THE KING OF NO-LAND.

BY B. L. FARJEON.

XV.

(*Continued.*)

He can not quite banish thought of the past, although he strives to do so. He keeps himself steadily aloof from all political matters, and flies from them as though a plague were attached to them; but at odd times thought of No-land and his Court and people intrudes itself against his will, and seems to whisper in a tone of steel, "Nay, I will be heard!" It comes upon him once—he is impelled by the same inward force, and can not resist—to introduce politics into a conversation with Coltsfoot. They have been to hear a social sermon from the lips of a preacher, upon whom many of his brethren look with displeasure and aversion. Strange to say, this preacher is a Bishop. Strange, because he is not content with flowing platitudes; because with firm hand he grasps the nettle danger in his search for the flower safety; because he is unsparing in his denunciation of the follies and frivolities which pervade certain classes of society, and is bitterly severe upon those who make pleasure the chief business of their lives. This Bishop thanks God that there are some few "noble men and women rising above this utter animalism, this low sensualism, and who do endeavor to realize that they have a duty to discharge to God and man;" and says, "though philosophers may make themselves merry at the expense of Christianity, and though clever writers may run down so-called sectarian schools, and think it the height of enjoyment to ride on the box of a fourin-hand or sail in a yacht, these are not the things by which a man may discharge his conscience to God." Bitterly does he deplore that so many men and women in high places "go through the world with blinkers over their eyes, shutting out the painful sights around them, or stop their ears with wool, so that they may not hear the cry of the fatherless; and yet these men and women have a sunny kind of belief that they are performing life's duties worthily, and that to be seen in a church now and then during the year is a cloak for their idle, aimless hours and days."

These words make a deep impression upon Sassafras, and he says to Coltsfoot, as they walk out of church:

"The preacher seems to think that there is as wide a difference now between classes in No-land as there was before the disappearance of the King."

"You have been too happy in your domestic life," replies Coltsfoot, "to pay much heed to politics; and as I have observed, when I have introduced political matters in our conversations, that you have been desirous of avoiding the discussion of them, I have not pressed them upon you. But the change in the political condition of the country has not, up to this day, resulted in a better state of things for the people. I think that the man who was chosen to represent the opinions of the new governing power would confess as much. The time was not ripe for change. If you want a tree, after it has attained a full and strong growth, to grow one way or the other, it must be trained very gently. These men demanded an impossibility. They asked for equality, and already they have shown themselves utterly unfit for government; already they are quarrelling among themselves for place and pay. The flavor of Egypt's flesh-pots has proved too strong for their patriotism."

"I have never heard you express an opinion," said Sassafras, "upon the action of the King in deserting the post."

"He was both weak," replies Coltsfoot, "and wanting in a sense of duty."

Sassafras does not pursue the subject; and indeed presently it fades from his mind before the pressure of a deep affliction. His child, so sweet a source of joy and happiness in their home, sickens and dies. The little one lies lil for many days and nights, and neither love, unwearying attention, nor heartfelt prayers can save it. The mother, in her care for her darling, begrudges the claims which nature makes upon her; and even when, after long, long hours of watching, sleep mercifully steals from her for a little while the pangs of grief she suffers, she will not leave her darling, but lies by his side with her hand upon his neck, as though by that tender caress she can move the Angel of Death to stay his hand. In vain. The last hour comes surely, and in the dead of night the flower dies with the dim light of its parents' eyes shining upon it.

Come from the chamber with me; the grief of three stricken souls is too deep, too sacred for our eyes. They find consolation in their faithful love for each other, and a stronger consolation in prayer. In the chamber of death, with the inanimate form of their beloved before them, they see a light beyond the grave. It falls upon the face of their child, and he lives again, and stretches out his arms to them.

So Bluebell and Sassafras live their lives throughout three changes of the seasons.

But this Christmas shall be the last they shall spend together in that humble cottage of love and content.

CUNNING LITTLE DICK.

The change came about in a strange way. It had been Coltsfoot's habit for many years to visit certain places on Christmas-day, and he had often spoken to Sassafras of the beautiful and touching scenes he had witnessed at this season in a large hospital, where the sick poor were cared for. Sassafras had expressed a wish to see these scenes, and upon this Christmas-night he accompanied Coltsfoot to the hospital. They left Bluebell at home, with Iris, Lucerne and Daisy, saying they would return at nine o'clock. Robin was also at home, making big eyes at Iris, and thinking, as he had thought three years ago, how pretty she was. He had not, however, yet mustered sufficient courage to put his thought in words.

On their way to the hospital, Coltsfoot conversed with Sassafras upon the state of the country, and Sassafras learned much that astonished him. The new administration had utterly failed to remedy the evils of which the people had complained; the most unscrupulous of the Quamoclits and Whortleberries had got into power, and were making the worst use of it. Not only were they incompetent, they were corrupt; and the people in every part of No-land were crying out for a change.

"Change!" exclaimed Sassafras, "What change?"

"They say they were happier under Sassafras, and they are asking where he is. The papers are full of the theme; even the papers owned by the Reformers say it would be a happy day for the country if the King could be found and induced to resume his crown. The principal one of these papers is edited by Old Humanity—"

"Do you know that man?" inquired Sassafras, in an agitated tone.

"I have frequently conversed with him, and if I meet him in no other place, I meet him often at the hospital we are going to now. He has a daughter there, a nurse. Well, even Old Humanity, although his opinions are in noways changed, has said in his paper that it would be well if the King could be found. This man very singularly speaks in somewhat affectionate terms of Sassafras: it seems that on the occasion on which he attended as spokesman for the people he was most favorably impressed by the demeanor of the young King. The mystery is what can have become of him. Some say he is dead; yet his body has not been found. Old Humanity declares that the King is alive, and in No-land! If so, he has concealed himself cunningly. But here we are at the hospital."

Sassafras, disturbed as he was by what he had just heard, found much that interested him in this hospital. He would fain have lingered long in the children's ward, which was beautifully lit up by hundreds of small Christmas candles of yellow, and green, and red, and blue. The ward was lined with straight rows of cots, every one of which had its child occupant, and the eyes of all were fixed with eager gaze upon the colored lights which made the scene brilliant. Some of the sick children lay upon their backs, very still and quiet, and from the snow-white bed linen peeped pitiful white faces; the faces of others were joyous; some clapped their little hands; and some rose in their cots, and seemed as though they would have wished things to go on forever in this way. Not one of the children in this ward was more than twelve years of age; some were mere babies; but there were many old, old faces among them. Before one of these old faces Coltsfoot paused. The child—who was so thin and small that he looked scarcely eight years of age, but was two or three years older—was lying on his side, gazing upon the colored candles, which, as they wasted away, but too surely typified his fate. There was not a trace of pleasure in his sullen eyes, and in his pinched, old, weazen face there was the cunning of a fox.

"Cunning little Dick he's called," whispered the nurse, "and I've been told that he is proud of the title, although, since he has been here, I have never seen any other expression on his face than that which rests there now. He was brought here three weeks ago, having been run over and crushed badly, but never a murmur has escaped his lips."

Coltsfoot had started at the name.

"Do you remember," he said in a low tone to Sassafras, "the Christmas-day we spent together when you were a boy, before you went on your travels, and the scene we witnessed in that miserable garret, where a woman lay dead of starvation? Do you remember the baby I found in a corner of the room, and the name they called it by? Dick—little Dick—cunning little Dick!"

Two other persons were now at the bedside. Sassafras trembled as his eyes fell upon the form of Old Humanity. A lad who accompanied the old man stood by the bedside. Not not ging Sassafras's agitation, Coltsfoot continued:

"This poor child must be cunning little Dick."

To be Continued.

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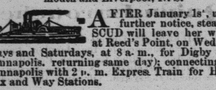

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CLOTHING MADE TO ORDER.

Gents' Furnishing Goods

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

The best of material used and satisfaction guaranteed.

☞ All orders promptly attended to.

Ready-Made Clothing,

SHIRTS,

Homespun Frocks, Horse Blankets,

Camp Spreads & Blanketings,

Of our own manufacture.

Unequalled in the Dominion for quality and lowness of price.

Lumberers, Millmen and others

Are requested to examine before purchasing elsewhere.

Terms Liberal.

sep7 tf T. R. JONES & CO.

FOREIGN FIRE PROSPECTUS.

NORTHERN

ASSURANCE COM'Y.

OF

London and Aberdeen.

ESTABLISHED A. D. 1836.

Fire Assurance of Every Description ON MOST REASONABLE TERMS.

DEPOSITED AT OTTAWA.....$100,000

FINANCIAL POSITION 31st DEC. 1870:

Subscribed Capital.....£2,000,000
Accumulated Funds.....1,154,267
Annual Revenue from Fire Premiums, 213,600

Office No. 4 (Street Range) Ritchie's Building

WARWICK W. STREET, Agent. LEWIS J. ALMON, Sub-Agent.

may 8

Wedding and Visiting Cards

ENGRAVED AND PRINTED

In First-Class Style,

and on the

MOST REASONABLE TERMS

R. H. GREEN Engraver, 79 Germain street.

N. B.—Stencil Cutting of every description done in first-rate style. d o:t47

APPLES.

Just received:

50 BBLS No. 1 Bishop Pippin Apples; 20 bbls No. 1 Greening do; 100 bbls Cheap Cooking Apples.

For sale cheap by ARMSTRONG & McPHERSON, No. 99 Union street.

dec3

Agents

For the sale of the DAILY TRIBUNE.

H. Chubb & Co., Prince William street.
J. & A. McMillan, do.
Barnes & Co., do.
H. R. Smith, King street.
W. K. Crawford, do.
T. M. Reed, Dock street.
Roger Hunter, do.
W. Hawker, Reed's Point.
John Steadman, Coburg street.
J. Morey, Union street.
McRoberts & Son, Charlotte street.
John Smith, Corner Coburg and Union street.
Emery & Son, Golden Ball.
H. C. Frost, Brussels street.
J. McArthur & Co., do.
——— White, City Road.
——— Usher, do.
James McKinney, Main street.
Mrs. Perkins, corner Carmarthen and Mecklenburg.
L. Currie, corner Carmarthen and St. Andrews.
R. Patchell, corner Carmarthen and Britain.
G. F. Burns, corner Wentworth and Main.
J. King, Princess street.
J. B. Lorrimer, corner Orange and Carmarthen.
J. D. McAvity, Bustin's Corner.
W. G. Brown, Indiantown.
W. J. Hazelwood, near Portland Church.
J. J. Forrest, corner Main street and Paradise Row.
— Smith, Paradise Row.
W. McCready, foot of Jeffry's Hill.

Brandy. Brandy.

Landing ex British Queen, from Charente.

17 QR casks Brandy:
10 octaves do;
60 cases quarts, Brandy.
70 " pints do;
10 " hf-pints do.

For sale very low, in bond or duty paid.

ANDREW J. ARMSTRONG, 40 Charlotte street

dec15

Just Received:

Barrels and half barrels

NO. 1 MACKEREL.

100 Hf-bbls Split Herring,
100 Bbls Split Herring.

For sale low at No. 5 South Wharf.

oct5 F. A. DeWOLF.

Scotch Refined Sugars.

Now landing ex SS Assyria:

25 Hogsheads

BRIGHT

Scotch Refined Sugars.

For sale by

JAMES DONVILLE & CO.,

sept5 Nos. 9 and 10 North Wharf.

Bay View Hotel,

PRINCE WM STREET.

WILLIAM WILSON, - - Proprietor.

THE Subscriber, having leased the above well known House on Prince William Street, and furnished it throughout, is now prepared to accommodate Transient and Permanent Boarders, on the most favorable terms.

This House is finely situated—being near the International Steamboat Landing, and convenient to the leading public and business offices, churches and places of amusement with a full view of the Bay and Harbor, and is eminently adapted for a first-class Hotel. A few Permanent Boarders can now obtain board with choice rooms.

feb21 1y WILLIAM WILSON.

Common & Refined Iron, Metal, Cordage, Duck, Spikes, &c.

Per steamer Mimosa, from Liverpool, and vessels from United States:

1500 BARS BEST REFINED IRON, well assorted.
1576 bars Common Iron, well assorted;
81 coils Isle of Man Hemp Rope, 2 to 7½ in.
106 " English & American Manilla, 2 to 6 in.
13 " B B Charcoal Wire Rope, 2 to 4 in.
219 " YELLOW METAL, ⅜ to 1½;
8 Chain Cables and Anchors;
2000 yards Cotton Duck.

To arrive per ships Ruby and Eviva, and steamers from Liverpool

Outfits for vessels complete, COMMON and REFINED IRON, Yellow Metal, SPIKES, Oakum, Lead, &c., &c.

For sale at lowest market rates.

ap 13 JAMES L. DUNN & CO.

CIGARS!

IN STORE:

The Largest and Best Selected Stock

In the market, including favorite brands of

Havans, German and Canadian Goods,

WHOLESALE ONLY.

☞ An inspection solicited!

R. R. DUNCAN,

june1 21 Water street.

ALCOHOL.

50 PER cent Overproof, in bond at No. 2 Warehouse. Will be sold at Lowest Market Rates, in Bond or Duty Paid, by SWEENY & STAFFORD, 4 South Wharf.

nov13 frm

NEW STORE.

ARMSTRONG & McPHERSON, 99 UNION STREET.

ARE now receiving a choice assortment of Teas, Sugars, Coffees, Spices, Fruits, etc., etc., suitable for the season.

All warranted fresh and good.

Also—5 bbls Cranberries, choice.

oct6 99 UNION STREET.

Apples. Apples.

Ex stmr New Brunswick:

100 BBLS No. 1, American Baldwins. For sale low to close consignment.

W. A. SPENCE, North Slip.

nov9

GIN. GIN.

Landing ex Lulu, from Liverpool;

10 HHDS Henker Gin; 10 qr-casks do; 50 cases do.

For sale low ANDREW J. ARMSTRONG

dec10 nws 49 Charlotte street.

Perfumerie des Trois Freres

Paris, West End, White Rose, Frangipane, Ess. Bouquet, Jockey Club,Ille Fleurs,

THE finest perfumes made. If not sold by your druggist, may be obtained at retail of the Wholesale Agency,

H. L. SPENCER, 20 Nelson street.

june 8

PRESSED HOPS—One ton—crop of 1873—fresh and good. For sale by H. L. SPENCER, 20 Nelson street.

june 8

FINE TOILET SOAPS—Five cases Brown Windsor, Glycerine, Honey, Rose and Almond. H. L. SPENCER, 20 Nelson street.

une 8

CLARKE'S BLOOD MIXTURE, and other preparations—A Stock received ex Caspian, by the Wholesale Agent. H. L. SPENCER, 20 Nelson street.

june 8

TAYLOR'S CREAM YEAST.—If not sold by your grocer, may be obtained at Retail of the Wholesale Agent. H. L. SPENCER, 20 Nelson street.

june 8

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Book, Card and Job Printer

CHARLOTTE STREET.