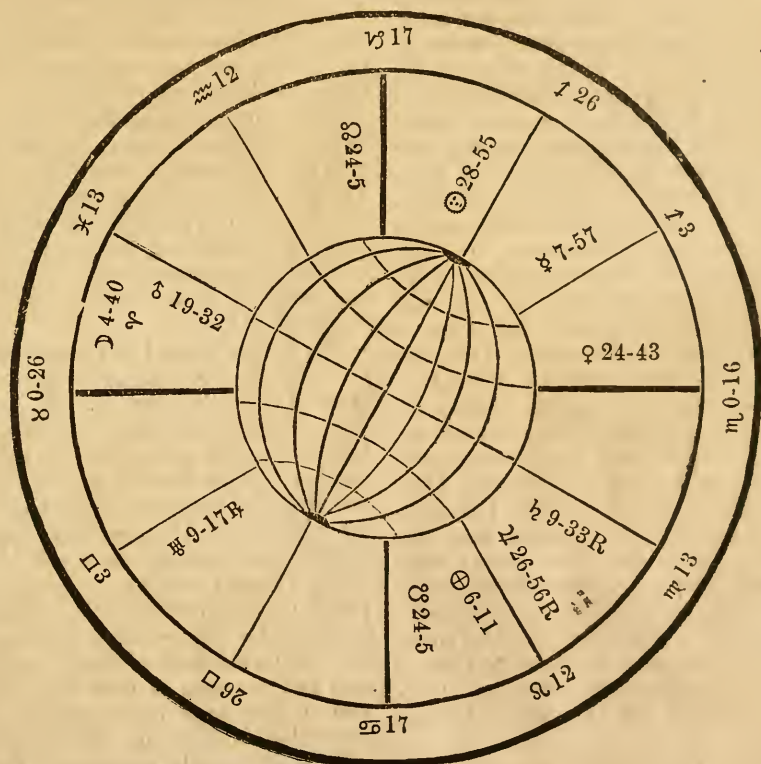


BROUGHTON'S MONTHLY PLANET READER AND ASTROLOGICAL JOURNAL.

L. 2. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY 1, 1861. No. 1.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, December 20th, 1860, 1 h. 15 m. P. M.




What if amidst the shining stars serene,
 n's fate be written? What, if each circling
 [sphere
 close to mental view the far and dark unseen!
 is seemeth strange, yet **NOTH** to **SOME** appear."
 South Carolina declared her Independence
 on the 20th of December, 1860, at
 minutes past 1 o'clock in the afternoon,
 en 17 degrees of Capricorn was culmi-
 ning, and the first degree of Taurus was

ascending. Venus is lady of the scheme,
 and is in the seventh house, (the house of
 war) in evil aspect to Jupiter. Saturn is
 lord of the tenth house, (which denotes the
 governing party.) and it is in evil aspect
 to the planets Mercury and Herschel—
 Herschel is in Gemini, the ruling sign of
 the United States. What fearful omens are
 these? I tremble almost to attempt to un-

ravel the signs of heaven, civil war is portended, and I am afraid that things will be in an unsettled condition for some years. But South Carolina will be the greatest sufferer, as she will be greatly in want of means to maintain her soldiers, and her people will be very much dissatisfied with the new government on account of the high taxation. But we are of the opinion that the union is broken never to be united again.

We might here remark, for the satisfaction of the skeptic, that the sign Gemini rules the United States, and when Herschel entered that sign for good in the Spring of 1775, the *American Revolution broke out*, and on the 4th of July, 1776, when the Americans declared their Independence, the planet Herschel was nine degrees in Gemini, and in the Spring of 1782, the planet Herschel got out of Gemini for good and entered into Cancer, and in Hale's History of the United States, we find this sentence—"early in the Spring of 1782, pacific overtures were accordingly made to the American government, and both nations desisted from hostile measures. It takes about 84 years for Herschel to perform one revolution round the heavens, and that planet entered Gemini again for good in April, 1859, and in November, 1859, the Harper's Ferry affair broke out, when Herschel was 7 degrees in Gemini, within 2 degrees of the same place that he was in, when the Declaration of Independence was made; and on the 20th of December, 1860, when South Carolina declared her Independence, the planet Herschel was just in the very same degree that it was when the United States of America declared their Independence. The union has just lasted one revolution of the planet Herschel round the heavens, and until Herschel gets out of Gemini, which will not be before July, 1865, we do not look for any PEACE for this country.

 We had intended publishing the Nativity of Hon. James Buchanan, in this month's number, but we are compelled to defer it until our next issue.

We have a few back Numbers of the "Monthly Planet Reader" left, so that any one wishing to take it from the commencement can do so, by sending to the publisher's residence for them. Price 4 cents a copy.

THE FATE OF THE NATION

For the Winter Quarter of 1861.

"I'll not believe that the flower that pranks
Our garden borders, or our common banks;
And the least stone that in her warming lap,
Our mother earth doth covetously wrap,
Hath some peculiar virtue of its own,
And that the Stars of Heaven have none."

The Winter quarter commenced at hours and 50 minutes on the morning the 21st of December, 1860. When degrees of Capricorn is on the ascendant Venus is in the tenth house, in square Jupiter in the seventh. Saturn is lord the scheme, and is in the eighth house square to Herschel in the fifth.

These are evil significations, and the foreshadow much distress, trouble and turmoil for the United States, if not *civil war*. The government is in a very unsettled condition, and the President and those in office are at their wit's end, and the public show marked disapprobation at their wavering and delay of action with regard to the Southern States.

But before the end of the month, I look for some decided change in the policy of Hon. James Buchanan, as the square of Jupiter and Venus indicates that he will be in danger of going from one extreme to another. And the evil aspect of Saturn and Herschel foreshadows much excitement throughout the United States, and I am fearful that there will be much bloodshed before January rolls by. The greatest depression of commerce is felt—a lack of employment for the working classes—and a very depressed state of things exists; sickness and mortality is most rife, and I fear that in our large cities serious cases of starvation will occur. Theft and crime will be alarmingly prevalent. Bankruptcy and insolvencies will be on the increase, fires and riots will be too frequent, and general dissatisfaction will spread throughout the Nation.

I look for news from England of a very exciting nature. The fiery planet Mars entering Aries, England's ruling sign, and in evil aspect to Mercury, foretokens much excitement in that Nation. Trade and

commerce are stopped, and many public meetings are held, and mens minds are sadly disturbed. In short the British Lion is around, and the people are calling for reform, and there will be much danger of them exceeding prudent discussion.

Jupiter in Leo, the ruling sign of France and Italy, will cause peace and prosperity in those lands. But the Turkish empire is afflicted, and there will be sudden changes therein connected with religious matters.

(Continued from page 72, No 9. Vol. 1st.)

THE LOST FACULTY, Or, the Sixth Sense. COLONEL GARDINER.

The case of Colonel Gardiner is too well known and accredited to require any argument in confirmation of its truth. His life, written by Dr. Doddridge, from memoranda dictated by himself, gives a full account of the extraordinary phenomenon attending his conversion; and nothing can be more clear and certain than that the immediate occupation of his mind and thoughts, as well as the whole previous tenor of his life, were anything rather than calculated to superinduce a train of ideas tending to such a result. He had made, for that very evening, an assignation with a married woman of rank, and was awaiting in his study the hour of his appointment, having taken up a book for the purpose of passing away the time. Whether he had fallen asleep, or not, he could not tell; but he suddenly became conscious of the presence of an apparition, which at once arousing him, fixed his attention, and in one moment changed the entire current of his thoughts, desires, and future existence.

He beheld, surrounded with a halo of light, the figure of the Saviour on the Cross, which addressed him, as he believed, in an audible voice, to the effect, "Have I suffered this for thee?" From that moment the Colonel became an altered man, and devoted himself to the promotion of that cause which hitherto he had set at naught.— Without abandoning his profession as a soldier, he became one of the most eminent of Christians, and an eloquent and successful advocate of the Christian faith. His whole after life was one continuous and

constant exemplification of the religion he professed; and his enemies themselves being judges, no man exhibited a demeanor more blameless, or conduct more honorable; and whatever skeptics may have to say, of cavil, in depreciation of the circumstances which produced the change, it cannot be denied, that so far as the individual was concerned, the object attained was fully commensurate with the means by which it was accomplished; and unless a substantial reason can be adduced for the change in Colonel Gardiner's life, irrespective of the cause he has himself assigned for it, it will ever be considered by rational persons an interposition of Providence, to bring him to repentance.

A friend of the writer's, who formerly resided at Bath, had related to him the following account; calling one day, about 1 o'clock, upon a lady of his acquaintance, who resided at a short distance from the city, upon entering the garden from an outside gate, he saw the lady standing in the middle of the garden with a child in her arms; but in such a state of terror and trembling that she seemed ready to let it fall, and sink herself to the ground. On his approaching to address her, she exclaimed in agitation, "O, Mr. S., I have had such a dreadful alarm. A few minutes ago I heard my father's voice, distinctly calling 'Eleanor! Eleanor!' and on turning round, I saw him coming into the garden through the gate. I instantly went to meet him, but on going round those lilacs to the place where I saw him coming towards me, he was not there, nor can I find him at all in the garden."

Our friend endeavored to calm her mind, by representing that it must have been an imaginary appearance; and although she still persisted in asserting that she both saw her father (who was living in Wales, at the distance of eighty or ninety miles from Bath,) and distinctly heard his voice, she became more composed, and seemed to think it possible it might have been an optical illusion. By the next morning's post, however, she received a letter informing her that her father had died at his own house in Wales, at the very moment in which the apparition had been seen by her in the garden.

A private friend of the writer, residing in Dublin, had a brother who was a sailor,

and had gone to the East Indies. She was expecting him home, and one morning, as she was about leaving the drawing-room to go down stairs, she saw her brother coming up towards her, with the water apparently dripping from his clothes and hair. In amazement she exclaimed, "Why, William, where have you been, and what have you been doing to yourself?"

Whilst she was speaking the apparition vanished, leaving her in the utmost astonishment and perplexity. When she recovered herself, she wrote down the day and hour in which the spectre appeared. In the course of a few months she received a letter from the captain of the ship in which her brother had sailed, announcing to her the melancholy fact that he had been accidentally drowned on the very day and hour in which the apparition had presented itself to her in Dublin.

LORD TYRONE AND LADY BERESFORD.

These noble personages were born in Ireland. They were left orphans in their infancy, to the care of the same person, by whom they were both educated in the principles of Deism. When they were each about fourteen years of age, they fell into very different hands. The person on whom the care of them devolved used every possible endeavor to eradicate the erroneous principles they had imbibed, and to persuade them to embrace the revealed religion, which they refused. The arguments used were insufficient to convince them, though they were powerful enough to stagger their former faith. Though now separated from each other, their friendship remained unalterable, and they continued to regard each other with a sincere and fraternal affection. After some years had elapsed, and they were each of them grown up, they made a solemn promise to each other, that whichever should first die, would, if permitted, appear to the other, to declare which religion was most approved by the Supreme Being.

Lady Beresford was shortly afterwards addressed by Sir Marcus Beresford, to whom, after a few years, she was married. But no change in her condition had power to alter her friendship for Lord Tyrone. The families visited each other, and often spent more than a fortnight together. A

short time after one of these visits, Sir Marcus remarked, when his lady came to breakfast in the morning, that her countenance was unusually pale, and bore evident marks of terror and confusion. He inquired anxiously after her health; she assured him she was well, perfectly well. He repeated his inquiries, and begged to know if anything had disordered her? She replied no, she was as well as usual.

"Have you hurt your wrist? have you sprained it?" said he, remarking a black ribbon bound round it. She replied,

"No, she had not;" but added, "Let me conjure you, Sir Marcus, never to inquire the cause of my wearing this ribbon; you will never more see me without it. If it concerned you as a husband to know it, I would not for a moment conceal it from you. I never in my life denied you a request; but of this I must entreat you to forgive me a refusal, and never to urge me further on this subject."

"Very well, my lady," said he, smiling, "since you so earnestly desire me, I shall inquire no further."

The conversation here ended; but breakfast was scarcely over, when Lady Beresford inquired if the post was come. She was told it was not. In a few moments she again rung the bell for her servant, and repeated the inquiry:

"Is the post come in?"

She was told it was not.

"Do you expect any letters?" said Sir Marcus, "that you are so anxious respecting the coming of the post?"

"I do," she answered; "I expect to hear that Tyrone is dead. He died last Tuesday, at four o'clock."

"I never in my life," said Sir Marcus, "believed you superstitious; but you must have had some uneasy, idle dream, which has thus alarmed and terrified you."

At that instant a servant opened the door, and delivered to them a letter sealed with black.

[To be continued.]

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BROUGHTON'S MONTHLY PLANET READER AND ASTROLOGICAL JOURNAL.

Vol. 2.

PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 1, 1861.

No. 2.

THE PLANET HERSCHEL IN THE SIGN GEMINI.

In the January Number of the Planet Reader, we stated that the sign Gemini rules the United States, and that when the planet Herschel entered that sign in 1775, the American Revolution broke out, and when Herschel got nine degrees in Gemini, the Americans declared their Independence, and when Herschel got out of that Sign and entered into Cancer in 1782, overtures for peace were made by the British Government which were accepted, and both nations resisted from hostile measures. And we went on to show that when Herschel entered Gemini again in 1859, that the present difficulties commenced by the Harper's Ferry affair breaking out, and when Herschel got to NINE DEGREES in that sign, South Carolina, declared her Independence, and since our last issue there have other three of the Southern States followed the same course.

As it is said by Astrologers that when the Planet Herschel transits over any particular place in a Nativity, such as over the tenth house, or over the Sun's place, &c., it produces remarkable changes and unsettledness for that person; and likewise when it is traveling through any sign which rules any particular nation or country, it produces very remarkable changes and unsettledness in that nation or country. It perhaps will not be uninteresting to the reader, and to the student of Astrology, to refer back to the time when Herschel entered Gemini previous to 1775, which was in the year 1691, to see whether it produced any remarkable effects in this country at that time or not, and to avoid any unfairness or equivocation, we will let history speak for itself.

"In the mean time, a new charter had been granted to Massachusetts, which added Plymouth, Maine, and Nova Scotia, to her territory.

"The king, to render the new charter more acceptable, appointed Sir William Phipps, a native of the province, governor, and in 1692, he arrived at Boston. The new government went into operation without any opposition from the inhabitants; and almost the first act of Sir William Phipps and his council, was the institution of a court to try the unfortunate victims of popular delusion, accused of witchcraft, at Salem.

"In February, 1692, a daughter and a niece of Mr. Paris, the minister of Salem, were afflicted with disorders affecting their bodies in the most singular manner. The physicians, unable to account for their contortions, pronounced them bewitched; and the children, hearing of this, declared that an Indian woman, who lived in the house, was the cause of their torments. Mr. Paris concurred with the physicians. Several private fasts were kept at his house, and the gloom was increased by a solemn fast throughout the colony.

"The Indian woman confessed herself guilty. The children were visited, noticed and pitied. This encouraged them to persevere, and other children, either from sympathy or the desire of similar attentions, exhibited similar contortions. A distracted old woman, and one who had been a long time confined to her bed, were added to the list of the accused; and, in the progress of the infatuation, women of mature age united with the children in their accusations.

"The accused were multiplied in proportion to the accusers. Children accused their parents, and parents their children. A word from those who were supposed to be afflicted, occasioned the arrest of the devoted victim; and so firmly convinced were the magistrates, that the prince of darkness was in the midst of them, using human instruments to accomplish his purposes, that the slightest testimony was deemed sufficient to justify a commitment for trial.

"The court, especially instituted for this purpose, held a session in June, and afterwards several others by adjournment. Many were tried, and received sentence of death. A few pleaded guilty. Several were convicted upon testimony, which, at other times, would not have induced suspicion of an ordinary crime, and some upon testimony retracted after conviction. Nineteen were executed, and many yet remained to be tried.

"At this stage of the proceedings, the legislature established, by law, a permanent court, by which the other was superseded, and fixed a distant day for its first session at Salem. In the mean time, the accusations multiplied, and additional jails were required to hold the accused. The impos-

ters, hardened by impunity and success, ascended from decrepid old women, to respectable characters, and at length, in their ravings, named ministers of the gospel, and even the wife of the governor.

"The community were thrown into consternation. Each felt alarm for himself, his family, and friends. The shock roused them to reflection. They considered more closely the character of the accusers; the nature of the alleged crime; the testimony, often contradictory and never explicit; and more than all these, the high standing of some who were implicated; and began to doubt whether they had not been too credulous and precipitate.

"At the next term, the grand jury found indictments against fifty; but, on trial, all were acquitted except three, and them the governor reprimed. He also directed that all who were in prison should be set at liberty. A belief, however, of the truth of the charges, still lingered among the people, and prevented any prosecution of the imposters. That all were impostors, cannot be believed. Many must have acted under the influence of a disordered imagination, which the attendant circumstances were well calculated to produce.

"Besides establishing courts of justice, the legislature, at its first session under the new charter, passed a law which indicates the same independent spirit that afterwards resisted the usurpations of the British parliament. It provided that no tax should be imposed upon any of his majesty's subjects, or their estates, in the province, but by the act and consent of the governor, council, and representatives of the people, in general court assembled. It is almost superfluous to say, that this law was disallowed by the king.

"The war with the French and the Indians, which began in 1690, was not yet terminated. For seven years were the frontier settlements harassed by the savages; and the English employed in expeditions against them. A history of these would consist only of repeated accounts of Indian cunning and barbarity, and of English enterprise and fortitude. *Peace between England and France, which took place in 1697,* was soon followed by peace with the savages.†*"

For want of room we are compelled to break off here, but intend taking this subject up again in our next issue, and endeavor to prove that the planets have some influence on Mundane affairs, and now that the planet Herschel is transitting through Gemini again, its influence is manifest, in the state of excitement in which the people of the United States are now in, and, although there are no poor old women that people call WITCHES living now to make laws to imprison and hang, yet Mr. Moore, at Harrisburg, is trying to play the

* This year Herschel got out of Gemini, and entered Cancer.

† Male's History of the United States.—Page 45.

same farce over again, by bringing forward a law to imprison and fine the fortune-tellers. However much the Legislature at Harrisburg may busy themselves in enacting laws to prosecute Astrology, at this time, it is one of the strongest proof in favor of the influence of the planets that we have met with for a long time. But now when *civil war*, with all its horror and dreadful calamities, is at our very doors, and the people are looking with intense interest to the Legislature to do something to avert it, it brings to mind an affair that took place in the House at Harrisburg, some years ago, when one of the members was trying to bring forward a law to put down fortune-telling, on which a very sensible man got up and asked the question, *have we nothing else to do when we come here, but to make laws to stop a young girl from going to an old woman to have her fortune told?*

THE FATE OF THE NATION

For February, 1861.

The Luration from which we make our predictions for February, took place on the 26th of January, at 5 minutes after 1 o'clock at noon, when 26 degrees of Taurus was ascending, and the 6th degree of Aquarius was culminating. Venus is Lady of the scheme, and Herschel is in the first house, in square to Saturn in the fourth. These are significations of an evil nature. We do not look for any settlement of the present difficulties between the slaveholding and free states, but rather the squaring aspect of Saturn and Herschel will cause the breach to grow wider, and we are afraid that some fatal blow will be struck by the seceding States, or by the general Government, before February comes in. The members of Congress and the Senate are at their wits end, and the public are growing dissatisfied with their rulers. The stationary position of Herschel in Gemini about the middle of the month, portends something very doleful for the United States, and we look for some particular change in the government or in their proceedings about that time. Trade and commerce still keeps dull, and poverty, want and sickness are too prevalent among the lower classes, and we look for heavy fall

res among the manufacturers and business people.

About the 6th and 14th days, some remarkable aspects will take place, and I fear there will be much destruction of life and property, round our coasts near these days.

News from England arrives of a doleful nature, business is dull, and provisions high, and there will be many large meetings, and perhaps riots will afflict that country. Mars entering into Taurus about the 18th day, will cause much excitement and perhaps riots in Ireland.

Jupiter in the sign Leo, will preserve peace in France and Italy, for some weeks to come, yet we look for another war on the continent before long.

All those persons born about the 28th of February, May, August and November, in any year, will feel the evil effects of Saturn and Herschel in evil aspect to their sun's place; let these persons take care of their health; and money, and business affairs, for the next three months to come, and not make any removals, or changes in business, as it will be an unfortunate time for them.

(Continued from page 3, No. 1. Vol. 2.)

THE LOST FACULTY, Or, the Sixth Sense.

"It is as I expected," said Lady Beresford, "he is dead!"

Sir Marcus opened the letter. It was from Lord Tyrone's steward, and it contained the melancholy intelligence of his master's death on the Tuesday preceding, at the very hour Lady Beresford had specified. Sir Marcus entreated her to compose her spirits, and to endeavor, as much as possible, not to make herself unhappy. She assured him she felt much easier in her mind than she did for some time past, and added:

"I can communicate to you intelligence which I know will prove welcome. I can assure you beyond the possibility of a doubt that I am soon to have a son."

Sir Marcus received the intelligence with that pleasure that might be expected, and expressed in the strongest terms the felicity he should experience from such an event, which he had so long ardently desired.

After a period of some months, Lady Beresford was delivered of a son. She had before been the mother of two daughters only. Sir Marcus survived the birth of his son little more than four years. After his decease, his lady went out little from home. She visited no family but that of a clergyman, who resided in the same village, with whom she frequently passed a few hours; the rest of her time was entirely spent in solitude, and she appeared forever determined to banish all other society. The clergyman's family consisted of himself, his wife and one son, who, at Sir Marcus' death, was quite a youth. To this son, however, she was afterwards married, in the space of a few years; and the manifest imprudence of such a connection, so unequal in every respect, was but too well deprecated by all her friends.

The event justified the expectation of every one. Lady Beresford was treated by her young husband with neglect and cruelty, and the whole of his conduct evinced him to be the most abandoned libertine, utterly destitute of every principle of virtue and humanity. To this, her second husband, Lady Beresford bore two daughters. Afterwards, such was the profligacy of his conduct, that she insisted on a separation. They parted for several years; when, so great was the contrition he expressed for his former ill conduct, that won over by his supplications and promises, she was induced to pardon and once more reside with him; and was, after some time, made the mother of a son.

A month after that occurrence, being the anniversary of her birthday, she sent for Lady —, of whose friendship she had long been possessed, and a few other friends, to request them to spend the day with her. About noon, the clergyman by whom she had been baptised, and with whom she had all her life maintained an intimacy, came into the room to inquire after her health. She told him she felt perfectly well, and requested him to spend the day with her, it being her birthday—"for," said she, "I am forty-eight this day.

"No, my Lady," said the clergyman, "you are mistaken. Your mother and myself have had many disputes concerning your age, and I have at length discovered I am right. Happening to go last week

to the parish you were born in, I was resolved to put an end to my doubts, by searching the register; and I found that you are forty-seven this day."

"You have signed my death warrant," said she, "and I have not much longer to live; I must, therefore, entreat you to leave immediately, as I have something of importance to settle before I die."

When the clergyman had left Lady Beresford, she sent to forbid the company coming; and at the same time to request Lady —— and her eldest son, of whom Sir Marcus Beresford was father, and who was then about twelve years old, to come to her apartment. Immediately upon their arrival, having ordered her attendants to quit the room, "I have something to communicate to you, before I die," said she, "an event which is not far distant. You, my lady, are no stranger to the friendship which subsisted between Lord Tyrone and myself. We were educated under the same roof, in the same principles—those of Deism. When the friends into whose hands we afterwards fell endeavored to persuade us to embrace the revealed religion, their arguments, though insufficient to convince us, were powerful enough to shake our faith, and to leave us wavering between the two opinions. In this state of perplexing doubt and uncertainty, we made a solemn promise to each other, that whichever should happen to die first, would, if permitted by the Almighty, appear to the other, to declare which religion was most acceptable to Him. Accordingly, one night, when Sir Marcus and myself were in bed, I awoke, and discovered Lord Tyrone sitting by my bedside. I screamed out, and endeavored to awaken Sir Marcus, but in vain.

"For Heaven's sake, Lord Tyrone," said I, by what means, or for what purpose, came you here at this time of night?"

"Have you forgot your promise?" said he. "I died last Tuesday, at four o'clock, and have been permitted by the Supreme Being to appear to you, to assure you that the revealed religion is true, and the only religion by which you can be saved. I am further suffered to inform you that you are now with child of a son, who, it is decreed, shall marry my daughter. Not many years after his birth Sir Marcus will die, and you

will marry again, and to a man by whose ill-treatment you will be rendered miserable. You will bring him two daughters and afterwards a son, in child-bed of whom you will die, in the 47th year of your age.

"Just Heaven!" exclaimed I, "and can not I prevent this?"

"Undoubtedly, you may," resumed he. "You have free agency, and may prevent it all by resisting every temptation to second marriage. But your passions are strong; you know not their power; hitherto you have had no trial, nor am I permitted further to tell you. But if, after this warning, you persist in your infidelity your lot in another world, will be miserable."

"May I ask," said I, "if you are happy?"

"Had I been otherwise," said he, "should not be permitted to appear to you."

"I may thence infer that you are happy?" He smiled. "But how," said I, "when morning comes, shall I be convinced that your appearance thus to me has been real, and not the mere phantom of my own imaginations?"

"Will not the news of my death," said he, "be sufficient to convince you?"

"No," returned I, "I might have had such a dream, and that dream accidentally come to pass. I wish to have some stronger proof of its reality."

"You shall," said he, waving his hand. The bedcurtains, which were of common velvet, were instantly drawn through a large iron hoop, by which the tester of the bed, which was of an oval form was suspended. "In that," said he, "you cannot be mistaken; no mortal could have performed this."

"True," said I, "but sleeping, we are often possessed of far greater power than awake. Though awake, I could not have done it; asleep I might. I shall still doubt."

"He then said, 'You have a pocket-book, on the leaves of which I will write; you know my hand writing?' "I replied, 'Yes.' He wrote with pencil on one side of the leaves. 'Still,' said I, 'in the morning I may doubt that, though awake I could not imitate your hand, asleep I might.'

"You are hard to believe," said he; "I must not touch you; it would injure you irreparably it is not for spirit to touch mortal flesh."

"I do not regard a small blemish," said I.

"Hold out your hand."

"I did so, and he touched my wrist. His hand was as cold as marble. In a moment the sinews of my arm shrunk up, and every nerve withered."

"Now," said he, "whilst you live, let no mortal eye behold that wrist; to see it would be sacrilege." He stopped. I turned to him again, but he was gone!

[To be continued.]