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RESPECT TAKES.

From the Greenfield (Mass.) Democrat.

THE THREE FAMILIES.

Of Pride will have a fall, and Virtue its Reward.

Near one of the beautiful villages, for which New England is celebrated, resided a farmer by the name of Clarkly. He was well-to-do in the place, for industry and industry. He married early in life, a virtuous and pious girl, but destitute of any marriage portion. He, too, was penniless; and thus they commenced their united career. But by the blessing of Providence, they not only managed to live genteelly, and bring up a large family, but had at the time of their late demise, several thousand dollars at interest. His family consisted of seven sons and one daughter. They received their education at the village Academy, with the exception of six months spent at a respectable boarding school, some sixty or seventy miles distant. Two of his sons, who chose a professional life, were now fitted for college; and Selina returned, a fair and accomplished girl. His third son possessed great genius, and applied himself with much assiduity to the study of the law. He had him to follow, while the younger boys remained at home, to cultivate their taste for farming. Mr. and Mrs. Clarkly ruled their children with the law of love; and seldom was the rod of correction introduced among them; consequently, their children were amiable and affectionate—ever kind and obedient to the calls of their parents. Indeed, they seemed to be bound together by a chain of such strong texture that one could not separate a single link without vibrating upon the rest. The influence of religion was felt by each member of the family, as Mr. and Mrs. Clarkly were devoted Christians. A strict attention to church was duly observed by them both, and as far as influence extended, every member of the family constantly attended the worship of God's holy day; but if any declined so doing when arrived at the years of discretion, his compulsion was used to force him to obey. Their path of religion was made pleasant—no terror, no gloom, obscured the bright light that illuminated the way to happiness and peace.

But quite a reverse from this is the picture drawn from the family who lived in a quarter of a mile distant. Mr. Ward was an English gentleman who had amassed a very large fortune in the mercantile business. His wife, too, was of the old English stock, and prided herself not a little as to the excellence of her ancestry to the line of Kings. At the death of her parents, she inherited a large fortune—at the time, she became heir to a large share of family pride, which characterized several preceding generations. She had but three children; one son, whom we shall call Ervin, and two daughters, Anna and Maritza. Ervin entered college at the same time with Julius and Ormand Clarkly. They had not been introduced to Mr. and Mrs. Ward considered the children of the farmer so much inferior to those of their rank and fortune, that an everlasting barrier as they thought, would ever lie between them. But in spite of much admonition, Ervin became greatly attached to the two young men, but never mentioned their names when at home in the presence of his parents. Mr. and Mrs. Ward, had early imbibed the strongest prejudice against all persons of different faith from that which they professed, and considered it a sin to mingle with them. As there was no society in the place, of their belief, their children were kept at home from church, in order to attend their own mode of religious exercise. The utmost restraint was put upon them, and they dared not think or believe for themselves, but just as they were taught. But to speak of their character—more particularly, Ervin was a noble minded youth, with feminine graces and feelings. He often sighed for more liberty, but his wish was not indulged. Anna was the true likeness of her parents; proud, unrelenting, and scornful. She partook deeply of the principles instilled into her mind by her parents, while Maritza escaped without being poisoned by their influence. She was a modest, unassuming, and artless young creature, and many times did she sigh for the friendship of Selina Clarkly. She had seen her frequently, but never dared to converse with her, for she was a stranger to her. It might be to her feelings, when she knew what would be the final consequence. Still, she had seen and admired the fascinating modest Selina.

We will pass over the time the young men spent in college, and speak of what follows. Julius Clarkly applied himself to the study of divinity; Ormand became an eminent physician, while Ervin Ward chose the profession of law. They spent some months at home, before commencing their respective occupations, and during this time, some circumstances occurred, which it will be necessary to introduce in this place. It was a beautiful afternoon, in the month of June, when Ervin and his sister Maritza commenced a long walk. The weather had been exceedingly warm for several days previous, but a fresh breeze seemed to cool the atmosphere, which was gratefully accepted

self if you let your fancy carry you, they retorted his mother. Ervin had never spoken his mind so freely upon the subject before, in all his life; and it caused much excitement in the family. Maritza took her brother's part, for which she received the censure of his parents and sister.

About this time considerable stir was made in the place by the appearance of a gentleman who arrived there, and rented an elegant house just opposite of farmer Clarkly's. It was a beautiful country seat, and soon after his family took possession of the house. It was soon ascertained that his name was Mervington; that his family consisted of himself and wife, and two children, a son called Jasper, and a daughter named Euphrasia. Jasper was now about twenty-two years of age, and Euphrasia fifteen.

Mr. Mervington had accumulated a vast fortune; he exceeded several of the richest men together, in the place, among whom might be ranked Mr. Ward. His wealth caused him to relinquish all business and seek for a more retired situation than had been in the city of B. His son had been engaged in business with his father after the completion of his education, but thought best to spend the summer in the country. He was a sensible, interesting youth, but entirely free from that affectation that so often accompanies the possession of rank or wealth.

Euphrasia was a fair-haired, blue-eyed girl, with a complexion and handsome features. But pride that destroyed her grace, held her in the chains of her pride. She was ever the same. She esteemed persons according to their virtues, not their wealth. Although young in years, she possessed a mind that would have given credit to a person more advanced; and she had already that religion which adds so many charms to a young lady. Her parents were both members of the church, but Jasper, though a pious man, had not passed made a profession. Several days passed away, ere any thing more was known of the new neighbors, for they had given no invitations nor received or made any calls. We will leave them then, and speak of an additional member in the family of farmer Clarkly.

This was a young lady whose name was Bertha. She was cousin to Selina, (their mothers being sisters) and about the same age. She formerly resided in the State of New York, but her parents died a few months previous, within a few days of each other; and being left entirely destitute, she applied to her uncle Clarkly, who immediately wrote, requesting the pious girl to come, and consider his house her home. She came accordingly, to the great joy of Selina, who was happy to find a friend in her cousin. This remained Ervin, that she was a young lady, who was a cousin to Selina. One pleasant evening, soon after her arrival, four persons were seen approaching, who seemed to direct their steps towards a beautiful garden, a little distance from farmer Clarkly's dwelling. Selina and Bertha were seated in a little arbor, situated in one corner of the garden, and could observe all that passed while they were conversed, by the lush clusters of grapes and leaves, that hung pendant over their heads. The strangers stood advanced, and halted until they reached the garden gate. The readers will not be surprised, when we inform them that Mr. and Mrs. Mervington, with their son and daughter, stood admiring the beauties of that lovely, romantic spot.

"How I should like to walk about among those sweet flowers," said Euphrasia; "if it would not be taking too much liberty for strangers, I would ask permission of the owner to gratify my desire." "No doubt it would be granted," returned her father. "Most certainly," answered Selina, with two most winning sweetens, as she and her cousin emerged from the thicket that concealed them; "we are always willing to gratify any person, who possesses a taste for the beauties of nature, with a display of the various flowers we cultivate." The garden gate was thrown open, and each pair walked forth, and the flower-exotic. Selina used her hands by giving them a description of many flowers, to which they listened with unfeigned patience. Some grapes were then plucked by her fair hand, some choice fruit taken from its parent stem, and numerous flowers pulled from the tender stalk, to bestow upon the interested strangers. Many thanks were returned, and Euphrasia was almost lost in ecstasy, for she declared she never saw anything so charming. Jasper was highly delighted, and their parents joined in their admiration.

"You had better walk into the house and rest you, before returning home," said Selina, "you have been walking some time, and must be fatigued." "We are so," answered Mr. Mervington, and will comply with your request. I never felt a good effect, and besides, I am very fatigued. I have much respect for your father was a farmer; so young ladies will walk in a moment if you please, just to obtain an introduction. It is now quite late for an invalid," added he, smiling, and looking at his watch.

They were soon ushered into the parlor, where Julius and Ormand sat reading, and farmer Clarkly, who had just finished his day's work, laid by his farmers' Register and joined them. He was soon followed by his wife, and a short but agreeable visit was the result of their first interview. "We must try to be neighborly, friend Clarkly," said Mr. Mervington, as he approached; "call upon us often, and we will return your calls." The young people would like to examine my cabinet of natural curiosities, no doubt, and I should be happy to exhibit them, as a small return for the gratification we have received this evening."

"Thank you," they unanimously replied, "we shall be happy to call, and will call soon." "There," said farmer Clarkly, after their departure, "there is a happy and interesting family. I never saw more so. They are not pure-blooded fools, who despise the ones who earn for their bread. Not that man is one of a thousand; as the old saying is, he possesses an abundance of wealth, but his judgment—his good qualities would outweigh it all. His wife too—how amiable—how unassuming—a pattern for all her sex. The young man too—I like him much—he is none of your half-witted city-fops, who carry more cash in their pockets than brains in their heads. No! I am glad to see that money does not ruin the good and natural abilities of all young men, and Jasper is certainly one exception. And as for the daughter, she is just what I wish all her sex were, modest, virtuous, and free from all affectation. How sweet, how harmless she looks! and how modest and chaste in all her conversation. I am quite willing, dear children, that you should cultivate acquaintance with such people as these; but Mr. Ward's family are quite different. I do not care to ensure all the family; interrupted Selina impatiently. I think Ervin and Maritza, if known, would be beloved. They certainly do not appear as I once thought, haughty and proud, but mild and amiable. Say you not so, brother Ormand?" "Yes," they only wait the hands of prudence to be broken, and they will appear in a very different light. "No doubt of that," I could see that the time they called here during the storm. I know that neighbor Ward's family management is bad; and his wife is no better, and Anna is like them both; but the other two children, I think, are by nature, different. "Yes, entirely so," repeated the whole family in one voice.

"I pity them all," replied his mother; "I pity their parents for their foolishness in bringing up their children to think themselves superior to all around them, and to consider those who labor daily, however poor, entirely beneath their notice. It is a bad trait in the character of any person, to despise those whom God has not seen fit to bless with an abundance of riches which the breath of heaven can easily destroy. It is, and ever was my desire, to behold, in my children, that sweet simplicity of manners, and virtuous modesty, that will stand the test of time and age; and I have endeavored, as far as in my power, to instill these virtues into your youthful minds. I have taught you to love the character of a Sovereign, ruler of the Universe, to ask of Him grace to sustain, and His Spirit to direct you. I have taught you to love His character, and obey His precepts; we have always encouraged you in every good action and principle, and striven to root out all corrupt and evil tastes; we have warned you against pride and boasting; we have warned you not to despise any person, who you consider below your rank, if they possess the graces of gem, shown in their character; we have encouraged every benevolent feeling and pointed out the necessity of an humble and contrite spirit; and while we have done this, our united prayers have ascended with our efforts, and we feel they are not unanswered." Mrs. Clarkly ceased, and her husband replied, "Yes, I feel our labor is not lost, nor are our prayers wasted upon the ground." "I have heard you say, after which, Selina addressed her cousin thus: "I am sorry, Bertha, you did not appear more cheerful in company with our new neighbors; you looked quite too serious; you know I am very frank to say just what I think."

"I am well aware, that difference claims to large a share of my character;—I wish I could appear with that same ease when in company with strangers, that I feel in the society of my friends."

"Of superior mind and understanding—his wife is all that a wife should be, and their children—I am much pleased with them." "How different Selina appears from her cousin, Bertha," said Euphrasia, "Selina is the sweetest girl I ever saw. She is so winning—so graceful and modest, she does not even seem to imagine that she is handsome."

"If she possessed that knowledge," interrupted Jasper, "one half her beauty might be destroyed. I am glad she is unconscious of her charms." "You speak of Bertha, sister; she is too different—that is all; she looks very interesting and amiable, and when once acquainted her character may shine with rays as brilliant as a her charming cousin, yet for all that, I must own Selina has gained the greatest ascendancy over my feelings, as yet."

"There are many fragrant flowers," answered his mother, "whose beauties are concealed, by their not being able to lift their heads, high as the ones by which they are surrounded. The careless, bestow their praises upon those who shine with the most conspicuous light; while the modest little flowers lie trembling in the shade, till their beauties should be discovered. But the careful observer draws aside the leaves and branches which conceal its petals from view—he inhales the odoriferous perfume—he plucks the modest flower and secures it in bosom."

"Not that I would wish to lessen the charms of the Selina, by my comparison; but still, the modest and unassuming, may be the hidden modest flower, whose charms must be sought, ere they are displayed."

"Thank you, dear mother, for your opinion," said Jasper smiling. "Quite a hint to you brother," returned Euphrasia, archly. All laughed heartily at the remark, at this moment they entered the house. Jasper appeared quite thoughtful, during the rest of the evening. His sister called him a little, upon his appearance—his absent mind—his thoughtful countenance, and the many questions put to him, that went unanswered. He retired early, but could dream of nothing else but beautiful flowers and fairy forms. He arose early the next morning, and the same day found him loitering in Farmer Clarkly's garden, with Julius and Ormand.

He was soon invited to rest himself in the house, and he again found himself seated in the delightful parlor, with his newly made friends around him. The clock struck three, ere he was aware how long his call had been, and rising hastily, he almost abruptly, and unceremoniously took his departure. Every day after this found him in company with farmer Clarkly's sons—now ranging over hill and dale—now walking the high road, and now seated with Selina and Bertha, in the little arbor, in one corner of the garden, or in the social family circle. Sometimes they were joined by Euphrasia, who added much to the little group. At length, courtesy if nothing more, deemed it necessary for the Farmer's family to return the calls made by their new acquaintances, and one pleasant morning, Julius and Ormand, with the two young ladies were ushered into the elegant drawing room of Mr. Mervington.

All expressed their thanks for the favors, and the old gentleman hastened to exhibit his cabinet of curiosities. The young people were highly amused at the grand display of various objects, which never before had met their eye.

A happy hour passed, after which our visitors returned home, with a pressing invitation to call frequently.

"No new love," said Ervin; and speak of a young gentleman and lady, conversing very earnestly in yonder green, secluded bowers. They have met often, of late, though unknown before, to any person but themselves. Both appear quite interested in their conversation, and yet, they look as if their minds were not at ease. The fair maiden blushes—her eyes seek the ground—for her companion is whispering in her ear, the soft strains of undying affection. He tells his hopes—his fears—but still she answers not. He presses her to the point, but she answers not. In the short silence previous, during which the fair girl is wrapt in deep thought, while her companion, sits gazing intently upon the various changes in her sweet countenance—now pale as parrot in marble—now mantled with the modest maidenly blush. At length she broke the silence—she spoke words of hope—for the eyes of her lover brightened. But still she whispers for more time, wherein to tell the most precious secret of her heart. He consents, and thus they separate.

The matter is to be kept a profound secret yet; they agree to this before separation. Reader! this charming girl, if you would know her name, is Selina Clarkly—but who is her companion; no doubt you will readily answer, Jasper Mervington.

But you are mistaken; look now! see you not, in the youth beside the fragile form—the lofty brow—the smiling countenance—of Ervin Ward? Ah! yes, you see him now, for it is him. He is the most tender and unbounded affection for Selina, but does not to speak her name before the family. Maritza alone is his confidant, and this amiable sister dares not encourage his affection, although her heart would bid her do it. She admires Selina, and would gladly acknowledge her as a sister. But she dared not breathe the possibility of such a thing to her sister Anna; for she cannot afford to do so in the most violent passion. Soon after the above events, cards were received, by Ervin and his two sisters, to attend a party given by Mr. Mervington for his children. He wished to have them associate with those around them, for, much, he said, might be learned, by forming new acquaintances.

Accordingly many of the young people of the village, indeed all who bore a respect

to be character, received a card; no distinction was made as regards rank or fortune. Some friend, from the city, were to be present at Mr. Mervington's at the time; of course the coming party with all its attendant train of circumstances, was the theme of the village; and no one anticipated the long wished-for evening, with such feelings as did Anna Ward.

She had longed for an opportunity to become acquainted with the family of Mr. Mervington, ever since their arrival, but so good chance offered her what she so ardently desired. She now wished to attend in order to make a great display of her beauty, with which she intended to decorate herself—and show off her hair upon the city people, for said she, I guess they will find, that some brought up in the country, can appear to as good advantage, as those bred in the city. No doubt they will be surprised, when they find it so. What dress shall I wear, mamma? continued she, O, your figured satin. To be sure, with blond flowers; you look the best in that, and I shall not be ashamed to see you beside any of the company with that dress. "What a fool Maritza was to prefer the plain silk, with out any trimming, to the one like yours! But she is old in her fancies, she is quite too methodical." "I hope she will try and do her best when at the party, for I should consider Mr. Mervington a match for any young lady."

Certainly mamma, and you know, we live in the great world, and must be in the place, and no doubt after an introduction, will be placed first on their list of favorites. How I wish I knew how Miss Euphrasia would be dressed. I would have a flock equal to hers if it cost half our income. "My jewelry is new and of course fashionable. I wish we could prevail on Maritza to wear a few ornaments, but she absolutely refuses to do so."

"She is the most perverse creature I ever saw," Ervin exclaimed. He even said this morning, he did not feel anxious to attend the party, and would not, but for courtesy. I hinted the possibility of becoming a favorite with Miss Euphrasia, but he said he would not exert himself to please her, or any other person."

I really believe Ervin and Maritza have regard as to the company they keep; one is just as good as another, with them, as I did they were a good character. I don't know but they would marry, if any one should speak a word in their favor."

"I have thought so too, and I am not here. Ervin is partial to Selina Clarkly."

"Do you think so? Oh! I cannot—will not believe it."

"But what are your reasons for so thinking?" "Why, I have no particular reason; but he always speaks in her favor, when her name is mentioned—and I saw him direct his steps that way much of late."

"He appears different—and I have noticed him become almost crimson, when any thing was said relative to Farmer Clarkly's family. A'so Ervin and Maritza have considerable private conversations lately, and I am not usually loath to hear any of it."

"Well, I think do look me her expression, I really hope they will not be of the party to-night."

"If I thought they would, I should not be present. Mr. Mervington's family may know once for all, that we do not associate with every little upstart. If they are present I shall not notice them, and I will keep a strict watch upon Ervin."

"Do you certainly mean, and if your surmises are true, care must be taken to break it up immediately."

"We are too far dressing had now arrived, and Anna hastened to complete the toilette. The figured satin was put on, the blonde and the flowers were added—a superb head-dress prepared expressly for the occasion, was gracefully placed on her head—a golden chain to which was attached a watch of the same precious metal was superadded around her neck—earrings, bracelets, rings—and many articles of jewelry, too numerous to mention, were placed according to her taste. Her toilette completed, she surveyed herself from head to foot. She was evidently satisfied with her looks; for the proud beauty smiled, as she turned from her mirror and hastened to meet her sister. She sat quietly reading—but rose as her sister entered, and enquired if she was ready."

"I am certainly, can you not see for yourself? but what are you waiting? Why have you not dressed?" "I have, as you said, can you not see for yourself?" "What! with nothing but a plain muslin frock? for she Maritza! Do you intend to go that? without a decent dress—without a single ornament—but the small rose in your hair and that little pearl in your bosom. Why they will take you for my servant, rather than my sister."

"Let them, if they choose; I shall go as I am, for my dress is all that I can afford to dress but one of us are dressed, and I choose to let you enjoy the whole of it. You have owned yourself that you thought more fair than you are; and you would not wish me to add anything artificial, lest I should excite your jealousy. So, enjoy your trinkets, I'll enjoy the plain muslin frock, without them."

Anna left the room muttering something about her perverse methodical sister.

[CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.]

"Human nature, as old Stapleton said, is human nature; and the very instant you tell the public that a work is indecent and obscene, every body is quietly anxious to know what is said, and by this means the publisher is encouraged in his vile undertaking. The proper course is either to take no notice of it, or make a complaint to the District Attorney."—N. Y. Union.

