Daily Appeal.

A SAD STORY.

A correspondent of the *Inquirer* in New York, gives the following melancholy history of a cast-out in that city:

New York, September 20, 1859.

Floating along with the current of humanity which one encounters, or rather mingles with, in a large city, is many an isolated individual whose heart history, if uncovered to the gaze of the world, would surpass in its intense reality all the romance ever invented. While I write, an instance is passing along in the crowd under my window, in the person of a wretched looking man, after whom people turn to gaze, and wonder how "a human form divine" came to be reduced to a degradation so complete and irredeemable. Ragged, begrimmed with dirt, hair uncombed and hanging in tangled masses to his shoulders, face haggard and vacant, head bowed down, and eyes roving restlessly from one object to another, and scarcely ever fastened upon the face of man, uncaring and unread for, he moves dejectedly along with the crowd, as if his worldly hopes had fallen from him like so many withered leaves. His story, as I heard it from a person who is familiar with the circumstances, is a long and sad one but I will be brief:

Little more than five years ago, this poor unfortunate was a thriving merchant in a New England city, honored by all who knew him, well to do in the world, and with a wife and two daughters of seven and eighteen years of age, enjoyed the comfort which successful enterprise had secured to him. About this time there was introduced in his family circle one of his clerks, between whom and the eldest daughter an intimacy sprang up. Suspecting nothing, no objection was made to his society, but suddenly one morning he was missing. He had gone too far and the old story was re-enacted. He had won the daughter's affection, effected her ruin, and deserted her to escape the punishment he anticipated. Discovering her condition, the young girl left home to conceal her guilt. The mother, broken hearted at the shame of her daughter, was taken ill and died, and as if the hand of Providence was laid in wrath upon them, the youngest daughter in a few weeks after was also laid to rest beneath the chancel-stone. Only a little while elapsed, and an infant was one morning found upon the river bank with a note pinned to its dress, containing its name, and a few words of penitence and farewell. Its wretched mother had terminated her sorrow by suicide. From that hour the father was an altered man. Revenge became the only object of life, and forsaking his business, he started in pursuit of the author of his misery.

Months passed without success, but he finally learned that the young man, under an assumed name, was in a remote town of the West, and, following with all haste, he there found him. Both want of space, and ability, make it impossible for me to describe the terrible interview that resulted, but it appears that the seducer, fat, gone with consumption, was confined to his room, and when the broken-hearted man he had so deeply wronged, abruptly entered and stood before him, his own terror and the fearful agony and remorse which seized the most manly fellow, so worked upon him that a hemorrhage of the lungs was brought on, and he died during the ensuing night. Since then, the father has been the miserable wanderer I have described—"the world forgetting, and by the world forgot." The only moments of the past, visible about him, is a dirty cord around his neck, which supports a leather case enclosing a locket with the hair and portraits of his family. His home is among the squalid tenements of the Five Points, his daily wants are supplied by a pittance raised if he former property, but with hopes crushed, ambition destroyed, a bitter past behind, and a rayless future before him, he use to society gone, and he moves among men, a human ruin.

"A prostrate temple crumbled into sand."

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