

THE SOUTHERN STAR

INDEPENDANT IN ALL THINGS.

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NO 9

EDITH THE FACTORY GIRL.

BY ELLEN ASHTON.

In a sweet rural valley, nestled among the hills of old Massachusetts, stands a pleasant village with a picturesque millpond and factory. Three summers ago, this hamlet was the temporary residence of two young men, who were apparently artists, as their chief occupation seemed to consist in sketching the scenery of the neighborhood which was celebrated for its beauty. Their arrival had created quite a stir among the villagers, for they had a certain dignity of manner which made them to be looked up to, and many a pretty factory girl as she tripped to her work, cast a look over her shoulder, if she met either of the handsome strangers.

Though the society of the village was unusually intelligent, and the females were remarkable for their loveliness, there was one famed beyond the rest, both in mind and person, sweet Edith Mather. She was an orphan without sister or brother, and lived with an aged aunt, whom she chiefly supported by her labor in the factory. Edith was popular with every one,—she was so gentle considerate and kind, that even those who first envied, at last learned to love her. The younger of the two artist, whom we shall call Lovell, soon became interested in this sweet creature: at least if looks, tones, and a constant seeking of her presence was any proof he was thus interested.

One day him and his friend clambered up some rocks on the steep hill side, from which the village was overlooked; and as they sat there, the bell of the factory rang, and the green was immediately covered with girls in winding their way thither after dinner. among them it was easy to recognise the light and graceful form of Edith.

"Is she not beautiful? Where can you show me a form so sylph-like?" said Lovell, with undisguised enthusiasm.

His companion made no reply for a moment, but then abruptly remarked:

"I think it is time we leave this village."

Why? asked Lovell, in a tone of surprise.

"Because if you do not, you

will have that girl in love with you. Your admiration is evident to her friends, and you are too honorable to hold out hopes you never intend to fulfill."

"Hold out hopes I never intend to fulfill?"

"Yes, for you don't think of marrying that girl, do you?"

"To be sure."

"The duce you do," said his companion starting to his feet in unaffected astonishment.

Lovell indulged in a hearty laugh, and then asked, "why not?"

"Why not? Why for a thousand reasons. She is only a factory girl, a lady of neither birth or education, but a simple lass, very good indeed in her way, no match for Fred Lovell.—Think of presenting her to your fashionable friends in town!—No—no, it will never do.—shake of this love fit, pack up your trunk and let's be off to-morrow."

Lovell shook his head.

"I am, perhaps, a little more romantic man than you are Harry," he said "but I have some common sense, and I think I have brought it to bear upon that question. We have now been here a month, in which time I have become pretty well acquainted with Edith. I left town—we both left it, heartily sick of frivolities; and on my part, with the firm opinion that I knew no woman in our set, there, whom I could be willing to make my wife. The city girls are so frivolous, and really so ignorant of household affairs, that for a man of taste to marry one of them would be folly. I am not so fond of gay life; I think it wastes too much precious time; and I want, therefore, one who will become domestic, and not involve me in a round of balls and other entertainments. I do not wish to be a hermit, a few friends are a great blessing, and I shall always be glad to gather around me a circle of the right kind; but promiscuous fashionable visiting I detest. Now I think I have found just the partner I require in Miss Mather. She is well informed, agreeable, simple in her tastes, and has sound sense, of personal beauty, and if I mistake not, the power of loving very deeply. If I marry her, and take her to the city; her intuitive tact—and she has this in a remarkable degree—will soon supply any deficiency of manner. In short I do not know where I could make a better choice."

"How, when she has no accomplishments?"

"She can sing with untought grace; and as for jabbering French, I don't know how that would make her better. She would soon learn, too, with her quick parts. Besides, I care more to have a wife usefully informed, than to have one possessing only superficial accomplishments."

"But her family! Recollect who your grand father was?"

"And who was hers? a worthy divope, poor but estimable. Besides, I am above the cant you talk of. If her parents had been honest I would care little whether she were of royal blood or peasant extraction. I believe with Burns that worth makes the man, and the only degradation that I acknowledge is that of crime."

"Well if you are resolved on it, I know enough of your obstinacy to say no more. But faith, Lovell, if you had a guardian, and I were he, I would take you from this place to-morrow.—You'd thank me for it when you recovered your senses?"

The conversation here ceased; and directly the two friends retraced their steps to the village.

The next day Lovell's friend came down stairs prepared for a journey,

"I am going back to town," he said, "for I am tired of ruralizing. The fit for that is over; and I'm afraid if I stay here I shall be as foolish as you."

So the two friends parted, for Lovell remained behind; and in less than a week it was known every where in the village that him and Edith were to be married.

"If you can content yourself with the precarious lot of a poor artist," he said when he told his affections, "we may yet be happy."

Edith answered by a look of her bright eyes, so tender, so confident, and eloquent, that Lovell adored her more than ever.

In a fortnight they were married, when Lovell took his bride to see his relations, in the southern city whence he came. Edith's parting with her aunt was sorrowful, but it was made in the expectation of speedily returning.

Arrived at Philadelphia, the carriage drove to a handsome residence in walnut street. It was evening, and Edith was dazzled by the glare of light that burst from the windows.

"This is the place," said Lovell, assisting his wife to alight and almost carrying her into the superb parlor, with its Saxon carpet, rosewood furniture, costly curtains and gilded mirrors reaching from ceiling to floor.

"Whose house is this? Have you relatives living thus?" said Edith surprised at so much magnificence.

"It was my house, it is now yours, dearest," said her husband, "I am a poor artist, but a man rich in worldly goods, yet richest of all in you."

Three years have passed since then, and Edith has fulfilled all that her husband foretold of her. She makes the best of wives, and is one of the most brilliant ornaments of the circle she moves in. Lovell's friend married a silly fashionable woman, and no greater contrast to happiness exists than between those two former friends.

A handsome rural cottage, filled with all appliances of luxury, has been created in Edith's native village, and thither, every summer, she and her husband repaired to visit her aged aunt, who has been installed mistress of this pretty retreat.

Executorial Notice.

LETTERS Testamentary of the last will and Testament of Sterling F. Vaughan dec. were granted to the undersigned at the December term 1855 of the probate court of Panola county Mississippi. All persons having claims against said deceased are hereby notified to have them duly probated and registered according to law, or this notice will be plead in bar of payment thereof.
IVERSON VAUGHAN, Exr.
Jan. 1856. —w.

PATRONISE HOME

MANUFACTURE

E. M. LIVELY.

MANUFACTURER OF Saddles, Bridles, Harness &c. Repairing done with neatness and despatch at short notice. His work cannot be surpassed in elegance or durability in the South West. Panola Miss. Jan. 1—6m.



M. W. MURRA

TAILOR,

PANOLA, MISS.

HAVING returned to the town of Panola and permanently located for the purpose of carrying on the Tailoring Business, solicits the patronage of the public. He hopes, by skill, diligence and promptness in his business to merit a liberal patronage. Shop, on the E. side of the Public Square. An 4'55 ly.

M. S. WARD,

Attorney at Law

PANOLA MISS.

Office in the Court House.

FOR RENT.

The house on the east side of the public square, recently occupied by the Star. Immediate application and liberal propositions can possibly secure the invaluable shanty.

BILL OF PRICES FOR CARPENTERS and JOINERS WORK
Feb. 20th 1856.

The Carpenters and Joiners met according to appointment.

Mr. Goforth was called to the chair and W. A. Naylor was appointed Secretary. A bill of prices was then drawn up, and agreed upon by the following gentlemen present, Messrs. Gage Carter, Goforth, McCullough, Tucker Pevahouse, Perkins, Wick, Powers and Naylor.

On motion of Mr. Carter; it was resolved, that a number of copies be printed for distribution among the carpenters belonging to the agreement.

Administrator's Notice.

WHEREAS Letters of Administration of the Estate of Jas. A. Hinton dec., were granted to the undersigned at the December Term 1855, of the Probate Court of Panola County. All persons having claims against said decedent are hereby notified to have the same Probated and registered as the law directs, or this notice will be plead in bar of the payment thereof. And all persons owing said decedent's estate, are notified to come forward and pay the same if they desire to save cost.

ROBERT W. WRIGHT, Admt.

Jan, 19 1856, 1—6w.