had ever endured was as dust in the balance compared to what her father had suffered through sin and remorse.

Dr. Colson watched by him without rest or sleep, until the second morning saw him for the first time sink into a quiet slumber.

"Doctor, will he live? is there any hope?" came from the pale lips of Effie as he came from the room to say that his patient had just awoke from a quiet sleep of several hours, and was now unconscious but with more favorable symptoms. "And may I nurse him all the time?" she said pleadingly.

"All you are able to; but I fear this is going to be too much for you."

"Oh! I shall never be weary of nursing him, poor, dear papa."

At length the deep love and devoted care, were rewarded by a decided improvement in Mr. Carlton; and, of a naturally robust constitution, he convalesced rapidly. As yet they had not deemed it advisable to reveal the identity of his faithful nurse. As he grew better, he lay and watched her continually, seeming to take melancholy pleasure in her presence, and was restless and uneasy in her absence.

"What is your name, little nurse?" he whispered, as she was arranging the pillows. She hardly dared, but love overcame prudence; "Effie," she said softly.

"What else, child? tell me quick," and he wrung her hand till she could scarce suppress a cry of pain.

"Effie Carlton. Oh! father, father, I cannot keep the secret any longer!"

"Thank God," came fervently from his lips, and opening his arms, he closed them tightly about the young form of his daughter.

And thus Dr. Colson found them, a half hour later.

"Come in, Doctor," said the invalid this dear child has almost cured me. I dare not let her go for fear she will vanish into air. Oh! I never thought such happiness was in store for me, when I heard in a distant land, that my wife, and probably my child, had died, alone and among strangers."

As he grew better Effie told him all their past life since he went away, making it always bright as possible. But when she told him of her mother's death, of her deep unchanging love for him, of her free and full forgiveness, of her dying charge to her, he wept convulsively. She did not strive to stop him, only by saying, "Oh, we loved you all the time, papa," which only started the tears afresh. And Effie felt that those tears were purifying his heart.

"Effie will you pray for me, that I may carry out the good resolves of this hour—that I may have strength from on high, even as you have had?" and they knelt there together, and a prayer eloquent with love and faith, went up from those youthful lips. And when Henry Carlton arose, he felt so calm and happy that he wondered not at the pure spiritual light that gleamed from the dark eyes of Effie.

Dr. Colson seemed somehow to manifest as much interest in his patient now he was nearly well, as ever before. We love to see disinterested people, but at the risk of being called uncharitable, we fear we shall call the young physician the least bit in the world selfish, especially when he got into the habit of examining Effie's pulse instead of her father's; and still more especially, when he endeavoured to make her believe that he was in very pressing and urgent need of a nurse, just such an one, in short, as the one whose skill had just prove so successful. He used such excellent logic, and such convincing arguments, that Effie took pity on him, and agreed to go with him to see what her father thought of the case, and abide by his decision. After all the arguments, pro, and con., had been discussed, it was agreed between the gentlemen, (Effie in the meantime trying to look very unconcerned, yet failing wretchedly in the attempt, for the bright happy look was dancing in her eyes and hiding under the blushes that came and went so charmingly in her cheeks; at least that was the opinion of Frederick Colson, M. D.,) that as both seemed to want the same nurse, it should be left to Effie to say how soon she could be prepared to enter on her double duties.

Effie had never thought of her father returning wealthy, until in the long talk that followed the "new arrangement," he said: "I feel Dr. Colson, in giving you Effie, that you have a wealth above silver and gold. God only knows what