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The Standard, OR FRONTIER GAZETTE.

Volume VIII

No. XLVI

Price 15s.]

SAINT ANDREWS, NEW BRUNSWICK, FRIDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 19, 1841.

[17s. 6d. by Mail

From the Knickerbocker. THE POOR LAWYER. BY WASHINGTON IRVING.

I had taken my breakfast, and was waiting for my horse, when passing up and down the piazza, I saw a young girl seated near the window, evidently a visitor. She was very pretty, with auburn hair, and blue eyes, and was dressed in white. I had seen nothing of the kind since I had left Richmond, and at that time I was too much of a boy to be struck with female beauty. She was so delicate and dainty looking, so different from the hale, buxom, brown girls of the woods—and then her white dress! It was dazzling! Never was a poor youth so taken by surprise, and suddenly bewitched. My heart yearned to know her, but how was I to accost her? I had grown wild in the woods, and had none of the habits of polite life. Had she been like Peggy Pugh or Sally Pigham, or any of my leather dressed belles of the pigeon roost, I should have approached her without dread; nay, had she been as fair as Shurt's daughters, with their looking glass lockets, I should not have hesitated; but that white dress, and those auburn ringlets and blue eyes, and delicate looks, quite daunted, while they fascinated, I don't know what put it into my head, but I thought all at once I would kiss her! It would take a long acquaintance to arrive at such a boon, but I might seize it by sheer robbery.—Nobody knew me here, I would just step in and snatch a kiss, mount my horse and ride off. She would not be the worse for it; and the kiss—oh, I should die if I did not get it.

I gave no time for the thought to cool, but entered the house and stepped lightly into the room—She was seated with her back to the door, looking out of the window, and did not hear my approach. I tapped her chair, and she turned her head and looked up. I smothered as sweet a kiss as ever was stolen, and vanished in a twinkling. The next moment I was on horseback galloping homeward, my heart tingling at what I had done.

After a variety of amusing adventures, Ringwood attends the study of the law, in an obscure settlement in Kentucky, where he devoted night and day. Ralph pursues his studies, occasionally argues at a debating society, and at length becomes quite a genius in the eyes of the married ladies of the village.

I called to take tea one evening with one of these ladies, when to my surprise, and somewhat to my confusion, I found here the identical blue-eyed little beauty whom I had so audaciously kissed. I was formally introduced to her, but neither of us betrayed any signs of previous acquaintance, except by blushing to the eyes. While tea was getting ready, the lady of the house went out of the room to give some directions, and left us alone. Heaven and earth! what a situation! I would have given all the pittance I was worth, to have been in the deepest dell of the forest. I felt the necessity of saying something in excuse for my former rudeness. I could not conjure up an idea, nor utter a word.—Every moment matters were growing worse. I felt at once tempted to do as I had done when I robbed her of the kiss—to bolt from the room and take to flight; but I was chained to the spot, for I really longed to gain her good will.

At length I plucked up courage, on seeing her equally confused with myself, and walking desperately up to her, I exclaimed,

"I have been trying to muster up something to say to you, but I cannot. I feel that I am in a horrible scrape! Do have pity on me, and help me out of it."

A smile dimpled upon her mouth, and played among the blushes of her cheek. She looked up with a shy, but arch glance of the eye, that expressed a volume of comic recollections; we both broke into a laugh, and from that moment all went well.

Passing the delightful description that succeeded, we proceeded to the denouement of Ringwood's love affair—the marriage and settlement.

That very Autumn I was admitted to the bar, and a month afterwards was married.—We were a young couple, she not above sixteen, I not above twenty, and both almost without a dollar in the world.—The establishment which we set up was suited to our circumstances,—a low house with two small rooms, a bed, a table, a half dozen knives and forks, a half dozen spoons,—every thing by half dozens,—a little delph ware, every thing in a small way; we were so poor but then so happy.

We had not been married many days, when a court was held in a country town, about twenty-five miles off. It was necessary for me to go there, and put myself in the business, but how was I to go?—I had expended all my means in our establishment, and then it was hard parting with my wife so soon after marriage. However, go I must. Money must be made, or we should have the wolf at the door. I accordingly borrowed a horse, and borrowed a little cash, and rode off from my door, leaving my wife standing at it, and waving her hand after me. Her last look, so sweet and becoming, went to my heart. I felt as if I could go through fire and water, for

her. I arrived at the country town on a cool October evening. The inn was crowded, for the court was to commence on the following day.

I knew no one, and wondered how I, a stranger and mere youngster, was to make my way in such a crowd, and get business. The public room was thronged with all the idlers of the country, who gathered together on such occasions. There was some drinking going forward, with a great noise and a little altercation. Just as I entered the room, I saw a rough bully of a fellow, who was partly intoxicated, strike an old man. He came swaggering by me, and elbowed me as I passed. I immediately knocked him down, and kicked him into the street. I needed no better introduction. I had half a dozen rough shakes of the hand, and invitations to drink, and found myself quite a personage in this rough assemblage.

The next morning court opened—I took my seat among the lawyers, but I felt as a mere spectator, not having any idea where business was to come from. In the course of the morning a man was put to the bar, charged with passing counterfeit money, and was asked if he was ready for trial. He answered in the negative. He had been confined in a place where there were no lawyers, and had not had an opportunity of consulting any.—He was told to choose a counsel from the lawyers present, and he ready for trial the following day. He looked around the court and selected me. I was thunderstruck! I could not tell why he should make such a choice. I, a heedless youngster, unpractised at the bar, perfectly unknown. I felt diffident, yet delighted, and could have hugged the rascal.

Before leaving the court he gave me one hundred dollars in a bag, as a retainer fee. I could scarcely believe my senses—it seemed like a dream. The heaviness of the fee spoke but lightly of the man's innocence—but that was no affair of mine. I followed him to the jail, and learned of him all the particulars of the case; and from thence I went to the clerk's office, and took minutes of the indictment. I then examined the law on the subject, and prepared my brief in my room. All this occupied me until midnight, when I went to bed and tried to sleep. It was all in vain. Never in my life was I more wide awake. A host of thoughts and fancies kept rushing into my mind;—the shower of gold that had so unexpectedly fallen into my lap, the idea of my poor little wife at home, that I was to astonish her with my good fortune. But the awful responsibility I had undertaken to speak for the first time in a strange court, the expectations the culprit had formed of my talents; all these, and a crowd of similar notions, kept whirling through my mind.—I had tossed about all night, fearing morning would find me exhausted and incompetent; in a word, the day dawned on me a miserable fellow.

I got up feverish and nervous. I walked out before breakfast, striving to collect my thoughts and tranquilize my feelings. It was a bright morning—the air was pure and frosty; I bathed my forehead and my hands in a beautiful running stream, but I could not allay the fever that raged within. I returned to breakfast, but could not eat. A single cup of coffee formed my repast. It was time to go to court, and I went there with a throbbing heart. I believe if it had not been for the thoughts of my dear little wife in her lonely house, I should have given back to the man his dollars, and relinquished the cause. I took my seat, looking, I am convinced, more like a culprit than the rogue I was to defend.

When the time came for me to speak, my heart died within me. I rose embarrassed and dismayed, and stammered in opening my cause. I went on from bad to worse, and felt as if I was going down. Just then, the public prosecutor, a man of talents, but somewhat rough in his practice, made a sarcastic remark on something I had said. It was like an electric spark, and ran tingling through every vein in my body. In an instant my diffidence was gone. My whole spirit was in arms. I answered with promptness, for I felt the cruelty of such an attack upon a novice in my situation. The public prosecutor made a kind of apology. This, for a man of his redoubtable powers, was a vast concession. I renewed my argument with a fearful growl, carried the case triumphantly, and the man was acquitted.

This was the making of me. Every body was curious to know who this new lawyer was that had suddenly risen among them, and heaped the Attorney-General in the very outset. The story of my debut at the inn on the preceding evening, when I knocked down a bully, and kicked him out of doors, for striking an old man, was circulated with favorable exaggeration. Even my heedless chin and juvenile countenance was in my favor, for the people gave me far more credit than I deserved. The chance business which occurs at our courts came thronging in upon me. I was repeatedly employed in other causes, and by Saturday night, when the court closed, I found myself with a hundred and fifty dollars in silver, three hundred dollars in notes, and a horse that I afterwards sold for two hundred dollars more.

Never did a miser gloat more on his money, and with more delight. I locked the door of my room, piled the money in a heap on the table, walked around it with my elbow on the table, and my chin upon my hands, and gazed upon it. Was I thinking of the money? No—I was thinking of my little wife and home.

Another sleepless night ensued, but what a night of golden fancies and splendid air.

As soon as the morning dawned, I was up, mounted the borrowed horse on which I had come to court, and led the other, which I received as a lee. All the way I was delighting myself with the thoughts of the surprise I had in store for my wife; for both of us expected I should spend all the money I had borrowed, and return in debt.

Our meeting was joyous, as you may suppose; but I played the part of the Indian hunter, who, when he returns from the chase, never for a time speaks of his success. She had prepared a rustic meal for me, and while it was getting ready, I seated myself at an old-fashioned desk in one corner, and began to count over my money and put it away. She came to me before I had finished, and asked me who I had collected the money for? "For myself, to be sure," replied I, with affected coolness, "I made it at court."

She looked at me for a moment incredulously. I tried to keep my countenance and play the Indian, but it would not do. My muscles began to twitch, my feelings all at once gave way, I caught her in my arms, laughed, cried, and danced about the room like a crazy man. From that time forward, we never wanted money.

AN ACT

To appoint Inspectors of Flour and Meal in the Towns of Saint Andrews, Saint Stephen, and Saint George, in the County of Charlotte.

WHEREAS great frauds are practiced in the adulteration and "packing of Flour and Meal previous to its being imported into this Country, it is deemed expedient and necessary that Inspectors of Flour and Meal should be appointed for the purpose of detecting and putting an end to such frauds.

I. Be it therefore enacted by the Lieutenant Governor, Council and Assembly, that from and after the passing of this Act, all Flour and Meal imported or brought into the Towns of Saint Andrews, Saint Stephen, and Saint George, in the County of Charlotte, shall be inspected and weighed, by persons to be appointed to that office by the Justices of said County.

II. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Justices of the Peace, at the first General Sessions annually to appoint fit and proper persons to be inspectors of Flour and Meal in the respective Towns in said County; and such persons, before they enter on the duties of their office, shall respectively give bonds with two sufficient sureties to Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, in sums not less than — Pounds, nor over One — Pounds as the said Justices in the said County may direct.

III. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of such Inspectors to inspect and weigh all Flour and Meal imported or brought into the aforesaid Towns of Saint Andrews, St. Stephen and Saint George; and the said Inspectors shall brand in plain and legible characters on the bilge of each and every barrel, across the staves, the initials of his christian name, and his surname at length, with the letters "INSPE," and also the letters "C. C." for "Charlotte County," the brands to occupy — lines, thus, or as the case may be:

"A. B. Inspector,
Saint Andrews, C. C.
Super, Fine,
Middlings,
Bad."

IV. And be it further enacted, That if the Master of any Vessel or Boat shall put, or receive on board any Vessel or Boat, or other carriage or conveyance, to transport the same from one part of the County to another part of the said County, any Flour or Meal in Barrels or half Barrels, which has not been inspected and branded in manner by this Act prescribed, he, she, or they, on conviction, shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding — shillings, nor less than — shillings for each and every barrel or half barrel of such uninspected Flour or Meal.

V. And be it further enacted, That the said Inspectors shall respectively be paid for inspecting and Branding each and every Barrel or half Barrel of Flour or Meal at the following rate, viz:—for each Barrel when the quantity inspected for one individual at any one time does not exceed One Hundred Barrels, the sum of — pence; and when the quantity inspected for one individual at any one time shall exceed One Hundred Barrels, — pence for each Barrel, and half Barrel in proportion.

VI. And be it further enacted, That if any Inspector shall Brand any Flour or Meal without first having inspected it, or if he shall permit any other person or persons to use his Brand in violation or evasion thereof, such Inspector, and the person or persons so offending, shall each severally, forfeit and pay for every Cask so branded, not less than — shillings, nor more than — shillings; and such Inspector shall further be liable to be removed from office, and if any Inspector when called upon to

perform the duties of his office, shall neglect or refuse so to do, without good and sufficient reason, he shall forfeit and pay for each and every offence the sum of — shillings, and further, be liable to be removed from office.

VII. And be it further enacted, That if any person or persons shall sell or offer for sale any Flour or Meal before being inspected, contrary to the provisions of this Act, he, she, or they shall, upon conviction thereof, forfeit and pay for every Barrel or half Barrel of Flour or Meal so offered for sale, the sum of — shillings; provided always that no person shall be liable at aforesaid unless information be given and prosecution commenced within Thirty Days from the date of the offence.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That any penalties and forfeitures imposed and arising by virtue of this Act, when the same shall not exceed Five Pounds, shall be recovered before any Justice of the Peace, or when the same shall be more than Five Pounds, and shall not exceed Fifteen Pounds, before any two of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace together with the clerk of the Court, on the oath of one or more credible witnesses or witnesses, and to be levied by warrant of distress under the Hand and Seal of such Justice or Justices, and sale of the offender's goods and chattels; and if want of sufficient distress such offender shall suffer not less than — days nor more than — days imprisonment; and in case such Fine shall exceed Fifteen Pounds, the same may be recovered in any of Her Majesty's Courts of Record in this Province by action of debt, together with costs of suit; one half of such penalties and forfeitures to be paid to the person or persons who shall sue for the same and the other half to be paid to the Commissioners or Overseers of the Poor of the Town or Parish where such offence shall be committed, for the benefit of the Poor of such Town or Parish.

IX. And be it further enacted, That nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to extend to a re-inspection of Flour or Meal that has already been inspected in any other Town in this County, nor to any Meal or Flour brought in by water or inland communication, when such Flour or Meal is intended solely for the consumption of the party bringing in the same.

X. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall continue and be in force until the First Day of December which will be in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and

SPIRIT OF THE BRITISH PRESS.

[Morning Post.]

The Speech by the Royal Commissioners on the prorogation of parliament is adapted to the peculiarity of the present position of affairs. It is more concise than usual—less general in its review of topics. Instead of using words about various important matters which are usually framed so as to mean nothing, it spares the words and avoids the topics altogether. We do not know that we should decy all at once upon this being an improvement, if we supposed that it was to be taken as the commencement of an innovation upon established usage as regards Royal speeches to Parliament. But we do not suppose any such thing. The framers of the Royal Speech evidently regard the late session as a kind of extra session, having a special purpose, namely, to decide whether the late Ministers of her Majesty did, or did not, possess the confidence of the country so as to enable them to continue to carry on the Government. The point having been decided in the negative, and a new Ministry constituted, the circumstances of the time commanded that the session should cease as soon as the indispensable routine business was disposed of.

For it was no ordinary change from one set of Ministers to another. Exceedingly important measures relating to the finance of the country had become necessary by the depletion of the revenue as compared with the expenditure, and other important measures relating to the commerce of the country had become expedient, through the conduct of the late Government leading to a strong public expectation of some such thing. Measures affecting both these points, namely, public finance and private commerce, were proposed by the late Government to Parliament, and rejected. The party rejecting have now come into the Government, admitting that measures relating to public finance and private commerce are necessary, but denying that those which had been proposed were wise or expedient. This is the position of affairs. The session has done its work in disapproving of one Government, and recommending another to power. The new Government avows that it requires time for consideration of the measures it will propose, and nothing can be done until that time for consideration is afforded.

With regard to the general distress there is a paragraph eminently worthy of the benevolent Sovereign of a free people:—

"Her Majesty has commanded us to repeat the expression of her deep concern at the distress which has prevailed for a considerable period in some of the manufacturing districts; and to assure you that you may rely upon the cordial concurrence of Her Majesty in all such measures as shall appear, after mature consideration, best calculated to prevent the recurrence of that distress, and to promote the great object of all Her Majesty's wishes—the happiness and contentment of her people."

This must be looked upon not only as a declaration of Royal good feeling and benevolence, but a manifesto of the principles of the Government which advised the Royal Address. Whatever then may be said by the emissaries of revolution—whatever may be prompted by the malice and disappointment of certain hangers-on of the defeated party, of this country may be certain, that the main object of the present Conservative Government is to promote the happiness and contentment of the whole body of her Majesty's subjects.

[Morning Chronicle.]

Parliament is prorogued to the 11th of November, but it is understood that further prorogations will prevent its re-assembling till February next. The Government has obtained money for its various purposes, and the intervening period will be employed in sound-ing the Tory arispracy throughout the country as to the degree in which they may be disposed to relax the corn-law. We have heard it observed that some misunderstanding on the subject of the corn-law must have preceded the formation of the present Cabinet.

To some extent, no doubt, the members of the Cabinet must have come to an understanding on the subject. Indeed, this is implied in the previous rejection of the budget. But as the country gentlemen are fully as much distinguished for their obstinacy as their sense, and as their opinions must, in a great measure, determine the course of the Government, any understanding of the Government on the subject of the corn-law must have had reference, not so much to the views of the individual members of the Cabinet, as the views of the landed aristocracy. What the Duke of Richmond blurted out at the opening of the session, however ungracious, must have been felt to be true. The landed aristocracy gave the ministers their majority, on an understanding that they would maintain the principle of the corn-law, and as they had brought them in, they would turn them out if they had abandoned that principle.

Much must depend upon the events of the period of the recess. The opinion of the people, conveyed in the memorials agreed to at the various meetings held throughout the country, has been disregarded. Ministers had no power to comply with the wishes of the people. Sir Robert Peel, no doubt, received the fee; but more than a knowledge of the case of the patient was necessary to enable him to prescribe. He is but the servant of the landed aristocracy, and he feels the necessity of taking no step which has not previously received their sanction. But though the opinion of the people has not extorted from Ministers a compliance with their wishes, and the suffering millions are left to bear their privations and distress as they best can, till it is convenient for Ministers to attend to their condition, the demonstrations have not been useless. We have abundant evidence of the inclinations of the landed aristocracy; but if the people follow up with spirit the course on which they have entered, an impression may be made both on Ministers and those who influence Ministers. The history of the last twenty years is exceedingly instructive in this respect. We have the declarations of Sir Robert Peel and the Duke of Wellington to guide us as to the means by which statesmen may be moved. We have also the history of the Reform Bill for our instruction. No one supposes that, when the determination was adopted of memorializing the Queen to obtain the prevention of the prorogation of Parliament, any expectation was entertained that Ministers would alter their determination to prorogue. But the meetings served to shew that the sense of the country was strongly against the prorogation. It seemed, moreover, to make the people acquainted with their own strength. They who suggested the measure of memorializing must have occupied their thoughts with the steps to be taken should the measure be followed by prorogation. The prorogation having taken place, we enter on the second act of the drama. Upon the manner in which this act shall be performed everything will depend.

It appears that of the first 500 pupils at the military school at Fontenelle, 202 died on the field of battle, five rose to the rank of lieutenant-generals; 28 to that of major-generals, and fifty seven to those of colonels and lieutenant-colonels. The major part of the remainder rose to eminence of servants of the crown, or in civil professions.

A pamphlet, by Lord Alvanley, upon the present state of Ireland and the measures that have been proposed for restoring to that unhappy country the tranquillity from the want of which she has for ages been suffering, has just been published.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint the Right Hon. David Balfour, to be Lord Justice General and President of the Court of Session in Scotland, and the Hon. Charles Hope, to be one of the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital.

The Queen has been pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the Great Seal granting the dignity of a Knight of the Uni-