

Circumstantial Evidence.

Mr. Pritchard lifted him out of the wagon, and set him down on the door step. What a little fellow he was, and what a wonderful gleam looked there was in his eyes! He had on coarse shoes, a check apron, and his pretty brown hair was cropped close under the shabby cap. It was almost too good a day for such a little boy to be out without a coat. Mrs. Pritchard took him by the hand to lead him in, and the little hand clinging fondly to hers.

"What's your name, dear?" she asked pleasantly. "Tommy Bobbitt," he answered, readily. "Am I going to stay here?" "Folks all dead," said Mr. Pritchard. Mother went a mouth or so back. I told them over to the county house we'd take him and try him; and if he suited we'd keep and do well by him. We don't know what kind of stock he is yet; and if I find any mean, dishonest tricks in him, back he goes. We don't want to adopt a boy, and set by him, and have him sting us like a serpent in our old age."

"Oh! I know Tommy will be a nice little boy," said the lady. The Pritchards were farming people, and well-to-do. They had never had a child of their own, and after much consideration, had decided to adopt a boy when a suitable one could be found. Word reached them that a child four years old had recently been left upon the town, and Mr. Pritchard, on driving over to see about it, had brought the little fellow home.

Nobody knew how dreary and forlorn a life it had been in the county house for a little four years old boy, suddenly left friendless. He had wandered, shivering, in the yard, sometimes picking up here and there a red leaf to play with, had hung around in a big, cheerless room, where a few decrepit old women sat because in the men's room there was a loutish, half-witted fellow who frightened him. Nights he slept with a dreadful boy, years older than himself, who said things to scare him, and who pulled all the bed-clothes away and kicked in his sleep. And nobody knew how his heart had ached for a dear mother, who, though very poor and unfortunate, had studied him to the heart.

But now, in his warm, new home he had brightened into a rosy, pretty boy. He had new shoes and stockings, and Mrs. Pritchard made him a little coat, with a motherly instinct growing in her heart with every stitch. He learned the different rooms, and ran about them fearlessly, he made many little speeches, he jumped and laughed like other happy boys, and climbed boldly on Farmer Pritchard's knees, when that good man sat down to take his ease after supper.

Tommy had been there a week—had one week of sunshine—when the black cloud came down upon him. Farmer Pritchard had a cough, which was apt to trouble him at night, and on the bureau, near the head of his bed, he kept a few gum-drops which he could reach out for and get to soothe his throat, when the coughing came on. One forenoon, chancing to go into the bedroom his eye fell upon the little paper bag, and he saw there was not a single gum-drop there.

"That rogue Tommy has been here," he said to himself. "I know there were five or six when I went to bed last night; and for a wonder, I did not take a single one. Tommy! Tommy! Look here! Have you been getting my gum-drops?" Tommy, who was playing in the doorway looked up brightly, and said: "No, I did not get any."

"Did you take them, Lucy?" asked the farmer, turning to his wife. Mrs. Pritchard had not touched them, and her heart sank as she saw that; for who was there left to do it but little Tommy? Her husband's face grew grave. "Tommy," he said, you need not be afraid to tell the truth. Didn't you take the gum-drops?" "No; I didn't," replied Tommy readily.

"Oh! yes you did, Tommy. Now tell the truth." "No! I didn't." "This is bad, very bad, indeed," said Mr. Pritchard sternly. "This is what I have been afraid of." "Oh, Tommy! pleaded Mrs. Pritchard. "If you took them do say so." "If he took them," repeated his husband. "Why, it is as clear as daylight. He has been running in and out of the room all the morning."

get the boy ready. She cried at she brought out his little warm coat and cap and put them on him. But Tommy did not cry. He comprehended that an injustice was done to him, and he knit his baby brow and held his little lips tight. The horse was brought around, and Mr. Pritchard came in for the boy. I think he believed up to the last moment that Tommy would confess; but the little fellow stood steadfast.

He was lifted into the wagon. Such a little boy he looked, as they drove away. The wind blew cold, and he had to hold on to his cap. Nothing was said as they drove along, though Farmer Pritchard really felt a little sorry that he had gone so far.

But Tommy had no hope to bear him up. He only knew that all the happy life of the past few days was remembered from him suddenly. He thought of the cold forenoon house to which he was returning, and shuddered. The helpless old women, the feeble boys, the nights of terror—all these he thought of, when, with pale face and blue lips, he was taken from the wagon and sent up to the house. Farmer Pritchard watched him as he went up the steps, a slow, forlorn little boy. He went in. The matron came out for an explanation. It was given, and the farmer drove away.

He drove home. It was not a pleasant ride. He missed his little companion; but he reasoned, obstinately within himself that he had done all for the best. His wife met him tenderly at the door. The kitchen looked lonely, as they went into it together. A top lay in one corner, a primer was on the foot-stool. Mrs. Pritchard put them out of sight.

The farmer laid a fresh log of wood on his bureau at night, and thought grimly that these were safe. He retired early, but his sleep was broken. Mrs. Pritchard could not sleep at all. The tears stole through her closed eyelids, long after the candle was put out, and the house still. She was thinking of the poor little boy, even then, perhaps, covering in his cold bed with terror.

Suddenly a curious, small sound attracted her attention. It was repeated again and again, and now and then there was a tiny rustle of paper. She listened intently, and her heart beat loud with excitement. She knew that sound well.

"Joseph!" she whispered. "Joseph!" "What, Lucy," said her husband, in a voice that sounded as if he, too, had been lying awake. "Do you hear that noise, Joseph—it's mice!" "I know it. What of it?" "It's mice, Joseph, and they're after your gum-drops."

"Good gracious, Lucy!" groaned Farmer Pritchard upon his pillow. It flashed upon him instantly. He, and not Tommy, was the sinner. The noise stopped. The little deprecators were frightened, but soon began again. And a rare feast they made of it.

It seemed as if that night would never end. The farmer heard every hour the clock struck, and at five he got up and made a fire in the kitchen. His wife arose at the same time, and began to get breakfast.

"I won't wait for breakfast," he said. "You can have it hot and ready when we get back. I'll harness up and start now, so as to get over by dawn." In a few minutes the wheels rolled noiselessly over the frozen ground on the road, and away drove Mr. Pritchard in the morning starlight.

Mrs. Pritchard brought out the top and the primer again, and made the kitchen look its very cheerfulness. She baked potatoes, and broiled a chicken, and made fritters. She laid Tommy's plate and fork in their place and set up the chair. The sun had risen, and the bright beams fell across the table. She went to the door and looked up the street.

General Business. NOTICE. THE SUBSCRIBER intends to visit MIRAMICHI and Surroundings, on his ANNUAL VISIT, to attend to the Castrating of Horses.

TO RENT. THE Cottage recently occupied by Mr. A. H. Gillis, on the corner of St. John and Church Streets, Chatham, is for rent on the 1st of June, for one year.

DR. D. A. BAXTER, Dentist, will be in Chatham, on and after the first day of June, for work done in any quantity at moderate rates.

R. FLANAGAN, Wholesale and Retail. Dry Goods, Groceries and Provisions, Hardware, Hats, Caps, Ready-Made Clothing.

Manchester, Robertson, & Allison, Importers of DRY GOODS, TO LET OR SELL.

MILLINERY OF EVERY DESCRIPTION. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. SHIRTS OF ALL KINDS.

TEA! TEA! Duties Removed! Good Tea at 35 Cts., Choice Tea at 40 Cents per Pound.

TAILORING, Ready-made Clothing, Hats, English Coatings, Broadcloths, Donekies, etc.

JOHN McDONALD, Undertaker. GASKETS & COFFINS of all kinds and prices kept in Stock.

Patronize Home Manufacture. Doors, Windows, Blinds, House Finishing, Fine and Match Lumber, and Glass and Putty.

Property Sales, etc. SHERIFF'S SALE. TO be sold at Public Auction on THURSDAY, the 21st day of August, next, in front of the Post Office, in Chatham, between the hours of 12 noon and 3 o'clock, p. m.

Farm, etc., for Sale! THE Subscriber offers for sale his Farm and other Property on the Richfield Road, in the Parish of Miramichi, containing about 100 acres of cleared land.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE. I AM INSTRUCTED TO SELL TEN ACRE Lots, in the rear of Lot No. 10, originally owned by the late Mr. J. W. P. Smith.

THE Newly Situated HOUSE, ON ST. JOHN STREET, near the Homestead of the late HON. JOHN M. JOHNSON.

For Sale. The property at Bay du Vin, known as the BAY DU VIN MILL PROPERTY. Farm consists of about 300 acres, a large portion cleared, well fenced and under good cultivation.

Sheriff's Sale. To be sold at PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday, the 20th day of July next, in front of the Registry Office, Newcastle, between the hours of 12 noon and 3 o'clock, p. m.

TO BUILDERS. The subscriber begs leave to announce to his Patrons and the Public, that he has just received a splendid assortment of Ready-made Clothing, such as a complete assortment of well fitting Houses, Stores, etc.

REFINED IRON. Lowmore, Swede, Londonderry and English. CAST STEEL. Thos. Firth and Son's Extra Axle, Tool and Drill Steel.

CAST STEEL. Thos. Firth and Son's Extra Axle, Tool and Drill Steel. Spring, Sleigh Shoe & Tire Steel.

ROUND MACHINE STEEL. Tinplates, Sheet Iron, and Charcoal and Coke. I. & F. BURPEE & CO.

General Business. Teacher Wanted. IN DISTRICT NO. 5, in the Parish of Newcastle, a Third Class Male "Teacher" is wanted. Salary, stating salary, to the Secretary of Trustees.

Whiskey Whiskey. Just received per Steamer Anstran from Glasgow, 100 Cases Finest Blended Glenlivet Whiskey.

Jno. W. Nicholson, Importer of Wines, Brandy, Whiskies, etc., etc., etc. VICTORIA WHARF.

JUST THE THING!! The Monitor Oil Stove. No more ashes, smoke, dust or trouble.

D. T. JOHNSTONE, Chatham Livery Stables. Regular Coaches to train leaving and arriving at CHATHAM RAILWAY STATION.

D. S. HUTCHISON, Attorney-at-Law, Notary Public, Conveyancer, etc. ROBERT MURRAY, Attorney-at-Law, Notary Public, Conveyancer, etc.

WARREN C. WINSLOW, Attorney-at-Law, Notary Public. DesBrisay & DesBrisay, Barristers, Attorneys, Notaries, Conveyancers, etc.

E. P. Williston, Attorney-at-Law, Notary Public, Conveyancer, &c. R. B. ADAMS, Attorney-at-Law, Notary Public, etc.

WM. A. PARK, Attorney-at-Law, Solicitor, Notary Public, Conveyancer, &c. SAMUEL ROOMS, For Commercial Men.

International Steamship Co. WINTER ARRANGEMENT. TWO TRIPS A WEEK. MONDAY AND THURSDAY MORNINGS, AT 8 O'CLOCK, for Eastport, Portland and Boston.

GENERAL BUSINESS. UNRIVALLED! SUTHERLAND & CREAGHAN, NEWCASTLE. OUR Stock of Spring and Summer DRY GOODS is now complete, we have THOUSANDS OF ARTICLES in Hosiery, Furnishings, etc., on which we hold everything to be found in any first-class City Warehouse.

PURCHASED FOR PROMPT CASH!! WE are showing HUNDREDS of patterns in Prints, Dresses, Outing Cloths and other rich fabrics at Summer prices, beautiful, soft and brilliant, in every shade and tint. HIGH QUALITY AND LOW PRICES.

NEW GOODS!! SUTHERLAND & CREAGHAN. Just received per late Steamers from the Manufacturers. For Gents Ladies and Children: New Ulster Cloths, Boys' Woollen Knickerbocker Hose, Very Heavy.

A very large stock of German and Canadian Cloths and Promenade Scarfs. Ladies' Berlin Wool Shawls, Ladies' Berlin Wool Jackets, Ladies' and Children's Wool Scarfs.

Irish Frieze, For Heavy Overcoats. Irish and Scotch Tweeds, Newest Styles. Moscow Homespun, Costume Cloths, Wool Serges, French Cashmeres, French Merinos, Black Secillians, Black Grecian Cord, Colored Cloth Debeques.

ENGLISH BLANKETS, 100 pairs Best White, 50 pairs Best Twilled. Canadian White Blankets. A few pairs of Super Extra BATH BLANKETS, at reduced price.

ALL CHEAP FOR CASH! Chatham, Oct. 18, 1881. CHATHAM RAILWAY. WINTER 1881-2. ON and after MONDAY, NOV. 21ST, Trains will run on this Railway, in connection with the Intercolonial Railway, daily, (Sundays excepted) as follows:

GOING NORTH THROUGH TIME TABLE. CHATHAM, 12.40 a.m., DEPART 1.15 p.m., ARRIVE 4.45 p.m., DEPART 7.00 p.m., ARRIVE 8.50 p.m. GOING SOUTH THROUGH TIME TABLE. CHATHAM, 12.40 a.m., DEPART 1.15 p.m., ARRIVE 4.45 p.m., DEPART 7.00 p.m., ARRIVE 8.50 p.m.

J. D. TURNER, No. 25 North Side King Square, St. John, N. B. OYSTERS AND HADDIES. Consignments of oysters solicited. Good reference if required.

MONARCH BILLIARD TABLES. We are agents for the Brunswick & Balke Co's, generally called "Monarch" Billiard Tables, and Billiard Furnishings. These tables are all of the very finest, most elastic and most durable material.

Manuf's., Builders, etc. CAMPION PORTABLE SAW MILLS. The "Campion" is the best portable saw mill ever made. It is simple in construction, and can be set up in five minutes. It will cut any size of lumber, and is adapted for use in any part of the world.

MIRAMICHI TOOL WORK. NORTHESK, MIRAMICHI New Brunswick. Joseph Goodfellow - Proprietor.

T. S. SIMMS & Co., St. John, N. B. MANUFACTURERS OF All Kinds of Brushes, AND CORN BROOMS. REMINGTON FIRE ARMS.

REMINGTON FIRE ARMS. Received Two Gold Medals at the Paris Exposition 1878. THE BEST SCORE ON RECORD. MADE WITH A REMINGTON CREEDMOOR RIFLE.

REMINGTON AGRICULTURAL CO., ILLION N. Y. MANUFACTURERS OF THE LOWMAN PATENT CAST STEEL SHOVELS SCOOPS. MADE WITHOUT WELDS OR SPADES.

PLOWS HOES, GARDEN & HORSE RAKES, MOWERS, AND Agricultural Implements generally. NEW YORK OFFICE, 75 READE STREET.

ELECTRO-PLATING. KNIVES, FORKS, SPOONS, TRAYS, CASES, AND BRASS BASKETS, SLEIGH BELLS, and other articles. Made equal to new work. Orders by Express or Mail promptly attended to.

I. MATHESON & Co. Engineers & Boiler Makers. New Glasgow, N. S. Estimates Furnished for Engines and Boilers, Mill and other Machinery. Notice to Mill Owners.

THRESHING MACHINES. WOOD CUTTERS. SMALL & FISHER. WOODSTOCK, N. B. Notice. The subscriber, having purchased the largest factory owned by Dumas Duvall, Esq., is prepared to furnish all kinds of saws, of the highest quality, at the lowest prices.

Important Information! ABOUT 16,000 CHEESE IN "MORAVIAN" CARGO. 29 TON FOR SALE. Some as Low as 6 Cents per Pound. Out of last Auction Sale. Inquire of - TURNBULL & CO., OR, GEO. ROBERTSON, Water Street, St. John.