Griginal Loetry.

TRUTH.

What can be than truth more pleasant? What more beautiful to view? mence of the Omnipresent, Never fading, ever new,

'Tis the source of every pleasure; Every joy it parifies. Lovely truth! Thou art a treasure, One whose virtue never dies.

Truth engenders peace and union; Then we can in all confide. O, what pleasant, sweet communion, When it is our constant guide,

Truth is sacred. Though temptation In the world is often found; In our bearts no violation

Of this gift should o'er abound, Truth is richer than the ocean, With its gems of glistening pearl; These serve only the promotion

Of the comforts of this world. What is wealth? It falls to render All the joys we might receive; It requires a mental splendor, Such as truth alone can give.

Truth will lead our souls to heaven, If its dictates we obey; 'Tis a boon the Lord hath given To direct us in the way.

Truth is something worth revering. Emanating from above. Why should it not be endearing? God is truthful, God is love. DORCAR SPRAGUE

MY PRIVATE SCHOOL.

"Look at that!" cried my grandmother, striking an attitude worthy of Lady Macbeth when she addressed the fatal spot on her hand; this time, however, it was only the scissors which, in falling, stood upright in the floor.

"I see. It's nothing uncommon, is it?" 'Did you ever know of it happening that a stranger didn't come before the day was out?"

"I never noticed: somebody is always."

"I never noticed; somebody is always coming for the matter of that." Assortment

"I tell you that sign don't fail"—(my grand-mother always used double negatives when she meant to be emphatic)—most others will, but that's true as a book. And another thing, there was a stranger in my tea to-night, a long one—that shows 'tis a man that's comin.' Some folks set a great deal by that sign; but it ain't to be mentioned the same day with the scissors standing up in the floor."

"I hope he will come soon, or the storm will be here before him;" and with the words the wind went wailing

around the house, and the first big drops beat against the window-pane.

Threescore years and ten had not taken the first bloom from the romance of my grandmother's character; it was fresh and green as in girlhood. Beggars heard of her afar off, and ran to fall on the neck of her charity.

She followed the advice of Lamb without ever having read it. When a poor creature came before her, she stayed not to inquire whether the "seven small children," in whose name he implored her assistance, had a veritable existence, but cast her bread upon the waters and lived in faith.

lived in faith.

In fact, she had cast so much bread upon the waters in the course of her Patent Medicines. long life, and so small a pertion had come back to her, that she had nothing

come back to her, that she had nothing left for herself except the old farm and the gambrel roofed house.

Within its walls my father had first seen the light, and lived till he went out to light the world. He fell early in the strife, and my mother soon followed him; but not until she had marked out my way in life, and so fixed me in the groove of her ideas that I had no choice left. I went to the Meriden Academy until I was old enough to enter the until I was old enough to enter the Normal School at New Britain, for my destiny was to be a teacher. My little income had to be eked out in some way; and of all work to which a woman may turn her hand, a school, perhaps, divides the burden most equally between body and mind.

When I graduated, my grandmother left the old gambrel-roof on Colony street, to see me do it, and carried me home with her for a "breathing-spell," as she said, before getting a place to

As to my future, I was neither happy nor unhappy, but rather between. At twenty, life runs on with very little friction; there is excitement enough in mere youth to make living a pleasure.

The evening drew on with ever-increasing gusts of wind, and the old house shook to its foundations, but it clung gallantly to the great central chimney, which, being nearly as broad as it was high, could afford to be indifferent when wind and weather came together and made a fight of it.

"I hope you don't mean to sit up for

erent when wind and weather came together and made a fight of it.

"I hope you don't mean to sit up for that somebody who is coming. All signs fail in wet weather."

The words were scarcely spoken when we heard the tread of a horse running at full speed down the steep hill above the house, then a crash of the fence, and all was still.

We held our breath and listened. Soon a man's step sounded low and heavy on the walk, and my grandmother rushed to the door.

"Don't be scart,' said the familiar voice of one of the neighbors, and he stumbled in, carrying a man pale and lifeless in his arms.

"Lay him right on the lounge—get the camphor bottle—here's somebody, sure enough—don't tell me again that the signs ever fail. Who is it, Levi?"

"I don't know his name; New Haven chap, I reckon. Said he'd pay me most any price to get him to Meriden tonight. The mare did well enough till she got to that 'ere hill, then a flash scared her, and she never stopped till she brought up agin your fence. If he hadn't been a fool and jumped out, he might a' been as spry as I am; but some folks don't know nothing."

"That's so that the rest can get a livin' out of 'em." said my grandmother.

"That's so that the rest can get a livin' out of 'em," said my grandmother.
Meantime she was vigorously chaffing
his hands and feet, while I deahed camphor in his face and bathed the broad,
white forehead, which certainly promised well for the brain behind it.

"He must be dead," said I. "He don't
come too at all."

"No, he ain't. Folks can't be killed so easy. He'll give you trouble enough before you're done with him. Now, I'll jest run down after Doctor Catlin; 'tain't noways likely he'll know any more what's the matter than we do; but he'll pretend to; and if the man dies, it's his fault and not ours."

his fault and not ours."

The doctor came and found no bones proken; but the head was injured, and he said the stranger must be put to bed and kept as quiet as possible. Now my grandmother was in her element.

"You couldn't work any harder,"

"You couldn't work any harder," said I, "if he was your own son."

"He's somebody's own son; we must not forget that, you know."

Our patient fell from his first fainting fit into a fever; and from morning till night, and till morning again, he tossed and turned with one continuous cry to drive faster, for he must be in Meriden that night.

To be continued.

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