

The Miser.

What a mean close and stingy person is the miser! How he watches his money that is stowed away and does not let a day pass without counting it over and over again! He is despised and shunned by all except those who lead a ^{life} similar life to his. You may see them sometimes going around the streets of our cities some picking up rags others peddling straw with a poor miserable horse hardly able to draw the load behind him. To see them you would suppose they were poor miserable persons with hardly money enough to supply their bodies with food; but this is not the case; they have riches enough stowed away, perhaps, to keep them the rest of their lives in a fashionable hotel. What enjoyment has the miser? he never goes into ~~to~~ company, never goes to any place of amusement; never travels, nor ~~never~~ does anything year in and year out but watch his stored up treasures. Can such a man be happy? No indeed. If a man wishes to be happy he must conform ^{to} the rules of society. The miser is like the rich man who stores up and great many riches and dies the next day. He little thinks his life is as a flower and that he may be taken away at any moment and "as he brought nothing into this world he can carry nothing out." What use is money if it is not to spend and to use for the necessities of life? Wherefore ^{then} do men store it up thereby breaking God's commandments? When men become very rich they are pretty nearly as bad

as misers; they do not give as much as
the hardworking man does for charitable
purposes, that is in proportion to their means.
What comfort can a miser have? I am sure
his sleep is more or less disturbed by fright-
ful visions of murderers and ghosts and
cheives searching for his secreted treasures
and standing over him ready to slay him
the first word he utters. His life, therefore, can-
not be any more than a life of vexation and
torment.

6 Composition
June 13th 1863 By A. Freed

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