THURLOW'S CHRISTMAS STORY.

BY TOHN KENDRICK BANGS-ILLUSTRATED BY A.

(Being the Statement of Henry Thurlow, Author, to George Curri Editor of the "Idler," a Weekly Journal of Homan Interest.)

Biblio of the "bible". "With Journal of Homes, Individ.)

HAYE always minimized, rup der Currier, that if a man winders to be considered sues, and has any particular regard for his reputation as a truth ellop, he can be a superficient regard of his frequestion as a truth ellop, he care that enter into his life. I have had many such appearance as yeal; but I have ready confided them in decreas the most treatful of any friends would regard them morely as the outcome of an imagination unsertained by consectors, or of a gradually weakening mind subject to half-or once other modern what had not been considered to the consection, or of a gradually weakening mind subject to half-or once other modern what had no structed a search-light strong esough to by huse the secrets of the mind and consection of many Lunaes prove to outdoor that they are as the secrets of the mind and consections of many Lunaes prove to outdoor that they are as



"FACE TO FACE."

"PACE TO PACE"

The proper fabrication, or at least the conjurings of a diseased state to bin the plain and indispatche fact that one injuring the plain and indispatched fact that one injuring the plain and indispatched the plain and feature. Injury discourse the child current that struck to the very names of my benes, and wellingh forest has to the controlling figure every indication of all time had the plain and indispatched the plain and indispatched the plain and realised that that fishey era, as for a likewe similar of military that the plain and realised that that fishey era, as for a likewe similar of manifestion of the plain and realised wheth the fished and a series of the plain and in the plain and in the plain and in the plain and in the plain and plain an

they were tabl in their sarried detail, and not I have been chared shows them. To you show, and now for the first items, have I haisted as to the troubles which have opprosed me of the demand by the control of the demand of th

ROST,

Its say explanation of the discovery of October 16, which are pixed say position with, so us justification of the control of the contr

my books, and then he entered the bounc in response to my institution that he does. It solected bin his my pillurary, institution that he does. It solected bin his my pillurary institution that he does not be a substituted by the manner with me.

In the substitute of my writings for a minute of years, and that for some time part he hold had a great desire, not to pyred created on for my writings for a must her had read that for some time part he hold had a great desire, but to pyred created only not store.

"I'm a great decourse of books, Mr. Thurfow," he said, years of the my store, and the my store and his more stored by the my store, and the my store, and the my store and the my s



"HE RATTLED ON WITH SUGGESTIONS FOR HALF AN HOUR."

The remark recalled to see the dreadful reality, that the analysis of the second reality of the second reality descripting by restellation in profession and up to flamatid resource, restellation in the profession and up to flamatid resource, predicts and the second results of the second reality of the secon



"DOESN'T DARE LOOK ME IN THE EYE!"

He appeared deeply concerned at the confession. I had been the confession in the last blad beparture, that I might make one more effort to write the premised stary. His additional, however, showed last! the last blad between the confession of the

able to the season."

"Ah." he observed. "And you find your vein worked out?"

out?"
If was a direct and perhaps an impertinent question; but
I thought it best to answer it, and to answer it as well with
out giving him any clew as to the real facts. I could not
very well take an entire stranger into my condience, and
describe to him the extraordinary encounters I was having
with an uncanny other self. He would not have believed
the truth, hence I told him an untruth, and assented to his

the truin, senter, we see the proposition of the vein is worked out. I have written "Yes, I replied, "the vein is worked out. I have written "Yes, I replied, "the vein is worked out. And I am to day at the end of my tether—compelled to move forward and yet held back." It he said simply. "When I first

and yet held back."
"That accounts for it," he said, simply, "When I first saw you to night at the door I could not believe that the author who had provided me with so much meriment could be so pale and worn and seemingly mithless. Pardon me, Mr. Thurlow, for my lack of consideration when I told you that you did not appear as I had expected to find

you.

I smiled my forgiveness; and he continued;

"It may be," he said, with a show of hesitation—"it may
be that I have come not altogether inopportunely. Perhaps
Lean help, you!"

I can help you."
I smiled again. "I should be most grateful if you could,"

be that I favor come not altogether inopportunely. Perhaps I remited again. I reliated peam of reliated if you could. I remited again. I reliated peam of reliated if you could. I remited again. I reliated peam of come you do it and why shouldn't you? Nevertheless. I have worken their jet from model. The remited is the remited of the remitted of the remited of the

beighed me, as I have told you. Why may I not help—"I same you, help—"I began, when be betweeped me, "One moment, please," he said, putting his hand into an envolve addressed to me. "Set me finish it, it is the whim of one who has an affection for you. Per in years I have excernly been at work myelf on it. the finish it, it is the whim of one who has an affection for you. Per in years I have excernly been at work myelf on it. He finish: I have been to be a second to be read to be a second to be a

BIARPERS WEEKLY

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and you. It is not hield you fail adult
have been added to the collection of the collection
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print or to destroy; and if you print it,
to see it is try will be enough from
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you that I om not a man of embassions. It is difficult to account that summer in my branch, but upon this creasing it is also of Italian and of Pay, the wondroas consists of the International Conference of the International Conference of the International Conference of the International Conference on Confer

uson the edge of my conclusions where for the first time it ad"Poul!" said. "How can you be believed. The said was promised to be believed. Here a your position is said to be said. The said was a said to be said to be said to make the field, you are already to be said to make the said to mostrow morning to the said to mostrow morning to be said to mostrow morning to be said to the said to mostrow morning to be said to be said to be said to the said to be s

never yet broken a promise to them." Which is precisely the rea-son why they will be severe with you. You, who have been re-garded as one of the few men who can do almost any kind of

literary work at will—you, of whom it is said that your brains are on tap:—will they be lenient with gow? Bab!. Can's you see likat the very fact of your invariable rendiness heretolore is going to make your present unreadiness a thing incomprehensible?"

herecolous is going to make your present unreadiness at ling incompeniessably. It don't a lasted, "If I can't, I can't,

Very pretry tosogis antivery as energy record in solve for Again it knaples harshly, and I busied in fage in the tight less of my couch, hoping to find relief there from this "Currious," it also. "What you call your deem self down't date hold, use in the eye! What a mistake people in the country of the co

and are you with your-publishers. How can you heatand are you with your-publishers. How can you heat"I what not use in I' rejet, deepening."
"I will not use in I' rejet, deepening."
"But it would be a crime.
"I would be a crime.
This, of it as it is—and ast, only set quickly. It is now
The staper root up and wailed to the other ond of the
room, whence, while is pretended to be looking over a few
of my beaks and pletters. I was aware be was eying must
not as a fully with a comparison of the comparison

I rushed to the table, seized my pen, and signed my name to the story. "There" I said. "It is done. I have saved my position, and made my reputation, and am now a thief?" "As well as a fool," said the other, calmly. "You don't may be not say you are going to send that manuscript in as it is?"

mean to say you are going to need that musisweript in as it $^{-1}$ (foot Leaf I 're indi. "What under heaven have you been trying to make me do for the last half how?" At tilk as same being, "and the dension. "If you send yours. He knows you haven't un amanuensis, and that handwriting has 1 yours. Copy it." I have the same of the same of

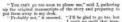


THE DEMON VANISHED.

HARPER'S WEEKLY

home. When I had returned to my library my visitor was still there. "Well," it said, "I wish you'd hurry and complete this affair. I am tired, and wish to go."

"LOOK AT YOUR SO-CALLED STORY AND SEE."





"Till be side in 20 too, but the summerical is destroyed. As the summerical is destroyed, as the summerical in the summerical in the summerical interest in the summeric

"Of what?" I asked.
"Look at your so-called story and see. If this is a practical joke, Thulrow, it's a damned poor one."
I opened the envelope and took from it the sheets I had sent you—twenty-four of them.
They were every one of them as blank as when they left the paper-mill!

sent your-teenty-tour of them.

Sent your-teenty-tour of them.

Sent know the rede "We have the I tried to speak."

You know the rede "We have the I tried to speak.

You know the rede "We have the I tried and reads the them to control my emotion. I trued and reads the them to control my emotion. I trued and reads Van know that you write themseling a satisfactory responsition of the situation or my regionation of the situation or my regionation from your true the state of the properties of the situation of the situation of the state of the state

mysterious provision of fate my concerned that that Be sympathetic, Currier, or, if you cannot, be lenient with me this time. Believe, believe, believe, believe, implore you. Pray let me hear from you at once.

(Signed)

HENRY THURLOW,

II.

(Being a Note from George Currier, Editor of the "killer," to Heavy Thurboe, Anthon.)

How Thinke, Action?
Your explanation has come to hand. As an explanation it isn't worth the paper it is written on, but we are all aggred here that it is probably the test is of a ficting suggested here that it is probably the test in of a fixten one. In the control of the co