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JUBILEE BOOK.

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TALES OF THE JURY-ROOM.

Eamus in jus. PLAUT. Pomilius, Act v. Dogberry. Are you good men, and true? Much Ado about Nothing.

BY GERALD GRIFFIN. AUTHOR OF "TALES OF THE MUNSTER FESTIVALS," ETC.

THE NINTH JURYMAN'S TALE.

THE LAME TAILOR OF MACEL.

" Or man, or spirit I answer thee! Behold me here--behold me !''

" I was musing

On things that are not of this world: aye dallying With dreams that others shrink from; communing With disembodied Nature in her den Of lonely desolation, silent and dark."

JULIAN the Apostate.

CHAPTER II .- (CONTINUED.)

I found all things in the community pretty nearly as he had described them, with the exception of some points of doctrine, and certain feelings of which he had not spoken. I found that, while they professed a strict obedience to their own superior, they acknowledged none such outside the precincts of their community, acknowledging only God for their master, and ready to suffer everything rather than obey man: unlike the christian monks, who, independent of their religious obedience, made it a rule to be models of submission, to any government under which they may be placed. But what most of all disgusted me, in addition to such empty pride, and their never ending purifications, was the absurdity of their belief in destiny, imagining that all things were done, even to their own acts, by necessity, and that there was no such thing as freedom of the will. Accordingly, after a trial of some months, not finding myself much farther advanced on the road to wisdom and happiness, I left the Essenians, their white robes and their ablutions, turned and my attention seriously to my long projected journey to Athens.

"In that city of sages," I said, "I shall at least others. learn something to the purpose. The garden of philosophy, the school of the whole world, must hierophant, who entered the building accompanied have some fruits as yet unculied, some wisdom still by a stanger, whose features I could discern, but remembered. There I shall learn something satis- his garb seem d that of a student like myself. When

of silence and of gravity, filled with bearded philosophers whose eyes for ever betokened abstraction of mind, and whose lips were ever silent, except when they opened to convey instruction. Alas! how quickly on my approach to the city were those sub-lime visions put to flight.

I was pacing leisurely along one of the public roads, within a few miles of the city, when I was accosted by a young man, who asked without ceremony, on what business I came to Athens? On hearing my reply, he said a real

"Then you are fortunate in having met with me. for I am a pupil, of the sophist Himerius, by far the most eminent in Athens; he teaches grammer, history, poetry, mathematics to perfection, and there is not such another astronomer beneath the moon.",

He ran on pouring forth such a torrent of eulogy as he walked by my side, that I could not but admire my good fortune in falling in with a disciple of the renowned Himerius. As he continned to speak, a new voice suddenly struck upon

Mygear, The tage of the him unwary stranger, but follow me, and I will conduct thee to the feet of the sophist Prophersius, to whom this Himerius is no

or bettor than a clown that have been all the restantly other woices now broke in and we were instantly surrounded by a crowd of young men in the habit r of students, all vociferating the names of the several.

rival teachers of wisdom, and in the midst of a still increasing tumult, I was dragged rather than conducted to the town, where after a dreadful contest, in which my own inclinations were no longer consulted, I was borne away in triumph by the strongest party, and conveyed to a house, where I thought my troubles were at an end: but this was only the commencement of such a day of persecu-tion as I had never before experienced. It were tedious to detail the whole. First I was exposed in public to a crowd of disputants, who set upon me like so many hounds about to worry an unfortunate hare, one asking what I thought of the metempsychosis, or transmigration of souls? another, to what sect I belonged? a fourth, my trade? a fifth, my country? another, if I placed happiness in the things without or those within my power? to all which inquiries, my grave and serious answers seemed to afford them infinite diversion. When tired of this scene, they conducted me with great ceremony, marching two and two to the public bath, on reaching which, they began shouting and leaping like so many bacchanals or madmen, enjoying the terror I could not avoid manifesting, and knocking at the door as if they would have torn it from the hinges. Fortunately, I was not so dismayed but I made my way in as soon as the door was opened, on which I I was given to understand that my persecutions were at an end, and that I was now initiated, and entitled to all the honours of an Athenian stu-

Such were the manners of the young Athenian votaries of wisdom! Such was the city of Minerva, to which I had travelled so far, and with so sanguine a heart in search of happiness and wisdom. I received some consolation for these annoyances in the progress which I soon began to make in philosophic learning. The sophist with whom I studied was one of the most celebrated masters of eloquence in Greece: So highly were his lectures esteemed, that they were always attended by many notaries, who, by means of symbolical figures, re-presenting words, were enabled to transfer his words to paper as rapidly as they were uttered. These symbols were again transcribed in full by notaries of a second class, so that all was preserved in the exact form in which it had been written. We had students of all sects and nations at this time in Athens, but the greater number were christains, and many intended for the ecclesiastical state.

One day a student told me of a sophistin the city, who in addition to his mathematical demonstrations, in which they all excelled, was privately addicted to the art of magic. For a time, I despised the story, as, since I came to Athens, my application to the demonstrative sciences had greatly diminished the curiosity I once entertained respecting those superstitious arts, which I began to regard as altogether visionary. The mention of such appearances brought back to my mind the occurrences of the day on which I had received my lameness, and the unknown individual by whose capricious bounty, I was able to pursue a course so much more ance with my own inclinations than that from which I had withdrawn.

"You may think what you please," urged the student, " of the reality of the strange appearances which he conjured up, but that such doth appear in obedience to his summons, is a fact to which I can myself bear evidence. If you are still in doubt you may to-night have the testimony of your own eyes and cars."

After hearing more from him upon the subject, I agreed to be his companion on the ensuing night. My curiosity (if it were mere curiosity) upon the subject of supernatural appearances, and immaterial agency, was once more aroused by what I had been told, and the longer I reflected upon it the more impatiently I longed for the arrival of the appointed time. Such a night! such a scene as it was soon my lot to witness!

CHAPTER III.

A dim moonlight conducted us to the temple of Hecate. On entering, my companion laid one finger on his lips to intimate that we must observe the strictest silence. There was no light in the temple save that of the moon, which entered in many places revealing the gigantic idol, looking doubly awful in the stilly gloom by which it was surrounded. My companion and I took our places in a recess, where, concealed behind an idol of lesser size than that of the goddess to whom the temple was dedicated, we prepared to observe all that was about to take place, without the danger of being seen by

In a short time we could discern the figure of the he spoke, the first sound of his voice startled me, as if I had heard it before, under some strangely inter-

esting circumstances. "What care I," said he, " for squares and circles, for angles and curves, for sines und tangents; what care I to hear, that unity is thrice contained in three, or what proportion the radius bears to the circle it divides? I am weary of the dry and obvious conclusions of the muthematicians—of magnitudes and their measures,—I wish to hear from you something more worthy of interesting an immaterial spiri'.''

"You sall be gratified," replied the hierophant.
"Yet, I know not how it is," continued the stranger, "but now that I am about to witness what I have so long desired to see, the thought of it thyself a slave, to the very folly thou condemnest in freezes me with terror. The silence of this place, the awful hour of night, the image of Hecate seen thus dimly in the gloom, are not in themselves sufficient to account for what I feel. The very air I breathe, since we have entered, seems to communicate a degree of terror such as I have never

"It is the influence of what you are about to behold that already, seizes on your spirits," said the are! How, even in recollection, ye still freeze with hierophant...," Be bold and brief in what thou say-est, and expect but, one answer to one question. Be and have I indeed beheld them? Have I truly est, and expect but one answer to one question. Be cautious, and above all things, beware of using any sign or phrase familiar to thy christian education,

else thou wilt ruin all the stranger, then, was a christian! This disof students, all voolerating the names of the several covery actonished me, for I already knew there was the hair, and all but dissolution of the strong knit souther whom shey studied, and pulling me nothing which they held in greater abhorrence than frame itself, assures me that it is so. But, also

made his preparations, I could not avoid sharing in all the feelings expressed by the stranger. The place seemed to grow hot and sufficienting, and I could not withdraw my eyes from the statue, before which the hierophant burned what seemed a small grain of incense, which he had first purified with many ceremonies. While he did so, muttering some verses in a low voice, I could plainly discern a smile arising on the stony features, and the torch which the Goddessheld in her hand, broke gradually out into a flame.

The scene which it revealed still fills my mind with horror in recalling it. Before the idol, the light shone full upon the figure of the stranger, who seemed to recoil with an attitude of horror, his features pale and distorted with excess of fear. I had no difficulty in recognising my Pythagorean friend, the new revival of Alexander the Great, to whose bounty I stood so much indebted! He seemed now oppressed with terror, his limbs shook, and his mouth half open, seemed gasping for air and utterance. There was enough to justify his terror and to make it impossible for me to avoid sharing it to an extent fully equal to his own. Between him and the idol stood or rather floated a shadowy figure of such terrible and hideous aspect, as I cannot even now recall without a shudder. There was visible through the mists that ever floated and wreathed around it, a lurid semblance of eyes and ghastly features, but with an expression from which the beholder recoiled, with a feeling of indescribable fear and melancholy.

"I am here!" exclaimed the phantom, "what wouldst thou?"

"I would hear something," said the stranger, " of the world to which thou belongest. Is it happier or more wretched then our own?

"It is happier and more wretched." "When shall I enter it?"

'When thou wilt."

"But apart from my own act or will?" "Beware of Phrygia."

"What shall I be called, when that day arrives?" " Augustus."

"Shall I succeed in the design which I am medtating at this moment ?"

"Thou shalt do much, but much shall remain undone." "From whom, then, shall the new system receive

its heaviest blow?" " From its professors." "Thou sayest, the world from which thou comest

is more happy and more wretched than our own.— Which is it to thee?" "Happiness has many names."

"Which of the two is it more advisable to use in

the design I meditate?—force or art?" "Art—and force." "I would ask thee more. Why are laws so strong in the physical world, and so feeble in the moral?

Why is there order in the heavenly bodies, and little or none on earth?" "The stars have no will."

"What reward do you propose, in case I serve you in the way I meditate?"

"A share in our kingdom."

"And happiness?" "In our kingdom."

"Beyond the numbering. Dismiss me!" the phantom continued, addressing the hierophant, who stood at a distance, a silent spectator of the scene.

"A moment!" cried the stranger, hastily. "I would see thy companions," he added, in a lower

"Scarcely had he uttered the words, when the horrors of the scene, already on the verge of mortal endurance, became multiplied tenfold. Volumes of curling mist ascended in the strong torchlight, to the very roof of the temple, through which innumerable shapes were seen, thick as sparks above a furnace, of an appearance so shifting and variable, that it buffles every effort at description, and smid a dull roar of mingled sounds like that of a distant multitude, or the noise of a storm-tossed ocean.-Some looked like specks in the remotest distance, others appeared to be almost in startling contact with the very person of the beholder. Most bore a hideously distorted resemblance to the form of man or of other animals, but with a capricious alteration of size, either in particular features, or in the whole, or half the figure, which had an effect as whimsical as it was horrible. It is impossible to convey any provoke laughter or contempt. The whole soon came to a termination as abrupt as it was, unexpected. Terrified by the phantoms he had himself evoked, the stranger, trembling in every limb, and pale as death, forgetting the warning of the magi-cian, signed himself with the cross in the manner of the christians, and to my relief, and astonishment, the awful sights and sounds were no longer to be heard or seen, and the temple remained silent and lonely as before; the torch extinguished in the hand of the idel, and the dim moonlight shining on the murble features as before. "Why did'st thou disregard my warning?" said

the hierophant. "Thou hast ruined all." "I knew not what I did," replied the stranger.-"But how was it that the sign I made had power to terrify those beings, themselves so terrible?"

"It was not fear," said the hierophant. "They did it, but to show a horror of your weakness.— What, thou! with such designs in head, thou show so many others. Thou must sheath thy heart in s panoply of steel if thou wouldst carry into effect the mighty work of which thou dreamest by night, and arguest in thy waking hours."

"It may be as thou sayest," replied the stranger, still pale and trembling in every limb—"and if so, I grieve to have offended those tremendous beings. O shadows of the immaterial world, how terrible, ye looked upon those, whom I have so long thirsted to see, and to serve? This strange excitement, so un-like all fear awakened by the sense of natural dangor, this shilly creeping of the flesh, and stirring of the hair, and all but dissolution of the strong knit one from another, until I thought I should have say participation in the magic rites of these what am I what has a being such as I the power the part which the unknewn stranger had taken in tude was ever paramount.

mand, without dominion?"

"Thou canst watch occasions," said the hierophant; "thou caust hold the weapon poised, and be ready with the blow, when the opportunity shall be afforded thee. No mortal of his own mere force hath any power. The successful are only stronger, because they are more vigilant than others. When no information. All he knew was that the hieroconquest makes them careless, they fail in their turn, by affording the occasions which the watched

"Thou heardest," said the stranger, "the phantom evade my inquiry as to the issue of my design."

"And is it by doubting of the issue that thou canst ever hope to be successful?"

"O. Evemarus." exclaimed the stranger, " is it not like the madness of one, who with outspread hands would attempt to arrest the rushing of the broad north wind? This all-powerful illusion, which I have half hated all my life, and wholly so within the last few years, spreads irresistible as a pestilence throughout the world. All yield, all fall before it thrones, kingdoms, land and sea, island and conti-nent, the city and the desert, wherever it breathes, with stilly and penetrating influence, it subdues and changes all. To thee, Evemarus, I disclose my thoughts in confidence. There are times, when I think of abandoning all for peace."

"You let it trouble your mind too much." said the hierophant. "All must be done with quietude and perseverance. Be not solicitous, nor devour your own mind with useless anxieties.

"Are they devils or gods, whom I have spoken with?" exclaimed the stranger, with a sudden burst of impatience.

"If thou waver thus," said the hierophant in a sedate tone, "twere better all should come to an end at once. I am sorry that I brought thee hither. I ever doubted of thy resolution, and now thou givest me cause. Why didst thou press me? Did I not tell thee, few were capable of preserving the reason cool in mysteries, such as these? But thou wert so assured, so confident—nothing could move thee—the Acropolis itself was not more firm. Thou wouldst be gratified, thou wouldst behold and speak with them. But yesterday, who was so eloquent and bold? Who mourned in more musical terms over the deserted temple—the neglected sacrifice? And yet now, the first occasion has revealed thy weakness. I tell thee once again—proceed no further. Have nought to do with that which thou wouldst take in hand. If I urged thee differently, but now it was but to put thee fully to the test .-Thou wilt either miserably fail, or thy reason will become a wreck in the protracted and soul-wearsing effort. It is the work of a giant to which thou put-test thy hand. Thou art not fit for it—be content and return to the lectures of Ecabolus, and think of it no more. The veil that hangs at the door of his grammar school, hides no mysteries that can place thy wits in danger."

"Thou hast a taunting tongue, African," said the

stranger, "but I suffer thy reproaches." "Hast thou strength of mind," continued the hierophant, "to stake all upon a hazardous cast, and then bear the suspense of years, or perhaps half a life before the issue can be known? Hast thou vigor of body to endure the watchings, the labors, the ceaseless tensions of the mind, and frame, that such an enterprize demands? If, as thou sayest, it be indeed the spirit of the son of Ammon that animates thine, I tell thee that the work of which thou speakest with so free a lip, is one to which the con-

quest of ten Dariuses were sport for virgins."
"Sharply, but surely," said the stranger, "thou hast recalled me to myself. For the present, let all be covered with the deepest silence. Thou only, Evemarus, knowest as yet my secret. For some time longer, I must continue to play the hypocrite, and seem to honor that which in my soul I hate .-Hence then ye idle fears, remorses of childhood, offspring of custom, and of prejudice, I renounce your empire! And thou, dread Hecate! he continued stretching his arms toward the idol, "and yet more awful jove, forgive me if I seem still to doubt,

in order that I may serve you the more surely." During the entire of this scene, it would be vain to attempt giving any idea of the feelings which it excited in my mind, or of the thousand heart piercing circumstances that gave it an interest while it passed, which far from being transferred into a cold narration of the past, cannot even be recalled in memory with anything approaching the same distinctness. I have not made an effort to convey a notion of the tones, the gestures which accompa-nied the words of the several speakers, now penctrating the mind of the hearer with a certain wild and preter-natural melancholy, which it is impossibie for those who have not felt it to conceive; and now disturbing, and as it were, shaking it to its very foundation with a strange and unaccountable terror, making the spectator feel as if he stood in the presence and in the power of capricious beings, of a tremendous strength, whose force it was impossible for him to avoid, and whose nature he knew not how to propitiate. I shared the first terror, but not the subsequent admiration of the stranger, nor would I for millions of worlds have been willing again to look upon such sights, or hear such sounds. The shifts of the hierophant were not to me so satisfactory, as they seemed to the philosophic stranger. I was not altogether without experience of the arts of such impostors. I had been present more than once at the scenes of merriment, which took place among the populace when the adyti, or sacred recesses of some halt ruined temple were disclosed. and all their oracular machinery brought to light, but this was never sufficient to satisfy me that all was the mere result of human craft, or that a delusion so universal could be so long sustained, if there really was nothing in it, beyond what the resources of cunning man could furnish. .. Candour seemed to demand a more open and honest course of dealing, and from all I had heard and read of events in my time—and more especially in the past, I could not deny that the gracies had given answers in many instances which must have proceeded from a more than human understanding. , Whether the scene I have detailed to thee Chry.

been torn in pieces between these partizans of the hierophants. In the meantime, while the magician of accomplishing? without place, without com- the dialogue. Who could be be? A christian it appeared, and one on the verge of forsaking his re-ligion in order to return to that which all the world were abandoning. But, who was he? and what stu-pendous design was this of which he spoke in terms so mystical? Conjecture could teil me nothing, and my companion to whom I referred could afford me phant was an African named Evemarus, (as I had heard the stranger term him,) notorious for his skill in magic. All my endeavors to obtain a sight of the stranger after we had left the temple were in vair, and both my curiosity and my gratitude were compelled to remain unsatisfied.

I returned to my studies. It was often to me a source of amusement to observe the various minds and dispositions of the students who at this time crowded the schools, where they afforded me the opportunity. Some of them were fellows wholly devoted to demonstrative reasoning, with minds as dry as chips of wood or marble, incapable of being interested in anything less susceptible of demonstration than a mathematical problem, and would discourse of morals and religion in precisely the same spirit as they would of angles and parallels, or not at all, and listen to nothing which was not capable of being proved to a metaphysical certainty. Others with imaginations like flax, ready to catch fire at every spark, believed any thing upon trust that happened for an instant to dazzle their minds with ever so faint a resemblance of truth. Others again would hear nothing which one did not lay before them in some regular dialectic form; while they would, without hesitation, admit any extravagance you pleased, provided it were dressed out with a suitable major, minor and conclusion, or were to be found lagging at the fag end of a respectable

According, however, as I advanced in such acquirements as the sophists taught, I began to discover how very improbable it was that the sanguine hopes I had formed on entering Athens could ever be fulfilled. I felt like one ascending a hill in order to ascertain how much of his journey remains yet un-finished, and is disheartened to find that the higher he ascends the longer the way appears which he has yet to travel. These reflections brought on a mood of indolence which contributed nothing to restore my cheerfulness. The following lines written, at this time, on one of the walls of my sleeping chamber, may furnish some idea of the state of mind under which I labored:

O Indolence! curst worm That cankerest in mid bloom fair virtues form, That when with heaviest pain

We breathe released from Passions hateful reign, Creep'st with thy noisome blight Into the heart, and killest its promise quite,

Were it not better even again to be The world's unthinking slave, than pine in gloom with thee?

To thy unheeded brain Fame sounds her spirit-rousing tramp in vaint To thy dull sluggish car Vain hope's sweet whisper or the shrick of fear,

Nor loud ambition's call an wake the palsied soul thou holdest in thrall, Nor craving Avarice, nor Hate, nor Love, Nor aught on earth beneath, nor aught in Heav'n

above. 111.

Yet triumphs too thou hast-

Witness full many a dawning hope o'creast-Witness from day to day Full many a ruin'd friendship's slow decay, Full many a joy effaced, And lovely flower of genius run to waste, And golden hour of happiness unprized,

And scheme of good forgot, and heavenly aid despised. As gangrene taints the blood.

Nor rests till the whole frame be quite subdued, So gradual is thy growth, noble souls thou unseen rust of sloth!

Writhing with unfelt shame, We loathe thy yoke, jet loathing live the same. O subtle paced, and velvet footed evil Let one among thy slaves have leave to call thee-

devil! CHAPTER IV.

In this mood of thought I was walking one evening in the outskirts of the town, when I saw a figure at a distance, which I soon recognized as that of my benefactor. Enraptured at the idea of speaking with him, I hurried towards him, but it did not appear that I was welcome. His air was gloomy and reserved, and he sought to escape me by a sudden turn as I approached. Perceiving this, however, to be impossible, he stopped short and awaited my coming, with a cold and chilly look. My ardour, as drew nigh, gave place to timidity, and I stood before him, out of breath and agitated.

'Chenides," said he, "why do you follow me? Did you not perceive by my action that I wished to be alone?"

"I wished to thank thee," I replied, "generous stranger, for the succour thou has afforded me, and for the advantage I-have derived from it."

"Thou hust done so then, and leave me," he said abruptly. I knew not what reply to make. His coldness

checked and surprised me, yet I felt, if I should obey him, as if I were leaving one in whom I felt the strongest interest, in a situation of danger and perplexity. Inturned, therefore, after some hesitation, and said to him with the tears standing in my eyes:

designing to do so; but I am poor and friendless, and thou art almost the only being who has shown me kindness from my shildhood ... I cannot assume at once the indifference which thou desirest. Bo

santaus, were an imposition or a reality, judge for The stranger remained awkwardly shifting his thyself, the state of my own feelings were to me, I person as I spoke, and eveling me with that disagree-ounces, a no lass nowerful evidence of its truth than able and questioning glange, which was peculiar to that of my senses.

But what most of all excited my correctly was, the past wisch the unknown stranger bad taken.