

# HILLSBOROUGH PLAINDEALER.

## POET'S CORNER.

Written for the Hillsborough Plaindealer.

BEATRICE.

Once I loved him, no other,  
For I thought him so true,  
Truth and right so well together,  
In his actions seemed to blend.

Yes, I thought he had so surely  
Proved his love to be sincere,  
That I trusted, oh, so truly,  
To his false words seeming fair.

But he slighted love that ever,  
Would have proved to him so true,  
And preferred each link to sever,  
That had ever lasted too.

Yet to him I would have given  
All the love of woman's heart,  
But his coldness now has riven  
Every cord of love apart.

Woman's love, though e'er so fondly,  
On her heart some image traced,  
Can change, but not to friendship only—  
Pride and hate can take its place.

But 'tis done—and now no longer  
In my heart lives one regret;  
There shall live a feeling stronger  
That will teach me to forget.

Now we'll meet as strangers ever,  
All the past shall be forgot;  
Every thought of him forever  
From my memory I will blot.

January 12, 1861.

For the Hillsborough Plaindealer.

To Mr. A. M. M., of Hillsborough, these lines  
are most anxiously inscribed.

What shall I sing?—how choose a theme?  
O, teach me, long-neglected muse,  
What field of fancy shall I range?  
What thrilling subject shall I choose?

I would not sing of godlike deeds,  
By heroes in the days of yore,  
Nor would I proudly tread the way  
That leads to fame, to pomp and power.

But I would sing and choose a theme  
For one whose life has but begun,  
Whose days are like a glowing dream,  
Mid golden hues moved gently on.

Joy sings her sweetest strain for thee,  
Hope wreaths thy brow with fairest,  
All now is pleasure, hope and glow,  
For thee I sing—to thee I write.

I hope thou wilt for future years secure  
That innocence will still endure  
For that alone will still endure  
When youth and beauty shall decline.

Be faithful; act a Christian's part;  
Firm in resolve, yet gentle be;  
Let every impulse, noble heart,  
Swell high with love and charity.

Thus panoplied thou need'st not fear  
The future with its shadowy train,  
For Faith with beaming eyes shall cheer  
Thee on, till thou thy heaven shall gain.

O be thy path with flowers strewn,  
While thou persuest thy pleasant way;  
May all the bliss to mortals known  
Be shared by thee, dear one, each day.

May no dark clouds of sombre hue  
Thy pleasant joyful sky o'erspread;  
May each returning morn renew  
The wreath of joy that decks thy head.

When the long voyage of life is o'er,  
And thou art at thy journey's end,  
May you on Canaan's happy shore  
Receive a crown of life, amen.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### COUSIN HANNAH.

BY CAROLINE F. PRESTON.

"Arabella, I have some news for you," said Mrs. Holmes, as the latter came from a shopping excursion.

"What is it? Pleasant I hope."  
"Humph! There may be two opinions about that."

"Any rate tell me. I'm all in a fidget to find out."  
"Well, I've received a letter from your uncle Benjamin, saying that with my permission his daughter will come and make us a visit of a week or fortnight."

"O dear, what a trial! He's a farmer, isn't he?"  
"Yes."  
"And I suppose she's a countrified body, with a gait like an elephant, and a regular Yankee twang?"  
"Very likely. I haven't been there since she was a baby, and now she's eighteen—just your age."

"When is she coming?"  
"She will be here early next week, your uncle writes."  
"And our party comes off Friday evening. How unlucky. What will Mr. Stanton say? What sort of an idea will he get of our connection?"  
"I suppose everybody has some vulgar relations."

"Yes, but they take care to keep them in the background. Couldn't you write to have the visit postponed a week?"  
"No, she'd be sure to find out why it was, and your uncle would be offended."

"That wouldn't be much to get an invitation for us both to spend the summer at his farm house. He has a fine farm, and we should have a delightful time."

"So we should. Well, I must do my best to play the agreeable to this countrified cousin mine. I only hope she won't disgrace us."

"We can keep her in the background as much as possible without exciting her suspicions. Very likely she may be diffident, and that will help us. It will be readily guessed, from the preceding conversation, that Arabella Holmes and her mother were not a bit more unselfish or disinterested than the majority of their fashionable neighbors."

Mr. Stanton, to whom Arabella had referred, considered an excellent match. It may be that Arabella had designs upon him, but if so, we will respect the lady's secret, and leave it to be guessed at.

Days slipped away, and on Tuesday of the following week the country cousin arrived. The servant, supposing that the ladies had gone out, ushered her at once into the chamber designed for her occupation. Now it happened that Arabella had her mother were just then sitting down there.

"I suppose my cousin will be here this afternoon," said Arabella.

"Yes, I presume so."  
"By the way, what's her name?"  
"It is really ridiculous, but I can't remember your uncle didn't mention it in his letter."

"Some country percentage of the kind. Eschewed Hepsibah, or something of the kind. Do you suppose she talks very good Yankee?"  
"I am afraid not," said Mr. Holmes. "Farmers' daughters must be so."

"I suppose her talk is a good deal of such things."  
"All this could be distinctly heard by the subject of the flattering remarks."

"Humph!" said she. "I see what my aunt and cousin are expecting in me. Really it would be a pity to disappoint them."

She glided down stairs, and in a few minutes was introduced to her aunt and cousin.

"How do you do, aunt?" said she in the most rustic tone she could assume. "Pretty smart of your age, ain't yer?"

"Good heavens, what a barbarian!" thought the aunt, shrinking back. "However, I suppose it won't do to notice it."  
"My health is very good, thank you. Are your family well?"

"O, they're pretty sharp. This is cousin Arabella, ain't it?"  
Arabella extended her hand languidly.

"How you're well, cousin. You ain't married, are you?"  
"I don't approve of early marriages," said her mother, speaking for her.

"That's what I told Jini Doolittle last week, when he—O lor, what was I going to say? she interrupted herself with a semblance of bashful confusion.

"You ma' catch a city bean," said Arabella, keeping as sober as she could.

"You don't think so, though, do you? Well, I believe I should like a city feller. You'll introduce me round, won't you?"  
"O dear, what made me suggest such a thing to her?" thought Arabella troubled.

Arabella, desirous of drawing out her rustic cousin, and leading her to say something ridiculous.

"Cousin?" returned her cousin with volubility. "He's got ten. There's a brown heifer with a white streak running along her back. That's mine. Quite a present, wasn't it? I guess she's worth about twenty-five dollars."

"Really, quite a fortune," said Arabella. "By the way, cousin, I'm ashamed to confess it, but I don't remember your name—Christian name, I mean."

"Hannah," was the reply. "I was named after aunt Hannah; Hannah Brown isn't so bad a name. Do you think 'tis?"

"How homely and old-fashioned!" thought Arabella, but she only said, "O no, it's quite tasteful and genteel, though I don't say you won't object to changing the last name by and by, will you?"

"O, you sly critter," laughed Hannah. "You'll make me color up to the roots of my hair if you go on so. I ain't in a hurry. Some time of other, perhaps, somebody will take me off father's hands."

"What do you think of her, mother?" asked Arabella, when they were alone.

"She's quite good-looking, and is better dressed than I expected to see."  
"I admit all that. But what a plebeian name she has got."  
"Hannah."  
"Horned. How could her father fasten such a name on her?"

"O, she was named after my aunt, I believe."  
"Not after me, thank goodness."  
"Then what a perfect rustic she is. Such country phrases! Did you notice her first words? 'How do you do?' Could anything be more countrified? Must she appear at the party?"

"I don't see how it can be helped."  
"I tremble to think how she will behave. Ten to one she will begin to talk of her father's cows. That's about all she can talk of."  
"Her conversational powers do appear rather limited."

"What's that?" asked Hannah, taking up a French book from the table. "It's the spiciest words I ever got hold of. I can't make out what it means."  
"O that's a French book," said Arabella, descendingly.

Arabella conducted her cousin into the room, and leading her up to a quiet old lady in the corner, introduced her, saying that her awkwardness would not attract general notice. She then went away to attend to other guests.

Mr. Stanton entered the room. It chanced that the old lady with whom Hannah was conversing, was an intimate friend of his mother, who had been seen for a long time. He went up to her in his respects. She introduced him intelligently to all her rusticity.

He proposed to Arabella, looking gently at her, to go walking with Mr. Stanton. How she hastened to them, and Stanton of the smiling Hannah away.

"I derived," said Mr. Stanton courteously, "I derived from this. I am just about to introduce you to my cousin."

"I am glad to meet you in that way, thought Arabella. Well, I'll save me the trouble. She could not help feeling a little curious to know what friend it was that Hannah was to introduce. Judge of her surprise when it proved to be a French gentleman, who she well knew, could scarcely speak a word of English.

Mr. Stanton is going to have some fun out of her, she thought, half-mortified, half desirous of hearing the conversation that would ensue between the rustic cousin and the Frenchman.

The Frenchman, who she well knew, addressed a few remarks to her in his native language.

"What will she say?" thought Arabella, maliciously. Imagine her astonishment when Hannah, in the most natural manner in the world, replied in the same language.

The conversation was sustained for some time. "Can she have been deceiving us?" thought the bewildered Arabella.

Just then Mr. Stanton begged Hannah to accept his escort to the piano. She accepted, and performed a brilliant sonata in admirable style.

"Her touch is superb," said a gentleman to Arabella. "Who is she?"  
"A cousin of mine—Miss Brown," said Arabella, not without complacency.

"Will you introduce me?"  
"Certainly."  
At length the party was over.

As soon as the last guest had gone, Arabella's curiosity broke out—  
"Why, Hannah, how could you deceive us so? I really thought you quite a rustic."  
Hannah's eyes twinkled.

"So I conjectured," said she, "and I wanted to teach you a lesson, that was all. Believe me, Cousin Arabella, one may live in the country, and not be altogether countrified. If you wish to be convinced, my father has authorized me to give your mother and yourself an invitation to spend a month next summer with us."

"Think you, I should be delighted to come. I feel that your rebuke is deserved. But is your name really Hannah?"  
"It really is, and I dislike it as much as yourself. But I have another name—Jennie—by which I am always called at home."

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## PROSPECTUS OF THE STATE JOURNAL.

Having been established by the State Journal, and will support any Democratic measures and their advocates as the present demand as a condition of its existence. In other words, it will be the organ of the Democratic party in this State. It will be published weekly, and will be published for the entire State and for common interests.

As soon as arrangements can be made the whole paper shall be reprinted and printed with new type on good paper, and in a superior manner.

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Weekly, per annum, \$6.00

These terms will be insisted upon as a condition of its publication, and all papers will be discontinued at the expiration of the time for which they have been paid, unless the subscription be renewed. I am satisfied, from years of experience, that upon no other footing can any newspaper be supported.

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JOHN SPELMAN,  
Editor and Proprietor.

## PROSPECTUS OF THE SOUTHERN PLANTER.

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Devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture and the Household Arts.

Published at Richmond, Virginia.  
J. E. WILLIAMS, Editor.

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Published at Richmond, Virginia.  
W. M. FLEMING & FERRISSON, Publishers.

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