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New York Family Story Paper. Prospectus for 1891.

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PERSON COUNTY COURIER.

NOELL BROS., Proprietors. HOME FIRST; ABROAD NEXT. \$1.00 Per Year in Advance. VOL. VIII. A. ROXBORO, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 1891. No. 3.

"HANNAH."

BY GERALDINE FLEMING.

For uncounted generations the homely name of "Hannah" had held the place of honor in the Fernwood family.

Its present representatives were old Mrs. Hannah Fernwood and two young namesakes—daughters respectively of Mr. Courtney Fernwood, the steady man of business, and of Mr. Silas Fernwood, the one black sheep of the hitherto immaculate Fernwood family.

The more fortunate young lady was distinguished as Miss Hannah Fernwood; the other was always mentioned with more or less indifference as "Hannah, daughter of Silas."

For the career of the black sheep was ended at last. A few days before there had been an almost unnoticed funeral from a solitary little house a mile or two away, and all which was mortal of Silas Fernwood had been consigned to a lowly corner of the family burying-ground.

"Well, we can't have her here," Mrs. Courtney observed with decision. "She would be a constant reminder of the disgrace the family has suffered on her father's account."

"I don't imagine the daughter of Silas would have much influence with the old lady—if that is what you mean," Mr. Courtney said complacently.

"We can't be sure about it, though," said his wife. "And Grandma Fernwood has quite too much money for us to risk somebody coming between her and the prospects of our Hannah."

"And that girl can put on such pitiful, coaxing looks, too," said Miss Hannah. "I hate anybody who always looks so piteous and meek."

"Miss Hannah herself was of quite a different type. There was nothing of the mild and appealing in her flashing black eyes, in the expression of her finely aquiline features, nor in the languidly haughty poses of her stately figure."

ms, and then we should be rid of her for awhile, anyhow," was Miss Hannah's brilliant suggestion.

"We might try it—that's a fact," said her mamma, eagerly grasping the idea, and straightway turning to an esquire to promptly indite a ceremonious recommendation epistle to whomsoever it might concern.

"Perhaps it might be well to inquire something about the advertiser," Mr. Courtney remarked.

"My dear Courtney, what possible difference can it make?" his wife retorted. "The girl must earn her living, and you wouldn't expect her to be appointed lady-in-waiting to a queen, would you?"

And so the recommendation epistle was finished, and somewhat later the orphaned daughter of Silas Fernwood was instructed to call at the number indicated by the advertiser.

"It is a law office," Mrs. Courtney Fernwood said to her. "You have only to announce you came in answer to the advertisement and show him your reference. I should not be too particular about salary if I were you! And if you get the place, do your duty toward the people who employ you—above everything do your duty conscientiously! If you do otherwise, you will be sure not to prosper."

And with this disinterested advice the intrepid Mrs. Courtney left the daughter of Silas to pursue her way alone to the designated office.

"She was there directed to an elderly gentleman sitting before the glowing office stove, quietly perusing an afternoon paper."

"He was evidently a familiar visitor rather than the legitimate occupant of the legal sanctum."

wood. "You will see him often, child, and if you are really content to devote yourself to a cross and useless old body like me."

The gentle tones unnerved the girl more than any harshness could have done.

What had just been tacitly promised her seemed too good to be true. She was to experience no more want and misery; she was no longer to be set apart—the slighted and scorned child of a faulty and unparadiseable parent.

She was to have instead, sympathy in her sorrows, protection in her bitter orphanage; and more than all she was to meet again and often, one who had enthroned himself as prince and master in her starved and yearning heart!

It was too good to be true! For the moment Hannah was like one who, standing in utter darkness, is blinded and dazzled by a burst of radiant light.

Her heart leaped to her throat; her head seemed to whirl, and the room seemed spinning around her.

The revulsion of feeling had been too sudden, and Hannah felt herself fainting and tottering backward into the arms of somebody who had at that instant approached her.

Even while his name was upon her lips, Dr. Gervase had entered the room; and it was into his face—the handsome lover face of her heart's master—she first looked when she again unclosed her sweet eyes in consciousness.

"My sweet one, I have been half mad with anxiety for you," he whispered, with his bearded lips close to the pretty face, rosy, white and cold as marble, in his breast.

How He Learned to Talk.

George Perry was completely broken up. Life had no more charms for him; and the cause of it was, as may be imagined, a girl.

Marie Fay had made up her mind not to go out with him again until he had proved himself able to entertain her. She admired a chatty man, and George never wasted his breath in that way. She liked a brilliant talker; which George was not. She doted on airy personage; and George was so persiflage. He made few base hits at that game and his small percentage of chances accepted just fled his release.

So she had refused his invitation to the carnival dance, remarking sarcastically that a man who could be silent in seven languages might lead the German army to victory but should never attempt to lead a young lady through a walk.

And yet, George was conscious of his defect and had striven hard to overcome it. He had read "The Art of Conversation," "A Thousand Flashes of French Wit and Wisdom," "Ready Reparte," "Greek Epigrams," in three volumes, and Mrs. Crowell, Chauncey's "How to Shine in Society." But these works had been unable to supply the missing inspiration. They only filled him with a regretful feeling that all the good things had been said.

It is true that the Greek epigrams gave him a little hope. "Believest thou the tale that I dye my hair Artemis?"

"Nay, by the intezanal shore of Coeytus! Do I know, Nicias, that it was black when thou boughtest it in the market?"

George felt that if this sort of stuff would pass for humor, he too might shine. But Grecian wit is not appreciated in these times; and George's wit was Greek to most people.

There was but one thing left for him to do. As a sensitive minded person he shrank from it, but there seemed no other course and he took the fatal plunge.

It was six months after this episode that Marie met him on the street. She greeted him sweetly, as she had heard that his great change had taken place in his character.

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If you want the latest styles in GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS, Call on JOHN COPLAN, IN POST-OFFICE BUILDING. Buying for cash and selling for cash, I defy competition in LOW PRICES.

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Large line of samples from New York to select from, and my price for making will be as low as

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