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Uncle Terry

CHARLES CLARK MUNN

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"My name's Page, and I'm from Boston, and a lawyer by profession," re-

Uncle Terry eyed him rather sharply.
"I wouldn't 'a' took ye fer one," he
aid. "Ye look too honest. I ain't much stuck on lawyers," he added with a chuckle. "I've had sperence with 'em. One of 'em sold me a hole in the ground onct, an' it cost me the hull e' twenty years' savin's! Ye'll 'scuse me fer bein' blunt—it's my natur."

"Oh, I don't mind," responded Albert laughingly. "But you mustn't judge us all by one rascal."

They drove on, and as they jogged up and down the sharp hills he caught sight here and there of the ocean, and alongside the road, which consisted of two ruts, a path and two grass grown ridges, he saw wild roses in endless profusion. On either hand was an interminable thicket. In the little val-leys grew masses of rank ferns and on the ridges, interspersed between the wild roses, clusters of red bunchberries. The sun was almost down when they reached the top of a long hill and he saw at its foot a small harbor connected with the ocean by a nar-row inlet and around it a dozen or more brown houses. Beyond was a tangle of rocks and, rising above them, the top of a white lighthouse. Uncle



Stood there unconscious.

Terry, who had kept up a running fire of questions all the time, halted the horse and said:

"Ye can now take yer first look at Saint's Rest, otherwise known as the Cape. We ketch some lobsters an' fish

here an' hev prayer meetin's once a Then he chirruped to the horse, and they rattled down the hill to a small store, where he left a mail pouch and then followed a winding road between the scattered houses and out to the

point, where stood a neat white dwelling close beside a lighthouse.

"I'll take ye into the house," said Uncle Terry as the two alighted, "an' tell the wimmin folks to put on an extra

plate, an' I'll put up the hoss."
"I'm afraid I'm putting your family to some inconvenience," responded Albert, "and as it is not dark yet I will walk out on the point. I may see the yacht and save you all trouble."

The sun, a ball of fire, was almost at he horizon, the sea all around lay an

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unruffled expanse of dark blue, undu-lating with the ground swells that caught the red glow of the sinking sun rocks. Albert walked on to the highest There was no sign of the Gypsy, and only one boat was visible, and that a dory rowed by a man standing upright. Over the still waters Albert could detect the measured stroke of his oars. That and the low rumble of the ground swells, breaking almost at his feet, were the only sounds. It was like a dream of solitude, far removed from the world and all its distractions. For

a few moments he stood contemplating the ocean alight with the setting sun's red glow, the gray rocks at his feet and the tall white lighthouse towering above him, and then started around the point. He had not taken ten steps when he saw the figure of a girl leaning against a rock and watching the setting sun. One elbow was resting on the rock, her face reposing in her open hand and fingers half hid in the thick masses of hair that shone in the sunlight like burnished gold. A broad sun hat lay on the rook, and the delicate profile of her face was sharply outlined

against the western sky.

She had not heard Albert's steps, but stood there unconscious of his scrutiny. He noted the classic contour of her fea tures, the delicate oval of her lips and chin, and his artist eye dwelt upon and admired her rounded bosom and perfect shoulders. Had she posed for a picture she could not have chosen a better position, and was so alluring and withal so sweet and unconscious that for a moment he forgot all else, even his own rudeness in standing there and staring at her. Then he recovered himself and, turning, softly retraced his steps so as not to disturb her. Who she was he had no idea and was still wondering when he met Uncle Terry, who at once invited him into the hous "This 'ere's Mr. Page, Lissy," he said

as they entered and met a stout, elderly and gray haired woman. "I found him up the road a spell an' wantin' to Albert bowed.

'I am sorry to intrude," he said, "but I had lost my boat and all points of the compass when your husband kindly took me in charge."

Being offered a chair, Albert sat down and was left alone. He surveyed the plainly furnished sitting room, with open fireplace, a many colored rag carpet on the floor, old fashioned chairs and dozens of pictures on the walls. They caught his eye at once, mainly because of the oddity of the frames, which were evidently homemade, and then a door was opened, and Uncle Terry invited him into a lighted room where a table was set. The elderly lady was standing at one end of it and beside her a younger one, and as Albert entered he heard Uncle Terry say, "This is our gal Telly, Mr. Page," and as he bowed he saw, garbed in spotless white, the girl he had seen leaning against the rock and watching the sun

CHAPTER XX.

HE appealing yet wondering glance that Albert Page met as he bowed to the girl standas ne bowed to the girl ing beside the table that evening was one he never afterward forgot. It was only one, for after that and during the entire meal her blue eyes were kept veiled by their long lashes or modestly directed elsewhere.

"It's a charming spot down here," he remarked soon after the meal began, "and so hidden that it is a surprise. I noticed the light as we came in, but did not see the village."
"Waal, ye didn't miss anything," re-

sponded his host. "None o' the houses are much for style, an' mebbe it's lucky they're hid behind the rocks."

"I thought them quaint and comfortable," observed Albert, "but what an odd name you have for the place! Why do you call it Saint's Rest?"

"Chiefly 'cause none o' the people have any chance to become sinners, I reckon," was the answer. "It's a trifle reckon," was the answer, "It's a trine lonesome in the winter, though."
"I suppose fishing is your principal occupation here," continued Albert, seeing that sentiment was not considerable to the continued of the continued and the continued to t

ered by Uncle Terry. "Your land does not seem adapted for cultivation." "There ain't much chance for tillin'," he replied. "The land's wuss'n whar I was brung up, down in Connecticut,

an' thar we had ter round up the sheep once a week an' sharpen thar noses on the grin'stun! We manage ter raise nough ter eat, though." When the meal was over Uncle Terry

said: "It's nice an' cool out on the rocks, an' thar's some seats out thar. If ye enjoy smokin' we best go out while the wimmin are doin' the dishes."

dishes."

The moon that Frank had planned to use was nearing its full and high overhead, and as the two men sought congeniality in tobacce out on that lonesome point Albert could not curb his admiration for the scene. His offer of a cigar to his host had been accepted, and as that quaint man sat quietly enjoying an odor and flavor he was unaccustomed to Albert said: was unaccustomed to Albert said:
"This experience has been a surprise

to me from the moment I met you. I

rocks and through a tangle of scrub-spruce and briers until I was utterly lost and believed this island an im passable wilderness. Then you came along and brought me to one of the most beautiful spots I ever saw. I should like to stay here all summer and do nothing but look at this magnificent ocean view and sketch thes

bold shores.' "Do you paint picturs too?" queried Uncle Terry, suddenly interested. "Telly's daft on doin' that, an' is at it all the time she can git." Then he added with a slight reflection of pride, "Mebbe ye noticed some o' her picturs in the sittin' room?"

"I saw a lot of pictures there," answered Albert, "but it was too dark to see them well. I should like to look at them in the morning."
"Ye'll hev plenty o' time," was the

reply, "I must pull my lobster traps fust, an' after that I'll take ye in my dory an' we'll go an' find yer boat. I guess she must be lyin' in Seal cove, the only openin' 'twixt here an' the head she'd be likely ter run into."

"And so your daughter is an artist, is she?" asked Albert, indifferent now as to where the Gypsy was or when he was likely to return to her. "Has she ever taken lessons?"

"No, it comes nat'ral to her," replied Uncle Terry; "she showed the bent o' her mind 'fore she was ten years old an' she's pestered me ever since ter git her canvas an' paints an' sich. But then, I'm willin' ter," he added in a tender tone. Telly's a good girl, an' Lissy an' me set great store by her. She's all we've got in the world." Then pointing to a small white stone just to the right of where they were, he added, "Thar's whar the other one been layin' fer mor'n twenty years."

"This one has grown to be a very beautiful girl," said Albert quietly, "and you have reason to be proud of

Uncle Terry made no reply, but seemed lost in a reverie, and Albert slowly puffed his cigar and looked out ocean and along the ever widen ing path of moonlight. He wished that this fair girl, so quaintly spoken of, were there beside him, that he might talk to her about her art. How it could be managed and what excus to give for remaining longer than the morrow he could not see. He looked toward the house, white in the moonlight, with the tall lighthouse and its eacon flash just beyond, and wondered if he should see the girl again that night. He was on the point of suggesting they go in and visit a little with the ladies when Uncle Terry said:

"I believe ye called yerself a lawye Mr. Page, an' from Boston. Do ye happen to know a lawyer thar that has got eyes like a cat an' rubs his hands as if he was washin' 'em while he's talk-

Albert gave a start. "I do. Mr. Ter His name is Frye, Nicholas Frye."

"An' as ye're a lawyer, an' one that looks to me as honest," continued Uncle Terry, "what is yer honest opinion of this Mr. Frye?"

"That is a question I would rather not answer," replied Albert, "until I know why you ask it and what your opinion of Mr. Frye is. Mine might not flatter him, and I do not believe in speaking ill of anybody unless forced to."

(To Be Continued.)

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