BY MRS. CICERO W. HARRIS.

of saying farewell to me, for grand-pape child and the rightful heiress of Rarenswood. He consequently ordered dress-makers to come from the neighboring village to prepare a suitable instead of telling me fairy tales and ghost stories until I should go to sleep, wood when my own grand-mother came there as a bride. Mammy said even she was young and comely then and I could see from the portrait of grandpana first wife how beautiful my own grandmamma had been. That portrait had been hung over the mantel in my own little room by grandpapa's order, and I was very fond of gazing into the weet; wistful, tender eyes that looked down upon me from the canvas. Mainthe charms of her "young mistress" sibe would persist in calling my grand mother. I naturally grew up to think on that subject for mammy was much more prone to tell me of demons, fiends and evil spirits than of good and guardian beings. It was only when she would talk of grandmother and mamma or fondle me that the gentle side of

seemed suddenly to wake up to the fact that I was the daughter of his only outfit for me. Mammy enjoyed the idea of my importance and at night. she recalled the former days at Ravensmy would wax eloquent as she dilated fher as an angel without wings. My conception of the angels I had previousvoltained from mamma, otherwise I would have had very peculiar opinions mammy's nature would shine forth. I fancied she imitated grand-papa in her haughty, cold bearing toward the other servants, and I often fancied that she obeyed grand-mamma because she was "Mrs. Raven, of Ravenswood." The very name mammy considered a talisman with subtle influences-and I divined, long before I was sixteen years of age, that the name he had given her was the closest tie that bound grand-mamma to my grandfather. Once, just before I left the place, I was passing by the drawingroom, and on glancing in saw grandpapa standing near a harp that had the broken strings around the tarnished gilded column. I had always felt a veneration for the old instrument, though the only time I had ever heard a note of music from, it was when the dawing room was being aired and the wind swept among the strings that had withstood the ravages of age and neglect. I loved to imagine how grandmother looked when she played upon it years ago' and I wondered if grandpapa did not wish to hear music sometimes. Grandmama did not love it, and the only song I heard was a wild lullaby mammy would sing, varied on Sundays, by a doleful hymn tune with still more doleful words. I peeped in the drawing room, and seeing grandpapa was alone, I went up to him and offered to pick up some of the strings that had fallen on the carpet. He accepted my offer, and when he had finished, he sat down near the harp, took me on his knee and said, "Alma."-my fanciful name had descended for several generations-"when you leave us, you must learn to aing and play for me. As I was tying the above discount, a copy gratis will be up those broken strings. I was think- allowed to the getter-up of the club. up those broken strings, I was thinking how much depended on your future conduct and training, how many old wounds would momentarily cease to rankle, if, as David charmed Saul, your fingers could be taught to bring to life again the sweet chords that once as they may subscribe for. breathed from those broken, silent

learn for poor old grand-papa's sake, will you not, my little Alma ?" "Poor old grand papa!" I thought, Blackwood's Magazine for 1875. as I hesitated to answer him. "The idea of grand-papa's calling himself poor when everyone thought he was so rich, and I thought he was so pompous and well satisfied with himself." My thoughts were very vague and unsatisfactory then, but in after years, when I had read more and seen something of the world, I always associated grandpapa with Sir Leicester Dedlock. But The Baltimore Gazette grand-papa was stroking my hair and walting for my answer. Impulsively sprang up, threw my arms around his neck and promised him I would do everything I could to please him. He drew me close to him and kissed me. Hearing some one coming, I darted from his arms and can up stairs just in time to catch a glimpse of grandmamma as she came up the passageway. Mammy was in my room packing my trunks, and her employment must have reminded her of the time when she performed a similar service for mamma just before she was married to my father. At any rate, mainmy began to tell me how handsome papa looked in his uniform when he came to marry mamma, and how extensive the preparations for the wedding were. My father was Captain Willoughby Aylett, of the United States Navy, and was lost at sea a few months before mamma died. They were married nearly six years and their home was in Baltimore, many, miles from Ravenswood. I tried to fix these points distinctly in my mind, as mammy repeated her often-told story, for I had an indefinite idea that I ought to know and remember them

The night before I was to leave came, and I had not made the contemplated effort to find out what the ghost of Ravenswood was. That night I knew mammy would be up late, and I determined to set up also. Report said that the ghost usually appeared just as the tall old clock in the hall struck twelve at midnight. I did not tell mammy why I I wanted to remain awake, and as she would have humored any whim of mine that night, she nodded in her corner by my hearth until I was ready to be cosi-

ly 'tucked in' bed for the last time in years, by her kind, faithful old hands When the clock commenced its stroke, I threw my waterproof over my light wrapper and softly opened my door. In a minute or two, I heard another door open, and grandmamma, with a lighted candle in her hand, came up stairs, took a key from a key-basket she held, and opened the door of mamma's room. Her eyes were fixed and staring. I had heard of persons who walked in sleep. so I concluded this was what grandmam-Preparations for my departure were ma was doing. Undaunted, I followed her, and standing on the threshold, I ally became reconciled to the prospect saw her place the candle on the table, go to the washstand, pretend to wash and wipe her hands, take up the candle and leave as she had come, alike unconscious of what she had done and of my presence. Nervously, I hastened back to tell mammy who the fancied ghost was, when, as if my guardian angel had whispered it, a sentence I had heard mamma utter when I was very young. SASSAFRAS FORK, N. C. flashed like lightning through my brain. It was this-" Remember, she is Mrs. Raven of Ravenswood. As such, you must respect her and guard her honorable name." I went to sleep without saying anything to mammy about it.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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