A GOOD INVESTMENT

"One of the new hands, I calculate," said Eliakim, screwing up his eyes. "I didn't 'gree to give 'em their supper and board into the bargain, a night afore the job begins—and I'm blessed if there ain't a little gal along with him!"

"Taint no hayin' hand," said Miss Comfort, rising and going down the steps to meet a slender child of 6 years old, who was leading a pale, bowed-down man, who walked with difficulty leaning on a crutch.

"Heart alive, child," said Miss Comfort, whose kindly nature involuntarily sympathized with all who were suffering or in distress; "what ails you, and what do you want here?"

"Please, ma'am," began the child, eagerly, "if you could give us a night's lodging—poor papa is so sick and tired, and.—"

"No, I can't !" abruptly broke is Fife.

"Content the rest of her speech was abruptly obecked by the young lady's arm being thrown round her seek.

"Oh, I'm so glad to see you," she cried out contationally; "I thought I never should see you again. I went to the old farm, but you had gone away, nobedy knew whither!"

And she hugged Miss Comfort more entousiastically than ever, with bright teatr sparkling on her syclashes.

"Why," demanded the bewildered to bill to in the twilight by the wild rose bushes, whon—"

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"Why," demanded the bewildered to bill to in the twilight by the wild rose bushes, whon—"

"Oh.—O.—O.—I" exclaimed Miss Comfort, "you den't mean to say you're that—"

And here she stopped, nearly strangled by Essie's renewed ambraces, while she listened to the story of hew grandpape had accented by a seried to the story of hew grandpape had accented the seried by the story of hew grandpape had

by Essie's renewed ambraces, while she listened to the story of hew grandpape had accepted her, and hew she was surrounded by all that lixury could devise or art invent.

"And I have longed to see you again," added Essie, "for if it had not be wildered by the heartless fluency of the self-shift, while the man, as if stunned and bewildered by the heartless fluency of the self-shift, while the man, as if stunned and bewildered by the heartless fluency of the self-shift, while the man, as if stunned and bewildered by the heartless fluency of the self-shift, while the man, as if stunned and bewildered by the heartless fluency of the self-shift, while the man, as if stunned and bewildered by the heartless fluency of the self-shift, while the man, as if stunned and bewildered by the heartless fluency of the self-shift, while the man, as if stunned and bewildered by the heartless fluency of the self-shift, while the man, as if stunned and bewildered by the heartless fluency of the self-shift was policy of the self-shift with the shift with the shi

Be placed his hand upon her ourly, unserved head.

"Never mind, Essie," he said with a mountful, tender pathos in his voice, "it will soon end. It cannot be for long, as far as I am conserved, poor child! Bast for you..." He stopped, his voice hunky with emotion.

They had walked what seemed to little Rather Bell a weary way, whan there was rustle among the wild-rose bushes that everhung the stone wall at their side, and a voice called hurriedly to them to "stop!" "It's me," said Miss Comfort Fair-faven, reakless of her grammar. "Elliss him—that' my brother—he's gone over to the class meeth' at Squire Dundas', and I set down through lots to overtake you. I bell you I can't somehow get your fathor's face out o' my mind. You're sick, ain's you, mister?"

"I shall soon he quite well," he answered, calmiy, and Comfort Fair-face out o' my mind. You're sick, ain's you, mister?"

"I shall soon he quite well," he answered, calmiy, and Comfort Fair-face out o' my mind. You're sick, ain's promptly and magically in mibal to the promptly and magically in mibal to the inhabitants never eary, "I am sick."

"Where are you going!" asked kind Miss Comfork, her voice growing husky in spite of hersell,:

"Where are going to my grandfather,"

"We are going to my grandfather,"

rise that before are you going?" asked kind Miss Comfort, her voice growing husky in spite of herself.

"We are going to my grandfather," said little Resie. "Grandpape was, verage with my mamma for marrying paps and seing to England, but paps thinks he'll take care of me now. But I won't stay with him unless paps stays too."

And she resolutely tightened her grasp papen the thin, fever-burning hand.

"Is 'pose you want to go to Lensdale!" said Miss Comfort, "But I'll tell you what—I'll make Joab get lout the wagon, and with a good buffulor rote over the seat you'll ride easy enough. They'll be back afore Eliakim gets through shoutin' and prayin'. I hain't so patience with that kind o' religion—and while you're awaitin' I'll bring down a smack o' bread and mast and a bottle of my ourrant wine. "Tain't good to travel on an emply stomach.

And five minutes later Miss Comfort, was carrying her hospitable intentions into affect, greatly to the delight and appreciation of the hungry shild.

"Now, see here," said Miss Comfort, drawing the child adde, when Joab drove up with the comfortable farm wagon and stout old horse, "I don't guess that you've of the wagon, and stout old horse, "I don't guess that you've got mere money than you can neet?"

"We have only enough for our railroad tickets," said Essie, he countenance fall-ing, "but—"

"It hought so," said Miss Comfort, and the proposed to the said with so comfortable farm wagon and stout old horse, "I don't guess that you've got mere money than you can neet?"

"We have only enough for our railroad tickets," said Essie, he countenance fall-ing, "but—"

"It hought so," said Miss Comfort, and the proposed to the wagen. The strength of the will be a done wonders in healing and relieving pain, sore threats, etc., and is worthy of the proposed to the wagen. The strength of the best medicines they have ever used;" It has done wonders in healing and relieving pain, sore threats, etc., and is worthy of the proposed to the wagen. The being uncomfortable to the wagen. The being

So Miss Comfort Fairhaven stayed nominally as housekeeper—really the trusted and plodded their way adown broad dusty road, the languid footpa of the invalid scarce keeping up with a tripping pace of the child.

"G pape, pape," sobbed the little girl, raing her blue, wistful eyes to the white, orn face, "how cruel people are?"

He placed his hand upon her curly, unafter many days it had returned to her.

So Miss Comfort Fairhaven stayed nominally as housekeeper—really the trusted and revered head of the establishment, and her decilining years were surrounded by a peace and luxury she never had dared to dream of in her loftiest aspirations.

Miss Comfort Fairhaven stayed nominally as housekeeper—really the trusted and revered head of the establishment, and her decilining years were surrounded by a peace and luxury she never had dared to dream of in her loftiest aspirations.

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Miss Comfort Fairhaven stayed nominally as housekeeper—really the trusted and revered head of the establishment, and her decilining years were surrounded by a peace and luxury she never had and invested her to have doubled his trade in 1885, but selling retail at whole-sale prices with 10 per cent, off for cash on all orders over \$20 does the business, and keeps him still marching on.

"We have only enough for our railroad tickets," said Essie, he countenance failing, "but—"
"It thought so," said Miss Comfort; "and here's a five-dollar bill I've laid aside est of my butter mency that Eliakim den't know nothin' about."

The child's eyes were brimming as she looked up in Miss Comfort's honest, hard-featured face.

"Will you let me kiss you just once!" she whispered, standing on tip-toe to bring her blooming cheek close to the spinster's wrinkled cheek.

Kissing, as Miss Comfort might herself have remarked, had she leisure for a remark, was not much in her way, but she could not resist the sweet, wistful entreaty.

"There," she said with a strange moistere in her eyes, "run aleng. Joab's waitin".

"Ohl" cried little Esther, as she sat on

waitin'."
"Oh!" cried little Eather, as she sat on the buffalo-draped seat, "I wish I wasrich and grown up!"
"Why, what'nd you do?" demanded honest Joab,
"I'd buy a diamond necklace and a pink dress for that good lady."

Jeab chuckled. "I don't know as they'd become her," he said, with grim jocularity, "So gee up, old Doll!"

"I know I'm pretty old to be lookin!

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(runs daily).

9.55 p.m.—For Niagara Falls, Buffale, New York, Boston and local stations between Hamilton and London, and Brantford, St. Thomas, etc.

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Trains depart from and arrive at City hall tation, stopping at Union and Brook street 8.00 a.m.—Mail—For Gravenhurst, Orillia,
Meaford, Penetang, Barrie and intermediate stations.
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