

Poetry.

THE SPIRIT'S DEFEAT.

BY REV. S. DENSON HAMILTON.

A spirit left its home of night
To tempt a soul of sin,
With malice dead it winged its flight
Among the homes of men;
It sought the weak and strong,
And made them both its prey;
With tireless soul, the thoughtless throng
It led from God astray.

With joy it saw a many youth
Go to their daily toil;
"Ha! ha!" it cried, "He loves the truth,
His soul is warm, his hopes are bright
With noble purpose true,
With evil thoughts his soul I'll blight,
And make him sin pursue."

With wicked purpose to his ear,
In haste it fled it wing;
But, hark! the sinner's song so clear,
It makes the valley ring—
"Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah!
A pilgrim through this barren land,
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
Hold me with Thy powerful hand."
Strong Deliverer,
Be thou still my strength and shield."

"No place for me," the spirit said;
"He is beyond my power;
His soul on Christ is safely stayed,
He keeps him hour by hour."
A maiden, sweet and pure, and fair,
In flowerly meadow stood;
Bright glances wreathed, as free from care
She thought of love and God.
"In bloom of youth, her heart is light,
And full of hope and joy."
The spirit said, "With brow of night,
"Her soul I will destroy."

With sweetest notes she joyful sang
A hymn of trust and praise;
The sky and woods melodious rang,
As birds joined in their lays—
"Other refuge have I none,
Hang my helpless soul on Thee,
Leave, O leave me not alone,
Still support and comfort me,
All my trust on Thee is staid,
All my help from Thee I bring,
Cover my defenceless head
With the shadow of Thy wing."

"No place for me," the spirit said;
"He is beyond my power;
His soul on Christ is safely stayed,
He keeps him hour by hour."
An angel woman, pure and blind,
Sat in her cheerful cot,
Alone she lived, without a friend
To share her lonely lot.
To share her lonely lot,
With crippled hands and faltering step,
She toiled for daily bread.
The spirit said, "Her feet shall slip,
She shall be led to hell."

A simple song, with trembling voice,
She sang in tones so sweet;
With trusting faith she did rejoice
In love at Jesus' feet—
"The Lord my Shepherd is,
I shall be well supplied,
Since I am His, and He is mine,
What can I want beside?"
"No place for me," the spirit said;
"He is beyond my power;
His soul on Christ is safely stayed,
He keeps him hour by hour."

In sore distress a dying saint
Alone at midnight lay;
The spirit said, "His soul is faint,
It will slip away."
His low was damp, his cheek was pale,
His voice was faint and low;
He whispered, "Christ will never fail,
I put my trust in Him."
"Though I walk through the valley
Of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
For Thou art with me,
Thy rod and Thy staff
They comfort me."

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The Fireside.

WHAT CHARLIE DID FOR HIS MOTHER.

"The floor's out of order," said Bridget, putting her head into the sitting-room, where Mrs. Melpe and Charlie were sitting.

"Very well, Bridget," said Mrs. Melpe, but when the door was shut she sighed; and though Charlie asked her twice what "sorrow" meant she gave him no answer.

Charlie looked up from his book and saw tears were falling on his mother's hand as she sewed.

"Mamma! mamma! what's the matter?"

"Oh, nothing, child," she said, "I am sure it is all right; and I'm glad you little ones have such good appetites."

Charlie thought hard for a moment. "Oh, I know," he said, with a wise look; "it's the floor. You were over so happy till Bridget put her head in. Now, mamma, I'll tell you what: you get a whole barrel instead of a bag, and then you won't have to be bothered."

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THE CLOCK THAT DID NOTHING BUT TICK.

One morning on going into the breakfast-room, I was surprised to see that the old family clock which stood in one corner was pointing to the hour of noon.

"I had been out late the evening before last," I said to myself, "and as I had been very weary, I fancied I had overslept, and should not have been surprised if the clock had marked eight instead of seven. However I supposed it was right, and without thinking to consult my watch, I seated myself at the table, dismissing at once the uneasy feeling that perhaps I had done wrong in sleeping so late."

"Tick-tick, tick-tick," said the clock; but my back was turned to it now, and I did not see that the hands still pointed to seven. I finished my breakfast and took up the newspaper, thinking I had plenty of time before going to my business. Then I leisurely put on my coat, and was about leaving the house as the children ran in from their play.

"How is this?" I said. "You ought to be on your way to school." "Oh, no," said Johnny; "it is only seven o'clock."

"You must be mistaken," I said in amazement. "We have had a very long morning to play," said Mary thoughtfully.

But Johnny ran into the dining-room and triumphantly exclaimed that the clock said seven.

"It must have stopped said I. But still it went on. Tick-tick, tick-tick."

In a few minutes, however, we were convinced that the hands were caught in spite of the ticking, and on looking at my watch I saw it was already nine o'clock. The children were late at school, I was late at my business, the servants were behind-hand in all their work, and my wife missed entirely a missionary meeting at which it was very important that she should be present.

It was in this connection of a clock which made professions without carrying them out.

"It would have been better if it had stopped altogether," said my wife; "then we should not have been deceived by it into thinking we were secure."

"I am so sorry," said grandma, who is blind; "I have enjoyed hearing it tick so much. I should not like to have a silent clock."

"Ah," I thought, "it is not this a lesson to Christians! Profession and promise must go together, and the best results cannot be achieved, if we do not bring to the altar the prayer-meeting or conference-room, for such a course would prevent us from encouraging and assisting others. But on the other hand, how dreadful to continue, to talk as before, and yet our lives to point continually in the wrong direction as the clock pointed at seven, and as my wife said to give people a feeling of fancied security, which in the end should prove their destruction!"

Don't flatter yourselves that the worst thing about a mean man is in being caught at it or found out. You can't be too, or vicious, or tricky, without somebody knowing it, and it does not take long for a good man to find you out. It takes extraordinary talent and deception to have a good reputation concerning a man of bad character, and it is very worth trying for. The way to seem to be trustworthy is to be trustworthy. There was never yet a boy who was really honest, and worthy of confidence, that people did not find him out and give him his due. You can't afford to trifle with your reputation. If you descend to immoral conduct it will soil your character, and hurt your prospects, no matter what your friends may say for you or how you try to conceal from good people that you are doing so. Just so long as you allow yourself to practice the habits that are condemned by pure, right, straightforward people of integrity—whether it be to do it openly or on the sly, you will make no progress in the formation of a fine character, or in building up a good reputation. So when you are tempted by any low, tricky, dishonest, mean, or unworthy act, stop long enough to think what the effect is going to be upon your soul, your own mind, your own reputation, if that is your strongest motive, and don't do it.

The writer of this cares too much for the good of every boy that lives, not to be pained that any of you should endanger his future by any vile practice, by any bad habit, by anything that is weak or enervating, that will hinder you from making the best and noblest man of yourself that is possible for you to become. Don't make any excuse about lack of talent. If you have any talents, make them a power for good. Don't complain of any hindrance of circumstances. There is almost no obstacle to him who will, certainly none worth mentioning.

There is always a demand for many boys. With the millions that are growing, and many of them do not fill the bill that there is a great need of boys that have never yet been crowded, and they are wanted for every kind of a good situation, industries, faithful, honest boys. It is such as these who will grow into men of integrity, such men as are needed for all offices of trust, for all positions of responsibility. Who among you will fit yourselves for the worthiest work?—Mary Hayes Houghton, in Wellington Enterprise.

HOME HINTS.

SCOTCH WINDOW HOLLANDS!

WHITE, 18, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000.

ALUMINUM, 18, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000.

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