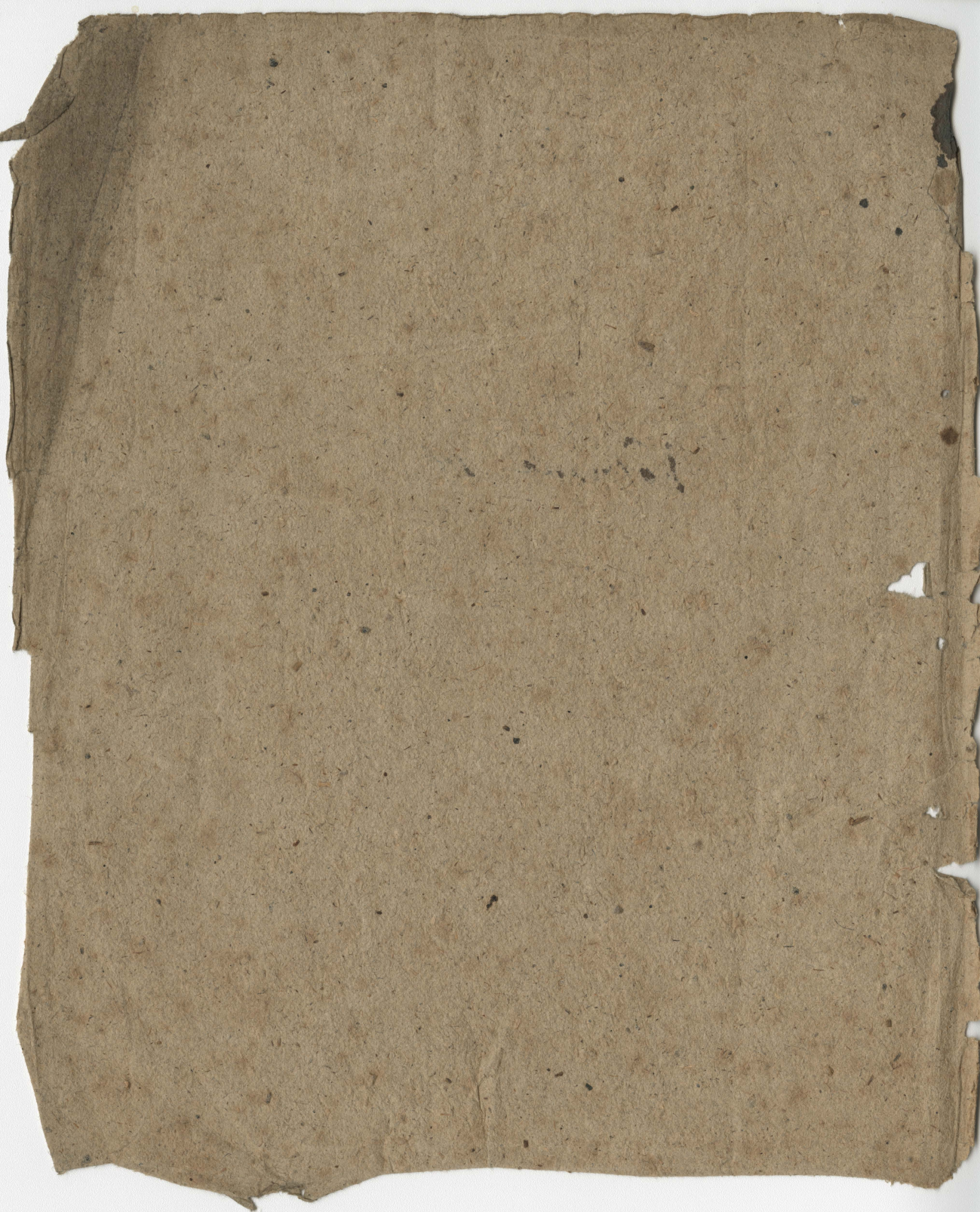


Volume 1st



Novels. Plays. and Poems.

Written for the instruction

Of People of all ages. by

Sophia Elizabeth Burney

Aged 13 years.

In three Volumes

Volume 1st

Who'er you are that read this Book,
Do not fail in it to look;
Here you'll find some lessons wise,
Which may be to you a prize.
Keep them ever in your head,
And don't forget them till you're dead.

Humbly dedicated without permission to
Mrs D'Arbly.

The History of Blind Jack A pathetic Tale.

There was once upon a time a Jack ass who had two young ones. of whom I will give you a fair description. The first who was called great Jack was very handsome, only he had a blindness in one eye, which became him very well. The second, who was called little Jack by way of distinction, had not so stupid a look, & was if possible rather handsomer than his Brother, but they were both fine Beasts. one day the old ass & her two young ones went to graze upon a Common hard by, where they found a Wolf. The old ass & little Jack trotted home, but great Jack having but one eye did not perceive his danger till he was carried to the dwelling of the Wolf, where there was a young Wolf, who called him Monsieur Borgne, because of his eye. they made him go of all their errands which poor Monsieur Borgne not liking, betthought himself to run away. but this was prevented, for the two Wolves going out in search of Prey, desired Jack to follow them; as they were strutting along they met a goat, who was upon the same errand as themselves. the old wicked Wolf caught him and flinging him upon our Hero's shoulders

Commanded him to carry ^{her} ~~the~~ ~~one~~, while the two
Masters walked on before in state.

Meanwhile the spiteful Goat poked one of his
horns into honest Jacks eye. (The only one he
had poor lad) which made him throw Nanny off
his back, who made her escape.

The two Wolves finding their companion useless, left
him to his blindness. When our Hero found himself
bereft of his last eye, together with all his friends,

he began to bewail his loss, which in fact was
nothing, as he never had had a real friend in his
life. as he stumbled along, he had the good luck to
meet the same spiteful Goat that had blinded him.

But he was no longer the same spiteful Goat.

for having been home & told all that had happened
to her Mother, the old Goat insisted upon her making
our Jack some amends. Now as Nanny did not like

to give Jack one of her own eyes, she did not know

how to lesson the affront, but by conducting him to

his home. she was afraid of going with him, for

fear some of Jacks relations should revenge the

loss of his eye, neither could she send him by

himself, for our Hero was stone blind. She was

obliged at last to go with him herself. for which

Jack thanked her in the best terms.

When they arrived at the house, our Hero began
to bray with Joy. but he soon brayed with Grief.

upon hearing that his Mother had died with grief
at having lost so good, so blind, a Son! little Tack
had taken possession of the house, ever since the
death of his Mother, & would not let great Tack
come in, but hunted him away, because of his
blindness. calling him Monsieur Avenge, for he
was no longer Monsieur Borgne. our Hero then
called at every house he came to, to ask if they would
take him as a Servant. but he was refused by all
because of his blindness. he was then tired of the
World and heartily wished himself out of it.
his wish was for once in his life granted him.
for he came to a Pond, which he not seeing, fell
in, which was a great comfort to him, as it
ended his wretched life. This Piece of News soon
spread all over the Neighbourhood. Little Tack
hearing of it, thought it was a Story, & came to
examine the Pond; but seeing one of Tacks legs
poking out, he was afraid the lie was true.
& leaning over, & being off his balance, he fell
in, & was drowned! so there was an end of
three pretty Asses, only because one
happened to be Borgne!

The Unlawful Marriage

A Tale

There was once a poor man who had three children. Their names were Harry, Benny, & Jenny. & as he could not afford to keep them at home, he sent them to school. The Governess was a very excellent old Woman, but mean and greedy. They had not been with her long, before Harry by some misbehaviour displeased his worthy old Governess, who was enraged at the least thing. She immediately turned him out of doors. & the young man going towards the Sea side, saw a very little Boat at a distance, he waited till it came nearer, when it proved to be a very large ship. He immediately embarked, where wishing him a good Voyage, will return to Jenny & Benny. as for Benny he sat out after his Brother, but his foot slipping he died instantly. Jenny was now in despair, but the return of Harry soon put an end to her sorrow. may, their happiness was so great that they married the next day. — but it being Unlawful for Brother & Sister to marry, they were Gibbeted & stuck upon a Common. but I forgot to mention the good, old, worthy, respectable, but mean & greedy Governess.

whom we left in a passion. some of her best friends hearing that she had occasioned the death of her three pupils, informed against her. she was then put into prison, where she ended her days which were few. so there ends our happy tale.

Murder Prevented.

A Comedy.

In 1 Act and 2 scenes.

Dramatis Personae

Men

Mr Fum. a Gentleman

Old Bogo. another Gentleman

Women

Mrs Fum a Lady & Wife to Fum

Mrs Bogo another Lady & Wife to Bogo.

A Servant.

Act 1st Scene 1st

A Servant crosses the stage & exit.

Scene 2^d

Enter old Bogo

Highday who's been here?

Scene 3^d

Enter Mrs Fum

A fine morning Sir.

(Exit Mrs Fum)

Scene 4th

Old Bogo and Mr Fum.

Fum) Your servant Sir. how's your old Wife Sir?

Old B.) My old Wife Sir? I challenge you to combat.

Fum) Done Sir.

Scene 5th

Old Bogo. Mr Fum. Mrs Bogo

Old B. aside to Fum) I must give up the Battle I see,
for here's my Wife (Bogo sneaks off)

Scene 6th

Mrs Bogo and Mr Fum

Mrs B.) I heard what you were saying Mr Fum, & I
desire you will give the Battle up. for I never
suffer my husband to be killed on my account.

Fum) I shall certainly give it if if you desire it Ma'am.

Scene 7th

Mrs Bogo solus.

So — I have prevented Murder.

I think I Deserve some reward.

{Exit Mrs B.

Murder Committed

A Tragedy.

In 2 Acts and 1 scene.

Dramatis Personae.

Mogul Middletail
Governor Gemslack

Captain Dowsy
A man or two
Women

Martha Middletail
A Maid or two.

Act 1st Scene 1st

Enter Mogul Middletail & Martha Middletail

Mogul | Well daughter, how do you like Governor Gemstade?

Mar | Not at all Father.

Mog | I am surprized — I thought you loved him.

Mar | You mistake. — he is my aversion.

Mog | Why so?

Mar | He is mean. But why do you ask?

Mog | I have my reasons. The young man came
to me this morning & propos'd a match, to
which I consented, & we fix'd to morrow for the
Wedding day. so prepare yourself for I wont
have him dissappointed. (Exit Mogul)

Scene 11

Martha Middletail

I am determin'd to disappoint him whatsoever
may be the consequence. for my heart has long
been given to the Charming Dowsy. here he comes.

Scene 111

Martha Middletail & Captain Dowsy.

Capt | Your servant Miss Middletail.

I am afraid I disturb your meditations.
Mar] Not in the least. I pray you walk in Sir.
Capt] If I thought I did. I should immediately
annihilate myself.

Mar] Alas Dear Dowsy!
My Father has given my hand to a man whom I ^{atheor}
Capt] Oh! that I could annihilate myself!

Mar] Here is the Mogul — hide yourself.
{Exit Capt Dowsy

Scene 4th

Mogul and Martha

Mog] What spark was that Miss Martha?

Mar] Only Captain Dowsy.

Mog] Who is Capt Dowsy?

Mar] A fine young man of my acquaintance.
next to yourself he is my dearest friend.

Mog] Are you prepared to marry Governor Gemstack?

Mar] No, I am engaged to Capt. Dowsy.

Mog] There then is your punishment ingrate —
So — I have committed Murder! {Stabs her.
I think I deserve to be hanged. {Exit Mogul

Scene V

Enter Governor Gemstack

Gov] Who has killed my destined Bride?
Daze her! She has killed herself to avoid being
my Wife. (Draws the sword out of her & Exit)

Scene VI

Enter Captain Dowsy.

She is dead! Gemstack has killed her
Wretched miserable Dowsy! {Stabs himself}

Enter a Man or two & a Maid or two
to take off the Bodies.

The Curtain Drops.

The Adventures of a Boy.

A mere Boy, not worth describing, on an occasion
not worth mentioning, sallied forth in quest of
adventures, scarce worth relating. & crossing a
Sea which he found in his way, he perceived
to his utter astonishment and dismay, that he
was not unlike a drowned Rat. This misfortune
deprived him of six of his senses, the remaining
one he employed in discovering what Country
he was in. it proved to be England. he therefore
hastened to a booksellers which he perceived at a
distance and borrowed Books enough to supply
him with the English language, which he soon
learnt. Thus accomplished, he went to return
the Books which his friend the Bookseller
had lent him; but in crossing a ditch which
obstructed his way, his foot was on the Point
of slipping (in which case he would have died

instantly) when a young Man approached the place where he was. Our Hero craved his assistance in the most awful terms. It was granted him but not without hesitation; "shall I (said the stranger to himself) endanger my own precious life for the less precious life of another? no — he was going to add, when the awful voice of our Hero again craved his assistance. after some further hesitation (for he had an aversion to the job. he presented him with the end of his stick, by which means our Hero (I am happy to inform my readers) arrived on the other side in perfect health. and he had soon the satisfaction of returning the compliment, by helping his friend over the next ditch they came to. under mutual obligations to each other their time passed a greatly they soon reached the Booksellers, when our Hero recollecting that he had lost the Books which were lent him, in the ditch, he flew to hide himself in a wood hard by. followed by his new acquaintance. here they passed the night; the next morning, our Hero observed a sudden dulness spread over the visage of his companion. he enquired the cause with a benignant smile, & a slight inclination of the head. he was answered with a Modest sigh & a graceful Bow, in the following affecting though concise terms.

"I have lost my Brother." our Hero answered with Pathos, "I have likewise lost mine". They looked at each other again, & found they were the Brothers they had lost. Our Hero then enquired after his family, & was answered in the following precise terms.

"The morning after your departure, by order of my Father, I hunted every corner of the County for you. but in vain. we had you cried about the streets, advertized in the papers, & sent as many expresses as we could afford in search of you. but they all returned as ignorant as they set out. My Father again sent me in search of you, with orders of the strictest nature, to bring you back with me, or to return no more. I hope therefore, you will make up your mind to going home, as I have no means of living here". This speech rendered our Hero immoveable, as he preferred any thing to going home. where he expected a flogging.

his Brother perceiving his reluctance, to oblige him said, "I have saved your life. you may now without impropriety save mine." while our Hero was meditating on his situation, his Brother recollected that he had a Wife. which he communicated to his Brother in the following precise terms.

"I forgot in my interesting Narrative to mention that during my search after you, I met with a

Young woman of the following description —

— pretty. we agreed to marry. which was soon accomplished. & we inhabited a hut not far from hence. and my Wife stole a dog, by way of an humble Companion. This description of his Brothers felicity raised great curiosity in the mind of our Hero to see all he boasted of. & they were preparing to go to the Hut, when the sound of distant voices deterred them. when all was quiet the young Men walked fearfully along, till they reached the Hut. But the Boys were immovable upon their entrance to find it empty. the aforementioned Wife & Dog were gone, together with all the goods. our Hero now began to suspect that his Brothers domestic felicity, which he had so much envied him, was all a hum. till his Brothers persuaded him that it must have been the voices they had heard who had stolen the goods. they then agreed to persue them the next day. the appointed time came, & after a little Breakfast & hesitation, they set out. but their fortitude immediately forsook them upon hearing the voices again. they turned back, & spent the rest of the Day in reproaching each other with Cowardice. the next morning they set out again, fully resolved to be more courageous. & whatever should happen not to turn back.

As they were trudging on, they were suddenly seized by the Men, to whom the Voices belonged. who proved to be Banditti. they put our Hero & his Brother into a couple of Sacks. & carried them to a Dark Dungeon. where they left them. here they saw, or thought they saw innumerable Ghosts. & spent the night in reproaching each other with Cowardice. They had been here some days, when our Hero perceived a crack in the Wall, through which he thought he could make his escape. but he was too fat to get through. he therefore contrived to starve himself to a Skeleton. by which means he at length got through. his Brother being asleep at the time, he thought it would be a pity to wake him, as he could get off much quicker & quieter by himself. he therefore ascended a flight of Steps (Doublest made on purpose for him) & traversing many narrow passages, he arrived at the Sea side; he swam across the Sea, when he found himself in the same situation he had been in at the beginning of his adventures. Viz. like a Drowned rat. he had not walked far, when he met a Young Woman who every way answered the description he had heard of his Brothers Wife. for she was — pretty. by this he judged her to be his Sister in law. he accosted her with enquiries concerning her name & health. her answer proved that he

had judged right. for she said that she was the
Wife of a young man very like him, who had
married her because she was pretty. That one day
Banditti had come, & seized her, a dog who was
her humble companion, & all their goods. That
after one nights Confinement in a Dungeon, she
was released. & was now wandering about in
search of her Husband. But Hero then related
to her all that had happened to him & his
Brother. & greatly admired his own ingenuity
in escaping. in which he expected the Lady to
join him. but he was disappointed. for she was
very angry that he had left her Husband behind
in the Dungeon. she then Ordered him back again
with a strict charge not to return without his
Brother. he arrived on the other side of the afore-
mentioned Sea. not however without being bit by
a Shark who was passing by. he was preparing
to return, when the frowns of the Wife who saw
him from the other side deterred him. he there-
fore hastened towards the Prison of his Brother.
but when he arrived at the crack in the Wall
he would have returned as his Courage failed
him, but a recollection of the frowns to which
he would be exposed deterred him. now we will
leave him to enquire after his Brother, who was
killed the next day, by the Banditti.

No revenge the loss of our Hero. he being now
at ease, let us renew our enquiries after his Wife,
who continued waiting at the sea side for the
two young men. but finding that they did not
return, "I cannot live (cried she) I will therefore
die; but I will die doing a generous action"
so saying she gave herself to a Whale who
doubtless made a good Supper of her. she being
now at ease, we will make some enquiries after
our ingenious Hero whom we left in a hobble.
wanting to liberate a Man who was ^{dead} & fearing
to incur the anger of a Woman who was dead
likewise. at length finding his efforts to get his
Brother fruitless, he conquered his fears of the
lady's frowns, & ventured back again. but in
crossing the sea, the afore-mentioned Shark, did
not let him off so easily as before, ie with only
a slight bite; for catching hold of him by his
hooked nose. he soon dispatched him.
our valiant Hero being now at ease in the
Sharks stomach, we will leave him there to lament
the death of these three Youngsters. but particularly
that of our admirable Hero, who distinguished
himself on all occasions with an heroic Virtue.
Worthy the imitation of our Worthy Readers.

Pensylvania
The Orphan of the Hovel.
A Novel.

Chapter 1

In the most romantic Part of the world lived Lord Proggers. who married a Daughter of Sir Stephen Hodgers. her Ladyships health not being quite so good as she could wish, she departed this world, leaving behind her a fine offspring, who was called Pensylvania. soon after her death, his Lordship, (finding himself deeply in debt) determined to take a trip to the Continent for a quiet life, & finding his Daughter in his way in this expedition, he left her to the care of a Woman who inhabited a Hovel in the Neighbourhood. & set off at night for privacy sake. Pensylvania hearing nothing of her Father for some years thought she had a right to the interesting appellation of Orphan, & called herself The Orphan of the Hovel. The fame of her beauty together with this interesting name, soon spread over the County, and the Hovel was crowded with admirers from each quarter of the Globe. among whom were a Negro Valet who styled himself an African Prince, & passed with our

Heroine, as such, till time developed his meanness. The Hovel being then too hot to hold them, he departed, leaving our Heroine in a rage. She was taken in by several others in the same way, but at length she found to her utter dismay, that among her admirers, there was not one Gentleman. all consisted of the aforementioned Valet, a foreign Beggar under the disguise of an Italian Count, & a Welch Tocky, who bore the title of Prince of Wales. from all these impostors, she had offers of marriage, which she was going to accept, when time (as I said before) developed their united meanness. & those who had been attracted to the Hovel by her smiles, were now driven from it by her frowns.

Chapter 11

When Penelope found herself destitute of admirers, she became pensive, & seating herself at the Hovel door, she shed a couple of tears to the memory of each. & sunk into a reverie, from which she was roused by the sudden appearance of a Gentleman, who casting a letter at her feet immediately vanished. The letter proved to be from Sir Hugh Bentley, & contained as follows. ————— To Miss Progers.

Twine Miss,

Your pitiable case excites my utmost pity, & that pity has kindled into a passion for you,

we left in hourly expectation of Sir Hugh. about an hour after she had sent her note, a carriage driving up to the door, she concluded he was come, but she was mistaken, for it was no other than Count Rodger who had just decided in what way to revenge himself. he informed our Heroine that he was an express from Lord Prodgers, who was on the Continent, & who had promised him her hand, on condition that he brought her to see him before he died. he then gave her a forged letter from her Father, telling her of the journey she was to take, the husband she was to have, & the relation she was to lose. they all affected her so much that she swooned. when she recovered, she found herself almost at her journey's end. she then was very glad she had swooned. as it made the journey seem shorter to her. but after a little reflection she began to lament it, as it had prevented her thinking of the divine Sir Hugh, & sending him an excuse for never seeing him again. this disappointment she doubted not would turn his brain, she therefore determined to send him a straight waistcoat immediately on her arrival. as a token of her affectionate remembrance.

Chapter 111

In a few hours they arrived at a large house situated in an unknown country. Count Rodger handing

and that Passion prompts me to write this letter
to beg, if your heart & hand are disengaged, that you
will make me —

The Happiest of Bentleys.

To this well timed epistle, Pennsylvania casting away
her pensiveness, Penned the following lines.

To Sir Hugh Bentley

Benign Sir,
Your pity for me excites my utmost
gratitude, & that gratitude assures me, that the
Orphan of the Novel cannot too soon become
Lady Bentley.

Our Heroine sent this note by her Nurse, who meeting
a Gentleman coming out of Sir Hugh's house, con-
-cluded it was him, & gave him the letter. but she
was mistaken; for it was no other than one Count
Codger. the Brother of a lady to whom Sir Hugh was
engaged to be married. the Count hastily tore it open,
& had no sooner read it than he discovered the
Villainy of the faithless Sir Hugh. when the enraged
Codger arrived at his own house. he began practising
sparring, but finding himself both awkward &
cowardly, he resolved to take some other method than
duelling, to revenge the affront to his sister.
and here leaving him to his meditations, we
will return to the interesting Pennsylvania, whom

Our Heroine into it, told her that she was much mistaken if she supposed that he knew any thing of her Father, as he had brought her there for no other purpose, than to revenge himself on the worthless Bentley. of whose treachery he informed her. our Heroine when he ceased speaking, darted upon him one of those terrific frowns, with which she had frightened away all her former admirers.

The Count somewhat alarmed, left the house.

But let us now enquire, after our injured Hero. but let us not wound our readers feelings too deeply by describing his sensations when he heard that Pennsylvania was not to be found. It will suffice it to say that he wanted the straight waistcoat mentioned by our Heroine in the last Chapter.

When his fury was in some degree abated, he called on his friend Count Lodger. on hearing that he had left Town that morning he guessed all the rest, or immediately set off for Lodger Lodge. he arrived there in a few hours, or found the Count playing off a variety of tricks and antics to keep up our Heroines spirits. Sir Hugh then challenged the Count. or they set off the next morning with swords or seconds. in the middle of the Battle Sir Hughes courage failing, he told the Count that having seen a young lady the day before whom he liked better than Miss Progers, he would give himself no more trouble about her.

Then taking an everlasting leave of the Count he departed. Count Lodges then hastened home, & finding our Heroine in the Dunigs, he was obliged to have recourse to his antics, which always raised her spirits. he then told her of the shabby manner in which Sir Hugh had got off, which enraged her so much, that she agreed to marry the Count the next day, to revenge herself. when the time appointed came Pennsylvania was no where to be found. the Count concluded that Sir Hugh must have run away with her in the night. he set off for London, resolved to have another duel about her. & arrived just in time to say amen to the last prayer in the marriage ceremony, which had just been performed. his indignation now exceeded all bounds. & he was more in want of a straight Waiscoat than ever Sir Hugh had been. he returned home determined to make our Heroine a Widow the first opportunity that offered.

Chapter IV

Meantime Sir Hugh & Lady Bentley set off for the Continent in search of Lord Prodgers. his Lordships was well pleased at the match, & the young Couple would have lived happy ever after but for a reflection which forever dwelt in the mind of Lady Bentley & with which she often twitted

Sir Hugh, which was, that she might have been a Countess, if it had not been for his impertinent interference. This was productive of so many quarrels, that they at last agreed to part.

Count Codger hearing this, set off immediately to secure her hand. On meeting Sir Hugh on the road, he insisted upon finishing the Duel they had began some years ago. Sir Hugh's Courage failing he begged to be excused. but the Count having a mortal aversion to him, gave him some mortal wounds. which answered his Purpose of making our Heroine a Widow. Count Codger then flew to Pennsylvania, & told her that he had sent Sir Hugh upon a visit into the next world, & was come to claim that hand she had promised him five years ago. The Orphan of the Hovel, who had so long sighed for his Title, would now have rejected his offer, on account of his having killed the once divine Sir Hugh. but the ingenious Codger having given her a specimen of his famous antics, she found him irresistible. & promised to marry him the next day. but to this delay the Count would not agree, as he plainly perceived it was her intention to elope before the day;

The Ceremony was therefore immediately performed
as the Count always left her in a straight
waistcoat when he went out. She did not prove
unfaithful to him, nor ever eloped afterwards.

Address to the Readers.

Reader, the Moral here is plainly seen.
He who would wish to obtain his hearts fair Queen,
Must neer to trifling obstacles give way,
But like the intrepid Lodges night or day,
Soil without ceasing till he gains his Prize
And when once his, watch her with all his eyes:

