and the town growing up about it fast. "When'I first came here and went into business for myself, a young fellow whose beard was just beginning to grow, old Mr. Busch lived in that place, with a couple of servants. He was an old man of ninety, but looked men friends, and dressed elegantly.

of woodland behind it worth a fortune.

had married, but his wife died, and so ance.'

a regular Uriah Heep, perpetually linen, caused much laughter, but the fawning on old Busch, and always 'so property went to the nephew. He was 'umble.' He told lies about young generous and made a present to Potter Allan, I think, and made his uncle which prevented him from suffering think him a reprobate; and when the young man went down to New York the old property than Potter would to believe that he had gone to the dogs.

And now it was well known that a will friends. My friend, the hair-dresser, that the nephew was left without a mind which he confided to me.

was a man of forty years. It doesn't not even blue.' take long, after all, to change from young to middle age in this world, and "I shaved him after he was dead, Potter was quite grizzled and had lost Mr. Van Buskirk, said the hair-dressmost of his teeth. Old Busch had er, in a hollow voice. 'I was called in never lost one yet, and his cheeks were to do it about midnight, and he had a like pippins. For all any one could see, beard about an inch long. It had been Potter might die first, but he had lived growing ever since he was taken down. at the mansion for twenty years, and "'If I were you, Mr. Farren,' had all he needed and more than he said, I would not mention that to any deserved, and no doubt thought him- one, or permit Samuel to do so. I self a lucky fellow.

"No one knows what the day may ionable to believe in ghosts." Potter went about to ying to look mourn-ful, and lots of people were really sorry. "I sha'n't be alive to-morrow,' he the old gentleman, he was such a hale, truth.

"It was just after this report, late in there. He was awake and going fast. the evening, that I sat here, exactly """ Allan," said he, "you have where I was sitting now, quite alone, come to see me." when the door opened and I saw a figure enter leaning on a cane. It was heard you were ill yesterday." a great surprise to me to see the next | "" If you had only come sooner. minute that it was old Mr, Busch. He Allan," said he. "I've been a fool. I was in dressing-gown and slippers and want to change my will. Potter is a ed affairs that old gentlemen used to I-want you to have my money now. wear; I'd seen him looking out of his Ada's only son."

you look astonished.'

to see you better.' " Don't waste time in compliments,

man. I have very little left, and I He died that way. Nobody came near

that will stand? " Yes, sir,' said I.

left my office a moment, and called in pers from the wardrobe, made myself apprentice as witnesses. Both knew Mr. Busch well. They stared at him, and looked at each other, and paid their respects in faltering voices. The old man seemed to grow grother. name in a hand that trembled so that the letters were barely legible, but we "'I'll make a will for you to that done he turned to the hairdresser, and

terribly startled when you saw me.

Will you tell me exactly why?

""Vell, at, you've been so ill, fallend m. Farren.

""Allan Busch, I answered, 'I was fooled I don't denytit, but I guessed it in a week, and I've felt spreaf it in a week.

"The truth, Farren, said the old man, sternly.

"It might be considered an—an impertinence, or it might be a mach to the nervous system, Mr. Busch, reliad Mr. Farren, Mr. Busch, re

plied Mr. Farren.

"'I am eight o'clock,' said Mr.

" 'Eight,' I repeated, looking at my watch.

"I'm always fast," said the boy; 'but I'm five minutes past eight.' " Remember that, all of you, said Mr. Busch. 'Mr. Van Buskirk, give me your arm to my door.'

"There was a path at that time across lots from my side door to his back porch, and we went that way. It had been a darkish night, but just as I opened the gate the moon shone out.

SPIRITS AND RYE WHISKEY.—Arrived from Toronto: 15 barrels Goderham Worts' Pure Spirits, 65 per cent. o. p.; 35 barrels Goderham & Worts' finest Rye Whiskey. opened the gate the moon shone out. "Good-by, sir,' said Mr. Busch, in St. John. JOHN W. NICHOLSON.

a peremptory way that could not be re-

"I said 'Good-by,' and turned, but I hid behind a tree to see that he got happen:

"The porch lay white in the moonlight, and as the old man was about to open the door some one pulled it from the inside, and out walked Potter, with a grin upon his weazen face. It changed as he saw the old man to a look of abject terror. He shrunk aside, clasped both hands over his eyes, uttered a terrible cry, and flew down the path, stumbling in his confusion, and falling flat upon his face amongst the petunias. I looked back again toward old Mr. Busch. He was

"The next morning we all heard the news. Old Mr. Busch had breathed no more than sixty. He rode about the his last at seven o'clock. I confess I country, gave big dinners to his gentle. was startled, but that was no ghostly arm that leant on mine when I walked "It was not thought—being a miser up the path with Mr. Busch the night—that he had become so rich. He before, and I could not agree with my came of a wealthy family, and legacy after legacy had been left to him. He in him to him the hair-dresser, who declared that it might have been an 'appear-

did his only daughter. He never | "Lawyer Thursby had a will in his thought of marrying again, but he took | keeping that left everything to Potter, a nephew to live with him; and every- but the date of mine was its safeguard. body believed that he would make him | They tried to prove the old gentleman his heir. But the nephew was no time- of unsound mind, but were merely server, and did as he pleased; and laughed at. My neighbor confessing somehow or other they had a falling that he was not sure but that Mr. Busch's ghost made the will that he "There was a sneaking fellow named signed, but swearing to the night-cap Potter about the house a good deal, and dressing-gown as facts in silk and and became an actor, the uncle was led have been. He made me legal man had been made in favor of Potter, and however, had a certain trouble on his

"'It did not come up in court,' said "That had been a good many years he; but did you notice Mr. Busch's before, and Potter was waiting for old face when he signed that will that Mr. Busche's shoes yet. The nephew night? Close-shaved, not a spot on it,

"'Yes,' said I, 'I did.' know it to be a fact; but it is not fash-

bring forth. One morning, to the great surprise of everybody in town, a servant from the minister is a seen.

When the minister is a seen of the server of t rushinglin hot haste for Dr. Dockweed, too high-a gay, wild life-though he and soon the news spread through the was a good fellow to the last. He village that Old Mr. Busch was dying, never married. The day before he

ful, and lots of people were really sorry.

I was, though I had never spoken to said, 'and I want you to know the

happy, bright old fellow. The first "'My Uncle Busch died at half-pas day he was worse. The next better, six. I came down to see him on the then worse again. Then they said he five o'clock train, and went up to his might live; then he was unconscious. room without being seen. No one was

""Yes, uncle," said I. "I only had a night-cap on, one of those point. sneak. He's anxious to have me die.

bedroom window in it many a time.

"'" No matter about the wil!," said
I. "No matter about the money. I
cried!

""" Something of the money. I
can live by my profession."

"" You know me, I see, he answered, in a hollow, rattling voice, and old man. "I have not been allowed to see my friends. The doctor is a tool "I thought you too ill to leave of Potter's. I—I am neglected, Allan. I've been alone two hours, and I want some water, dreadfully."

"'I gave him the water, and he put Mr. Van Buskin,' said the old gentle- his head on my arm and kissed me. want to get back to the house there be- us, and I kissed him again and crept down stairs; but as I passed the dining-"Can you make a short will for me room I saw Potter and the doctor stuffing themselves, and laughing; and then and there, what with contempt of them "Write this, then, daid Mr. Busch, and a wish to see my uncle's last wish 10 Packages Woodenware. that I leave everything I possess to my neghes. All a Busch, my sister Ada's only child. I have made one will. I want to retrieve it by a will of later date. That's my chieft. 'old men.' Moreover, I'm very like date. That's my object, you know my wishes. Go to work, 'old men.' Moreover, I'm very like my unele. I went back to his room, "He fell back in his chair. I set to work. When the will was written I cold—took his gown and cap and slip-

my neighbor the hairdresser and his up, and came to you. You know the old man seemed to grow weaker and Suppose we give this money to the orweaker every moment. He signed his phans at the asylum. Nobody has a 1 doz. Imperial Wringers,

all saw him sign it; and when all was effect, said I, and so I did. will was executed, 'you don't owe me Steel Wire Fencing. ". Mr. Farren, you were evidently a grudge for having been fooled, do

plied Mr. Farren.

""Go on, said Mr. Busch.

""We heard that you were dead, air, not ten manute ago," replied Mr. Farren.

Farren.

"Ah! they reported that, did they? I thought as much, said Mr. Busch.

"Mr. Farren, Mr. Ven Buscht, amuel, take out your watches," said the old man, sainty, and tell me the time.

""I am eight o'clock? seid.

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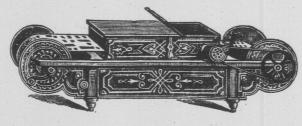
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