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E variis sumendum est optimum.—Cic.

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LAW RESPECTING NEWSPAPERS

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THE FORCED LOAN.

BY JOB MORRIS.

CHAPTER I.

'Your mother is worse. However, with careful nursing and proper diet, there is yet a chance for her to recover. She needs nourishment. If she has an appetite to-morrow, a tender bit of mutton thoroughly boiled, with a little guava jelly may be given. The room is rather cold; more fire is desirable, both on your mother's account and on your own, for your cough is getting worse. This prescription should be obtained at once, and the medicine administered with the utmost accuracy.'

The doctor hastened on his rounds.

A furious snow-storm raged without, and the wind roughly rattled the windows. John Sterling sat by his mother's bedside, as she sank to sleep, holding the doctor's prescription in his hand, but seeing it not.

'Medicine!—guava jelly!—fire!' muttered he. 'All we can do is die. The landlord said we must pay the sixty dollars back rent to-morrow, or he would turn us into the street. Poor old Mary too, says she cannot stand it any longer and will have to leave. I have not a cent left, and there is nothing more to pawn. Thank heaven for this storm. It will prevent Sarah's coming here this evening; it will be better for her to sail without seeing me again; of course she cannot desert her sick father. Poor mother!'

John stooped and kissed his mother's forehead. When he raised his head, his eyes rested on a gold chain which had slipped from beneath her pillow. Quickly seizing it, he drew forth a handsome gold watch, and started up as if to go out. But he sat listlessly down again and muttered:

'No, no; she told me not to dispose of this let what would happen. It was my father's first gift. Here are her initials: S. S.—Susan Sterling. Oh God! how little he thought she would ever come to this. And would he have hesitated to part with this keepsake, if thereby her life might be saved? No, he would have sold it a thousand times, were it possible, to save her one moment's discomfort. And it must go. While she sleeps I will take it. Here Mary! Mary!'

The elderly servant woman answered John's summons, and telling her to sit by his mother while he was absent, he prepared to breast the storm.

'Why, mercy sakes alive! You aren't agoin' out in this awful storm are you Master John?' said the old servant in tones of blended surprise and remonstrance. 'It'll be the death of you. Your cough has been growin' worse very fast during the last fortnight, an' if you should get a cold on the lungs now, I don't know what would come of it. Let me go and get the medicine, for I suppose that's what you are goin for. Why on airth don't doctors carry their medicine with 'em as they used to do? It seems to me they're getin' fur enough above their business.' Well, if that boy ain't gone! This is an awful business. I can't stay in this house much longer, for livin' on nothin' and freezin' to death, is agin nater; but I can't go and leave Missis Susan in such a state. Bless my soul and body! what's that?'

'John!—John!—Mary!' feebly gasped Mrs. Sterling.

'Here I am Missis; here I am. What is it dear? What do you want?'

'John!—where's John! I'm—I'm choking! My watch!—it's under the pillow.—Quick give it to me.'

'Where Missis? Where is it? I can't find it. I guess John's got it.'

'John! tell him to—come here—quick! said Mrs. Sterling, in still feeble tones. 'Mary!—I can't see—the watch—John—put it on—my bosom—quick; I John!'

'Lord a mercy! She's dead! What will become of Master John? He'll go crazy. Alack! alack! what a sad world! What would Missis Susan's husband a thought, when he was so rich, and handsome, and strong, and used to say he was goin to outlive us all, if he'd supposed his darling would ever come to this?'

CHAPTER II.

'I'll count this over, Hinckum, while you wait on that young man that's just come in. You chaps run money over so fast its more than I can do to keep up with you, and I don't understand this measuring it off into piles.'

'That's the greatest piece of poetry, and grandest tune, that ever was writ by anybody living, or dead:

'Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light?'

Somehow or other, notwithstanding Captain Munson's intense admiration of the national anthem, he could never get beyond the first two lines, which he repeated at every possible opportunity, as if to compensate for his inability to give more of the song.—As he counted his money he looked up and said:

'I'm much obliged to you, Ned, for getting the gold for me. I don't like money that fire and water can spile so easy. But go and mind that young man, he seems to have something on his mind; and be liberal with him, do you hear?'

John Sterling had been looking with sparkling eyes upon the heap of gold before Captain Munson, and so absorbed in its contemplation did he become, that he did not observe the pawnbroker's business attitude, till Mr Hinckum touched his shoulder and asked what he could do for him.

'How much can you advance on these?' he hurriedly asked, as he placed his mother's chain and watch in the pawnbroker's hand.

'I can let you have forty dollars on them,' said Mr. Hinckum, after examining the articles closely.

'No more? asked John in a tone of bitter disappointment. They are worth, over two hundred dollars, and I must have at least one hundred for them.'

'Impossible; forty dollars is the last cent.'

'Wretch! rascal! villain. Give them to me,' and John snatched the treasures from the pawnbroker's hand, and rushed from the shop.

'What ails that young man, Hinckum? asked the captain, who having finished counting his gold, now came to the front of the shop.

'He's crazy, I think. Never mind what he said captain, I dont. His father used to be one of our richest men, but he lost his wealth and died, and—well, its the old story. This young man was engaged to a beautiful and wealthy girl; but although they loved each other dearly, her father broke off the match when the misfortunes came. He was ill a long time after it, and now his mother's sick and one thing after another has been pawned; and to-night he wanted a hundred dollars on a gold watch and chain.'

'I wish you'd let him have it. I'm afraid ill-luck will follow such a piece of business. Good-bye; my ship sails tomorrow and

'Over the briny waves we go,'

you know as the song says.

'Good-bye, a prosperous voyage out and back, is the best think I can wish you, I suppose. This is a stormy night captain; you had better take an omnibus.'

'Take an omnibus! said the captain, as he strode into the storm; I guess not; I never can keep my reckoning in such tumbling crafts. I would as lief go to sea in a tub.'

Captain Munson kept steadily on up Broadway, to Fourth street, down which he turned. After going a few rods; he looked anxiously back at a muffled figure which had followed him all the way from the pawnbroker's and muttered.

'If that chap expects to board me, he's mightily mistaken; he will find my nettings all up, and my crew ready to receive boarders.'

The captain struck the southeast corner of Washington Park, and proceeded to cross it, diagonally; but before he had got a quarter of the distance, the muffled figure rushed upon him, and seizing his shoulder, exclaimed in a husky voice:

'I want to borrow a hundred dollars on this watch and chain; they are worth more than double the money; you have gold in plenty, and you must lend me the hundred dollars.'

'You are the young man that was in the pawnbroker's shop, said the captain kindly; I am sorry for you, but dont you know that this is highway robbery?'

'I dont care what it is! said John fiercely; highway robbery or not, I must have the money.'

'Well young man you shall have it. Give me the watch.'

Captain Munson thrust the watch and chain in his pocket, and amid the driving snow counted out ten eagles by the light of one of the Park lamps, placed them in John's hand and walked away. After going a few rods he turned and looked back. John was standing under the lamp with his hand outstretched just as it was extended to receive the gold, and his face as white as the fleecy snow that was skirring around it.

'It was wrong to take his watch said the kind-hearted captain. I'll give it back to him. But John suddenly awoke from his trance, dashing wildly across the Park, and was almost immediately lost in the blinding storm.

'Well, that's a desperate case, soliloquised the captain, I wish I had given him my purse and done with it.

'Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light?'

'There comes master John, said old Mary as she heard the front door open; I can't stand it to see him find out his mother's dead; it will kill me; I'll get down stairs out of sight and hearin'.

'Mary was too late. Before she could start, John rushed in exclaiming:

'Mother! dear mother we are saved. I have plenty of nice things for you now, plenty to pay the rent. Dear moth—'

'The basket he was holding dropped from his hand; he gazed a moment upon his mother's deathly face, he threw his arms wildly above his head, fell heavily on the floor; and as the golden eagles flew from his hand and scattered over the room they seemed to mock his misery with gleeful music.

CHAPTER III.

'Some five years after the date of the occurrences detailed in the preceding chapters, Captain Munson, who had been been in port but a few days, was quietly looking over his afternoon paper, when he sudden jumped up and shouted:—

'Hallo! ship ahoy! Well if that dont beat the d—l. Let me read that advertisement again.

"If the gentleman who loaned a young man one hundred dollars, in Washington Park, about the middle of December 1849, will call on John Sterling at the Astor House, between the hours of 3 and 6 o'clock P. M., any day before the 29th inst., and bring the security with him, he will receive payment in full, with interest to date."

'It's five o'clock now, I'll go at once. Here is the security, safe and sound, said the Captain, as he held Mrs. Sterling's watch to his ear; and a capital time-piece it is too. I've been wanting that young man these five years, I've a great respect for him. I picked him out for Puss' husband on that very night; and and now her father is dead, there will be nobody to break off the match.

'In half an hour Captain Munson knocked at the door, which he opened in obedience to a vigorous 'come in.' He tried to act as though he had nothing particular on his mind, but the attempt was ridiculously transparent. But John Sterling, recently from California, and much enlarged and improved since that awful night, immediately came forward and cordially extending his hand, frankly said:

'It is needless I suppose sir, for us to stand on ceremony now, as it was on that stormy night. Have you the security, I then gave you?'

'Yes, I have it; but I shall not settle the matter in this easy way. It was highway robbery, sir, I told you at the time, said the captain in a manner which he intended to be overwhelmingly severe and crushing.

'John was completely taken aback; but after reflecting a moment he said:

'Perhaps sir, if you knew the circumstances under which I acted, you would think differently, and accept the personal reparation I have so long been anxious to make.

'I know all about it. You were poor, you saw me counting my gold in the pawnbroker's shop, and followed me to a lonely place and demanded my money of me. You got it.—You have since become rich: and you want to pay me and have an end to the matter.—But that will not do—except on one condition.

'Name it, said John.

'It is, that you will fall in love, and marry a young lady, to whom I shall introduce you, in about forty minutes.

'That is impossible, so you may at once proceed with your prosecution.

'Impossible! Sir, the lady is my niece—Do you mean to say that it possible for anybody not to fall in love with my niece? Sir you don't know her.

'The captain was really excited, this excitement was fast being intensified to rage. Not wishing to exasperate him, John said:

'I have no doubt sir, that your niece is everything an uncle could wish.

'Well, I'm not the man to waste time in talking. Will you as a personal favor to me take a seat in my carriage and ride to Sixteenth street?

'With pleasure sir, said John, quite willing to humor a man who had done him so great a service.

'Please remain there a few minutes, said Captain Munson, as he ushered John into the parlor and closed the door after him. John looked carelessly about and wondered what would be the end of such a strange adventure.

'The captain soon returned, leading a beautiful young lady by the hand, to whom said:

'Here Sarah, is a young friend to whom I wish to introduce you; Mr—Mr. Why great Neptune, I don't know the rascal's name.

'Oh John! dear John! is it you? exclaimed Sarah as she rushed into his arms.

'Hallo here! Grappling at once, before a shot's fired. What in the name of Neptune does this mean?

'Oh Uncle Jack! how kind it was in you prepare this surprise for me, said Sarah, as soon as she and John had performed the ceremonies appropriate to the occasion.

'Surprise for you! Egad, I think the *surprise* was for *me*. But how is this, this isn't the young fellow you've been pining for this six years is it?

'The very same, Uncle Jack.

'And is this the girl whose father broke off the match, when your father became poor and died, and all that sort of thing, that Ned Hinckum, the pawnbroker told me about?

'The very same, Uncle Jack, said John.

'Whew! said Uncle Jack spinning round the room.

'Oh say, can you see by the dawn's early light?'

'Here! take your watch; the only condition is, that your first boy shall be named JOHN MUNSON STERLING.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Fredericton, July 20

Mr. Street spoke next, asserting that the minds of the members were made up, as the great majority of them had been elected expressly on the principles expressed in the speech and address. He denied that there was any necessity imposed upon any one to speak of the Governor as he had been spoken of. The speech it was true was in his name as on all other occasions, but it was the speech of his advisers, for which they were responsible. He was amused with the ingenuity with which the members of the late Government had dealt with the question, asserting that the dissolution would be for the benefit of the people, and yet that the Governor would repent the act in sackcloth and ashes. He contended that the Governor had acted in strict accordance with the constitutional principles of his commission and the royal instructions, and he commented at length upon the correspondence to prove that the Governor did not dissolve without advice of ministers, as he never intended to do, altho' the late Council advised him that he could dissolve on his own responsibility, and endeavored to set a trap for him in which they were themselves caught, and this was their sore place. He contended that the Governor must have known what the state of the country was, and he drew a vivid picture of the effects of the law—demoralising the people, disturbing all relations of society, &c. The result of the late elections had proved, that in the opinion of the people the time for dissolution had arrived, and that the exercise of the prerogative was expedient and necessary for the protection of the people. He said the cry about the Governor was first raised by those who denounced him. The Governor put no question before the people but the Liquor Law, and it was absurd to say that he had any personal interest in the matter, as he could not be effected by the law, and could only have been influenced by a sense of duty.

July 22

House opened at 10 o'clock.

Five hundred copies of the Journals for the present Session were ordered to be published.

Mr. Sutton introduced a Bill to repeal the Prohibitory Law.

Further accommodation was ordered for Reporters.

The debate on the Address was resumed at 11 o'clock.

Mr. Connell agreed that the act of the Governor was a violation of constitutional principles.

Mr McMonagle opposed prohibition, and supported the Governor.

Mr. Earle, (King's,) followed on the same side.

Mr. Gillmor at some length, condemned the exercise of the Prerogative as injudicious and justified the stand taken by the late Council.

In the afternoon, Mr Barberie eulogised the Governor, and condemned the late government.

The question was then put, and the second paragraph sustained. The following are the votes:

Yeas.—Gray, Kerr, Barberie, Boyd, Street, McMonagle, S. Z Earle, Scovil Wilmot, Lawrence, Desbrisay, Montgomery McFhelim, Harding, Macpherson, Allen, Botsford, Landry, Read, Hatheway, End—22.

Nays—Gillmor, McAdam, Fisher, Connell, Perley, Tapley, Ferris, Gilbert (f) C. Perley, Johnson, McLellan, Watters, Sutton, Smith Lewis, Gilbert, Mitchell—16. Tibbits absent.

Majority for the second paragraph—6.

The third and fourth paragraphs passed; the consideration of the fifth was deferred.—The House adjourned at 5 o'clock.

From our Fredericton Correspondent.

FREDERICTON, July 23

To the Editor of the Standard.

As I promised you in my last, to drop into the House of Assembly occasionally, I now redeem that promise by telling you that the debate on the Address, has occupied the House since Friday morning last. The principal debate was on the 2d paragraph and was brought to a close at 5 o'clock last evening, when the House divided the section was carried by a vote of 23 to 16—Tibbits not being here, and the Speaker in the chair, which is just 3 to 2, a very handsome majority, considering that the late government was in the House, with all their supporters. By the way, your new member Street, made an eloquent, powerful and convincing speech, which was much admired.

I am informed that every pains was taken by the Opposition to gain supporters, every one of whom, was to have some office.—Boyd was been in every direction, and as I am informed, could have had any situation he pleased to demand,—he remained firm—nothing could move him.

The 3rd and 4th paragraphs passed nem. con. On the 5th being read. Smith rose to speak to it, but as it was late in the evening the debate was adjourned until this day at 11 o'clock.

End's case on the petition of McNaughton is now before the House, and from what has already transpired he will be ousted, and McNaughton will take the seat. The Opposition say that they will soon have strength enough to overthrow the present Government, I don't believe a word of it. It is rumoured that Boyd is to be Chief Commissioner of Public Works; if so, you will have him before you again, when I expect that the people will not do less for him than they did at the last election, and send him back again, and thereby enable him to be more useful to his County than ever.

The End question has resolved into striking a committee tomorrow at 10 o'clock, not for the purpose of going into a scrutiny of votes, but to try the legality of the Sheriff's proceedings.

The House has again taken up the Address Smith is speaking, and making the most of a bad case. Gray it is supposed will reply to him. The weather is excessively warm, and the sooner the Session is over, the better for the Members. More anon.

Yours, LYNX.

REMARKABLE MARRIAGE.

A beautiful young heiress had become so disgusted with a fluttering set of soft pated, pomatum haired, moustache-lipped, strongly perfumed suitors for her hand that she shut herself from the fashionable world, turned all her property into money, deposited it all in banks, donned a cheap wardrobe, put on a mask, and went, pedestrian like, through the city which she had hitherto moved with so much display and magnificence. She asked alms of those who of late had knelt at her feet and sued for her hand. They knew her not, and casting a look of scorn upon her veiled face and coarse wardrobe, bid her "begone!" She entered the country—here she met with derision and scorn. A few kind hearted people, it is true bestowed aid; but these were of the poor class, who had hard work to procure their own daily bread; but they could not turn a fellow creature hungry from their door, and therefore gave a small pittance from their scanty store.

One summer's day, a large company met on ——Beach. They were mostly from the city. The disguised heiress, from some cause or other, had wandered there. She asked of one or two, termed "upper tens"—They spoke tauntingly, but gave nothing—What they said had been heard by quite a number of their company. Most of them laughed, or looked as if they thought "served her right." The beggar woman turned about, and was walking sadly away, when a good looking gentleman stepped forward, and catching hold of her arm, thus spoke:

'Stay, my good woman—tell me what you want.'

She replied in a low trembling tone, 'I want a sixpence, only a six pence.'

'You shall have ten times that sum. Here, he added, drawing from his pocket an eagle, and placing it in the gloved hand of the woman, take this, and if it is not enough, I will give you another.'

The heiress returned the eagle, exclaiming 'I want a sixpence, sir—only a sixpence.'

Seeing that she could not be induced to take the coin, the gentleman drew forth a sixpence and gave it to the stranger being beside him, who, after thanking the generous donor, walked slowly away. After being laughed at for so doing by his companions, he set out in pursuit of the beggar woman saying: 'Perhaps she is an heiress—or an angel in disguise, I mean to ascertain.'

As the speaker ceased the mask dropped from the face of the female, and the beautiful heiress was portrayed before the astonished gentleman.

That they were afterwards married, the reader has already imagined, for the heiress used this means of procuring a worthy husband, and the generous gentleman had long been looking for "an angel in disguise."

The happy husband is often heard to say that he got "an heiress for a sixpence."

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