# AMERICAN SENTINEL.

$1 PER ANNUM. WESTMINSTER, MD., SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1897. VOL. 66--NO. 33.


## Proclamation.

WHEREAS AT THE JANUARY SESSION IN THE YEAR EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-SIX OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND A BILL WAS PASSED PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE BY ADDING AN ADDITIONAL SECTION TO ARTICLE FIFTEEN THEREOF, TO BE KNOWN AS SECTION ELEVEN OF SAID ARTICLE, WHICH SAID BILL AND AMENDMENT ARE IN THE WORDS FOLLOWING, TO-WIT:

CHAPTER 459.

AN ACT to amend the Constitution of the State by adding an additional Section to Article fifteen, thereof, to be known as section Eleven of said Article.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, (three fifths of all the members of the House concurring), That the following additional section be, and the same hereby is, proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of this State; and, if adopted by the legal voters thereof as herein provided, it shall stand and be known as Section eleven, of Article fifteen of said Constitution:

11. Appointments in the Civil service of the State, in the municipalities and counties of the State, shall be made according to merit and fitness, to be ascertained as far as practicable by examination, which shall be competitive, except appointments which are subject to confirmation by the Senate, and the General Assembly shall pass all such laws as may be necessary more fully to carry into effect the provisions of this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED BY THE AUTHORITY AFORESAID, That the foregoing section, hereby proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of this State shall be, at the next general election held in this State, submitted to the legal and qualified voters thereof for their adoption or rejection, in pursuance of the directions contained in Article fourteen of the Constitution of this State and at the said general election the vote on said proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot used at said election shall be printed, after the lists of candidates, the question concerning the adoption or rejection of said proposed constitutional amendment, so that each voter at such election can designate thereon in the manner prescribed by law, whether his vote is "For the Constitutional Amendment," or "Against the Constitutional Amendment" as he shall elect, and immediately after said election due return shall be made to the Governor of the State of the vote for and against said proposed amendment, as directed by said fourteenth article of the Constitution.

Approved, April 4th, 1896.

Now Therefore, I, LLOYD LOWNDES, Governor of the State of Maryland, in pursuance of the provisions of Section one of Article fourteen of the Constitution of the State, do hereby order and direct that a copy of said bill proposing said constitutional amendment be published in at least two newspapers in each county, where so many may be published, and where not more than one may be published, then in that newspaper, and in three newspapers in the City of Baltimore, one of which shall be in the German language, once a week for at least three months preceding the next ensuing general election (which said general election will be held on Tuesday, the Second day of November, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven), at which election the said proposed amendment shall be submitted, in the form and manner prescribed by the General Assembly, to the qualified voters of the State for adoption or rejection.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of Maryland. Done at the City of Annapolis on the first day of July, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and ninety-seven.

THE GREAT SEAL OF MARYLAND.

LLOYD LOWNDES, Governor of Maryland.

By order of the Governor:
RICHARD DALLAM,
Secretary of State. jy-31-14t

## EXECUTORS' SALE
OF DESIRABLE
## Town Property,
In Hampstead, Md.

By virtue of the power contained in the last will and testament of Daniel Richards, late of Carroll county, in the State of Maryland, deceased, also an order of the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, the undersigned, as executors, will sell at Public Sale, on the premises in the town of Hampstead, in the county and State aforesaid, on

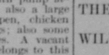
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th, 1897,

at 2 o'clock, P. M., all the real estate of which the said Daniel Richards died seized and possessed.

First.—All that lot or parcel of ground, containing

TWO ACRES, MORE OR LESS,

being the same land and premises that were conveyed, by deed of conveyance from Robert F. Wells and wife, to Dan el Richards, situate and fronting on Main street, at the south end of the town of Hampstead, Carroll county, State of Maryland, and known as the "Dr. T. W. Wells Homestead."

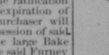


The improvements thereon consist of a commodious two-story Brick Dwelling House and back building and physician's office attached, recently repaired and in good condition; good stable and shedding and other necessary outbuildings; a well of excellent water at the kitchen door; also a variety of choice apple and other fruit trees, and shade trees.

Second.—All that lot or parcel of ground containing

ONE-HALF ACRE, More or Less,

being the same land and premises that were conveyed by deed of conveyance from The Board of County School Commissioners of Carroll county to Daniel Richards, situate on the west side and about fifty yards in the rear of Main street, near the centre of said town of Hampstead. The improvements consist of a comfortable Weather-boarded Frame Dwelling House,



and other buildings, a well of good water near the door.

Persons desirous of viewing the property or further information will please call upon Mr. Thomas Tipton, residing in Hampstead.

Terms of Sale as prescribed by the Court.—One-third cash on the day of sale, or on the ratification thereof, one-third in six months and the other one-third in twelve months from the day of sale, the credit payments to be secured by the notes of the purchaser or purchasers thereof, with approved security, bearing interest from the day of sale.

On the same day at 12 o'clock, M., sharp, at the residence of George C. Richards, residing about 2 miles east of said town of Hampstead, the Personal Property, Goods and Chattels of said deceased will be sold at Public Sale. For a description thereof and terms of sale see handbills.

GEORGE P. BROWN,
JEREMIAH EBAUGH,
Executors of the last will and testament of Daniel Richards deceased. au-7-5t

## Maryland Agricultural College,
College Park, Md.

MARYLAND SCHOOL of TECHNOLOGY.

Your course of instruction.—Agricultural, Mechanical, Scientific, Classical.

Each department supplied with the most modern and approved apparatus. Practical work emphasized in all departments. Graduates qualified at once to enter upon their life's work. Boarding department supplied with all modern improvements: bath rooms, closets, steam heat and gas. Books, room, heat, light, washing, board, medical attendance, $154 for scholastic year. $5 caution money on entrance. $6 for material for each practical laboratory. A 120 page catalogue, giving full particulars, sent on application. Daily sanitary inspection by physician to the college. Attention is called to the short course of ten weeks in agriculture. Particulars sent on application. Term commences September 15th. Early application necessary for admittance.

R. W. SILVESTER,
jy-24-8t President M. A. C.

NO. 3559 EQUITY.

In the Circuit Court for Carroll County, sitting as a Court of Equity.

The Westminster Savings Institution (now The Westminster Savings Bank,) a body corporate of the State of Maryland, Mortgagee, vs. John L. Bankert and Mary S. Bankert, his wife, Mortgagors.

Ordered, this 3rd day of August, A. D. 1897, that the sale of the mortgaged property made and reported by Charles T. Reifsnider, attorney or agent named in the mortgage filed in this cause marked exhibit B, be finally ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary be shown on or before the 8th day of September next: Provided a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper published in Carroll county, Maryland, once a week for three successive weeks before the 31st day of August, inst. The report states the amount of sale to be $2,157.75.

BENJ. F. CROUSE, CLERK.

True Copy—Test:
au-7-3t BENJ. F. CROUSE, CLERK.

BEST and Cheapest Refrigerator, at GILBERT & GEHR.

# New York Bargain House,
## Westminster,
## The Same Goods for less money or better Goods for the same Money.

Household Necessities.

| | |
|---|---|
| Another lot large Tumblers, per doz., | 25 cents. |
| 14 qt. Bread Raisers, | 50 cents. |
| 17 qt. Bread Raisers, | 59 cents. |
| 21 qt. Bread Raisers, | 69 cents. |
| Covered oval top Galvanized Chamber Pails, | 29 cents. |
| Painted Toilet Sets, handsome, | $1.19. |
| Mrs. Potts' cold handle nickle plated Irons, per set, | 75 cents. |
| Asbestos Stove Mats, | 03 cents. |
| Heavy X Tin Dairy Pails, | 20 cents. |
| Good Laundry Soap, 2 cakes, | 05 cents. |
| Just received Job Lot fine Stationery, 25c value, our price, | 12½ cents. |
| Just in, a new lot Books. | |
| See our 5c and 10c Towels. | |
| Our line of Hosiery in Quality excelled. | |
| A small lot Misses' Slippers, price to close, | 29 cents. |
| Our Men's $1.25 working Shoes can't be beat. | |

We have just purchased 100 dozen Shirts, mostly for the Fall trade, many of them for immediate use. See them. Price and quality right.

CANTON FLANNELS:—A little early perhaps, but if you will buy now we will make you a price that will pay you to investigate.

We are constantly adding to our line. Visit us.

The best Vapor Stove on the market. See them at the New York Bargain House.

Yours to serve,

NEW YORK BARGAIN HOUSE,
31 East Main Street, Westminster,
T. W. Mather & Sons. Opposite Catholic Church.

## The Alaskan Gold Fields

are offering flattering inducements, and many people are taking advantage of them, but are these people prepared for the Winter which will soon be upon them?

Just now the price of COAL is down. When Winter comes on YOU and present stock is sold prices must advance; the mines have advanced 25c per. ton. To save you money we urge that you place your Coal orders while prices are down.

We can offer you some interesting prices on LUMBER, of which we carry a full stock, and can quote you on any kind of Mill Work or Lumber you may want. Come and see our stock, get our prices, and be convinced.

Have you ever seen or used the Ruberoid Felt Roofing? It is Waterproof, Fireproof, and Acid Proof; neither heat or cold will affect it. We are the agents for Ruberoid Roofing and Universal Waterproof Building Paper.

For the best grades, and lowest prices on Coal, Lumber or Slate, call to see

SMITH & REIFSNIDER,
26 WEST MAIN STREET, WESTMINSTER, Md.
W. M. Phone No. 13.

## The Cheapest Furniture, Carpets and House Furnishings Stores in the State are
# Theo. Derr & Son's.

We have had a very large spring trade thus far—much larger than we anticipated—but have a great many more BARGAINS which will attract the attention of the people of Westminster and surrounding country. SPECIAL BARGAINS all over our house for the next THIRTY DAYS in

FURNITURE, CARPETS AND HOUSE FURNISHINGS.

We have about 50 of those small Sewing Rockers left that we will offer while they last at 59c each. Also about 25 large Arm Rockers, all solid oak with high back and cane seat, while they last, at $1.25 each. Also some very remarkable values in

**Bedroom and Parlor Furniture.**

Do not fail to see the beautiful $100.00 Bedroom Suit in our window at $78.00. We also have the largest line of

HOUSEHOLD AND KITCHEN FURNISHINGS

in the county, such as China, Glass, Tin, Wooden and Willowware, at far less price than ever before offered to the public. Do not fail to give us a call. One visit to our stores will convince you that we keep the best for a little less money than anyone else. Remember, our stores are open at night for the benefit of those who cannot come in the daytime. Do not fail to call and see us.

VERY RESPECTFULLY, THEO. DERR & SON,
75 AND 77 EAST MAIN ST., WESTMINSTER, MD.
mh-13-1y TELEPHONE 77 RING 2.

## Trustee's Sale
OF A
## Desirable Farm.

By virtue of the power and authority contained in a deed of trust from George W. Allen, dated May 5th, A. D. 1888, and duly recorded among the Land Records of Carroll county, in Liber F. T. S. No. 53, folio 188, &c., also among the Land Records, of Baltimore county, in Liber W. M. I. No. 118, folio 12, &c., the undersigned, surviving Trustee therein named, will sell at Public Sale, on the premises, on

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th, A. D., 1897, at 2 o'clock, P. M., all that Farm, containing

250 ACRES OF LAND, More or Less.

The improvements thereon are a large Two-Story Frame Dwelling House, with back building, Tenant House, large bank barn, with ample stabling, &c., wagon shed, carriage house, smoke house, corn house, chicken house, and other outbuildings; water convenient to the buildings.



About 75 acres is in good timber, there is a due proportion of meadow land, and the balance is in a good state of cultivation. The meadow land is of superior quality. About 25 acres of the land lies in Baltimore county, and the balance in Carroll county, is in Freedom district, on the Baltimore and Liberty Turnpike road on the west side of the Patapsco, and adjoins the land of Edward Ireland, Mr. Fite and others.

This farm is desirably located, is about 15 miles from Baltimore, 4 miles from Eldersburg, about 5 miles from Sykesville, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and is convenient to schools, market, &c. The situation of this property and the natural high quality of the land commends it to the attention of purchasers.

Terms of Sale.—One-third cash on the day of sale, or on the ratification thereof, one-third in six and the other one-third in twelve months from the day of sale, the credit payments to be secured by the notes of the purchaser or purchasers, with approved security, bearing interest from the day of sale; or all cash, at the option of the purchaser.

SOLOMON I. ALLEN,
Surviving Trustee.
Reifsnider & Reifsnider, Solicitors.
Jos. W. Reese, Auct. au-7-4s

## Mortgagee's Sale
OF VALUABLE
## REAL ESTATE,
In the Town of Union Bridge, Carroll County, Maryland.

The undersigned, mortgagee, by virtue of the power of sale contained in a mortgage executed to him by Moses Shaw and Lydia A. Shaw, his wife, bearing date on the 11th day of May, in the year 1891, and recorded among the Real Estate Mortgage Records of Carroll county, in Liber B. F. C. No. 30, folio 536, &c., will offer at Public Sale, on the premises, situate on the west side of North Main street, in Union Bridge, Md., on

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th, 1897,

at 2 o'clock, P. M., the following lots of ground there situate with the improvements thereon:

Lot No. 1. Fronting on Main street 62 7-10 feet and running back 255 1-10 feet to the west side of an alley 12 feet in width, which alley is to be kept open for public travel, containing

14,740 SQUARE FEET OF LAND,

more or less. The improvements thereon consist of a large Frame Weatherboarded Dwelling House with



concrete back building and porches attached, laid off into convenient rooms, a well of good water, with pump attached, at the basement door, also a large stable, carriage house, hog pen, chicken house, and other outbuildings; also some fine fruit trees and grape vines. A vacant lot of nearly 20 feet front belongs to this property and is included in the 62 7-10 feet front upon which the purchaser could build a dwelling or business house. This property is known as the residence of the late Moses Shaw, deceased.

Possession will be given upon the ratification of sale by the court.

Lot No. 2.—Adjoining lot No. 1, fronting on Main street 51 feet and running back 255 1-10 feet to the west side of an alley 12 feet in width, which alley is to be kept open for public travel, containing

11,900 1-10 SQUARE FEET OF LAND,

more or less. The improvements thereon consist of a large Brick Store



House, 40 by 45 feet, divided into two apartments, with two rooms and one basement to each apartment; the basement on the south side of this building and a small portion of ground in the rear is under lease to Furney & Morningstar and is used as a bakery. This lease will expire on May 1st, 1899. The purchaser will be entitled to draw the rent, which is $3.00 per month, from the time of the ratification of sale by the court until the expiration of the lease, at which time the purchaser will be entitled to free and full possession of said leased premises, including the large Bake Oven thereon, by paying to the said Furney & Morningstar, their heirs or assigns, the sum of one hundred dollars for the Bake Oven as per agreement in said lease.

The privilege and right is reserved to Furney & Morningstar to use four feet in width and no more of the ground in the alley on the south side of this building, extending from Main street westwardly to the rear end of this building and no further, for the purposes only of egress and regress. There is also on this lot a large ice house and some choice fruit trees. This property is known as "The Shaw Building," is located in the centre of the town and is considered by far the best business stand in Union Bridge. Possession will be given of this property on April 1st, 1898, excepting that part which is under lease and described above. The purchaser or purchasers will be entitled to draw the rent for the two store rooms and the hall over the south side of this building, aggregating $22.83⅓ per month, from the ratification of sale, until the 1st April, 1898, making rent, in all, $25.83⅓ per month for the whole building.

Terms of Sale.—Cash on day of sale, or upon the ratification thereof by the court; if desired by the purchaser the mortgagee will take a mortgage on the property for part of the purchase money, the amount to be agreed upon between purchaser and mortgagee.

A certificate of surveys by Mr. John S. Repp and plat of both lots will be exhibited on the day of sale. Purchasers will be at the expense of conveyancing.

GEO. P. BUCKEY,
Mortgagee.
Clabaugh & Roberts, Solicitors for Mortgagee. au-7-4s

## NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE,
Westminster, Md., August 2nd, 1897.

In pursuance of an act of the General Assembly, passed January Session, 1888, I hereby give the following notice to Taxpayers:

This is to give notice that the County Commissioners of Carroll county have made their annual levy on the assessable property of said county for State and County Taxes for the year eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, and that all persons or incorporate institutions that shall pay their County Taxes on or before the first day of September next, shall be entitled to a deduction of two per centum on the amount of said taxes. On State taxes a reduction of five per centum will be allowed if paid on or before the first day of September; and if paid on or before the first day of October next, a deduction of four per centum; and if paid on or before the first day of November next, a deduction of thee per centum; that said taxes will be in arrears on the first day of January next, and bear interest from that date; that all persons or incorporate institutions failing to pay their State and County Taxes before the same shall be in arrears, will render the property and estate of such delinquent liable to be sold for the prompt payment of said taxes.

ALFRED T. BUCKINGHAM,
au-7-4t County Treasurer.

## FOUR HOUR SPECIAL.

$3 ATLANTIC CITY AND RETURN $3
via Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Quickest and Best Route to the Sea.

Through by Special Train in Four Hours, without change of cars, via Delaware River Bridge Route.

SATURDAY, July 31; AUGUST 14 and 28. Leaves Union Station 4.57 P. M. Arrives Atlantic City 8.39 P. M.

Returning, Special leaves Atlantic City, Sundays, August 1, 15 and 29, 7.00 P. M. Arrive Baltimore 11.00 P. M.

## Wm. F. Derr. | Wm. F. Derr.

GREAT MODEL EMPORIUM,
Babylon Building, near Rail Road.

### Mammoth Sale of Fine Shoes.

750 PAIRS OF FINE SHOES FOR LADIES AND CHILDREN WILL BE SOLD BY US AT LESS THAN COST OF THE LEATHER.

WE HAVE JUST COMPLETED THE PURCHASE AND WILL PLACE ON SALE, THIS SATURDAY MORNING, 750 PAIRS LADIES,' MISSES' AND CHILDREN'S FINE SHOES, CONSISTING OF EVERY VARIETY OF GOOD FOOTWEAR—BLACK SHOES, TAN SHOES, BUTTON SHOES, LACED SHOES, COMMON SENSE SHOES, PAT. TIP SHOES, GIRLS' SHOES, BOYS' SHOES, IN FACT EVERY KIND OF DESIRABLE FOOTWEAR FOR LADIES AND CHILDREN, IN EVERY SIZE, GOODS THAT SELL READILY IN A REGULAR WAY FOR $2.00, $2.50 AND SOME FOR $3.00 A PAIR. NEVER HAVE YOU HAD THE PLEASURE OF ATTENDING SUCH A STUPENDOUS SALE OF FINE SHOES AT SO LITTLE A PIPCE. THIS WILL BE A SALE OF THE CENTURY AND WE WANT EVERYBODY TO ATTEND, WITH EVERY KIND OF FEET. WE ARE HERE TO FIT YOU TO YOUR SATISFACTION, AND THE WEAR GUARANTEED BY US. THIS GREAT STOCK OF SHOES WILL BE PLACED IN THE CENTER OF OUR STORE, FIRST FLOOR, AND WILL BE SOLD AT THE PHENOMENAL PRICE,

## 95c PAIR.

NOW, REMEMBER THIS WILL BE THE GREATEST SALE OF SHOES EVER RECORDED, AND EVERYBODY SHOULD AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THIS GRAND OPPORTUNITY. THIS SALE WILL LAST JUST ONE WEEK, BUT THE FIRST TO COME GETS THE PICK. BE ON HAND EARLY, AT THE

The Great Model Emporium,
WILLIAM F. DERR,
Westminster, Md.

N. B.—POSITIVELY ALL SOLD FOR CASH.

## Greatest Sacrifice Sales
OF
## HIGH GRADE CLOTHING

EVER OFFERED TO THE PEOPLE OF CARROLL, BY

**Sharrer & Gorsuch,**
WESTMINSTER, MD.

TO CLOSE OUT OUR REMAINING STOCK OF

## Summer Clothing,

will sell for the next 10 days, 150 choice Suits at prices far below cost.

75 Suits, were cheap at $9.00 and $10.00, reduced to $6.75.

Suits as low as $2.50.

50 youths' Suits, 14 to 19 years, reduced to less than cost.

The biggest bargains ever seen in Children's clothing, sizes 4 to 15 years.

$2.00 and $2.50 Suit reduced to $1.50.

$3.00, $4.00 and $5.00 Suits reduced to $2.50.

About 30 choice Suit patterns, made to order in the best manner, at about one-half their real value.

New Shirt and Neckwear received every week.

Bargains in Summer Underwear.

SHARRER & GORSUCH, Opposite Catholic Church.
se-12-1y

## BARGAINS! BARGAINS! BARGAINS!
AT
## BIGGS' FURNITURE STORE,

Westminster, Md., where can be found goods to suit the times, both in price and quality. Bed Room Suits, Parlor Suits, Dining Room Sets, together with all other different kinds of goods, such as Fancy Rockers, Cobbler Seats, Upholstered Spring Seats, Brocatell, Corduroy, Tapestry, &c.; also all kinds of Wood and Cane Seat Rockers in all the different styles and at prices that will compete with the lowest. A call at my place will convince you of what I set forth in the above. Yours Respectfully,

de-12-1y J. WESLEY BIGGS.

## Commissioners' Notice.

HEREAFTER and until further notice the County Commissioners of Carroll county will meet, at their office in Westminster, EVERY MONDAY, for the transaction of business.

By order, A. T. BUCKINGHAM,
jan-2-1y

## FOR SALE.

A desirable lot of land in Franklinville, Carroll county, Md., improved by a stone house and store and now occupied by Mr. Roderick Dorsey. For further information apply to MRS. IRENE C. BENNETT,
de-26-tf Westminster Md.

## Select Poetry.

### AT THE DOOR.

I thought myself indeed secure,
So fast the door, so firm the lock;
But, lo! he toddling comes to lure
My parent ear with timorous shock.

My heart were stone could it withstand
The sweetness of my baby's plea—
That timorous baby knocking and
"Please let me in—its only me."

I threw aside the unfinished book,
Regardless of its tempting charms,
And, opening wide the door, I took
My laughing darling in my arms.

Who knows but in Eternity,
I, like a truant child shall wait
The glories of a life to be,
Beyond the Heavenly Father's gate.

And will that Heavenly Father heed
The truant's supplicating cry,
As at the outer door I plead:
"'Tis I, O Father! only I?"

—Eugene Field.

## Select Story.

### PREACHER'S SWEETHEART.

From the Petaluma Courier.

A light shone from the open door of the low log structure that answered the double purpose of church and schoolhouse. The gleam fell upon the yellowish leaves of a pawpaw tree that stood close to the path that led to the door. Beyond the pawpaw was an irregular mass that moved restlessly in the darkness. Observed closely it would have resolved itself into a number of horses tied to saplings, and stepping about noiselessly as they stretched their heads toward the tempting leaves beyond their reach.

Divine service was going on in the log building, and the tones of the minister floated out into the darkness in solemn cadence. Often they were interrupted by a deep grunted "A-a-a-men!" or "U-m-m-ah? Yas, Lord!" the manner in which many worshipers expressed their approbation of the preacher's utterances. A mounted figure came close to the shaft of light and dismounted. As he did so the stamping of the restless horses reached his ears. Noiselessly he made his horse fast to a redbud stem, and crept through the bushes to where the uneasy equines were tied.

He passed from horse to horse, feeling swiftly over each, as if in the darkness his hands were doing duty for eyes in revealing the merits or demerits of each animal.

The voice of the preacher came clear and strong to the ears of the man among the horses. He listened a moment as the voice told him, in simple words, the sweet truths of the Bible. Somehow the words of the good Book seemed to the man in the darkness to be addressed directly to himself, and presently, as he listened, he removed his old slouch hat as reverently as if he had been within the sanctuary.

Then as the words of invitation and consolation rang out clear and sweet, the man by the horses removed his hand from the neck of a little mare and muttered: "Preacher is a stunner, shore. Reckon I'll leave the filly. Might belong to the preacher an' bein' a preacher, o' course it's the only hoss he's got."

As he returned to his own animal, he paused again to listen. Presently he dropped the hand that was untying the bridle and strode into the bar of light that shone from the open door.

"I'll try it," he muttered. "Be'n a along time sence I've set in a church."

His slouching entrance was hardly noticed by the congregation of the shockheaded men and sallow-faced women, so attentive were they to the preacher's utterances.

The preacher was a small, pale-faced man, plainly, almost shabbily dressed, and as he stepped awkwardly back and forth behind the rude pulpit, the last comer saw that he was lame.

Presently he rose and slouched out, and, mounting his horse, dashed away down a bridle path, whither he knew not nor cared. Presently some small animal sprang from the path, and the horse swerved to one side, and the next moment there came a blow on the rider's head as if the great hackberry tree stretched far above had fallen upon him. Then, as he fell from the horse, the animal kicked the unconscious man before he had touched the earth.

An hour later, the pale-faced preacher, limping along the path, almost stumbled over the prostrate figure beneath the great hackberry. The old slouch hat had fallen from his head, and the blood from a long wound across his forehead had soaked his matted hair.

The preacher's slight form staggered under the task, but by a series of heroic efforts he managed to convey the unconscious man to the little log hut where he lived alone. It was many days before the sufferer could do more than sit like a helpless child in the old splint-bottomed rocker and watch the preacher as he limped back and forth attending to the wants of his unexpected guest. The stranger had been badly hurt. The blow on his head, as he came in contact with the low-hanging limb, had very nearly fractured his skull, and the kick of the horse had broken several ribs.

One day there came a letter addressed in a dainty feminine hand, and the preacher had almost completed his answer when the hour arrived for him to start for the little log church. After he had gone, the invalid saw that the letter and its unfinished answer lay on the home-made table, and without any scruples he proceeded to read both.

"Frum his sweetheart," the invalid said aloud, as he finished. "Pore leetle gal! I kin almost seem to see her as I read these lines. Thar she is, 'way back east, waitin' for the day when her lover kin send the money to bring her out yere to him. The time has b'en mighty long already, she says, but she'll wait for him if it takes half her life. Brave leetle girl! Bids him keep up his courage, for she is shore he'll soon git the money, for everybody's so generous in the West, and will pay him well for his work, she is certain."

The invalid paused and shook one hard fist at an imaginary auditor.

"Yas, hang ye! Pay him well w'en yer souls git bigger. If you was white, you'd pay more money an' do less gruntin in church. Look at it!" he went on, with raising wrath. "Yere's a man an' a Christian a-working the life outen his crippled body to save yer souls, an' in return ye give him jest enough to keep him from plum starvin'. All the whole kit of ye air good for is to raise horses for me to run off with."

Again he shook his fist at the imaginary auditor.

"That's for ye! Look at it! Yere, fer workin' himself to death for yer souls, ye pay him so leetle that the time when he can bring his leetle waitin' sweetheart west seems years off! Yes, and yere I am, a doin ye no good, an' stealin' every one o' yer horses I kin git my hands on. In my case, ye club together an' offer a reward uv $200 jist to git me. Give him starvation wages an' have him all the time an' offer $200 jist to have me a few hours?

That's reason, ain't it?"

Then he turned to the unfinished answer to the letter. Though simply told, it was astory with a world of pathos in it, and the writer snuffed suspiciously once or twice, and rubbed a rusty, sunburned hand across his eyes. It dwelt lightly upon his trials, and spoke hopefully of the happy future when they should meet again. There was pathos in his very hoping, as it was, against absolute certainty.

When he reached the abrupt ending of the letter, the reader again shook his fist at the imaginary listener. "Two hundred dollars for me an' nothin' fer him!" he half shouted.

Suddenly a thought seemed to strike him, and he brought one hard fist down on the table with a thump.

"I'll do it, I will! He shall have his sweetheart, an' that mighty quick."

It was after midnight when the preacher returned, and it seemed to the other that he looked paler and limped more painfully than usual.

"My friend," the preacher said, presently, "I am glad to have you so nearly recovered, for this house can only shelter you a few days longer."

"Why?" asked the invalid; "air ye gettin' tired o' me?"

"Certainly not; but the owner of this house has warned me to leave because I am unable to pay the rent, and—"

"What'll ye do now?"

"I do not know. Doubtless I'll see my way out of it all, but I do not now, I—"

"Parson, will yer do me a favor—one more on top o' all you've done for me?"

"Gladly, if I can," the young preacher replied.

"Take this note to the leader of the Protective Association—"

"Amos Huddin?"

"That's him. He's a particular friend o' mine, an' 'll be mighty glad to see me. Do this right now, an' it'll be the last thing I'll ask uv ye."

"When the young preacher had limped wearily away in the darkness, the other thumped the table, and chuckled audibly: 'Oh, you bet yer life Amos Hudden 'll be glad to see me! So'll all the balance of the vigilantes. Two hundred dollars reward for me, an' nuthin' fer the preacher! Wal, he'll have the 200 fer givin' me up, an' the vigilantes 'll have me." Then he sat silently thinking. "I could skin out yit, an' give 'em the slip," he muttered presently. "This means penitentiary or lynch, most likely lynch. He picked up the letter from the preacher's sweetheart, and read it again.

"Two hundred dollars 'll make them pore souls happy," he mused. This yere means lynchin' fer me, I reckon. Wal, let 'em lynch!"

The door opened softly, and half a dozen men with weapons in their hands entered without a word. Not a movement of the invalid's face showed that he understood the errand that had brought those stern men to the cabin.

"Howdy!" he saluted. "Take cheers, gentlemen."

"Jack Harris," said the leader of the vigilantes, "we want you!"

"Wal, ain't you got me?" asked the other, quietly.

"Yes, muttered the leader, "and we are a-goin' to keep ye!"

"Wal, I don't reckon I blame ye," Harris answered. "It's been a long time since ye got a chance at me, an' I don't wonder ye want to keep me. Did the preacher give ye information?"

"Yes."

"Has he got the reward yit?"

"No, of course not. We ain't goin' to do no cash in advance business."

There was the sound of a struggle at the door and a voice crying:

"Let me in! I will go in!"

"It's the preacher," some one said.

"Bill's a-holdin' him outside."

A pistol gleamed from beneath the table, and Jack Harris' hard hand leveled it at the leader's head.

"Let him in!" he said, sternly.

The preacher's white face was flushed and there were tears in his eyes as he limped across the room to Jack Harris' side.

"Oh, my friend," he cried, "what have I done? What have I done?"

"Delivered my note, I reckon."

"Yes; and sold your liberty for money. But God knows I am innocent of any intent to do so." He buried his face in his hands.

"Now," said Harris, sternly, "Hudden, give the parson his reward. W'en the money's in his hand I'll drop this gun. While it's up you know how safe your life is."

The vigilantes conferred together for a moment. Then each produced his pocketbook and dropped a sum of money into the leader's slouch hat. As the money was poured on the table, Harris laid the pistol beside it.

"Thar," he said, "take me."

"Then, as handcuffs were quickly snapped upon his wrists, he turned to the young preacher. "Parson," he said, "that'll make you and the leetle girl in the east happy. Good-by."

The young preacher sprang forward.

"Men," he cried, "one momeut!" Then in tones that thrilled the hearts of the listeners, he told the story of the horsethief's sacrifice. The little group shuffled about uneasily when he had ffuished.

"Boys," said the leader, suddenly, "I'm boss o' this yere association, ain't I."

"You air," they answered.

"An' what I say goes?"

"It does, jist that!"

"An' horse stealin' means hangin'?"

"It does."

"Wal, I sentence the prisoner, Jack Harris, to be hung this day week. In the meantime I place him in the keepin' uv Shorty Meyers, the leetlest man in the crowd, an' if he lets the prisoner escape I'll fine him $2.50."

Shorty Meyers extracted $2 50 from his pocket and handed the money to the leader.

"Yere's my fine," he said.

"And the preacher keeps the reward?" Jack Harris asked the leader.

"He does!" chorused the vigilantes.

"Wal, anyhow, I'll get my rent now, I reckon," said a mop-headed vigilante.

Two weeks later, when the ceremony was over that made the young preacher and the bright-faced eastern girl man and wife, the bride looked fondly into her husband's eyes as she said:

"How much these people seem to think of you, and how generous they are toward you! Have they been so ever since you came out here?"

"No; the change took place only a few weeks ago."

"And who were those stern, rough-looking men who shouted so when the ceremony was done?"

"They are the vigilantes."

"As I entered the state," the young wife said, presently, "just such a rough looking man asked my name, and when I told him he said: 'Tell the parson ye saw Jack Harris, an' tell him I hope he'll be happy. Then he disappeared."

"Heroic Jack," the young wife exclaimed, when the minister had told her the story.

Crimson clover is strongly advocated as a catch crop to be sowed in all cultivated crops at last cultivation.

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