The Daily Tribune.

VOL. I. SAINT JOHN N. B., SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 23, 1871. NO. 3.

HARNESS.

WE would invite your special attention to our Large Stock of—
OREIDE MOUNTED HARNESS.
SILVER MOUNTED HARNESS,
BRASS MOUNTED HARNESS,
JAPANNED MOUNTED HARNESS,
HEAVY TEAM HARNESS,
SINGLE WORKING HARNESS,
FOR SALE LOW.
R. & T. FINLAY,
dec 21 12 Charlotte Street.

LABOUR MADE EASY.

Decalpimania,
Or, TRANSPARENT PICTURES
OF A VARIETY OF DESIGNS, VIZ:
MASONIC EMBLEMS, FLOWERS, BEAST and BIRDS, LANDSCAPES, &c., &c., &c.
BY an easy and simple process can be transformed to wood, marble, stone, or any hard substance, and for 10 or 20 cents, will produce an ornament which would cost ten times that amount.
A supply consisting of nearly 100 varieties now on exhibition and for sale by
R. D. McARTHUR,
Medical Hall,
No. 46 Charlotte Street,
dec 21—3 i Op. King Square.

D. E. LEACH & CO.,
Wine and Spirit Merchants,
ST. STEPHEN'S BUILDING,
No. 2 King Square,
ST. JOHN, N. B.
dec 21 3i

SUFFREN,
No. 80 KING STREET.
Watches, Clocks and Jewelry
FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
Call and See our Prices.
dec 21 3i

$1.00 STORE,
No. 28 Germain Street,
Three Doors North of Chaloner's Corner.
J. McCLURE.
dec 21 3i

GEO. STEWART, Jr.,
Chemist and Druggist,
DEALER IN
Drugs, Medicines, Patent Medicines, Dye Woods and Dye Stuffs, Surgical Instruments.
Toilet Requisites, Perfumery, Brushes, &c.
24 King Street, St. John, N B.
(Pine's Building.)
Ships's Medicine Chests filled and refitted. Particular attention given to the Preparation of Physicians' Prescriptions.

SCOTTISH
IMPERIAL
FIRE
Insurance Company.
W. C. PERLEY, Agent,
Canterbury Street.
dec 21

HAVANA CIGARS.—5000 very fine Havana Cigars; 10,000 German Cigars. For sale by
dec 21 R. E. PUDDINGTON.

CHRISTMAS GROCERIES.—All orders received by the Subscribers for Christmas Groceries will be promptly filled with as fresh goods as can be found in this market.
R. E. PUDDINGTON,
dec 21 Charlotte street.

CRANBERRIES AND PICKLES.—4 barrels Cranberries: 3 do. Spiced Pickles. For sale by
(dec 21) R. E. PUDDINGTON.

Fall Shad and Labrador Herring.
50 HALF Barrels Fall Shad; 25 do. do. Labrador Herrings.
GEO. S. DeFOREST.
dec 21 11 South Wharf.

Refined Sugar.
70 HHDS. Refined Sugar, for sale low to close consignment.
dec 21 GEO. S. DeFOREST.

Flour. Flour.
200 BARRELS Howland's Flour: 100 do Tea Rose; 50 do Snow Flake Extra, now landing.
GEO. S. DeFOREST.

Cod Liver Oil.
3 CASKS Medicinal Cod Liver Oil, manufactured by John Bard, Newfoundland.
For sale (by the cask only) by
dec 21 3i C. E. L. JARVIS.

NAPKIN RINGS.
A VERY large assortment in SOLID SILVER and ELECTRO-PLATE.
PAGE BROTHERS,
dec 21 41 King street.

Ladies' Gold Watches.
WE have now in Stock the largest and finest assortment we have ever offered, in ENGINE TURED, RICHLY ENGRAVED, ENAMEL and DIAMOND SET, HUNTING and OPEN FACE CASES, KEYLESS and KEY WINDERS.
CHEAP WATCHES IN GREAT VARIETY.
PAGE BROTHERS,
dec 21 41 King street.

Pork, Lard, Butter, &c.
THE Subscribers have in Store, and offer at lowest rates—
40 bbls Heavy Mess, } P. E. Island
75 " Prime Mess, } PORK;
10 " PATES and SHANKS;
35 tubs LARD;
30 tinnets Ontario BUTTER;
45 tubs P. E. Island do;
40 bbls and hfs MACKEREL;
100 " No. 1 OATMEAL;
50 " CORNMEAL.
HANFORD BROTHERS,
21 3i 11 North Wharf.

FOR A
CHRISTMAS PRESENT,
There could be nothing more useful and appropriate than
A BOOK.
J. & A. McMILLAN,
Booksellers, Stationers, &c.,
78 PRINCE WM. STREET.
Have a very large stock of BOOKS, the greater portion being ENTIRELY NEW, comprising
ELEGANTLY ILLUSTRATED BOOKS, in fine Bindings.
THE WORKS OF STANDARD AUTHORS, in History, Fiction, Poetry, &c.
THE POETS in various Editions, with and without ILLUSTRATIONS, from the most expensive to the cheapest editions.
BOOKS FOR GIRLS OF ALL AGES.
BOOKS OF TRAVELS AND ADVENTURES FOR BOYS.
BOOKS FOR YOUNG LADIES.
BOOKS FOR YOUNG MEN.
Books for Children of all ages,
including a fine assortment of
PICTURE BOOKS FOR THE LITTLE ONES.
IN FACT,
Books adapted to the Ages and Tastes of all Persons.
And a large assortment of
CHOICE FANCY GOODS.
PLEASE CALL AND EXAMINE.
dec 21

CHRISTMAS, 1871.
WE WILL OFFER DURING THE HOLIDAYS
The balance of our
FANCY GOODS,
AT ABOUT HALF PRICE,
AS WE ARE GIVING UP THE RETAIL PART OF OUR BUSINESS.
A Call will Convince.
EVERITT & BUTLER,
King Street.
dec 21

Christmas Groceries.
LOGAN & LINDSAY

TEAS,	ORANGES,
SUGARS,	GRAPES,
RAISINS,	APPLES,
CURRANTS	LEMONS,
FIGS,	NUTS
CONFECTIONARY,	CANNED PEACHES,
BON BONS,	do. PINE APPLES,
COSSAQUES,	do. TOMATOES,
LUGGAGE,	do. PEARS,
WREATHS,	do. STRAWBERRIES.
CANNED OYSTERS,	SARDINES,
do. LOBSTERS,	ANCHOVIES,
do. SALMON,	POTTED MEATS
do. MACKEREL,	CHUTNEY'S,
SPICED SALMON,	CURRIES.
PICKLES.	FANCY BISCUITS,
SAUCES,	CHOCOLATES,
OLIVES,	COFFEES,
CAPERS,	SPICES,
DRIED HERBS,	PRESERVED GINGER.

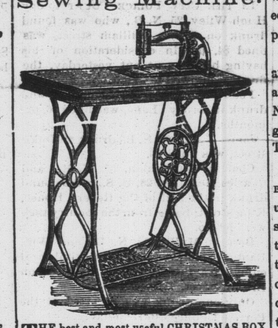
And all seasonabe Goods.
dec 21—3 i 67 KING STREET.

Watches, Jewelry, &c.,
FOR THE
HOLIDAY TRADE.
PAGE BROS.,
41 KING STREET,
Invite special attention to their stock of
RICH GOODS,
Suited to the requirements of the Season,
IN
Fine Gold and Silver Watches,
ENGLISH GOLD CHAINS,
JEWELRY,
Silver and Electro-Plated Goods, Clocks, Bronzes, &c., &c.
PAGE BROS.,
dec 21 41 KING STREET.

Christmas Stock
OF
PIANO-FORTES,
From the most Celebrated Manufacturers of
BOSTON AND NEW YORK.
C. FLOOD'S WAREROOMS,
75 Prince Wm. Street.
Special inducements to purchasers during the Holidays. dec 21

THE UNDERSIGNED OFFER,
AS SUITABLE FOR
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS,
A FINE SELECTION OF NICELY BOUND
MUSIC BOOKS,
FOLIOS AND WRAPPERS,
OF DIFFERENT DESCRIPTIONS,
E. PEILER & BRO.,
64 Prince William Street,
ST. JOHN, N. B.
dec 21

THE LOCKMAN
FAMILY
Sewing Machine.



THE best and most useful CHRISTMAS BOX or NEW YEAR'S GIFT is a LOCKMAN SEWING MACHINE.
Special Discount for the Holidays.
79 KING STREET.
Hoop Skirt Factory,
DAVID MILLAR.
dec 21

IN STORE.
20 BARRELS CRUSHED SUGAR:
5 bbls Powdered do;
10 bbls CURRANTS;
500 boxes RAISINS, new fruit.
For sale by
dec 22 JOSHUA S. TURNER.

24 Water Street.
Landing ex Juliet from Halifax:—
10 BARRELS SUGAR;
20 bbls V. P. SUGAR.
For sale cheap.
dec 22 JOSHUA S. TURNER.

RAISINS AND CURRANTS.—150 boxes, qr. and halves New Raisins; 5 barrels Zante Currants. For sale by
dec 21 R. E. PUDDINGTON.

APPLES! APPLES!—In Store—200 brls. very fine Table Apples, in Baldwins, Spitzenburgs, Bishop Pippins, Rhode Island Greenings, Golden Pippins, Talmon Sweets, &c., &c. For sale by R. E. PUDDINGTON,
dec 21 Charlotte street.

ORANGES AND LEMONS.—Fresh Oranges and Lemons. For sale by
dec 21 R. E. PUDDINGTON.

Pale Seal Oil.
12 BBLS. Pale Seal Oil will be sold very low to close consignment.
C. E. L. JARVIS,
dec 21—3 i 104 Prince William street.

SPICES, PICKLES AND SAUCES.—Spices Pickles and Sauces of every kind. For sale by
(dec 21) R. E. PUDDINGTON.

Bank of British North America.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

THE Court of Directors hereby give notice that a half yearly dividend, at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, on the Capital of the Bank, will be payable on the 5th day of January, 1872, to the Proprietors of Shares registered in the Colonies. The dividend is declared in sterling money, and will be payable at the rate of Exchange current on the 5th day of January, 1872, to be fixed by the Local Boards.

No transfers can be made between the 23rd instant and the 5th prox mo, as the books must be closed during that period.

By order of the Court.
R. W. BRADFORD,
Secretary.
No. 124 Bishopgate street, within } London, 5th December, 1871. } dec 21 2i

NUTS! NUTS!—A full assortment of Nuts, including a recent arrival of Fresh Hickory Nuts. For sale by
dec 21 R. E. PUDDINGTON.

Money to Loan.
$800, AND SMALLER AMOUNTS, to Loan on Freehold or Leasehold security.
J. R. ARMSTRONG,
BARRISTER,
dec 21 2i Canterbury street.

CANNED FRUITS.—A great variety of Canned Fruits. For sale by
dec 21 R. E. PUDDINGTON.

MALAGA GRAPES.—10 kegs Grapes; 1 boxes finest London Layer Raisins. For sale by (dec 21) R. E. PUDDINGTON.

"THE DAILY TRIBUNE."

the opening number of which we present to our readers to day, is intended to be a journal worthy of the patronage of all respectable classes of our community. It shall be the Editor's aim to so conduct it that the commercial, industrial and social interests of the Dominion may be advanced, while its management shall know neither party, nationality nor sect. THE DAILY TRIBUNE will support all sound legislative measures, wherever they may originate, and oppose every scheme prejudicial to the public good, by whatever political party it may be upheld. While Dominion and Provincial affairs will thus be fully and impartially treated, special attention will be given to matters relating to the City and County of St. John. That our City may retain its present pre-eminence as a commercial centre, greater ability and energy must enter into its corporate management. Its Harbor interests require the most vigilant scrutiny; and not less, but more, important are those guarantees which should be, but unfortunately have not been, taken for securing the Public Health. The Construction and Lighting of our Streets, the Water Supply, the Sewerage question, the proper distribution of Taxation, the support and management of the Public Schools, are also matters of great moment and are intimately related to our City's commercial prosperity. With such questions we shall deal faithfully, although we do not propose that their discussion shall wholly overshadow the many interesting topics that will engage the attention of the inhabitants of other Provincial towns, whose more important local news will be chronicled, from day to day, in these columns.

Special Correspondence, from leading Political and Commercial centres, will be laid before our readers, as circumstances may require; and Letters from the People when brief, dignified and "to the point," will be welcomed. (Contributions from long-winded and prosy letter writers will be respectfully declined.)

Arrangements are progressing for a full and regular supply of Telegraphic News; and when exciting and important Foreign News may be expected, ample Special Telegrams will be forthcoming in THE DAILY TRIBUNE.

The Shipping Reports of THE DAILY TRIBUNE will be found, after the present issue, unusually full and reliable, and such as to secure for the paper a place in the offices of the thousands in the Province who are interested in this important element of our commercial prosperity. A weekly financial Report will also be published—one we trust, that our Merchants will find valuable for reference at home, and for the information of their correspondents abroad.

To Advertisers we offer a sheet whose circulation we propose to extend by all honorable means. We shall not rest satisfied until THE DAILY TRIBUNE finds a place and a welcome in every counting room, and in the home of every newspaper reader, in the City. With Editorials treating of a variety of subjects; with Foreign and Domestic News intended to interest most of the numerous classes of which the reading community is composed; with copious Telegrams, bringing under view the latest intelligence from all parts of the world; and with those other elements that enter into the management of a live newspaper, and which need not here be more particularly referred to, THE DAILY TRIBUNE anticipates a favorable reception at the hands of the Public; and this favor can best be shown by rapid sales and well filled advertising columns.

WHERE SOLD.

The Subscription price of THE DAILY TRIBUNE is $5 per annum, *invariably in advance*. Carriers will deliver early in the evening at the houses of City Subscribers, and Country Subscribers will be served by the first mails leaving after the hour of publication—say 4 P. M. Postage (except when the paper leaves the Dominion) must be paid at the office of the Subscriber.

That THE DAILY TRIBUNE may be placed within the reach of all who may desire to read it, it has been decided that, in addition to sales by the street News-boys, and on the Railroads, and delivery by our Carriers, the paper shall be offered for sale at the following central points in and near St. John:—

IN ST. JOHN:—At the Book-stores of Messrs. T. H. Hall, W. K. Crawford, J. D. Landry, H. S. Beek, J. & A. McMillan, H. Chubb & Co.

At Roberts' Variety Store, King street.

At Roger Hunter's, Dock street.

At W. Hawker's Drug Store, Reed's Point.

At J. D. McAvity's Grocery, Bustin's Corner.

At James Adams' Grocery, cor. Orange and Carmarthen.

At Mr. Lorimer's Grocery, corner Duke and Sydney.

At Mrs. Bowen's, Princess street, (above Carmarthen.)

At C. F. Burns's, corner Wentworth and Main.

At James Lemon's, corner St. James and Carmarthen.

At James McKenny's, Main street, near Carmarthen.

At Miss Campbell's Pitt street, near King.

At John Smith's, corner Union and Coburg.

At R. E. Puddington's Grocery, 44 Charlotte St.

At John McArthur's, Charlotte street.

At Geo. Williams's, Coburg street.

At J. B. Fenwick's, Railway Station.

At C. Manaton's, City Road.

At W. J. McGowan's, Marsh Bridge.

At L. Currey's, Waterloo street.

At H. C. Frost's, Brussells street.

At Emery & Sons, Golden Ball corner.

At John Morey's, Union street.

IN PORTLAND:—By Mr. Shields, druggist, Main street.

Capt. Speight, Main street.

W. G. Brown, P. M., Indiantown.

R. S. Matthews, Indiantown.

IN CARLETON:—At the Agency of H. Chubb & Co., and on the street.

IN FAIRVILLE:—At C. F. Tilton's, Post Office.

The DAILY TRIBUNE may also be obtained at the Stations of the E. & N. A. Railway. We have only space to add the names of a few of our country agents, such as Mr. A. H. Clewley, St. Stephen, Mr. J. S. Magee, St. Andrews, McLauchlan & Sons, Fredericton, Mr. W. Everitt, Woodstock, Mr. J. W. Pitfield, Moncton, Mr. Ovid Chapmrn, Shediac, Mr. T. G. Burnes, Ossekeag. A complete list, however, will be given in another issue.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

THE DAILY TRIBUNE will unite, when requested, with the other City Newspapers in treating all Advertising as "transient:" that is, it will regard with favor the abolition of agreements for advertising "by the year." The latter practice has gone out of fashion in all well managed newspaper offices; and being a most unjust arrangement, both for the Newspaper and a majority of the Advertisers, should have ceased to exist in this City many years ago. Such a step might place the TRIBUNE at a disadvantage, for a time, in the race with its older and more vigorous Daily competitors, such as the *Telegraph and Journal*, *Globe*, and *Morning News;* but it would establish a just principle, and, in the end, prove advantageous both to the Advertising Public and the Press. Until a change of the character proposed, however, be consummated, the rates for Advertisements in THE DAILY TRIBUNE will be as follows:—

A limited number of yearly contracts will be made on the basis of $30 for one inch of space,—several changes being allowed, say,	$30
Two inches, with changes,	$50
For a Card of 5 lines, 1 year, *unchanged*,	$12
For Advertisements of Governments, Corporations, Railway and Steamboat Co.'s, and other public bodies,—for Theatres, Concerts, Lectures and other public entertainments, say first insertion,	80 cts
Each subsequent do.	40 cts
For ordinary mercantile transient advertising, say, first insertion,	60 cts
Each subsequent do.	30 cts
For condensed advertisements, to occupy 5 lines, such as Wants, each and every insertion,	25 cts.

A few special agreements, having reference to position and extra space, will be made at paying rates.

OTHER MATTERS.

We shall be pleased to receive from any of the friends of the TRIBUNE Local News for its columns, and suggestions in reference to subjects requiring journalistic treatment. The news items should be reliable, and the remarks of a practical character. Special contributions will be received, and, when their public value appears to warrant, will be paid for. Extracts from the business letters of Merchants, which in many instances, contain valuable facts and statistics, might frequently be supplied to Editors with advantage to the public. A corner in the DAILY TRIBUNE will be reserved for such Correspondence.

In conclusion, the subscriber would ask for this new enterprise the countenance and practical support of the reading and advertising community. If, in the past, he has been so fortunate as to assist, even to a limited extent, in furthering those interests which the great majority of our citizens have at heart; if he has been instrumental, in any way, in assisting our good City in that grand career of prosperity and influence which appears to lie before her, he has been amply rewarded for the labor of many years. For the promise of the future he can only refer his readers and friends to the performance of the past.

JOHN LIVINGSTON.

"THE DAILY TRIBUNE" Office, St. John, Dec. 21, 1871.

Business Arrangements.

The fact that this journal is issued nearly a fortnight earlier than was anticipated, with a view to participating in the Holiday advertising, which the merchants of St John deal out so liberally, will probably be accepted as reason sufficient for any imperfection that may appear in the initial number. The printing paper is not as heavy and bright as we propose to use; types now *en route* to us will improve its mechanical appearance; and the Editorial and business staff will be fully organized by the first of January. Offices, centrally located, have been secured in Prince William St. The southern half of Mr. George Philps' office has been taken for a business office, and the *Globe's* former editorial rooms and offices adjacent, will be occupied by the TRIBUNE Editor and Reporters. These, however, are at present undergoing renovation, and cannot be used for a few weeks to come. In the meantime, parties having business to transact with THE DAILY TRIBUNE will find us in the same building but in the third story.

ONLY THE CLOTHES THAT SHE WORE,

[Recently at the Morgue in this city, the attire of a drowned person alone remained for identification.—*N. Y. paper.*

There is the hat
With the blue veil thrown round it, just as they found it,
Spotted and soiled, stained and all spoiled—
Do you recognize that?

The gloves, too, lie there,
And in them still lingers the shape of her fingers,
That some one has pressed, perhaps, and caressed,
So slender and fair.

There are the shoes,
With their long silken laces, still bearing traces,
To the toe's dainty tip, of the mud of the slip,
The slime and the ooze.

There is the dress,
Like the blue veil, all dabbled, discolored, and drabbled—
This you should know, without doubt, and, if so,
All else you may guess!

There is the shawl,
With the striped border, hung next in order,
Soiled hardly less than the light muslin dress,
And—that is all

Ah, here's a ring
We were forgetting, with a pearl setting;
There was only this one—name or date?—none!
A frail, pretty thing;

A keepsake, maybe,
The gift of another, perhaps a brother,
Or lover, who knows? him her heart chose,
Or, was she heart-free?

Does the hat there,
With the blue veil around it, the same as they found it,
Summon up a fair face with just a trace
Of gold in the hair?

Or does the shawl,
Mutely appealing to some hidden feeling,
A form, young and slight, to your mind's sight,
Clearly recall?

A month now has passed,
And her sad history remains yet a mystery,
But these we keep still, and shall keep them until
Hope dies at last.

Was she the prey
Of some deep sorrow clouding the morrow,
Hiding from view the sky's happy blue?
Or was there foul play?

Alas! who may tell?
Some one or other, perhaps a fond mother,
May recognize these when her child's clothes she sees;
Then—will it be well?

N. G. SHEPHERD.

Dr. Semple's Opportunity.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "VALERIE AYLMER," "MORTON HOUSE," ETC.

(Continued.)

Before long she came. "Yes," he was saying to the colonel, "it was certainly unexpected that my uncle should have left his fortune to me. I don't know anything that ever caused me more surprise." "By Jove! you take the surprise coolly enough," the colonel responded, in rather an injured tone—and, just at that moment, Mona entered. Semple's heart gave a great bound, and then sank—lower, by far, than it had ever done before. Indeed, it hardly needed the keen eyes of love to see that some change, of more than ordinary importance, had come over the girl. Her greeting was given with none of her usual frank ease, and she sat down close to the table, bending her head over some needle-work, which she had taken up, speaking rarely, and never, as far as Semple's observation went, lifting her eyes. Although her father and mother were full of kind congratulations and inquiries, she did not even mention his late accession to fortune; and this pained him more than it should have done. He might have remembered that women in their first youth are the most remorselessly and yet perhaps the most unconsciously selfish creatures in the world. They are so full of their own rights—those right of enjoyment and happiness so dear in the eyes of youth—that they are ready to trample down anybody and everybody who opposes them. Sometimes the whole world seems in league against them; and, in their vehement indignation, in their determined resolution to walk on the flowery goal which shines so plainly before their eyes, they wholly forget that there are others to be considered besides themselves—other rights to be regarded—other hearts to be wounded—other duties to be fulfilled; they forget that life is a very complex tissue, and that no one thread can follow its own course without fatally entangling other skeins as well. As Semple sat back in the shadow, and answered the questions of his two interlocutors in the quiet, calm voice that rarely betrayed emotion, he looked sadly at the tinted face bent so persistently down, and read, as if on a printed page, all that was passing in the girl's mind. He saw how she had worked herself into a state of revolt and injury; he knew how passionately she was thinking that her life should not be sacrificed to mere scruples of honor, or, worse yet, to the mercenary things of which they were speaking. "Poor child!" thought the man who watched all this with his grave, steadfast eyes. "She is regarding herself as a victim, and thinking of me as her worst enemy. If I only knew whether it were for her happiness—if I only knew!"

While the two old people prosed, and the fire crackled, and the lamp burned, and Mona's swift needle gleamed in and out of the scrap of linen she held, the same battle went on which had been waged out on the high-road, under the stars. At last Semple grew weary of the ceaseless debate which never came nearer to an end. He rose abruptly, and stood at the back of Mona's chair.

"How busy you are to-night!" he said. "Don't you think you can put down your work, and walk with me to the gate? The moon is up, and it is not cold."

She shrank a little, and, if he could have felt any deeper pain than he had known already, that slight significant action would have inflicted it.

"I—think it *is* cold," she said. "If you please I believe I would rather not."

"Why, Semple, you surely are not going?" exclaimed Colonel Randolph.

"I have a patient to see," answered Semple, with the doctor's ready excuse. "I am sorry, colonel, but I must go. I only dropped in for a few minutes.—And you won't come?" This to Mona, with a very earnest pleading in his voice and eyes. "Indeed, the night is lovely, and you can wrap up so that you will not feel the cold."

"Go, my dear," said Mrs. Randolph, who had noticed her daughter's unusual silence, and with the keen instinct of a woman, felt that something was wrong. "A little walk will do you good; and you will find my shawl on the hall-table."

Thus given no choice, Mona rose reluctantly, and followed Semple into the hall. "Never mind the shawl," she said, ignoring her late assertion about the cold. "This will do." As she spoke, she jerked down the crimson scarf which she had worn that afternoon, and which had been carelessly thrown over the hat-rack, and wrapped it around her head. "I am ready now," she went on, looking at the doctor with her eyes full of wilful petulance. "Of course, if I am obliged to go, it don't matter about my taking cold."

"It matters a great deal," Semple answered quietly; "and, if you won't wear a shawl, I shall be compelled to leave you behind. But you had better come, Mona. I could not say so in the room yonder, but I have something of importance to tell you."

"To tell me!" repeated Mona, and, in a moment, a guilty conscience made her flush crimson. "I—I don't know what you can have to tell to me," she said, hastily, "but I can wear the shawl if you insist. Give it here."

He wrapped it around her, and, without another word, they left the house. When they emerged from the hall-door, and went down the piazza-steps to the gravel-sweep in front, the night seemed to them fairly alive with brilliance. The moon had risen above the tree-tops, and was flooding the whole landscape with silver light, the blue haze of the day had changed to a shimmering mist, and the gravel beneath their feet sparkled like precious stones. It was almost like walking in a fairy-tale; and it was hard to believe the fairies were not dancing over the short greensward, and playing elfin gambols on the moonlit leaves. If so, they must have looked with strange wonder at the two sedate figures that walked amid all this lavish beauty, apparently quite unmoved by it; who said nothing, until they had left the house some distance behind them, and then broke into conversation which had no allusion to the silver moonlight, or the quivering leaves, or the delicate tracery of shadows thrown across their path, but related solely to the trifling matter of their own affairs.

"Mona," Semple was saying, in his quiet way, "do you think that people come into this world to consult their own wishes and secure their own happiness, or to learn some things which can only be learned by sacrificing both wishes and happiness, if need be, to the good of others?"

"I don't know, I am sure," Mona answered, coldly. "I am not good at abstract questions," she went on, with a slight tone of excitement in her voice, "but I don't see why people should have wishes, if they are not to gratify them; or why we should feel a desire at all, if all our feelings and desires are to be sacrificed to somebody else!"

"Not to somebody else, but to the good of somebody else," corrected Semple, quietly. "All our duties are of relative importance; and sometimes, perhaps, our chief duty is to ourselves; but generally, I think, we go right when we put ourselves wholly out of the question—or, at least, try to do so."

"If you are talking for my benefit," said Mona, still coldly, "I wish you would speak plainly. I never could bear to be talked at in my life."

"My dear, I was not even thinking of you," said Semple, gravely. "I was thinking of myself. The truth is," he