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THE UNDER DOG IN THE FIGHT.

I know that the world, that the great big world,
From the peasant up to the king,
Has a different tale from the tale I tell,
And a different song to sing.
But for me—and I care not a single fig
If they say I am wrong or am right—
I shall always go for the weaker dog,
For the under dog in the fight.
I know that the world, that the great big world,
Will never a moment stop
To see which dog may be in the fault,
But will shout for the dog on top.
But for me, I shall never pause to ask
Which dog may be in the right;
For my heart will beat, while it beats at all
For the under dog in the fight.

The Mystery of Garrick Hall.

"It was just such a night as this, Robert," said Aunt Edith, to my papa, with a little shiver.
"Exactly," papa replied, thoughtfully, "and the same time of year, too."
"Suppose you told the children all about it," mamma said quietly; "they look as if they wanted to know very much."
"Well, since it is perhaps time they knew, I will tell you how Aunt Edith saved my life," continued papa, turning to Edgar, the eldest of us, "long ago, long before you were born, my boy."
"Aunt Edith and I were only brother and sister; ever so much greater cronies than you and Edgar are, Jessie, not only because we had each other to love, but because we had to make common cause against an enemy, Jeffrey Lawson, our step-mother's son by previous marriage. We lost our own dear mother when we were babies. Jeff was ten years older than I was; and after our father's death which happened when I was eight and Edith six, we would have had a poor time of it but for Dame Turtle, our dear old nurse. She looked after our interests, and fought all our battles valiantly whether we were in the right or wrong. Our step-mother was so wrapped up in Jeff that she bestowed little trouble upon us. I, especially, was no favorite; for she got the silly idea into her head that I stood between Jeff and the property of Garrick. He was a fine, handsome fellow, as I remember when I was 15, and he twenty-five; strong and daring, haughty in disposition and hasty in temper. I could see even then he bitterly resented my being master, and himself as if nobody; for all our servants had grown old with us, and were staunch and loyal to us children of the house."
"Our mother—we called her so, though she was 'little more than kin, and less than kind'—resented it too, and looked forward with very bitter feelings to the time when I would be 21; for then according to our father's will she was to leave Garrick Hall, the homestead, and reside in a little cottage he owned in Wales."
"It would be a different position for her, as she had but a small jointure—all her own fortune had been spent on Jeffrey—and by some inexplicable chain of woman's reasoning, she blamed me for what she was pleased to call her unmerited misfortunes. Each year that passed made matters worse between us. As I grew older many things in the management of the property struck me as unjust. The best of the timber was being cut down and the house allowed to fall into a state bordering on ruin, because my mother would not spend money on repairs which I alone was to enjoy the benefit of. Our family lawyer was dead. Jeffrey chose his mother's legal adviser, and neither Edith or I knew where to look for advice or assistance. Things remained very much in this state till I was nearly twenty, when one day Jeff entered my room in a state of wild excitement, and showed me a will that had been discovered in some out-of-the-way corner. It was dated a few days before my father's death; and except that it bequeathed to Jeffrey the sum of £5,000, and the reversion to Garrick if I died without heirs, it was substantially the same as the one already in existence."
"I had my doubts about the validity of the document, but I passed no comment; both the witnesses were dead, and I had not a shadow of proof to advance. Suspicion in such a case goes for nothing, so I held my peace, the more especially as Judson, our old steward, was prepared to swear to my father's signature. So Jeff Lawson had his £5,000."
"On the night of which I am going to tell you, there was a large part of the money in the house. Jeff was going to London the next morning; and he meant to start early; he said good-bye to us over night, and went up to his room first carrying the money with him. Edith and I remained in the dining room a little longer, chatting on different matters, among others Jeff's departure, of a strange restlessness I had observed in his manner of late, of the possible date of his return; and somehow, quite unintentionally, I let fall a hint about my suspicions about the will, and discovered that they corresponded exactly with Edith's. At last, when the fire had burned quite out, and the candles were getting low in their sockets, we went up stairs together. It was a wild November night, and just such angry, impatient gusts of wind and

minutes more my light was extinguished, and I was closely wrapped up. In less than half an hour I was sound asleep. Not so Aunt Edith. She was, she told me afterwards, restless and nervous, two most unusual things with her. All efforts to sleep were unavailing, and she gave up the attempt at last, and rising from the bed set down by the fire to read. Twice she fancied she heard footsteps in the corridor, and opened the door to listen. Your aunt was not afraid of the White Lady, our family ghost, or anybody else, girls. Twice she threw herself on a couch with the intention of resting, since slumber was out of the question; but between the storm and the mysterious sounds through the house, rest was impossible. At length, about 2 o'clock, she fancied she heard some one moving about the room very cautiously; and, nothing doubting but that I was awake and restless as herself, she resolved to come in and speak to me. A sudden gust of wind in the corridor extinguished her candle, and she entered my room in the dark, save for the faint rays of the moonlight which shone through the carelessly drawn curtains.
"As your aunt gently approached my bed, she saw a form advancing on the other side with uplifted hand, in which something white gleamed in the moonlight. Quick as a thought, without a moment's hesitation, her arm was thrown across my neck. The knife of an assassin descended with a terrible force; and glancing off the bone, inflicting a long and jagged gash in her arm. The assassin, who had not seen or heard her approach, instantly fled, leaving his weapon behind; and I was aroused from my slumbers by Edith's shrieks, to find myself bathed in her blood. Binding my silk handkerchief around her arm tightly, to check the bleeding, I sent a servant—for the whole house was aroused by your aunt's shrieks and the violent ringing of my bell—for the nearest surgeon, and then proceeded to search for some traces of the murderous intruder. Mechanically I went first to Jeff's room, probably because I was astonished at not having seen his face among the wondering group gathered round my door. It seemed amazing that he should sleep so soundly through such commotion. The door of the east room (Jeff's) was open, and so was the window, but the room was empty.
"Where was Jeff? Why had he gone so suddenly and mysteriously? Why the open window? I was all the more painfully perplexed, as the most careful examination failed to disclose any other means of exit by which the would-be assassin could have escaped. Every door was securely barred, every window except that of the east room was safely fastened. In the flower bed underneath there were tracks of man's feet leading from the window, none whatever leading to it.
"These things made me terribly unhappy, and some suspicion of my thoughts must have crept into my countenance, for Edith divined them at once. However, she remained silent about the appearance of the man who attempted my life, and I refrained from questioning her. At best there could be but a conjecture—the room was dark, the man disguised and your aunt frightened. The knife which lay upon my bed appeared with terrible force to us both. It was my prying knife, and that very afternoon Edith had seen me lend it to Jeff Lawson. Whether the knife had been poisoned, or whether your aunt's wound had been badly dressed in the first instance, I do not know, but inflammation set in and for weeks she was dangerously ill. For days her life was despaired of, and it was only saved at last at the expense of the brave right hand that had saved me so well from a terrible and sudden death.
"The matter made a sensation, which was something more than a nine days' wonder in our village; but as I kept my suspicions to myself, no one else ventured to express any, and Jeffrey's name was never mixed up in the matter. Indeed it got circulated that he left Garrick the evening of the attempted murder and no one contradicted it. The object of the attack, which was evidently robbery as well as murder, for every drawer and desk in my room was thoroughly ransacked, caused much wonder and discussion. It was pretty generally known that my allowance as a minor was scarcely adequate to my few simple wants."
"What became of Jeff Lawson, father?" Jess asked, with a stolen glance at aunt's face.
"From the night he said good-bye to us in this very room, thirty-one years ago, I have never heard of him nor from him. He disappeared in the most extraordinary manner. Doubtless he is dead; and as far as he is concerned, I have no hope of the mystery of that awful night ever being cleared up."
"And his mother, papa?" Fred questioned.
"Ah, his poor mother, she broke her heart over his disappearance, my boy. Mothers will do such things over the most worthless sons. Well, Upton, what's the matter?"
"If you please, sir, there's a gentleman wants to see you," said our old butler, closing the door behind him, and looking mysteriously around. "He says his business is urgent, but he won't give his name."
"A strange gentleman, at this hour and on such a night," exclaimed papa, rising.
"He must be some belated traveller. Show him in."
"We all looked at each other, and glanced toward the door in eager, nervous curiosity, as an elderly gentleman, with very white

hair and beard, entered the room, made a courteous bow, which embraced everybody, and proceeded to unbutton an enormous traveling cloak, in which he was enveloped. For a moment or so his eyes wandered round the room, as if in search of something, and then he smiled sadly.
"You don't know me, Mr. Neville," quoth the gentleman, after what seemed an ominous silence, drawing more directly into the light of the fire, which blazed cheerily.
"I have not that pleasure, sir," papa replied, looking at our visitor more attentively.
"Ah! Yet my picture hung there once," pointing to a vacant space among the portraits on the wall. "My name is Jeffrey Lawson."
"Jeff!" we all cried in amazement. Here was the sequel to the story with a vengeance.
"You don't seem overjoyed to see me, Robert," Mr. Lawson said, after another pause. Well, perhaps you are not to blame. But you, Edith, after all these long years—night give me your hand."
"At that moment his eyes rested on aunt's helpless right arm, and the most terrible awkward, awful silence I ever witnessed ensued.
"Mr. Lawson was the first to recover his self-possession. "Forgive me," he said, and there was a tremor in his voice. "I did not know—I am sorrow." Papa remained stern and silent. I really pitied Mr. Lawson, the odds were so fearfully against him. Not a single kind or encouraging glance met his eye as he looked up a little haughtily, and continued addressing us all. "I did you a great wrong once, Mr. Neville. I have travelled many thousand miles to offer what reparation I can. That will by which I obtained £5,000 was a forgery. But I have come to pay it back with interest."
Papa bowed his head but remained silent.
"Money was absolutely necessary, then, for I had many pressing engagements to meet—my safety, my liberty was at stake—I was desperate; but though my base trick succeeded, it was too late. Absolute ruin and disgrace stared me in the face, and I was compelled to fly, like a thief in the night, to escape the consequences of my folly. That night I secretly left the house, escaping by my bedroom window. Concealing all the money I had, I took passage for Australia, where, by careful speculation and hard work, I soon realized a considerable sum. I formed new friends; now habits, a squatter life suited me; and so I remained year after year. But I was heartily sorry for, and ashamed of the part I played about the will, and resolved one day to try and make it square with you. The gold fever broke out, and the spirit of adventure being strong in me, I resolved to go the diggings. I was singularly successful; but others were not so fortunate. One poor fellow went by the name of 'Down Tod' I heard frequently spoken of as singularly unlucky. One day I was surprised to receive a message from this fellow requesting me to come and see him as he was very ill, and had a very important confession to make. I went at once, and saw at a glance that the man was dying; but imagine my surprise, when, on a closer survey of his features, I recognized him to be Tom Judson, the son of your old steward—good-for-nothing, graceless, vagrant Ted, who got me into many scrapes as I got him out of. With the utmost difficulty, for he was dying, he told me a singular story. On the very night I left Garrick, he tried to rob and murder me."
"Hearing from his father that I had a large sum of money by me, he resolved to have some of it; and entering the house in the dusk of the evening, he concealed himself behind the corridor window and waited till the house was all quiet; then he entered my room, and after searching in vain for the money, he seized the knife which lay on the table, and in a fit of drunken rage and disappointment, he resolved to cut my throat if I did not give up my purse. Advancing to the bed where I lay sound asleep, he lifted the knife and made a slash at my throat; when to his horror he saw the White Lady, who 'walks', bending over me. "Throwing down his knife he fled in terror, and made his escape through a window he found open. In a moment it flashed upon me that your room was mistaken for mine, and my window, which I had left open, proved the means of escape for the villain as it had already proved the means of escape for me. I hope the timely appearance of the White Lady prevented any serious mischief."
"It did to me," papa said sadly; "but the slash that missed my throat cost my sister her right hand. She was the lady who saved me, Jeffrey. I am better pleased to have the mystery cleared up than I would be to have the right hand back again, if such a thing were possible," aunt said softly.
"The knife Judson saw on the table must have been your pruning knife, Robert, which I asked one of the servants to return to you," continued Mr. Lawson. "Here's Ted's written and signed confession," witnessed by a magistrate. And now let me once more entreat your forgiveness; and, as my mission is accomplished, I will not intrude any longer. I should have remembered that the Nevilles are not a race to forget and forgive."
"Are the Lawsons, Jeff?" papa cried, advancing with outstretched hand. "If so,

I claim yours. I have done you an infinitely greater wrong than you did me. I am very sorry."
A bright smile passed over Mr. Lawson's face, altering his whole expression, as he grasped papa's hand; and I am sure there were tears in his eyes as he bent down to kiss Aunt Edith's forehead; and in the smiling silence that followed, as they looked into each other's eyes, all old scores were wiped out, all old scores healed and forgotten.
Hints for the Engaged.
Ought engagements to be long or short? It has often been said that nothing helps so much as being engaged to the girl whom he loves, and for whom he wishes to prepare a suitable home. The solicitude of David Copperfield's friend, Traddles, to buy bits of furniture—flower pots and such like—for the house where he and his betrothed were to dwell, was a pretty thing and much to be commended; but, on the other hand, it is undeniable that long engagements have their drawbacks, especially if the young people see much of each other during the period of probation. In this case much of the rhythm is taken off the poetry of courtship, and no less gliding off the prospects of marriage. There may be a great deal to say against the policy of wedding in haste, but young people who take each other for better or for worse, in all the illusion of mutual trust and admiration, go through a time of ecstasy unknown to those who marry quite rationally. The honeymoon of such pairs are halcyon epochs to be remembered all a life long, and if the after periods seem dull and loveless by comparison, yet it is something to have lived, for however brief a time, up to the highest idea of felicity. Besides, there is no little sweetness in having faced the first hardships of life together. If a young couple have to encounter poverty and if they conquer it side by side, lightening all their labors by sharing them, and diminishing their troubles by mutual consolation and encouragement, they forge links which must bind their hearts closer and closer together. I like to see a snug young man stacking up money in a bank against his wedding day, while his future wife looks on complacently at the operation as if to say: "Thomas must earn a good many more dollars before he can furnish a house good enough for me;" but I like still more to see a young husband, with a wife's presence, hear a smiling woman remark, "We had nothing when we married, but see now how easy we have made our house." This means that there has been cheerful hard work on the one side, thrift and self denial on the other—in fact, union. After all, the yoke of marriage is an apparatus that should sit on two pairs of shoulders; and there is nothing very solemn in seeing a girl wait to wear her own part of it until it has been nicely padded with quilted satin.

Curious Flowers.

There are several plants, especially those with compound yellow flowers, which nod, and during the whole day turn their flowers toward the sun. Such flowers are designated as "heliotropes," and the movement which they thus exhibit is called their "mutation." This is particularly observable in the common sow thistle, and in the well known fact that a great part of the plants in a serene sky expand their flowers, but before rain they shut them up, as the tulip, for instance. The flowers of chick-wintergreen droop in the night, lest rain or moisture should injure the fertilizing pollen. One species of wood sorrel shuts up or doubles its leaves before storms and tempests, but in a serene sky expands them freely, so that husbandmen can forecast tempests from it. It is also well known that the sensitive plants and other species of *Cassia* observe the same rule. The flowers of the hindwood, the wood anemone, and the common daisy, even if already open, will shut on the approach of rain. The last named flower appears to have derived its name—day's eye—from its sensitiveness of light. Such phenomena as these are probably determined by the action of light, and the flowers of such plants being shut at ten or eleven o'clock in the morning tell of clouds and gloom, and so predict rain. Besides affording prognostics, many plants also fold their leaves up at particular hours, with such regularity as to have acquired particular names from this property. Linnaeus has enumerated forty-six flowers which possess the kind of sensibility. From an arrangement of such flowers it has been ingeniously proposed to form a floral telegraph. The flowers of the hogweed heard open in the morning at the approach of the sun, and regarding the weather, shut about noon, and hence its common name of "go-to-bed-at-noon." The Star of Bethlehem expands its flowers about eleven, and closes them at three in the afternoon. The evening primrose is well known from its remarkable properties of regularly shutting with a loud popping noise about sunrise and opening at sunset. After six o'clock, these flowers regularly repeat the approach of night. The flowers of the garden lettuce open at seven o'clock and shut at ten. That light is the chief agent of these changes seems to be proved by the experiments of De Candolle, made at the Jardin des Plantes, in an underground cellar, illuminated by lamps giving a light equal to fifty-four ordinary wax candles. By lighting these in the afternoon, which keeps its flowers closed during the night, but he could produce no artificial effect with the strong light upon several species of wood sorrel, whose flowers and leaves are both folded up at night. With the sensitive plant he succeeded in so completely changing the hour of closure that on the third day, when being placed in the lighted cellar, he found it to follow the evening of the previous day, and to close at the hour of plants is that of the *Lotos* of the Pharaohs, as described by Theophrastus, and which he represents as rearing and expanding its blossom by day, closing and sinking beneath the surface of the water by night, so as to be beyond the grasp of the hand, and again rising up in the morning to present its expanded blossom to the sun. The same phenomenon is also related by Pliny.

Too Many Faces.

A few days ago a stranger was moving down Third Street, Louisville. He was in a crooked condition. It was not the length of the street, but the width that bothered him so much. In one hand he carried a large umbrella, and in the other a grip-sack; while under each arm were stuffed several domestic-looking bundles. He was evidently making for the boat.
On reaching the wharf he stepped aboard and proceeded immediately to the cabin. Tumbling into a chair, with his baggage scattered around his feet, he was oblivious to all that was passing, and remained so till he was aroused by the Captain, who shook him persistently and yelled the word "Heckle." "Your stranger indicated that he had no ticket,"
"Fare, then," demanded the Captain.
"How much?"
He was told, and he handed his loose change to the Captain, who took the proper amount. He was soon snoring again.
Half an hour passed, and the Captain again made his appearance.
"How much?"
The amount as stated before, the stranger pointed up and again fell asleep. This thing was gone over four times, and when the Captain for the fifth time aroused the sleeper, he had sobered up a little, and was evidently as mad as a hornet. Looking daggers at the indefatigable collector he muttered:
"Look a here, why don't you c'lect all your fare at once? What you come disturbing a man in this way? How much to Cincinnati?"
"Cincinnati!" yelled the Captain. "This here ain't no Cincinnati steamer. This is the ferryboat."
The last seen of our traveling friend he was standing on the wharf with his baggage in his hand and a cartload of levee mud on his boots.

Sweets.

The most delicious and expensive of the things to be found on the confectioners' counters are the crystallized apricots, figs, amber and green limes, pears and green beans, and most of the persons who buy them select them almost piece by piece, making up their boxes to suit themselves. The fashion of doing this has come up within the last few years, and the confectioners who first allowed it made large profits and greatly increased a demand for the finer class of candies. A customer thus from her purse and ease to ease saying, "Give me this, and this, and this," until she can see nothing else that she wants, smiles a little when she is told how much the whole weighs, and pays for a pound and a half of candy instead of the pound that she meant to buy. Sherbert candy, made up of three thin, lozenge-shaped layers of sugar, different in colors and flavor, is a favorite with high school girls, and so are the cream wafers and crystallized wafers. 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