

BY A. R. LEONARD AUTHOR OF "HIS SON'S INHERITANCE, ETC."

W

(Copyright, 1908, by The New York Herald Co. All Rights Reserved.) Through love to light! Oh, wonderful the way that leads from darkness to the perfect day! From darkness and from dolor of the night To morning, that comes singing o'er the sea. Through love to light! Through light, O God, to Thee. Who art the love of love, the eternal light of light, and the eternal life of life.

A grewsome and a sorrowful sight of a boy was Danny. He was rather tall for his age (sixteen or thereabouts), extremely broad shouldered, with a decided stoop, and appeared to be more than ordinarily muscular. He was possessed of exceedingly long arms, terminating in huge, misshapen hands, while his head was of a form far out of common. His eyes were abnormally large, and his big, bulging, expressionless eyes stared from a face as vacant as themselves. His nose was large, and so was his mouth, which was wide open in most of the time, exposing the uneven teeth within the thick red lips, while his pushed back cap revealed a short crop of coarse red hair.

fast to my coat and leading me to a stoop of three steps nearby. Allowing for a moment pity to take the place of aversion, I sat down on the lowermost step and said as pleasantly as I could: "Well, Danny, what is it?" At the tone and question the boy fairly chuckled with pleasure and remarked: "I like you. You're the only man that ain't dead that I ever did like." "Should you like me better if I were dead?" I asked, with difficulty repressing a shudder. The boy nodded.

restatically and watched with silent and breathless interest while Danny, who was really quite an expert in this line, carved arms and legs and body, ending with a head adorned with a bewildering number of "kinks." A scrap of bright pink cotton was produced from somewhere and tied around the black wais, by way of dress, then the finished "dollie" was handed over to its "little mother," whose delight and rapture knew no bounds. After this highly satisfactory understanding the two were inseparable. When Danny was not busy

more time to devote to other matters. His unusual strength had been made use of for several years past by grocers, butchers, and others in the vicinity in the unloading of trucks and in the storing away of heavy cases or in the moving of household effects, he being often kept hard at work for two or three hours, receiving by way of reward a couple of oranges, a few apples or, more frequently, a single penny. Hitherto Danny had never solicited work of any kind, only performing tasks to which he was called and set; but now memory or intelligence came to

and spend a blissful hour or two with the "thrush," who looked forward to the arrival of "My Danny" almost as much as she did to the homecoming of her father. One Saturday night in particular Danny took his usual way, talking cheerfully to himself and with a face glorified. He had now been two months in the service of the grocer, who had allowed him to celebrate the event by the purchase of a small watch and chain for the adornment of his idol. Arrived at his destination he passed quickly through the open basement door and paused a moment in the threshold of the front room, which was huddled with a half dozen or so of women, who regarded him with glances of mingled sorrow and fear. The light in Danny's face went out at once and was replaced by the look of an animal that feels vaguely something is about to happen, it knows not what.

slippery with ice and snow, the grocer of the store receiving boxes and barrels of goods, which two truckmen were lowering to them by means of skids and ropes. Suddenly there was a shout from above. "Look out there, and a barrel that had somehow broken loose came tearing down the steps. Danny, heedless of the warning, sprang forward, intending to seize it and divert its course, and he would have been successful had not his foot caught in a broken floor board, which tripped him, and he fell. The next instant the heavy barrel leaped on him like a living thing and pinned him fast.

He was slowly crawling up and down in front of a four-story-high stoop house in one of the streets near the East river and abutting on Grand street; an old-time house, an imposing looking house, one that seemed many a serious patrician sun rise and set, until blotted out at once and forever by gross plebeian darkness; a mansion that had become a mere house and retreated into a basement in a hopeless, despairing fashion.

"Oh, yes," he replied earnestly. "Much better. Are you goin' to die soon?" "Not if I can help it," I answered stoutly. The boy's face fell.

life into it again," he continued, his voice rising angrily. "The bad ghosts! Don't you see the mouth laughing at me—and the hand moving to the side of the coffin, to get away. But I'll kill 'em—for all the bad ghosts." And he snatched the little box from my hands and began tearing the waxen face to pieces with his strong fingers. "I'll kill 'em! I'll kill 'em!" and the expression of his countenance would have done credit to a fiend tormenting a lost soul.

scouring the neighborhood in search of small nails, brass headed tacks, gray colored pieces of silk, woolen or cotton, and strips of different kinds of wood (his former taste for dark and gloomy shades having been found on his own back stoop, the "wee brown thrush" beside him watching with ever increasing wonder and admiration as he skillfully fashioned these crude materials into tiny chairs, tables, cradles, etc., until at length the queen of his heart was in proud possession of a doll's house and furniture exceeding in beauty and completeness anything the children of the vicinity had ever dreamed or heard of.

his assistance and he began to see that a few hours of labor meant many more delightful feasts with his lady love than usual. So one fine morning he started out among the nearby shopkeeper and asked for something to do. Of course he aroused a just astonishment, but as he was not only strong, but willing and biddable, he had no difficulty in obtaining all the employment he could attend to, with the usual petty compensations, winding up on Saturday night after an entire day of toil, with the receipt of two cents, the bestower of which munificence quieting his conscience with the reflection that the poor unfortunate would not know what to do with more.

"To her," repeated the questioner, in bewilderment. "Yes," returned the boy, very earnestly. "come—I'll take you to her." Willing to humor him, the good lady accompanied him to his room, where he displayed to her view a small box, filled with earth, bearing the imprint of a small foot.

French Foundling Asylums. Charities and the Commons. What would become of an infant if it were deprived of public assistance when the mother is unable to provide for it? Ought society give up the feeble creature to premature death, or perhaps to abandonment? Great dangers threaten the new-born infant; if the mother has sinned, and if she is determined to hide her sin at any cost, the only means of saving her from crime, from abortion or infanticide is by providing places where she can leave the child. Formerly this abandonment was left to chance; lately there has been established, at first in Paris, then throughout France, the system of general adoption.



"I KNEW SHE WOULD COME AT LAST"

On the stoop and on the steps of the house itself were a half-dozen or so of women, some of them with looks of mingled terror and abhorrence. When I came close to him he paused in his walk and, pointing toward the stoop where the women were with one of his misshapen fingers, said with a look of keen enjoyment, as if one who expects soon to be present at a longed-for feast:

"There's a coffin goin' in there, empty, and comin' out again full, all the time. There it goes again," he went on in broken, irregular little jets of speech, uttered as confidently as though the ghastly subject of his words were actually apparent to his vision as well as to his ears. "You can see the corpse's face in it, too—such a lovely corpse—sure dead—sure dead. Do you like to look at your face in a coffin lid—say, do you?"

Presently he removed the enwrapping paper and displayed to view a coffin fashioned from black walnut and about twelve inches in length. It was perfectly made and correct in every detail, even to the little diamond shaped nails, detached face and handles, six in number, ingeniously carved from thin lead. In addition it was covered with black velvet and had a tiny stony looking plate, very neatly engraved with what was evidently intended for a name and date, although not a single letter of any language known to me could I decipher.

Every fine evening at about 6 o'clock, all summer long, her mother would take her up the stone steps to the sidewalk and leave her there to wait for the coming of her father. And when he appeared, half a block or so away, she would give one little glad cry of complete happiness and run to meet him, her slender arms outstretched to his widest extent and her baby face glorious beyond thought.

the boy called to breakfast the following morning. One evening his employer's wife, taking pity on his great loneliness, came to him and said: "Come and sit with us awhile, Danny. It will cheer you up." The boy accepted her well meant invitation as if it were a command, followed her and sat awhile with her and her children, although just as soon as he thought he was unobserved he began to quietly slip from the room.

"Who does he mean by 'her'?" asked a nurse of the grocer, during one of his daily visits to the hospital. "He calls for 'her' constantly."

the voice ceased, but the glory on the face was lifted no more forever. "The voice ceased, but the glory on the face was lifted no more forever."

"No, no," I answered, striving to draw myself away from him, yet fascinated to stay.

"But you asked me to show it to you," urged the boy, who, big though he was, now spoke in the tones of a small child grieved because of the non-appreciation on the part of an adult of some new and precious toy. "Ah, no one else knows I made it onny you," he continued. "I wouldn't show it to any one onny you," and he began to cry softly, much like a little baby. I was touched at once.

"I like you!" In another moment his eyes met a pair of laughing brown ones, and two lips, rose as the gates of dawn were pressed to his astonished mouth in the very first kiss he had ever received.

The effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within. It was as though a certain had been suddenly raised, revealing a transformation.

And this was not all the morning that came to Danny. He had certainly given up, if not forgotten, his id occupation of un-solicited mourner at all the obsequies in the neighborhood, and so had

the boy called to breakfast the following morning. One evening his employer's wife, taking pity on his great loneliness, came to him and said: "Come and sit with us awhile, Danny. It will cheer you up." The boy accepted her well meant invitation as if it were a command, followed her and sat awhile with her and her children, although just as soon as he thought he was unobserved he began to quietly slip from the room.

the voice ceased, but the glory on the face was lifted no more forever. "The voice ceased, but the glory on the face was lifted no more forever."

"You're an idiot, if he is a monstrous abortion," I argued with myself, "and as such is worthy of pity from all persons blessed with their senses."

"Do you think it's good?" he inquired rapturously. "Really good? I'll make you one just like it, if you say so. Or I'll make you a big one—big enough to hold you—if you choose."

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.



"WHAT YOU MAKIN'?" "DOLLIE?"

"What will he do with the one he has got?" I asked that too. And he "Take it to the big bakery on the corner, sir, an' look in at the window. The girls there know him an' his ways, an' when they see him they'll bring him out a bun an' take his cunt."

"What you makin'?" she queried, pointing to the piece of wood he held in her hand, "Dollie?" "Yes," responded Danny, as decidedly as though the manufacture of such things had been his life work. "A dollie. For you."

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.

the effect of all this upon Danny was instantaneous and remarkable. The hitherto expressionless eyes flashed forth a strange intelligence, the great, thick lips became beautiful, by reason of the smile that played upon them, the dull face was lighted by a glow from within.