

accepted a situation as clerk and law student in the office of Townsend Lee, Esq., and Tom's experience that day was very gratifying. As if to add to the honors of the occasion, while he was conversing with a group of solid farmers, Lawyer Lee approached, mingled pleasantly for a few minutes in the conversation, and then said :

"Well, Mr. Stapleford, I guess the wife will have dinner ready by the time we can get there."

And as they walked along the business street, observed by all, Tom was thinking to himself.

He calls me Mr. Stapleford in company; quite a contrast this with reeling along these same streets with Dick Travers, and as Tom thought of this, there was a commendable pride in his step, and added dignity to his manner. Innocent Tom! The lawyer read his very thought as if it were an open page!

And when two years had rolled around, neither had any reason to regret that they had come together. A close student, an attentive observer in the office, in public, in attendance at courts, Tom subordinated even his hours of relaxation to the one object of fitting himself for an honorable position in his profession. And in the meantime that spark of honor had grown to a steady flame!

Tom had not as yet mingled in what we term society. He had been too busy to give the matter thought. But, Rose Lee was on the verge of her eighteenth birthday, and the event was to be celebrated by a grand party. and Mr. Lee, with his usual freedom, advised Tom that in order to do justice to so important an occasion, as

one of the family, it would be necessary for him to order a new suit, and handed him one hundred dollars.

"You have been very liberal with me, Mr. Lee," said Tom, "and I have enough to purchase a suit without this."

"All the better, Tom, all the better! You will have the hundred dollars left," and this ended the matter. Lawyer Lee was very set in his ways, but in the right direction.

And no handsomer face or more manly form graced the spacious parlors on Rose Lee's birthday than those of Tom Stapleford. And the village belles and beaux were agreeably surprised to find that he was full of unexpected resources of enjoyment, proposing and carrying into execution novel and exciting games and charades, and the party, which commenced in the afternoon and lasted until within an hour of midnight, had Tom for its ruling spirit and leader. He was rated at once an indispensable acquisition to society, and all wondered where he had picked up those new and delightful games. Shrewd Tom! He had found a cheap book of Parlor Sports advertised, obtained it, and devoted a few leisure hours to culling its good things for future use, and on this simple foundation he had built up a reputation that made him welcome on all similar occasions.

And still another year rolled away, and Tom was admitted to the bar, and had a right to write attorney-at-law at the end of his name. More than this, he was a partner in the firm of Lee & Stapleford, and receiving a fair share of the income of the office. He had applied, and had been