THEORY OF THE THESDAY MORNING, OUTORER

TI

d other

ances

tat asking too much, will you tell me what to fan anniversary this is to-night?"

"A wedding anniversary," said Miss Susan taking her knitting to the window.

"Why, I thought," said Melinda, letting a tumbler slide out of her hand, and recovering it dexterously, "I thought Stenie was a widder."

"I do think so. We adorn our own homes; why leave the last resting-places of the dead, who enjoyed those adarmments in

covering it dexterously, "I thought Stenie was a widder."

"And so she is, Melindy, and so she has been these ten years past; you see she had only been married five years when she lost her husband. Melindy, there's a cramb on the carpet, right on that I lack line."

"I do think so. We adorn our own homes; why leave the last resting-places of the dead, who enjoyed those adornments in cheerless, uncared-for solitude? Melinda, could, do you know it is impolite to stare?" one added, in the same breath, without hooking up.

"But he wasn't taken in the ordinary way," continued Miss Susan, her voice grown solemn. "Dear me, but it was such a strange Providence! Oh, yes, we know he died, bless you. The ship was wrecked and parts of her were found—all hands perished of course. I prevailed upon sister Martha to have a stone put up—one might as well buy one's grave lot when death has come into the family; but she was dreadful opposed to it for a long time. However, I prevailed at last, and it's the prettiest stone in the churchyard—almost a monument, in fact, with his name on it in gitl letters."

"Was he a sailor?" asked Melinda.

"Bless your soul and body, no. I guess not;" and Miss Susan's black eyes snapped algost angrily. "He was a merchant."

"A gentleman!" chorused both ladies.

"Who, pray?" continued Miss Susan.

"You know who comes here."

"It's nobody as comes here, miss, but an oldish one, with the biggest gray beard I ever laid eyes on, ma'am."

"Did you put him in the parlor?"

"Yes, ma'am."

"Did he seem easy, or hurried? Who can it be, Susan?"

"He didn't seem a bit hurried, ma'am.

"He said: "Tell the ladies I can wait." He asked was you both in and well, and said when the ladies was at liberty he would be pleased to see Miss Susan."

Toronto Street Market.

London Stock Market.

began to wonder if Miss Susan had been taken with the shaking palsy. It stopped presently, however, ending with now and then a snake, and Miss Susan sighed.

"Somehow it don't seem to me," she resumed, speaking rather to herself, "that Marthy's been light since; you see it was enough to shock one; but she didn't take on properly, nor wear black, as a widow should. Did you ever hear of such a thing, Melindy? She didn't even go into mourning."

a lovely piece of the breast left."

Meantime the stranger had settled himself on the lounge after walking about the room distractedly for a few moments, and was rubbing the palms of his hands softly together. His beard was patriarchal; his eyes were black and kindly in their glances, and his manners peculiar. He looked over the furniture, over every little decoration smilingly, and sometimes he chuckled to himself.

"I couldn't seed for her," he muttered.

susan, with a repetition of the head-snaking; "I should plunge into the blackest
black all over; but she would hear to nobedy; and if you'll believe it, when the
next anniversary of her marriage-day came
round she sent for the minister who married
ber, and her bridesmaid. Well, it was the
ther, and her bridesmaid. Well, it was the
thereaset thing I ever heard of do you.

"Susan, your wits have foreaken you, and her bridesmaid. Well, it was the strangest thing I ever heard of; do you know, I always feel as if there was a glost at the table."

Melinda gave a feeble cry of horror. The ancient silver and the choice glass, the fine lines and the fragicetial of this weirs about the fine lines and the fragicetial of this weirs and the fragic

"I couldn't send for her," he muttered. Melinda, whose thoughts went back to a miserable home and a day more miserable in which her father was brought in dead, and whose mother was too poor even to buy a black ribbon, did not know of such a think the black ribbon, did not know of such a think the black ribbon, did not know of such a think the black ribbon, did not know of such a think the black ribbon, did not know of such a transit than the rhands dropped, a livid pallor transit or her, he muttered. "It might kill her. Gracious! can it really be? Isn't it a pleasant dream the might kill her. Gracious! can it which I shall wake up presently? Well, bless my soul and body, if here ain't a shall wake up presently? Well, bless my soul and body, if here ain't a shall wake up presently? Well, bless my soul and body, if here ain't a shall wake up presently? Well, bless my soul and body, if here ain't a shall wake up presently? Well, bless my soul and body, if here ain't a shall wake up presently? Well, bless my soul and body, if here ain't a shall wake up presently? Well, bless my soul and body, if here ain't a shall wake up presently?

thing by bitter experience, but she kept her own counsel.

tered than her hands dropped, a livid pallor spread over her face, and she seemed ready "I never understood it," continued Miss Susan, with a repetition of the head-shak-caught at her hand, but she waved him off.

WIDOW STENIE,

"Put on the best chirty, Melindy," said a few constraints of the best chirty, Melindy," said since a few constraints of the same of the best chirty, Melindy, "said since a few constraints of the same of the best chirty, Melindy," said since a few constraints of the same of the s

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was a widder."

"And so ske is, Melindy, and so she has been these ten years past; you see she had only been married five years when she lost her husband. Melindy, there's a cramb on the carpet, right on that llack line."

Melinda stooped and,dutifully picked off that bread-crumb and looked for another, but there was no other there.

"And so he died," said Melinda, after a long pause, during which she had wiped and polished the glasses a dozen times or more.

"Off course he died, child, or she wouldn't be a widow," said Miss Susan, lifting her sharp black eyes from the stocking.

"Yes'm," Melinda responded, her very cheeks flushing a deeper crimson. "Of course."

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"But he wasn't taken in the ordinary way," continued Miss Susan, her voice grown solemn. "Dear me, but it was such a strange Providence! Oh, ves. we!" Agentleman!" chorused both ledice. "Melinda, contild? Melinda it is mipolite to stare?" stareling-lived in the eleels, uncared-for solitude? Melinda, contild, do you know it is impolite to stare?" stareling-lived in the eleels, uncared-for solitude? Melinda, contild, do you know it is impolite to stare?" stareling-lived in the eleels, uncared-for solitude? Melinda, contild, do you know it is impolite to stare?" stareling-lived in the same breath, without its made of the wided, in the same breath, without its was so confused that but for a so-contiled that but for a Montreal Stock Market.

"Was he a sallor?" asked Melinda.
"Bless your soul and body, no. I guess not;" and Miss Susan's black eyes snapped algost angrily. "He was a merchant."
"Oh," said Melinda, feeling very much as if it had suddenly thundered, as she timidly rubbed the silver, "I didn't know."
"He was very fond of Marthy, and Marthy was very fond of him," pursued Miss Susan, reflectively, as the tips of her needles glistened in the sunlight. "If reckon that was a love-match. They waited in her comely cheeks.
"Why, of course it is. I haven't a downthat was a love-match. They waited him, or her needles glistened in the sunlight. "If reckon that was a love-match. They waited him, or his name by word of mouth. No, dear, it and she took his death in the most curismanner."

The spinster shook her head, and contaken with the shaking palsy. It stopped the shake it so long that Melinda began to wonder if Miss. Susan had been taken with the shaking palsy. It stopped sales at the subject of the sus at liberty he would be pleas at to see Miss Susan."

"Ah, Susy!" exclaimed the widow, laughing, "it's your old beau, Mr. Stepson; depend upon it."

"Now, Marthy!" said Susan, with great deliberation, while the faintest tinge of pink touched her comely cheeks.

"Why, of course it is. I haven't a downth. It's almost five years since he was here."

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