

everything was in the most terrifically admirable confusion to receive him.

All sorts of tradesmen, all sorts of workmen—painters, glaziers, cabinet-makers, upholsterers, bell-hangers, and chimney-sweeps—rushed in and out of all the doors, and up and down all the staircases, to get things a little in order for his lordship's "arrival," which (as Mrs. Gamp says) "had not yet arrived, but was expected every minute."

Among other matters of importance, the housekeeper despatched a special messenger post-haste to "John Lambert's nursery gardens, Richmond," for a double supply of the usual quantity of window flowers.

John Lambert's nursery had served the Birkenhead family from time immemorial, and if John Lambert's nursery didn't bring the floral necessities before the Earl's arrival, why, "the fat would be in the fire," the cook said. That was the exact message.

Of course, upon such a warm, fiery summons as this, everything else was put aside for the Belgrave Square people, and a double supply being placed in the waggon, Rose, now a staid, placid, somewhat careworn, but still very handsome woman of thirty years of age, went with it, as she invariably did in all cases, to arrange the colours properly.

It so happened that ten minutes had scarcely elapsed from the arrival of John Lambert's flower waggon, which still stood at the door, when up drove the Earl's carriage, with his lordship inside it.

"Hi! hi! hi!" bawled the coachman and footman, both together. "Get out of the way, stupid!"

"Get out of the way yourself!" grumbled the old flower-waggon driver. "Who are you, I wonder? I don't s'pose your master would speak to an honest old fellow that way."

The steps were let down, the Earl descended; and, as he was very fond of flowers, the first room in the house which he entered was the drawing-room, where, as it so chanced, John Lambert's daughter was carefully arranging the choice flowers in consonance with their colours.

"Great Heaven! Rose!"

"Henry."

And she sank senseless in his arms.

All was soon explained. There was nothing to forgive on either side. The false friend who had charge of their mutual correspondence, when he saw that he was the only medium of communication between them, suppressed their letters, and also the remittances, for the sake of the cash which was so liberally sent.

He was a poor man, and could not resist the temptation; but, in the end, he found that "honesty would have been the best policy," for the Earl—who had, by the death of his grandfather, his father, and his eldest brother, now arrived at that dignity—never forgave him.

The Earl and Countess went abroad for some years, and have fixed their abode in Florence. They are one of the happiest couples in the world, and their daughter bids fair to be as beautiful as ever her mother was. T. H. B.

The average daily Circulation of the Evening Star is 12,154, being considerably larger than that of any other paper published in this City. The average Circulation of the Evening Star in the City of Montreal is 10,200, exceeding by 2,000 copies a day, that of any other paper. This excess represents 2,000 families more than can be reached by any other Journal. Its Circulation is a living one, and is constantly increasing. From the way in which the Star has outstripped all competitors it is manifestly "THE PAPER OF THE PEOPLE."

STATEMENT OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN Insurance Company, of Montreal, Canada,

JULY 31, 1876.

Table with columns for ASSETS and LIABILITIES. Assets include Investments in the United States, Bonds, Mortgages, and Cash, totaling \$1,498,112.49. Liabilities include Cash Capital paid up in Gold, Bills Payable, and other securities, totaling \$1,498,112.49.

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