

likely you scoff at the idea; faith such a scene of desolation and de- scen there. And what's more, I seemed still to increase. The story than are dreamed of in philosophy." | eat no more, and then we started | myself-a most decided unbeliever there I proposed to Julia we should who would have walked into a all go there in a body, and secure graveyard at midnight with a stout them. But when I spoke of it to

better tell you the whole story. In the autumn of last year, a gay ry. "Julia is not generally averse party from the town of ------ were to anything that promises fun." going to spend a week or two in a "Well, it seems it's horror and hospitable old farm house in one of sacrilege to go there; and she went the prettiest villages in the world, and told me a most terrifying hair-I was invited to accompany them, on-end story that, shattered my but the town of ----- was gayer nervous system, and will give me than the country just then; and no end to nightmares. Julia seembesides, I had other engagement; ed surprised-not to say disapbut my friends would not take 'no' pointed-that the earth, did not for an answer.

my impatient cousin, Jennie; "you crated feet within the shade of must come. We are going to have those blackberry bushes." such fun, as Tom says, and you must be there. It's really selfish demanded Mary and I, our curiosi- various grounds surrounding the shrick-a cry so full of horror and cf you to refuse, when you know ty strongly excited. we all want you so badly."

"Besides," chimed her sister Ju- see You need,'t expect it so dralia. "you will meet an old school- matically and claborately told as friend whom you have not seen Julia related it; but the substance for the last two years-I mean Ma- of the whole thing wasry Dismore."

Dismore ?" I cried out delightedly; possible," said I coaxingly. "will she be there? Oh, then, It

in the supernatural is obsolete in cay as I never saw out of a romance do believe in ghosts, and so did the I had heard that afternoon, and all this rapid age of steam and tele- before. It was a jolly place for nuts great Dr. Johnson.' And you may the other frightful ghost stories I graphs; and yet there truly are and blackberries, though ; and Will sneer if you like ; but I always will had ever read or heard, came with more things in heaven and carth and I sat down and eat till we could believe in them." One year ago, I was a skeptic for home. As there were lots more Julia, laughing. gend, Jennie?" said I.

but now-----Well; I think I had into fits at the thought of it.' "Why, how was that ?" said Ma- | neighborhood; and certainly the my kap. Mary, with her eyes tightopen and swallow Will and me up, "New it's no use talking," said for presuming to set our unconse-

"Well, but the story-the legend?

"Oh, the legend! Well, let at it!"

"Now, Tom, don't condense it; "Mary Dismore-pretty Mary lets have the original as nearly as

"Well, then, to begin. Once up-

Jennie looked grave.

lives? Most likely you do not; most ner of the lonesomest old woods- 'night hideous,' are heard there and the hours wore on, and the storm painful vividness to my memory .--

> "There's firmness for you," said | With ears preternaturally sharpened, Llistened for the beginning of "Do you believe in this ghost le- the ghostly revels; but no sound

was to be heard, save the howling "Well, really, Mary, I don't know of the storm without. Of my two heart, and snapped my fingers at Julia, instead of viewing matters in what to say about it. I never did companions, Jennie crouched at all the ghosts this side the Styx; a reasonable light, she nearly went see those spectral visitors myself, my feet, her arms twined tightly but it is the current belief in the round my waist, her face buried in

> old house, as poor Hood, sings, is ly shut and her fingers in her ears, cowered beside Jennie, perfectly • Under some predigious han Of excommunication.""

stiff with superstitious dread. The arrival of the rest of the par- strove to do as they did-to shut ty now changed the discourse ; but my ears to all sounds, but I could all the rest of the afternoon my not. A sort of fascination held thoughts ran on the dark tragedy them open-a vague, a terrible preso flippantly related by Tom, and sentiment of something to come-I felt intensely curious to see the I knew not what-kept every sense scene of it. Old houses always sharpened.

had an interest for me; but one It must now have been after midwith a story connected had a per- night-looking back, now, I am fect fascination; and when, after sure it was-when came a sudden dinner, the whole party dispersed | lull in the storm, and an appalling in various directions through the sound rent the night air. It was a old farm-house, and I found my- unatterable anguish, that the very self alone with Jennie and Mary, I air seemed shuddering with its bursaid, "Jennie, I want to see that then of despair. No earthly voice

old haunted-house. Suppose we could have uttered that ery-that three go off by ourselves and look blood-chilling, awful cry that rings

"But it is three miles distant," said Jennie ; "and it will be nearly had died away, I heard a rustling dark when we get there. Let us tread, and as plainly as you see this wait until to morrow."

"To morrow-nonsense! I can ting past me-a woman's face turn-

lies mouldering before him !

what a place for meditation ! Then | hands as the evening sacrifice. it is that we call up, in long review, more assurance of affection !

ed by thy contrition!

in my ears even as I write. And fond bosom that ventured its whole of nations, Thou Controller at all reader, ere the last horrible echo one moment of thy kindness or thy this act may bring peace, prosperi- true gentleman. truth. If thou art a friend, and ty and honor to our people, and now, I beheld a woman's form flithast ever wronged in thought, that for our people, and that for

charge of thy duties to the living. all Thou hast given and made dear color, and the limbs of the most And then, after a mutual ex- farewell, and then take his last front door of the ruinous looking the flashing of many lights, and a resolute tremble, not with fear, but to us, in thy name, we put ourdld cottage, and entered the house. crowd of people entered the room. [Irving. with anxiety; whilst watches are change of kisses, according to the leap into the arms of some other selves in array, and submit our It was a bleak, deserted place as I turned slowly around, and I beconsulted, till the individuals who fashion prevalent among girls, we crinoline, while she would consid-The weather may be dark and cause to thee. God, be merciful to ever you saw, smelling damp and lieve they took me for a ghost; for rainy; very well-hugh between us, and bless us, and cause the light consult them grow absolutely weaseparated; and I set to packing up | er the advisability of dying of a brcearthly; and in the silence and all recoiled for a momont in terror. with my head full of the dear old key heart. How her father came ry of the employment. On the the drops, and think cheerfully of of Thy countenance to shine upon gloom of the deepening night, lookschool, and Mary Dismore, and all to find out about the proposed But the next moment, the voice of whole, it is a situation of higher exthe blue sky and sunshine that will us, that thy way may be known the rest, until I went to bed and meeting, Julia and tradition saith ed a fit place for the spectre revels Tom-cousin Tom-fell on my ear citement and darker and deeper upon earth and thy saving health surely come to morrow. said to be mightly held there. A to sleep. Five pleasant hours in not-but find it out he did; that as he sprang forward and caught agitation than any other in humanamong all nations. Bring 'us out sort of awe came over us, and we me, crying out in alarm, "My dear "Did you call me a beast, sir?" of these troubles, into a large and the railway train brought us to the he saw them buried in affliction in life; nor can he be said to feel alltrod on tip-toe through the bare, cousin, what is it? What has hapvillage, and a carriage was waiting the garden; and what do you sup-"No sir; I said you were a liar wealthy place. Defeat the designs that man is capable of feeling, who empty rooms, and up the winding at the station to take us up to the pose the old raseal did?" pened? Have you gone crazy? and a scoundrel." "Ah, I misun- of our enemies, perplex their coun- has not filled it. stair case, holding our breath and old farm-house. As I sprang out "Rushed out and confronted them Good heavens! do not look so !-[Seige of St. Sebastian derstood. Your apology is quite sels, and bring them confusion .hushing our very footfalls. From One would think you had gone at the gate some one came flying suggested Mary." sufficient, sir." Pardon and forgive them. Turn -----down the avenue, and I was encir- "No. He took a shorter way of room to room we wandered, until mad !" them from their evil ways. And The most beautiful may be the eled by a pair of white arms, and settling the matter Hedeliberate- Jennie, who since our entrance had His voice, his touch, the clasp of In the window of a drug store in finally, establish peace in our day most admired and caressed, but they undergoing a stangulating amount by loadad his pistol, took aim, and looked pale and terrified, suggested his strong arms, broke the spell.a village of this State is conspicuand bring us to the life everlasting. are not always the most esteemed in a whisper that it was getting As I turned my eyes from his face, ously displayed the following sign : of kissing from so rosy a pair of fired at the young man." and loved. God, the Father, have mercy upthey fell on the still forms of Mary "Orders received here for the Court dark, and we had better go. lips, that all the gentlemen of our "The old monster " "Such a scream as arose from the Keeping close together, we si- and Jennie, and that sight restored of Death." on us! party looked on in undisquised A flirt is like the dipper attached God, the Son, pardon and forgive us! bushes! It frightened even the old lently passed from the house and me completely to myself. I bent The excesses of yeath are drafts God, the Holy Ghost, cleanse and toa hydrant, every one is at liberty "Why, Mary-dear Mary," I ex. viper, and he went out to look at stood in the porch. And there we over them : both had fainted. claimed, "is this really you? Ah, his handiwork; and what do you stood appalled. Coming along we I scarcely remember how I got upon old age, payable thirty yeare to drink from it, but no one desires sanctify us! I am so glad to see you! What a think, but he found he had shot had not observed the darkening home that night; but I know they after, with interest. Our Father, whoart in Heaven &c. I to carry it away.

with the poor handfal of earth that trouble to call upon Thee. Let our cial position ; but to any one aspinprayer come up before Thee'as in- ing in our day to that high and il-But the grave of those we loved; cense, and the lifting up of our lustrious rank, the slightest tendency to drunkeness at lable, or any

Almighty and most morciful God, where else, is fatal to his pretenthe whole history of virtue and the high and mighty Ruler of the sion. As soon as the flaw becomes gentleness, and this thousand en- Universe, who from Thy throne known, he is degraded thenceforth dearments lavished upon us almost dost behold all the dwollers upon and for ever. To be loud-in talk unheeded in the daly intercourse earth, we most humbly beseech is almost as great a derogation of intimacy; then it is that we Thee, with thy great grace to visit from the ideal of the character as dwell upon the fenderness, the sol- and bless thy servant the President to be absurd in costume - To hear emn, awful tenderniss of the part- of the Confederate States, Thy ser- one man's voice over-riding every. ing scene ; the bed of death, with vant the Governor of this Common- other's and one man's opinion thunall its stifled griefs, its noiseless at- wealth, Thy servant the President dered into the cars of people too. tendance, its mute, watchful assid of this Convention, and all these Thy thind-too indulent-or too couruities; the last testimonies of expi- servants who have assembled and teons-to do battle with a Stentor ring-leve; the feeble, fluttering, met together in Thy name, to per- - is fatal to Stentor's claims to be thrilling, oh ! how thrilling the pres- form the most solemn national act considered a gentleman. And, con sure of the hand ; the fond looking possible among men. Cleanse the versation is quite as essential as of the glazing eye, turning upon us thoughts of the hearts of Thy ser- manners to the perfection of chareven from the threshold of exist- vants by the inspiration of the acter. A man in the dress and ence; the faint, faltering accents Holy Spirit. From all prejudice with the manners of a gentleman struggling in death-to give one and passion, from all selfishness must not talk vulgarly, indecentand intrigue, from all rashness and 1y, obscenely irrevently, or even Ay, go to the grave of buried timidity, good Lord deliver them. ignorantly, (if the ignorance be love and meditate! There settle Coming to affix their names to a doc- very gross,) without forfeiture of the accounts with thy conscience ument which resumes the sove the rank to which his dress and for every past benefit unrequited reignty of this Commonwealth, his manner would seem to entitle -every past endearment anregar. may they have grace so to per- him. But granting all these three ded, of that departed being who form this kingly act as those essentials ;- the would be gentlecan never, never return to be sooth- who are in the fear of God, in the man is not a gentleman if his heart love of Christ, in the most reveren- be wrong. Dress is an ornament If thou arta child, and hast ever tial awe of the Holy Spirit, and in ____manners are a grace ____conversaadded a sorrow to the soul or a fur- the remembrance of that dread tion is a charm ; but these three row to the silvered brow of an af day, where for this, all things, they may be possessed in all possible perfectionate parent. If thon art a must give an account at the judge- fection by a ruffian. But these husband, and hast ever caused the ment seat of Christ. Thou Ruler three could ined with a poble and a sound judgment-the one balance. happiness in thy arms, to doubt events, grant that the results of ing the other-certainly form the

> -----The Eve of Battle,

shall go most willingly! Dear, lov- on a time there was an old fellow word, or deed, the spirit that gen. what we this day do, our children, walk three miles, and we shall have ed towards me-a face that on this It woulk be difficult to couvey to. ing, blue-eyed Mary; how I do long lived up there-who like al' fathers erously confided in athee ; if thou and children's children, may cher. ight enough to see it. What do earth I will never forget. Such a to see her again! Has she changed (for he was a father,) considered it the mind of an ordinary reader any art a lover, and has ever given ish our memory, and have joyful you say, Mary ?" face-such a white, rigid, corpsehis duty to be as intensely disagreelike face, with hollow, sunken eyes one unmerited pangi to that true memory of this day down to the much since I saw her last?" thing like a correct notion of the "I say yes. I want to see it too.' "Not a great deal. The slight, able as possible. He was the sole state of feelings which takes poslast generation of men. heart that now lies cold and still glaring at me out of their rayless delicate, fragile: looking girl of six. owner and proprietor of one daughsession of a man-waiting for the Oh! Lord of Hosts, we beseech "Well, we cannot go alone. Let depths like balls of living fire. I did beneath thy feet; then be sure that commencement of a battle. In the teen has been transformed into the ter, a .remarkably nice-looking Thee to visit and bless our fellow every-unkind look, every ungraus get some of the gentlemen to go not faint or scream in that awful rounder, fuller, taller, and more young woman, whose notions didn't first place, time appears to move cious word, every ungentle action, citizens exposed to the dangers of with us." moment. I never fainted in all my diguified young lady of eighteen always coincide with those of her on leaden wings; every minute will come thronging back upon camps, and our sister States, who "Now, Jennie, be sensible," said life-but I stood up as stark, cold, -that is all. The pale, golden curls | sire, for she considered it perfectly seems an hour; and every hour a thy memory, and knocking dole perimps, while we bow here in pray-; "I can't be bothered with gen- and rigid as the ghost apparition -the snowy skin with its soft, rose- right and proper she should have day. Then there is a strange comfully at thy soul ; then be sure that er, are in the smoke and blood of battlemen making nonsensical remarks before me, but I made a -step toate flush-the blue, beautiful eyes, a beau-a class of men he looked mingling of levity and seriousness. thou wilt lie down sprrowing and the. Great God, Thou knowest our and daintily small hand and feet, upon as direct emissaries of Old and laughing at the romantic old wards it, and held out my arms to within thin ; a levity which prompts. repentant on the grave, and utter hearts. Thou knowest that we place, like our Tom. Let us go by clasp the awful spectre. I clasped are the same we all used to admire Nick.' him to hangh, he knows not why the unheard groan, ind pour the have pursued peace and deprecaourselves; we are not in the town, the air ; it was gone-I knew not "And very properly, too," said and a seriousness which urges him so much." "Ah, those were the days!" said Mary. ever and anon, to lift up a mental "Don't put me out, Miss Dismore. prayer to the throne of grace. On I, half laughing and half sighing. Then weave thy claplet of flow- land nor servants. Thou seest Jennie demurred, but Mary and zen in the middle of the floor, ga-"I wish, with all my heart, I was a Well, the young woman did have such occasions, little or no converers, and strew the bauties of na- that our enemies have cast Thy I insisted, and began to laugh at zing with fixed, moveless eyes sation passes. The privates general happy school girl again, with Mary a beau, and the old man flared up ture about the graves console thy word benind them, have broken her superstitious fears, until she straight out into the darkness bebroken spirit, if then canst, with their ancient faith, have flung away ally lean on their frelocks, the to an awful extent about it. The Dismore, and---' consented. An hour's walk along fore me. "Well, be ready to start with us daughter -cried and took on as officers on their swords ; and few these tender, yet futile tributes of the bond of brotherhood, and gaththe lonesome forest-road brought How long Istood in that position words, except monosylables in rebright and early to-morrow, and young women always do in these regret; but take wagning by the ered themselves together to lay us to the place; and after passing without moving, I do not know; it you and Mary can talk over these cases, as I am given to understand ply to questions put, are spoken .-good old times at your leisure.- but the hard hearted parent was through a wilderness of tall, rank must have been some time; and bitterness of this thy contrite afflic- waste our heritage, and to desolate On these occasions, too, the faces She is just as anxious to see you inflexible. So she wrote to her lover grass and blackberry bushes laden then came the sounds of many foot- tion over the dead; and be more our homes. as you can possibly be to meet her." to come and bid her an everlasting with fruit, we pushed open the steps, the murmer of many voices, fuithful and affectionate in the dis-