

This mode of composition
seemed incredible to me, espe-
cially when I remembered what
experience in writing she has
had - for she began at least twen-
-ty five yrs ago when she was
a young woman and had a
fine literary training under
her father who was a scholar.

However nothing is more
difficult to comprehend than
these acts how authors & com-
posers create when the actors
come third hand.

In the sunset when we
were returning home we talked
of poor Charlotte Cushman
and laughed over some of her
curious droll ways and ^{as it was} droll
social life ^{about twenty yrs ago.}
She had with her always a fe-
male companion with whom

she quarrelled when she did
not reign as tyrant. There was
a certain Matilda Hayes who held
this difficult post with her for
a few years and C.C. & she fought
like cat and dog. They used to throw
brushes & combs at each other. At
last one of their tussles took place
before witnesses and they had to
separate. Mattie said she was
present. She had dined or lunched
with Miss C. that day and was
lying on the sofa after the meal
taking a nap in the salon. It was
an unceremonious visit; and Mattie
was very intimate with Miss C. &
Miss H. She had heard whispers
of the private fist cuffs between
the two women but she hardly
credited the stories & counted them
as gossip. She had a great respect
for Miss C. & also a great admiration

for Miss Hayes.

Miss Hayes was dependent in a great measure on Miss C. About the time the trial scene took place Miss H. was very jealous of a new friendship Miss C. had formed. Miss Stebbins had come to Rome and Miss C. had taken a great fancy to her. Miss H. foolishly grew fiercely jealous and there were numerous disturbances. Sallie the maid said about this matter.

After Battie had fallen in to a dose on the day I speak of she was aroused by a noise and awaking saw Miss H. attacking Miss C. with her fist and Miss C. defending herself. It appears Miss C. began to write a note on some business matter Miss H. thought it was a note to Miss

new object of affection and grew mad with jealousy. She taxed C. with it and insisted upon seeing the note. C. would not say to whom she was writing and refused indignantly to show the note. Miss Hayes tried to get it Miss C. coolly put the note into her mouth.

Then the H. woman beside herself with rage swore she'd make C. swallow it. There was a Miss Gill sitting by also a guest who saw the preliminaries of the battle while Battie was asleep.

Battie says it was the most disgusting sight she ever witnessed equal to two drunken washwomen. They fought like two gladiators. Miss C. got decidedly the worst of the fight. Miss H. pursued her from the saloon into the dining room and chairs and

Tables ^{and} clothing + c flew about together. Hattie at last thoroughly awakened and thoroughly disgusted went to the combatants and said to Miss H. who was decidedly the victorious Amazon

"Come May I think we have had enough of this, its about time to stop."

The H woman turned on her

"Damn you" she cried like a fishwoman "You had better not meddle with my affair"

Hattie could not stand the sights and sounds any longer so she went off, left the room and the house and returned home Her apt: was very near.

An hour or so afterward Miss H. came to Hattie very penitent and weeping bitterly She begged Hattie's pardon ^{most}

humily for having addressed her so coarsely. Hattie told her frankly that while she was willing to pardon her she could never forget the revolting scene and the repulsive vulgar words. She told Miss H. she was completely disillusioned and never wished to see her again. The H woman implored her to look over it and forget as well as forgive but Hattie said her disgust was unshakable & the H woman left her. Hattie never saw her again. Two days after she left Rome. She was very violent against C. C. threatened to bring a suit against her for damages resulting from a broken literary career - she alleged she had sacrificed ^{accepting} ~~her~~ position to serve C. C. and C had to buy her off

with some small sum or there
and or two dollars.

Some yrs after Kathy was
at Malvern Miss H. heard one
was there and wrote asking Kathy
to appoint a place and time
of meeting in London. Kathy
did not answer her letter and
has never heard of her since.

Kathy did not seem to feel
any disgust against C.C. Of
course Miss H. was in the wrong
and behaved like a beast, but
surely part of the blame rested
on C.C. for allowing such a scene
to occur. It could not have taken
place if C.C. had acted with proper
dignity during their previous in-
-tercourse. They were women ^{over}
40 yrs of age! and both were persons
of nice intellectual culture and
good social associations.

After that Miss Stebbins came
to live with C.C. Miss S. is a soft
gentle quiet ladylike woman, a
good woman too. She yielded to C.
C. blindly; the friendship and in-
-tercourse lasted unbroken until
C.C.'s death and was a great con-
-fort to both - a benefit to C.C.
most certainly I think for she grew
to be more of a lady. But C.C.
let out the tiger in other ways
she was bitter and abusive and
full of hate towards many persons.
Poor poor woman! How
she suffered those last years
She had every thing her fondest
wildest ambition had craved
Position, reputation, great wealth
but was ravaged devoured by
a cruel malady - Poor poor
Charlotte Cushman!