

POETRY.

"WHEN THE NIGHT IS FALLING."

When on my day of life the night is falling,
And in the winds from unsmiled spaces
blown.

SELECT STORY.

THE SECRET OF THE UPPERMOST DRAWER.

BY A NEW YORK DETECTIVE.

"Is this Jonquil villa?"
"Yes, sir."
"Colonel Frackleton's place?"

"No, only a request."
"Is it possible?"
"Assuredly not. And your wish?"

"I am the nephew of the late Col. Frackleton. Some years since my uncle executed a will bequeathing to me all his wealth."
"Is it possible?"

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ments of great importance found missing each time. Last night was the third, and as you see things now so I found them upon my entrance to the library this morning.

As Mr. Montjoy spoke he arose and walked toward the escritoire. Old Claggett following him, raised his eye-glass and bent over the drawer which lay upon the floor.

"If George Frackleton is the thief," he thought, "he will surely repeat his visit to-night. I must admit that he appeared to be struck with my suggestion that the top drawer might contain a false bottom."
"Has anything been disturbed beside this drawer?" he inquired.

"No, nothing."
"Of course the papers were stolen from it?"
"Of course the drawer was locked?"
"Was it, sir; not only locked but the lock is one of peculiar construction to which I alone possess the key?"

"I have permitted my cousin to search wherever it pleased him, sir. Nay, more I have aided him to the extent of my ability. To my mind the interest of justice requires nothing further than that."
"Of course you are right. If you have done that you have done all that can be expected. Of course the assumption must be that George Frackleton has come here by night to search for his father's will."

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hope Mr. Montjoy hasn't made a blunder and fastened this. No; it is open. Now for a season of lonely watching. If that young Frackleton turns out to be the culprit I shall be very much surprised."

Raising the sash noiselessly Old Claggett drew himself through the window, and then with a cautious glance around him paused to listen.
The room was entirely deserted. He could not hear a sound.

Steeled toward the closet he drew open the door, entered and softly closed it. Then leaning back against the wall, he patiently resigned himself to his lonely watch.
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"Has anything been disturbed beside this drawer?" he inquired.
"Nothing."
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SECRET MARRIAGE.

BY RUPES HALE.

Mary Graham was a pretty girl of sixteen, and William Trueman, her lover, who was three years her senior, was a finely-made man of his age. Their fathers were partners in a village hardware store, where William was employed as a clerk. Occasionally he was allowed a vacation, during which he would pass many pleasant hours with Miss Graham. She would accompany him, with a sister, sailing excursions along the Delaware coast, in a boat owned by the young man.

The lovers finally resolved, after talking over their prospects, that they would go off down the river in William's boat and get married without their parents' knowledge. Therefore, as shown above, Mary had agreed "to be there" at six o'clock "on the morrow."

"We may be picked up," he said to Mary. "That craft is coming this way."
As he spoke a wave, more violent than any which had preceded it, struck the boat, hurrying it sideways, with a suddenness which caused the youth to lose his balance.

He fell overboard, trying to clutch the stern as he went, but in vain. A minute later the boat shot out of sight in the darkness, and there he was, struggling in the wild sea. He was an excellent swimmer, but he must eventually have perished in the raging waters had he not caught hold of the boat's mast, which had been swept from the craft by the torrent of water that had rushed over the gunwale when he fell into the ocean.

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They were amazed at the calm manner in which he received the gloomy tidings. He took a pinch of snuff, sneezed, and then bade the two follow him up stairs.

They did so. He led them straight to Mary's room, and there, on the couch, lay the young girl, pale and weak still, but recovering from the effect of her excitement and suffering.
A doctor was by her side, and William almost knocked him over in haste to embrace the fair one he had thought was lost to him forever.

The news not long after, of her lover's safety probably benefited her more than did the medicine prescribed for her. The affair ended to the satisfaction of all concerned when, a few weeks later, the lovers were united at the house of the bride's father.

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