

A NEW YEAR EXHIBITION.

Overstuffed hump-backed wretches in the battle-plain of life. Mad with their rights purposes, from the rage of moralistic.

THE BULLY OF THE VILLAGE.

TOM TEMPLE'S CAREER.

BY HORATIO ALGER JR.

CHAPTER XIX.

TOM MAKES A STRANGE PROPOSAL. Tom spent the first three days in making himself familiar with localities in New York.

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but I am sure that your failure is the result of misfortune, and I have called to express my sympathy for my father's friend.

"Thank you, my boy," said the merchant, warmly, grasping the hand of our hero.

"You remind me of your father—a noble, generous man, and a true friend. I regret more than before that you are involved in my losses."

"I will at any rate give you some explanation of my failure, so that you may know that it was as much my misfortune as an error of judgment."

"I don't ask any explanation, Mr. Armstrong," said Tom, who was quite won over by the merchant's friendly manner.

"I would rather be understood—by you, at least. You must know, then, that though I had met with considerable losses, which had of course crippled me, I should still have remained solvent but for the treachery of a clerk in whom I reposed the utmost confidence."

"Indeed, sir," said Tom, surprised. "One morning I had very heavy payments to make, the merchant protested. I had, however, a considerable sum in bank, and valuable securities convertible at a moment's notice, sufficient to provide for the balance required."

"At twelve o'clock I sent the clerk to the bank with a check. He didn't return. I waited in the utmost anxiety for him to come back, but he had drawn the money, abstracted the securities, and taken to flight. Money was tight. I was unable to provide for my notes. The day passed, and I was a bankrupt."

"How much did this man carry away with him?" asked Tom, interested. "In money and securities, about one hundred thousand dollars."

"Have you heard nothing from him since?" "I have reason to think he is concealed somewhere in California."

"Why don't you pursue him?" asked Tom energetically. "I can't go myself. I have communicated with detectives there, but I have not much faith in their success."

"It would be better to send a special agent."

"Perhaps so, but I should not know whom to send."

"Tom's thoughts had been busy. A strange plan had entered his mind. 'Send me, Mr. Armstrong,' he said. 'I will try to find him for you.'

The merchant started at Tom in undisguised amazement. 'Send you?' he repeated. 'My time is at my disposal, and it is necessary for me to do something.'

"Necessary to do something. Have you no other property than that which I have lost for you?" "No," said Tom, "or very little. I too have met with losses."

"He set forth the condition of his affairs briefly. The merchant listened attentively. 'I am very sorry for you,' he said. 'Without any fault of your own, you are reduced to comparative poverty.'

"Yes, sir," said Tom, "but I don't let it trouble me. I am sorry, of course, but I can make my way."

"I think you can," said Mr. Armstrong, observing him attentively. "You look like one who is destined to succeed. If I were where I was a month ago, I would take you into my employ, and give you a start in life."

"Can't you do it now, sir?" "I shall be compelled to wind up my business."

"I mean can't you employ me to find the clerk who has defrauded you?" "How old are you, Tom?" asked the merchant, abruptly.

"Sixteen, sir."

"And you really think a boy of sixteen could succeed in such a difficult task?" demanded the merchant, incredulously.

"Yes, sir," said Tom, confidently. "He would have an advantage over an older person."

"What is that?" "He would be less likely to excite suspicion of his errand."

"That is true," said Mr. Armstrong, thoughtfully. "Then, sir, are you willing to send me?" asked Tom, eagerly.

"I am afraid I am not in a position to send anybody," said the merchant. "Why not, sir?"

"Do you forget that my estate belongs to my creditors? I am a bankrupt."

"But your creditors are interested in your finding the clerk."

"True; but they may consider it a wild-goose chase."

"I don't, and I am one of them."

"If I could recover that money," said the merchant, hesitatingly, "I could pay my creditors dollar for dollar."

"Tom picked up his hat. 'Then you could pay me back my ten thousand dollars?'"

"Yes, with interest."

"Then I'll go on speculation," said Tom, resolutely. "How can you go? It will cost money."

"I know that, sir, but I have a few hundred dollars left."

"You will have more, my boy. I feel confident, even as it is, of paying thirty cents on the dollar."

"Why, said Tom, 'that would be three thousand dollars.'"

"You are right."

"Capital!" exclaimed our hero. "I'll be satisfied with five per cent."

"Mr. Sharp was misinformed."

"I am glad to hear it. Suppose, then, I send the four hundred dollars and I take with me, I shall have something to fall back upon."

"I have heard that, in Mr. Sharp's case."

"I am afraid you will soon get to the end of your small stock of money, Tom."

"Oh, I mean to earn money as well as spend it. When I go to California, I shall see what I can find to do."

"You seem to be an energetic young man."

"I hope I shall prove it. It is time for me to earn a penny in my life."

"I will give you a check for five hundred dollars, and you may take it to the bank."

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LAST OFFER.

As W. & A. BROWN & CO. intend making a change in their firm about the end of February, they now offer their large and well assorted

STOCK & DRY GOODS AT GREAT BARGAINS.

6,000 yards Scotch and Canadian TWEEDS at 20 per cent. off. 2,400 yards Mantle and Ulster CLOTHS at greatly reduced prices.

3,500 yards Colored Silks, Satins and Plushes, at 20 per cent. off. 4,000 Scotch and Canadian Wool Shirts and Drawers at 20 per cent. off.

Scarlet and Grey Flannels, Shirtings, Tickings, Sheetings, Pillow Cottons, Winceys, Prints, Cretonnes, Bleached and Unbleached Damasks and Table Napkins at a big Discount. Balance of their stock of Mantles, Dolmans, Ulsters, Fur-lined COATS, &c., at Cost.

Carpets, Oilcloths, Mattings, Hearth Rugs, Door Mats, &c., at prices that are bound to clear them. Fur Caps, Muffs, &c., at greatly reduced prices.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

This is a bona fide Sale, as all Goods must be cleared out before the change is made in February. Call early and avoid the rush.

Remember the place—Des Brisay's old stand, next door to Beer & Goff's Grocery, and directly opposite the Market House.

W. & A. BROWN & CO. Charlottetown, Dec. 10, 1884.

THE WANZER Sewing Machine.

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TO-DAY OPEN THE STORE IN Stevenson's Building, Queen Street.

With a portion of the Stock of Dry Goods purchased by me from the retiring Firm of Duffus & Co., Wholesale Dry Goods Dealers, Halifax, N. S.

Their instructions from me are to sell at prices to clear.

Having purchased the Goods at a very large per centage below cost of importation, I am enabled to do this and make a commission on the transaction.

Please examine the Goods, and judge for yourselves of the value we offer, and of the opportunity you here have of, as far as these Goods go, getting more for a Dollar than under ordinary circumstances.

Merchants and Dealers should examine our prices if they wish to replenish Stocks.

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Every Department is well filled with CHOICE NEW GOODS.

Imported Direct from the English Markets.

And as I am bound to sustain my past reputation for selling CHEAP, those who patronize me will find PRICES LOW, QUALITY GOOD, ASSORTMENT LARGE.

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