

eldest son in some mercantile house, as an upper clerk. I procured him one in the office of Mr W—, to whom, during the short time he remained with him, he gave every cause of satisfaction. I had introduced him to Henry Waring, a young man for whom I had the highest esteem; and in promoting a friendship between them, I considered myself as doing an essential service to both.

Henry W. had a sister, whom I had never seen, but had frequently heard Edward speak of as a very amiable girl. My surprise was great indeed, on receiving a letter from Edward's father, upbraiding me with abusing his friendship in bringing about a marriage between his son and Miss W. I attempted to justify myself by declaring, that before the receipt of his letter, I had not the least idea of any attachment subsisting between his son and Miss Waring.

In a short time after, being called over to Chester, I called upon him, and found him far from what I had ever found him before. His temper from being what I once thought—the mildest, was now become the most irritable; and any effort I made to reconcile him to his son, only served to call down reproaches upon me.

I did not think myself at all well used by Edward in, at least not mentioning to me his intention. I thought that one who had done so much for him, as I flattered myself I had done, was entitled to some share of his confidence. The attachment I once felt to him gave way to a cold inquiry whenever we chanced to meet. I had not seen him for upwards of two years, until he called on me that evening in such urgent distress. I had heard something of his having gone to America, and of his being in partnership with Waring, and had sometimes inquired of Henry about my former friend. I had received the answer which I had repeated to Edward. But now, now that I saw him in distress, nay miserable, I felt that every tie which once bound his interest with mine was renewed, if possible more strongly than ever. I felt that this was not the time to shew any silly scruples; and that I should never be happy until he was so.

I returned next morning to Bent Street, and was happy to find things in considerably better order than on my visit the evening before. My patient was then awake, and I had now an opportunity of viewing more closely the wasted form before me. If I was affected on my first visit, I was now doubly so; I could not behold her without tears. She endeavoured to thank me for what I had done.

"It is not for myself, sir," said she, "that I implore you to continue your kindness; I feel as though I shall soon be past the reach of misery, but it is for my dear Edward, and this little one, perhaps, when I am gone, Mr B. may become reconciled to his son,—and oh! that I could see it so before I leave you, for then, indeed, I could die happy."

"By Heaven!" I exclaimed, "if it is in my power, and God will help me, you shall all live and be happy—and I will be happy with you;—and if Mr B. does not choose to own you for his son, Edward! why I will;

—and there is the end of it;" And it shall be so, too, thought I,—for the thanks I then received would amply have repaid me for any service I could have done them. "But Edward," I continued "come and drink tea with me this evening, and we will talk it over, my boy; and don't distress yourself, for all shall yet be well!"

Edward came up in the evening, and whilst we were at tea, I desired him to acquaint me with the circumstances which had reduced him to the state in which I had found him.

Henry and he had commenced business in New-York; and for three months Edward had not observed any thing in the manner of his brother-in-law, which might lead him to suspect his subsequent treachery. After some time, not having seen him for three or four days at the office, he began to be uneasy; and on the evening of the fifth, he called at his lodgings, where he learnt, to his inexpressible horror, that he had left them three days previously, and had not since been there. Edward kept this piece of infamy unknown to his wife for a short time, being unwilling to render her unhappy by this conduct of her brother. He caused the strictest search to be made for some months; but finding all unsuccessful, he determined to take his passage for England, and endeavour to gain a livelihood there if possible; for by this time his funds were falling short, and there was no one to whom he could apply in this emergency. At the time he called on me, he had been in England rather better than a year, employing himself in any way he possibly could. At one time, he had hired himself as a common gardener.—At last, finding every means fail, he had applied to me.

"And why," I said, "did you not call before?"

"I was too proud, sir, I must own. I felt that I had acted unworthily by you; and—pardon me sir, I was afraid you would reproach me."

Though I did not exactly concur with this, I said nothing, except that I loved him better than ever, and that he might depend on my serving him as much as lay in my power.

I continued my daily visits to Bent-Street and at the end of a week, had the satisfaction to find my patient so far recovered, as to be able to bear a removal to a small but comfortable house in Everton. I had procured Edward a situation as traveller in a commercial house, and he was to begin his duties as soon as ever I should consider his wife able to bear his absence. I had written home to his father; but had received an answer saying that he considered Edward as no longer his son, and desiring me never to mention him more. With the exception of this, things went on for some time as smoothly as I could wish. Edward had performed several journeys, and given the greatest satisfaction to his employers. But, alas! a few weeks ago, he returned to his home so altered, that I scarcely knew him, and looking so ill, that at the first sight, I trembled with horror. He confessed that he was very ill, and that he had some time before taken cold by getting wet, and neglecting himself afterwards. From that night he never rose

from his bed. A few days before he died, I again wrote to his father, stating the dangerous state in which his son lay.

On Monday evening last, as I sat by his side,—he was comforting his afflicted partner—his child lay asleep in a small bed at a short distance from his—the servant entered and whispered, that a gentleman wished to speak with me below. I entered the parlour, and there found Mr B.; he offered me his hand coldly, and desired me to tell him truly whether his son was actually in so dangerous a state.

"So much so," said I, "that I am afraid he has not many hours to live. And can you sir, at this moment, refuse that pardon which he has so frequently besought—can you now refuse it to a dying son; a son who was ever, save in this instance, most dutiful? consider, sir, ere it be too late; accept his repentance, and grant him your pardon.—Oh! turn, sir—turn from this brutal apathy, and let the duties and affection of a parent resume their seat in your bosom!"

I saw he was affected even to tears, and I continued—"For you sir, he has ever prayed; of you sir, he has ever spoken with a heartfelt gratitude; and from you sir, he now wishes, on his death-bed, and with his last breath, to ask a pardon.—And can you now spurn him from you? Is your heart so callous, as to"—

"O spare me!—spare me, sir!" he said; I have sinned; but hasten, lest he die, before he has granted me his pardon."

It may be easily believed with what a light heart I entered the chamber of sickness, and acquainted Edward with his father's wish.

"God bless him! will he then see me? Will he again call me his son? Father of mercies, for this I thank thee!"

We raised him up in bed, and I left the room. I found his father at the door impatient to obtain his son's forgiveness.

"You may come now in;" and he rushed to the bed throwing himself on his knees and intreating his son's forgiveness.

"Father, it is I who have sinned; and now you forgive me, I know not how to thank you!"

"It is I, my son! my Edward! it is I who have sacrificed thee!"

"Sit by me, father, and promise me, I intreat you, to be kind to my Mary, and my boy."

"I will, Edward! I solemnly vow I will love them to the last day of my existence!"

Edward threw one arm round the neck of his father, the other round that of Mary, and supported in this manner, he raised his clasped hands towards heaven, and uttered the beautiful words—"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

With these words his head fell on the shoulder of his almost insensible wife, and he breathed out his spirit in a sigh on the bosom of his Mary.

NORTH MAGNETIC POLE.—At a recent meeting of the Royal Society a memoir was read from Captain Ross, of the discovery of the North Magnetic Pole. He began by stating the importance attached to the solu-

tion of this problem, and the progress of the discovery.

The speaker then related the various expeditions which had been undertaken for the purpose of ascertaining the position of the North Magnetic Pole, and the success of the most recent of these expeditions.

He then stated the results of his own observations, and the position of the North Magnetic Pole as determined by his measurements.

The speaker concluded by stating the importance of the discovery, and the progress of the science of magnetism.

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