THE ONLY REPUBLICAN NEWSPAPER AND THE BEST ADVERTISING MEDIUM IN CARROLL COUNTY.

AMERICAN SENTINEL.

JOB WORK OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS BETTER AND CHEAPER THAN ELSEWHERE. ESTIMATES FURNISHED.

$1 PER ANNUM. WESTMINSTER, MD., FRIDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 25, 1903. VOL. 72--NO. 36.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION.

NO. 4063 EQUITY.

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

Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer, executrix of Samuel D. Buchen; Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer and Joseph Schaeffer, her husband, and Elizabeth Buchen, Plaintiffs, vs. Henry Z. Buchen, Jr., Margaret S. Sprinkle and Jesse Sprinkle, her husband, Defendants.

The object of the bill of complaint in this cause is to obtain a decree for the sale of certain real estate situate in the town of Hampstead, Carroll county, Maryland.

The bill states that one Samuel D. Buchen, sometimes called Samuel Z. Buchen, late of said Carroll county, deceased, was at the time of his death seized in equal undivided interests and estate of one-third each, with the defendants Margaret S. Sprinkle and Henry Z. Buchen, as tenants in common in fee simple in and to a parcel of land containing one-half acre, more or less, comprising two lots situate on Main street of the town of Hampstead, in Carroll county, and State of Maryland.

That the said Samuel D. Buchen, by his last will devised his said interest and estate in said parcel of land to the plaintiff, Elizabeth Buchen, his widow, and to the plaintiff, Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer, his daughter, and in said will empowered his executrix, Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer, to sell said estate in said land.

That said Elizabeth Buchen and Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer now hold said interest and estate so devised to them, subject to said power of sale, undivided and in common with the above named defendants.

That said land is not susceptible of partition without material loss and injury to the parties entitled thereto. That the defendants, Margaret S. Sprinkle and Jesse Sprinkle, two of the defendants, are non-residents of the State of Maryland.

And the bill of complaint prays a decree be passed for the sale of said land and for distribution of the proceeds arising from such sale amongst the persons entitled thereto, according to their respective interests.

It is thereupon, this third day of September, 1903, by the Circuit Court for Carroll county, sitting as a Court of Equity, ordered that the plaintiff, by causing a copy of this order to be inserted in some newspaper published in Carroll county, Maryland, once in each of four successive weeks before the fifth day of October, A. D., 1903, give notice to the said defendants who are non-residents of the State of Maryland, of the object and substance of the bill of complaint in this cause, warning them and each of them to appear in this court, in person or by solicitor, on or before the 26th day of October, A. D., 1903, to show cause, if any they have, why a decree ought not to be passed as prayed in the bill.

JAS. H. BILLINGSLEA, Clerk.

True Copy—Test:
JAS. H. BILLINGSLEA, Clerk.
sep 4 4t

ORDER OF PUBLICATION.

NO. 4062 EQUITY.

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

Elizabeth Buchen, Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer, Joseph H. Schaeffer, her husband, and Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer, executrix of Samuel D. Buchen, Plaintiffs, vs. Albert Z. Buchen, Edward Z. Buchen and Jennie Buchen, his wife, Henry Z. Buchen, Jr., Margaret S. Sprinkle and Jesse Sprinkle, her husband, Harriet Dilier, Isabella Neely and Oliver F. Neely, her husband, and Julia Buchen, Defendants.

The object of the bill of complaint in this cause is to obtain a decree for the sale of certain real estate situate in Hampstead, Carroll county, and State of Maryland, and for distribution of the proceeds of such sale amongst the persons entitled thereto.

The bill states that one Samuel D. Buchen, sometimes called Samuel Z. Buchen, late of said county, deceased, died seized of one twenty-seventh part and interest in 3 acres, 3 roods and 5 square perches of land, situate in the town of Hampstead, Carroll county, and State of Maryland, which land he held as tenant in common, in fee simple, with the defendants, Albert Z. Buchen, Henry Z. Buchen, Jr., Edward Z. Buchen, Margaret S. Sprinkle, Harriet Dilier, Isabella Neely and Julia Buchen, in undivided parts.

That said Samuel D. Buchen also died seized of a five-eighteenths undivided part and interest in 3 acres, 3 roods and 6 square perches of land, more or less, situate in said town, county and State, as tenant in common in said land with the above named defendants, in undivided interests and parts.

That said Samuel D. Buchen also died seized of a one-ninth undivided part and interest in a parcel of land comprising two lots, the one containing 53 square perches, and the other of said lots containing 1 rood, 284 square perches of land, more or less, situate in said town, county and State, as tenant in common in said land with the above named defendants, in undivided parts and interests.

That the said Samuel D. Buchen, in his last will, devised all his aforesaid interests and estate in all of said lands to the plaintiff, Elizabeth Buchen, his widow, and the plaintiff, Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer, and empowered his executrix, his said daughter, to sell said interests, so devised, in said lands, who now hold said interest in said lands with said defendants, undivided, in common.

That said lands are not susceptible of partition without material loss and injury to the parties entitled thereto.

That all the above named defendants, excepting Henry Z. Buchen, are non-residents of the State of Maryland.

The bill prays a decree for the sale of said lands, and for the proceeds of such sale to be distributed amongst the persons entitled thereto, according to their respective interests.

It is thereupon, this third day of September, A. D. 1903, ordered by the Circuit Court for Carroll county, sitting as a Court of Equity, that the plaintiffs, by causing a copy of this order to be inserted in some newspaper published in Carroll county, Maryland, once in each of four successive weeks before the fifth day of October, A. D., 1903, give notice to the defendants who are non-residents of the State of Maryland, of the object and substance of the bill of complaint in this cause, warning them and each of them to appear in this court, in person or by solicitor, on or before the 26th day of October, A. D., 1903, to show cause, if any they have why a decree ought not to be passed as prayed.

JAS. H. BILLINGSLEA, Clerk.

True Copy—Test:
JAS. H. BILLINGSLEA, Clerk.
sep 4 4t

ORDER OF PUBLICATION.

NO. 4064 EQUITY.

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

Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer, executrix of Samuel D. Buchen; Elizabeth Buchen and Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer and Joseph H. Schaeffer, her husband, Plaintiffs, vs. Albert Z. Buchen, Isabella Neely and Oliver F. Neely, her husband, Harriet Diller and Edward Z. Buchen, Defendants.

The object of the bill of complaint filed in this cause is to obtain a decree for the sale of certain real estate situate in the town of Hampstead, Carroll county, Maryland, and for distribution of the moneys accruing from such sale amongst the persons entitled thereto.

The bill states that one Samuel D., sometimes called Samuel Z. Buchen, late of said county, deceased, died seized of a one-tenth part of an undivided parcel of land as tenant in common, in fee simple, with the defendants, Albert Z. Buchen, Isabella Neely, Harriet Diller and Edward Z. Buchen, all of whom are non-residents of the State of Maryland, consisting of two lots of land, the one of said lots containing two roods and thirty-two square perches, more or less, and the other lot containing one acre, three roods and twenty square perches, more or less, situate in said town of Hampstead.

That the said Samuel D. Buchen in his last will devised his said interest and estate in said lands to Elizabeth Buchen, his widow, and Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer, his daughter, and by said will empowered the said Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer, as his executrix, to sell his estate in said lands, and that the said estate in said lands of said Samuel D. Buchen, is now vested in the said Elizabeth Buchen and Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer, subject to said power, as tenants in common with the above named defendants in said two lots of land which is still undivided.

That said lots of land are not susceptible of partition without material loss and injury to the parties entitled thereto.

The bill prays a decree for the sale of said lands and for distribution of the moneys accruing from such sale amongst the persons entitled to the same.

It is thereupon ordered this third day of September, 1903, by the Circuit Court for Carroll county, sitting as a Court of Equity, that the plaintiffs, by causing a copy of this order to be inserted in some newspaper published in Carroll county, Maryland, once in each of four successive weeks before the fifth day of October, A. D., 1903, give notice to the defendants who are non-residents of the State of Maryland, of the object and substance of the bill of complaint in this cause, warning them and each of them to appear in this court, in person or by solicitor, on or before the 26th day of October, A. D., 1903, to show cause, if any they have, why a decree ought not to be passed as prayed in the bill.

JAS. H. BILLINGSLEA, Clerk.

True Copy—Test:
JAS. H. BILLINGSLEA, Clerk.
sep 4-4t

PAUL REESE, ARCHITECT,
206 E. Main St., Westminster.
Country Residences a Specialty.
ju 12 tf

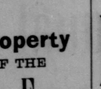
PUBLIC SALE OF Personal Property AND OF ONE OF THE Most Desirable Farms

NEAR WESTMINSTER, MD.

The undersigned, as an individual, and also as Attorney for the owners of the adioining farm, will offer at Public Sale on the premises situated 1½ miles South of Westminster, on the Baltimore and Reisterstown Turnpike, and at the end of the old Baltimore Road, on

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th,

1903, at 1 o'clock, p. m., the following Real Estate and Personal Property: First. A



FARM OF 35 ACRES,

with improvements consisting of a new 15 room DWELLING HOUSE, a new Bank Barn, 40 feet long, Corn House, Wagon Shed, Hog House, and all necessary outbuildings. All new and recently painted.

This farm is well planted in apples, pears, peaches, plums, grapes, blackberries, asparagus, strawberries, cherries, &c. The apple orchard consists of 350 trees, 275 of which are York Imperials, the best exporting apple known to the apple trade. Water at the house and barn. A large lawn and shade in abundance.

Second. Adjoining the above, and bordering on the Turnpike for considerable distance, a

FARM OF 56 ACRES.

The improvements consist of a HOUSE, Barn and other outbuildings in a fair condition.

Third. The two places above referred to will also be offered as a whole farm

CONTAINING 91 ACRES,

because the buildings on the 35 acre farm are large enough for a farm of 91 acres. These two farms will make anyone an elegant farm. The land in both is in good state of cultivation and the buildings, fruit, &c., on the 35 acres are in first-class condition.

Fourth. All the PERSONAL PROPERTY on the 35 Acre Farm, consisting of



2 Bay Horses. (This is a fine pair): 1 Bay Driving Mare, 1 Sorrel Horse, 12 Shoats, 3 Brood Sows, 1 Pig, 2 Jersey Cows and 1 Calf, 3 Jersey Heifers, will be fresh in spring; 1 2-horse wagon, 1 farm cart, 1 Surrey, 1 ladies' Phaeton, 1 Falling-top Buggy, 1 Stick Wagon, 1 no top Buggy, 1 six-passenger Carriage. This carriage has just been painted by Herr & Babylon, all the old paint having been removed; 1 2-horse Dayton Wagon; all the above carriages and wagons have been recently painted. 1 Sweep Power Mill and Horse Power, combined; 1 corn Sheller, 1 Tornado cutter, 6 Acres of CORN and a lot of plows, &c. 1 set double work harness, 1 set double carriage harness, 1 set double buggy harness, 3 sets single harness, flynets, plow harness, 10 halters, 8 or 10 collars, &c. Also a lot of HOUSEHOLD AND KITCHEN FURNITURE. Butchering tools, meat cutter, large kettle, &c.

Terms of Sale of Real Estate:—One-third cash; balance in 6 and 12 months. Deferred payments to be securred to the satisfaction of the undersigned bearing interest from day of sale; or all cash at the option of the purchaser. A deposit of $100.00 will be required of the purchaser.

Terms of Sale of Personal Property:—On all sums of $10.00 or under, cash. On all sums above $10.00 a credit of 6 months will be given, purchasers to give their notes with approved security, bearing interest from the day of sale.

sept 4 4t JOSEPH D. BROOKS.

NOTICE OF THE TIME AND PLACE OF REGISTRATION AND REVISION THEREOF, IN CARROLL COUNTY, MD.

Notice is hereby given by the Board of Supervisors of Election of Carroll county, in pursuance of the directions contained in Sec. 13 of Art. 33 of the Code of Public General Laws of the State of Maryland, that the Board of Registry for the several election districts and precincts of Carroll county, Maryland, will sit for the purpose of registering qualified voters and erasing the names of those disqualified, between the hours of 8 a. m. and 7 p. m. on

Tuesday, September 29th, and Tuesday, October 6th, 1903,

and for the purpose of revision only (on which day no one can be registered) on

Tuesday, October 13th, 1903,

at the following places in the several election precincts and districts, to-wit:

Dist. No. 1.—At Reaver's Storeroom in Rinedollar's Opera House, Taneytown.
Dist. No. 2, First Precinct.—At Johnson Hollenberry's Storeroom, in Uniontown.
Dist. No. 2, Second Precinct.—At the Room adjoining Angell's Store, in Tyrone.
Dist. No. 3.—At the Mystic Chain Hall, in Silver Run.
Dist. No. 4, First Precinct.—At the old Hotel Property in Sandyville, owned by Lewis W. Caple.
Dist. No. 4, Second Precinct.—At the residence of States N. Dell, in Bird Hill.
Dist. No. 5, First Precinct.—At Storeroom of Benj. Dorsey, in Eldersburg, formerly owned by Dr. Shipley.
Dist. No. 5, Second Precinct.—At the Storeroom of Wm. A. Dorsey, Jr., in Berrett.
Dist. No. 6, First Precinct.—At the Firemen's Building, in Manchester.
Dist. No. 6, Second Precinct.—At the Factory of C. M. Masenhimer, in Manchester.
Dist. No. 7, First Precinct.—At the Albaugh Building, corner Court and Main streets, in Westminster.
Dist. No. 7, Second Precinct.—At the Storeroom of the Wilson Buggy and Machine Company, West Main street, in Westminster.
Dist. No. 7, Third Precinct.—At the Home of Meade Ohler, opposite Albaugh Building on Main street, in Westminster.
Dist. No. 7, Fourth Precinct.—At the Lumber, Coal and Supply Company Building, corner Green and Liberty Streets, Westminster, second door on Liberty street from Green.
Dist. No. 8.—At the Firemen's Building in Hampstead.
Dist. No. 9.—At the Residence of John T. Ingles, in Taylorsville.
Dist. No. 10.—At the Home of Mrs. Lynn, in Middleburg.
Dist. No. 11.—at the Residence of C. E. West, Main street, in New Windsor.
Dist. No. 12.—At the Firemen's Building, in Union Bridge.
Dist. No. 13.—At the Storeroom of John B. Runkles, in Mt. Airy.

JOHN M. ROBERTS, President;
HENRY S. MUSSELMAN,
CHARLES H. SMITH,
Board of Supervisors of Election of Carroll County.
Test:
aug 28 7t SAMUEL J. STONE, Clerk.

PUBLIC SALE.

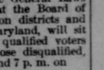
The undersigned, administrators of David Rinehart, late of Frederick county, deceased, will offer at Public Sale, on the premises, on

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29th, 1903,

at 1 o'clock, P. M., that very desirable farm, situate 1½ miles south of Union Bridge, Md., lying between two turnpikes, (both of which lead to Union Bridge,) adjoining the lands of I. C. Rinehart, Samuel Diehl and others, containing

171 ACRES OF LAND, more or less.

The land consists of limestone and blue slate, about 15 acres being in Meadow Land, 15 or 16 acres in Wood Land, and the residue cleared. The place is well watered and in a fine state of cultivation. There is a thrifty young Orchard on the place. About 60 acres is heavily set in grass. The improvments are a large Brick Dwelling House, (cottage style), a large Bank Barn, 48x82, with plenty of Stabling; also all other necessary outbuildings. This is one of the finest farms that has been put on the market for a long while and well worthy the attention of any one desiring a fine country seat. It is convenient to churches, schools, mills, railroad, &c.



There is on the farm a range of fine blue slate which might prove profitable if developed.

Any one desiring further information can call on or address W. S. Rinehart, residing on the premises; P. O. Union Bridge, Md.

Terms of Sale.—One-third cash, balance in 6 and 12 months, deferred payments to be secured to the satisfaction of the undersigned, bearing interest from day of sale; or all cash, at option of purchaser.

WINFIELD S. RINEHART,
LINCOLN W. RINEHART,
sep 18 6t Administrators.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscribers have obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, in Maryland, letters Testamentary on the estate of

GEORGE W. OGG,

late of Carroll county, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated, to the subscribers, on or before the 14th day of April, 1904, they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate.

Given under our hands this 14th day of September, 1903.

GEORGE C. OGG,
LABAN G. OGG,
sept 18 4t Executors.

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

Hering's Department Store.

Fall and Winter Opening.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, OCTOBER 1, 2 and 3.

MILLINERY,
LADIES' SUITS AND COATS,
FURS AND SILK RUFFS.

DRESS GOODS,
SILKS AND VELVETS,
FANCY TRIMMINGS.

FURNITURE,
CARPETS AND RUGS.

WE INVITE YOUR INSPECTION OF FASHION'S LATEST STYLES IN MILLINERY TRIMMINGS, UNTRIMMED SHAPES, READY-TO-WEAR AND TRIMMED HATS. STYLES TO SUIT ALL FANCIES.

Prices to Suit All.

CHARLES. E. HERING, Westminster, Md.

Get Your Suit Made to Order NOW.

SHARRER & GORSUCH, Westminster,,
are showing all the new and correct Suitings and Trouserings for Fall and Winter.

ADVANTAGES WE GIVE YOU IN MERCHANT TAILORING.—We show you the latest and best materials, not samples, but the goods. We give you best linings and workmanship. We guarantee to save you $3 to $5 on each suit, quality, trimmings and make considered. We ask you to see our goods and get prices before placing order for suit this fall. It will pay you to do so. We have bought $10,000

Men's and Boys' Clothing

FOR COMING SEASON. Positively the most extensive and handsomest line of fine CLOTHING ever displayed in Carroll county.

We Are Out For Your Trade

and we present three claims for it: 1st.—The largest assortment to select from. 2nd.—Best styles and qualities. 3rd.—Money saving prices.

Some medium weight Suits left for men and boys, at about HALF PRICE. You will need medium weight Underwear this month. We have a nice line. Sweet Orr Overalls.

STYLISH FALL OVERCOATS $5.00 TO 12.00.

SHARRER & GORSUCH,
oct 11 1y 10 Westminster, Md.

Farmers Look Here!

It will be to your interest before buying your Fertilizers this fall to examine goods and prices at Charles Schaeffer's.

Our goods are not only combined with the greatest care but only, the very best materials are used. Besides all of them have had the test of years, not only in Maryland but in the adjoining States of Pennsylvania and Virginia. We call the attention of Farmers especially to the following brands:

"BIG GUN," "GOVERNOR," "LEADER," and SUPER A" and to our High Grade Acid Phosphate.

If our patrons desire to be satisfactorily posted as to the real merit of these goods we beg to call their attention to any of the regular reports of the State Chemist of Maryland. We also keep on hand the following goods in bulk:

KAINIT, PLASTER, BONE MEAL, TANKAGE,
MURIAGE OF POTASH, NITRATE OF SODA;
ALSO COTTON SEED MEAL.

COME, SEE, AND BE CONVINCED.

CHARLES SCHAEFFER,
sep 18 tf Green Street, near Railroad Depot, Westminster, Md.

FOR SALE.

A DESIRABLE PROPERTY,



at No. 85 West Main Street, Westminster, Md.

Apply to GEO. W. CHRITZMAN.
sep 18 3t*

WM. B. THOMAS

Banker and Broker.
NO. 73 E. MAIN ST., WESTMINSTER.

Discounts Paper, Loans Money, Negotiates Loans, buys and sells Real Estate, Rents Farms for owners and tenants.

PAYS INTEREST ON DEPOSITS.
Rates according to time. Special attention given to collections. dec-9-1y

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL PROPERTY,

IN AND NEAR HAMPSTEAD, CARROLL COUNTY, MARYLAND.

By virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for Carroll county, sitting as a Court of Equity, in cause No. 4063 Equity, wherein James A. C. Bond and another are plaintiffs and Sarah J. Lamotte and others are defendants, the undersigned trustee will offer at Public Sale, on the premises, in Hampstead, Carroll county, Maryland, on

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3rd, 1903,

at 1 o'clock p. m., all the following valuable real estate in Hampstead district, Carroll county, Maryland, of which George W. Lamotte died seized and possessed.

1. All that lot of land situated in Hampstead, containing

1 ACRE, 3 ROODS AND 27 PERCHES

of land, more or less, situated on Sapp Avenue and Black Rock Road. This is a corner lot with a young apple and pear orchard in bearing and is a fine building lot.

2. All that lot of land situated in Hampstead, containing

2 ACRES, 1 ROOD AND 36 PERCHES

of land, more or less, situated on Sapp Avenue and Black Rock Road. This is a corner lot, is well drained and a desirable building lot.

3. All that lot of land containing

THREE-FOURTHS OF AN ACRE

of land, more or less, situated in rear of the railroad station in Hampstead. One-half of this lot is cleared land and the other half is in young timber.

4. All that lot of land containing

7 ACRES AND 3 RODS,

situated about one-half of a mile from Hampstead. This lot is covered with an excellent growth of chestnut timber.

5. All that lot or parcel of land in Hampstead, containing

61 SQUARE PERCHES OF LAND,



more or less, and improved by a Log-weatherboarded Dwelling House, of two stories, with all necessary outbuildings. This property is on the Main street of Hampstead, but a short distance from the railroad station, and has water at the door. It is a corner lot and is well adapted for either a residence or place of business.

A plat will be exhibited on the day of sale of the lots.

Terms of Sale.—One-third of the purchase money on the day of sale, or on the ratification thereof by the court; and the residue in two equal payments of one and two years from the day of sale; or all cash, at the option of the purchaser; the credit payments to be secured by the notes of the purchaser or purchasers, with security to be approved by the trustee, and to bear interest from the day of sale.

THOMAS J. HUNT,
Bond & Parke, Solicitors. Trustee.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Notice is hereby given to the creditors of George W. Lamotte, deceased, to file their claims, with the vouchers thereof, with the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Carroll county, within two months from the day of sale.

THOMAS J. HUNT,
sep 11 4t Trustee.

NOTICE TO MORTGAGE HOLDERS.

Notice is hereby given that the tax on incomes from mortgages is due on and after September 1st. Said tax is divided as follows: One-quarter to State and three-quarters to county. If said tax is paid on or before October 1st, 1903, a deduction of 5 per cent. will be allowed on the State's part; four per cent., if paid on or before November, and three per cent., if paid on or before December 1st, 1903.

On and after January 1st, 1904, interest will be charged at the rate of six per cent. per annum, payable to the County Treasurer.

JOHN E. MASENHIMER,
sept 4 4t County Treasurer.

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

THE HERO.

I saw him at the Soldiers' Home,
Dressed in his faded blue;
"How are you, sir?" I kindly said:
He slowly lifted up his head,
And answered: "How are you?"

With heartfelt reverence I gazed
Upon him standing there
And tried to picture in my mind
The scenes that he had left behind,
To go and do and dare.

In fancy I could see him kiss
His mother tenderly;
I saw the sparkle of her tears,
The sounds of sobs across the years
Came faintly unto me.

And then, in fancy, I beheld
Another, at the gate,
Who clung to him and wept a while
And as he left her tried to smile
And then went back to wait.

"Ah, good gray head," I sadly thought
"To you I owe a debt,
And haply she who saw you go
With dauntless heart to meet the foe
In heaven is waiting yet."

Were you," I asked, "at Gettysburg
And at Mechanicsville?
And did you wade the Rapidan,
O grand and good and brave old man,
And fight at Malvern Hill?"

He looked at me and then replied:
"To-day is pension day!
I let the vets have cash, you know,
At six per cent. a week or so—
I've come to make 'em pay."

S. E. Kiser, in the Chicago Record-Herald.

ON THE VERGE.

BY DAVID LYALL.

From the British Weekly.

Mr. James Wedderburn came out from his room with a queer, dry smile on his face. He held an open letter in his hand, with which he beckoned me from my desk. When I followed him into his room he passed it to me, and made me read it.

"We seem to have a good deal to do just now with affairs matrimonial," he observed. "What do you think of that?"

He had but newly returned from Pittendrie, where he had been attending the marriage of Miss Annie Jeffreys with Captain Balfour Buchanan. He had come back in a very genial mood, though I fancied it at times not untouched by sadness. Perhaps pensive regret were a better term, and I wondered whether he was thinking with tenderness of his lost youth with its many "might have beens." I did not hear the story of that youth, with its crown of self-sacrifice, until years after it was my privilege to know him. It made me love and honor him the more, if that were possible, but of that old story another day.

"It is the letter of a miserable, almost a desperate woman," I answered. "What are you going to do?"

"She must not be allowed to leave him yet, at any rate," he said decisively. "Besides, she will be more miserable away from him. I have seen it again and again."

"But she is very determined. She says nothing will induce her to live with him again; these are her very words."

"Oh, yes, and I've heard them often before. She was desperate and determined, I grant you, when she wrote it, but it won't last. I want you to go out now and explain to her the legal position."

"Which is?"

"That she cannot get a separation on the grounds mentioned in the letter, and that if she persists in leaving her husband's house, he is not bound to support her, and, moreover, he can take the child."

I turned to the letter again and read it through.

"They have had a bitter quarrel, evidently," I said. "Do you know anything about them?"

"I know him pretty well. I don't think the fault is his. Certainly he is incapable of such conduct as she attributes to him. He is a fine fellow, but he has the national characteristics very strongly marked in his character and disposition. He is reserved to to a degree and couldn't make a fuss save his life. She is English."

Mr. Wedderburn's utterance of the last sentence seemed to me to explain everything but it made me curious to hear something more.

"You think it is a risk, then, for a Scotchman to marry an English woman?"

"Oh, well, perhaps risk is too strong a word; but there can be no doubt the national characteristics are directly opposed. Now this wife of James Abercrombie's is a highly-strung, sensitive creature, who lives on words and signs. Realities mean nothing to her. Everything must be embroidered. Abercrombie can't do it—there it is. Then his relations have made it rather hot for her. I'm sorry for her, too; but she wants a good, sharp lesson."

"Is she young?"

"Yes; not yet thirty, and handsome. The fact is, she came from a big family, where she was idolized. She lived in a garrison town, too, where admiration never lacked. It was an awful change for her to come to Edinburg, with its stuff, west-endy ways. She has mortally hated it since ever she came, and has made no secret of her discontentment, which has been very galling to the Abercrombies, as they only tolerated the marriage, doing everything they could to prevent it."

"Won't she resent my going down?" I asked bluntly. "She would rather see you, I am sure."

"Not she. That sort of woman will always talk more readily to a young man than an old one. But if there is any feeling shown about it, tell her to come up and see me tomorrow at ten. I shall be engaged the whole day on Dalziel's case, and she wants an immediate answer."

Thus fortified, I took my way to the residence of the Abercrombies, which was situated in a handsome terrace on the other side of the Dean Bridge. I had performed many a strange errand for Mr. Wedderburn, and some wherein I felt awkward and at a loss, but I had seldom felt more uncomfortable than that snell November day when I knocked at James Abercrombie's door. I was shown at once into the great drawing-room which ran the whole breadth of the house. From the windows at the back there was a glorious prospect, which even on that wild November day did not lack in charm. The sea tossed tumultuously under the lash of the "nor'easter," and the waves all rode on the white horse, beloved and feared of my childhood. The low coast-line of Fife seemed sharply cut into the long yellow rim of a darkly lowering sky. The seabirds were all on the wing, sometimes circling low upon the angry sea, their white wings sweeping the dark water with a fearlessly caressing touch. I had not yet taken my fill of this fine picture when I heard the door opened by no ungentle hand behind me. I turned hastily, and I saw a swift glance of surprise and anger on the handsome face of James Abercrombie's wife.

"I expected Mr. Wedderburn," she said, sharply; why is he not here?"

"He sends his respectful apologies, madam, but being engaged all day at the Parliament House, he cannot wait upon you today.

"And pray who are you?"

"My name is Lyall, madam, and I have the honor to be Mr. Wedderburn's confidential clerk."

"His confidential clerk!" she repeated still covering me with her flashing, imperious gaze. I may be forgiven my passing thought that a household ruled by that gaze would dwell more in fear than in love. "Perhaps, then, you are acquainted with the contents of the letter I wrote to him last night?"

"Yes, madam, I am," I replied, and stopped there, fearing to commit myself further.

"Tell me what he said, then," she said imperiously. "Did he send you with any further message to me?"

"He said that if you would allow me I was to explain your legal position. If not, that he could see you tomorrow morning at ten o'clock."

"What is the legal position, then?" she briefly asked.

I explained it to her as clearly as I could, and the frown deepened on her face as she listened.

"If that is your Scotch law," she explained, in high scorn, "it is all of a piece with the rest of you. There is neither justice nor courtesy nor anything worth the having in this country. I would to God I had never seen it."

At that moment I saw a door open at the far end of the long room and a small figure in white peep in. Then a joyous shout rang through the air, and the child bounded to his mother's side. A strange, tremulous smile curved Mrs. Abercrombie's lips, and she flung her arms round the child and drew him closely to her side. The same thought, I knew was in both our minds, that here was the only means of salvation for the unhappy pair.

"The law that would seek to separate a child from his mother is wicked and cruel and unjust; do you not think so?" she asked, curtly.

"The same law holds good in England, madam," I said, "and the cruelty and injustice would entirely depend on the circumstances."

"Oh, I know. I might have known it would be impossible for an unprotected woman to obtain consideration here," she said passionately. "But I will not be be frightened into servile submission to the Abercombie clan, neither will I suffer them to rob me of my son. You may tell your master if you like, that a woman's wit may yet be able to circumvent their laws, even if she be but an English woman."

I did not reply, for my attention was arrested by the movements of the child. He had wandered to a small escritoire in one of the windows, and taken therefrom a silver photograph frame, at which he was looking with adoration in his eyes.

"My dad," he said proudly, advancing to show it to me.

I saw that his mother was chagrined, but I took the photograph, and looked at it with no small interest. It represented a tall, grave, fine-looking man, whose face I recognized at once. I had often seen him in the streets. He did not look like one to be trifled with. It was the old story of one strong will pitted against another, and a total lack of that mutual forbearance, which is the only sure rock upon which to bear the matrimonial fabric. When I handed back the photograph to the child he kissed it tenderly, and holding it to his little breast, talked sweet, loving, baby words to it. I marvelled that the sound did not melt the woman's heart to her husband. It is only the good and the truly kind who win such passionate love from a child. In view of his son's attitude toward him, it was my thought that James Abercombie might have been forgiven much. Yet I did not believe that he was greatly to blame?

"What is your message to Mr. Wedderburn, madam?" I asked, feeling myself dismissed.

"Only this, that I will not accept what he is pleased to call my legal position. I will make a position for myself. I will show them all that I can protect my own interests, Scotch though they be."

With these unpromising words ringing in my ears, I returned the way I had come; but it was long before the picture of the little Cecil hugging his father's photograph faded from my mind.

Mrs. Abercrombie was as good as her word. Next day a cab drove up hastily to the door of our premises, and a white faced, haggard man rushed into Mr. Wedderburn's room. I recognized him at once as James Abercrombie, and surmised from his distraught look that some crisis had come. He stayed a long time, and seemed calmer when my chief showed him out.

Another client was waiting to see him, and it was late in the afternoon before I got my satisfaction concerning Mr. Abercrombie's visit.

"She has taken the law into her own hands, Lyall," he observed, after he had dictated his various letters. "Mrs. Abercrombie, I mean. She's off."

"Off! Where?"

"That's what he's got to find out. When he got back from business yesterday evening it was only to learn that she and the boy had gone off by train early in the day."

"Probably she has gone back to Colchester," I suggested.

"No. He wired there last night and again this morning, and they have heard nothing of her. It's my belief that she has not gone out of Edinburg.

"But surely that would be absurd."

"Not so very, I think. She would have the satisfaction of watching the course of events," he said with a dry smile. "I have advised him to leave her severely alone for a few weeks, after he has discovered her whereabouts."

"Is he likely to discover her, do you think?"

"Oh, certain. I have told him to put Patrick Chiene on her track." After the reconciliation, which will, of course, take place in due course, through the child, I have advised him to take them away for a long voyage. While they are gone I will look out for a country place for them. She must be got away from all his people.

"How can you think it all out so cleverly, sir?"

"Oh, it's my business, and it is easy to arrange matrimonial affairs from the outside. Nobody knows better how to manage a husband or wife than the person who has never had one."

Time proved that Mr. Wedderburn was right. But the denouement occurred in the most unlikely of all places—his own office. One morning when James Abercrombie was closeted with my chief, a cab rattled noisily up to the door; and I saw Mrs. Abercrombie alight, accompanied by her boy. It was now the month of January, seven weeks since the November day I had seen her in her own house. These weeks had told upon her; I thought her head less haughtily carried, and there was a hungry, wistful look in her eyes which could have but one significance. Absence had done its work, and I had no doubt in my own mind that love had prevailed upon her to seek a second counsel from Mr. Wedderburn. The child looked well, and not unhappy. Perhaps it is too much to say that the young quickly forget, but it is certain that troubles of the heart lie upon them lightly, and we thank God that it is so. I hastened forward to receive her; she recognized me by a slight bow.

"Mr. Wedderburn is engaged, but will be at liberty presently, madam," I said, and showed her into the little waiting room, where I left her, and knocked at Mr. Wedderburn's door. He looked annoyed, I thought, at being disturbed.

"I beg pardon, sir, but Mrs. Abercrombie is here with her son," I said, hurriedly,

I saw his face change.

"It is the working of Providence," he said, quickly. "Bring her here. Yes, I'll risk it; bring her here."

I went back and brought the unconscious pair to the door of the private room. My own heart beat. It was a critical moment. The child, with all the impetuousness of his age, pushed the door wide, and then a shrill, sweet, wondering cry broke the sedate stillness of our respectable house.

"Dad! oh, my dad!"

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