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### THE DAY OF THE MORTAL. The Minister's Daughter.

BY JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER. In the minister's morning sermon He had told of the primal fall, And how henceforth the wrath of God Rested on each and all.

And how of His will and pleasure, All souls, save a chosen few, Were doomed to the quenchless burn

And held in the way thereto.

Yet never by faith's unreason A saintlier soul was tried, And never the harsh old lesson A tenderer heart belied.

And, after the painful service On that pleasant Sabbath day, He walked with his little daughter Through the apple-bloom of May

Sweet in the fresh green meadows Sparrow and blackbird sung; Above him their tinted petals The blossoming orchards hung.

Around on the wonderful glory The minister looked and smiled; 'How good is the Lord who gave us These gifts from His hand, my child.

"Behold in the bloom of apples And the violets in the sward A hint of the old, lost beauty Of the Garden of the Lord.'

Then up spoke the little maiden, Treading on snow and pink: "O father! these pretty blossoms Are very wicked I think.

"Had there been no Garden of Eden There never had been a fall And never a tree had blossomed God would have loved us all."

"Hush! child!" the father answered, "By His decree men fell; His ways are in clouds and darkness, But He doeth all things well.

"And whether by His ordaining To us cometh good or ill, Joy or pain, or light or shadow, We must fear and love Him still,'

'Oh, I fear Him!" said the daughter, "And I try to love Him too; But I wish He was good and gentle, Kind and loving as you."

The minister groaned in spirit As the tremulous lips of pain And wide wet eyes uplifted Questioned his own in vain.

Bowing his head he pondered

The words of the little one; Had he erred in his life-long teaching?

To what grim and dreadful idol Had he lent the holiest name? Did his own heart, loving and human The God of his worship shame?

Had he wrong to his Master done?

And lo! from the bloom and greenness. From the tender skies above, And the face of his little daughter, He read a lesson of love.

No more as the cloudy terror Of Sinai's mount of law, But as Christ in the Syrian lilies The vision of God he saw.

And, as when, in the clefts of Horeb Of old was his presence known, The dread Ineffable Glory Was Infinite Goodness alone.

Thereafter his hearers noted In his prayers a tenderer straln, And never the gospel of hatred Burned on his lips again.

And the scoffing tongue was prayerful, And the blinded eyes found sight, And hearts, as flint aforetime, Grew soft in his warmth and light.

### MY POSITION.

CHARLOTTE PERKINS GILMAN IN WIL-SHIRE'S MAGAZINE FOR MAY.

It takes great STRENGTH to live where you belong

When other people think that you are wrong; People you love, and who love you,

and whose Approval is a pleasure you would

choose: To bear this pressure and succeed at

In living your belief-well, it takes strength.

And COURAGE too. But what does courage mean,

Save strength to help you face a pain foreseen?

Courage to undertake this lifelong

strain Of setting yours against your grandsire's brain;

Dangerous risk of walking lone and Out of the easy paths that used to be, And the fierce pain of hurting those we love

When love meets truth and truth must ride above?

But the best courage man has ever

shown Is daring to cut loose and think alone,

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