

THE CASTLE SPECTRE.

the termination of the oath.—Hassan dropped the dagger, and fled in dismay. The sound of arms now testified that Percy and his followers had entered the castle. 'I am lost!' said Osmond; 'death is near; but, like a mighty ruin, I will not fall alone.' Then snatching the weapon Hassan had left, he aimed it at Reginald; but Angela plunged her dagger into his side, stained as it was with the blood of Evelina.

'My task is done,' said the Spectre; 'henceforward I rest in peace, and trouble this castle no more.' She then vanished, and solemn music was heard. Reginald and his daughter dropped on their knees; presently the vaults were full of soldiers, headed by Percy, and led by Phillip, in great apprehensions of finding some dismal tragedy perpetrated; but at the sight of the Earl, and Lady Angela in safety, they set up shouts of joy.

Osmond lived but to receive the forgiveness of his brother, which was mercifully acceded to, and expired.

Dame Alice now bustles about with alacrity; and every tenant and vassal heard of the usurper's fall, and the restoration of the good Lord Reginald, with transports of joy.—Saib, whose repentance proved truly sincere, was rewarded with a comfortable asylum for the remainder of his days. The other blacks met the fate their crimes deserved.

The marriage of Earl Percy and the Lady Angela was celebrated with all the pomp and magnificence of ancient times, when the minstrel's harp resounded through the hall.

Earl Reginald, by attentive care, soon recovered his health, and lost that premature decay, and appearance of old age, to which Kenrick's cruel policy had reduced him: he continued always with his son and daughter; and the good Father Phillip was ever a distinguished respected member of the same family, and shared his bottle and harmless jest with the mirth-loving and now independent Gilbert.—Allen and his wife had the felicity to see their foster-child the bride, the happy bride, of Northumberland. She would have raised them to a superier station in life, but they would not hear of it, and remained by choice in their own cottage. She was therefore obliged to content herself by sending repeatedly such articles of comfort, as were best suited to soothe their advanced years, and ameliorate the pains and infirmities of their old age.

THE END.

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