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W. F. SMITH.

Barrister,

Uncle Terry

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offering his hand to Albert as if to dis-

"Come out to my house any even-

There are moments when our emo

tions nullify all attempts at speech,

and to Albert Page this was such a one

Mr. Nason as he saw Albert's agitation.

in a year we will talk it over.

"Put your thanks into your work, and

"And this is the man I had almost

hired myself out to spy upon!" said Albert to himself as he left the store.

CHAPTER IX.

more especially now that he was to

succeed him as John Nason's legal ad-

the situation and trying to solve it that

bellicose sort of man came in and in-

Then why did Frye tell me I had e

s'pose, but I thought I'd just drop in and give him a few pointers that might help my case."

"What is your case?" asked Albert,

a little amused at being taken for

"Waal, the facts are," replied Staples,

"I've had to sue a miserable whelp in self defense. I live in Lynnfield. It's a small place about ten miles out, an' last spring I bought the good will,

stock in trade and all of a man by the

name of Hunt, who was in the meat business. He signed a paper, tee, agreein' not to engage in the business

in or within ten miles o' Lynnfield for

a period o' five years, and a month ago

he opened a shop almost 'cross the

street from me and is cuttin' my prices right and left."

thinking to have a little fun at the

if that's what you mean," replied the

belligerent Staples. "I won't get it

belligerent Staples. "I won't get it all, but then, as your partner said, we may get more than if we sued for less."
Albert smiled. "And se you are basing your suit on this signed agreement, are you?" he said. "Well, you might as well stop just now, for you have ne case in law, though ne doubt a good one in justice."

one in justice."

"But the agreement is all signed and witnessed," exclaimed Staples, "and Mr. Frye said I had good reason to bring suit, and I've paid him \$200 en

account to do it."

"That may be," said Albert, realizing he had put his foot in it, so to

speak, "and perhaps you have other grounds to base a suit for damages on,

but as for the agreement this man Hunt signed, it's of no value what-

"Then why did Frye tell me I had a

good case and take my money?" gasped

good case and take my money? gasped the irate Staples.

"That I can't say," replied Albert, foreseeing the rumpus he had started.

"You'd better come tomorrow and have a talk with him. He may have seen

some loophole for you to win out through that I do not see, but so far

as your agreement goes, it's not worth the paper it's written on." When Staples had departed it dawn-

when Staples had departed it awased upon Albert that he had unintentionally paved the way for his own escape from Frye. "I'll stay away tomorrow," he said to himself, "and let
Staples get in his work and then face
the inevitable storm that I have start""

when, two days later, he purposely reached the office late Frye did not even bid him good merning. "Where were you yesterday?" he said curtly as Albert entered.
"I was availing myself of your express wish that I cultivate young Nason." was the answer. "We went to

one in justice."

"And you are bringing an action for breach of contract?" interposed Albert,

Frye's partner.

Frye was out, and Albert was, as he

it solved itself.

quired for Frye.

LBERT tried to find some

It was while perplexed with

"That being the case. I see no reason why you cannot entertain the proposi-tion I have decided to make you," said ing, Mr. Page. We shall be glad to see you, and I am usually at home." the merchant, "which is that you sever your relations with Mr. Frye between now and the first of the year, and then

take hold and see what you can do in looking after my legal matters. The fact is, Mr. Page, as I intimated to you a short time ago, I am not entirely satisfied with Mr. Frye. Just why need not be considered now. The only point fs. do you feel yourself capable of actcharge of any law business that may

"Well, so far as my knowledge of the law goes," replied Albert, "I passed a good examination when I was admitted to the bar, I had some practice in Sandgate, and since I've been with Frye I've learned a good deal of the usual procedure here. I think I can de all that is necessary."

"My needs in a legal line are not complicated," continued Mr. Nason; "it is mostly looking up deeds and making transfers, seeing that titles are clear, etc. You will have to watch the custom officers, and there are more or less collections to be made. Occasionally I have to resort to the courts, but try to avoid them as much as possible.

"I think I could attend to all such matters to your satisfaction," said Albert confidently; "they are not hard

"Very well," replied Mr. Nason, "I have decided, partly at the request of my son and partly from my own estimate of your ability, to give you the trial. I will pay you twenty-five hundred dollars per annum to look after my needs, and you are also at liberty to take such other business as comes to you so long as you do not neglect

"I thank you, Mr. Nason, for this offer," replied Albert, rising and proffering his hand, "and I accept gladly and will devote all my time, if need

be, to your service."
"Very good," responded Mr. Nason; "separate yourself from Frye at once, or between now and the new year, and in the meantime I would suggest that you rent a suitable office. There are one or two vacant in a building I own on Water street that will serve very well, and when you are through with Mr. Frye come and see me. I shall consider you in my employ from now on, and as you may need funds in fitting up your office I will advance to the control of the cont you a little on your salary," and with out further comment he turned to his desk and wrote and handed Albert a check for \$500. "I should prefer," he added hastily, as if to prevent any word of thanks, "that you make no mention whatever of our agreement to Mr. Prye, or in fact to any one, until after January let." Then rising and

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tion for breach of contract, and you have told him he had no grounds for

suit. He came in yesterday, mad as a wet hen, and wanted his money back. Are you a fool? 'Maybe I am," replied Albert, trying CHARLES CLARK MUNN

hard to keep cool, "but I do not care to be told of it. Mr. Staples explained his case to me, and I inadvertently told him that the agreement he held was of no value in law, which is the truth." "And what has that to do with it?"

yacht for the winter."
"And what did you say, to Mr. Staples the day before, I would like to know?" continued Frye in a sneering

tone. "He has retained me for an ac-

said Frye, with biting saroasm, didn't hire you to tell the truth and lose me a paying client. If that is your idea of law practice you had better go back to Sandgate and hoe corn for a living. You have made a mess of it now and lost me several hundred dollars in fees." "Never mind the thanks now," said

Albert had remained standing through all this tirade and looking squarely at his irate employer.

"You need not say any more," he put in when Frye had paused for breath. "If you will further oblige me with a check for the small balance due me I will not again upset your plans. You need not," he added, feeling himself blush, "consider that you owe me any plausible excuse for leaving Frye. He did not want to make an enemy of him, and part of the increase you recently prom sed. I de not want it.'

For a few minutes the two looked at each other, and then Frye weakened. "You are foolish," he said in a modified tone, "to act so hastily. Perhaps I have spoken rather rudely, but you must admit you gave me prevocation. De not throw away a good chance for a few hasty words."
"I do not care to discuss it," answer

had been for three days, thinking how to escape, when a red faced and rather ed Albert firmly. "The role of private detective that you want me to assume "My name is Staples," he said, "and is not to my taste anyway, and your words have convinced me we can never get along together. I will not remain I've got a lawsuit on my hands. I've laid the facts before your partner, I onger on any terms."
"And what will you do now?" sneer.

ed Frye, a sinister look entering his yellow eyes. "Steal or starve?"
"Neither," replied Albert defiantly. "I'll go back to Sandgate and hee corn

Frye's arrogance melted, and as he turned and began to play with a paper utter he said meckly:
"Come, Mr. Page, overlook it all. I

speke too hastily, and I apologize."
"Will you oblige me with the small balance due me today," asked Albert, or shall I cail again for it?"

"And if we part company now," mut-tered Frye, "what am I to expect? Are you to be a friend or an enemy?"

"If you refer to your scheme to blackmail John Nason," replied Albert resolutely and not mincing words, "I m too ashamed to think I ever Mstened to your proposals to even speak It was a hard blow and made Frye

vince, for it was the first time he had ever been openly called a villain, but he made no protest. Instead, he si-lently wrote a check for Albert's due and handed it to him.

"I am much obliged, Mr. Frye. Good morning, sir," said Albert in a chilly one, and putting on his hat he left the office.

In a week Albert had his office fitted up, and then he presented himself to John Nason, and after that he not only had all the responsibility thrust upon him that he was able to assume, but he no longer felt himself in the posi-tion of a menial. To one of his proud spirit it meant self respect, life and

(To Be Continued.)



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y menses and not appear in that time, and I suffered much pain. I would daily have fainting spells, headache, backache and bearing down pain, and was so weak that it was hard for me to do my work.

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