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Uncle Terry

CHARLES CLARK MUNN

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"Mr. Hobbs even offered to lend me noney if I needed it," he said after they had talked matters over, "and so you see, we have a good many friends in Sandgate after all. And now I want you to sing a few of the old songs for me, so that I can have them to think about when I am lonesome and home

But the singing was a failure, for Alice broke down in the middle of the first song, and they had to go out and watch the fireflies once more while she conquered her tears.

"You will write to me every day, won't you, Bertie?" she asked disconsolately as they waited the next morning for the train that was to separate them. "I shall be so lonesome and blue all the time!"

When he kissed her goodby she could not speak, and the last he saw as the train bore him away was that sweet sister's face trying bravely to smile through its tears, like the sun peeping out of a cloud.

CHAPTER IV.

F all the smooth, elusive vultures lurking in the shadow of the temple of justice or perching upon it Nicholas Frye, or "Old Nick," as many called him, was the most cunning. Nor did his looks belie the comparison, for he had deep set, shifty, yellow gray eyes, a hooked uose, and his thin locks, dyed jet black, formed a ring about his bald poll. He walked with a stoop, as if scanning the ground for evidence or clews, and to add to his marked individuality when be talked he rubbed his hands together as though washing them with invisible soap. It was not from any sense of cleanliness that he did this, for they had many times been soiled willingly in the most nefarious transactions.

client was to him a victim to be kept in waiting, exasperated in regard to his grievances by all possible means, de-luded as to his chances of success in quest of justice, deceived as to its cost and robbed in every way known to an astute lawyer.

He had been the legal adviser of John Nason for many years, and when that busy merchant came to him on behalf of his son, who wanted to find a position for Albert Page, Frye readily promised to give him employment. It was not because he needed hime but because he saw at once that through some friendship for this young sprig of the law, as he intuitively considered Albert to be, he could strengthen his hold upon the father and obtain some secrets that might eventually be used to rob him. In plain words, he thought to use this young country lawyer as a spy. He knew that John Nason felt

a keen interest in his only son Frank, and that was another reason for employing that son's friend. He knew also that Frank was given a liberal allowance, spent it rapidly and most likely would be getting into various scrapes needing a lawyer's efforts to rescue him, and so he would have fur-ther pickings in that direction. These were two good reasons for his ostensi-ble acts of kindness, and so he at once

sent for Page to come.

When, the morning after his arrival in Boston, Albert presented himself at Frye's office, he found that lawyer busy reading his mail.

"Take a seat, sir," said Frye politely, after Albert had introduced himself, "and excuse me until I go through my letters." And then for a long half hour Albert was left to study the bare office walls and peculiar looks of his future employer. Finally Frye turned to him and asked rather abruptly, "Well, Mr. Page, what do you know about law?" at the same time scanning him as if expecting to see hayseed adbering to his garments.

"Not much perhaps," replied Albert modestly, uncertain of his ground. "I have been in practice only a year at Sandgate, and the few people there do

not have much use for a lawyer."
"Then why didn't you stir 'em up a little and bring 'em to see they needed your services?" was Frye's next query. "You will never succeed as a lawyer unless you make business. Did you bring your sheepskin with you?"

"No, sir," answered Page. "I didn't think it necessary after what I wrote

you. I have it in my trünk."
"Well, bring it tomorrow," said Frye.
"I make it a rule to take nothing for "I make it a rule to take actining for granted and have everything in writing." And then he added, with a searching look, as if he was about to utter a crusher, "What is your idea of a lawyer's chief object in existence?" Page was a little nonplused. "Oh, I suppose," he replied slowly, "to see that laws are properly executed and

justice done.' Frye looked at him a full minuté without making any further comment, while a sardonic grin gradually drew his lips apart, showing a full set of false teeth, and then, as he began rub-

bing his hands together, he said:
"It's evident, young man, you have much to learn in your profession. Laws are made for lawyers and are the tools of our trade. If the world does not see fit to use those tools, it is our business to make them, and, as for justice, that is an allegery, useful in addressing a jury, but considered a fable by the judge. Laws are useful to oppose oth-



"What do you know about law?" er laws with, and various decisions are only good in so far as they help your case and hinder your opponent's.
"You seem an honest appearing young

man, which is well so far as our relations go, but no further. I want an assistant, one who is ready and willing to do just as I direct and to ask no questions. Do you think you can fill the bill?"

"I can try," replied Albert quietly, "and as soon as I get used to your methods of procedure here I think I can succeed.

He was a little startled at the peculfar character of his employer and in a way slightly disgusted, but he was not in a position to cavil or feel squeamish over apparent lack of honesty and resolved at once to ignore it.

"What do you wish me to do?" he continued after a moment. "I will do the best I can for you and am ready to go to work now."
"You are to be at the office at 8

e'clock sharp," replied Frye, "take one hour for lunch and remain till 6." Then he added by way of a spur to his slave's fidelity: "I am paying you \$75 a month on the recommend of an important client of mine who wanted to humor his son. It was your good luck to have this son's friendship, as he belongs to a wealthy family. He no matter and all the better for us

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serves lacking in virile power. How manyee you are now saping the harvest of your folly? At last yes use face to face with the realisation that nature done it, whether through ferreamen got the wrong done it, whether through ferreamen got the wrong the same that the punishment dways corresponds with the sutthe punishment dways corresponds with the sunder of abuse committed. Do not, however, less hope, as there is a cure, thanks to Dr. Soldberg, the noted specialist who can give you what is rightfully your-pariest manhood. If you was to suppose the suppose that is rightfully your-pariest manhood. If you was to suppose the suppose the suppose the suppose that is rightfully your-pariest manhood. If you was to suppose the suppose the suppose the suppose that it is not to be. Oddberg, and he will send you his method of curing these diseases from the formation of the suppose the suppose

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you can. It may be the means of bringing us more business. What I say to you I shall expect you to consider a professional secret, and I hope you will make good use of your time when with this young friend of yours and heed well what I have said to

was set at work copying legal docu-ments and at the same time trying to reconcile himself to his new surround ings. That night he wrote to Alice:
"I have hired out to a most unmitigated old scoundrel and yet one of the sharpest lawyers I ever met. He assured me I must lay aside my con-science if I mean to succeed, and hinted that he might use me later on as a sort of spy, upon Frank, I imagine. He employs a stenographer of uncertain age, who comes in and takes dictation and does her work outside. The only stupid thing he has said was to warn me not to flirt with her." Then he wrote to his friend Frank,

telling him where he was located, thanking him for his assistance and begging him to call at an early date.
After that he smoked for an hour in glum silence. His room was small and cheerless and in comparison with his home quarters a mere den. But it was a question of saving, and the lux-ury of space even he could not afford. There is no more lonesome place in the wide world than a great city to one born and bred amid the freedom of the wide fields and extended woodlands, as Albert had been, and now that he was shut in by brick walls all day and imprisoned in one small room at night, with a solitary window epening on an area devoted to ash barrels and garbage, it made him homesick. He was a dreamer by nature and

loved the music of running brooks, the rustling of winds in the forest and the song of birds. The grand old mountains that surrounded Sandgate had been the delight of his boyhood, and to fish in the clear streams that tumbled down through narrow gorges and wound amid wide meadows or in the ily dotted millpond his pastime. He had the artist's nature in him also and loved dearly to sketch a pretty bit of natural scenery, a cascade in the brook or a shady grotto in the woods. He loved books, flowers, music, green meadows, shady woods and fields white with daisies. He had been reared among kind hearted, honest, God fearing people who seldom locked their doors at night and who believed in and lived by the Golden Rule. The selfish and distrustful life of a great city, with its arrogance and wealth and vanity of display, was not akin to him, and to put himself at the beck and call of a mercenary and utterly unscrupulous old villain, as he believed Frye to be, was gall and bitterness. For two weeks he worked patiently, hoping each day that the one and only friend the city held for him would call, passing his evenings, as he wrote Alice, "in reading, smoking and hating myself a little and Frye a good deal."

He had hesitated to write Frank in the first place, disliking to ask favors, but it could not be helped, and now he began to feel that his friend meant to ignore him. This humiliating conclusion was growing to a certainty and Albert feeling more homesick than ever when one afternoon while he was, as usual, hard at work in Frye's office

Frank came in.
"Pray excuse me, old man," remarked that youth briskly after the first greetings, "for not calling sooner, but I was off on my yacht about the time you came, and then I ran down to New York to take in the cup races. You see, I'm so busy I do not get any time to myself. I want you to come over to the club and lunch with me today, and we can talk matters over."

"You will kindly excuse me," replied Albert. "I have a lot of work cut out and am only allowed one hour for lunch. Can't you come around to my room tonight and have a smoke talk? "Maybe," replied Frank, "and we

can go around to the club later. You will meet some good fellows there, and small limit, you know. Say, old man," he added interestedly, "how do you like Frye?"

As that worthy happened to be out chance to exchange opinions. Albert's is already known, but, for reasons, he did not care to express it to Frank at this time.

"Frye is a shrewd lawyer, I presume," he answered, "and so far I have no fault to find. He takes good care to see I have work enough, but that is what I am hired for, and I have been rather lonesome and glad of it. Then to change the subject he added:

"I want to thank you once more, Frank, for getting me the place. Things were in a bad way at home, and I needed it."

"You may thank dad, not me," replied Frank. "I was just going off on a trip when your letter came, and I turned the matter over to him. Frye's his attorney, you see."

"Are you personally well acquainted with Mr. Frye?" asked Albert, having an object in mine

(To Be Continued.)

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