

LESSON XIV.

THE STORY OF "THE TEMPEST."

From "Tales from Shakespeare."

BY CHARLES AND MARY LAMB.

PART I.

I. There was a certain island in the sea, the only inhabitants of which were an old man, whose name

¹ break'ers, waves breaking upon the coast or rocks.

² me-thinks', it seems to me.

³ they, the crew; hence, the ship.

⁴ cursed, imprecated evil upon; swore at.

was Prospero, and his daughter Miranda, a very beautiful young lady. She came to this island so young that she had no memory of having seen any other human face than her father's.

2. They lived in a cave or cell¹ made out of a rock; it was divided into several apartments, one of which Prospero called his study; there he kept his books, which chiefly treated of magic, a study at that time much affected² by all learned men.

3. The knowledge of this art he found very useful to him, being thrown by a strange chance upon this island, which had been enchanted³ by a witch⁴ called Sycorax, who died there a short time before his arrival. Prospero, by his art, released⁵ many good spirits that Sycorax had imprisoned⁶ in the bodies of large trees because they had refused to execute⁷ her wicked commands. These gentle spirits were ever after obedient to the will of Prospero. Of these Ariel was the chief.

4. The lively little sprite, Ariel,⁸ had nothing mischievous in his nature, except that he took rather too much pleasure in tormenting⁹ an ugly monster called Caliban, for he owed him a grudge¹⁰ because he was the son of his old enemy, Sycorax. This Caliban,

¹ cell, small and close room.

² af-fect'ed, liked; favored.

³ en-chant'ed, charmed; put under the power of enchantment.

⁴ witch, a sorcerer; a magician.

⁵ re-leased', set free; liberated.

⁶ im-pris'oned, confined.

⁷ ex'e-cute, to perform; to do.

⁸ A'ri-el (ā'ri-ēl), a water spirit.

⁹ tor-ment'ing, persecuting; distressing; teasing.

¹⁰ grudge', dislike; hatred.

Prospero found in the woods, a strange misshapen¹ thing, far less human in form than an ape; he took him home to his cell and taught him to speak.

5. Prospero would have been very kind to him, but the bad nature which Caliban inherited² from his mother, Sycorax, would not let him learn anything good or useful. Therefore he was employed like a slave to fetch wood and do the most laborious³ of offices, and Ariel had the charge of compelling him to these services.

6. When Caliban was lazy and neglected his work, Ariel—who was invisible to all eyes but Prospero's—would come slyly and pinch him and sometimes tumble him down in the mire. Then Ariel, in the likeness of an ape, would make mouths⁴ at him; then swiftly changing his shape, in the likeness of a hedgehog, he would lie tumbling in Caliban's way, who feared the hedgehog's sharp quills would prick his bare feet. With a variety⁵ of suchlike vexatious⁶ tricks Ariel would torment Caliban when he neglected the work which Prospero commanded him to do.

7. Having these powerful spirits obedient to his will, Prospero could by their means command the winds and the waves of the sea. By his orders they raised a violent storm, in the midst of which, and struggling with the wild sea waves that every mo-

¹ mis-shap'en, deformed.

² in-her'it-ed, received by birth.

³ la-bo-ri-ous, hard; tiresome.

⁴ make mouths, to make a wry

face; to pout.

⁵ a va-ri'e-ty of, various.

⁶ vex-a'tious, vexing; troublesome.

ment threatened¹ to swallow it² up, he showed his daughter a fine large ship, which he told her was full of living beings like themselves.

8. "Oh, my dear father," said she, "if by your art you have raised this dreadful storm, have pity on their sad distress.³ See! the vessel will be dashed to pieces. Poor souls! they will all perish. If I had power, I would sink the sea beneath the earth rather than the good ship should be destroyed, with all the precious souls within her."

9. "Be not so amazed, daughter Miranda," said Prospero; "there is no harm done. I have so ordered it that no person in the ship shall receive any hurt. What I have done has been in care⁴ of you, my dear child. You are ignorant who you are, or where you came from, and you know no more of me but that I am your father and live in this poor cave. Can you remember a time before you came to this cell? I think you cannot, for you were not then three years of age."

10. "Certainly I can, sir," replied Miranda.

"By what?" asked Prospero; "by any other house or person? Tell me what you can remember, my child."

Miranda said: "It seems to me like the recollection⁵ of a dream. But had I not once four or five women who attended⁶ upon me?"

¹ threat-ened, menaced; alarmed.

² it, the ship.

³ dis-tress', adversity; misery.

⁴ in care of, for the sake or in-

terest of.

⁵ rec-ol-lec-tion, memory.

⁶ at-tend-ed up-on', waited upon; served.

11. Prospero answered: "You had, and more. How is it that this still lives in your mind? Do you remember how you came here?"

"No, sir," said Miranda. "I remember nothing more."

12. "Twelve years ago, Miranda," continued Prospero, "I was duke of Milan, and you were a princess and my only heir.¹ I had a younger brother, whose name was Antonio, to whom I trusted everything; and, as I was fond of retirement² and deep study, I commonly left the management of my state affairs to your uncle, my false brother, for so, indeed, he proved.

13. "I, neglecting all worldly ends, buried among my books, did give my whole time to the bettering³ of my mind. My brother Antonio, being thus in possession of my power, began to think himself the duke indeed. The opportunity⁴ I gave him of making himself popular among my subjects awakened in his bad nature a proud ambition to deprive me of my dukedom.⁵ This he soon effected⁶ with the aid of the King of Naples, a powerful prince, who was my enemy."

14. "Wherefore," said Miranda, "did they not that hour destroy us?"

¹ heir(âr), one who inherits property; successor.

² re-tire-ment, seclusion; solitude.

³ bet-ter-ing, improvement.

⁴ op-por-tu-ni-ty, suitable occasion; convenience.

⁵ duke-dom, estate of a duke.

⁶ ef-fect-ed, accomplished; executed.

"My child," answered her father, "they durst not, so dear was the love that my people bore¹ me. Antonio carried us on board a ship, and when we were some leagues out at sea, he forced us into a small boat without either sail or mast; there he left us, as he thought, to perish. But a kind lord of my court, one Gonzalo, who loved me, had privately² placed in the boat water, provisions, apparel,³ and some books, which I prize above my dukedom."

15. "Oh, my father," said Miranda, "what a trouble⁴ must I have been to you then!"

"No, my love," said Prospero, "you were a little cherub⁵ that did preserve me. Your innocent⁶ smiles made me to bear up against my misfortunes.⁷ Our food lasted till we landed on this desert island, since when⁸ my chief delight has been in teaching you, Miranda, and well have you profited by my instructions.⁹"

16. "Heaven thank you, my dear father," said Miranda. "Now, pray tell me, sir, your reason for raising this sea storm."

"Know then," said her father, "that by means of this storm my enemies, the King of Naples and my cruel brother, are cast ashore upon this island."

¹ bore, entertained; cherished.

² pri-vate-ly, secretly.

³ ap-par-el, clothing.

⁴ trou-ble, a troublesome thing; a burden.

cher-ub, an angel; a darling.

⁶ in-no-cent, blameless; pure.

⁷ mis-for-tunes, ill lucks; disasters.

⁸ since when, and since then.

⁹ in-struc-tions, teachings; advices.

LESSON XV.

THE STORY OF "THE TEMPEST."

PART II.

1. Having so said, Prospero gently touched his daughter with his magic wand, and she fell fast asleep; for the spirit Ariel just then presented himself before his master to give an account of the tempest and how he had disposed¹ of the ship's company. Though the spirits were always invisible to Miranda, Prospero did not choose she should hear him holding converse²—as would seem to her—with the empty air.

2. "Well, my brave spirit," said Prospero to Ariel, "how have you performed your task?"

Ariel gave a lively description of the storm and of the terrors of the mariners; and how the king's son, Ferdinand, was the first who leaped into the sea; and his father thought he saw his dear son swallowed up by the waves and lost.

3. "But he is safe," said Ariel, "in a corner of the isle, sitting with his arms folded, sadly lamenting³ the loss of the king, his father, whom he concludes⁴ drowned. Not a hair of his head is injured; and his princely garments, though drenched⁵ in the sea waves, look fresher than before."

¹ dis-posed' of, determined the fate of; treated.

² con-verse, conversation; chat.

³ la-ment-ing, mourning.

⁴ con-cludes', infers; believes.

⁵ drenched, soaked; steeped.

4. "That's my delicate¹ Ariel," said Prospero. "Bring him hither; my daughter must see this young prince. Where are the king and my brother?"

"I left them," answered Ariel, "searching for Ferdinand, whom they have little hopes of finding, thinking they saw him perish. Of the ship's crew, not one is missing, though each one thinks himself the only one saved; and the ship, though invisible to them, is safe in the harbor."

5. "Ariel," said Prospero, "thy charge² is faithfully performed; but there is more work yet."

"Is there more work?" said Ariel. "Let me remind you, master, you have promised me my liberty. I pray, remember I have done you worthy service, told you no lies, made no mistakes, served you without grudge or grumbling.³"

6. "How now?" said Prospero. "You do not recollect what a torment I freed you from. Have you forgot the wicked witch Sycorax, who, with age and envy,⁴ was almost bent double? Where was she born? Speak: tell me."

"Sir, in Algiers," said Ariel.

7. "Oh, was she so?" said Prospero. "I must recount⁵ what you have been, which I find you do not remember. This bad witch Sycorax, for⁶ her witchcrafts,⁷ too terrible to enter human hearing, was

¹ del'i-cate, nice; fine; good.

² charge, duty; commission.

³ grum-bling, murmuring; complaining.

⁴ en-vy, jealousy; hatred.

⁵ re-count, tell again.

⁶ for, because of; on account of.

⁷ witch-crafts, sorceries; magics.

banished from Algiers and here left by the sailors; because you were a spirit too delicate¹ to execute her wicked commands, she shut you up in a tree, where I found you howling. This torment, remember, I did free you from."

8. "Pardon me, dear master," said Ariel, ashamed to seem ungrateful²; "I will obey your commands."

"Do so," said Prospero, "and I will set you free." He then gave orders what further he would have him do. Away went Ariel, first to where he had left Ferdinand, and found him still sitting on the grass in the same melancholy³ posture.

9. "Oh, my young gentleman," said Ariel, when he saw him, "I will soon move you. You must be brought, I find, for the Lady Miranda to have a sight of your pretty person.⁴ Come, sir, follow me."

10. He then began singing:—

"Full fathom⁵ five thy father lies;

Of his bones are coral made;

Those are pearls that were his eyes;

Nothing of him that doth fade,

But doth suffer a sea change

Into something rich and strange.

Sea nymphs⁶ hourly ring his knell⁷;

Hark! now I hear them,—ding-dong, bell."

¹ del'i-cate, weak; feeble.

² un-grate-ful, not thankful.

³ mel-an-cho-ly, gloomy; sad.

⁴ per-son, form; figure.

⁵ fath-om, a measure of six feet.

⁶ nymphs, goddesses of the mountains, forests, waters, etc.

⁷ knell, funeral bell; death signal.

11. This strange news of his lost father soon roused the prince from the stupid fit¹ into which he had fallen. He followed in amazement the sound of Ariel's voice till it led him to Prospero and Miranda, who were sitting under the shade of a large tree. Now Miranda had never seen a man before except her own father.

12. "Miranda," said Prospero, "tell me what you are looking at yonder."²

"Oh, father," said Miranda, in a strange surprise, "surely that is a spirit. How it looks about! Believe me, sir, it is a beautiful creature. Is it not a spirit?"

13. "No, girl," answered her father; "it eats, and sleeps, and has senses such as we have. This young man you see was in the ship; he is somewhat altered³ by grief, or you might call him a handsome person; he has lost his companions, and is wandering about to find them."

14. Miranda, who thought all men had grave⁴ faces and gray beards like her father, was delighted with the appearance of this beautiful young prince. And Ferdinand, seeing such a lovely lady in this desert place, and, from the strange sounds he heard, expecting nothing but wonders,⁵ thought he was upon an enchanted island, and that Miranda was the

¹ **stu'pid fit**, state of stupor; stupidity.
² **yon'der**, over there; at a distance.
³ **al'tered**, changed.
⁴ **grave**, sober; solemn; not gay.
⁵ **won'ders**, strange or wonderful things.

goddess of the place, and as such he began to address her.

15. She timidly¹ answered she was no goddess, but a simple maid, and was going to give him an account of herself, when Prospero interrupted² her. The father was well pleased to find they admired each other, but to try Ferdinand's constancy,³ he resolved to throw some difficulties in their way.

16. Therefore, advancing forward, he addressed the prince with a stern air,⁴ telling him he came to the island as a spy to take it from him who was the lord of it.

"Follow me," said he; "I will tie you neck and feet together. You shall drink sea water; shellfish, withered⁵ roots, and husks of acorns shall be your food."

17. "No," said Ferdinand, "I will resist such entertainment⁶ till I see a more powerful enemy," and drew his sword. But Prospero, waving⁷ his magic wand, fixed him to the spot where he stood, so that he had no power to move.

¹ **tim'id-ly**, cowardly; shyly.
² **in'ter-rupt-ed**, stopped; hindered.
³ **con'stan-cy**, fidelity.
⁴ **stern air**, severe manner.
⁵ **with-ered**, faded; dried up.
⁶ **en'ter-tain-ment**, treatment; reception.
⁷ **wav'-ing**, brandishing; flourishing.

LESSON XVI.

THE STORY OF "THE TEMPEST."

PART III.

1. Miranda hung upon her father, saying: "Why are you so ungentle¹? Have pity, sir; I will be his surety.² This is the second man I ever saw, and to me he seems a true one."

2. "Silence!" said the father, "one word more will make me chide you, girl. What! an advocate³ for an impostor! You think there are no more such fine men, having seen only him and Caliban. I tell you, foolish girl, most men as far excel⁴ this as he does Caliban."

3. "Come on, young man," said Prospero to the prince, "you have no power to disobey me."

"I have not, indeed," answered Ferdinand; and, not knowing that it was by magic he was deprived of all power of resistance,⁵ he was astonished to find himself so strangely compelled to follow Prospero into the cave.

4. Prospero kept Ferdinand not long confined within the cell. He soon brought out his prisoner and set⁶ him a severe task to perform, taking care to let his daughter know the hard labor he had im-

¹ un-gen⁴tle, severe; harsh; cruel. ⁴ ex-cel¹, exceed; surpass.
² sure⁴ty, security; bondsman. ⁵ re-sist⁴-ance, opposition.
³ ad⁴-vo-cate, defendant; pleader. ⁶ set, gave.

posed¹ on him; and then pretending to go into his study, he secretly watched them both.

5. Prospero had commanded Ferdinand to pile up some heavy logs of wood. Kings' sons not being much used to laborious work, Miranda soon after found Ferdinand almost dying with fatigue.²

"Alas!" said she, "do not work so hard; my father is at his studies³; he is safe for these three hours; pray rest yourself."

6. "Oh, my dear lady," said Ferdinand, "I dare not. I must finish my task before I take my rest."

"If you will sit down," said Miranda, "I will carry your logs the while.⁴"

But this Ferdinand would by no means agree to. Instead of a help, Miranda became a hindrance,⁵ for they began a long conversation, so that the business of log carrying went on very slowly.

7. Prospero, who had enjoined⁶ Ferdinand this task merely as a trial of his constancy, was not at his books as his daughter supposed, but was standing by them, invisible, to overhear what they said.

Ferdinand inquired her name, which she told, saying it was against her father's command she did so.

8. Prospero only smiled at this first instance⁷ of

¹ im-posed¹, placed; set. ⁴ the while, meanwhile.
² fa-tigue¹ (fā-tēg'), weariness; ⁵ hin⁴-drance, obstacle; impedi-
exhaustion. ment.
³ stud⁴-ies, books.—at his stud- ⁶ en-joined¹, imposed; ordered.
ies, studying. ⁷ in⁴-stance, example; case.



"I will carry your logs."

his daughter's disobedience¹; for, having by his magic art caused his daughter to admire Ferdinand, he was not angry that she forgot to obey his commands. He nodded his head, as much as to say, "This goes on exactly as I could wish; my girl will be Queen of Naples."

¹ dis'-o-be'-di-ence, want of obedience.

9. And then Ferdinand, in a fine long speech, for young princes speak in courtly phrases, told the innocent Miranda he was heir to the crown of Naples, and that she should be his queen.

Prospero prevented their further conversation by appearing visible before them.

10. "Fear nothing, my child," said he; "I have overheard and approve¹ of all you have said. And, Ferdinand, if I have too severely used you, I will make you rich amends² by giving you my daughter. All your vexations³ were but trials of your constancy and you have nobly stood the test.⁴ Then as my gift, which your true love has worthily purchased, take my daughter, and do not smile that I boast she is above all praise."

11. He then, telling them that he had business which required his presence, desired they would sit down and talk together till he returned; and this command Miranda seemed not at all⁵ disposed to disobey.

12. When Prospero left them, he called his spirit Ariel, who quickly appeared before him, eager to relate what he had done with Prospero's brother and the King of Naples. Ariel said he had left them almost out of their senses⁶ with fear at the strange things he had caused them to see and hear.

¹ ap-prove' of, am pleased with. ⁴ test, trial; experiment.

² a-mends', compensation.

⁵ not at all, not in the least.

³ vex-a-tions, troubles; afflictions.

⁶ out of their senses, insensible; unconscious.

13. When fatigued with wandering about, and famished¹ for want of food, he had suddenly set before them a delicious banquet²; and then, just as they were going to eat, he appeared visible before them in the shape of a harpy, a monster with wings, and the feast vanished³ away.

14. Then, to their utter amazement, this seeming harpy spoke to them, reminding them of their cruelty in driving Prospero from his dukedom and leaving him and his infant daughter to perish in the sea, saying that for this cause these terrors were suffered⁴ to afflict them.

15. The King of Naples and Antonio, the false brother, repented the injustice⁵ they had done to Prospero; and Ariel told his master he was certain their penitence⁶ was sincere, and that he, though a spirit, could not but pity them.

16. "Then bring them hither, Ariel," said Prospero; "if you, who are but a spirit, feel for their distress, shall not I, who am a human being like themselves, have compassion⁷ on them? Bring them quickly, my dainty Ariel."

¹ fam'ished, starved.

² de-li'cious ban'quet, delightful feast.

³ van'ished, disappeared.

⁴ suf'fered, allowed; permitted.

⁵ in-jus'tice, wrong; injury.

⁶ pen'ti-tence, repentance.

⁷ com-pas'sion, pity.

LESSON XVII.

THE STORY OF "THE TEMPEST."

PART IV.

1. Ariel soon returned with the king, Antonio, and old Gonzalo in their train,¹ who had followed him, wondering at the wild music he played in the air to draw them on to his master's presence. This Gonzalo was the same who had so kindly provided Prospero formerly with books and provisions, when his wicked brother left him, as he thought, to perish in an open boat in the sea.

2. Grief and terror had so stupefied² their senses that they did not know³ Prospero. He first discovered⁴ himself to the good old Gonzalo, calling him the preserver⁵ of his life; and then his brother and the king knew that he was the injured Prospero.

3. Antonio, with tears and sad words of sorrow and true repentance, implored⁶ his brother's forgiveness, and the king expressed his sincere remorse⁷ for having assisted Antonio to depose⁸ his brother.

Prospero forgave them; and, upon their engaging to restore his dukedom, he said to the King of Naples, "I have a gift in store⁹ for you, too," and

¹ in their train, following them.

² stu'pe-fied, made stupid or dull.

³ know, recognize.

⁴ dis-cov'ered, made known.

⁵ pre-serv'er, deliverer; saviour.

⁶ im-plored', entreated; begged.

⁷ re-morse', regret; compunction; sorrow.

⁸ de-pose', to dethrone; remove from office.

⁹ in store, in keeping; ready.

opening a door showed him his son, Ferdinand, playing at chess with Miranda.

4. Nothing could exceed the joy of the father and the son at this unexpected¹ meeting, for they each thought the other drowned in the storm.

“Oh, wonder!” said Miranda, “what noble creatures these are! It must surely be a brave² world that has such people in it.”

5. The King of Naples was almost as much astonished at the beauty and excellent graces of the young Miranda as his son had been.³

“Who is this maid?” said he; “she seems the goddess that has parted us, and brought us thus together.”

6. “No, sir,” answered Ferdinand, smiling to find his father had fallen into the same mistake that he had done when he first saw Miranda, “she is a mortal, but by immortal⁴ Providence she is mine; I chose her when I could not ask you, my father, for your consent, not thinking you were alive. She is the daughter to this Prospero, who is the famous Duke of Milan, of whose renown⁵ I have heard so much, but never saw him till now; of him I have received a new life: he has made himself to me a second father, giving me this dear lady.”

7. “Then I must be her father,” said the king;

¹ un-ex-pect-ed, sudden.

² brave, splendid; beautiful.

³ had been, had been astonished.

⁴ im-mor-tal, not mortal; undying; eternal.

⁵ re-nown', fame; reputation.

“but oh! how oddly¹ will it sound, that I must ask my child forgiveness!”

“No more of that,” said Prospero; “let us not remember our troubles past, since they so happily have ended.”

8. And then Prospero embraced his brother and again assured² him of his forgiveness. He said that a wise, overruling³ Providence had permitted that he should be driven from his dukedom of Milan, that his daughter might inherit the crown of Naples; for that⁴ by their meeting on this desert island it happened that the king's son had loved Miranda.

9. These kind words which Prospero spoke, meaning to comfort his brother, so filled Antonio with shame and remorse, that he wept and was unable to speak; and the kind old Gonzalo wept to see this joyful reconciliation,⁵ and prayed for blessings on the young couple.⁶

10. Prospero now told them that their ship was safe in the harbor, and the sailors all on board her, and that he and his daughter would accompany them home the next morning.

“In the meantime,” said he, “partake of such refreshments as my poor cave affords⁷; and for your evening's entertainment I will relate the history of my life from my first landing in this desert island.”

¹ odd-ly, queerly; strangely.

² as-sured', confirmed; insured.

³ o-ver-rul'ing, ruling over all things.

⁴ for that, because; since.

⁵ rec-on-cil'i-a-tion, reunion; renewal of friendship.

⁶ cou-ple, a pair; husband and wife.

⁷ af-fords', gives; offers.

11. He then called for Caliban to prepare some food, and set the cave in order; and the company were astonished at the uncouth¹ form and savage appearance of this ugly monster, who, Prospero said, was the only attendant he had to wait upon him.

12. Before Prospero left the island, he dismissed Ariel from his service, to the great joy of that lively little spirit, who, though he had been a faithful servant to his master, was always longing to enjoy his free liberty, to wander uncontrolled² in the air, like a wild bird, under green trees, among pleasant fruits and sweet-smelling flowers.

13. "My quaint³ Ariel," said Prospero to the little sprite when he made him free, "I shall miss⁴ you; yet you shall have your freedom."

"Thank you, my dear master," said Ariel; "but give me leave to attend your ship home with prosperous⁵ gales before you bid farewell to the assistance⁶ of your faithful spirit; and then, master, when I am free, how merrily I shall live!"

14. Here Ariel sang this pretty song:—

“Where the bee sucks, there suck I;
In a cowslip’s bell I lie:
There I couch⁷ when owls do cry.
On the bat’s back I do fly
After summer merrily.

¹ un-couth', strange; dreadful. ⁴ miss, feel the want of.
² un-con-trolled', unrestrained; freely. ⁵ pros-per-ous, favorable.
³ quaint, odd; strange. ⁶ as-sist-ance, help; aid; service.
⁷ couch, lie down; hide.

Merrily, merrily shall I live now,
Under the blossom that hangs on the bough."

15. Prospero then buried deep in the earth his magical books and wand, for he was resolved never more to make use of the magic art.

16. And, having thus overcome his enemies and being reconciled¹ to his brother and the King of Naples, nothing now remained to complete his happiness but to revisit² his native land, to take possession³ of his dukedom, and to witness the happy nuptials⁴ of his daughter and Prince Ferdinand, which the king said should be instantly celebrated with great splendor on their return to Naples. At which place, under the safe convoy⁵ of the spirit Ariel, they, after a pleasant voyage, soon arrived.