

# Uncle Terry

CHARLES CLARK MUNN

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is the girl with the wonderful eyes you met here?"

"Just now I imagine she's helping her mother in the house," answered Albert quietly; and then he added, "Well, what is the programme, and where are you going with the Gypsy?"

"I want to be landed at the nearest port where I can reach a railroad, and then you can do as you please with her. My skipper will do your bidding."

"What about the rest of the boys?"

"Well, you can run to Bar Harbor and dance with the girls until the rest want to come back, or you can do as you please. The Gypsy is yours as long as you want her after I'm ashore. I think I'll run up to Bath and take the night train for the mountains if there is one. If not, we will lie at Bath overnight."

"I must go ashore and leave word I am coming back," said Albert. "The fact is I've found a client in this Mr. Terry, and it's an important matter."

"So is the blue eyed girl, I imagine," observed Frank, with a droll smile.

When the irrepressible owner of the Gypsy had deserted her Albert returned to the Cape and remained there for a week. How many little trips he induced his new found friends to take on her during that time, how much gossip it created in the village and how many happy hours he and Telly passed together. The last day but one of his stay he invited everybody at the Cape, old or young, to go out on a short cruise, and nearly all accepted.

When the morning of his departure came, Uncle Terry said, "I hope we'll see you soon, Mr. Page, and you're sure of a welcome here, so don't forget us," and then he pulled away on his daily round to his traps.

Telly accompanied Albert to the cove where his boat was and bade him good-bye. When the yacht rounded the point she was there waving an adieu and remained there until lost from sight.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

THE one point of pride in Nicholas Fry's nature was his absolute belief in his own shrewdness. "They can't get the best of me," he would say to himself when he had won an unusually knotty case. He knew he was both hated and feared by his fellow members of the bar. Being hated he didn't mind, and being feared flattered his vanity to an intense degree. When Uncle Terry put himself in his power and, like a good natured old sheep, stood to be sheared, Fry only laughed at his client's stupidity and set out to continue the robbery as long as possible. Messrs. Thygeson & Co. of Stockholm, who had first employed him to hunt up an heir to the estate of old Eric Peterson, whose son Neils and his young wife had been lost on the coast of Maine, fared no better. To them he only stated that he had found several promising clues and was following them as rapidly as possible, but it all cost money, and would they kindly send a draft on account for necessary expenses, etc. When Albert had taken away his best client the old scoundrel suffered the worst blow to his vanity he ever received. "Curse the fellow!" he would say to himself. "I'll pay him and have revenge if I live long enough. No man ever got the best of me, and in the long run no man ever shall!"

But there is a Nemesis that follows evil deeds in this world, ready to strike with an invisible hand all who are lost to the sense of right and justice. In Fry's case the avenging goddess lurked in his inordinate belief in his own shrewdness, coupled with a fatuous love of speculation. A few lucky ventures at first in the stock market had fanned the flame.

Then along came a war cloud in Europe. Stocks began to drop and provisions to advance. September wheat was then selling in Chicago at 90 cents. Fry bought 50,000 bushels on a mar-

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France and Germany growed wheat rose to 94. Fry sold, clearing \$2,000. Then it dropped a cent, and Fry bought a hundred thousand bushels more. Once again the war cloud grew black, and wheat rose to 95. The papers were full of wild rumors, and the Wall Street Bugle said wheat would look cheap at a dollar and a half inside of a month. Then it advanced to \$1, and Fry lost his head.

His holdings showed a profit of \$7,000, and sudden riches stared him in the face. Once more the two bellicose foreign powers growled and showed their teeth. Wheat rose another cent, and Fry doubled his holdings. Then the powers that had growled smiled faintly, and in one day wheat fell to 93 and was still falling. At every drop of a cent he was called upon for \$2,000. Day by day it vibrated, now going up a cent and then dropping two, and when Uncle Terry and Albert were discussing how to checkmate his further robbing of the lighthouse keeper he was, with muttered curses, watching his ill-gotten gains vanish to the tune of many thousand dollars per diem. He neglected his business, went without his meals and forgot to shave. He had mortgaged his real estate for \$20,000, and that was nearly gone. Wheat was now down to 80, and France and Germany were shaking hands.

Fry could not sleep nights. His margins were almost exhausted and his resources as well. He had put up \$40,000, and if wheat fell 3 cents more it would be all swept away. Then he executed a second mortgage at high interest and waited. It was the last shot in his locker, and all that stood between him and ruin, but wheat advanced 2 cents, and he began to hope. He had absolutely ignored business for two weeks, and now he went to work again. To collect the little due him and raise all the money he could was his sole thought. He wrote to Thygeson & Co. that he had at last found the heir they were in search of and described what proofs he held, at the same time stating that on receipt of his fee of a thousand dollars all and sufficient proofs of identity of the claimant would be forwarded. Then he wrote to Uncle Terry and demanded \$200 more. September wheat had now fallen to 78.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

BLANCH NASON, Frank's younger sister, was his good friend and sympathizer and in all the family discussions had usually taken his part. His elder sister, Edith, was like her mother, rather arrogant and supercilious, and considered her brother as lacking in family pride and liable to disgrace them by some unfortunate alliance. It was to Blanch he always turned when he needed sympathy and help, and to her he appeared the day after he had left the Gypsy. His coming to the mountains surprised her not a little.

"Why, what has brought you here, Frank?" she asked. "I thought you were having high jinks down in Maine on the yacht with your comers."

"Oh, that is played out," he answered. "The boys are at Bar Harbor, having a good time. Bert is at a little unheard of place saying sweet things to a pretty girl he found there, and I got lonesome, so I came up here to see you and get you to help me."

"I thought so," answered Blanch, laughing. "You never did come to me unless you wanted help. Well, who is the girl now, and what do you want?"

Frank looked surprised.

"How do you know it is a girl?" he asked.

"It usually is with you," she answered, saying him curiously. "So out with

## PRESBYTERY.

The Presbytery of Miramichi met in St. Andrews Church in Campbellton, on Tuesday, owing to bad state of roads some of the members were absent. The ministers present were Rev. Mr. Leck, moderator; Rev. Mr. McLeod, clerk; and Revs. Messrs. Sutherland McCurdy, McPherson, Hardy, Carr, Arnot, McLean, Archibald and Ross.

Mr. Henderson, representative Elder of Bathurst was also present.

A large docket of business was transacted. Some of the items are as follows:—Reports were received on Sabbath schools, the state of religion, statistics and young people's societies. Application was made to the Home Mission Committee for a grant of \$300 for Flatlands and Matapedia, etc., also to the augmentation Committee for grant of \$250 for Escuminac. The action of St. Andrews church session retaking steps to secure a catechist to assist the pastor at Tide Head and Kempt Road during the summer was endorsed. Dr. Falconer of Pictou was nominated moderator of the General Assembly. Among the commissioners appointed that body, there are from Northern New Brunswick, namely Rev. Messrs. McLeod and Leck and Mr. John Blair.

Arrangements were made to hold a summer school for Sabbath school teachers at Newcastle in June. A number of Sabbath school experts are to assist in their work. Rev. Mr. McCurdy of New Richmond, the very efficient convenor of the Sabbath school Committee has expended a great deal of time and effort in the matter and it promises to be a very great success.

What's her name?" "Alice Page," he replied. "What the girl you wanted us to invite to go on the yacht?" asked Blanch.

"That's the one, and, as you know, she wouldn't come."

"Which shows her good sense," interrupted Blanch. "Well, what can I do in the matter?"

"Much if you want to, and nothing if you don't," he answered. "The fact



is, sis, I want you to pack a trunk and go with me to call on her. She is mighty proud, and I imagine that is why she turned the cold shoulder on my efforts to get her to come to Boston to meet you all. Now, if you go there, if only for one night, the ice will be broken, and of course you will invite her to visit you and all will go well."

"A nice little scheme," responded Blanch, "but what will mamma and Edie say?"

"Oh, never mind them," answered the plotter. "They need never know it. Just tell them you are going to San Francisco with me for a few days. We will go there if you like, only we will stop off at Sandgate on the way. Now, do this for me, sis, and I'll buy you the earth when Christmas comes."

"Well, you will have to stay here until Monday," said Blanch, "and be real nice to mamma and Edie all the time, or I can't fix it. Lucky for you, Master Frank, that they are out driving now!"

"But why must we wait four days?" asked Frank petulantly.

"Because, my love born brother, in the first place I don't want to miss the Saturday night hop, and then we are booked for a buckboard ride tomorrow. Another reason is I mean to pay you for turning your back on us and going off on the Gypsy."

That afternoon Frank wrote Alice the longest letter she had ever received, nine full pages. It was received with some pleasure and a little vexation by Alice.

"Mr. Nason and his sister are coming here Monday," said she to Aunt Susan, "and we must put on our best bib and tucker, I suppose. But how can we contrive to entertain his sister in beyond me." Nevertheless, she was rather pleased at the prospective visitation. Her school had been closed for over a month and her daily life

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