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THE WREATHED SUBJECT.

A Tale of the Dissecting Table.

In a narrow little street, full of
nooks and angles, stands a quaint
brick house, nooky and full of angles
too. It has survived many years, and
time has filled its crevices with mold
and green moss now and then is seen
on its cornices, or grows close on the
walls.

It is old enough to have had a his-
tory, and people say it is the brooding
haunt of memories that are better lost
than kept alive. Be that as it may, it
is the scene of a little incident in life,
which was told to me, and I relate it
here. Those connected with it have
passed away, but others besides myself
will recollect the doctor's story.

The old college near by was in the
hey-day of its fame before the war,
and students from all parts of the
State were in attendance. By some
of these old house we speak of were
rented for dissecting purposes, and
hither were brought the subjects they
desired to practice on. The dissecting
place it was, and with closed shutters
and doors, excluding daylight, the
heavy atmosphere seemed instinct
with ghostly presence. Coming into
the house from the keen air outside, a
chill would strike to the heart like the
breath of a Texas norther. An inspi-
ration of constraint, of fear and dread,
was all about the place.

"Imagine, then, my feelings," said
the narrator, "when, long after mid-
night, I crept cautiously into the old
house alone. I had made arrange-
ments to have a subject brought in
for my next day's study. But a feverish
unrest pursued me, and an inclina-
tion I could not resist carried me
there long before any one else was
stirring. I knew my commissaries
had done their work long before, and
in the silent figure on the table, out-
lined through the muslin draperies, I
perceived that for which I came in
search. My nerves were always strong,
and I had a passion for science. I had
no fear of the dead, and yet I trem-
bled perceptibly as I stood that night
beside the voiceless clay I had come to
view.

What was it—fear, or that subtle
sympathy which, despite all reason-
able causes, at times pervades the
heart and mind? I can't describe the
sensation, but I felt at times as if I
was approaching some event of con-
trolling force and power on my life.
But whatever the feeling was I shook
it off, and turning up the gas ap-
proached the table. My hand shook a
little as I exposed the face of the dead
to view.

It was a young girl, apparently
about seventeen years of age. It was
a sad face, beautiful and calm; and a
smile, like the shadow of holy mem-
ories, lingered on the lips. A garland
of white flowers wreathed her brow
like a bride. The golden tress of sunny
hair that crowned the head was
stirred by a breath of air. I started
and turned pale. It seemed to me that
on the unreasoning instant, that on that
silent, voiceless breath of air life was
returning to the inanimate frame.

What if it should be so? I came
closer and looked eagerly into the
face—a calm, still face, with yellow
lashes veiling the pale, tinted under-
lids, and a waxen bloom like a roseate
shadow on cheek and lip. Soon, as I
looked, the features changed—a shade
swept over the face—indistinct—such
as sometimes a glint of sunlight flings
on ice or steel.

It was life. I was certain of it.
Quick as thought I lifted the figure
and carried it to a sofa in an adjoin-
ing room, and disrobing the arm-
stuck my hand deep into a vein. The
blood came dark and clotted, a drop at
a time, then swifter and in a ruddier
stream. My brain was on fire, and my
blood leaped like a courier in my
veins. But my hand was steady, and my
senses did not desert me. Through
her set teeth I poured a draught of
ammonia, and life began to flutter
back into the passive frame. The
mouth twitched, the cheeks flushed
and paled alternately, the eyelids
quivered, and the blue eyes opened
wide.

"I have been dreaming," she mur-
mured, wearily.

"Yes," I replied, "pleasant dreams,
I trust."

"Very pleasant. I thought of clouds
and shadows tinged with rainbow
hues, and gentle murmuring streams,
and gardens full of bloom."

"Take this and dream again," I
said; and almost as I spoke she sank
back in sleep. And then the doctor
relapsed into silence too.

"Well, doctor, what next," I asked
eagerly.

"Well, I called a carriage and took
her to my boarding-house—had her
made comfortable," he replied, curtly.
"She was not dead, then, after all?"

"No."

"But she had been buried?" we
asked.

"Yes, in a trance. That is all you
need to know," and the doctor ended
his story.

There was something pathetic in the
position of the German florist, who,
in the bitterness of his heart, ex-
claimed: "I have so much drouble
mid de ladies ven they come to buy
mine rose; dey want him a draught,
dey want him nice color, dey want
him eberything in one rose. I hope
I am not what you call an un-
cullant man, but I have sometimes to
say to dat ladies, 'Madame, I never
often see ladies dat vas beautiful, dat
vas rich, dat vas good temper, dat
vas young, dat vas clever, dat vas per-
fection, in one ladies. I see her much
not.'"

Some people are as hard to suit as
other folks. Forgetting how many
millions would have been lost to com-
merce had it remained, Quebecers
complain that the going out of their
ice-bridge occasioned a loss of \$500,000.

Charles Dickens' Parents.

A Rather Funny Couple—Some In-
teresting Reminiscences.

17 RIVERS STREET,
Bath, England.

MY DEAR — I hasten to reply to
your request that I should give you
some information respecting the fam-
ily of poor Charles Dickens. I became
acquainted with his father and mother,
Mr. and Mrs. John Dickens, in 1850,
and Charles Dickens having requested
my husband's professional attendance
upon old Dickens, who was rapidly
falling in health, both the father and
mother came to live with us at 34
Keppel Street, London. Mr. Dickens
died under our roof March 31, 1851.

He was a kind-hearted man, but fear-
fully irascible. His fits of temper
lasted, however, but a short time, but
while they lasted they were terrible.
I remember on one occasion some
private theatricals were given at St.
James's Theatre, in which Charles
Dickens took the principal character,
and old Mr. Dickens was appointed
bill distributor for the night. Charles
had given strict orders that no one
should be allowed behind the scenes.

The elder Dickens, returning to the
green-room, was surprised and in-
ignant to find a man, as he thought,
standing at the other end of the ap-
artment. His blood boiled up in an in-
stant, and he flew at him. His anger
increased at seeing the figure advance
toward him, and he rushed up and
struck out with his might, hitting
a looking glass with such violence that
it had sore knuckles for some
days afterwards. The resemblance
between old Mr. D. and Mr. Micawber
was very slight. The day previous to
his death he seemed unusually well,
and we none of us expected he would
pass away so soon. He was at first
taken seriously ill while at dinner,
and after he was put to bed I sent off
immediately for Charles. He came
as soon as possible. I was in the room
when the old gentleman died. Charles
Dickens had been with him for hours,
standing or sitting by the bedside, and
holding his hand. He was much
affected, and behaved throughout
with great tenderness.

Mrs. Dickens was a little woman,
who had been very nice-looking in
her youth. The likeness between her
and Mrs. Nickleby is simply the ex-
aggeration of some slight peculiarities.
She possessed an extraordinary sense
of the ludicrous. Entering a room she
almost unconsciously took an inven-
tory of its contents, and if anything
lacked, she would set it out of place,
or ludicrous, she would afterwards de-
scribe it in the quaintest possible
manner. She had also a very fine
vein of pathos, and could bring tears
to the eyes of her listeners when nar-
rating some sad event. I am of opin-
ion that the great deal of "Dickens"
genius was inherited from his mother.

Mrs. Dickens has often sent my sister
and myself into fits of laughter by
her funny sayings and mimicry.
Charles was decidedly fond of her, and
always treated her kindly. He told
her that he had been very much in-
fluenced by her in his early life, and
that he had often thought of her in
his future. To my husband and myself
he expressed himself in the warmest
manner for what little kindness we
had shown his parents. He sent my
husband a handsome silver snuff-box,
lined with gold, on which was ex-
graved this inscription:

TO ROBERT DAVY,
A poor token of my affection and respect,
In memory of my dear father,
CHARLES DICKENS.

This heirloom is now in my eldest
son's possession. It was accompanied
by a beautiful and touching letter,
full of tenderness and filial affection.

Mrs. Dickens was very fond of her
daughter-in-law, Mrs. Charles, and
has often told me that she believed
"there was not another woman in all
England so well suited to her son."

Charles Dickens frequently at-
tended the funeral of his father at
Keppel Street, and sometimes stayed
to dinner. He was not a very talk-
ative man, but could be extremely
pleasant when he chose. Mrs. Dickens
does not seem to have foreseen the
future celebrity of her son in his child-
hood, but she remembered many little
circumstances afterwards which she
was very fond of relating. Once, when
Charles was a tiny boy, and the family
were staying down to Chatham, the
nurse had a great deal of trouble in
inducing him to follow her when out
for a walk. When they returned
home Mrs. Dickens said to her, "Well,
how have the children be-
haved?" "Very nicely indeed, ma'am,
all but Master Charles."

"What has he done?" "Why, ma'am,
he will be peevish in always going
the same road every day." "Charles,"
Charles, how is this?" "Why, ma'am,"
answered the urchin, "does not the Bible
say we must walk the same path all the
days of our life?"—Letter published in
Lippincott's Magazine.

It is almost twenty-nine years since
Pius IX. ascended the Papal throne.
None of his predecessors had so long a
lease of power as he has enjoyed. The
average duration of the Pontificate is
seven years, four months, and thirty-
three days. Sylvester I. reigned 22
years; Leo the Great, 24; Theodorus I.,
21; Adalfus I., 22; Gregory IV., 17;
Paschal II., 19; Alexander III. (the
avenger of A'Becket), 22; John XXII.,
22; Eugenius IV., 16; Alexander Farnese,
10; Paul V., 16; Urban VIII., 21; Ben-
edict XIV., 18; Gregory XIV., the im-
mediate predecessor of the present
Pope, 15 years. Pius IX. is the two
hundredth and fifty-seventh Pope,
reckoning from St. Peter.

A cynical writer says, "Take a com-
pany of boys chasing butterflies. Put
long-tailed coats on the boys and turn
them into beautiful panorama of the
world."

The destruction of half the village
of Butternuts, N. Y., the other day,
will be nuts to the wicked man of the
world. For, he must crack his joke,
no matter who suffers.

The Montgomery News don't believe
that Livingston is dead, or that there
is a Stanley. He will next doubt
whether there ever was a Dr. Living-
stone or a country called Great Britain.

There are 992 Vermonters in New
York City, 2,320 in Chicago, and 2,495
in Boston.

Tiger fire engine of Salem weighs
4,144 pounds.

BUSINESS CARDS.

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BOOT AND SHOEMAKER, COM-
mercial street, opposite Hellman, Haas
& Co.'s. Repairing promptly and neatly
done. my12-17

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THE ONLY SHOP IN THE CITY WHERE
Locksmithing and Bellhanging is a
specialty. Safes and Scales repaired, general
jobbing, and work warranted. 43 Main street,
next door to Lafayette Hotel. ap24-17

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A large stock of the newest Cloths. Good
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CARPENTER AND BUILDER,
Successors to Buchanan & Huskins.

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OF BUILDING AND SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
Headquarters at the Kemball Building, on
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Successors to J. B. SAUNDERS & CO.,
DRUGGISTS AND CHEMISTS,
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PUREST DRUGS AND PATENT MEDICINES
of all kinds. Special attention carefully con-
sidered day and night. my24-17

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General Commission Merchants,
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from Farmers, Grangers, and Dealers in Grain,
Fruit, Wool, Dairy Products, Eggs, Hides, etc.,
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Dress and Cloak Maker,
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fancy goods of the latest New York and Paris
fashions kept constantly on hand.
All orders will be promptly filled at the
most reasonable rates. my10-17

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COMMISSION HOUSE
In the Exclusive Commission House to
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LUMBER YARDS
— AND —
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road Depot. my20-17

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TO BE LET.—THE VARIOUS WORKS
required in the erection and completion
of a villa residence, stable, and out build-
ings, fronting on Figueroa, Adams and Charity
streets, Los Angeles.
Plans and specifications may be inspected
at my office from Thursday, the 4th, to Thurs-
day, the 11th, of June, on which latter day
sealed proposals are to be delivered to me not
later than 3 o'clock P. M., free of charge.
No pledge is given to accept the lowest, or
any proposal.
W. J. GRAHAM, Architect,
Room 46, Temple Block.
June 4th, 1874. jui 6t

GRAND RE-OPENING
OF THE
ORIENT SALOON.

We have just received a Large and Entire
NEW STOCK OF

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Punches & Cobblers Specialties!

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FRELINGER & FRANK.
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Primest Beef and Mutton
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eases at his temporary office, cor. Spring and
Court streets, opposite Court House, or
Patients can be attended at their homes. All
Diseases treated on strictly Hygienic Prin-
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Office hours from 9 to 12 A. M., and 1 to 4 P. M.
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DR. M. S. JONES,
FORMERLY OF ST. LOUIS, MO.,
has located in Los Angeles, where he
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NEXT TO A. M. DODSON'S MEAT MAR-
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WINES, LIQUORS and CIGARS.
Are always provided. Fresh Lager Beer al-
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POETRY.
Though preachers may preach and teachers
teach
Of the evil effects of drink,
'Tis music sweet to a man of wit
To hear the glasses clink.
Both Webster and Clay, who in their day
The nation's affairs did guide,
At 11 A. M. each day were seen
With bottles by their side.
Say what you will—talk with skill—
This truth beyond a doubt,
That sparkling wine is a gift divine
Life would be dear without.

HOT LUNCH
served from 11 to 1 1/2 A. M., and in the evening
from 8 till 12 o'clock, at the
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DEPOT AT LOUIS MESMER'S
WINE CELLAR, underneath the U. S.
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All kinds of
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The clearest, purest and most bril-
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Orders for DRAUGHT or BOTTLED BEER
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The celebrated Beer from this Brewery de-
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Fine Lager Beer for sale
IN QUANTITIES TO SUIT.
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LAGER BEER ON DRAUGHT
A SPECIALTY. ALSO,
Eastern and California Oysters
And other delicacies in season, and the
Very Best Liquors & Cigars.
A first-class Lunch at All Hours. my14-17

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SATTER & BAYER, PROPRIETORS,
Basement, cor. Main and Beuine streets.
All the delicacies of the season. A NICE
COLD LUNCH at a minute's notice. Wines,
Ales, Porters, Liquors and Champagnes,
of the very choicest brands.
Caviar, Sardelles, Sausages and Limburger
Cheese.
A fine Billiard Table in the Hall. my24-17

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The purest WINES, the choicest CIGARS,
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J. C. JACKSON,
COR. ALAMEDA AND FIRST STS.,
— SELLS —
Rough Oregon and Redwood
— AT —
\$32 50 per M feet.
Surfaced and Tongued and
Grooved Oregon,
— AT —
\$42 50 per M feet.
Surfaced and Tongued and
Grooved Redwood,
— AT —
\$42 50 per M feet.

DOORS, WINDOWS, BLINDS, SHINGLES,
LATHS, REDWOOD SHAKES,
POSTS, PLASTER PARIS,
CEMENT AND HAIR.
W. W. ROBINSON, Agent.
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WHITE CLIFF DAIRY.

THE BEST QUALITY OF MILK
furnished to families at prices defying
competition. Patronize a young, enterprising
firm, and get value received for your money.
Leave orders at
WORKMAN BROS.,
— OR WITH —
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WILLIAM BRAND, PROPRIETOR.

DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF FRESH
and Salt Meats of the best quality.
Orders promptly attended to. Aliso street,
second door from the corner of Alameda.
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CONTRACTORS AND BUILDERS,
HEADQUARTERS AT
LAFAYETTE HOTEL.

Are well known in Los Angeles as success-
ful builders, and refer for recommendation
to all for whom they have done work. my14-17

HOTELS.

LAFAYETTE HOTEL.
New Throughout
THE PROPRIETOR DESIRES TO
Inform the travelling public that this well
known house has been
THOROUGHLY
RENOVATED AND REBUILT
THROUGHOUT,
and now offers accommodations equal if not
superior to any other house in Los Angeles.
SINGLE ROOMS, OR ROOMS EN SUITE.
The Eating Department
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LOS ANGELES, CAL.
FIRST CLASS HOTEL,
FOR TRAVELERS AND TOURISTS.
Centrally Located—Frontage on
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The BEST Table.
The BEST Rooms.
The BEST Accommodations.
my24-17 CHAS. KNOWLTON, Prop'r

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NEAR THE DEPOT