

Poetry.

Growing Old.

Softly, so softly, the years have passed by thee...

Far from the storms that are lashing the ocean...

Under full sail and the harbor in sight...

Past all the winds that were adverse and chilling...

Never a feeling of envy nor sorrow...

Thou dost remember what lieth between...

Rich in experience that angels might covet...

Hearts at the sound of thy coming are lightened...

Eyes that grow dim to the earth and its glory...

Ears that grow dull to the world and its story...

Literature.

TEMPTATION.

The Lady of Ashurst.

CHAPTER XXVII.

A HAPPY PAIR.

The letter of Augustus to Judge Ashley...

Her indulgences were curtailed, not without a severe struggle...

Her excuse he gave to her for narrowing her expenses...

Every attempt to buy off Jane had signally failed...

The irritated wife soon found that the expense incurred...

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I wonder how much of this disappointment...

Augusta had taken up the letter, and was so painfully absorbed...

"Your father has very little respect for your feelings...

"I believe the old man is as sound in his mind as either you or I...

"The Arden income is my own lawful spoil, gained by my own cleverness...

"No, indeed—I merely spoke of possibilities. Jane is far too fond of the child to betray anything that could injure her...

"We must use every effort to make Evelyne really a winning little creature...

"So—do you have really become a plotter since you had this manikin to provide for!

"The child will owe us a great debt of gratitude, at any rate, for removing her from those low people...

"Why, what should happen to reduce her to that?" he peevishly asked...

"I'll not, indeed. I would suffer tortures sooner than do such a thing."

"Thus warned, Mrs. Ashley was silent, and the conversation ended for that time...

"When she was removed to Paris, he was left in England at a public school...

"It was well for Evelyne that her life was spent far from the shabby genteel home of her reputed father...

"The orphan child had developed into a lovely little fairy, with dark, soft eyes...

When Ashley was four years old, a son was born...

that she could be induced to take the veil after she attained her majority...

For a few moments Evelyne was abashed by her harshness, but she presently recovered her courage...

"You are sharper than I gave you credit for, Evelyne, and you are an affectionate little thing to be willing to forestall your inheritance for the sake of your mother and myself...

"I will think of this, Evelyne, and see what can be done."

"She thanked him warmly, resumed her work, and sat wondering if all married people lived as wretchedly together as her father and his wife did...

"The fruitful season of the year is prolific with many forms of bowel complaints, such as Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Cholera Morbus, Cholera Infantum, &c."

"When I married you, Mrs. Ashley, I thought I was getting a wife to be proud of, but there is nothing left to boast of you now."

"I have just been comparing your faded features with the freshness of Evelyne, and I must say that you gain nothing by the comparison."

"For shame, father! How can you speak thus when mamma has lost her bloom in nursing you through your long years of idleness?"

"Men have different ideals at different stages of existence, Madam. You were once a girl, and you had no cause to complain of me so long as the delusion lasted."

"I gave you more than I could afford; my indignation made you the envy of every woman of your acquaintance."

"If I find it possesses any interest for me, you may," he waningly responded.

"The doctor strictly forbade your having more than a pint a day, after that after your late attack, you know that it is necessary to be very careful."

"What the deuce are you driving at, Evelyne? What if I do get angry? I should think you are sufficiently used to that to care little about it."

"Our life is not a pleasant one, and you seem quite tired of it, as well as mamma. Jane says the letter was a great treat, that I have large estates in Maryland, and that we were only there to be put in grand style."

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