AND MASON'S CORNER FOLKS.

A PICTURE OF NEW ENGLAND HOME LIFE.

CHAS. FELTON PIDGIN.

agin permiscuous dancing.'

neighbors."

cake.

and all petty feuds, prejudices and an-

"In those small paper boxes," said he,

A rush was made for the table, and

Again Quincy's voice was heard

ical selection. The poetry, like that

That was too much for the Profes-

A peal of laughter greeted this sally,

which rose to a shout when Strout took his souvenir out of the box. It proved

to be a large sugar bee, very lifelike in

appearance, and having a little wad of

paper rolled up and tucked under one

As Strout spread out the slip of

paper with his fingers, loud cries of "Eat it!" "Read it!" and "Pass it

along!" came from the company. The

Professor stood apparently undecided

what course to pursue, when Tilly

James, who was standing at his left,

grabbed it from his fingers, and run-

ning to the end of the table, stood be-

side young Hill with an expression that

Loud cries of "Read it, Tilly!" came

"Not unless Professor Strout is will-

All eyes were turned upon Strout,

who, seeing that he had nothing to gain

by objecting, cried out, "Oh, go ahead;

Tilly then read with much dramatic

Another loud laugh greeted this:

expression the following poetical effu-

what do I care about such nonsense!"

'How does the wicked bumblebee

In stinging folks that he dislikes,

Employ the shining hours.

Instead of sipping flowers.

ing," said Tilly, with mock humility.

semed to say, "This is my young man,

and I know he will protect me.

from all parts of the table.

sor.

wav.

of the wings.

The next one called was 'Zekiel Pet- ties, and Stroutites, anti-Stroutites, and tengill, and he was treated in the same neutrals all gathered 'round him and manner as the Professor and Abner said they were having a beautiful time had been; but as Hiram leaned over and could they have a little dance after to kiss him, 'Zekiel's foot slipped upon supper? floor and struck against Hiram's. ram was unable to approach him.
'Zekiel called out, "It's Hiram Maxand the room rang with the Tilly Janes. "We are all friends and laughs and cries of the girls. 'Zekiel, having guessed who it was,

was marched off to the right of the line mark was unnoticed by all except Quin-"Well, under the circumstances," con-Strout called out, "Let's play something else," but the sentiment of the cluded the Deacon, "I don't object to company seemed to be that it wasn't your finishing up with an old-fashionfair to the others not to give them a ed reel, and mother and me will join chance, so the game continued. Quincy in with you, so as to countenance the was the next one called, and to still perceedings."

The call was now made for supper. A and Abner, instead of Hiram leaving procession was again formed, each genthe door as before, one of the girls tleman taking the lady who had accomstepped out from the line, a signal from panied him to the party. They all filed Huldy, and kissed Quincy. He guessed into the dining-room and took their that it was Miss Huldy Mason, and places around the long table. The Lindy Putnam; it ran thus: was greeted with the same cries that most of them looked at its Strout had heard. He took his place tents with surprise and delight. at the left with the latter. Instead of seeing only home-made cakes

Strout leaned over and whispered in and pies and dishes of nuts and No nobler lives than he who tills the Abner's ear, "That was a put-up job. raisins and apples, that they had I'll get even with Hiram Maxwell be- expected, occupying the center of the fore I get through. The game continued until all the men cake, in the center of which arose what

able to guess who it was. When Em- colored silk ribbons. Flanking the cen- and a yard wide." took his place by the side of terpiece at each corner were large 'Zekiel he confided the fact to him dishes containing mounds of jelly cake, clappings, and 'Zekiel blushed like than he guessed it was Miss Putnam, pound cake, sponge cake and angel account of the perfumery which he on account of the perfumery which he cake. On either side of the center-had noticed before he left the house piece, shaped in fancy molds, were two Quincy; he took in its meaning at a

After this game others followed in sherbet, and the fourth one was filled quick succession. There were "Pillow," with frozen pudding. In the vacant "Roll the Cover," "Button, Button, spaces about the larger dishes were "Oh, come now, don't leave out nothin'; Who's Got the Button?" "Copenhagen" smaller plates containing the home-and finally "Postoffice." From all of made pies and cake, and the apples, orthese games Alice begged to be excus- anges, dates, figs, raisins, nuts and ed. She told the Professor that she was candy taken from the pound packages not bashful nor diffident, but that her brought by the members of the surprise would detract from the pleasure of were the 50 boxes containing the southe others if she engaged in the games. venir gifts that Quincy had ordered. The Professor demurred at first, but As they took their places about the finally said that her excuse was a good one. Then he turned to Abber and rehim to say something. Turning to the nor fire." marked that he supposed Mr. Sawyer Professor he addressed him: would ask to be excused next 'cause his girl wasn't going to play.

After leading Alice to a seat beside per supplied by you and the members Mrs. Mason, he returned to the company and took part in every game, endring the most of this party, on behalf of my friends, Mr. and Miss Pettengill, and myself. I "Second the motion," cried Abner tering with spirit and vivacity into trust that you will take as much pleas- Stiles." of proportion to her offense, the matter digestion wait on appetite." was referred to Quincy. He said that Quincy's speech was received with aphe would remit the original forfeit and plause. The hot coffee had arrived, she should kiss him instead. But she and was soon circulating in cups, mugs objected, saying that forfeit was worse and tumblers. Everybody was talking than the other one. This pleased Mr. to everybody else at the same time, Strout greatly, and he remarked to Abner, who kept as close to him as the imosities were apparently forgotten. tail to a kite, that there was one girl The young fellows took the cue from in town that wasn't afraid to speak Quincy, who, as soon as he had finished her mind.

The game of "Postoffice" was the with the good things provided, and most trying one to Quincy. Of his own passing them to the ladies, and in free will he would not have called a short time all had been waited upon. either Huldy or Lindy, but Strout and When both hunger and appetite had Abner and all the rest of them had been satisfied, Quincy again addressed letters for both of these young ladies. the company. He was afraid that his failure to call them out might lead to remark, as he "you will find some little souvenirs, knew that Strout and Abner and Rob- which you can keep to remind you of ert Wood were watching his actions this very pleasant evening, or you can closely. So, near the middle of the eat them and remember how sweet game, when he had been called out, he they were." A general laugh followed this remark. "I making your selection," continued Quincy, "bear in mind had a letter from England for Miss this remark.

Lindy Putnam. As she raised her face to his for the that the boxes tied with red ribbon are kiss on the cheek that he gave her, for the ladies, and those having blue she said, "I was afraid you had not ribbons are for the gentlemen." forgiven me, after all." "Oh, yes, I have," said Quincy, and almost instantly each member of the carried away by the excitement of the company became possessed of a souoccasion, he caught her in his arms, venir and was busily engaged in unand gave her another kiss, this time up- trying the ribbons.

on the lips. At this instant Abner Stiles, who was above the tumult. tending door, opened it and called cut, "In each packet," cried he, "will be Takes a long time a pay the postage found printed on a slip of paper a poeton one letter.

A little later Quincy was again called found on valentines, is often very poor, but the sentiment is there just the Boston for Miss Mason. He kissed her same. In the city the plan that we on the cheek, as he had done with Lin- follow is to pass our slip to our leftdy. Huldy looked up with a laugh and hand neighbor and he or she reads it." said, "Were you as bashful as that with Miss Putnam?"

"Yes," said Quincy, "at first, but there was double postage on her letter, the same as on yours." And though Huldy tried to break away from him he eaught her and kissed her upon the the country, like to do things our own lips, as he had done to Lindy. Again Abner opened the door and cried out that the mails would close in one minute and he'd better get the we get a good thing we are willing to stamps on that letter quick.

tamps on that letter quick.

All such good times come to an end, you know, I said if you didn't wish to and the signal for the close was the keep your souvenir, you could eat it, return of Deacon Marsh from his visit and, of course, the poetical selection is to town. He was popular with all par- part of the souvenir."

Could Not Lie On Her Left Side.

WAS TROUBLED WITH PAIN IN HER HEART FOR SIX YEARS.

Expected Her Friends Would Find Her Dead.

Mrs. C. Bondreau, Campbellton, N.B.,

was completely cured by

MILBURN'S Heart and Nerve Pills.

She tells of her experience in the following letter: "I was troubled with a pain my heart and weakness for six years. Most of the time I could not lie on my left side. I consulted a doctor but got no re-liet and was completely discouraged. I did not think I would live long and expect-ed my friends would find me dead. A at his right, and said, "Now, Miss Mafriend brought me a box of Milburn's son, let me read your poetry for you, Heart and Nerve Pills and I took them to as they do it in the city." please her, not thinking they would do me any good. I had not used half the box when I commenced to feel myself getting ain't fair," said Strout. "I've set you a when I commenced to feel myself getting better and by the time I had taken two boxes I was completely cured and can re-commend them to all sufferers from heart trouble."

Price 50 cts. per bex or 3 for \$1.25, all per he said in an undertone, "No, you are a little dear," whereat Huldy's face flushed a bright crimson.

Strout cleared his voice and then

This was greeted with laughter, plap-plng of hands, and cries of, "Who is it, The Professor looked at Huldy inquir. ingly, but she averted her eyes. He leaned over and said in an undertone:

A husband you'll find within the year."

'May I keep this?"
Huldy looked up and said in a tone that was heard by everyone at the table, "I don't care; if you like it better than that one about the bumblebe you can have it."

The Professor then turned to Quincy, and said, "Perhaps Mr. Sawyer oblige the company by passing his poetry along, as they do in the city." Quincy answered quickly, "Why, cerainly," and handed the slip to his tainly. left-hand neighbor, who chanced to be The Deacon said he didn't know that Miss Seraphina Cotton, who was the Hiram being in front of him. 'Zekiel dancing in itself was so bad, for the then put up both of his feet, and kick-ed with them in such a way that Hi
"But," said he, "I have always been She prided herself on her elocutionary."

"But," said he, "I have always been She prided herself on her elocutionary." ability, and then read the following, "But we ain't permiscuous," said

> "Though wealth and fame fall to my "Most all," said Strout, but his re-I'd much prefer a little cot, In which, apart from care and strife, I'd love my children and ray .: 122.

with great expression:

Strout laughed outright. "By the way, Mr. Sawyer," said he "have you seen any little cot 'round here that you'd swap your Beacon street house for?' "I've got my eye on some real estate in this town," said Quincy, "and if you own it perhaps we can make a trade. 'Zekiel Pettengill passed his slip to

"'An honest man's the noblest work of God,

table, they gazed upon a large frosted This was greeted with shouts and cries of "Good for 'Zeke!" while one of had been called in. With the exception resembled the spire of a church, made Cobb's twins, who possessed a thin, of Emmanuel Howe, none of them were of sugar and streamers made of various high voice, cried out, "He's all wool This provoked more shouts and hand-

On either side of the center-

large dishes of ice cream, a third of glance and looked up at her inquiringly.
Strout saw the glance, and cried out, read it jist as it's writ."

Lindy nodded to Quincy, and he read:

"There is no heart but hath some wish eyesight was so poor that she knew party. Piled upon the tables in heaps There is no soul without some longing killed, heart's desire.

each of them. He invented some forfeits that one girl objected to the foring it. In the language of the poet I
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feits that one girl objected to the feits that one girl o feit extracted of her as being all out would now say, 'Fall to and may good have a little dance jist to shake our suppers down." Quincy's speech was received with ap-

After the company returned to the

elevated position on the kitchen table, it was equally true that he had no su- pered in his ear. The Deacon then perior in Eastborough and vicinity on the violin, or the fiddle, as he preferred thing to him. his little speech, began filling the plates to call it. He was now in his glory. His fiddle was tucked under his chin a red silk handkerchief with large yel-

rather than his chin from being injur-

ed by the instrument. After a few preliminary chords, Abment very popular in those days, called "The Cure." As if prearranged, Hiram Maxwell and Mandy Skinner ran to the center of the room and began singing the words belonging to the dance. Abner gradually increased the speed of the melody, and the singers conformed thereto. Faster and faster the music went, and higher and higher the dancers jumped until the ceiling prevented any further progress upward. They leaned forward and backward, they leaned from side to side, but still kept up their monotonous leaps into the air Finally, when almost exhausted, they sank into chairs hastily brought for them, amid the applause of the party. Quincy had seen the dance at the city theaters, but acknowledged to himself that the country version was far ahead of the city one. At the same time it seemed to him that the dance savored of barbarism, and he recalled pictures and stories of Indian dances where the participants fell to the ground too weak

o rise. "I don't think," said he, "that we "I put my right hand in," called out one of the fellows. Cries of, "Oh, yes, that's it!" came from the company, and they arranged themselves in two rows facing each other, and running the full length of the long room. They were in "Oh, it don't make any difference to couples, as they came to the party. Abner played the melody on his violin and the fellows and girls sang these

> I put my right hand in, I put my left hand out,

give my right hand a shake, shake, And I turn myself about."

As they sang the last line they did

For you!

-Long hours, close confinement, wearing work, have spoiled your Diges-

tion and induced Chronic Constipation-headaches, langour, dizziness, nausea, short breath, ill temper, are the result.

-No need to be alarmed. Your druggist has a dainty remedy that will make you well and keep you well. Very gentle, but very sure. Ask him for

largely due to the comical expression on Tilly James' face, which so far upset RON-O Quincy's habitual gravity, that Tiny Tonic Tablets

attractive aluminum pocket case, 25 cents at druggists, or sent, postpaid, on receipt of price. The Iron-ox Remgood example, now you mustn't squeal.
Come, walk right up to the trough."
"I'm no pig," protested Huldy.
As Strout leaned over to take the paedy Co., Limi-ted, Walkerville, Ont.

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Seeing that one of the young ladies Mason told me." in the line was without a partner, Quincy took his place beside her and opened eyes. "I thought it was one on joined in the merriment as heartily as you. the rest. Then followed all the changes and Mandy had been.

ould ask to be excused next 'cause his irl wasn't going to play.

But Quincy had no such intention.

Constitution of the bountiful support of the poetry we want the poetry we "Professor Strout, I think it is my "This is gittin' quite tragic," said entered, accompanied by his wife. They dy saw they had come to stay." ment, and had it not been for their fa-miliar faces, which they had not tried and frozen stuff down from Bosting Corner to their knowledge. to disguise, he would not have recog-

to the days of their youth. Probably from some old chest in the garret each had resurrected a costume of fifty years have told him, I guess." kitchen, Abner was again lifted to his before. They advanced into the room, smiling and bowing to the delighted and the fun began. There was no spectators on either side. They event didoubt that in telling stories Abner rectly to Abner, and the latter bent went to Strout and whispered some

Strout nodded, and turning to the and gran'ma, who have honored us with presence this evenin', we will like him." close these festivities with a good oldner struck up the peculiar dance move- fashioned heel and toe Virg nia reel. Let 'er go, Abner, and keep her up till all the fiddle strings is busted."

Like trained soldiers they sprang to their places. Quincy and his partner took places near the end of the line. He box?" explained to her that he had never danced a reel, but thought he could

do his part. iasm. Sam Hill was not a good dancer, thought our pound packages would be holm. I have been waiting nearly half so he resigned Miss Tilly James to Pro-rather ornary." so he resigned Miss Tilly James to Professor Strout. Miss James was a superb dancer and as Quincy looked at His partner saw the glance, and,

her his face showed his appreciation. looking up to him, said, "Don't you wish you could dance as well as that?"
"I wish I could," said Quincy. "I have no doubt you can," he added, looking at his partner's rosy face.
"Well," said she, "you do the best you

one the couples went under the arch of extended arms, and one by one they showed their terpsichorean agility on showed their terpsichorean agility on before Abner could reach it. When he showed their terpsichorean agility on before Abner could reach it. When he ing," left the office.

"He is a great friend of Professor." the kitchen floor, over which Mandy but it down again it was beyond his Skinner had thoughtfully sprinkled a handful of house sand.

"He is a great friend of P Strout's," remarked Sylvester, some molasses into his tumbler and said Quincy, said Quincy, said Quincy, said Quincy.

his little partner, whose name was unknown to him. He observed the grace with which she went through the "No, I don't," said Strout, "he jest with which she went through the march, and when the dance came he wished he could have stood still and his sister. He'll find out that I'm no I do not think he has treated one of watched her. Instead he entered with slouch here in Eastborough. When I my dearest friends just right. Did you his whole soul into the dance, and at marry the Deacon's daughter and get hear anything, Mr. Sawyer, about his its conclusion he was astonished to the Deacon's money, and am elected being engaged or likely to be engaged hear the burst of applause and cheers tax collector agin, and buy the grocery

taking him by the hand she drew him harder fightin' facts like them than it back through the arch and the dance is Bob Wood's fists. I kinder reckon was repeated. Three times in succession was this take off their hats to me, and there

done in response to enthusiastic applause, and Quincy was beginning to this 'ere town. That city feller's health "Will you tell me what the think that he would soon fall in his will improve right off, and he'll go up tracks. He had no idea that any such to Boston a wiser man than when he fate would befall his partner, for she come down." seemed equal to an indefinite number of repetitions.

good things an end must come at last, however, he reached across the table and when the old-fashioned Connecticut for the bottle, but again Strout was clock on the mantelpiece clanged out too quick for him. came good-byes and good-nights, and drank, and smacked their lips. happiness, while their escorts stood quietly by thinking of the pleasant homeward trips, and knowing in their as he got up and walked around to hearts that they should treasure more the other side of the table, where he the pressure of the hand or the single had left his lamp. good-night kiss yet to come than they "I guess," remarked Strout, "I'll have

Mrs. Mason and 'Zekiel had prepared do." been theirs during the evening. Alice for her homeward trip. Quincy took occasion to seek out his part-

Stiles always plays for me."

'I guess everybody in Eastborough knows who you are," retorted she with a toss of her head, as she took her brother's arm and walked away. Hiram brought around the Petten-gill sleigh from the barn. 'Zekiel, Alice, Quincy and Mandy were the last of the party to leave. Quincy took his old place beside Alice, while Mandy

and the ride home was a most enjoyable one. "I am sorry," said Quincy to Alice, "that you could not take part in more of the games. I enjoyed them very

It was a beautiful moonlight night

sat on the front seat with Zekiel.

"Oh, Mrs. Mason kept me informed of your actions," said Alice with a laugh. Half-way to Hill's grocery, they passed the Professor and Abner walking home to Mrs. Hawkins' boardinghouse. They called out, "Good-night and pleasant dreams," and drove rapidly on. In the Square a number of the party had stopped to say goodnight before taking the various roads that diverged from it, and another interchange of "Good-nights" followed. When Strout and Abner reached the Square it was deserted. There was no light shining in the boarding-house. The kerosene lamps and matches were on a table in the front entry. Strout lighted his lamp and went upstairs. Strout's room was one flight up, while Abner's was up two. As they reached Strout's room he said, "Come in, Abner and warm up. Comin' out of that hot room into this cold air has given me a chill." He went to a closet and brought out a bottle, a small pitcher, and a couple of spoons, "Have some rum and molasses, nothin' better for a cold." They mixed their drinks in a couple of tumblers, which Strout found in the closet. Then he took a couple of cigars from his pocket and gave one to Abner. They drank and smoked for some time in silence. At last Abner said, "How are you

satisfied with this evening's perceedings? "Wall, all things considered," said Strout. "I think it was the most successful party ever given in this 'ere town, if I did do it.'

when that city feller came in?"

turn themselves about so many times that it seemed a wonder to Quincy, who was an amused spectator, how they kept upon their fect.

Seeing that one of the young ladies

when tat city feller came in?"

at 10, propose to Huldy 'bout half-past, git home to dinner at 12, buy the group publication. I happen to know that git home to dinner at 12, buy the group publication. I happen to know that dissemble a pretty good day's work!"

be a pretty good day's work!"

Then the Professor mixed up a night-been for some time. Now, promise me when that city feller came in?" "Did she?" asked Abner, with wide-

"When I went down to the road beof "I put my left hand in," "I put my left foot in," "I put my left foot in," "Mrs. Mason told me they was there. an expression that seemed to indicate that he considered himself the biggest shaking hands with the young man he and so on until the whole party was You see, Huldy didn't suspect nothin' nearly as much exhausted as Hiram 'bout the party and so she asked them over to tea. She sorter expected they At this moment the door leading to would go right after tea, but they got

> "Yes," replied Abner, "but how did he know when it was? Someone must business to attend to "There are times, Abner Stiles, when press company; but to his great disapyou are too almighty inquisitive," said pointment he was informed that no

Stiles often drew the long bow, but over to hear what the Deacon whisit was equally true that he had no supered in his ear. The Deacon then when folks asked me."

| Stiles often drew the long bow, but over to hear what the Deacon whispered in his ear. The Deacon then bank to comply with his wishes might when folks asked me." dent you guess who told him? 'Twas postoffice; there he found a letter from that Hiram Maxwell. I've ben pump- the cashier of his bank, informing him company, said, "As it's now half-past ing him about the city chap, and, of eleven and most time for honest folks course, I've had to tell him somethin him inclosed, instead of the five huna red silk handkerchief with large yellow polka dots protecting the violin to be a-bed and rogues a-runnin', out of for swaps. But tomorrow when I meet dred dollars in bills, his own check, from injury from his stubby beard, compliment to Miss Huldy's gran'pa him I'll tell him I don't want anythin' certified for the amount, and stated more to do with a tittle-tattle tell-tale that the local bank would undoubted-

> the bumblebee?" drawled Abner. "Oh, that was a put-up job," said greeted the young man pleasantly and Strout. "How could that be," asked Abner, Center. Sylvester replied that he was when you took it out of your own the compositor and local newsman on doubt but what he could get the store, "Well," rejoined Strout, "he'll find I'm newspaper issued every Friday.

"What d'ye think of that pome about

the wustest kind of a bumblebee if he bank being located in the same buildeasily learn from seeing the others, and stirs me up much more. When my ing, Quincy drove him over. Sylvester he told her that when their turn came she need not fear but that he would not step in she need not fear but that he would patch on me."

asked Quincy if he would not step in and look at their office. Quincy did so.

do his part.

"I kinder fancied," continued Abner, The Deacon and his wife led off, and "that the reason he had them fancy that the reason he had them fancy the reason he had them fancy that the reason he had them fancy the reason he had the reason he had them fancy the reason he had the reason their performance caused great enthus- boxes sent down was because he sorter they entered, saying, "Hello, Chis- other good man indorsed his note; but

rather ornary." "I guess you've hit it 'bout right," remarked Strout; "them city swells vester, introducing the two men. would cheat their tailor so as to make a sassersful myself."

eat a sasserful of each kind." an encore, which they granted. One by it. Strout's glass was also empty, and At last came the turn of Quincy and then said, "Don't you think 'twas purty said Quincy.

store, and I'm app'inted postmaster at "Come along," said his partner, and Mason's Corner, he'll diskiver that it's laughed outright.

there won't be anybody that won't

"That's so," remarked Abner; and as he spoke he stood up as if to empha-But, as has been said before, to all size his words. Before he sat down,

the midnight hour, ac if by magic a hush came over the company and the jollities came to an end. Then follow- "All right," said Strout, "make it ed a rush for capes, and coats, and half a glass and I'll jine yer."
jackets, and shawls, and hats. Then The two men clinked their glasses then all the girls kissed Huldy and her mother, wished them long life and git up till tomorrer," said the Profes-

did the surprise party kisses that had some more fire; I ain't goin' to bed jest

While he was upon his knees arrangner in the reel to say good-night, and ing the wood, starting up the embers as he shook hands with her he said, with the bellows, Abner reached across the table and got possession of his "Would you consider me rude, if I asked your name and who taught you to dance?"

"Oh, no," she replied; "my name is Bessie Chisholm. I teach the dancingschool at Eastbore and Center, and Mr. Stiles always plays for me."

"He table and got possession of mistumbler, from which he had fortunately removed the spoon. Grasping the bottle he filled it to the brim and tossed it down in three big swallows. As he replaced the tumbler on the table Strout turned round.

"There was 'bout a spoonful left in the bottom of my tumbler," said Abner apologetically. "Them that drinks last drinks best," said he as he took apparently about 21 years of age, came towards them. "I'm ready," said Bessie to him, and then, turning to Quintage. "There was 'bout a spoonful left in

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loked at it. "The skunk," said he, half aloud, "a by accident. She thinks a good deal of man that'll steal rum will hook money him still, and although the man has next. Wall, it won't be many days done me no harm personally, of course, before that city chap will buy his re-turn ticket to Boston. Then I sha'n't fellow who makes my sister feel unhave any further use for Abner. Let happy."
me see," he soliloquized, "what I've got "Now "That's so," responded Abner sententiously. "War'n't you a bit struck up to do tomorrer. Git the Deacon's money ing to say I am going to tell you for

cap for himself and was soon sleeping not to put that in your paper." soundly, regardless of the broad smile upon the face of the Man in the Moon, obtain the same information from some who looked down upon the town with other source."

CHAPTER XXVII. Town Politics.

versation was all about the suprise ing to leave the bank, "But," said Abner, "that city feller party. The Cobb twins declared that Deacon Mason just entering. must have known about it all afore- without exception it was the best party After breakfast Quincy told Ezekiel have on hand." "Didn't you say," said Strout, "that that he was going over to Eastborough viu seen them going over to Eastbor- Center that morning; in fact, he should kinder promised someone that I'd be on

He drove first to the office of the expackage had arrived for him on the "Wall, I only wanted to know," re- morning train. Thinking that possibly "That's all right," said Strout. "Cud- have been sent by mail, he went to the ly cash the same for him. As he turned to leave the postoffice he met Sylvester Chisholm. Quiney asked him if he were in business at the

The Eastborough Express, a weekiy The

"Mr. Appleby, Mr. Sawyer," said Syl-"Mr. Appleby occupies a similar posisplurge and show how much money tion on The Montrose Messenger to the bid?' they've got. I guess he thought as how one that I hold on The Eastborough I'd never seen ice cream, but I showed Express," said Sylvester, by way of exhim I knew all about it. I eat three planation to Quincy. "We exchange sassersful myself."

planation to Quincy. "We exchange items; that is, he supplies me with "I beat you on that," said Abner; "I items relating to Montrose that are supposed to be interesting to the in-As Abner finished speaking he emp- habitants of Eastborough, and I recan and I'll do the same."

As Abner finished speaking he employer habitants of Eastborough, and I retted his glass and then reached for turn the compliment. Here are your ly, and their performance gained them ward for the bottle in order to replenish items," said Sylvester, passing an envelope to Mr. Appleby.

Mr. Appleby seemed to be in great "You speak as though you were not,"

"Well," replied Sylvester, "I used to think a good deal more of him at one said Strout, "he jest time than I do now, not on account of to Deacon Mason's daughter Huldy?" Quincy looked at Sylvester and then

"No, I haven't heard of any such thing," he replied, "and considering certain information that I have in my mind, and which I know to be correct, "Will you tell me what that information is?" asked Sylvester. "Well, perhaps I will," said Quincy,

'if you will inform me why you wish to know. "Well, the fact is," remarked Sylvester, "that for quite a while Profes-

sor Strout and my sister Bessie, whom you saw last night at the party, and with whom you danced, kept company together, and everybody over here to the Center thought that they would he engaged and get married one of Sanford B. Dole, Governor of Hathese days; but since that concert at waii, has been recommended to the the Town Hall, when you sang, a President for appointment as United

seen my sister except when they meet

"I promise," said Sylvester, 'unless I

"All right," rejoined Quincy, and

crossed the passageway and went into the bank. He presented his certified check, and the five hundred dollars in bills were At the table next morning the con- his inside coat packet. He was turncome to draw some money? I think I have just taken all the bank bills they

> hand about noon today with five hun dred dollars that he wants to use on a business matter this afternoon. Quincy took the Deacon by the arm and pulled him one side, out of hearing of any other person in the room. "Say, Deacon Mason, I am going to ask you a question, which, of course, you can answer or not, as you see fit; but if this business matter turns out

> to be what I think it is, I may be able

to save you considerable trouble. "I don't think you would ask me any question that I ought not to answer. replied the Deacon, glancing up at Quincy with a sly look in his eye and a slight smile on his face. "Well," continued Quency, "are you going to let Strout have that money to pay down on account of the grocery

'Why, yes," said the Deacon; "I guess you have hit it about right. Strout seemed to think that there warn't any but as he said the town clerk was willing to indorse his note, I came over here last night just on purpose to find that out. I kinder thought I was perpectly safe in letting him have the

money." you see, Strout won't need the money. I happen to know of another man that is going to bid on that grocery store. How much money do you think Strout can command? How much will

"Well, he told me," the Deacon an swered, "that he had parties that would back him up to the extent of two thousand dollars, and this five hundred dol lars that I was goin' to lend him would make twenty-five hundred, and he had sort o' figured that the whole place, including the land and buildings stock warn't wuth any more than that, and that Benoni Hill would be mighty glad to get such a good offer."
"That's all right," said Quincy; "but I happen to know a man that's going to bid on that grocery store, and he will have it if he has to bid as high as five thousand dollars, and he is ready to

put down the solid cash for it with-out any notes." The Deacon glanced up at Quincy. and the sly look in his eye was more pronounced than ever, while the smile his face very much resembled a grin. "I guess it must be some outside fel-

ler that is a-goin' to buy it, then," said the Deacon, "for I don't believe there is a man in Eastborough that would put up five thousand dollars in cold cash for that grocery store, unless he considered that he was paying for something besides groceries when he

bought it. To be Continued Next Saturday.

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change of mind seems to have come States district judge in Hawaii to suc-over the Professor, and he has not ceed the late Judge M. M. Estes.

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