

all the Misses Warbeck's sisterly relations... household order assumed another aspect.

The same evening, and at about the same hour that Lord Castlereagh was entertaining his guests, Miss Warbeck Higgenboggan, phlegmatic, grim and solitary, was seated, with her fat pug in her lap, we cannot say dreamily gazing out of her drawing-room window; she was too practical to be dreamy or imaginative, so we can only say she was looking out of her drawing-room window, thinking of something not pleasing in subject, if one might infer from the lines and wrinkles that had contracted to a frown upon her rigid brow.

"Well, Betty, what do you want?" demanded Miss Warbeck, endeavoring to uphold a semblance of state and reserve with the mental it pleased her to humor, but whose forwardness sometimes plagued her.

"Please, ma'am," began Abigail, humbly, yet with feline gaze watching the effect of her words, "my time 'll be up this day to-morrow, an' I come to give warnin' I can't stay no longer."

"Why so, Betty?" cried Miss Warbeck, with an expression of discomposure that did not escape the lynx-like eye fixed upon her. "Why must you go? You answer me very well; you've now been here twelve months, and I've no fault to find with you."

"No, ma'am, I know ye haven't; long sordy 'll be to me, if in anyone's power to find fault with me, it's black as the white of my eye; but—she put her apron to her eyes, and began to sob and blubber—"everyone isn't a nice lady like you, that I could live an' be happy all my life wid; but I couldn't put up wid Miss Fanny's temper, an' comin' the mistress over me an' cook, pimper an' spyin' about, as is mane ways for a lady, prowlin' into the pantry, an' askin' where's the rest o' the cowld meat, an' what want wid the fruit an' the tarts, an' fidlin' fault wid the tea an' sugar an' coffee being out days too soon, an' reckonin' the bills from market an' grocer, just as if I wor a thief that wanted to rob her, an' I wid sich a character for honesty?"

"Now, then, Betty, are you such a fool as to take on so, and, in your good place for Miss Fanny's oddities," exclaimed Miss Warbeck, relieved to find that the cause of grievance lay not at her own door, and judiciously proceeding to soothe the troubled mental. "Don't mind, Miss Fanny; she is not your mistress, and has no right to regulate my servants;—take the keys, and keep them; you are only responsible to me for your conduct. Well, what more have you got to say?"

"Oh, ma'am, dear, if everyone was like you, what a good time poor servants 'ud have o' it an' never leave their places; but when Miss Fanny comes an' tells all sorts o' lies on one, how's a body to get in, as in course she'll have yer ear, an' natural ye'd believe her agin us."

"Miss Fanny has told me no lies of you, and if she did I wouldn't believe them," cried Miss Warbeck, emphatically.

"By yer lave, ma'am," she told me this mornin' that I didn't wash the lap-dog, but only scolded him in the cistern, an' let him lie on the mat to get his death o' cowld, an' that she'd tell you, an' took toddy himberself, by the way;—an' I that 'ud give my own life far yer little lapdog, the darlin' cratur, that isn't the like o' him for beauty in the world;—an' more than that, Miss Fanny comes to knock the other day, an' says: 'Martha, who had ye in the house last night, that I see you out by the lamplight at five o'clock this mornin'?' No one, ma'am, says Martha; 'we was all in bed.' 'I beg yer pardon,' says Miss Fanny. 'I see a robust man leave the house at five o'clock, an' I heard sounds o' voices talkin' an' laughin' below at one o'clock in the night. 'Oh, ma'am, yer ravin' or dreamin'?' says the cook; 'may be 'twas the sweep ye seen comin' out next door. Anyhow, as I says, cook, who has fine vails to put yer wages, may think it worth her while to put up wid such investigation, but I couldn't do it no how. I couldn't get on uther the same rood wid Miss Fanny. Lawd! will I ever forget the fuss she made about her white dimly petticoat an' chintz mornin' gown that must have blowd away off the line—she us good as said they was stole. No, I wouldn't stay for no consideration."

"Oh, yes, you will! I couldn't do without you, Betty; it is so essential to have an honest person about me, and a clever, thrifty woman like yourself, that knows my ways," pleaded Miss Warbeck. "Go down to the kitchen, and next quarter 'll raise you a pound."

the house with your interference. What would become of me! that decent, honest woman Betty, who has just given me warning, were to leave me!—and to pacify her, I gave her a black silk gown just as good as new;—I'm sure all the old maid and tart isn't worth it. What if she did take some—all servants do."

"But, Sophy, it was you asked me to see after the things," said Miss Fanny; "and I can tell you it is more than a question of cold meat and tarts. The population I have discovered is wholesale; and I tell you Betty and Martha are robbing you most enormously in tea, sugar, butter, candles; meat disappears by the joint, chops are cut from the loin, stakes from the sirloin: a pound of bacon only comes up where two were bought; and the bills overcharged for meat, eggs, groceries, and everything. You allow so much weekly for housekeeping, but though quite sufficient it would go no way if I did not see after things."

"Oh, nonsense; it's all your own mismanagement. How did Alphonse get on?"

"Badly enough. Many a time she complained to me, and I never disregarded her complaints; hence the rogues, finding two to one against them, were restrained within some bounds; but now they seem to think the less their own that she is gone, and you, let me tell you, give them latitude by your winking at their dishonesty."

"What can I do?"

"Turn them away at once."

"Yes; nothing easier! and perhaps take in thieves or murderers, that would poison us in our tea."

"I can tell you, Sophy, the servants you have are as dishonest as any you can get in; and it's my belief that they have company in the house at night with them that may be murderers for all we know."

"I must beg, Fanny, you won't shake my nerves by your wild imaginings. My servants, indeed, do such things—and Betty a convert, recommended by Nathaniel Lamb, and Martha, a charity-school girl, reared up by that golly man, Hotspur, intended by that golly man, Hotspur, to be a good girl, and you, let me tell you, and once for all, I beg you to remember this is my house, and not to take head over my servants."

"Very well, Sophy, look after your own affairs in future, and don't ask me to house-keep for you."

"Since you make such a compliment of obliging, of course I won't. I daresay Betty will do it quite as well."

evening repast, while in the drawing-room Squire Higgins made himself entertaining to Miss Fanny by giving exciting details of a shocking burglary and murder committed the night before in the city, and Miss Sophy relieved her aggravated sensibilities in bestowing on the Rev. Agamemnon all the trouble she had to endure on the score of imprudent Fanny's collision with the servants, and causing thereby such serious breach of harmony that she offended menials, at least Betty, the most valued of them, had just a white ago given warning, and had to be mollified by concessions, increase of wages, a silk gown, &c., &c., to which the reverend auditor replied, in high-flown phrase:

"Quite right you are, my dear madam, a faithful servant is more precious than silver or gold, and to be retained at any cost or sacrifice; moreover, it is incumbent upon us to guard these brands scathed from the burning from relapsing into the errors of popery;—the priests, like spiders in a cobweb, lie in wait for souls, and if we cast off these hapless wretches, what else is before them but Babylon and the mystery of iniquity?"

"But that's all mighty fine talk, parson," cried Miss Fanny, who, having overheard the colloquy, in which she felt more interested than the burglarly suspended her attention a moment, to give her matter-of-fact opinion on the other subject; "if you, my good young friend, went down of a morning to your storeroom and found the tea-caddy you had filled the day before half empty, and the lump sugar attracted by the pound, and the wine and spirits watered, and the cheese, eggs, meat, butter, preserves and fruit all disappearing by halves, I'd like to know what you or any other housekeeper would say about it."

"'Tis very hard, Miss Fanny, I own, but admonish the offenders," mildly responded the gentle divine; "remind them of the commandment, 'Thou shalt not steal.'"

"Fiddlesticks!" ejaculated Miss Fanny, with energy; and uttering and stammering in the vicinity of declamation, she continued: "You parsons are so pious, merciful, and lenient to vice, I wonder you let the magistrate send any culprits to jail, where I'm right sure ours ought to be, and where they should be, had I a voice in it. I declare, I think them as bad and wicked as any Papist, that is,—she corrected herself—"priest-ridden, Jesuitical, Papists, for there are a few, I daresay, only Papists in name and out of obstinacy, like our niece, Alphonse Fitzpatrick, who, though nominally a Papist, had none of the dark craft of the sect, but was, I'm bound to admit, very superstitious. Ah, she was a great loss to us; somehow she had a knack of managing these servants; it was a great sacrifice our parting her."

"Right you were, my dear madam," responded the parson, authoritatively. "But it is not written, 'If thy brother eye scandalize thee, thou shalt pluck it out and cast it from thee?' I am happy to witness such demonstration of zeal in the disciples of our Church; most edifying is the righteous wrath of the godly, and admirable, when quoting the example of Brutus, it smiteth them of its own household with impartial rod." Miss Fanny made no rejoinder, mystified between the paradox of mild admonition to glaring offenders of no kith or kin, and righteous wrath to them of one's own household, not obviously guilty of any specific crime, she collapsed in silence, while Miss Sophy filled out the coffee, and the Rev. Agamemnon helped himself to a toasted muffin, and the Sham Squire vigorously scratched his head, in momentary oblivion of his surroundings, and aspirated between his teeth:

"Right, my lady! jolly good! how'd the world spin but for knives that know how to peg the top? We might all go to bed an' snore; there'd be no such thing as making a crop out of it. Hang the saints an' bless the sinners, say I—only I don't believe there ain't many saints, an' them that gets hanged has nessed their business, an' been uncommon fools, say I, like Lord Edward, that must needs run to borrow under the very noses and in the very kennel of the hounds. Lucky for me; pith!"

"Will you take tea or coffee, Mr. Higgins?" demanded Miss Warbeck, eyeing, not amiably, that odious, low-born, forward fellow, introduced by Parson Lamb, and panned upon her as a relation to make much of and cherish.

"Keek and tea, the ladies delectable disappoin, my dear. Give me the stingo that warms the heart of the great Mogul, aromatic Mocha," cried the Squire, rubbing his hands complacently.

"(To be continued.)"

Loss and Gain. CHAPTER I. "I was taken sick a year ago With bilious fever."

A YEAR'S RECORD.

The number of arrests by the police during the year just closed was 6,642.

Receipts in the Recorder's court in 1884 were \$12,015, against \$12,602 last year.

The customs receipts at this port in 1884 decreased \$942,915, being \$6,787,721 against \$7,730,637 in 1883.

There has been a fall-off of \$107,450 in excise collections in the past year, and of \$679 in the receipts for weights and measures.

The amount of customs duty collected at Toronto for December was \$176,979, being a decrease of \$45,532 as compared with December, 1883.

The yearly returns of the Cote des Neiges cemetery will show that the number of interments during the past twelve months has been about the thousand, some five hundred in excess of the previous year.

The number of fires causing damage to which the Montreal brigade has been called out was 243, and the alarms for chimneys, etc., where no damage occurred was 80, making a total of 323. Of this number 283 came over the fire alarm wires and 40 were still alarms.

The inland revenue receipts for December were \$19,655, an increase over those of the same month last year of \$1,093.

The receipts at the Halifax Custom House during the past month amounted to \$77,618, a decrease compared with the receipts of December, 1883, of \$17,732.

The receipts of the quarter just closed were \$271,016, a decrease compared with the same period last year of \$17,498.

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NO HARM IN IT.

No harm can come from using Haggard's Peppermint Balm: as a remedy for throat, bronchial and lung complaints it is always reliable and positively safe.

Dried grass sold in bales is the most common fuel in Peru. Kerosene oil is \$1.25 a gallon there.

THE FORCES STRENGTHENED.

The vital forces are strengthened and the entire system renovated and built up by Burdock Blood Bitters. It acts on the bowels, liver, kidneys and blood.

Allen's Lung Balm is warranted to cure the most distressing cough.

George W. Cable got lost in the wings of a Cleveland hall stage the other evening after the close of his readings.

Can consumption be cured? Yes. One man only, discovered the laws of vaccination. One man only, discovered the virtue of vaccination. And one man, after years of study and research, has discovered the cure for consumption. Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" is the specific. Send two letter stamps and get Dr. Pierce's pamphlet treatise on consumption. Address, World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N.Y.

The Philadelphia Call denies that England wants the earth. "She only wants the sea, with a few continents as landing places."

ASK FIFTY LADIES IN SUCCESSION WHAT PERFUME THEY consider the most delicate, the most pure and salubrious, the most permanent, and in all respects the most desirable, and forty-nine of them will answer, MURRAY & LANMAN'S FLORIDA WATER.

Iron mills and cotton mills may close but it is observed that the gin mills keep on running all full time.

Robinson's Phosphorized Emulsion by its stimulating action upon the organs of digestion and assimilation, and by its powerfully alterative tonic and nutritive properties, purifies the blood from all taint, and increases its solid constituents. Always ask for Robinson's Phosphorized Emulsion, and be sure you get it.

A Long Island man died the other day from grief from the loss of his favorite dog.

Dr. J. Corlis, St. Thomas, writes: "During ten years' active practice I have had occasion to prescribe Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites. Since Northrop & Lyman's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites of Lime and Soda came under my notice, I have tried it, and take great pleasure in saying that it has given great satisfaction, and is to be preferred to any I have ever used or recommended. I have used it in my own family almost as a beverage during heavy colds, and in every instance a happy result has followed. I cheerfully recommend its use in all cases of debility arising from weakness of the muscular or nervous system."

The man who made his lady love a present of an umbrella was the smart guy, after all. Mr. W. R. Lazier, Bailiff, &c., Belleville, writes: "I had Dr. Thomas' Eucalyptic Oil the best medicine I have ever used in my stable. I have used it for bruises, scratches, wind puffs and cuts, and in every case it gave the best satisfaction. We use it as a household remedy for colic, burns, &c., and it is a perfect panacea. It will relieve warts by paring them down and applying it occasionally."

A Brooklyn car driver's mother died recently and left him a large sum of money; but the young man sticks to his car.

When a cold or other cause checks the operation of the secretory organs, their natural healthy action should be restored by the use of Ayer's Pills, and inflammatory material thereby removed from the system. Much serious sickness and suffering might be prevented by thus promptly correcting those slight derangements that, otherwise, often develop into settled disease.

IRISH COERCION ACT.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—It is understood that the Government has finally decided to introduce, at the next session of Parliament, a bill to prolong the operation of the Coercion Act, which expires by limitation next year. This is sure to meet with strong opposition, not only from the Irish members of Parliament, but also from those Radicals who have declared in favour of Irish autonomy. The Whig members of the Liberal party foresee the coming storm, and anticipate a repetition of the obstructionist tactics of 1882-83. In order to prevent the introduction of a bill to reform the mode of Parliamentary procedure, and to make that bill a privileged question as early in the session as possible.

AN IMPORTANT FORECAST.

The Pall Mall Gazette prophesies that some form of Home Rule during the New Year will be accepted as the ultimate outcome of the enfranchisement of the Irish democracy. I think the Crimes Act will be allowed to lapse, but that the bill to reform the jury law for change of venue and trial by special jurors will become statute. It admits that a full harvest is not truly to be reaped at Westminster, for the seed must be sown in the provinces before being garnered in Parliament. It concludes that the duty of all who aspire to sway the English sceptre is to educate the vast but inert forces of the democracy. The article is considered significant, three cabinet ministers being in close relations with the Pall Mall Gazette.

FRANCE LOOKING AHEAD.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—It is reported that France is negotiating with Colombia for the cession or purchase of the islands off the northwest coast of Panama upon which to form naval stations.

RUSSIA'S PLAN.

Russia has proposed a plan for the settlement of the Egyptian question which will probably be acceptable to France, namely, that a new loan be guaranteed by all the powers at a small reduction of interest, any surplus to be divided among the creditors, and that the British shall withdraw from Egypt on a fixed date.

PARNELL AND REDISTRIBUTION.

DUBLIN, Jan. 2.—At the last moment Mr. Parnell abandoned his intention of speaking at the mass meeting of Irish Nationalists held to-day. He prefers to reserve his recommendations regarding the Redistribution bill, and to incorporate them in a formal address to his constituents, which will be issued within a few days. As an indication of the importance attached to Mr. Parnell's utterances, it may be worth while to state that the London newspapers are already outbidding each other in efforts to get an advance proof of Mr. Parnell's address.

Day-after-Christmas editorial in New York Journal, short but powerful: "Empty is the pocket-book, money's gone."

TRADE IN THE STATES.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—A commercial agency journal reports cotton steady. Southern towns report the amount of cotton remaining unmarketed as very light, and indicating point to lessened receipts. The wool trade is fairly active for the season. The movements of buyers indicate increased confidence. The anthracite coal market has brought lower prices for coal in large quantities. Reports from all western and north-western cattle ranges are gloomy, and the further west the worse they are. Out of 215,000 cattle driven into Montana but 182,000 will survive the severity of the weather. The breadstuffs market has experienced a marked change. At no time for over a year has there appeared to be so strong a movement for an advance in the prices of wheat and flour, backed by the statistical position of the products, when supplies at home and abroad are considered. Abroad the only dissenting view is based on the prospects of favorable harvesting in Australia, as India and Russia do not interfere at present. The Chicago wheat market is largely in control of strong men who have gone in for a long campaign, and there is already some good outbuying. The opposition of the bears is feeble. Some who are considered good authorities say the price will yet be lower than it has been this crop year.

The name of N. H. Downs still lives, although he has been dead many years. His Elixir for the cure of coughs and colds has already outlived him a quarter of a century, and is still growing in favor with the public.

All those who have used Baxter's Mandrake Bitters speak very strongly in their praise. Twenty-five cents per bottle.

In case of hard cold nothing will relieve the breathing so quickly as to rub Arica & Oil Liniment on the chest.

PRESENTATION TO A TEACHER.

On Wednesday, 24th ult., the pupils of the Independent School, Melochville, P.Q., presented Miss M. E. McGill, formerly teacher of the R.C. school of the village of St. Malachy d'Orstown, with a writing desk and outfit, a photograph album, silk handkerchief and Xmas cards. Two addresses were also presented, one by the boy pupils and the other by the girl pupils, in which they expressed their sentiments of respect and gratitude for the vigilant care and wise counsels which they had received at the hands of their devoted teacher. They also expressed a hope that her efforts would be blessed and that a long and happy life would be granted to her.

ALEXANDRIA, GLENGARRY.

The closing exercises of the Roman Catholic separate school in this place for the year 1884 was marked by a very interesting event. This school has been under the superintendence of Mr. McCabe for the past two years, and the improvement in the school since his advent among us is marked. The scholars attending exceed in number over one hundred and eighty, one hundred being under the charge of Miss Bell, Chisholm, and about eighty under the charge of Mr. McCabe. Each year Mr. McCabe has sent quite a number of his scholars to an entrance examination of the High School, the majority of whom have succeeded in acquiring distinction. It is a matter of regret among the pupils and their parents that Mr. McCabe is about severing his connection with the school. He will proceed at the beginning of the new year to the Ottawa Collegiate Institute to prosecute his studies with a view to finishing his education. The final examination held in the school house two weeks ago was in every way satisfactory, as testified by the Rev. Father Macdonnell and the trustees who were present. After the examination the scholars presented Mr. McCabe with a beautiful gold ring, a cup, cigar holder and a very feeling and appropriate address.—Cont.

DUBLIN, Jan. 2.—The usual banquet in honor of the inauguration of the new Lord Mayor was held last evening. The toast to the Queen was received with applause, mingled with great hissing. The toast to the health of Earl Spencer, Lord-Lieutenant, was omitted. Messrs. Brooks and Lyons, members of parliament, were unable to respond to the toast to the Irish members on account of the storm of groans and hisses with which they were received. Mr. O'Kelly and Mr. Moyne, members, afterwards responded and were warmly applauded. At Cork Mr. Madden wrote a letter refusing to attend the inauguration ceremonies owing to the gross and insulting treatment to which he had been subjected at the hands of the nationalists because he had extended the hospitality of the chamber held on the occasion of their visit. At Limerick at the Mayoralty banquet, the Mayor proposed as the first toast "Ireland a nation," which he described as a loyal toast to Irishmen. Mr. O'Brien, member of parliament, responding, praised the Limerick corporation for its successful resistance of the extra police tax.

ROME, Jan. 2.—Papal journals state that the Patriarch of Constantinople repudiates the religious authority of the Czar of Russia and prefers to abandon the Greek for the Latin rite. The Vatican authorities are preparing to give the Patriarch a solemn and pompous reception.

WHAT THEY LEFT.

The Duke of Wellington left a personal estate valued at nearly a million, Lord Ampt-hill one of £250,000, and Postmaster Fawcett one of £50,000.

JUDGE LYNCH IN IOWA.

DES MOINES, Iowa, Dec. 30.—In November, 1882, Chris. McAllister was murdered at his residence. A few months afterwards Pleasant Anderson was arrested for the murder, was tried a year ago and acquitted. The conviction prevailed here that he was guilty. Bad feeling has since been manifested, and last night he was seized at the house of his father-in-law, taken to a jail in the school-house, a mock trial was held before a jury of eight masked men, and by them he was sentenced to be hanged. Nearly a hundred persons gathered at the school-house, among whom Anderson seemed to have no friends, and they took him to the scene of the murder and hanged him to the limb of a tree. He protested his innocence to the last. The body was left hanging until taken down by order of a magistrate.

A DESPONDENT WOMAN'S ACT.

MADEIRA, N.Y., Jan. 2.—Anna Dickhof and infant arrived from Berlin on Wednesday in search of her husband. Not finding him, and being destitute the stationmaster allowed her to remain in the depot over night. In a fit of despondency the woman cut the throat of herself and infant and wandered out into the snow where she was found covered with blood. The mother is not expected to live. Deekhof arrived yesterday and is heart-broken.