

HOW MR. STUBBS MADE HIS FORTUNE IN CALIFORNIA SHIPMENTS.

I desire to lay before your readers a chapter from my experience in California speculations, hoping that the relation may be more profitable to them than the reality has been to me. One fine morning last June, Mrs. Stubbs returned from a neighbor's with a glowing account of the fortune which Mr. Bubble had probably made by sending a small adventure to San Francisco. Immediately the idea struck me that, perhaps, by some lucky investment, I too might realize a sum which would place me above the necessity of depending upon my apothecary-business for my daily bread, and raise the social position of Mrs. Stubbs and myself in a corresponding degree. Mrs. S. agreed with me that there was no earthly reason why we should not get rich as speedily as Mr. Bubble, who was never famous for remarkable shrewdness or intelligence. So, after a world of painful deliberation, I concluded to divide my investments into three parts—certain, that if one article should fail to realize a profit, the rest would be sure to be in great demand. In a week from that day, the trim schooner *Charming Nancy*, bound for San Francisco, contained within her wooden walls the greater part of my limited means invested in lumber, axes and saleratus; the whole fully insured, and as Mrs. Stubbs and myself fully believed, the nucleus of a splendid fortune. Months passed away, and the prices current for that delightful city of gold, quoted lumber at seven hundred dollars a thousand, saleratus a dollar a pound, and axes at a corresponding advance. With the arrival of each steamer, our hopes rose and our faith grew bright. We made elaborate and careful calculations, making due allowance for a reasonable fall in the market, and as figures don't lie, proved to a demonstration, that our fortune was made. The steamer, which arrived a few weeks since, brought the pleasing intelligence that the *Charming Nancy* had just arrived safely in the harbor of San Francisco. That settled the matter. We were immediately rich. A new house was bargained for, to be paid in cash—CALIFORNIA GOLD, sir! Furniture, elegant and expensive, was selected by Mrs. Stubbs, and a variety of changes determined upon. Our four youngest children were taken from the public school and sent to a fashionable academy. Mrs. Stubbs deliberately cut three of her choicest friends, whom she had suddenly discovered to be rather "low," and I must acknowledge that I held my head uncommonly high and assumed quite a patronizing air to most of my acquaintances. Our last baby, for whose name we had been seeking our invention, was christened Francisco, in honour of the place which had proved to be the birth-place of our fortune. As the time drew near for the arrival of the last steamer, we increased in importance and expectation. I had from prudential motives made two consignments of my property on board the *Charming Nancy*. The lumber I had sent to the extensive house of Chisel, Gouge & Co., emigrants from the village of Sharville, and the axes and saleratus to Mr. Augustus Pitt Tompkins, a romantic young gentleman, who after dawdling away the greater part of his life under the apprehension that he was a genius, had been sent to California by his relatives (of whom I had the misfortune to be one), and had set himself up there as "commission merchant." He proposed to make his fortune in six months, and return to his favourite pursuit of scribbling poetry and love stories. As he had a smattering of the hardware business, and had been for a month in a store, I imagined that selling axes and saleratus would come within that scope of his abilities. Well, the last steamer arrived, but brought no gold for me, though I had been fully persuaded that I should see on the list of consignees, Peter Stubbs, \$250,000; yet I concluded, that my correspondents in San Francisco had remitted the proceeds of the sales in drafts, and felt satisfied to await the arrival of the mail. The mail, too, came, and brought two letters, which I opened with a trembling hand. They were as follows:—

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26. 18—
Sir,—We regret to inform you that the lumber consigned by you per *Charming Nancy* to us, was entirely destroyed by the fire of the 24th inst., and enclose our bill for disbursements on your account amounting to \$1,927.11, a duplicate of which we have sent to our attorney in Boston, Mr. Samuel Sly, for collection. We shall be pleased to receive further consignments from you, and remain your obedient servant,
CHISEL, GOUGE & CO.

M. Peter Stubbs.
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26. 1849.
My Dear Friend Stubbs.—The uncertainty of worldly affairs, the frequent occurrence of disappointment, trouble and misfortune, and the uncommon unpleasantness of this life in general, have been favorite themes with the sons of song from the infancy of poetry to the present time; and I do not recollect in my wide experience a more striking illustration of the justness of their views, than the fate which has befallen the articles which you so kindly confided to my care through the medium of the frail bark whose name I have at this moment forgotten.

She was washed by favouring gales around Horn's tempestuous point, and like a tired sea-bird dropped her wings as she neared the land.

(That's rather a good idea, I fancy, don't you think so?) But it is with feelings of no ordinary nature, that I discover it to be my painful duty to inform you that the individuals whom I employed to transport your merchandise from the gallant ship, as she lay on that day in the bay of Francisco, to the neighbouring shore, became inebriated prior to discharging their arduous task, and by some error of judgment succeeded in overturning the gondola in which your precious freight was embarked. The axes, alas! found a watery grave. Five barrels only of the saleratus were rescued from the rolling waves, but with the contents so impregnated with the briny fluid, as to form a sort of paste which I fear will prove rather unsaleable. *Sic transit gloria, &c*
Yours, while the sands of life yet gaily run,
AUGUSTUS PITT TOMPKINS.

P. S.—I have a friend from New York who is about establishing an auction room on the Broadway principle, and were you again to tempt the blind goddess, and send me an invoice of galvanest watches, I doubt not, that my friend would have peculiar facilities for disposing of them to this promiscuous population. Don't be disheartened, my old boy, but try it. Chisel, Gouge & Co. of this place, are making a splendid fortune by representing to their consignors that their property was all burnt the other day. Easy way of settling account sales—ain't it?

As the newspapers say, "further comment is unnecessary." Please request the carrier of the *Post* to refrain in future from leaving at my door any copies of the daily paper that contains "news from California," or anything pertaining thereto. Your misguided friend, An Unfortunate Apothecary.—Boston Post.

COLOURED CANDIDATE FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERALSHIP OF NEW YORK.—Among the candidates nominated is George B. Vashon, of Corland County, for Attorney General. He was born in Pittsburgh; Pa; is about thirty years of age, of medium stature and light complexion. His father, J. B. Vashon, was an old and influential coloured man (a barber) of Pittsburgh; was tolerably well educated and did much in his day for the bettering of his race. He died a year or two ago deeply regretted by a large circle of his acquaintance. The present candidate was early sent to school; and after acquiring a good English education, his father sent him to Oberlin College, Ohio, where he graduated with distinguished honours. He then returned to Pittsburgh, and studied law under the Hon. Walter Forward (one of the ablest lawyers Pennsylvania ever produced, and Secretary of War under General Harrison), but on account of his colour, was refused admission to the bar of his native State. Nothing daunted, however on the recommendation of Judge Forward he came to New York, and was shortly hereafter admitted to practise in his profession. His health not being good, he visited Hayti, and while there, interested himself in the political affairs of that country. The Emperor tendered to him the appointment of Secretary of State, which he accepted, and retained with great satisfaction to the Emperor, until some urgent business called him home.

GENERAL WILLIAMS, the Commander-in-Chief at Kars, where the Turks have achieved what is perhaps, after all their most brilliant success, the Boston "Advertiser" says, has many friends in the States. He is the Colonel Williams, whose assiduous protection of the American missionaries and the people of their charge have been observed with gratitude and pleasure, more than once by those interested in the missions in the East. As military commander, near Ooramaih, it was in his one power to render valuable assistance to the Protestant community there, and they always found him their true friend.

TO PREVENT IRON AND STEEL RUSTING.—Heat the iron or steel till it burns the hands, and then rub it with pure, white wax, and polish it with a piece of cloth or soft leather. This simple operation, it is stated, fills the pores of the metal, and defends it entirely from rust, even though it should be exposed to moisture.

HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

Saturday, December 29, 1855.

THAT public men are public property, and as such, are obnoxious to the severest criticism, we fully admit. It is one of the triumphs of the press in the present day, that, while it confines its strictures to the public actions of men in power, or those seeking it, there is no language, however severe, that will not be tolerated, and this the more readily, that as there are always two sides to every question, and as the press is as open to the adherents of every public man as to his opponents, no great injury can be inflicted on the parties, while the public are the gainers; for truth is elicited by the collision, and these in administration will be cautious of attempting to pass measures which they are not fully prepared to submit to this searching ordeal. Lord Sydenham has quitted for ever the scene of his political exertions, and his actions have become a part of the materials of which the History of Canada must be constructed. The Union of the Canadas was a great and important measure,—that it would have its advocates and its opponents was to be expected,—and that, when it carried, the minority should raise the cry of corruption, bribery, and undue influence, was certain; but will any present or future historian venture to draw the character, political or moral, of Lord Sydenham from the pictures, or rather caricatures, exhibited by a disappointed faction? Will he not, knowing from what source they emanated, put them aside altogether, (or if adopting them at all,) first look with scrupulous care into the truth of every lineament, and be well assured, that it rightfully belongs to the portrait he is sketching. It is the peculiar province of a party writer, to seize on the prominent characteristics of the system adopted by his adversaries, and if he can successfully fix on the leader of the government or opposition a *soubriquet* or nickname, that has a tendency to bring him or his measures into contempt, or even to excite suspicion as to their purity, he will not fail to do so. But, as every picture caricature must show some general resemblance, or it would fail in point, so must every political one, and accordingly, we are not surprised, when we read of Lord Sydenham having been compared to Louis XI. A political change so important in every point of view, presenting so many difficulties to be overcome, arising from difference of national origin, tenure of lands, domestic manners, and religion, as the Union of the Canadas was, a measure that imperatively demanded a man endowed with a clearness of judgment, habit, of business and of firmness of character, combined with a command of temper, and affability of deportment, not often met with in one person, and if such a measure was, when proposed, unpopular in both Provinces, it needed a still greater amount of tact and address to overcome prejudices and reconcile jarring and adverse interests, whether local or personal, and men of lesser minds and inferior abilities might well have been unable to account for the success that had attended the carrying it into operation, and, exasperated by defeat, sought a refuge for disappointment in the assertions of the advocates of the Union. We shall, however, view the measure in the light in which we think it will be viewed by posterity, as the consolidation of two weak, inefficient, and in many respects, hostile governments, into one strong and important, with concentrated energies, and destined to be the nucleus of a mighty nation. Lord Sydenham's name will descend to posterity associated with the Union of the Canadas, and Governor Daly's children may point with pride to the name of their father as connected with him in the accomplishment of so great and important an undertaking. We would ask the talented Editor of the *Islander*, at what price he estimates political tributes? Would he be content, that his character should be judged by the estimate formed of it by him of the *Examiner*, who, from the mere circumstance of his having been in the West Indies, immediately dubs him "negro driver"? and yet, it is just precisely upon such slight foundations, that party malice rears its ideal structures. It is for this reason, that posterity is better qualified to judge of the real character of those who have played their parts on the political stage, than those who compose the audience. "*Laudatur ab his, culpatur ab illis*,"—to be praised by the one party and blamed by the other—is as old as the christian era. At all events, and stands a chance of remaining the same two thousand years hence, unless human nature be much improved, and he will manifest but a slight knowledge of it who takes what either side says for gospel. We beg to be distinctly understood, that we are not the advocates of the party in power, neither do we intend to whitewash Governor Daly, not being aware that he stands in need of any such process, our question still remains unanswered. It is not enough to say, that Lord Metcalfe was of a certain opinion, and that the present Lt. Governor, when his Secretary and a member of his Government, coincided with him. Times have altered,—all the North American Colonies

this Island not excepted, are under what is termed Responsible or Departmental Government, and so long as it is, we shall hold those who are entrusted with it as answerable to the people for the use they make of the power. The Lieut. Governor is beyond the people in every way,—he is answerable to those who employ him, and to them alone. It is a sufficient justification to him, that his acts have met with the approbation of his Executive Council, their justification must be found in the approbation of Assembly. We are fully alive to the inconveniences and anomalies that arise from having in a small Colony like this a number of placemen as the sole constitutional advisers of the Executive, and would willingly see it altered, but while the matter stands as it does, we will hold Mr. Coles and his associates liable for the acts of the Executive.

The Central Academy is doing its duty in keeping up a knowledge of the Classics and the higher branches of learning among us, but there is not that encouragement held out to the youth of Prince Edward Island to penetrate to the innermost recesses of the temple of Science that ought to be. Look at what is doing in Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick! In these Provinces the advantages of a liberal education are attainable by all classes of the people. Here, any information beyond reading, writing, and arithmetic, is not to be had, except in Charlottetown, where a competent knowledge of Latin and Greek, and some of the higher branches of Mathematics may certainly be had, but if information of a superior caste is required, the youth must be sent out of the Island. This ought not to be. The common excuses are, that our population is not sufficiently numerous, nor our revenue large enough, to spare the necessary sum. What, we would ask, were the population and revenue of Massachusetts when Harvard University was founded? We know, that in Nova Scotia, when King's College was founded, they not only did not exceed those of Prince Edward Island, but fell far short of it; for in 1817, the whole population of Nova Scotia was but 82,053, and in 1802, when the College was opened, it could not have been more than 50,000, but learning was not and never has been, at a discount in Nova Scotia, we wish we could say as much for the Island. To return to the Central Academy, we were much pleased with what we witnessed; there continues to be a regular progressive advancement in the branches taught. We had the satisfaction of hearing the Greek and Latin classes examined, and can testify as to their sufficiency. We shall at some leisure hour, take up the subject of the necessity and importance of founding a Collegiate Establishment in the Island. We subjoin a list of the Classes in the Academy, and the pupils holding the first and second places of merit in each Class at the close of last Session:—

- CLASSES:—
GREEK.—*Xenophon*,—Homer.
1, George Hodgson,
2, William Forgan.
LATIN, 1st.—*Horace*,—Odes and Satires.
1, William Forgan,
2, George Hodgson.
LATIN, 2d.—*Cornelius Nepos*,
1, James Welsh,
2, George Wright.
LATIN, 3d.—*Edinburgh Delectus*.
1, James Brehaut,
James McNeill,
Murdoch Nicholson, } equal.
LATIN, 4th.
1, Henry Davies,
2, Henry Cook.
GEOGRAPHY, 1st.
William Hearts,
John Handrahan, } equal.
2, Daniel Egan.
GEOGRAPHY, 2d.
1, Henry Davies,
2, Ralph Brecken,
Joseph W. Hodgson, } equal.
ARITHMETIC, 1st.
1, James Brehaut,
2, Murdoch Nicholson, } equal.
James McKenna,
Archibald Wright,
ARITHMETIC, 2d.
1, Edward Hodgson,
2, John Handrahan,
James Welsh, } equal.
George Wright.
ARITHMETIC, 3d.
1, James Millner,
2, James Caffray,
William Dawson, } equal.
ARITHMETIC, 4th.
1, Walter Lowe,
2, George Longworth, } equal.
George Lowe.
ALGEBRA, 1st.
1, James Brehaut,
2, James McNeill,
Archibald Wright, } equal.

1, George
2, James
PLAN
1, James
2, Edward
Daniel
HISTORY
1, George
2, George
Murdoch
USE
1, Archibald
2, George
Murdoch
James
ENG
1, George
2, William
William
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1, Henry
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1, Henry
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1, Joseph
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