

What is it ?" she whispered.

"My son is dead," Ithamar

YOOMHIL

without this little son, on whom speech. Blue eyes hers were. No and for whom all his actions had tears shadowed them, but their streets of Jerusalem; it declined ; it wore to the ninth hour; held it captive. His pattry sourow oppression was in the air; it was There was no other face in the sighed and sobbed like the breath in outward seeming; but supof passing souls in pain. Muffled ported by the Divine, it had sounds came from afar-sinister looked upon the consummation sounds of distress; there was a of the shame of the world; and noise and a shout as of many that Divinity whom she loved voices blended into one, the rush- and who loved her clung about ing of many fect. Then silence her still. Ithamar, the priest of -dreud and awful; silence even the Most High, knew that the of the wind; silence so deep that Lord We servel had never come one's heart-beats rose and fall like near his life till now. Humansticks upon a drum. ity appeared insignificant, petty,

Ichabod looked out on this sudtrivial den hush, this sudden darkness, The Mother seemed to read his not afraid but wondering. Miriam

whitnpered at his elbow, her woman's soul convulsed with terror. She shook as with an nurmured, ashamed, abashed, sorague and looked to him for rowful.

courage. He did not speak. What meant this sudden quiet, as if the pulse of Nature had been stilled, as if heaven were lower-"ing itself to earth, and as it neared it, crushing all beneath ? He

10 VLOISTON turned swiftly, entered the deathis taken by people in tropi-cal countries all the year round. It stops wasting and keeps up the strength and chamber and knelt again. One glance at the child had told him the dreaded change was at hand.

trying to shape his future deeds silent gazing, louder than loudest earth. There he lay, his face miried in the dry clay of the road. With shaking tingers, he been founded and shaped. The expression wrung their very soul. took great handfuls of dust and sun stood high in the heavens and The higher part of hum, the mingled it with his beard and poured its rays obliquely on the spiritual part, grew sick within hair, and wept aloud for the dread him-sick of the earthliness that of that awful day.

And the anguish for his part in shadows fell across the floor. An dwindled out of sight, forgotten, it never left him. The proud man walked humbly and peniten. heavy, hot. The wind rose and world like this. A human face tially among his people ever afteward. Afar he followed the teachings of his Saviour ; afar he prayed he might be forgiven, deeming himself a publican and a sinner--nay, worse than these. And when Ithamar the Christian came to die, his last words were the ones that had been the burden if his daily prayerf. "For Thy Mother's sake, Emnanuel."

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