

THE FREDERICTON HERALD

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Having a large circulation in the Central Counties of New Brunswick, THE HERALD is an excellent advertising medium for the business men of the province.

THE HERALD

FREDERICTON, MAY 1, 1895.

A SUGGESTION FOR DR. McLEOD.

At the temperance meeting Sunday evening, Rev. Dr. McLeod, in speaking of prohibition, said "he wished he was an army or a fleet of fire, he would go over the Dominion and stir up the people to the nature of the hideous, hateful and damnable liquor traffic. The time was ripe for action. If men were honest in their convictions they would send representatives to parliament who would stand up like men on the prohibition question. Ample opportunity would be given them at the approaching Federal elections to show their honesty in this regard."

THE NICARAGUA DIFFICULTY.

Nicaragua, a little republic in Central America, has attracted the attention of civilized nations during the past year, and interest in its difficulties are accentuated by the events of last week. A British force of bluejackets is now in possession of Corinto, the republic's chief town, and are not likely to abandon the occupation until the saucy Nicaraguans accept the terms dictated by Great Britain. The present trouble arose last year over a disagreement in what is known as the Mosquito reservation. As far back as 1848 Nicaragua had declared its independence, and in that year the native King of the latter acknowledged Great Britain's protectorate to save his country from the greed and rapacity of his neighbor. In 1860 a treaty was effected by which the Mosquito reservation was allowed to retain its independence, but last year Nicaragua made one more attempt to seize the country and was successful. The British Consul, Mr. Hatch, intervened and the Nicaraguans in revenge seized him and threw him into prison, and subsequently with other British subjects expelled him from the country. Such treatment of her subjects aroused the ire of Great Britain and she demanded satisfaction from Nicaragua. Seventy-five thousand dollars in cash is the amount Great Britain asked the Nicaraguans to hand over, but the rulers of the republic declined to meet the request of their powerful ally. They fancied the United States, in line with the Monroe doctrine would come to their assistance and that Great Britain would hesitate before enforcing her demand against the protests of so powerful an ally. However, the Yankees felt it was none of their particular business, and the British government proceeded to lay down its ultimatum to the Nicaraguans. It was this, pay over the indemnity at once or we will occupy Corinto, close the port to commerce, and seize all vessels carrying the Nicaraguan flag. The republic still declined to meet Great Britain's terms, and on Saturday morning last, the English Admiral Stephenson, landed his forces, took possession of Corinto and raised the English flag over its public buildings.

The garrison at Corinto, which consisted of a small force of 150 or 200 men was withdrawn to the interior, leaving the British in peaceful possession of the town. No opposition was made to their landing, but it is stated by those familiar with the Nicaraguan programme, that any attempt on the part of the British forces to penetrate to the interior, or, in short, to leave Corinto, will be resisted by Nicaragua. Great excitement is reported to exist, not only at Corinto and Managua, but throughout the republic. It is now said positively that Nicaragua will not pay the \$75,000 indemnity demanded by Great Britain, and this determination is adhered to, the occupation of Corinto by the British government may be indefinite.

The town of Corinto is so situated as to be almost entirely surrounded by water. It is connected with the mainland by a bridge 600 yards in length. The Corinto soldiers and people removed to the mainland across this bridge. The town has a population of about 2000 souls. Many of the inhabitants are foreigners, principally Americans, Germans, Italians and British, engaged in trade. It is the principal port of entry for Nicaragua. Despatches of yesterday say that a proposition of compromise and immediate evacuation of Corinto by the British is now under consideration, and embraces the following essential points: (1) Nicaragua is to pay \$77,500 at London within two weeks; (2) British forces are to be immediately withdrawn from Corinto, without waiting for the two weeks to elapse; and (3) A mixed commission of arbitration is to pass on the demands of Great Britain in excess of the \$77,500 claim, said commission to be constituted in a manner satisfactory to the United States and Nicaragua. The foregoing terms, it is believed, will be accepted by President Zelaya and his cabinet.

The Reporter in discussing the bye-elections, thinks the Dominion government have had enough of elections for a while, and that in the general election they stand to lose all the Protestant seats in the maritime provinces. Brother Pitt's backbone evidently is still undergoing a stiffening process.

HAGGART'S DITCH.

The above name is given to the Tux canal constructed by the Dominion government from the Rideau canal to the town of Perth, Ontario, and thence to Hon. John Haggart's mill, and the expenditure in connection with it is a serious reflection on the honesty of the government. The canal appears to have been constructed for the special convenience of the Minister of Railways, and is a serious drain on the revenue of the country. It cost \$476,128, for maintaining it last year we paid \$2,455, and the revenue from it was only \$128. When the construction of this canal was commenced Sir Charles Tupper assured parliament that it would cost only \$132,600—exclusive of land damages. That was in 1882. Next year he asked and got \$108,000 more; in 1887, \$55,000 was added; in 1888, \$78,000 more. Then in 1889 Mr. Foster took a hand and assured the house that \$25,000 more would finish the canal. In 1890 Mr. Foster got \$11,000 more; in 1891, \$36,000, so that the work eventually totalled up the amount stated at the beginning of this article. The only craft plying on the canal is one tugboat, and while, as we have stated, the cost of maintaining the work last year was \$2,455; the tolls amounted to only \$128. As an investment, the Tux Canal, or Haggart's ditch, takes rank with the Fredericton and St. Mary's railway bridge.

No decent newspaper would make charges against a public man when he is not in the country to answer them, and we are especially surprised at the Sun's references to the Attorney General, Mr. Blair will no doubt meet his accusers when he returns from New York, but in the meantime we may assure the Sun that we have the very best authority for stating that the order which it insinuates does not exist, was signed by the judge and countersigned by the clerk of the court. Even our contemporary could have discovered that had it taken the trouble to make enquiries in the proper quarter. Our contemporary might also have discovered that the order for the payment was presented to the clerk for his signature by Dr. Pugsley, whose candidature for parliament it so heartily endorses.

The Hamilton Spectator, one of the leading Tory organs in Ontario, in discussing Premier Bowell's declaration in the Senate on the school question, says that "if he means that, should Manitoba refuse to restore the separate schools, the Dominion government will assume the responsibility of forcing Manitoba to re-establish those schools, we can only say that, when the time comes, if it should come, the government will have to do the job without the assistance of the Hamilton Spectator, and we think, without the assistance of the bulk of the Conservative party in Ontario." The Spectator is a strong party organ and its utterances are in a great measure taken as the expression of opinion of the strong Tories of Western Ontario.

The Montreal Witness give currency to the rumor that Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper is anxious that Hon. A. G. Blair shall become Chief Justice of this Province, and it says that he is eminently qualified for the highest legal position. This rumor has had a very disquieting effect on the St. John Sun, but we think we may safely assure our contemporary that it is needlessly alarmed. The Herald does not believe Mr. Blair would accept the position if it was offered to him. Honorable as the office is, it is in small comparison with the rewards the Attorney General receives in the practice of his profession. Besides, in the not very distant future it is probable that Mr. Blair will be creating judges, instead of accepting judgeships.

Mr. Foster submitted the estimates to parliament Monday, and claims to have made a saving compared with last year's estimate of \$2,000,000. It is to be hoped his expectations will be realized, but Mr. Foster is a poor prophet. He said last year he would practice economy and will end the year with \$5,000,000 deficit. It must be remembered that the government are getting ready to go to the country and will promise anything to catch the people.

Mr. Foster's estimates this year provide for the saving of \$320 in the Province post office. We hope he does not intend cutting down the salaries of the clerks, which are low enough already. Why not collect that railway bridge interest of \$12,000 a year and such small economies as \$320 would not be necessary.

Just as was expected, Prohibition Commissioners Hixson, Clarke, McDonald and Giguault declare against prohibition, and Dr. McLeod is in favor of it. It cost the country nearly \$200,000 to obtain the opinion of these gentlemen on the subject.

It is apparent from the Dominion estimates that the government has no intention of calling out the militia for drill this year. What does our gallant and warlike friend Major Copley think of that?

TOUCHED OFF A POWDER HORN. At St. Vincent de Paul the three young children of Martin Demers, a farmer, met with a terrible accident. The father and mother had gone to church, leaving the house in charge of three young boys, aged nine, seven and three years. During their parents' absence, the children got hold of a powder horn and thought they would amuse themselves by lighting a match and burning the powder. The result was a terrible explosion. The eldest boy, who held the horn, had both his thumbs cut off and was blown away a considerable distance, having his skull fractured by the fall. The other two children were seriously wounded, having their faces, hands and body severely burned. Hearing the noise and cries, the neighbors rushed to the scene of the accident and the parents were summoned at once. The three children are temporarily blind, and while strong hopes are entertained for the recovery of the two youngest, there are serious fears concerning the life of the eldest boy.

Brookway. APRIL 29.—Several young men took their departure this morning to drive on the St. Croix waters. May they all safely return when their work is done. Mrs. Wm. Brookway, we regret to hear, Mr. John Dewar and Sons are at present having their lumber driven down the Magaguadavic, the logs are badly scattered over the Brookway meadows and it will take several days to get them all off. Yall and Davis are again putting out their traps for bears. My efforts are crowned with success. Farming and house-cleaning is the order of the day. Mrs. John Young leaves her tomorrow for her home at Bloomfield, Cal. Co. Miss Mabel Vail returns to St. Stephen to-day, after a visit of one month at home. Miss Sarah Vail has been confined to the house the past week with a serious attack of toothache. The school at Upper Brookway is again opened under the direction of Miss Brannen from Nashwaak, York Co.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTES.

It took four page boys to lug the report of the Royal Commission into the Commons chamber.

Mr. Davin has given notice of a resolution, expressing the opinion that the Dominion franchise should be extended to women.

The revision of the Dominion electoral list this year cost nearly \$200,000, of which \$148,000 went to pay the salaries of the revising barristers.

Dr. Coler collected from Hon. Mr. Costigan that for salmon fishing purposes, the tidal boundary in the St. John river has been fixed at Crook's point above Fredericton.

Sir Hibbert Tupper has been absent from his seat more than a week, suffering from a cold which he contracted during the Antigonish campaign. It was a cold time for the Tories all around.

Col. O'Brien, the kicking Tory M. P. for Muskoka, has a very poor opinion of the Dominion cabinet. He says there are men in it today, holding high positions, not qualified for appointment as third-class clerks of the civil service.

Mr. Edgar has introduced a bill to prevent directors and officials of railways receiving government subsidies, bonuses or grants, making contributions to campaign funds, but will probably receive small support from the government side of the house.

Hon. C. F. McLeas, the Liberal hero of Antigonish was introduced in parliament Friday, by Hon. Mr. Laurier and Hon. D. C. Fraser, and was given a warm reception. Sir Hibbert Tupper was not in his place to witness the event which he must have had a very mournful interest.

Mr. Charlton has introduced a bill to repeal the Franchise Act. It provides for the use of Provincial Acts in Dominion elections. The present law in Dominion elections is the Tory election law. Revisions has cost the country \$1,100,000 and was indeed, one of a trio of political infamies, the other two being the cutthroat gerrymander and systematic hoodluming.

It is expected that the government will propose an amendment to the Tariff Act in the discussion of the Tariff and Colonies bill. The present law in Dominion elections is the Tory election law. Revisions has cost the country \$1,100,000 and was indeed, one of a trio of political infamies, the other two being the cutthroat gerrymander and systematic hoodluming.

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AROUND THE WORLD.

The News of the World in Brief—The Cream of our Exchanges.

At New York last week a famous oil-painting by VanDyck, sold for \$50,000.

Sir Oliver Mowatt and his family are going to Europe shortly for an extended trip.

The gross earnings of the Caraqueet railway for the year ending June, 1894, were \$18,083, and the expenditures, \$18,389.

Cashier J. Holland, of the Merchants and Farmers National Bank of Charlotte, N. C., is a defaulter to the amount of \$60,000 or more.

The young man Durant, in custody at St. Francis on the charge of murdering Miss Williams and Miss Lamont, is a native of Toronto.

At 4 p. m. Thursday the thermometer registered 81.5 degrees in New York, the warmest April 25 the city has experienced in twenty years.

Mrs. Hinson, wife of the Rev. W. B. Hinson, pastor of the Olivet Baptist church, Montreal, formerly of Moncton, died at Montreal on Saturday.

Thieves entered The First National Bank at Plainfield, N. J., at noon hour the other day and while two clerks were at their desks, and stole \$22,765 from the vault.

An explosion occurred Friday in a coal pit at Denny, near Stirling, Scotland. There were 177 men in the pit at the time of the explosion, and 177 of them were killed.

The monument erected to the memory of Sir John A. Macdonald, on Dominion Square, Montreal, will be unveiled on the Queen's birthday, with imposing ceremonies and military display.

Geo. W. Smalley, the well known London correspondent of the New York Tribune, whose cables are widely read in Canada, is soon to take up his duties in New York as American correspondent of the London Times.

The fast train record of the United States was again smashed on Saturday, when a trip on the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western, was done in remarkable time. From Hinghamton to Buffalo, 197 miles, the time was 185 minutes.

An enormous reservoir near Epinal, France, burst Friday, inundating many small villages in the district, and drowning numbers of persons. So far thirty-eight corpses have been recovered. The damage done to property was tremendous.

Hon. Timothy W. Anglin, formerly of St. John but for the past few years a resident of Toronto, has been appointed, by Sir Oliver Mowatt to the position of Clerk of the Surrogate Court at Toronto at a salary of \$2,000 per annum.

Willard Fountain, which was presented to the city of Chicago by the children of the world's W. C. T. U., was unveiled and dedicated on Saturday. The fountain cost \$20,000 and over 300,000 children, living in Europe and America, contributed to the fund.

While Mr. Noel Auger of the parish of St. Jean de Matha, Quebec, was engaged with the parish priest Friday, in concluding the necessary arrangements for the funeral of his wife, he suddenly fell backwards and died within a few seconds from paralysis of the heart.

The Halifax mayoralty election, Wednesday, was very hotly contested and resulted in the return of David Macpherson by a majority of 150 over J. C. Macintosh. Both gentlemen had already served as mayor. Macpherson is manager of the dry dock and a Liberal. Macintosh is a private banker and a Conservative.

A sad accident occurred at Chanco Harbor, near New Glasgow, N. S., one day last week. Lizzie Powell, aged twenty, a daughter of Mrs. H. Powell, was shot by her brother Harry, aged thirteen. Harry was going out with his gun heavily loaded to hunt, and while passing through a door it exploded, through careless handling the charge hitting his sister, killing her instantly.

The Orange Grand Lodge of British Columbia is arranging for a monster demonstration at Victoria on July 12th, when besides the members of the order in that province, Orangemen from Washington, Oregon and California are expected to participate. Dalton McCarthy, M. P., has been invited and will address them on the Manitoba schools.

The English Football season is closed and the Westminster Gazette publishes its annual football "Butcher Bill." The bill shows that during the season there were twenty deaths on the football field and that over one hundred and fifty legs, arms and collar-bones were broken, besides many cases of concussion of the brain or spine, paralysis, knee-caps split, perforations and hundreds of minor casualties.

The Sun says that a number of Orangemen met in St. John Saturday to discuss the Manitoba school question, among those present being Grand Master Kelly, P. G. M. Armstrong and H. H. Pitts. A resolution was passed calling attention to the resolutions passed by the grand lodge, intimating that the Orangemen throughout Canada would not support any man who voted for remedial legislation.

A terrible tragedy occurred in the goal at Sydney, Ohio, Friday afternoon. Some nights ago Mrs. John Verhite was caught in the raising of a disreputable by the Fredericton and St. Mary's railway bridge. She was held in the goal for a year, by the Dominion government on interest account, arrears due June 30th, 1894, and the amount since paid, if any. The same gentleman has introduced a bill to reduce the salaries of the lieutenant governors, those of Ontario and Quebec to \$6,000; New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, etc., to \$5,000, and P. E. Island to \$4,000.

Mr. Martin, M. P. for Winnipeg, or as he is familiarly called "Fighting Joe Martin," is one of the interesting characters of the House of Commons. He is what was a school teacher in Ottawa, he studied law, went to Winnipeg, and practised there. Entering politics as an independent, he measured swords with the great Norquay and worsted him, rising step by step to the Attorney-Generalship of the province. But he had made many enemies in the process, and one fine day he gave up his portfolio, withdrew from local politics and redeemed Winnipeg. His career since he came to Ottawa last session as a member of parliament, is well known. He is an extreme Liberal, and is perfectly cool and collected in debate.

Young's Cove. APRIL 27.—C. B. Parker and Alfred West have their drives on. The ice still remains in the Grand Lake. The Central railway train has a new passenger car and is making daily trips as usual. We hope to have a daily mail on this railway at an early date. Our school has been closed during the winter, but will be open on Monday. Miss Somerville, of Johnston, takes charge of the school.

WE WISH

To respectfully remind you that we pay particular attention to Dispensing Physician's Prescriptions, and claim especial merit for neatness, cleanliness, and exceptional purity of materials used.

C. FRED. CHESTNUT, APOTHECARY, 2 BROAD AVENUE, FREDERICTON.

Mar. 16th, 1895.

Decidedly Cheap!

Those Misses' Cotton Lined Rubber Boots at \$1.00, And Misses' Wool Lined Rubber Boots at \$1.25.

We have a few pairs left, at LOTTIMER'S SHOE STORE.

We have also a Large Variety of Ladies' and Gents' Fine Rubbers, Besides Rubbers and Rubber Boots of all kinds in stock.

A. LOTTIMER, Queen St. Fredericton.

A Beautiful Gown.

It is a frequent experience with ladies that when the dress is bought with care, and made with taste, some indefinable thing is lacking to give it the perfect touch of beauty. It is the supplying of this that has made

PIRIESTLEY'S DRESS FABRICS

universally esteemed. Priestley's Black Dress Goods, made in Herculites, Crpe Cloth, etc., are such a cunning and effective blend of silk and wool that when the dress is made it drapes in perfect gracefulness, giving to the figure that charm without which the costliest dress that Worth ever made is a mere dress.

See that the goods you buy are stamped every five yards with Priestley's name. No other are of their manufacture.

OUR 1895 FURNITURE

APRIL 13, 1895.

SPRING GOODS.

It is ahead of time in style, in quality and in price, and covers the bargain field in Furniture that can be reached in no other way. We want you to post yourself on Furniture Prices. Post yourself thoroughly, then you will appreciate how cheap we are.

50 Bedroom Sets, 62 Bedsteads, etc., etc., In one Car Load of

FURNITURE,

From Ontario, now receiving. Prices Fine at

LEMONT & SONS.

Our Baby Carriages and Second hand Bicycles at Great Bargains.

DROP US A LINE.

LEMONT & SONS.

Tinware.

Just Received

12 Doz. Creamers, 12 Doz. Strainer Pails, 75 Doz. Flaring Pails, 12 Gross Milk Pans, 4 Cases Tin Pails, from 1 to 12 quart, 5 Cases Oil Cans, from 1 to 5 gallons.

With a full and well-assorted stock of wholesale Tinware.

JAMES S. NEILL.

Our Stock does not consist of Cups and Saucers alone, the list is we keep almost everything in this line.

CROCKERY

GLASSWARE

Lines. And if we haven't got what you want, we shall be happy to get it for you if possible.

WILLARD KITCHEN & CO.

1,700 DOLLARS at 6 per cent. W. M. WILSON, Fredericton, N. B.

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Rigby Cloth - FOR - SPRING WEAR, - AT - JOHN J. WEDDALL'S.

THE BEST

Place in the City to buy Clothing for Men or Boys if you want

GOOD GOODS, At Low Prices is at . . .

OAK HALL.

See our BLUE SERGE SUITS, All Wool, Only \$5.00

OAK HALL.

The Latest

NOVELTIES

DRESS GOODS,

DEVER BROS.

DO YOU SLEEP WELL?

A NICE LOT OF . . .

Mattresses, Lounges, Easy Chairs

And all Kinds of Furniture Selling Low.

JOHN G. ADAMS,

Undertaker and Furniture Dealer, next above Queen Hotel.

POETRY.

APRIL AND MAY.

The days are growing longer,
The sun is growing stronger,
And summer with her beauty draws near;

The round brown buds are swelling,
The early robins telling
Morn and evening of their joy in roundelay;

The sun will flower gay and fragrant,
Soon the butterflies be rustling,
Star the hills and valleys with their faces fair;

Soon the songbirds will be nesting,
Soon the butterflies be rustling,
And the world be full of song and beauty rare.

Where is the month so dear as May,
So sweet and fair as she,
So blithe and happy, mild and gay,

And full of melody!
Not one in all the twelve I ween
Hath greater power than she;

To dull the blade of sorrow keen,
And fill the heart with glee.

Ay, May, rare, winsome, gentle May,
Sets all the world in tune;
More glad the brooklet's rippling lay,

More sweet the wind's low lane
When her soft fingers touch the strings,
And sweeter far each song
Her every bonnie minstrel sings
Th' leafy bowers among.

SELECT STORY.

AN UNBROKEN PROMISE.

A CASTAWAY.

PART II.

CHAPTER IV.

THE BUSINESS OF THE BOARD.

"I think not," said the doctor placidly,
or a lovely ear, which I noticed last
night, more lovely by far than the diamond
which I had worn when I listened
more graciously to the honey sweet which
one of the company present was endeavoring
to instill into it.

"Indeed," said Philip, "one of the company
present; and who might that be?"
The doctor himself," said Delabole,
"of course."

"Not I—not I, indeed," said Doctor Asprey.
"A man much younger, much handsomer,
and more likely in every way
to win favor in the eyes of a peerless
lady—Mr. Gerald Harding."

"Ah, by the way," said Delabole, rising
and drawing a heavy curtain across the door,
"let us hear all you know about that
young gentleman."

"All I know is not very much," said
Asprey. "I first met him two years ago
at the house of Mrs. Entwistle, an eccentric
old woman, whom I was called in to
attend for a spinal complaint under which
she had long been suffering, and which
she crippled her that she has lost all power
of motion, and even in the house is
wheeled about in a chair. I saw this
young fellow in constant attendance
upon the old lady, discussing her case
with me, giving orders to the servants,
etc., and I naturally imagined that he
was Mrs. Entwistle's grandson. It was
not until lately that I discovered that he
is in no way related to her, and that before
she had ever seen him, the old lady took
a fancy to some pictures he had painted,
and sent to London for sale; that when
he called upon her she took a great affection
to him, declaring that he resembled
some dead member of her family, and he
has remained with her ever since as her
adopted son. He has been remarkably
steady, I understand, and will reap the
benefit of his prudence by inheriting all
Mrs. Entwistle's money."

"Is that certain?" asked Delabole.
"Certain," said Doctor Asprey. "I
had it from Platting, who is her attorney."

"And how long is Mrs. Entwistle likely
to live?" asked Philip.
"Not more than two months," said the
doctor, "but in all probability, nothing
like so much; he has been on a thread;
she may expire at any moment."

"Then the sooner we make young
Harding's acquaintance, the better," said
Delabole.
"Will you meet him at dinner at my
house on—say Tuesday next," said the
doctor, looking at his note-book; and you
too, Vane?"

"Both of them said they should be
delighted.
And so Madge Pierpont's husband,
and the man who had loved her so dearly,
were to be brought face to face!

CHAPTER V.

"SCENE: A STREET IN LYONS."

SUCH of the good people of Springside
as took an interest in the affairs of their
neighbors (and they were by no means
a small proportion of the population) were
both astonished and disappointed at no
match being made up between the Rev.
Onesiphore Drage and the pretty widow,
to whom the care of his child had been
confided during his absence. The story
of Mrs. Drage's last request, which was
bruited about immediately after that good
lady's death, had been received with a
certain amount of discredit, and a large
amount of scorn. Mr. Drage's temporary
absence from Springside, and Mrs. Pickering's
quasi-adoption of little Bertha, were
regarded by the worthy townspeople
as devised by the acuteness of the widow,
who, bold as she might be, had not sufficient
audacity to permit her courtship by
the parson to be carried on "under the
nose," as they expressed it, of those who
had known his deceased wife. And when
the news was spread that Mr. Drage was
coming back, the usual amount of tea-
table hospitality received a great impetus,
and all the scandal-mongers of the
place were expectant of their prey. The
question whether Mrs. Pickering would
remain at the rectory was for some time
debated with the keenest anxiety, until
at last it was proved, to the satisfaction
of all parties, that, whether she stopped
or whether she went, would be equally
wrong. By stopping, she would outrage
all laws of society, and it would be a
question whether a statement of the facts
ought not to be submitted to the bishop;
by going she would act most artfully, and
take the surest step to induce the rector
to invite her to come back as his head
mistress.

Even the fact that Mrs. Pickering,
immediately after the rector's return, took
up a new line of life, and entered upon
her duties as housekeeper to Sir Geoffry
Heriot, the new tenant of Wheatcroft, did
not suffice to disabuse the Springsidians
of their belief in her ultimate intentions
towards their rector. Mrs. Pickering had
found the parson more difficult to ensnare
than she had at first believed, said the
worthy townfolk to each other, and
thought they were by no means aware of
it, accredited her as a disciple of Mrs.
Peachum's doctrine, "by keeping men off
your keep them on." Over the evening
muffins and tea cakes, were breathed
rumors that the housekeeper had been

constituted herself a great favorite with
her new master, whom she was reported
to be "playing off" against her former
employer. That there were reasons for
these rumors was generally believed;
even the most incredulous could not help
admitting that, during the whole time he
had held the parish, the rector's visits
had never been so frequent as to Wheat-
croft. So ran the gossip's talk, which,
like nearly all gossip's talk, however ex-
aggerated, had some truth in it.

After the first shock of her revelation
to him that she was not a widow, but a
woman who had been deserted by a hus-
band yet alive, Mr. Drage had determined
upon the line of conduct which he would
follow for the future in regard to Mrs.
Pickering, and had carried it out to the
letter.

"There is an end, then," he said to
her, after a few minutes had passed away,
and the first shock of astonishment and
grief had subsided, "there is an end,
then, to my dreams of the last twelve
months! It passes away as other dreams
have passed before it; name, and fame,
and—health; I have dreamed of it all,
and found none! It is wisely ordained,
doubtless," he continued, "but—it is a
great blow. I had built on it; why, I
know not, for, try my hardest, I could
never find any expression in your letters
which would lead me to believe you un-
derstood my feelings toward you; yet I
had built on it, I can scarcely believe
even now that the whole fabric lies shat-
tered at a word. We shall be friends
though, now?"

"Surely we shall still be friends!" she
replied; "you cannot for an instant think
that what you have said to me just now
could cause any alteration in the regard
and gratitude which I have always felt
towards you."

"No," he said, somewhat nervously, "I
suppose not."

"Rather," she continued, "should you
think what perfect trust I must have in
you to confide in you to the extent of my
life. There is no one else in the whole
world who knows of my marriage; the
fact has been concealed even from my
sister; it is known but to me—and to him!"

There was a lengthened pause, during
which, though Mr. Drage sat with his
face shaded by his hand, it was evident
he was under the influence of deep emotion.
When he looked up again there were
traces of tears upon his cheeks, and his
voice was unsteady as he said, "will
you kindly make any difference in
your decision upon Captain Cleothorpe's
proposal?"

"No," she said, "it will not."

"And your decision is—?" he asked.

"To accept it without doubt," she re-
plied. "Even had I a choice of the ways
of life, I do not think I should hesitate in
accepting what has been offered to me in
such a kindly spirit, and which, quite
peaceful and retired as it must be, will
suit me so well. That illness from which
I underwent, I was rescued by your
kindness, robbed me of a certain amount
of youthful strength, and left me unfitted
for any very active employment; besides,
I have formed friendships here, which I
should regret giving up, and I should
scarcely have the heart to commence
anew in a strange place."

"You are right," said the rector, still
sitting with averted face. "I was selfish,
indeed, to imagine for an instant that
you could come to any other decision.
And it would not much matter to me,"
he added, struggling with his breaking
voice, "my stay must be so very short."

The peculiarity of his manner struck
Madge instantly.

"What do you mean, Mr. Drage?" she
asked, laying her hand lightly on his
sleeve.

"Simply," he said, removing his hand
from his face, in which burned the hectic
flush, which always flattered there when
under mental excitement, "I mean I
could not trust myself to be near you, to
be frequently brought within the charm
of your presence, under the spell of your
voice, without staying near you as I have
done during—during all this time. I have
been abroad. There was no sin in it, then,
Heaven knows! What I had dared
to hope in regard to you had been hoped
for by my dead wife, and was thought of
almost as much in the interest of my little
child as my own! Had you been free,
and had rejected me, I should still have
hoped, and hoping, died; but what you
have told me today, renders such a
thought of you a sin, and—I am too
weak to fight against it!"

"I am sure," he leaned back in his
chair, apparently quite overcome.

"You misjudge your own strength, Mr.
Drage," said Madge, bending towards
him; "you don't know yourself as well
as I, know you; you are physically weak
and fatigued, and your mind is over-
worked, which has induced me to be
sufficiently trying to both of us, but after a few days'
rest, you will be yourself again, and you
will find your inclination keeping you
where your duty lies, sentinel at this out-
post which has been committed to your
keeping."

"I am sure!" he asked, anxiously.
"I am sure of it," she replied. "Do
not let me think that, with the full know-
ledge that you could be nothing more
to me than a friend, you would refuse me
that friendship, that counsel and support
of which I stand so much in need. It
would be hard indeed that the fact of my
having confided to you the secret of my
forlorn position, should have lost me that
regard which I valued most!"

"My own folly would have been the
cause, not what you told me," he inter-
rupted.

"What I told you would have brought
about the result which I am showing
you," she replied. "And, again, where
would the peaceful, happy future, which
I have pictured to myself, be for me,
with the thoughts that my remaining
here had driven you out from amongst
the people who love you, and with whom
so many happy years of your life had
been spent? Where would be my peace
of mind when I reflected that all this
wretchedness would have been spared to
you and yours, had I not come among
you in a false name—and under a false
pretence?"

He motioned with his hand for her
to cease, then said in a low tone, "You
must not speak thus of yourself!"

"I am sure," she said, "for it is true! I
would you silence me, except the position
I offer you, and entreat you to take—be
my dear, dear friend, helping me, as you
have done, to fight the battle here, and
to look for the reward—hereafter?"

And amid the tears which fell like rain
down his face, she heard him say
solemnly, "I will!"

Not another word was uttered, but the
compact which was entered was never-
theless religiously kept.

Next morning Captain Cleothorpe called
upon Mrs. Pickering, and heard with
great delight that she had determined on
accepting the position which he had of-
fered her, and seldom had he cared to
express his pleasure more openly.

"I don't mind telling you now, Mrs.
Pickering," said he, "but this has been
quite a pet project of mine. I was a bit
doubtful about the padre at one time,
and fond of him, as I am, I should have
been glad if he could have postponed his
arrival for a few days. I knew the great
interest he took in you, and I thought he

might feel that the house of an old retired
Indian officer, no matter how old or how
retired, might scarcely be a fit place for
you. However, I shall take an early op-
portunity of bringing Mr. Drage and Sir
Geoffry Heriot together, and I am sure
they will get on remarkably well. What I
want you to understand, and what I am
sure you will feel as soon as you are
made a few days at Wheatcroft, is that
your position of housekeeper will be sim-
ply a nominal one. By this I mean to
say that it must have some name, and
as you cannot be called military secretary,
or commissary-general, or aide-de-camp,
one is obliged to fall back upon the or-
dinary British formula. If I had had my
way, I would have had you called chief
of the staff, and if the old General appreci-
ates you as much as I expect, you will
find your position both a confidential and
a pleasant one."

Captain Cleothorpe's predictions came
true to the letter. When, a few days af-
terwards, Sir Geoffry arrived at Wheat-
croft, and Mrs. Pickering was personally
introduced to him, with admirable tact,
by the Captain, she found in her new em-
ployer a man accustomed to command, so
accustomed, indeed, as to be not unwilling
to slip out of his buckram suit, and to
have the burden of responsibility thrown
to other shoulders. Time had whitened
Sir Geoffry's iron-grey hair, leaving it
massed and curling as before, and blanch-
ed his small moustache, but the bronzed
cheeks shone even more deeply red, in
contrast with the white hair, and, un-
der the bushy eyebrows, the glances of
the dark eyes were prompt and expressive
as ever.

Little time did it take Sir Geoffry to
appreciate the character and qualities of
the new addition to his domestic circle,
and the same time never forgotten the
young and handsome woman of good
education, refined and lady-like in her
manner; such a woman, in fact, as he might
have met with on the rare occasions
when he accepted some of his brother
officers' hospitality in India, but such a
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