AMERICAN SENTINEL.

$1 PER ANNUM. WESTMINSTER, MD., SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 7, 1903. VOL. 72--NO. 10.

To Ministers and Others.

Owing to the late hour in which decrees and other legal papers are issued by the Court, frequently not until Thursday night, we request all ministers and those having fairs, festivals, suppers and entertainments for the benefit of Sunday schools and public schools to send their notices in not later than Tuesday morning of the week they wish them announced. *By doing so their publication can be guaranteed.* Legal notices must be published within a certain time after they are issued by the Court, and in order to comply with the decrees, &c., of the Court we are compelled to leave out or curtail our local corresponeence or omit markets, religious and other notices.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

Ascension Church.—Holy Communion at 10 a. m. Second Celebration and sermon at 7.30 a. m. Evening service at 7.30.
E. B. TAYLOR, Rector.

Methodist Protestant Church.—Sabbath School Sunday at 9.15 a. m. Midweek service on Wednesday evening at 8.00. Junior C. E. service at 2.00 p. m. Christian Endeavor at 6.30 p. m. Preaching at 10.30 a. m., and 7.30 p. m.
L. F. WARNER, Pastor.

Centenary M. E. Church.—Sabbath School Sunday at 9.15 a. m. Junior League 2.30 p. m. Epworth League at 6.45 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7.30 p. m. Preaching at 10.30 a. m., and 7.45 p. m.
D. G. MILLER, Pastor.

St. Paul's Ref. Church.—Sunday School at 9.15 a. m. Divine service at 10.30 a. m., and at 7.15 p. m.
CALVIN S. SLAGLE, Pastor.

Grace Lutheran Church.—Lecture and prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7.30. Junior Catechise at 1.30, Senior at 2.00 p. m., on Saturday. Sunday School at 9 a. m. Y. P. S. C. E. 6.30 p. m. Preaching at 10.30 a. m., and 7.30 p. m.
P. H. MILLER, D. D., Pastor.

Salem Charge, Lutheran Church.—St. Benjamin's Church.—Preaching at 2 p. m.
St. John's.—Sunday School at 9 a. m. Preaching at 10 a. m.
R. W. Doty, Pastor.

Carroll Charge, Reformed Church.—Divine service at Benjamin's at 10 a. m. At Pleasant Valley at 2 p. m.
Young People's Meeting at Benjamin's Monday, at 7.30 p. m. The Benevolent Aid Society will meet at the parsonage on next Thursday night.
JAMES B. STONESIFER, Pastor.

GEO. L. STOCKSDALE, Solicitor.

TRUSTEES' SALE OF THREE OF THE MOST

Valuable Farms,

In Mt. Airy and Freedom Districts, Carroll County, Maryland.

By virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for Carroll County, sitting as a Court of equity, passed in cause No. 4024, wherein Willian A. Flemming and others are complainants, and Mary C. Flemming and others are defendants, the undersigned, Trustees named in said decree, will offer at Public Sale, on the premises, situate in Mt. Airy district, near Mount Olive Church, on the public county road leading from Taylorsville to Mount Olive Church, and about 3 miles from Watersville, on the B. & O. R. R., on

THURSDAY, 12th DAY OF MARCH, 1903, at 1 o'clock, P. M., all that valuable farm, containing

157¼ ACRES OF LAND,

more or less, being the home farm of which Charles T. Flemming, late of Carroll county, Md., died seized and possessed. Improved by a Frame Weatherboarded Dwelling House, containing 8 rooms and hallways Bank Barn, 35x50 feet, Corn House and Wagon Shed, 20x20 feet, Carriage House, Meat House, Hen House, and all other usual outbuildings, with never failing spring of water. About 35 acres is good Timber Land. A public county road borders two-thirds of the property, and it lies in such shape that you can see all over the farm. It is in a good state of cultivation, convenient to church, school, store, &c., and is worthy the attention of any one wanting a first class farm.



On the same day, and immediately after the sale of the above described farm, and on the premises of the home farm, the undersigned Trustees will offer all that tract of land, adjoining the home farm, containing

17 ACRES AND 33 SQUARE PERCHES

of Land, more or less, situate in Mt. Airy district, on a public county road, leading from Taylorsville to Mount Olive Church, and about 3 miles from Watersville, a station on the B. & O. R. R., improved by a new Frame Weatherboarded Dwelling House (T shape) with 7 rooms, Stable, Buggy House, Meat House, Hen House, all in fair condition, well of Water at the dwelling, land in fair condition and worthy the attention of purchasers.



The purchasers of the above properties can have immediate possession of the land, to put out the spring crops. The growing grain will be reserved, as Mr. W. A. Flemming is the owner of the same. All taxes will be paid by the Trustees. Mail is delivered at the residences by the U. S. Rural Free Delivery.

Also the undersigned Trustees will offer at Public Sale, on the premises, situate in Freedom district, on the public county road leading from Sams Creek to the Washington road, about 6 miles from Woodbine Station on the B. & O. R. R., on

FRIDAY, 13th DAY OF MARCH, 1903, at 11 o'clock, A. M., sharp, all that valuable Farm, containing

191 ACRES 3 ROODS AND 17 SQUARE

Perches of Land, more or less, being also a farm of which Charles T. Flemming, late of Carroll county, Md., died seized and possessed. This farm will be divided and surveyed before the day of sale, and will be offered in one entire tract and also offered in two tracts, the trustees reserving the right to sell as an entire tract, or in two tracts, and the highest bidder or bidders will be the purchaser or purchasers. There are two sets of farm buildings thereon.



1st. Improved by a Brick Dwelling House containing 4 rooms and halls, Stable, Buggy House, Granary and Meat House, all in good condition.

2nd. Improved by a frame weatherboarded Dwelling House, containing 7 rooms, (T shape) Meat House, Wagon Shed, 20x20. Log Stable, all in fair condition; well of water on one, and spring of water on the other. About 14 acres is in good Timber on the farm containing the brick buildings. About 25 acres is in good Timber on the other place. This farm is in a good state of cultivation. Fruit of all kinds upon both farms. These farms are situate convenient to church, schools and stores. Mail is delivered at residence by the U. S. Rural Free Delivery. These farms are well worthy of the attention of purchasers. Mr. Flemming will consent that the purchaser shall have immediate possession of the land, to put out spring crops. The growing grain will be reserved, as Mr. G. A. Flemming is the owner of same. All taxes will be paid by trustees.

Terms of Sale.—One-third part of the purchase money to be paid on the day of sale or upon the ratification there by the court; balance, one-third to be paid in one year, and the other one-third in two years from the day of sale; the credit payments to be secured to the satisfaction of the trustees, and to bear interest from the day of sale, or the whole of the purchase money can be paid in cash, upon the ratification of sale by the court, at the option of the purchaser or purchasers. A cash deposit of $250.00 will be required from each purchaser of the property, or a certified check received in lieu thereof.

For further particulars call on the Trustees, one residing on each of the properties, or call upon or address George L. Stocksdale, attorney, Westminster, Md.

WILLIAM A. FLEMMING,
GEORGE A. FLEMMING,
GEORGE L. STOCKSDALE,
Trustees.

Edward Mercer, Auct.
feb 14 4t

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES for the District of Maryland, in Bankruptcy. In the matter of Charles C. C. Caple, a Bankrupt.

To the creditors of Charles C. C. Caple, of East View, in the county of Carroll and district aforesaid, a bankrupt. Notice is hereby given that on the 25th day of February, A. D. 1903, the said Charles C. C. Caple was duly adjudicated a bankrupt by Hon. Thomas J. Morris, Judge of said Court; and that the first meeting of his creditors will be held at the office of E. Oliver Grimes, Jr., Referee in Bankruptcy, 32½ East Main street, Westminster, Maryland, on the 11th day of March, A. D. 1903, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at which time the said creditors may attend, prove their claims, appoint a trustee, examine the bankrupt and transact such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

E. OLIVER GRIMES, Jr.,
Referee in Bankruptcy.
feb 28 2t

CLAUDE TILDEN SMITH,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
WESTMINSTER, MD.
Office No. 7 Court Street. feb 21

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE

REAL ESTATE,

In Carroll County, Maryland.

By virtue of the power contained in the last will and testament of John Miller, late of Carroll county, Maryland, deceased, dated January 29th, 1870, and recorded in liber J. M. P. No. 4, folio 55, &c., one of the will records in the office of the Register of Wills in said county, the undersigned, as Trustee in No. 1490 equity, will offer at Public Sale, on the premises, situate in Westminster district in said county, on the Westminster and Littlestown turnpike, about 3 miles from Westminster, on

THURSDAY, THE 26TH OF MARCH, 1903, at 1 o'clock, P. M., the following Real Estate:

1st. All that lot of land situate on said turnpike road, 3 miles north of Westminster, containing

1¾ ACRES OF LAND, more or less.



The improvements consist of a Two-story Weatherboarded Dwelling House, the rooms well and conveniently arranged, with porch in front and kitchen attached, and a good cellar, a Brick Washhouse, 1½ story; a well with pump and pure water convenient to the house, a Stable and all other outside necessary buildings, and fruit of different kinds.

The property lies convenient to churches, schools and stores, and would be a very desirable property for a mechanic or any person desiring a nice home.

2nd. All that lot containing

7 ACRES OF LAND, more or less,

lying near and convenient to the first mentioned lot, adjoining land of James W. Myers, John E. Stonesifer and others.

It is in a good state of cultivation, lies nicely and produces good crops.

3rd. All that Wood Lot, containing

4¼ ACRES AND 20 SQUARE PERCHES,

more or less, situate on Pine Hill, Myers' district, on the county road leading from mill formerly known as Geiman's or Wisner's Mill to Pennsylvania line. It is covered with second growth Chestnut and Oak Timber and is a desirable lot.

4th. All that Wood Lot, containing

1¼ ACRES AND 5 SQUARE PERCHES,

more or less, situate on the Stone road, 1 mile from Mt. Pleasant and adjoins lands of William Frock and others.

The above lots have been held by the undersigned as trustee for the late John Miller, Jr., who is now deceased.

Any one desiring to see these properties or inquire further about them can do so by calling on the said trustee, at his house in Union Mills.

Terms of Sale.—Cash, on ratification of sale; or one-third cash on the day of sale or upon ratification by the court; one-third in 6 months and the other one-third in 12 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.

J. WILLIAM EARHART,
Surviving Executor of John Miller, deceased, and Trustee.
Roberts & Cronse, Attorneys.
Wm. E. Warner, Auct. feb 28 4t

Assignee of Assignee of Mortgagee's Sale of a

DESIRABLE LITTLE FARM,

Near Finksburg, Carroll County, Md.

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a mortgage from William H. Gardner and wife to Charles A. Reid, dated April 11th, 1885, and recorded among the real estate mortgage records of Carroll county, in liber F. T. S. No. 19, folio 181, etc., and duly assigned to the undersigned, I will sell at Public Sale, to the highest bidder, on the premises first hereinafter mentioned, on

SATURDAY, MARCH 7th, 1903, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

1st. All that farm or parcel of land, part of a tract of land called "Flag Meadows," containing

50 ACRES OF LAND, more or less.

2nd, Also all that lot or parcel of land mentioned in said mortgage, containing

3 ACRES, 3 ROODS AND 38 PERCHES

of land, more or less.

Said two parcels of land being also the same that were conveyed to the said William H. Gardner by Louis A. Williams, executor of Greenbury Williams, deceased, by deed dated April 6th, A. D., 1883, and recorded among the land records of Carroll county in liber F. T. S. No. 50, folio 46.

The first mentioned parcel is situated on the Finksburg and Mechanicsville (Gamber) Turnpike, about 2½ miles from Finksburg Station on the Western Md. Railroad and ½ a mile from the village of Gamber, and adjoins the lands of John Thos. Stocksdale and Jacob Caples. This parcel of land is under a high state of cultivation, 27 Acres of wheat now growing thereon. It is improved by a two and a half story Frame Dwelling House, Log Barn, Corn House, Spring House and other necessary outbuildings. There is a splendid never failing spring of water near the dwelling.



The second described parcel is situate on the Deer Park road, about ½ a mile from the above named turnpike and adjoins the lands of Jas. P. Slaaman, "Bud" Williams and others, and is directly opposite the dwelling of Norris Stocksdale. The sale of this property should command the attention of persons desiring a small farm.

Terms of Sale.—One-third cash on the day of sale or on the ratification thereof; one-third in 6 months and the other one-third in 12 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.

JOHN MILTON REIFSNIDER,
Assignee.
Bond & Parke, Solicitors.
feb 14 4t Elias N. Davis, Auct.

PUBLIC SALE OF VALUABLE

HOTEL PROPERTY,

known as the Worthington Hotel, in Hampstead, Md., and Household Furniture.

By virtue of a deed of trust from Frederick J. Sterner and wife, to the undersigned, I will sell at Public Sale, on the premises, the above named Hotel Property and Hotel Furniture, on SATURDAY, THE 21st DAY OF MARCH, 1903, at 1 o'clock, P. M. The Buildings are a large two-story Log and Weatherboarded Building, with Back Building, large Stable and other outbuildings. The land consists of about



ONE AND A HALF ACRES.

It will be surveyed before the day of sale and offered in Three Lots, also as an entirety. This property is located on the corner of the Main street and the Westminster road, in Hampstead, Carroll county, Md., and is well adapted to any public business.

Also at the same time and place a large variety of Household and Kitchen Furniture, 1 Black Mare, Dayton Wagon, Buggy, &c.

Terms of Sale.—One-half cash on the day of sale, or on the ratification thereof, and the other one-half in 6 months, the credit payment to be secured by note, with approved security, bearing interest from the day of sale; or one-half of the purchase money can be left in the property in mortgage.

A cash deposit of $200 will be required of the purchaser on the day of sale.

Terms of Sale of the Personal Property.—All sums of $10 and under, cash; on all sums above $10 a credit of 6 months will be given, on notes, with approved security, bearing interest from the day of sale.

CLIFTON L. MURRAY, Trustee.
Reifsnider & Grimes, Solicitors. feb 28 4t

David E. Walsh and Bond & Parke, Solicitors.

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE

REAL ESTATE,

at Patapsco, Carroll County, Maryland.

The undersigned trustees, by virtue of the power and authority contained in a decree of the Circuit Court for Carroll county, passed in cause No. 4011 equity, will offer at Public Sale,

ON SATURDAY, 28th OF MARCH, 1903, at 2 o'clock, P. M., on the premises, in Patapsco, Carroll county, Maryland, a parcel of land containing

FOUR AND THREE-QUARTER ACRES

of land, more or less, improved by a Log Dwelling House, being the same land and premises formerly occupied by Samuel Kelbaugh, deceased. Said land is well located for building purposes. A survey of said land will be made by the day of sale.

Terms of sale.—One-third cash on the day of sale, or upon the ratification thereof by said Court; and the residue shall be paid in two equal payments, the one to be paid in one year and the other in two years form the day of sale, with interest, and to be secured by the notes of the purchaser or purchasers, with security to be approved of by the trustees. The trustees will require a cash deposit of $25 of the purchaser on the day of sale.

DAVID E. WALSH,
FRANCIS NEAL PARKE,
Trustees.
Nicholas J. Walsh,
Auctioneer. feb 28 4t

JOB Printing of all kinds done promptly at reasonable prices. Call for estimates.

HERINGS' DEPARTMENT STORE.

A SALE OF FURNITURE,

That brings you such values as no other house in Westminster has ever offered.

The right kind of FURNITURE

At the LOWEST PRICES.

The list below gives you but a faint idea of the extraordinary saving opportunities afforded in the Special Prices that begin today. All New Styles, bought from the best manufacturers and and every piece selected with the greatest care.

$18.00. WORTH $26.00.

This handsome Solid Oak Bedroom Suit, has full size bed, covered headboard, finely finished; bureau has 3 large drawers, cast brass handles, 18x20 French plate mirror, wash stand has double cupboard, one large drawer and high splasher back; one oak table, towel rack, oak cane seat rocker and two side chairs.

It will pay you to look at this splendid bargain before purchasing elsewhere.

$15.00. WORTH $25.00.

Think of a five-piece Parlor Suit, imitation Mahogany, covered with Silk Damask, a beautiful pattern and very stylish, for only $15.00.

I also ask your inspection in other furniture which you may need.

Oak Rockers $1.00 to $6.00.	Couches $3.00 to $12.00.
Reed Rockers $1.50 to $6.00.	Morris Chairs $4.75 to $15.00.
China Closets $12.00 to $18.00.	Mattresses $2.00 to $7.00.
Side Boards $4.50 to $30.00.	Springs $1.50 to $6.00.
Iron Bedsteads $3.25 to $15.00.	Chiffonieres $6.50 to $15.00.

Also the finest lot of Porch Rockers ever shown in this city and at prices which will suit all, **$1.48 to $5.00.**

CHARLES E. HERING, Westminster, Md.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE

REAL ESTATE,

In Westminster District, Carroll County, Md.

By virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for Carroll county, sitting in Equity, passed in cause No. 4002, Equity, wherein Fannie I. Little, et al., are plaintiffs, and George W. Weimert, et al., are defendants, the undersigned, trustee named in said decree, will offer at Public Sale, on the premises, situate on the public county road leading from Westminster to Manchester, 2 miles from Westminster, and ½ a mile from Cranberry Station, on the W. M. R. R., on

WEDNESDAY, 11TH OF MARCH, 1903, at 1 o'clock, P. M., a valuable tract, containing

9 ACRES AND 21 PERCHES OF LAND,

more or less, improved by a two and a half story Frame Weatherboarded Dwelling House, Stable, and usual outbuildings, Water, Fruits of all kinds, &c., and located convenient to schools, churches and stores. It is worthy the attention of purchasers. About 2½ acres, lying on the east side of the road, will be surveyed and cut off of the above tract, and offered severally and jointly, and sold to the best advantage.



Also a tract of land containing 5 ACRES, more or less, situate near the above property, with outlet 10 feet wide to the public road, suited for grazing or farming, and well worth attention of purchasers.

Terms of Sale.—One-third part of the purchase money to be paid on the day of sale, or upon the ratification thereof by the Court; balance in one and two years, the credit payments to be secured to the satisfaction of the trustee, and bearing interest from the day of sale.

For further information call upon or address the trustee, at Westminster, Md.

GEORGE L. STOCKSDALE,
feb 14 4t Trustee.

PUBLIC SALE OF A

VERY FINE FARM,

about 3½ miles from Westminster, near Meadow Branch turnpike, in Carroll County, Md.

By virtue of the power and authority contained in the last will and testament of Jacob Petry, deceased, and an order of the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, the undersigned, the executrix nominated by said will, will offer at Public Sale, on

MONDAY, THE 23rd DAY OF MARCH, 1903, at 2 o'clock, P. M., all that Valuable Farm, containing

154 ACRES, 1 ROOD AND 6½ PERCHES

of Land, more or less, that was owned by the said Jacob Petry at the time of his death. This farm is situated on the public road leading from the Meadow Branch turnpike to Pleasant Valley, about 1 mile from Frizzellburg, and 3½ miles from Westminster, and adjoins the lands of Calvin Starner, Ira Young, James W. Lemmon and others. The buildings consist of a large Brick and Frame Dwelling House, containing 11 rooms and a Basement, large Bank Barn, Wagon Shed, Corn House, Carriage House, Meat House, Dairy and all buildings necessary for a farm of its size. An unusual and valuable feature of this farm is the fact that the house is supplied with fresh running water from a spring, which has never been known to fail. Running water is also in the barn, and there are two streams on the place. All kinds of fruit are on it and a young Apple Orchard in excellent bearing condition. There are about 6 Acres of Wood Land, and 10 Acres of Meadow Land. The rest of the farm is tillable and in a high state of cultivation.



Terms of Sale.—One-third cash on the day of sale or on the ratification thereof by the Court, and the residue in two equal payments, the one payable in 6 months and the other in 12 months from day of sale, the credit payments to be secured by the bonds or single bills of the purchaser, with approved security, bearing interest, or all cash at the option of the purchaser.

ANNIE L. PETRY,
Executrix of Jacob Petry, deceased.
J. Thos. Roop, auct. Guy W. Steele, Atty.
feb 28 4t

FOR SALE.

The undersigned, having business relations which require permanent removal from Westminster, offers his Green Street Property for sale.

Inquire of Mrs. Farrar, on the premises. Possession given April 1st, 1903.
dec 11 tf D. L. FARRAR.

SUPPOSE YOU COULD BUY

5 Per Cent. Government Bonds

ON 10, 15 OR 20 YEARS' TIME

Without premium, and with a chance that they might become full paid and interest bearing at any moment. Government bonds cannot be had at such terms, but you CAN buy, on exactly those conditions, Five per cent. bonds of the largest, strongest financial institution in the world. Full paid and at once deliverable if you die before the end of purchase term.

10, 15 or 20 years for payment, 5 per cent. interest bearing from maturity of contract and running 20 years thereafter when the face of the bond is payable in full. Immediately redeemable at 1.30 at option of holder.

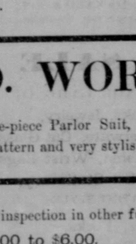
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RICHARD A. McCURDY, President

ISSUES 5 PER CENT. GOLD BONDS

that are safe as Government bonds. Some of the shrewdest business men and financiers in America are protecting their estates by purchase of these bonds. For documents and information apply to

Wm. H. Wootton,
MANAGER FOR MARYLAND.

W. Riley Myers,
AGENT, WESTMINTER, Md.
april 5 C2 1y



CUTTING PRICES.

Sharrer & Gorsuch,

Westminster, Md.,

ARE STAYING UP AT NIGHTS TO CUT PRICES

DOWN ON OVERCOATS, WINTER SUITS, UNDERWEAR, GLOVES,

AND ALL HEAVY GOODS.

Men who wear BIG Overcoats.

15 elegant 42 and 44 size Overcoats—$12.00 Coats $7.50, $15.00 Coats $10.00. Also 10 fine Overcoats in 34 and 35 sizes—Coats that sold for $12.00 to $18.00, now $5.00 to $8.00 off price of each coat. Chance of lifetime for young men to get handsome Overcoats at half value. About 20 Overcoats, sizes 36 to 40, and if we can fit you, you will get a great bargain.

A LOT OF $6.50 STORM COATS $4.75. See our Stylish $10.00 MIXED CHEVIOT SUITS, reduced to $7.50; $7.00 and $8.00 Suits down to $5.00. All this season's styles.

Don't Your Boy Need a Suit?

Bring him in and let us show how you can save money buying him Clothes now at our reduced prices. 35 PRS. STYLISH WORSTED PANTS, cut from $3.50 to $2.50. A good time to buy a pair of fine Fur Driving Gloves. Six prs. left at special reduction. Bargains in Wool and Leather Gloves. Remember we sell the best Cord Pants for men and boys. A few more of the 50c Ribbed Undershirts at 25 cents.

oct 11 1y 3

Horses and Mules FOR SALE.



25 head of home raised Horses, some riders, drivers and work horses. Also 20 head of Kentucky 4 year-old broke Mules. Call and see my Stock and I will treat you right.

GEORGE A. BLIZZARD,
Locust Grove Stock Farm, Eldersburg, Md.
feb 21 4t

NO. 4004 EQUITY.

In the Circuit Court for Carroll County.

In the matter of the Trust Estate of David Cassell, John T. Cassell and Ephraim Haines, Trustees.

Ordered, this 27th day of February, A. D. 1903, that the account of the Auditor filed in this cause be finally ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 16th day of March, next; provided a copy of this order be inserted for two successive weeks before the last named day in some newspaper published in Carroll county.

JAS. H. BILLINGSLEA, Clerk.
True copy,—Test:
feb 2-2t JAS. H. BILLINGSLEA, Clerk.

PLAIN and fancy Printing, Posters, Sale Bills, &c., done at short notice at this office.

DON'T FORGET.

Don't forget the old folks,
Love them more and more,
As they with unshrinking feet,
Near the "shining shore."
Let your words be tender,
Loving, soft and slow,
Let their last days be the best
They have known below.

Don't forget poor father,
With his failing sight,
With his locks once thick and brown,
Scanty now, and white;
Though he may be childish,
Still do you be kind—
Think of him as years ago,
With his master mind.

Don't forget dear mother,
With her furrowed brow,
Once as fair and smooth and white
As the driven snow,
Are her steps uncertain?
Is her hearing poor?
Guide her gently till she stands
Safe at Heaven's door.

Neighbor King.

When my husband, Micah Pyncheon, died he left me alone with our baby girl, the farm, and the grasshoppers. It happened in Kansas, in 1876.

You don't mind my crying now, do you? It seems as though I'd never get the tears all out of me. The time ain't so far away, nor me so old, but that those days spread out before me like a panorama, natural as life. I can feel that hot summer sun, not a cloud in the sky, and the smell of the baking earth moving all the time in waves of heat until you got dizzy with the motion and the scent. And the grasshoppers! You can't know how they came a-flying by day and by night in great brown clouds; how they crept and crawled and squirmed through the wheat and the corn and the grass, biting and chewing every green thing, leaving nothing but black and dry shreds, and the earth more desolate than if a fire had swept over it. They were everywhere out-of-doors; they came into the house—down the chimney when they couldn't get in the door—and I've picked their bony bodies out of my pocket many a time, and knocked them off the table so as I might put down a dish. If you killed one a thousand came to the funeral. All day and all night you heard the click, click, click of their bodies as they walked about, jumped here and there, or rubbed against one another. And poor Micah's body under the blanket—they were all about it, and I having to brush them away. Anybody would have cried if they'd been in my place, such a dreary day was that—me and baby all alone, with the village ten miles off, and not a soul nearer than neighbor King, three miles away.

Seems to me I don't know how Micah died, it was all so sudden like. All day he'd been out in the sun a-fighting the hoppers, and trying to work when he wasn't fighting; and he came in with his head a hanging forward and not a smile on his lips as he put up his hat and rolled down his sleeves.

"I'm downright discouraged, Miranda," he said at last, looking out of the window. "There's no use standing up against nature and the hoppers. They eat faster than I can kill them, and in a week the crops will be about all gone. It looks as though when winter comes we won't have anything to eat. I believe I've killed ten thousand of those creatures to-day, and yet they come faster than drops in a rainstorm."

Then he picked up little Hannah and lay down on the bed with her in his arms, saying no more. I bustled around—speaking nothing, and as quiet as possible, knowing how tired in mind and body the poor man was—and fixed up a nice supper. When the table was all set, and the food on it, and everything as cheerful and encouraging as the hoppers would let me make it, I called Micah. But he didn't answer; so I stepped across the room and put my hand on his face, so as to wake him gently, as I always did.

Oh, dear! Oh, dear! The loved face was cold and white, and I gave one scream and fell beside him, knowing nothing. Yes, Micah was dead—gone to sleep never to waken, passed from life with little Hannah snuggled in his arms.

No wonder I cry when I remember that lonesome night, holding the little one in my arms and watching the still face on the bed, knowing that never more those eyes would look into mine, nevermore those cold lips would speak to me. And when the morning came gray and hopeless, there was no one but me and the baby and poor Micah's body; and the hoppers a-creeping and a crawling all through the house as if they were a-buying it at auction, a-rustling their wings and a-hustling their bodies until I thought there was a cool wind instead of a hot, breathless morning. I covered up the dear face, and kneeling by his side, prayed and cried, and cried and prayed. It was all I could do for my husband of three years. I don't know what else I did, what else I thought. I saw nothing, heard nothing, until somebody's hand fell upon my shoulder.

"Why, Mrs. Pyncheon?" was the cry, and looking up through my tears I saw neighbor King a-standing by me. "I was going up the road," he said, "and thought I'd stop and say good-morning. Where's Micah? In the field, and you a-crying for lonesomeness?"

I answered nothing; but put up my hand and pulled back the sheet from the dear dead face.

"My God!" was all he said, and he staggered back to a chair and sat in it for five minutes without a word, his face in his hands.

"Madam, forgive me! I never dreamed of such a thing," he cried at last, recovering himself; and when and how did it happen?"

I told him the story between sobs, breaking down every few words. Thank Heaven! it wasn't a long story, or I should have gone crazy before it was told. He was silent for quite a spell, as if he was a-meditating over the situation, looking mostly at poor Micah as if drawing ideas from the cold lips.

"Now, Mrs. Pyncheon!" he said finally, in his solemn voice and grave, slow way of talking,—"now, Mrs. Pyncheon, you must trust everything to me. You're beat out. I've no women folks in my house, as you know; but I'll ride to town and get an old lady, a friend of mine, to come out and help you through. I'll see, too, that poor Micah has a coffin and a minister. Be the brave little woman, Mrs. Pyncheon, that Micah would tell you to be, if he could speak. By sun-down I'll have somebody you can talk to and who'll cheer you up bettter than I can. To-morrow—to-morrow we'll bury the poor man!"

When he said this it set me to crying. Then it was so still that I looked up and found myself alone. A-down the road was a line of dust, and I heard the muffled footfalls of neighbor King's horse on his way to the village.

And "to-morrow we'll bury him" were words that all that long, lonesome, hot day kept sounding in my ears as if some one was calling them out with the ticking of the clock. "Bury him"—and Micah dead only a few hours! I couldn't believe it, and would stop and listen for his whistle at the barn, his talk to the horses, his rattle at the pump, his footfall at the door, until, crazy with waiting, I'd go over to the bed, pull back the sheet, and in the still face read why I should never hear those happy sounds again—never again.

Ah, well! The sun went down at last; the long, dreary day was ended, and in the twilight came back my good neighbor with motherly Mrs. Challen—and—and it hurts me even now to tell it—the coffin for Micah. In it those two good people softly placed him, and all that night I watched its shape between me and the window.

The next day, in the morning, under the trees in the little grove across from the house, my Micah was laid to rest forever—placed so that when I looked out of the window or the door I could see the mound of earth between the fence of tree limbs woven around it, and seeing it, know that in that spot was buried one who in my young life was more to me than earth or heaven. I never understood how I got through those terrible days. I can't remember distinctly. It's all dream-like, as if in a thin, greyish fog. I know that Mrs. Challen held me in her arms—for I was a fragile, girlish thing—like a mother; that the minister said words I never heard; that the strange faces of a few farm people from miles away looked at me; that the grasshoppers were under foot and in the air and even on the coffin; but, above all else, I recall, moving among the other people like somebody from another world, the tall, straight form and sad face of neighbor King who manged everything from the minute his hand fell upon my shoulder that morning until the last limb was knit into the rough fence around the lonely grave. What would happen to me without him?

I'm only a woman—one of the weak ones, I suppose—for I broke down entirely the night after Micah was buried. Mrs. Challen said I went crazy; that I'd kneel down at the side of the bed and cry as if my heart would break; that again and again I went to the front door and looked up and down the lonely, treeless road, and then to the back door, where I would call "Micah! Micah!"—just as I'd been used to calling him to his meals, and I'd listen, with my hand to my ear, to hear him answer. Last of all, worst of all, she said, I went staggering across the street, and, pushing through the rough fence, threw myself upon the grave and begged of the Great Father to give me back the dead that had been so much to me when he was living. I don't wonder at my losing my head. Micah and I were both so young, and we had loved each other so much, as common folks often do, that to lose him was robbing my life of all its brightness and sweetness.

The morning after the funeral neighbor King was round bright and early, finding me red-eyed and weakly.

"Well! well! Mrs. Pyncheon," he began, in what was for him a cheery voice, "what are we a-going to do now besides summing up a little? Are we going to our relations?"

"No, Mr. King," I answered, having thought over the matter, a little, "no I'm going to stay here. I have no relation I want to bother. Here's the place for me and Hannah. The farm is paid for, and all I have is here and—and over there," turning my face to the spot where Micah lay. "If the grasshoppers will let me, I stay."

"Quite right, madam. Very sensible. But, of course, while you can do a good deal, you can't work the farm all alone. That's impossible. I've been giving the matter some thought, and intend to help you out if you'll let me. Suppose we work it on shares? You name my share madam, and I'll take care that my men look after the hard work for you. The hoppers won't leave much for this year; but what there is you shall have, and I'll get my share for this year out of next year's crops. I'm glad that suits you. Now, you must not live here alone. One of my men has a sister in the village, a stout, healthy, willing girl, whowants a home. She'll be glad to come here. I'll try to superintend affairs for you, if you are willing, and make the best of everything. Oh, we'll keep you in good shape, never fear; but you musn't mind my asking questions, so that I can get a knowledge of affairs. Now don't thank me. I'd rather you wouldn't. Just keep cheerful, and as long as we've got to live, let's make the best of life."

This was very good from neighbor King—something you wouldn't expect from such a sad or solemn-looking man, a man so quiet, so reserved, appearing always as if he had some grief of his own, so that he could sympathize with others in misery. He must have been forty years old, for his dark brown hair was showing gray around the temples, and there were deep wrinkles around the corners of his mouth, and lots of little ones around his deep sunken brown eyes. It always seemed to me as if he'd been constructed for a minister or a lawyer, and stopped half-way as a farmer. He was on half-acre farmer, but a worker of hundreds of acres; and my little homestead was only a potato patch alongside of his. The queerest thing about his place was that there wasn't a woman on it. All the work, cooking and everything, was done by men. Well, girls was scarce in those days and those parts, and perhaps that was the reason. Maybe, again, he was afraid of women, and didn't want them bossing aroundd his work. I didn't know and didn't care. It was no concern of mine. I only knew he was mighty good to me in my affliction—the truest, steadiest, most unselfish friend a forlorn woman could have; and every night I prayed for that same neighbor King, asking the Lord to bless him for the goodness and kindness he had shown to me.

True enough, the grasshoppers didn't leave me much that year, just enough to keep soul and body together, with economy. The pesky things eat everything from pussly to leaves. I believe they'd have eaten the green out of the sky if they could have got at it. Why, the earth looked as if the devil had gone over it with a brush of brown paint, missing a spot here and there that come up green after the critters had got away. There was only one thing they didn't eat, and that was themselves—more's the pity!

Neighbor King (his other name was Horace, I found out afterwards) watched my farm matters pretty closely the second year. He tended to my interests before his own, because, as he said, I was a widow and must not suffer. There was hardly a day he did not ride over the little fram to see how things were going, always stopping at the door to have a cheerful talk, or to give me, when coming from the village, a crumb or two of news of the big world so far away, and often he left a newspaper, that I might read myself what was a-going on. This man did everything, in his grave, soothing way, to smooth down my sorrow—not to lead me to forget, for that was impossible—and make the roadway of my life as pleasant as a country lane hedged in with sweet-smelling flowers and alive with birds nestling and twittering among the buds and blossoms. In this quiet, restful, peaceful way neighbor King came, in three years, to build his life into mine, until, thinking matters over, I realized that he was necessary to make that life pleasant. I didn't forget poor Micah—how could I? At the same time I felt that I could not go on alone the balance of my life with the hunger of my heart for some one to love and to love me. And he? Well, not a word out of line had been spoken; but I read the change in his eyes, his looks, his manner, in the tones of his voice. Women read where there's neither print nor writing. I could not tell why he should love me, though as women go I was young—fifteen years younger than he, and fair looking, and a worker. I was companionable and in sympathy with him. Put yourself in my place and be the lonesome, forlorn creature I

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