

ever, was to no purpose, the poor man had acquired such inflated notions of his own talents and of the good fortune in store for him that nothing could dissuade him from his design. He left his old employers and went to the great city.

Richardson had promised to obtain him a good situation as soon as he should arrive, but when he went to see him after he got to New York that Oriental minded and persuasive gentleman was no where to be found. The fact was that Richardson in consequence of some irregularities had lost his own position, so that he was himself one of the great army of the unemployed. Thus it came to pass that Miller had to face the great world of New York alone. But for such an ordeal as this he was very ill prepared. He had no knowledge of the methods of doing business in New York, and he was quite ignorant of the ways of the great city.

It would take too long to relate the story of his efforts to obtain a situation. His ambition in that direction which had at first been very high soon became humble enough, and from expecting a lucrative position as head book-keeper in a great house, he came in a short time to hope for nothing better than a very humble clerkship.

Even this was difficult to obtain and involved many weeks of patient watching of the advertising columns of the newspapers, and the answering of hundreds of advertisements.

If Miller in that crisis in his life had possessed the courage to write back his old employers, and acknowledge his mistake, no doubt he could have gone back to them, with less money perhaps than when he left them, but considerably richer in

experience. This, however, would have been a humiliation and a confession of weakness to which he could not submit. So he took a situation as book-keeper for a small grocery firm, at a salary much less than he had been receiving in the country, while his expenses were likely to be much higher.

In place of the comfortable and convenient cottage in which he had resided in his own town, he had now to live in a flat in a tenement house which was occupied by nine other families. For this accommodation he had to pay three times as much rent as his cottage cost him. In his cottage all the rooms were light and pleasant, there was a little flower garden in front and a veranda where he and his wife with their two little ones used to sit for hours in the pleasant summer evenings. Behind the cottage was a vegetable garden where a large part of the vegetables they needed for the table were grown. But in the city everything had to be purchased at a high price; even kindling wood cost a good deal of money, and a considerable sum had to be paid for fares on the horse cars, for Miller's residence instead of being just round the corner from the store, was three miles from the office in which he worked.

Miller's tenement consisted of five rooms. As the building had a frontage of only twenty-five feet and depth of sixty, it followed that three-fifths of the house lacked direct light. It is quite true the apartments were advertised as being "all light rooms; but three of Miller's rooms had only such light as could be obtained from a small air-shaft. The view from his windows comprised in front a very