

THE ORGAN

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Among the fugitive pieces of James Montgomery, none have been more admired than the following:

THE BRIDAL AND THE BURIAL.

"Blessed is the bride whom the sun shines on! Blessed is the corpse which the rain rains on!" I saw thee young and beautiful, I saw thee rich and gay, In the first blush of womanhood, Upon thy wedding day; The church bells rung, the organ pealed, And the little children sang— "Flowers, flowers, kiss her feet! Sweet to the world is she! The winter's past, the rains are gone! Blessed is the bride whom the sun shines on!"

THE VILLAGE SCHOOLMISTRESS.

OF THE WAY ARABEL STELLAND LOST HER LOVE. BY ALLIE YENNON.

CHAPTER I. Introduction to the Schoolmistress.

"Wall, I kinder reckon she sint coming to night," said Farmer Merry to his wife, as he stood in the doorway of the farm-house, looking up the road, his large, black hand shading his eyes from the last brilliant rays of the setting sun. "That will be too bad," returned the good dame, "for I've done my best to make things look nice. The eggs are as white as snow, the butter yellow as gold, the strawberries red as can be, the milk sweet as a rose, the cheese—" but the old lady paused, either for want of breath or lack of similes. I don't exactly know which. But she had spoken the truth; the little old-fashioned round table, covered with the whitest of cloths, was very daintily set out with fresh churned butter, new laid eggs, with milk just from the cow, homemade bread and ripe straw berries. Besides this, milk-pitcher, tea-pot and sugar bowl, all made of metal, were polished and brightened to such a degree, that you could have, with some care, made your toilet by the aid of any of them. And all these preparations had been made because the new schoolmistress was coming to the village that evening, and Dame Merry's, both parties being agreeable, was to be her residence as long as she filled the above mentioned capacity.

The children, with neatly pitched aprons, hair curled smoothly, and faces shining from the united effects of spring water, brown soap, and a coarse towel, were standing silently beside their parents, impressed with due reverence and awe of the personage about to honor them with her presence.

There were three of them—two stout boys and a healthy, rosy-cheeked girl, and well they might dread the approach of a new tyrant, for Dame Birch, their late instructress, had been gifted with a peculiar talent and a liking for handling the rod, and upon none were her favors bestowed so plentifully as upon the little Merrys, for unobsequiously their natures were like their name—"Merry."

So one afternoon, when Dame Birch, fully impressed to the last with a sense of her many virtues, died, the youngest congratulated themselves upon their freedom, little thinking, poor misguided ones, that the funeral of the defunct teacher was scarcely over, when a messenger was despatched to town, from Sweet Blossom Village, for another.

The gentleman soon succeeded in obtaining a lady qualified in every way "to teach the young idea how to shoot," and it was in honor of her arrival, as I said before, that Farmer Merry, his wife and children, were arrayed with such scrupulous neatness, and Dame Merry's parlor, and tea-table, were so clean and neat, they always were "clean and bright as a pin," but on this occasion (a thing that seemed impossible before) they seemed brighter than ever.

"Hist! father," at length said Tom, the eldest of the young Merrys, "I hear the noise of the stage wheels!" and leaving his father's side, he ran down the little path that led to the gate followed by his brother and sister, and clinging to them, made haste along the road whence the sound proceeded.

"Tom, Harry, Jenny!" screamed the mother, "come back here! Don't go bumping down the road as if you were wild, Come back, I say!"

The children slowly obeyed, Tom breathlessly exclaiming meanwhile, "She is coming, mother—the stage is at the hill!" Harry's and Jenny's faces began to lengthen. "The vivid recollection of their numerous chastisements came with redoubled force upon their minds."

"Why need she come here?" muttered Harry, "Why couldn't she go to some other place and live? We'll have enough of her at school, ugly old thing!"

"I am she," was the reply, in low, sweet tones.

"You don't mean to say that you are the new schoolmistress, do you?" was the next question of the astonished farmer. "I am," the girl answered, with a bright smile. "You are already thinking, I perceive," she continued, "that I am too young for the duties I am about to undertake, but give me a fair trial before you condemn me," and so saying, with light steps she followed the good man to the farm house, where she was received with much cordiality, but it must be confessed, greater astonishment by his tidy wife. "The children had crowded together in a corner, but a single glance the fair girl sent in that direction, seemed to exert a magic spell, for they quickly conformed from their hiding place, and coming timidly forward, each offered a little hand in welcome to her. And now while seated at the hospitable board, Miss Lee—phew, I'll call her that no longer, sweet Lizzie discusses the merits of the strawberry-cress, &c, we'll take a look at her and see why the Merry farmer was so "taken back," as the sailors say, when she actually made her appearance. It must have been her youth, in the first place, for Lizzie was but eighteen, and then her beauty must have had something to do with it, for she was most beautiful.

A profusion of glossy brown ringlets shade a low brow; a pair of eyes one cannot describe, because their color varies with each changing emotion—when the owner is thoughtful, gray—when enthusiastic, black—when joyous, blue—gleam brightly beneath lids fringed with lashes long and dark; and a dimple breaks out in the round chin at every smile, and that same smile parts the red lips, showing the pearls within, glittering like diamonds, in a casket laid with crimson. The fair hands are as white as they could count every blue vein that takes its course through them; and the simple muslin dress fits neatly to a form slight, but faultless. And this was not all.—It was not the mere beauty of face and form that distinguished Lizzie Lee. There was a winning tenderness in her voice, a certain fascination in her bright smile, and a strange expression in her dark eyes, that said as plainly as words could—"love me."

It was early when Lizzie Lee retired that evening, but before she did retire she wrote every heart in that simple but kind-hearted family. The little ones were wishing for the morrow that they might go to school, and Harry wept outright at the remembrance of having called her "ugly thing," when she appeared in the doorway of the farm-house, looking up the road, his large, black hand shading his eyes from the last brilliant rays of the setting sun.

"That will be too bad," returned the good dame, "for I've done my best to make things look nice. The eggs are as white as snow, the butter yellow as gold, the strawberries red as can be, the milk sweet as a rose, the cheese—" but the old lady paused, either for want of breath or lack of similes. I don't exactly know which. But she had spoken the truth; the little old-fashioned round table, covered with the whitest of cloths, was very daintily set out with fresh churned butter, new laid eggs, with milk just from the cow, homemade bread and ripe straw berries. Besides this, milk-pitcher, tea-pot and sugar bowl, all made of metal, were polished and brightened to such a degree, that you could have, with some care, made your toilet by the aid of any of them. And all these preparations had been made because the new schoolmistress was coming to the village that evening, and Dame Merry's, both parties being agreeable, was to be her residence as long as she filled the above mentioned capacity.

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"Why need she come here?" muttered Harry, "Why couldn't she go to some other place and live? We'll have enough of her at school, ugly old thing!"

The young hopeful's speech was cut short by a smart slap on his cheek from his maternal parent, which sent him blubbering into the house, followed by his sister, who acted the part of comforter.

By this time the stage had stopped at the gate, and the farmer hastened to meet the new comer, (whilst his wife, for the hundredth time, smoothed down her white apron, and gave an extra jerk to a queer little curl on her head, the only want she ever indulged in.) "Isn't Miss Lee here?" asked the old man, as a fragile-looking creature descended the stage steps.

teacher, is it?—little thing. I'll never get whipped now; I intend after this to do as I please."

"And all that," Dick went on, "is to get up to school, and be scolded for laughing by his mischievous pranks. First, trying a handkerchief upon his head, in imitation of a cap, and fixing a pair of enormous spectacles, he had obtained, no one knew where, upon his nose, he confronted his associates in the manner of the lamented Dame Birch, who he soon overtook with the shining step of Dr. Quercy, the village physician, to Lizzie Lee, on pretence of asking some question about a lesson. His example encouraged the rest, who, before his coming, had been quite untidy, and the weary schoolmistress, who had been waiting for the arrival of the newly-bred dispersed. The little Merrys alone had treated her with love and respect, and even then little Jenny had so far forgotten herself at one time, as to try to imitate with her childish voice, the warbling of a bird that she had seen in the garden. The wife, however, having been treated with much mirth and confusion. Lizzie felt that something must be done, and she resolved to try the effects of tenderness and gentleness upon the ring-leader. As he rose to depart, she called to him in a mild but firm voice.

"Two years ago," pronounced the young schoolmistress, "there lived in a large town, not very far distant from Sweet Blossom Village, a proud and wealthy family, consisting of a father, mother and two daughters. They were surrounded not only by every comfort, but by every luxury, and their domestic life was a most happy one. The father, who was a man of some fortune, had a large estate, and he and his wife were both kind and generous to their children. The mother was a woman of some talents, and she was very fond of her children. The two daughters were also very beautiful and accomplished. One of them was named Lizzie, and she was the favorite of her father and mother. She was a very kind and generous girl, and she was very fond of her friends. The other daughter was named Mary, and she was also very beautiful and accomplished. She was a very kind and generous girl, and she was very fond of her friends. The two daughters were both very kind and generous, and they were both very fond of their friends. The father and mother were both very kind and generous, and they were both very fond of their children. The two daughters were also very beautiful and accomplished, and they were both very kind and generous. They were all very kind and generous, and they were all very fond of their friends. The father and mother were both very kind and generous, and they were both very fond of their children. The two daughters were also very beautiful and accomplished, and they were both very kind and generous. They were all very kind and generous, and they were all very fond of their friends."

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started up from the trunk of an old tree where she had been sitting, her eyes fixed upon the

others to see the promised no longer that Lizzie Lee had the same bow as the beauty of Arabel Stelland, though her seat was at some distance from the laughing girls. She had lain aside her bonnet, and oh! how lovely she looked in the pale moonlight. Arabel noticed the eye of her companion fixed upon the fair young girl, and calling his attention by a smart tap on the ear, she said:

"You are very interesting to-night, sitting and gazing as though your soul were in your eyes, on yonder silly-faced creature. By the by," she continued, as though a bright thought had struck her, "that capital idea it would be for you to make love to her, wouldn't it?—I declare it would afford me infinite amusement to observe the actions of a poor schoolmistress when receiving the attentions of a young, wealthy and handsome man like yourself."

"Arabel," replied Wilson, in grave tones, "you would not have me endeavor to awaken an interest in that fair girl's heart merely for your amusement. Could you love me were I capable of playing so base a part?"

"Love you? to be sure I could," with an impatient toss of the head, "and I insist on your making love to her. There, that boy has left her side, take the vacant seat, and lay siege to Miss Lee's heart."

With a look of unmingled regret and scorn, Wilson arose to obey his "lady-love." But he smoothed his brow, and advancing towards the young schoolmistress, he took the seat beside her in a careless, easy manner, at the same time making some remarks on the beauty of the evening. There was a look of surprise in Lizzie's eyes as she raised them to their speaker's face, but ever graceful and lady-like, she recovered from her momentary embarrassment