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**HORSE-CHESTNUTS—A FANCY,**  
My heart, my heart,  
To life did give,  
And sweet with the blooming spring;  
My soul did move  
With April love,  
And grew with every green thing.  
Fair buds the beech—  
Too fair for speech  
Of mine to show its changing mien,  
How soft and slow—  
First a green glow,  
And then a mist of green,  
Soft covering they,  
The tassels gray  
That hang the willow branches  
And soft the blush  
That pink the daisy  
The apple-tree above the wall.  
Not so, not so,  
My love did grow  
As these do sprout—invisibly,  
Scarce can one tell,  
Nor reckon well,  
The day, the hour, their birth did see.  
But mark the way  
That long ere May  
The fans do clothe the chestnut-trees;  
On each verdant bough  
The bud grows big,  
And shinneth bronze-like in the breeze.  
To-day it's sheathed,  
To-morrow breathed  
Upon every bud of morn,  
The chestnut stands  
With thousand heads  
Of young green, since 'neath midnight bea,  
And so—yes, so—  
My love did grow,  
By the breeze and the sun,  
Till, bathed in dew,  
My spirit knew  
Its fragrant summer-time begun.  
In thy sweet eyes  
My sun did rise,  
Thy voice made April wind-puffs rude,  
And at its call  
My longings all  
Full-budded into lovings' food.  
One day, one hour,  
And all the power  
Of love I'd sought not mastered me,  
And all my mind  
No thought could find  
Not green with new-born hopes of thee.  
—M. G. Van Rensselaer, in Harper's.

**THE GROANING GHOST.**

When I was a young man, my father's business experienced a severe check, so that it was necessary to retrench, and we resolved to move. My brother and myself were sent to find a suitable house.  
Late one Saturday afternoon we came upon the very thing, a large old mansion. A bill in one of the numerous windows announced that the house was to let. Apply next door. We applied. The door was opened by a tidy, gray-haired woman.  
"Can we look over the house next door?" I said. A rather queer look crossed the woman's face for a moment, but she answered civilly.  
"Certainly, sir. But it is rather dark now."  
"So it is," said I. "We may come in daylight if the place is likely to suit us. Can you tell us the particulars?" The woman enumerated the rooms and the various features of the mansion. All were most suitable.  
"And the rent?" I inquired, nervously myself for a disappointment. She named a low figure that I uttered an involuntary exclamation.  
"You see we've had it on our hands for some time," she explained, "and we would offer easy terms to a good tenant."  
"And when can we look over it?" I asked. "Is it your own property?"  
"No, sir. But we have the letting of it. My husband would show you over to-morrow if you didn't mind."  
We made an appointment for Sunday morning and went home delighted. Next morning we kept our appointment, and found everything satisfactory.  
The next day I was lurching at my usual chop house along with two or three acquaintances.  
"Still house hunting, Denton?" said one of them.  
"No, thank heaven," I said. "We've got a house at last. In—square."  
"Which house have you got?"  
"No. 45," I said. "He threw his head back and burst into a fit of laughter. The other men laughed with me.  
"Why, don't you know," said my friend, recovering his gravity, "No. 45 is haunted?" I saw the other men looking at me, so I put on a bold front.  
"As if every one didn't know that," said I, composedly. He was somewhat taken aback, and returned to the charge.  
"Well, you'll have plenty of company there," he said.  
In the course of the afternoon I took my brother aside and told him.  
"Phew!" said he. "That explains the low rent. But the governor can't stand anything of the sort. You know how nervous he is."  
"Yes, I know," I said. "And it strikes me that the best thing is to move into the house ourselves, so that we can tell him the story is false, if any one lets it out to him, just you and I."  
"Right," said he.  
We had no difficulty in finding a chimney for moving in our new domicile before the family. So about 10 o'clock one evening, after a substantial dinner in town, we let ourselves into our new abode and took possession. A bright fire lit by our landlady, was blazing in the kitchen. We had a plentiful supply of stimulants and tobacco, and we made ourselves comfortable with our slippers and lounging coats, and prepared for a night of it.  
"I don't make it up until eleven o'clock at night," she explained. "Not until my master comes home."  
The boy went up smartly and shortly re-appeared.  
"Why, you've got a smoke-jack up there, Missis," said he.  
"What's a smoke-jack?" said my brother, hastily. The sweep explained.  
"It's a apparatus for roasting meat, consisting of a chimney, with a little saile like, just like a windmill."  
"I didn't know it was there," said our landlady.

criticised the character of our friends and relations.  
Finally, the heat of the fire had its inevitable effect, and we began to doze. Do not know how long I had been asleep, but I suddenly awoke with a violent start. A cold shudder ran through me from head to feet. I had an indistinguishable sensation of something strange and terrible. I rose and stretched myself and tried to feel my case. But I could not. I touched my forehead and heaved a sigh.  
"Hello!" he said. "What's the matter? Why, I've been asleep. What's the time?"  
"Two o'clock," said I.  
"Just the time for a ghost," said he with unseemly levity. "Do you know, Will, I don't think I'll come here. Let's go and look for him."  
"Anything for a change," said I, although the thought of perambulating that great lonely mansion in the dead of night was anything but agreeable. "I am wide awake."  
"So am I," said he, and taking up the brass candlestick, he went toward the door. I followed him closely. We passed along the passage, our stealthy footfalls making a faint sound on the uncarpeted floor. We examined the rooms on the ground floor. We heard and saw nothing. We ascended the stairs, and an individual stair creaked horribly, but that was all. No ghost.  
My brother suddenly opened the door of a bedroom on the first floor. Instantly a gust of air blew the candle out; and as we stood there in the icy cold we distinctly heard a groan, which was no fancy. It was a long-drawn, wailing moan of inexpressible horror and pathos. It died away in a despairing cadence. It seemed like the sorrowful lament of a soul in torment. As we stood there, grasping each other's hands, with our hearts throbbing in great pulsations, it came again. Oh, the horror of it! It seemed to be in the room and close to us. The cold was deathly, the silence broken only by that weird and awful moan. Once more it rose and fell—and somehow or other the next moment we found ourselves in the kitchen, with shaking limbs and ashen faces, re-lighting our extinguished candle. Then we looked at each other.  
"That was no fancy, Will," said my brother.  
"No," said I. "I replied, my teeth chattering in my head. 'What are you going to do?'"  
"For my brother had relit the candle and was going away."  
"I'm going to have another look," he said.  
"But, perhaps," I suggested, "the ghost extinguishes the light."  
"I'll give him another chance," said my brother coolly. "Come along, you chattering idiot." With quaking heart I followed his footfalls. This time he opened the door more cautiously, and we entered with every nerve strung to its utmost tension. Holding the candle on high we looked around. Pure vacancy. And the sound came not again.  
"Poor old chap," said my brother. "He can't stand the light. Shall I blow it out again?"  
"No," said I. "But, joking apart, who is going to sleep in this room? I'm not, for one. And this would naturally be the governor's room."  
My brother was struck.  
"You're right," he said; "we must get to the bottom of this."  
He examined the room carefully, but there was nothing to be seen, neither was there anything to be heard. So we gave up the thing for that night and went to bed.  
At noon that day I had to run the gauntlet of my friends. And, I am bound to say, I met suspiciously many. The day drew on, I grew more and more uncomfortable, and I fairly dreaded the ordeal of the ensuing night. We agreed that at 2 o'clock precisely we would again visit the haunted room.  
There was no danger of our going to sleep to-night. We were painfully wide awake.  
At last the hour began to sound. At the first stroke my brother rose and took up the candle. I had provided myself with a second candle on my own account. We examined the rooms as of old, but without success. We ascended the stairs, and passed outside the haunted chamber. The passage and the stairs above were thick with shadow. My brother turned the handle—and the weird sound died away as we entered.  
In a moment it came again. It rose and swelled and died sorrowfully away. It was singularly human. Yes it was beyond all description unearthly.  
A cold stream of terror trickled down my back. My brother stood still and listened intently. The ghost groaned again. The other men shuddered. The sail began in a whisper; it swelled to an acute pitch; it died away in a note of woe that thrilled one's heart. It was awful to stand there, waiting for the sound to come again. My matter-of-fact brother spoke.  
"These are your groans are exactly alike," he said, considering. "Well, I'll tell you what, the ghost's up the chimney." Once more the sound came, as though to confirm his words. It certainly did appear to proceed from the region of the fireplace.  
"Still," resumed my brother thoughtfully, "a ghost in a chimney is an uncomfortable sort of thing. I'll have that chimney swept. We'll see about it the first thing to-morrow."  
We secured the services of an intelligent chimney sweep, and sent him up the chimney. He had found nothing, and reported that he had found nothing. We sent him up again. This time he found out something. This chimney communicated with the next door.  
"That will be the kitchen chimney next door," said my brother. "We must exparte in our landlady was considerably amazed when we presented ourselves and asked to be allowed to explore. After a little demur, however, she consented. There was hardly any fire in the grate.  
"I don't make it up until eleven o'clock at night," she explained. "Not until my master comes home."  
The boy went up smartly and shortly re-appeared.  
"Why, you've got a smoke-jack up there, Missis," said he.  
"What's a smoke-jack?" said my brother, hastily. The sweep explained.  
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"Doesn't it make a noise?" asked my brother, with a quick look at me.  
"We don't hear it," replied the landlady, indifferently.  
"Well," said my brother, "just run back to the bedroom and listen. I believe we've got it. I am going to send the boy up to turn the thing." I did as he requested. When I got into the room the ghost was groaning in splendid form. He was going far faster than I had ever heard him before.  
The mystery was solved.  
We kept our secret. We were the admiration of every one who knew the story of the house. And for a big reduction in the rent of a very comfortable house we had to thank the Groaning Ghost.—Belgravia.

**Natural Mimicry.**  
Some insects have a deceptive resemblance to members of the vegetable world, either for the purpose of protecting themselves or for that of deceiving their prey. But a more wonderful simulation is that of the features of other insects.  
There is in Borneo a sand-wasp which is addicted to the habit of devouring crickets, but there is also a species of cricket which exactly reproduces the appearance of its enemy, so that it can even associate with its antagonist without being detected.  
A species of mantis imitates the white ant, and mixing with the family, like one of its own members, quietly devours a fat termite, from time to time.  
Flies often dwell as unbidden guests in the nests and hives of wild honey-bees. They are belted and bearded in the same manner as their insectuous hosts, but their larvae pay for their hospitality, they steal by devouring the young grubs of the hive.  
Beetles often imitate hornets, since the latter are insects to which birds in search of animal food prefer to give a wary berth. Sometimes performed by innocent little creatures quite destitute of any such means of defence. A common insect, known in England as the devil's coach-horse, throws up its tail in the aggressive fashion of a scorpion, when irritated, but it has no hint of a sting. In its warlike attitude it is exceedingly alarming, not only to boys and girls, but to chickens and birds.  
The bumble-bee flies, which are inoffensive little creatures, imitating the more voracious and stinging species in the sunlight, quite after the insect they copy, and gain an undeserved reputation of fierceness.  
Certain beetles have become modified to resemble wasps, even to the extent of losing their solid waists for others of ultra-fashionable slenderness, and others, which mimic bees, have acquired useless little tufts of hair on their shanks, to represent the pollen-gathering apparatus of the true bees.  
A curious case of imitation is that of two species of Malayan orioles, which are the almost exact counterparts of two varieties of honey-suckers. The latter are such fierce birds as to be avoided by all their feathered neighbors, and thus the orioles find their own deceptive plumage a great protection.—Youth Companion.

**LOUISVILLE IN ALARM.**

**THE SIGNAL ON THE BELLS MISTAKEN FOR A RIOT CALL.**  
Fruitless Attempt of a Mob to Capture Assaultants of a Young Lady.

A Louisville, Ky., dispatch says: Great excitement was occasioned here by the sounding of eleven bells by the fire department, as the public generally understood them as the signal that an attack had been made on the jail, where Turner and Paterson, the negroes who assaulted Jennie Bowman, are confined. Militia were stationed around the building, and people knowing this, at once circulated reports of an encounter between the mob and the soldiery. Soon after in the jail a crowd of 2000 persons assembled and a riot broke out. The mob, however, was the scene of great confusion, people rushing towards the prison from all points. It was a messenger who carried the news that the mob was on the jail, but that the alarm was the usual call given to notify members of the militia, and people knowing this, at once dispersed. The riot was confined to the jail, where Turner and Paterson, the negro assaultants of Jennie Bowman, are confined. The riot was confined to the jail, where Turner and Paterson, the negro assaultants of Jennie Bowman, are confined. The riot was confined to the jail, where Turner and Paterson, the negro assaultants of Jennie Bowman, are confined.

**A BOLD ROBBERY.**

**A Train Stopped in Arizona and Plundered by Desperate Men.**  
One of the most audacious, desperate and successful train robberies ever recorded occurred on the west-bound overland train on the Southern Pacific Railroad, near Tucson, Ariz. A special from Tucson says: "The western-bound express due here at 10:30 p. m., was stopped by robbers at Papago station, 18 miles east of here, about the number of men engaged in the robbery is variously estimated from five to eight. Col. Harper, the engineer, when approaching Papago, was signalled by a red lantern to stop. He stopped down, and as he approached the light he noticed obstructions on the track so placed that I can see he failed to stop the engine until it was on the track and derailed itself. Immediately upon the engine being derailed, several shots were fired into the express car, and a man with a pistol in each hand boarded the locomotive and commanded Harper not to get down. The other robbers had in the meantime been prying open the express car, and falling to get into it, they placed a stick of giant powder under it and compelled Harper to light the fuse attached. This he was obliged to do, but to avoid being blown up, the messenger opened the car and the robbers took possession. They then took charge of the car, unrolled the engine baggage and falling to get into it, they placed a stick of giant powder under it and compelled Harper to light the fuse attached. This he was obliged to do, but to avoid being blown up, the messenger opened the car and the robbers took possession. They then took charge of the car, unrolled the engine baggage and falling to get into it, they placed a stick of giant powder under it and compelled Harper to light the fuse attached. This he was obliged to do, but to avoid being blown up, the messenger opened the car and the robbers took possession. 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