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## *LUCY BREWER,*

[A NATIVE OF PLYMOUTH COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.]

Who in disguise served Three Years as a MARINE  
on board the Frigate CONSTITUTION.

Those who have read the First Part of Miss  
BREWER'S (alias) BAKER'S Adventures, ought  
not fail to peruse this.

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THE ADVENTURES OF  
**LUCY BREWER,**

(ALIAS) (*Eliza (Bowen) Walsh*)

**LOUISA BAKER,**

[A NATIVE OF PLYMOUTH COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.]

Who after living three years a distinguished member of an *immoral Society* of her Sex, in BOSTON, became disgusted with the Sisterhood, and garbed as a *Male*, entered as a MARINE on board the Frigate CONSTITUTION, where she faithfully served in that capacity during three years of our late contest with Great Britain, and from which she was honourably discharged without a discovery of her sex being made.

BEING,

☞ A continuation of Miss BREWER'S Adventures from the time of her discharge to the present day —comprising a journal of a tour to New York, and a recent visit to Boston, garbed in her male habiliments.

*To which is added her serious address to the*

YOUTHS OF BOSTON,

and such as are in the habit of visiting the town from the country.

☞ "To vindicate the principles of VIRTUE and MORALITY—IS MY OBJECT."

BOSTON—Printed by H. TRUMBULL, 1815.

THE ADVENTURES OF  
LUCY RICHMOND

BY  
MRS. MARY HARRIS

IN THREE VOLUMES.  
LONDON: PUBLISHED BY  
JOHN WATTS & CO. 15, N. BROADWAY.  
1840.

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*Pennsylvania. Mrs. Agnes W. Payne Dec 26, 18*

THE  
*Adventures of Lucy Brewer,*



“IT was indeed with extreme reluctance, that I a few months since yielded to the persuasion of one of my most confidential friends, to furnish the public (under a fictitious name) with a detail of the most remarkable traits of the last six years of my life;—the contents of my little book was hastily sketched, and esteemed as almost unworthy of public notice by its compiler—but, contrary to all expectation, so great has been its circulation, and so great the avidity with which it has been sought after and perused by even the most moral and exemplary characters among us, that I have, contrary to my determination, even again consented to become my own biographer—and in continuation of my adventures already made public, to furnish the reader with the particulars relative to my not less curious proceedings, since my discharge from public service, as well as many important incidents of my life, which were omitted in my late work. In thus

again exciting public curiosity, I have a two fold object in view—first, if by painting to public view, those horrible scenes of midnight, which disgusts and fills with awe the virtuous mind, we can avert the dreadful evil and fatal consequences contracted by the unheeding YOUTH, in this particular a principal object will be effected—secondly, as some few have questioned the truth of my real existence, and the authenticity of my late work—some, because I gave not my real but a fictitious name, and concealed the place of my nativity—while others have doubted the truth of my story, upon no other grounds than that of the improbability of a *female's* being enabled to endure the hardships peculiar to a mariner's life, for so long a period, and that too without a discovery of her sex!—to the former I would reply, that their doubts ought now to be removed, as I now condescend to give my *real* name, as well as that of the county within which I drew my first breath—while to the latter, I would observe, that had I in my late narrative represented myself as having gone directly from the happy abode of my parents, on board of a public vessel (unhacked in vice and a stranger to hardship as I then might have been) and in disguise perform the duty of a *Marine*, I must confess they then might with more propriety have doubted;—but, ought not such to consider, that a three years residence in a common brothel, among a race of beings the most corrupted and detestable

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on earth, would fit even a *female* for the performance of the most desperate enterprize! —as a further proof of the possibility of a female being enabled to perform *manual* duty, and yet without a discovery of her sex, I would refer the reader to the case of Miss *Sampson*, who, garbed as a male, for seven years performed the duty of a private Soldier.

I was born in a small town in the county of Plymouth in the State of Massachusetts—my real name is LUCY BREWER—at the age of sixteen I unfortunately became acquainted with a youth of respectable parentage, who resided within a short distance of my father's house—he at first pretended to harbour a very great share of love for me, solemnly declaring that I should one day become his wife—my parents were suspicious of his real views and admonished me for my credulity—but the artful tales of the vile and insinuating deceiver had made too great an impression—he saw my growing attachment for him, and by the most solemn promise of marriage, having lulled every suspicion asleep, obtained the forfeiture of the only gem that could render me respectable in the eyes of the world!—My vile seducer now threw off his mask of pretended affection for me, and in an exulting tone, declared that he had never really intended to make me his wife, and that I must never presume to trouble him with the fruits of my misplaced confidence!—thus after adding insult to injury, the wretch deserted me, and I never saw him from that time un-

til since my return to my parents.—I now too late began to repent of my folly in not adhering to the good advice of my parents and friends, as I was now likely soon to incur a disgrace, that would too very materially effect them, should it come to their knowledge—as the only means to avoid which, I formed the resolution to seek an assylum abroad, among strangers, where I might be permitted to remain until I could return with safety to my unsuspecting friends;—it was in the dead of a cold winter's night, that I accordingly (furnished with a small bundle of cloathing) quit the peaceful abode of my tender parents, and alone and unprotected, bent my course for Boston, where I arrived the succeeding day almost famished with cold and hunger!—my object was now to obtain a situation as chamber or kitchen maid, in some respectable family, and made application accordingly to many persons in the course of the afternoon, but without success—I very fortunately obtained lodging for the night, and supper and breakfast at the house of a gentleman in Cambridge Street: whose lady was very kind to me, and before I left her house in the morning, gave me most excellent advice how I should conduct myself, provided I should succeed in obtaining a place in town—she particularly warned me to beware of a class of miserable and detestable beings of my own sex, who by the vilest prostitution obtained their livelihood!—At half past 9 (taking leave of my hospitable friend, who had so kindly

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treated me) I again set out in search of a place—  
the day proved cold and stormy, and the snow was  
of considerable depth on the ground, yet notwith-  
standing I passed through almost every street in  
town, applying in vain for a place—at the close of  
the day, cold, hungry and without the prospect of  
a shelter for the dreary night, I burst into tears,  
and began seriously to repent of my folly in quitting  
my parents house—unexpectedly I obtained lodg-  
ings for the night at a public house in Elm street,  
and in the morning early again set out in quest of  
a place—I passed up through Hanover to Tremont  
street, and from thence up Beacon street, and at a-  
bout 12 o'clock unconsciously ascended the heights  
of West Boston. Here I continued my application  
for a place and at 3 in the afternoon on the west side  
of the hill was so fortunate (as I then thought) to  
find the assylum sought for!—the good old lady (or  
rather nefarious witch) of the house, pretended to  
have great pity for me!—her darling daughters  
were requested to spare no pains to afford relief to  
the “poor female wanderer!”—warm tea and toast  
was served me, and every restorative administered.  
In the evening marm’s “spotless flock” having  
withdrawn, the old beldam succeeded in drawing  
from me every particular relative to my situation,  
the reason of my desetting my parents, &c.—the  
old hag letting fall a few hypocritical tears, assured  
me that I might now consider my troubles at an  
end, that I should find her a *mother* and her house

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an assylum until such time as I could with safety return to my friends—indeed so artfully did this “old fowl and her chickens” conceal from me every thing that could give rise to suspicion, that not until after my confinement, had I the most distant idea of the manner in which these vile harlots obtained their livelihood!—my infant not surviving its birth, and having obtained sufficient strength to return to my parents, from whom I now had been five months absent, I was making preparation to bid adieu to the hospitable mansion of my “good marm” when this old deceiver threw off the mask of pretended friendship, and by threatening me with exposure, and prosecution if I should presume to leave her house without discharging a debt which my sickness had incurred, compelled me to give up the idea of an immediate return.

From this moment this antiquated hag, and her not less cunning pupils began by degrees to unfold to me the important secret, which they had never before thought proper to disclose—no pains were spared to decoy me from the paths of virtue and innocence, and to fit me for their market! and O! must I add, to my everlasting shame, that they at length fully succeeded in their nefarious schemes, and rendered me the object they so much desired. I was soon pronounced a forward scholar by my arch preceptress, by whom I was taught—

“How to entrap the amorous youth,  
And to send him pennyless from my bed!”

For three years I continued an associate of the detestable harlots who inhabit those vile brothel-houses which the Hill contains—in which time no one could have had a better chance to become acquainted with their dispositions, their habits, and their wicked and deep concerted plans to decoy the unheeding youth, who too frequently resort there to witness their midnight revel--many of these scenes I shall in course record, and to youth impart that advice which I hope may prove to their advantage—

*“ For I will disclose their hidden vices,  
“ Acts of black night, abominable deeds,  
“ Complots of mischief and villanies  
“ Ruthful to hear.”—*

After a three years residence with these vile prostitutes, I became disgusted with their wretched habits, and was resolved to quit them at all hazards—accordingly, a short time after, a favourable opportunity offering. I, clad in a male suit, escaped from my “ fair Shepherdess” unsuspected.

I walked through many public streets in Boston, and finding that no one had the least suspicion of my sex, I resorted to a public rendezvous in Fish-Street—here, agreeable to a former notion, I formed the desperate resolution of entering as a Marine on board the Frigate CONSTITUTION--by a stratagem I escaped the usual search, and with a number of new recruits I went on board without the least suspicion of my sex--I was furnished with a uniform and musket and made great proficiency in learning

the manual exercise.—I was on board this frigate, three years, in which time I made four cruizes and have been in three severe engagements--and in the whole time succeeded in concealing my sex from all on board. A few months since I received an honourable discharge, when, re-assuming my female garb, I returned to my parents, from whom I had been six years absent! They did not at first recognize me, as they had supposed me long since dead; when they became convinced that I was indeed their daughter, my mother wept bitterly;—to my parents I now related the most remarkable incidents that had attended me for the six years, but my father would not credit the account of my sea adventures until I produced my discharge, my military suit, &c.

In conformity to the earnest request of my parents, and agreeable to my own resolve, I now felt determined to quit the complicated scenes of busy life for rural retirement, and to exchange the musket for the distaff and spinning wheel. For the first week I entertained myself in rambling over my father's farm, and in viewing the little harbours, where, in the days of my youth, I had spent so many agreeable hours--and as my father was the possessor of an excellent fowling-piece, I occasionally amused myself in destroying the birds that were in the habit of visiting his corn-fields. But, to one who had for six years mingled with the busy world, a secluded life and these rural scenes soon became

less amusing. I now felt a strong inclination to visit the Southern States, and begged of my parents to consent to my contemplated tour, with a solemn promise that on my return I would endeavour to reconcile myself to more romantic scenes, and think no more of leaving tender parents and a peaceful home.

My parents with some reluctance consented, and I accordingly in July last took a seat in the Mail Stage for New-Port. For particular purposes I again assumed my male habiliment--there were four passengers beside myself, three men and a female; one of the former (a monkey-faced stripling) was garbed like a midshipman; another I judged to be a sea captain, and the third was a venerable old gentleman who resided in or near Providence: and the female, a modest young miss apparently about 17 years of age. For the first 10 miles the company proved civil and agreeable, while we were entertained by the old gentleman with an account of the great improvements, that had been made in the country through which we were passing, since his remembrance.

At a public inn we stopped to dine, where the captain and midshipman, as if more thirsty than hungry, quaffed so immoderate a quantity of wine and brandy, as to render their company far less agreeable--as they supposed the young lady the only female among them, they treated her in a rude and unmanly manner; making use of language the

most indecent, without regard to female delicacy: For my own part I set in silence, though somewhat nettled at the unbecoming behaviour of these two men (for they deserve not the appellation of gentlemen.) The good old gentleman, who indeed appeared to merit better company, in the most inoffensive manner possible attempted a gentle reproof; but he was repaid by the valiant young knight of the *dirk* with a dastardly rebuff.

The old gentleman now remained silent, while the swinish brace continued to crack their unmanly jokes upon the harmless young lady: I had until now sit speechless, and apparently regardless of the conversation going on, when the low billingsgate abuse bestowed upon my sex, aroused me to a sense of my duty. I now in turn rebuked the green *dirk*-man, but in a language a little more severe than that made use of by my aged friend. The flame caught; the pretty features of the eagle-buttoned stripling were now distorted with rage! dangling the little weapon that hung by his side, that it should not escape my notice, he broadly hinted that I probably mistook him—that he had more than once *bravely* withstood the attack of a formidable foe upon the ocean, and more than once assisted in compelling a superior force to yield! and that I therefore ought not to suppose that he was to be easily intimidated by *man*! that he conceived himself injured by the observations that I had made, and that he never would put up with an insult with impunity!—that

I must now either make an acknowledgement (in other words beg his pardon) or consent to place myself in a situation which would enable him to obtain the satisfaction demanded!

To the vain boastings and threats of master Braggadocio, I made no other reply than that "whatever honour he might have acquired by former conquests, I conceived that his rude and unwarrantable attack upon venerable old age, and an inoffensive female, was rather a proof of a mean and cowardly disposition than of that undaunted bravery with which he had characterized himself!—that I had even myself been favoured with a *view* of the enemy upon the ocean, with whom I had exchanged some shots, but that I must leave it with my officers to say whether I had done my part in compelling a superior force to yield—to conclude, that I had been taught by my ship's noble commanders a lesson which I hoped never to forget (to wit.) never to *give up the ship, or lower the peak*, unless compelled so to do by very superior force—I was therefore under the necessity of declaring to him that *I would not* make any acknowledgement whatever—that as to placing myself in a situation that would enable him to obtain the satisfaction demanded, altho averse to the *dis-honourable* practice of duelling, yet, if he persisted in his demand, I could not consistently refuse to gratify him, as the affair might so soon be settled, we being then within a very short distance of Rhode-Island!"

Lest my forwardness to accept of the challenge of the little gentleman, to *murder* or be *murdered*, should excite the surprize of my readers, it may be necessary here to state, that I had ever marked it as an invariable fact, that he who was so unprincipled as to offer insult to *old age*, or to use a *female* ill, so far from delighting in the smell of *gun powder*, would even betray a want of manly courage by the simple display of a shot bag or powder flask!—hence, I was confident that my little antagonist could never muster courage sufficient to meet me agreeable to his own proposal—it would amount to no more, I conceived, than afford an opportunity to extort the *humble confession* from *him*, who was imperiously demanding it of *me*.

We now were within a few miles of New-Port when some part of the iron-work of our carriage, gave way, and we were compelled to resort to a public inn, in the neighborhood, to await the necessary repairs—the sea captain here took a private carriage for New-Bedford. The landlord proved a jolly good natured man, with whose assistance I felt now disposed for a little diversion, at the expence of my noble *duellist*!—to the landlord I privately related every thing with regard to the altercation, and the challenge that had ensued, begging of him the loan of a pair of unloaded pistols and the use of a private chamber for a few moments, assuring him that it was a farce only and not a tragedy I was about to act. The landlord receiving confirmation



of my story from the old gentleman and the young lady, the pistols were produced, with which I retired to the chamber.

After making a little necessary preparation by placing a table in the centre of the room, upon which I laid the pistols, I dispatched a messenger for the *brave* youth who was not to be "intimidated by man!"—the lad probably supposing that I had repented, and was now willing to make the acknowledgement required, did not hesitate to comply with my request. As he entered the room, espying the instruments of death, he appeared to wilt considerably, and walked less erect than what these men of buckram generally do on 'Change, or through Broadway. After desiring him to be seated, and taking care to secure the door, I addressed him as follows:—  
"You conceived yourself insulted a few hours since by the observations which I made in defence of the young lady whom you treated so ill—you have demanded satisfaction, which I am now prepared to give in the manner you proposed—the pistols you see we have at hand—seconds we want none; although you will be doubly armed, pledge me your honor that you will take no advantage, and I will be satisfied—the pistols are equally loaded, take your choice, and the length of the room shall be our distance!"—Had I the ability of Hogarth, I might in some measure picture to view the appearance of my affrighted antagonist at this moment! who, with a trembling voice, in reply, observed, that "he was

sensible that he had given the challenge, but was averse to fighting without seconds, that if I would postpone the business until our arrival in New-Port (where his friend resided) he would meet me with *pleasure!*—In reply, I assured him “that the affair had become of too serious a nature to trifle with and (taking up one of the pistols) with a stern countenance assured him that I should not agree to any postponement whatever—that before we left the room the business must be settled!” The trembling youth now attempted to expostulate, signifying his wish to settle the business in *some other way!*—I replied that there were but two ways in which it could be terminated—he had proposed one, and I should take the liberty to mention the other: which was, that he make a suitable acknowledgement to the old gentleman and young lady!—this was a bitter pill indeed for the youth to swallow, who had “assisted in compelling a superior force to yield!”—but observing me with a cocked pistol, sternly demanding of him to conclude without delay, and not doubting my sincerity, he reluctantly yielded— I now sent the landlord (who was not far off) for the old gentleman and young lady, and to whom the young man made a humble and satisfactory acknowledgement!—thus terminated the affair—and thus was this promising young officer, who had vainly boasted that he had been in too many engagements to be intimidated by MAN! compelled humbly to yield to the dictates of a WOMAN!

The carriage now being ready we again took our seats, and in an hour after was safely landed at the Coffee-House in New-Port—the coach door was no sooner thrown open than my humbled duellist (like a bird liberated from its wiry prison) flitted away, and I have not since seen him. The old gentleman took an affectionate leave of me: shaking me by the hand, he jocundly observed, that “he was 73 years of age, had taken an active part in two or three different wars, and had seen much hard fighting, but that there was never a victory obtained (in which much blood was spilt and tons of ammunition expended) that gave him half so much satisfaction as the one achieved by me, with the aid of a pair of *empty* pistols!” The young lady too on taking leave of me, very politely thanked me for the protection which I had afforded her, inviting me to call on her uncle (where she calculated to visit) if I tarried long in town.

I took lodgings at the Coffee-House, and at 10 the ensuing morning took passage on board the sloop *Huntress*, for New-York—the packets which sail from this port, for beauty and convenience, are exceeded by few or none in America. I was still garbed as a male, and passed for one without any suspicion of my sex—I experienced but one inconvenience on the passage by thus personating the character of a male—there were an uncommon number of passengers, male and female, the forward apartment of the cabin was allotted to the

gentlemen, which contained but half their number of births, two were therefore obliged to occupy one birth, or sleep on a trunk or the floor : while in the ladies apartment there were several spare births—rather than to run the risk of exposing myself, I wrapped myself in my great coat and enjoyed a tolerable nap on a chest—the wind was favourable and we had a pleasant passage of 24 hours—I was now safely landed in the great city of New-York, of which I had heard much, and which, for commercial business, may be termed the capital of America.

I had yet left a principal part of my prize money and wages, in addition to which, the sale of the 1st edition of my adventures had added something to my funds, I calculated while I remained in the city not to deprive myself of any reasonable enjoyment, as it was probably the last excursion of the kind I should ever make. To avoid all possibility of detection, by a complete disguise of my person, and the better to effect an object in view, I now made a purchase of an officer's uniform complete, not even omitting the epaulet and broad military hat—thus garbed, I resorted to all parts of the city, and to every place of innocent amusement without the least apprehension of exposing myself to detection.—I took lodgings at a very respectable house in Pearl Street, kept by a Mrs. Van Ness, with whom a number of very reputable gentlemen boarded, and

by whom I was treated with the greatest politeness, and respected as an officer of no mean grade.

About three weeks after my arrival in the city, taking my usual afternoon's walk in the bowery, I was not a little surprized to meet with the young lady of whom I have so frequently made mention in the preceding pages, the same in whose defence I had consented to exchange shots with my fellow traveller, the famous little knight of the DIRK! In my new uniform she did not at first recognize me, but after introducing myself by some trivial hints of the humerous transaction, she seemed highly pleased with the unexpected meeting—to a young gentleman who accompanied her (and who was afterwards introduced to me as her brother) I was introduced as the gentleman who had so honourably resented the abusive treatment which she received from the "cowardly puppy!" (the particulars of which she had made known to her friends.)

From the young gentleman and his sister I now received a polite invitation to accompany them to their father's house, in Pine Street—unprepared for an interview so unexpected, I attempted to excuse myself by engaging to do myself the honor in calling on them in the afternoon of the day ensuing—but excuses availed nothing, they insisted that I must then favour them with my company, as in the evening, they expected to be honoured with the company of a large circle of young ladies, to whom they had related the particulars of my late affray,

with the cowardly midshipman, and that they would now unquestionably be pleased with the company of a gentleman, who had manifested so noble and generous a disposition to protect the unguarded of their sex!

Finding all excuses unavailing I at length consented to accompany them, and was conducted to a spacious house in Pine Street—here I was introduced by the young lady to her father, mother, &c.—the old gentleman bid me welcome to his house, and thrice thanked me for the protection that I had afforded his daughter, while travelling unaccompanied by an acquaintance. The family were wealthy and lived in fashion—in the evening I was invited to tea, and at 11 o'clock was furnished with an excellent cold supper. At 7 we were honoured with the company of a circle of fashionable young ladies, with whom I spent an agreeable evening, and by whom it was more than once hinted to me that as the war was at an end, I was now probably on a matrimonial excursion, in search of an agreeable companion, with whom they wished me much domestic happiness! With this agreeable family I tarried the night, and after partaking of an excellent breakfast in the morning, I was invited by the old gentleman's son (a very polite young man) to accompany him to Greenwich, a pleasant ride of about three miles from the city—we passed the State Prison of New-York, which on our return my friend gained me permission with himself to

pass through—this massy block of buildings were commodiously constructed, and encompassed a spacious yard for the convenience of the unhappy convicts—but, O! it was indeed a melancholly spectacle to view 500 of our most wretched fellow mortals, of both sexes, and of every age, thus shut up from the world, and for their bad deeds, doomed to spin out a life of miserable existence!

As my friend had learned that my only object in visiting the city, was to witness the curiosities and to partake of the innocent amusements of the place, he seemed to take unwearied pains in pointing out to me every thing calculated to excite my curiosity—in the course of the day, among other public buildings, we went to view the Alms House—here were supported at public expence a large number of miserable dependents; some of whom probably by unavoidable misfortune, and a great proportion by their extravagance and intemperance, had reduced themselves to a state of penury and want—here I was not a little surprized to meet with an old acquaintance, a girl of pleasure, with whom I had formed some acquaintance the first year of my residence on West-Boston Hill, of which she too was an inhabitant, and was there known by the name of MARIA MURRAY, but by the sailors, was more commonly called “SCOTCH MARIA.”—her emaciated form exhibited the appearance of a walking skeleton; she was indeed now an object too miserable for human eyes to behold!—such has

been the fate of thousands, and such inevitably will be the fate of all those who now by vile prostitution gain their bread, unless preserved by a reasonable reformation:

I continued in New York until the 29th of August, when taking an affectionate leave of my friend and his connexions, by whom I had been treated with so much civility, I took passage on board of a Providence packet, with an intention of returning from thence immediately home—having privately exchanged my new uniform for a dress more convenient for the passage; as I did not feel disposed again to take up lodgings on a chest, or to be deprived of conveniences enjoyed by lady passengers. We had a fine run from New-York, and were all safely landed in Providence on the morning of the 30th;—from Providence finding it difficult to obtain a direct conveyance home, I took a seat in the stage for Boston, where I concluded to spend a few days incog.

To guard myself well against every possibility of a detection, in a place where I had been so well known to many, I now took extra pains to disguise myself in every way possible—garbed in my new military coat and pantaloons, with a small military hat cocked on one side, and with an epaulet attached to my right shoulder, I repaired to a barber's shop, where my hair received a fashionable crop, and my head and shoulders a plentiful shower of powder—thus equipped, with a small rattan in my

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hand, I walked upon 'Change, where, although surveyed by many from head to foot, no one I am confident had the least suspicion of my sex!—I several times passed through Cornhill, and many of the most public streets, and frequently met persons whom I well knew, but they did not recognise me.

In the evening I resorted to the *Hall*, to take a final leave of this infamous seat of riot and dissipation, which I never calculate to visit more, whatever may be the character I may hereafter assume—the terrific yells of the blacks—the vile imprecations of the sailors, and their intoxicated strumpets—the discordant sounds of violins, claranets and tambarines, issuing from their stenchified “dancing halls”—and the perpetual howlings of their affrighted dogs! as I ascended Garden and passed Buttolf Streets, could not fail to remind me of days when I took myself an active part in these nocturnal revels!

I now felt an inclination to try my skill at deception, by hazarding a visit to the very house where I had been taught my first lessons of vice—its occupiers were nearly the same, I had been informed, as when I fortunately succeeded in making my escape from the clutches of the old Beldam—confident that I should succeed, I incautiously approached the house and tapped at the door—it was opened by “marm!” who dropping a low-curtesey, bid me walk in; I was conducted to the parlour, in which there was fortunately no other person but my

old tutoress, and a little girl, of 10 or 12 years of age, who probably had been kidnapped from friends and home by this unprincipled old hag, and who was intended for a future market!

I took a seat near the window, and calling for a small quantity of wine, I displayed all the pomposity possible, which undoubtedly was construed by "marm" as a proof of high rank and noble blood! Our conversation at first was rather of a political nature, as the old lady concluding by the badge upon my shoulder, that I must be an officer "direct from the wars" did not fail to bestow the highest encomiums on the bravery of the American Officers. For my own part, it was a satisfaction to me to know that I was now so completely deceiving this vile old deceiver, who once so fatally deceived me! The old hag, probably mistaking the real object of my visit, took an opportunity to hint to me that the girls had gone to take an evening's ride, but would return before 10. Being confident that the old witch was completely deceived as to my person, I thought this a favourable opportunity to introduce the subject of Miss Baker, of whom I enquired of "marm" if she had any knowledge, as it was reported that she had been for three years an inhabitant of the Hill, but that I had concluded the whole story a fabrication: "No! (exclaimed the old woman, rather confused) the story is not altogether fictitious, I suppose myself to be the person with whom she boarded, and the one whom the *dirty slut* had so

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basely calumniated—having conducted herself in a shameful manner she was obliged to desert her parents and friends, and came to this town pennyless and almost destitute of cloathing, in an inclement season of the year—it was in the afternoon of a bitter cold day when she first called at my house enquiring for a situation as kitchen or chamber maid ; judging by her appearance that she was not in a situation to endure hardship, I took her in, and out of pure *charity*, consented to board her until she should sufficiently recover from her expected illness, to return to her friends—but how disposed was this ungrateful *jilt* to repay me for my *kindness* ! after residing with me for near five months, for which I had not received a single cent, she would have absconded, had I not received timely notice of her intentions to prevent it !—as I carried on the *mantua making* business, and had a number of young *misses* who were *apprentices*, I hinted to the ungrateful girl that the least she could do was to tarry a short time longer with me and assist the girls in their *sewing work* !—this she with some reluctance consented to do, and after being employed in her *new business* for a short time she apparently became so pleased with her situation, and so great was the love and friendship that existed between her and my apprentices, that she continued with me perfectly contented for near three years ; nor had I the least suspicion of any disposition on her part to quit my employ until the day she absconded—fearing

that she might have been enticed off to some of the *bad houses* in the neighborhood, I made diligent search after her, but she was not to be found, nor did I gain any information of her until one of her books was a short time since put into my hands—such, *Major*, is the true statement of the whole business, and I will leave it with you, *sir*, to judge whether I have not been unjustly censured by the base creature !”

The old Bawd had indeed told a plausible story, and had unmercifully lashed me, without my daring to utter a syllable in vindication of myself, or in confirmation of what I had published to the world—it was pleasing to me however to see how completely she was now deceived in my person, and how innocently she honoured the “ungrateful *jilt*” with the title of “*Major* !” As the evening was now far spent and the hour approaching in which my immaculate “marm” looked for the return of her fair “apprentices,” I judged it most wise for the “*Major*” to be off, lest these false fair ones, better skilled in physiognomy, might discover the deception.

I retired immediately from the Hill to an inn in Malborough street, where I took lodgings for the night. In the morning, observing that my boots had received a plentiful coat of the white coloured clay, peculiar to the Hill, I took them to a boot black in the neighborhood—Pompey (whose occupation it appeared had taught him to determine

with some accuracy, the places of resort of his customers, by the state of their boots) in a jocular manner, observed to me, that "if master had not the appearance of a gentleman of too much delicacy, he should judge by the appearance of my boots that I had recently visited a part of the town not the most respectable!"—Here I could not but remark, that while this *man of colour* spoke most contemptuously of this corrupted place, yet, it was actually the favourite place of resort of many youths who claim the appellation of "*young gentlemen*!"

I now repaired to the house of a confidential friend in Middle Street, where my trunk was deposited—here I exchanged my new uniform for that worn by me on board of the ship—thus garbed, I went in search of some of my old shipmates, of whom to take a final leave—I found but two of them at a boarding house in Fish Street—they had both entered as seamen on board a ship bound to Europe, which was shortly to sail—they both strove to urge me to accompany them, engaged to procure me an easy berth, but I thought proper to decline. From them I learnt that there were but a few of the Constitution's crew remaining in Boston; many had accompanied the expedition up the Mediterranean: some had gone on board of merchantmen, and others to the southward to procure births. After taking a glass or two with my shipmates, and wishing each other prosperity through life, we parted, never probably to see each other again.

I now once more took leave of Boston, and fully satisfied with the ludicrous part that I had acted and the new scenes that I had witnessed in my late excursion, I returned to the peaceful abode of my fond parents, who were impatiently awaiting my return. Here I have since agreeably passed my time in assisting my aged mother in performing the domestic work of the family—in perusing some entertaining and valuable works which compose my father's library—and in sketching for the press this imperfect narrative of my late adventures—to complete which, it only now remains that I impart that advice to the YOUTH of Boston, &c: which I in the former part of this little work proposed to do—which, should it have its desired effect, I should, in some measure, consider myself rewarded for the complication of miseries which have attended me for the last six years:

I am aware that in thus attempting to warn youth of the fatal effects of an immoral life, I shall expose myself to the censor and ridicule of such as yet may have doubts of my *sincere repentance*, and question the propriety of my admonishing youth to beware of vices which I for six years industriously practised myself!—For the satisfaction of such, I now most solemnly declare, that I do feel that I have been thoroughly awakened to a due sense of my shameful career, while an inhabitant of the Hill—and if a prodigal could ever return penitent to her friends, I so returned to my afflicted parents

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sincerely repenting of the evil of my ways ;—let the doubts of all such therefore be removed, and as prevention is ever of more value, than the most perfect cure, let them rather consider this as an affectionate effort to preserve the honour of those who yet possess it, to serve the honest fame of those who enjoy a good reputation, and to secure the peace of mind of all those who are yet unconscious of offence. To all these, an early warning is most precious. Timely advice may be to them a rescue from destruction. Those, who preserve the innocent from falling into guilt, deserve well indeed of their fellow creatures ; and if any one can presume to such desert, he merits the favor of heaven.

Unheeding Youth enter the bowers of ease, and repose in the shades of security. Here the heart softens, and vigilance subsides ; we are then willing to enquire, whether another advance cannot be made, and whether we may not at least turn our eyes upon the garden of pleasure. We approach them with scruple and hesitation ; we enter them, but enter timorous and trembling, and always hope to pass through them without losing the road of virtue, which we for a while keep in our sight, and to which we propose to return. But temptation succeeds temptation, and one unlawful indulgence prepares us for another ; we, in time, lose the happiness of innocence, and solace our disquiet with sensual gratifications. It is then our highest wisdom to tread the paths of virtue in the

morning of our days, that the evening may terminate with a smiling serenity.

Many indeed are the fatal effects of an unlawful intercourse with the vile harlots of the Hill, which came within my own personal knowledge while a resident there—but a few of them I shall however at present record, which I trust, will prove of a nature sufficient to deter reflecting youth, from yielding to the false allurements of these detestable off-scourings of the human race.

The first I shall mention, is the melancholy case of a youth bred in the country, and at the age of 16 apprenticed to a respectable merchant in town. He was of respectable parents, of an amiable disposition, and the picture of health and innocence. Reared under the watchful eye of tender Parents, until this unhappy period of his life, he was probably a stranger to vice, and supposed all as innocent as himself. But a few months had he been in town, when a curiosity peculiar to too many in the situation of himself, induced him one fatal night to resort to the seat of perpetual riot and dissipation. As he descended the filthy hill, the discordant sounds of the musical instruments unconsciously drew him to the entrance of one of their dancing cabins; he entered, and mingled with the haggard crew—but, the unsuspecting youth did not long remain an idle spectator—from one of "marms" most forward pupils (who probably had already marked him as her victim) he received a pressing



invitation to join in their dance!—the youth probably unaccustomed to decline the acceptance of so polite an invitation from a “young lady,” did not hesitate to comply. From the “Hall” he was conducted by this arch girl to her lodgings—here the credulous youth was taught to believe that the “good lady” of the house, was entitled to a *dollar* for a *pint* of wine, from all young gentlemen, on their first introduction! It was at twelve at night when this now debauched youth was discharged pennyless from the apartment of this filthy prostitute; who, in the morning, exultingly boasted of her good fortune, in meeting with a youth who had engaged to be her constant and she presumed a profitable customer. In this the thoughtless young man proved too faithful to his promise—young and unexperienced, and a perfect stranger to the deceptive arts of harlotry, he became enamoured with the false colourings of this arch hag. ISABILLA (for that was the name which this daughter of evil had assumed) would indeed pass for a girl of seventeen—but, strip the creature of her false embellishments, and there would nothing more of the original remain than an emaciated carcase, ulcerated with disease!—she was indeed 34 years of age, had been twice lawfully married, was the mother of five children, was two years a kept miss, and had now been four years a common prostitute on the Hill!—such was this “fair Delcina” whose *charms* had captivated a youth of seventeen!

The thoughtless youth now became constant in his visits, nor dare he (like the unfortunate Barnwell) approach the habitation of his mistress, without well lined pockets or a store of rich presents— which no doubt were purloined from his unsuspecting master! But, a day of dreadful retribution at length arrived, in which life itself was the forfeiture of his unwise indulgences!—a disease, the effects of an unlawful intercourse, rendered incurable by concealment, now threatened the unhappy youth with instant dissolution!—medical aid was administered, but in vain—the grim tyrant had already marked the young man, yet in the morning of his days, as his own!—who after enduring the most excruciating torture, of body and mind, closed his eyes on the world and its transitory scenes forever! It so happened, that at the very hour in which the mortal remains of the unfortunate youth were to be consigned to their mother earth, that the detestable ISABILLA (the base author of his untimely exit) in company with myself and three other females, passed the house (in a carriage) from which the funeral was to be attended—the neighbours had already gathered, and the coffin, shrouded with the gloomy pall, was placed upon the hearse!—every eye in the carriage at this instant was cast upon the heedless ISABILLA, who, so far from appearing to be affected by a view of the melancholly spectacle, exultingly wagging her head, observed, that “she believed poor WILLIAM had gone aloft!”

© ! my dear Youths, may the fate of this unfortunate young man, who so early fell a victim to his own imprudent indulgences, serve as a beacon to warn you of the danger of resorting to those vile haunts of disease, robbery and murder! Beware that you are not allured by external embellishments—permit one, who has been an eye witness of the fact, to assure you, that those *artificial decorations*, cover a form, which could you but see in its natural state, could not fail to fill you with the utmost disgust! Reflect for a moment, that the shortest period of unlawful indulgence, may cause you years of pain!—as a proof of this, permit me to refer you to the miserable lot of many of the wretched inhabitants of our Alms-Houses and Hospitals—in them see the fatal effects of debauchery and dissipation!—altho yet in the morning of their days, they have the appearance of labouring under the infirmities of old age!

I have yet another instance of youthful imprudence to record, which should serve as a caution to such as are in the habit of visiting the town from the country;—it is an instance of robbery, committed upon a young man, whose business was that of bringing considerable quantities of Pork, from an interior part of the State to Boston market, and for which he generally received cash to a considerable amount. Like the unfortunate youth whose case we have just mentioned, he too became the dupe of one of “marm’s fair apprentices,” (for

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each had her cully.) As frequently as his business called him to town, he never failed to spend a night with his "lovely CHARLOTTE," who, although she was not permitted to fathom his pockets, had made such discoveries as to satisfy her that they were well lined—but in vain had been all her attempts (in a clandestine manner) to get possession of their valuable contents—at midnight every pocket of his garments had been thoroughly searched, but were found empty—it was apparent that he was in the habit of privately secreting his valuable effects somewhere, previous to his retiring to bed—to ascertain the fact, two of the girls were stationed in an adjoining room, where, through a crevice in the wall, they were to watch the motions of the young man—they had not been long here when the wished for discovery was made—the youth was perceived to slip his watch and pocket book into one of his boots! A report was immediately made to the old Bawd, who found no difficulty in devising a plan that would put them into possession of the property, and without subjecting themselves to suspicion!—the plan was this, that at midnight the room should be privately entered and rifled of its most valuable contents, including all the wearing apparel, not forgetting the garments of their profitable lodger, his boots, &c.—the doors were then to be thrown open, the lock to be wrenched from the street door, and the hue and cry of "ROBBERY!" to be raised by the old woman. This plan in every particular was

carried into effect—the cloathing of the stupid youth, together with the valuable contents of the boot were buried in the cellar! By break of day “marm” rushing into the chamber where the artful Charlotte and her unsuspecting cully lodged, awakened them with her cries that “she was ruined!”—that “her house had been broken into and pillaged of its most valuable effects!”—the youth rallying and finding himself bereaved of his cloathing, joined too in the cry that “the villians had not left him a single garment!” while Charlotte at this moment (as she was requested to do) proclaimed her loss of the “little property she possessed, the fruits of a year’s industry!” A few old cloathes were now procured for the really unfortunate youth—who, was either so stupid as to suppose that burglary and robbery had really been committed—or aware that a public proclamation of his loss would be productive of nothing but the frowns and natural observation of the more wise, that “*he should keep off the Hill!*”—he departed without making further ado! His cloathing &c. were now taken from their earthly deposit, and the contents of the pocket book examined, which was found to contain 112 dolls. in bank notes! one half of which, together with the watch, “marm” claimed as her portion—the residue was divided among her “apprenticēs!”

Such, my young friends, are the effects of too free an intercourse with these vile, unprincipled prostitutes † whom, if you regard property, repu-

fation and health, you will shut—as an unlawful connection with them, will ultimately cost you one or the other.

Look around you, my dear Youth, and behold many a promising young person, plunged into wretchedness, whose ruin is to be ascribed to too great a love of pleasure; who has given way to the inclination, and precipitated himself into the habit of dissipation, till he has become deaf to all good advice—proof against admonition, intreaty and persuasion, and is now among the splendid ruins of human nature.—Let these instances warn you of your danger, and persuade you to devote some part of that time, which is spent in pursuit of unlawful pleasures, to reflection and consideration.

Seriously consider, that you are born to die—that you will die, but to live again—live forever in the unexplored regions of futurity, to inherit the consequences of your present conduct! Remember immortal! that though thou may now whirl the giddy round of dissipating pleasures, and wantonly burst the bonds of reason and religion, and without regard to council and instruction to the contrary—“walk in the ways of thine own heart, and in the sight of thine own eyes,” that thou art accountable to thy Maker for thy whole conduct, and that—“for all these things he will call thee into judgement.”