THE EVENING NEWS.

Tuesday, - - - February, 21, 1871.

CLARA DELANO.

CONCLUDED.

"Hallie Delano! This surely was the name of Clara's baby brother. Could it be possible that Lily's poor little friend and the two-year-old baby Hallie, who had so often climed his knee and entertained him with his merry prattle, were one and the same? No; they could not be reduced to such poverty as Lily had described. And yet it were not impossible. Had he, after two years of vain searching, thus found Clara at last? He surely must know!"

And quickly snatching his coat and hat, he joined his sister, simply saying: "I have altered my mind, sis. I, too, would know Lily's *protege*."

And entering the carriage, they started at once.

After having carried bountiful supplies to several houses whose inmates had frequent cause to bless Mrs. Lee's generosity, and whose presence always seemed like a ray of sunrise in their homes, they arrived at the number given on Hallie's card.

As the girl who answered their ring directed them to the rooms above, occupied by Mrs. Delano, Charles took the basket and followed his sister and Lily. At the pleasant "Come in" which came to them in answer to their rap, Charles opened the door for his sister to enter. Near the window sat a middle-aged woman, whose face bore that sweet, sanctified expression which pain often imparts to the true Christian, and whom Charles immediately recognised as Mrs. Delano. He had just stepped forward and greeted her, in answer to her look of surprise, when the door leading to the other apartment opened, and Clara, looking paler and older, but, if possible, more beautiful than when he saw her last, entered the room.

"Clara, my darling! found at last!" sprang involuntarily from Charles' lips, and she who had bravely borne all her hardships, poverty and trials without sinking or fainting, was completely overcome by the joy which thrilled her whole being, and would have fallen to the floor had not loving arms clasped her.

Mrs. Lee, who divined in an instant that her brother had thus strangely found the one for whom he had so long and so fruitlessly searched—whose image was so fondly and lovingly enshrined in his heart to day as ever, left them to mutual explanations, while she seated herself by Mrs. Delano, and explained to her all that had passed.

Hallie and Lily were in the meantime, deeply interested in the mysteries of the little train of cars which whirled merrily around the room.

After a time, Charles led Clara no longer pale, with a face flushed with love and happiness, to Mrs. Delano, and telling her of his long love for Clara, and of the conversation which passed between her husband and him, asked her to bestow upon him her daughter—"a precious, priceless Christmas gift," said he, placing his hand caressingly upon her head fondly, stroking her soft, brown hair.

With tearful eyes, but a thankful heart, Mrs. Delano joined their hands, and gave them the "God's blessing" which her husband had promised.

THE OLD TALE EVER NEW.

Thackeray once said that there was nothing new under and including the sun. King Solomon made a similar remark. A novel, lately published, illustrates the saying, whoever originated it. It is called by a variety of names, and is familiar to every novel-reader.

The principal characters are our time-honored friends Charles and Angelina, formerly Lobin and Chloe, once Cloydon and Phillis, alias Romeo and Juliet, and so on to the remotest antiquity.

Their principal speeches are as follows:

He—Adorable creature, will you be mine? I offer you my hand and heart, together with superior inducements for accepting the same, consisting of a brown stone front, an unincumbered real estate, and first-class securities.

She—Object of my affections! Your terms are entirely satisfactory to me, and no doubt will be equally so to papa, to whom I beg leave to refer you. (Falling into his arms).

These are plagiarisms, more or less direct, from the same old story, published at any time during the world's history between this and the invention of letters, which are not due to Prof. Cadmus, by-the-bye, but to Arm-Ah-Kim-Bo, 20,000 years before his time. He published the first edition of the story in China, even then a venerable tradition.

In the addition of 1,800 it appears as follows:

He—Sweet lady! I prithee reward with thy love thy lover true, who pledges thee his hand and heart. Certes, I offer thee no unequal dower. These goodly towers and these broad domains shall call thee mistress, and gold shall fill thy coffers.

She—My bosom's lord, thy nobleness is well deserving my poor love, and well, I trow, will win my sire's consent. Good faith, in heaven's name seek him. (Lets down her back hair and swoons.)

Similarly in A. D. 1,000, they courted thus:

He—Fayre lady, bend thyne eyne on thy true knight, and reward his devoir with thy love. By'r ladye! hee layes at thy feete guerdon meete for prize so high. My castle's strengthe shall bid defiance to ye outyde foe, and gallant knights on yonder broad demesne lay lances in rest to win thy smyles, while churlish boors and misbelieving Jews shall furnish theyre broad pieces for thy largesse.

She—Alack, sir knight, I yielde mee true captive to thy wordes, succour or noe succour. My ransome is thy dowrie meete. Hie thee from my bowere to ye knight, my sire, and bid him greet his sonne. (She swoones into the knight's armes.)

And in like manner through the early Saxon and ancient British dialects (which would be more unintelligible than lovers speeches generally are) the Latin and Greek, up to the original Chinese, as aforesaid.

The Irish version is:

Musha darlint, it's dyin' I am for ye this blessed minnit, glory be to God! The shebang is lonely widout you, Judy; come acushla, there's an illegant patch of two dirty acres out wi' praties and pigs galore, and may be a pound or two in his riverence's hand, waitin' to call you misthress.

Be aisy, Pat; ye're the devil's own boy for blarney, God knows; sure the ould man's beyant, and when ye're dacent and sober you might ask him.

The Scotch version reads thus:

Eh, lassie! wil you tak me for your ain joe? Tere's nae luck about the house till ye bide in't; and the bonnie farm and the wee bit siller is nae sic bad investment.

Hoot awa, man! dinna fash me wi your speesin. I doot ye mean weel, sae bide awa, noo, bide away; the auld man's by, and ye may o'en settle the case wi' him.

The display of emotion is omitted by the last two ladies, but their sentiments are the same as the others, and the fortunes of the gentlemen not different. Charles goes to parliament and Pat to the common council. Sir Reginald is elected to the round table, and Romeo to the council of ten (or would have been if he hadn't poisoned himself), while Donald sat with the elders in the kirk, and is as fat, respectable, and uninteresting as any of them.

The chapters from which the foregoing specimens are taken wind up with the words: "To be continued"—which is true in every sense of the word. The rising generation will please take notice.—*N. Y. Evening Post.*

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