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Next Door to Appraiser's Office.

57 Wharf Street.

"Well, no, I can't say that I do."

"Well, then, strain a few more points and let me have the fifteen dollars now."

Mr. Stebbins was a good-hearted man though an editor. He smiled to himself and handed out a ten and a five dollar gold piece.

I insisted on wringing his hand until he made a face, and then groped my way out to the sidewalk, where I had much difficulty in containing myself. I wanted to turn hand-springs and climb telegraph poles.

Having changed my fifteen dollars into small notes and silver, so as to make the sum look as large as possible, I made my way back to Mrs. Driscoll's lodging house. Then, going up to my room, I started boiling a saucepan of rolled oats. (It may be mentioned, en passant, that the national debt of Eng-

land is not larger than the sum which contemporary literature of the baser sort owes to rolled oats, and condensed milk.)

Presently the measured footfall of Mrs. Driscoll, of late of more terrible to me than "an army with banners," approached. It stopped at my door, as I expected it would, and in reply to a firm rap-tap, I said, "Come in!"

Mrs. Driscoll appeared, not hostile, but radiant with smiles, to my complete amazement.

"Shure I've got a job for yez, Mither Smith—a soft, gintale job. Kelly's bar-keeper—hum that slapes up stairs—says they wants a noigat man, jist to find bar and slop round a little, and elane the cuspidoors. A choild cud do it. The pay is shmall—four dollars a wake—but, shure, there's no worruk in it, and if ye kape yer oyes open, ye kin knock down a thrille ivery blissed noight, and divil a sowl the woiser. Shure I'm jist as plased as if ye gimme a twinty dollar bill. If ye'll come wid me, I'll take yez up, and make ye acquainted wid the young man—he's in his room now—an' ye can go right to worruk this blissed evening."

When I politely declined this "soft, gintale job," Mrs. Driscoll's countenance fell fourteen degrees and she became speechless with amazement. Then, flushing darkly red, with honest wrath, she broke out in gasps:

"Shure I think it's not for thim that can't pay their way to turn up their nose at honest worruk."

"One moment, Mrs. Driscoll. How much do I owe you?"

"Ye owes me three wakes' rint tomorrow, Mither Smith, an' its aisy figgered at a dollar and six bits a wake."

"Well, here's your money, Mrs. Driscoll," and, as I carelessly pulled out all my wealth she nearly fell to the floor. "And say, Mrs. Driscoll, it's very kind of you to take so much interest in my affairs, and I'm more than obliged, but you needn't trouble to hunt any jobs for me in future; I'll get along very well now, I think."

With many incoherent apologies, she backed from the room, looking by turns from me to the money in her hand, as if to make sure she was not dreaming, and I heard her calling upon the saints and wishing glory to the Most High as she, wonderingly, made her way back to her quarters.

On my way out to do some shopping I again heard the voice of Mrs. Doyle in the landlady's room, and being exceedingly curious to learn what she thought of me now that I had honourably discharged my indebtedness, I paused at the stairhead to do a little justifiable eavesdropping.

"Take my addwice, Katie," said the worthy lady, wrenching the cork out of a bottle of Schlitz beer with much emphasis, "an' kape yer oye on that lad Shure, how d'ye s'pose he cud iver come by all that money honestly, and him sittin' up all noight, an' layin' in his bed all day. Take my tip for it, he's a forger, or a counterfeiter, or something o' that kind. Shure ye can't tell what thim crooks is up to—an' mark my worruks, if ye don't trow him out, he'll be gettin' ye into throuble yet."

But Mrs. Driscoll declined to "trow me out," nor did I ever during my three months' stay in that town "get her into throuble," as predicted so confidently by her friend, Mrs. Doyle.

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Scavenger and

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