A Mother's Martyrdom.

In the south of France there is an oasis known mostly to invalids and those for whom the world is fading; fated beings who are dying of that sure decay which kills the hardiest flower when the worms gnaws at its roots. This last refuge of hope is the town of Hieres, facing the Mediterranean. A chain of wooded hills protects this town from the back; vegetation is rich, and climate mild and genial. All consumptive patients during the first week here grow better, and a confidence in the future still left them on earth once more aries in their hearts. Here some years ago an Italian physician, a refugee from the political persecutions of the Austrian government, came with his only child, a daughter, then just budding into girlhood.—He had contrived to rescue from the grasp of the oppressors his little fortune, and with this he established a sort of *maison de sante*, where he received for care and treatment few select paticuts. Stella Adelano, his daughter, as years passed became his companion and his friend, and in the town of Hieres she was quoated in the social circle in which she moved for her beauty, whilst all the poor in the town cherished Stella for goodness and chastity. One spring morning the doctor received a letter from a former patient of his, the due de Givry, who for two successive years had been his guest.

"Doctor and dear friend—I send you, almost as soon as this letter, two patients, my cousin, the marquise d'Auxbonnes, and her only son Tristan, who has just attained his majority. Fortune, personal advantages, high mental endowments, mutual affection, this mother and son have all that the world envies and yet they are unhappy and they need your care as much as I did when I lay at your mercy with three Algerine ballets in my body. If there is any one in the world who can restore peace and happiness to these two sufferers, it is yourself. Therefore, to you and the beautiful Stella have I sent them. I think it will require a miracle to save them, but I am certain you and Stella can perform a miracle. GIVERY.

Two days after the receipt of this letter the doctor and his daughter were watching the approach of a yawl rowed from the admiral's vessel, two miles off, coming with the precision and rapidity of twelve rowers towards the shore. They hasten down to the beach and in a very short time the marquise and her son were landed.

Madame Auxbonnes was a woman of forty, in the full majesty of the dignified beauty becoming her age.—Her form was symetrical and well rounded, her complexion bloomed with health. Her son resembled her to an extraordinary degree, a type of manly beauty and aristocratic bearing.

"Well," said the doctor, as he walked up to the house after them, "I never saw any patients of mine look so entirely as if they had never been ill an hour in their lives."

A few hours sufficed to established sympathy between the doctor, Stella and his guests. Tristan and Stella warndered over the hills and on the beach, and together they sang the *chef d' aeuvres* of the modern music, for both were enthusiastic musicians. The doctor began to wonder whether this was what the due de Givry sent the young marquise so far for, and looked with some anxiety on the familiarity that seemed to be establishing itself between his daughter and a man so much above her as to engender her happiness if she loved him.

The marquise seemed, however, not to share the doctors anxiety, but encouraged in every way the intimacy between the young people, gazing after them with looks of love and radant smiles.

The doctor's anxiety increased day by day; when, just as he had made up his mind to speak to the marquise, a sudden change took place in the manner and bearing of Tristan that altered his intentions.

All the young man's cheerfulness forsook him; he turned from all occupation and amusement with disgust, and at last secluded himself in his own apartment.

Then the marquise's bright, noble features became clouded, and turning one day to the doctor, with tears in her eyes, "Doctor," said she, we have been a mystery to you, I know, until now; the moment has come for me to unravel it.

"I have only wondered why you sought these shores and my care, both of you so full of life and health."

"Both of us! Then you see no symptoms of illness in Tristan?"

"In the marquis, certainly not."

"Yes it is for him that I am here. Doctor, listen to me; my husband died at the age of thirty-three of consumption. Looking back through all the generations of his house for many centuries he was the longest lived of his race; all, men and women had died young—all had died of consumption. The dread of my life, the shadow that overhangs Tristan, is that he shares the doom of his race, that he carries within him, the germ of that terrible disease, and that his years are numbered. This conviction has haunted him—has haunted me; the first cheerful moments I have seen him pass since his boyhod, have been those he passed here. He had forgotten in these new scenes—he has again remembered his destiny. Doctor Adelano, is there any means of preventing consumption?"

"I do not think there is a symptom of consumption about the marquis; but there is as much more fatal disease than consumption—that is a monomania of despair and discouragement which has taken possession of him that may kill him sooner than consumption."

"What is to be done?"

"Not medicine: we must work on the mind."

But they had no opportunity, either mother or physician, of trying their skill, for the next day Tristan, as the marquis sat by the sea-side with Stella, came up to them and sitting beside her mother took her hand in his.

"Mother," said he, "you know I have given you but one sorrow—that is the conviction that has weighed on my life, that I was soon to leave you."

"Tristan, I had hoped these ideas had vanished."

"For a moment I had forgotten them, but now they have come back in full force. I am a doomed man—how have I dared to forget it? Mother, it would be hard to die if the world contained any dearer than yourself; it would be agony to make this world too bright. I am, therefore, resolved to retire from it and await my doom; in yonder monastery of La trappe, where every day I shall hear the words I never should for instant have forgotten—"Brothers we must die."

"Tristan, you forget that you are all I have to love."

"Oh, Monsieur Tristan," exclaimed Stella, bursting into tears, "do you think your mother could exist without you?"

Then blushing at what she had said she hid her face on the shoulder of the marquise, and sobbed aloud.

Then Tristan knelt down before his mother, and taking Stella's hand in his: "Mother," said he, "I love her; I had meant never to breathe to mortal ear this secret of my heart, speaking her name but in my prayers to God; but she weeps for me, and I would leave her some memory of me that she may remember me when you weep by my grave together. Stella, I love you; you are the wife I should have chosen had I a future before me—it would have been joy to have endowed you with my fortune, to have given my name and title. But I love you too well to condemn you to the agony of watching my slow decay; I love you too well to leave to long years of solitude and agony."

"But there is no such danger, indeed, Tristan," said his mother, "the doctor has told me so."

"It is the doom of our family."

"Oh! believe in life," cried Stella, "for my sake believe in happiness, for I love you." As she uttered these words, she broke violently from the arms of the marquise, and dashed up the path towards the house.

"What have you done, mother? made me mislead that young heart; but she will soon forget; nothing shall change my resolution: to yonder monastery I will go; all the arrangements are made; here will I live my short life out, there will I die."

"Tristan, this is being ungrateful to heaven for the blessings it has bestowed on you, the last, the greatest, the love of this young, lovely and noble girl."

"Mother, it would be a crime against heaven to entail on innocent children the curse of our race; no let that fated, miserable race die with me. Tell her how my father died, how his father and his father's father died, and then she will know that the greatest proof of love I could give her was to leave her, to leave you forever."

The marquise, as her son ceased speaking arose, and taking his hand pressed it to her heart as she gazed out towards the deep blue heavens reflected in the deep blue sea.

"Tristan," said she, "here by this murmuring sea, with no witness but those eternal heavens above us, listen to what I am going to say you. Never has mortal ear heard the words I am about to speak; never will any but your ear ever hear them again. Tristan, I love you with the overweening, sacred, devoted love of a mother. That love is capable of every sacrifice, aye, even to the one which I am about to make: the revelation of a secret which may lose me your love forever."

"Nothing can change my love for you, mother."

"Then listen. *My son*, all my own for you are not the son of the marquis d'Auxbonnes."

"Not his son?" exclaimed Tristan.

"Tristan, my marriage with your father was not a love marriage, nor was it happy. My heart yearned for affection, was ready to yield to love. The temtation came. I loved, I was loved, passionately, truly; but a few short months, then *he* was torn from me, and fell in Algiers. To none was our love known, none suspected our love, and in honor were you born under the roof of the man whose name you bore."

"But he is not not my father!"

"No, never would I have revealed this secret, but that it will restore you to life, and give you happiness, for the doom of the Auxbonnes is not upon you."

"I shall live, I may love!" cried Tristan, throwing up his arms towards Heaven in an ecstacy of delight.

"Yes, yes, oh! Tristan; but you will not love your mother less for what she has confessed?"

Tristan turned towards her and clasping her in his arms, whispered to her, "ask her father to give her to me."

Leaning on her son's arm, the Marquise walked up to the house. The doctor stood under the vine covered porch with a sad expression on his face, for Stella, who had never had a secret thought from her father, had told him her love and her despair.

Tristan looked up at the doctor with beaming eyes and a bright smile, while the marquise, assuming an attitude of infinite dignity and grace, uttered in a deep and distinct tone, these words:

"Doctor Adelano, I have the honor of asking the hand of your daughter for my son, marquis d'Auxbonnes."

The doctor started, and his features assuming an expression of vague astonishment as he looked from one to the other.

"You do not understand," exclaimed Tristan; "I love your daughter; she has given me hope; Oh! say she shall be my wife."

"Your wife! My Stella! You noble, rich, so much above her!"

"No one is above her who makes my son happy, and who loves him."

"Stella!" called the doctor, and Stella appeared. "You told me you loved him; he has asked you to be his wife; my children be happy."

"Stella, my daughter," said the marquise, "make him happy."

Then slowly, and with a deep sigh, giving one lingering look at the young people who stood hand in hand, gazing into each other's eyes, the marquise sought her room, there throwing herself on her knees, she implored heaven to forgive the falsehood she had uttered, a falsehood inspired by the strongest of all affections—a mother's love.

So they were married, and joy and rejoicings, and the young marquis and marquise started for Paris and for the various chateaus of the Auxbonnes, but the marquise remained in the quiet town of Hieres with the blue calm Mediterranean waves singing their everlasting song of peace and serenity.

With trembling impatience the marquise watched for the moment when her children settled in their home should call to them, but her summons never came—Rarer and rarer grew the letters, at last the marquise bought a house at Hieres and resolved to pass there the rest of her life.

When Tristan heard of her resolution he approved of it, writing her a cordial letter.

"Dearest mother," he said in it, "you know that my love for you can never change. But I would not have my pure Stella's mind corrupted by the knowledge of the world's falsities. Your secret is safe in my heart. You might reveal it to her, and then dearest and best of mothers, you have chosen wisely, we will come to you and we think of you always."

"I have saved his life, I have given him happiness, but have lost his respect and his love."

Sadly now passed the years of the marquise's life. She utterly isolated from all society. Doctor Adelano being the only human being who ever crossed her threshold. Years became as a friend, but as far as its were to the patient as well as the friend.

"I am seriously ill, doctor," said she, "I know it, I read it in your face. I care little for life, I have little to make me dread the truth, what is the matter with me?"

"You have a disease of the heart."

"Mortal?"

"Yes, but not as yet."

"Will you tell me when I am about to die?"

No more was said, and two years went by in a slow monotony. Children had been born to Tristan, but never had their father's mother pressed them to her heart.

All at once a sudden change came over the marquise, and gazing at the doctor as he felt her pulse she whispered, "It is the time come?"

"It is," said he.

"And I shall never see him again!"

"He does not deserve the deep, devoted love you feel for him. How he is changed!"

"Do not blame him, doctor, it is my fault he is changed. Listen, you shall know my secret; for when I am gone you must not blame him. You told me you remember, years ago, when first we came here that the conviction on the mind of Tristan that he inherited the disease of which all his race had died would kill him as surely as consumption itself. I by a few words took that conviction from his mind, and gave him life, happiness and Stella. Those words were a lie."

"A lie!"

"Yes I told him he was not the son of my husband. I accused myself of a crime. I told him no blood of the Auxbonnes flowed in his veins, and so saved him."

"Was that right?"

"I know not," said the marquise, with a smile, "a mother feels before she reasons; the result was right; though it lost me his love and his esteem, it gave him happiness."

"But now, now that he is happy, shall I not tell him the truth."

"Doctor!" exclaimed the marquise, "could you affirm that if he knew the truth, his fears, his dread would not return."

The doctor passed, then answered slowly but decidedly, "In all probability Tristan would go back to the state from which you saved him."

"Then tell him nothing," said the poor mother "bury my secret deep in your heart. When I meet Tristan in heaven, where all secrets are known, he will know mine. Love our children for both of us, and do not let them forget me."

That night the marquise died. When Tristan and Stella came to Hieres, the flowers and the green turf were growing on her grave and round the marble table that recorded her name and death. Beneath this record were these words:

"A MOTHER AND A MARTYR."

"What does this inscription mean?" said Tristan.

"A secret the grave conceals and you will never know but in heaven," and gathering a flower from the grave he walked silently away.

Plantation Regulations.

HD Q'RS DEPT. OF THE GULF, New Orleans, March 11, 1865.

General Orders No. 23.

The Regulations heretofore published by Mr. W. P. Mellen, General Agent, Treasury Department, in relation to Freedmen and labor, not having been recognized by the Secretary of the Treasury, the following orders are prescribed for the hiring and government of laborers within the State of Louisiana:

HOME COLONIES.

1. The Home Colonies, already established by Orders from these Headquarters, are hereby continued under said Orders.

SUPERINTENDENCY.

2. Mr. Thomas W. Conway, as Superintendent, with such Assistants as he may delegate, will be obeyed and respected by all persons in the discharge of their respective duties.

REGISTRY OF PLANTATIONS.

3. The system of registering of plantations, as prescribed in Mr. Mellen's Regulations and the Military Orders in relation thereto, will continue to be in force as therein imposed.

USE AND COMPENSATION OF LABORERS.

4. Voluntary contracts heretofore made between Planters and Laborers, or which hereafter may be made, will be submitted to the Superintendent of Freedmen, and if found by him to be just and honest to the Laborers, will be by him confirmed and approved, and stand as the contract of the parties therefor the present year. But all such contracts must secure support, maintenance, clothing and medical attendance to the laborer.

5. The following schedule will be observed in all other cases as the rule required by the Government.

In addition to good treatment, comfortable clothing, wholesome rations, quarters, fuel, and medical attendance, and the opportunity for instruction of children, the planter shall pay to the laborer as follows:

Male hands.—1st class, $15 per month
2d " 12 " "
3d " 10 " "

Female hands—
1st class, $8 per month
2d " 6 " "
3d " 5 " "

Boys under 14 $4 per month.
Girls under 14 $2 per month.

These classes will be determined by merit and an agreement between the planter and the laborer.

6. Engineers, foremen and mechanics will be allowed to make their own contracts, but will always receive not less than $5 per month and board in the first class.

7. One half of the wages of each class will be paid quarterly, as follows: On the 1st days of May, August and November, and final payment of the entire amount the day on or before the 31st day of December.

TRAVELING.

8. Wages for the time lost will be deducted in case of sickness; and both wages and rations where the sickness is feigned for the purpose of idleness; and in case of feigned sickness, or refusal to work according to contract, when able so to do, such offender will be reported by the Provost Marshall to the Superintendent, and put upon force labor on public work without pay.

The laborers must understand that it is their own interest to do their work faithfully, and that the government, while it will protect and sustain them against all treatment, cannot support those who are capable of earning an honest living by industry.

9. Laborers will be allowed and encouraged to choose their own employers, but when they have once selected they must fulfil their contract for one year, and will not be permitted to leave their place of employment (except in cases where they are permitted so to do for just reasons, by the authority of the Superintendent) and if they do so leave without cause and permission, they will forfeit all wages earned to time of abandonment, and be otherwise punished, as the nature of the case may require.

10. Planters and their agents will be held to a strict accountability for their conduct toward the laborers, and any cruelty, inhumanity or neglect of duty will be summarily punished.

TIME OF LABOR AND PERQUISITES OF LABORERS.

11. The time of labor shall be ten hours, between daylight and dark, in summer, and nine hours in winter, of each day, except Saturday and Sunday.

The afternoon of Saturday and the whole of Sunday shall be at the disposal of the laborer.

On sugar estates, at the proper season, the hands will take their regular watches, the night work of which and the Saturday afternoons and Sundays, if possitively necessary, shall be paid for as extra work.

Laborers will be allowed land for private cultivation at the following rates.

1st and 2d class hands, with families, one acre each.

1st and 2nd class hands, without families, one half acre each.

2d and 3d class hands, with families, one-half acre each.

2d and 3d class hands, without families, one quarter each.

On these allotments they will be allowed to raise such crops as they may choose for their own use and benefit, but will not be permitted to raise or keep animals except domestic poultry.

POLL TAX.

12. For the purpose of reimbursing to the United States some of the expenses of this system, and of supporting the aged, infirm, and helpless, the following tax will be collected, in lieu of all other claims under these Regulations:

From each planter, for every hand employed by him, between the ages of 18 and 50, two dollars per annum.

From each hand between the same ages, one dollar per annum.

The sum will be payable and be collected on the 1st of June next, and will be paid over to the Superintendent of Freedmen for disbursement.

Measures will be taken to collect the same poll tax from all colored persons not on plantations, so that the active labor of this race may contribute to the support of their own helpless and disabled.

GENERAL DUTIES.

13. Provost Marshals in the several Parishes are charged with the general supervision and welfare of the laborers, reporting on these subjects frequently to Mr. T. W. Conway, Superintendent, and will use all possible exertions by themselves and their deputies, to see that industry and good order are promoted, and that the contracts under these regulations faithfully performed by both parties. Orders heretofore issued and published, and not as they are not changed or modified by this order, will remain in force.

14. This order shall be deemed and taken to have effect from the 1st day of February last, and all contracts entered into in relation to the labors of the present year will be held to be controlled, and to have been governed by the terms and conditions of these orders.

LICENSE.

15. All persons (except those employed on plantations where laborers are employed) will be held to be covered by a ban against all other conditions to the extent of the wages fixed by employers, and such ban will follow such crops or property, in any and all hands and such labor is duly paid and satisfied.

By command of
MAJOR GEN. HEARON,
GEORGE C. BENEDICT,
Lieut. Col. and A.A.G. [illegible]

Emigration to Mexico.

[From the N.Y. Sun, May 17, 1865.]

An association has been formed in this city, having for its object, it is said, the transporting of colonists to Mexico. Although the matter has been in agitation for some time, the necessary information is to be had on the matter by applying at the office, No. 113 Second street, or No. 23 Third street, where applications are made to Col. Geo. H. Allen, Major Cal. Clay, Capt. Gillespie, and Major John A. Schneider. These officers will be found to-day, and all whether soldiers, sailors or citizens, who desire to gain a livelihood in Mexico, the means of getting there, or other facts connected therewith, are invited by the above to call and register their names. The officer named will, it is said, go on with the first party to Mexico that leaves this city.

Another organization is that of Col. Wm. H. Allen, whose headquarters are at the corner of Howard and Crosby streets, and another is that of the "Mexican Emigration Company." There is still another, which is represented by box No. 5614 New York Post Office.

Colonel Allen's scheme has for its object the colonization of Sonora. It is reported [illegible] the part [illegible] Colonel [illegible] in the [illegible] plans are not [illegible] the character of the movement is not yet fully developed.

Crowds of men, mostly all soldiers, are registering their names at the headquarters. It is said they are promised $1000 each as a bounty, a part to be paid here, and the remainder before crossing the border; and are told that full information will be given them at a public meeting, to be held in the room over the Centre Market, formerly occupied by the 51st regiment.

The plans, if carried into effect, will probably result in sending many thousand men from this city overland to Sonora. Other thousands are to go from the West. General Rosencrans's name is mentioned in connection with the conduct of the movement in the West, and it is said he will be the chief officer.

The expedition, though it would appear essentially military in its character, is not so nominally, and care will be taken, it is said, should the contemplated arrangements be successful not to violate the terms of the law of any treaty stipulations. The men are to go to Sonora as emigrants; arrived there, they will, by declaration of the Juarez government, be invested with the rights and responsibilities of Mexican citizens; and, if molested, they will probably take up arms.

Prior to the opening of an office in this city for the recording of the names of men who wished to go to Mexico, application was made to the authorities for a decision in advance of the questions likely to arise. No decision in form was given; but it is understood that the right of organization was conceded, as well as the right of every man to arm himself, for his own defense while on the journey across the plains.

The movement here, on behalf of the Republican Government of Mexico, is said to include the immediate purchase of four merchant steamers—two to run on the eastern coast of America, and the other two on the Pacific coast. This also depends on certain contingencies.

Our National Securities.

The meaning of the terms applied to the different National Loans does not seem to be very clearly understood by the community, albeit a matter of deep and peculiar interest to all. We condense, therefore, from a succinct statement thereof in the New York Times, an explanation of each:

"*Seven-Thirties.*"—These represent a currency loan, having three years to run; then convertible into a gold interest six per cent. stock having twenty years to run, but with the right reserved to the Government of paying off the loan, in gold, at any time after five years. The term "seven-thirties" is derived from the rate of interest borne by these three years convertible notes, viz: two cents per day on each hundred dollars; or for 365 days $7 30 on each $100.

"*Five-Twenties.*"—This term is applied to the six per cent. gold bearing bonds of the United States, to which twenty years half-yearly coupons are attached, for which may be paid off, in gold, by the Government upon due notice to holders, at any time after five years, in the year then the Government should have found the money on a new loan at a cheaper rate than six per cent.

"*Ten-Forties.*"—These are the five per cent. gold bearing bonds of the United States, to which half yearly coupons are attached, for payment, for which may be paid off, in gold, by the Government upon notice to holders, at any time after ten years, in the year then the Government should have found the money on a new loan at a cheaper rate than five per cent.

"*Six-Fives.*"—These are the five per cent. gold bearing bonds of the United States, to which half yearly coupons are attached, for payment, for which may be paid off, in gold, by the Government upon due notice to holders, at any time after five years, in the year then the Government should have found the money on a new loan at a cheaper rate than six per cent.

"*Six-Sixes.*"—These are the five per cent. gold bearing bonds of the United States, to which half yearly coupons are attached, for payment, for which may be paid off, in gold, by the Government upon due notice to holders, at any time after five years, in the year then the Government should have found the money on a new loan at a cheaper rate than six per cent.

"*Compound Interest Notes.*"—These are the notes issued by the United States in payment of interest on the five-twenties, which notes are payable in gold, at the option of the holder, at any time after six months, from the date of issue, with the interest compounded thereon at the rate of six per cent. per annum, which notes are payable in gold, at the option of the holder, at any time after six months, from the date of issue, with the interest compounded thereon at the rate of six per cent. per annum.

"*Three-Year Coupon Notes.*"—These are the notes issued by the United States in payment of interest on the five-twenties, which notes are payable in gold, at the option of the holder, at any time after six months, from the date of issue, with the interest compounded thereon at the rate of six per cent. per annum.

"*Three-Year Compound Interest Notes.*"—These are the notes issued by the United States in payment of interest on the five-twenties