

## ANYMAN.

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On lands not far from here, and there the fold  
Taken in contact with the anti-cline  
Proves sure results. Arrangements to refine  
Can be proceeded with before a hole  
Has been put down. At least, you would find  
coal,

Nor would you need to drive a tunnel far;  
The rocks crustaceous in formation are.

ANYMAN: Ah! Mr. Booster, there you catch a crab.  
I must acknowledge you've a gift of gab.  
But still, the word *cretaceous* is more fit  
To indicate the certain rocks where sit  
The minerals you describe. Now, for your sake,  
Good Luck, I'm sorry to declare a fake  
This creature; that you, in your wish to aid  
My fallen fortunes, have most rashly made  
A boon companion. Fellow, get you hence.

BOOSTER: Oh! come now, Master, lend me fifty cents.  
You've had some moments of my precious time.

ANYMAN: No, not a cent.

BOOSTER: Oh! come now, just a dime.

[Exit Booster.]

ANYMAN: Good Luck, Good Luck, you're efforts all are  
vain—

No place to sleep, no shelter from the rain.

GOOD LUCK: Oh, Master, Master, give me one more chance  
And I will strive your comfort to enhance.  
Ah! happy thought! Why build above the  
ground?

Below I do believe it would be found  
Winter and summer, that the temperature  
Would be more even, and there's one thing sure,  
No chilly draughts would blow beneath the door,  
No rent, no taxes, no electric light,  
No telephone to wake the peaceful night.

[Enter Undertaker, followed by Gravedigger.]

UNDERTAKER: The latest thing in caskets, quite unique,  
In oak, or cedar, or in toughest teak,  
With silver handles of a chaste design.

GRAVEDIGGER: A very nifty job I make o' mine.

I trim the edges with the greatest care,  
And make the corners to a perfect square.

ANYMAN: Friends, you're most kind to give me of your  
skill.

I grieve that I've no pay save my good-will.

UNDERTAKER  
and

GRAVEDIGGER: No pay, indeed! We do not work for naught.

GOOD LUCK: Wait, Master, now I have a happy thought.

[To Gravedigger.]

Good Hamlet's friend, I have a dollar, see,  
Take it and lend your pick and spade to me.  
My Master has been driv'n from his home  
By a cruel Landlord, and he's forc'd to roam.  
There's not a hovel, house or tenement  
Throughout this realm that he can find to rent.

[Rents tools.]

With these good tools a shelter he will find;  
Then you can fetch—what he will leave behind!

[Exit Undertaker and Gravedigger.]

[Enter Ease.]

ANYMAN: Ah! Now my Ease, we'll stretch us out at  
length.

Refreshing sleep shall give us back our strength.

EASE: I'll not go with you to this earthy bed.

I like a downy pillow for my head.

[Exit Ease.]

[Enter Comfort.]

ANYMAN: Ah! Comfort, you I know will come again,  
And now we'll find a shelter from the rain.

COMFORT: Oh! Do not look to me your home to share.  
I'm sure it would be far too stuffy there!

[Exit Comfort.]

ANYMAN: Come on, Good Luck, old comrade tried and  
true.

GOOD LUCK: Oh! Master dear,—I—cannot—follow—you.  
[Dies.]

[Sounds of pick and shovel, during  
which speaks.]

THE MORAL: If an abuse or evil you would state,  
To make it plain, you must exaggerate.  
So is this case so rudely brought to mind  
With the fond hope an answer you will find.  
For 'tis a question that doth sorely press  
And calls for instant and complete redress.  
Whether the State enhousement should provide  
You can yourself by pow'r of vote decide.  
The man who rents goes ever here and there,  
Until at last he can't get anywhere.  
Happy house-owners, don't let others roam  
And never know the joys of "Home, Sweet  
Home."

[Sound of a heavy body falling. Gravedigger  
crosses stage, scraping pick and shovel.]

[Curtain.]

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