

**NOTES.**

**NEW POEM BY FANNY FORESTER.**  
N. P. Willis sends the following Poem by Fanny Forester, which he is not sure has ever been published, to a late number of the *Home Journal*. He adds: "The widowed heart of the gifted one—with her apostle husband (Rev. Dr. Judson) just gone to his reward, she thus eloquently tells the story of their earthly love, and its still lingering hold of bane."

I gazed down life's dim labyrinth  
A wildering maze to see,  
Crossed o'er by many a tangled crew,  
And wild as wild could be;  
And as I gazed in doubt and dread,  
An angel came to me.  
  
I knew him for a heavenly guide,  
I knew him even then,  
Though meekly as a child he stood  
Among the sons of men—  
By his dear spirit of loveliness,  
I knew him even then.  
  
And as I leaned my weary head  
Upon the proffered breast,  
A soft voice said, "Come, be bold,  
For out of my place of rest,  
I wonder'd if the shining ones  
Of Eden were most beat.

For these were light within my soul:  
Light in my path away,  
All around me the blue sky,  
The clustering starlight lay;  
And easier I saw approach  
The pearly gates of day.

So, laid in bane we trod the wild,  
My angel love and I—  
His light wing all quivering  
With tokens from the sky.  
Strange my dull thought could not divine  
Twas lifted up to fly.

Angeles down life's dim labyrinth  
I gazed my way alone,  
While widely through the midnight sky,  
Black, hurrying clouds, are blown,  
And quickly in my tangled path  
The sharp, bare thorns are sown.

Yet firm my foot, for well I know  
The goal cannot be far,  
And ever, through the rifted clouds  
Shines out one steady star—  
For when my guide went up, he left  
The pearly gates ajar.

**Miscellaneous Selections.**

**TERRIBLE RETRIBUTION.**

About thirty years ago, in the western part of the State of New York, lived a lonely widow named Mother. Her husband had been dead many years, and her only daughter was grown up and married, living at a distance of a mile or two from the family mansion.

And thus the old lady lived alone in her home by day and night. Yet, in her conscientious innocence and trust in Providence she felt safe and cheerful; and did not fear to leave the daylight, and at evening to sleep.

One morning, however, she awoke with an extraordinary and unwonted gloom upon her mind, which was impressed with the apprehension that something strange was about to happen to her and her son. So full and strong was her alarm that she did not dare to go to her bed, but must go abroad to give vent to it by unhooking herself to her friends, especially to her daughter.

With her she spent the greater part of the day, and to her several times repeated the recital of her apprehensions. The daughter, so often repelled by her mother's superstitions, had never done injury to any person and added—

"I cannot think, any one would hurt you, for you have not an enemy in the world."

As the day was declining, Mrs. Mother sought her home, but expressed the same feelings as she had done before.

On the way home she called on a neighbour, who lived in the last house before she reached her own.

Here she again made known her continued apprehensions, which nearly ripened into fear, and from the lady of the house she received answers similar to those of her daughter.

"You have harmed no one in your whole life-time, surely no one will disturb or molest you; go home in quiet, and Rover shall go with you. Here, here, here, here, go home with Mrs. Mother and take care of her."

Rover did as he was told; the widow went home, milked her cows, took care of everything out of doors, and went to bed as usual.

Rover, however, did not sleep in his master's bed; he laid down upon the outside of the bed; and, as the widow relied on his fidelity, and perhaps chid herself for needless fears, she fell asleep.

Some time in the night she awoke, being startled, probably, by all the voices outside the house. It was now dark; she was not aware of being startled, and when she awoke the house was shivering.

She hastily stepped out of bed, and there lay the body of a man extended on the floor, dead, with a large knife in his hand, which was even now extended. The dog had neither moved. Next, there was another sound, and the dog rushed on the bed without barking or growled at all.

This time the widow did not go to sleep immediately, but lay awake, holding the knife in her hand, and when she awoke the sun was shining. She hastily stepped out of bed, and there lay the body of a man extended on the floor, dead, with a large knife in his hand, which was even now extended. The dog had neither moved. Next, there was another sound, and the dog rushed on the bed without barking or growled at all.

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This man was the widow's only son-in-law. He covered her little store of tea, coffee, and her candle, and her land. And into this little store, by means of a trap, he could get in, for the door was never to give his property up to him and his, as the only heirs apparent, but made his stealthy visit to the bed with the grace of a thief, and nothing more than dog could hear a sound till all was over.

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