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

AMERICAN SENTINEL.

JOB WORK OF LL DESCRIPTIONS BETTER AND CHEAPER THAN ELSEWHERE. —o— ESTIMATES FURNISHED.

$1 PER ANNUM. WESTMINSTER, MD., FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 12, 1906. VOL. 75--NO. 2.

TO THE PUBLIC.

In view of the many inquiries that have been most naturally made during the past week, it becomes our duty to make a frank statement to the public.

Because of the fact that a number of persons are interested in the AMERICAN SENTINEL and job printing office; for the protection of all these interests the undersigned were by the Circuit Court for Carroll County, sitting as a Court of Equity, appointed Receivers, and will continue the publication of the AMERICAN SENTINEL and all the work of the office, under the same business and editorial management that existed before the death of Mrs. E. J. Rippard.

So far as the interests of the public are concerned there is no change whatever in the conduct of the office, and we solicit the continued patronage of subscribers and advertisers, assuring them that they will receive as in the past, faithful and efficient service.

E. O. GRIMES, Jr.,
W. L. SEABROOK,
Receivers.

DIVIDEND NOTICE NO. 95.

Farmers and Mechanics National Bank of Wes minster.
Westminster, Md., December 30th, 1905.
The President and Directors have this day declared a Dividend of
THREE AND A HALF PER CENT.
on the Capital Stock, out of the earnings of the past six months, payable to the stockholders of this date, on and after January 6th, 1906, clear of Federal, State and County Taxes.
JOHN H. CUNNINGHAM,
jan 5 3t Cashier.

DIVIDEND No. 179.

Union National Bank of Westminster.
Westminster, Md., December 30th, 1905.
The President and Directors of this Bank have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of
FIVE PER CENT,
upon the Capital Stock of the Bank, clear of National, State and County Taxes, payable on and after Tuesday, January 9th, 1906.
jan 5 3t J. W. Hering, Cashier.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.

First National Bank of New Windsor, Md.
New Windsor, December 30th, 1905.
Stockholders of this Bank are hereby notified, that the President and Directors have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of
THREE AND ONE HALF PER CENT. (3½)
on the Capital Stock, clear of State, County and U. S. Taxes, payable on and after January 6th, 1906.
NATHAN H. BAILE,
jan 5 3t Cashier.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.

The First National Bank of Westminster.
Westminster, Md., December 30th, 1905.
The President and Directors have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of
FOUR AND A HALF PER CENT.
on the Capital Stock of this Bank, clear of Federal, State and County Taxes, payable on and after January 9th, 1906. City of Westminster Taxes paid for Stockholders will be deducted from dividend.
GEORGE R. GEHR,
jan 6 3t Cashier.

NO. 4183 EQUITY.

In the Circuit Court for Carroll County.

Martha J. Shriner and Theodore J. Shriner, her husband, plaintiff4, vs. Noah F. Fleagle, Eliza Fleagle, his wife, et al., defendants.

Ordered, this 5th day of January, A. D. 1906, 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 22nd day of January, inst.; provided a copy of this order be inserted for two successive weeks before the last named day in some newspaper published in Carroll county.
DAVID P. SMELSER, Clerk.
True Copy,—Test:
jan 5 2t DAVID P. SMELSER, Clerk.

NO. 4121 EQUITY.

In the Circuit Court for Carroll County.

Charles T. Reifsnider, Jr., et al., plaintiffs, vs. Bettie S. Reifsnider, widow, et al., defendants.

Ordered, this 3rd day of January, A. D., 1906, that the 2nd 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 22nd day of January inst.; provided a copy of this order be inserted for two successive weeks before the last named day in some newspaper published in Carroll county.
DAVID P. SMELSER, Clerk.
True Copy—Test:
jan 5 2t DAVID P. SMELSER, Clerk.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, Md., letters Testamentary on the estate of
SARAH SWARTZBAUGH,
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 subscriber, on or before the 2nd day of August, 1906; they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate.
Given under my hand this 2nd day of January, 1906.
DANIEL F. SHIPLEY,
jan 6 4t Executor.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, Md., letters of administration on the estate of
CELIA A. BROWN,
late of Carroll county, deceased. All persons having c aims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated, to the subscriber, on or before the 18th day of July, 1906, they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate
Given under my hand this 18th day of December, 1905.
JULIA JANE COON,
dec 22 4t Administratrix.

PUBLIC SALE OF VALUABLE REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY.

The undersigned, as executrix of Joel Myers, ate of Carroll county, deceased, by virtue of an order of the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, will offer at Public Sale, on the premises, near Bruceville Station, Carroll county, Md., on
TUESDAY, JANUARY 23rd, 1906,
at 1 o'clock, P. M., the following Valuable Real Estate, consisting of

13½ ACRES OF LAND,



in good condition; the improvements thereon consist of a substantial Brick Dwelling House, 50 ft. front, containing 10 rooms and attic, also Basement and two Cellars, with a Well of excellent Water at the door; Barn, Wagon-shed, Carriage House, and other outbuildings.

The property is splendidly located, with very pleasant surroundings, plenty of fruit in variety and is an especially desirable home.

Terms—One-third of the purchase money to be paid said executrix on the day of sale or on the ratification thereof by the said court, and the residue in two equal payments, the one payable in 6 months and the other payable in 12 months from day of sale; the credit payments to be secured by the bonds or single bills of the purchaser or purchasers, bearing interest from the day of sale, or all cash at the option of the purchaser or purchasers.
MRS. B. F. WELTY,
Executrix of Joel Myers.

Also, at the same place and on same date, at 9:30 A. M., will be sold a large lot of Personal Property, consisting in part of
3 HORSES, 3 COWS, WAGONS,
Implements, Household Furniture, etc. For items see large posters. jaa 6 3t

HAVE YOU CATARRH?

Catarrh is the fore-runner of consumption, and should be attended to without delay. I wish to announce that I have taken the agency for Dr. Blosser's FAMOUS CATARRH CURE, the only remedy that helped me, and I have tried many others. This remedy is the result of thirty-one years of experimenting, and it stands on its merits. It is put up in packages containing one month's treatment, in either pipe or cigarette form. I will give to any one suffering from Catarrh a five days' treatment for the asking.
W. T. JARBOE,
dec. 29 4t* Winfield, Md,

BABYLON & LIPPY CO.

"The New Store!"

GREAT DISCOUNT SALE

OF MEN'S, BOYS' AND CHILDREN'S SUITS, OVERCOATS, AND HATS
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION GOES INTO EFFECT

TO-DAY

AND WILL LAST 20 DAYS.

Every garment marked at original prices will be sold during this great sale, to make room for spring stock, at a discount of 25 PER CENT. 25 per cent regardless of what they cost us. We do not want to carry any goods over, therefore WILL during this discount sale, sacrifice our entire stock of Clothing and Hats.

Take advantage of this great opportunity for saving money and buy all the Clothing and Hats you need at a

SAVING OF 25 PER CENT DISCOUNT.

Ladies' and Misses' Suits and Coats.

Our Great Reduction Sale of Ladies' and Misses Suits and Coats has been quite a success and our stock of sizes is getting broken up, although every garment left is thoroughly a bargain. We advise you to come quick and look our lines over before making your purchase.

Blankets and Comforts.

Blanket and Comfort Sale will continue until sold, prices being cut to cost and in many instances far below cost. To appreciate the qualities and low prices of our Blankets and Comforts call and examine our line.

Black Hose, Muslins, Outings, Flannelettes.

100 Dozen regular 15c Black Hose, in all sizes, we offer for a limited time at 10 cents pair.

2000 yards yd. wide Unbleached Muslin, fully worth 8c, our price 5 cents yard.

1500 yards of regular 9c Bleached Muslin, 36 inches wide, a great Bargain, 6 3-4 cents yard.

1800 yards regular 8c Outing, all colors and very desirable, our price until sold 5 cents yard.

2000 yards of the choicest patterns and qualities of Flannelettes and Outings, that sold at 10 and 12c yard; we will close them out at 8 cents yard. All the above items will positively be on sale until sold. All new goods, no old stock.

Sham Holders the Woman's Gretest Friend.

Our sale has been enormous the prices being absolutely the cheapest known. Will last a life time. Only a limited quantity left.

Felt Boots. Felt Boots.

Special bargain in Men's Felt Boots. Having secured a limited quantity from reliable manufacturers, will offer them until sold. All sizes at the low price of $1.98 pair.

BABYLON & LIPPY CO.,

BABYLON BUILDING, OPPOSITE LIBERTY STREET. WESTMINSTER, MD.

300 OVERCOATS, 500 Suits,

That Must Be SOLD AT

SHARRER & GORSUCH'S, Westminster,

The store at which if you are wise you will always buy Men's and Boy's Clothing, because they sell you best Suits and Overcoats at LOWEST PRICES.

BEGINNING January 2nd,

A GENUINE REDUCTION ON SPLENDID

Winter Suits and Overcoats.

Special Big Bargain in Stylish Fancy Overcoats. $18 Coats $12. $15 Coats $10. Young men, if you want the latest don't miss this offer. BIG CUT IN PRICES ON

BOYS' and YOUTHS' OVERCOATS.

A lot of Youths' Fine Suits, $2 to $3 reduction on each Suit. Men's Elegant $15 and $16 Suits $13.00. Bargains in cheaper Suits $5 to $10. $23 and $25 HANDSOME WORSTED SUIT PATTERNS, made to order this month. $19. $18 and $20 qualities now $16. $16 patterns $13.50. Stylish Rain Coats $10 and $12. A few Fine FUR GLOVES AND COLLARS left at a reduction. Still selling best 38c Underwear in Carroll county. Lots of Fine Underwear to keep you warm. Also good Sweaters and Cardigan Jackets at low prices. Everyone comes here for Men's and Boys' best Cord Pants.

feb 10 1y 13 SHARRER & GORSUCH, Westminster, Md.

JOHN D. BOWERS.

We heartily thank our patrons, for the year just past, for their co-operation and liberal dealing. It was the best year in my trade, near and country business. We will in the future show our patrons our appreciation and continue to merit their trade. You can buy the

BEST and FRESHEST HERE

and it does not cost you ONE CENT more than elsewhere. Just stop one minute and think over it, then you will see the advantage. We buy from first hands and get best prices for cash which enables us to sell you at low prices for

FIRST CLASS GOODS.

Again thanking our patrons and inviting a continuance of your favor, I remain, yours for a prosperous year.

We are giving One Soda Ticket with every cash purchase of ONE DOLLAR, except Sugar.

jan 23 04 1y 10 JOHN D. BOWERS, 47 and 49 East Main St., Westminster. Both Phones.

Charles E. Hering, Fire and Life Insurance AGENCY.

No. 14 W. Main St., Westminster, Md.

(NOTARY PUBLIC.) ap 7 tf

J. Milton Reifsnider,
Attorney-at-Law and Solicitor in Chancery.
OFFICE—Albaugh Block, Court St., Westminster, Md. oc-21-1y

THREE LECTURES ON THE GREAT CITIES OF THE WORLD, SUPERBLY ILLUSTRATED, WILL BE GIVEN BY REV. CURTIS LEE LAWS, D. D., IN ALUMNI HALL, 8 P. M.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12th, The Cities of Italy.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19th, Paris and Its Environs.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26th, London and Excursions Therefrom.

Admission to Each Lecture, 25 Cents.

If the receipts should be more than enough to pay the expenses the surplus will be spent in securing another lecture. Those who buy a ticket for the Course, paying 75 cents, will be entitled to attend the fourth lecture free, if thre eshould be a fourth.

Those who have attended this Course as given in Baltimore and elsewhere say that they are equal to Stoddard's Lectures.

dec 15 td

DOYLE & MAGEE,

30 W. Main St., Westminster.

The new firm will carry the largest stock of

VEHICLES, HOUSE FURNITURE,

as well as the most complete line of

Farm Machinery

ever offered in Carroll county. The old stock, excepting repairs, has been disposed of and an entire NEW STOCK bought for 1906.

If you are in need of a

SLEIGH,

see ours before buying, especially our high grade Sleighs. Remember, we handle the celebrated

Ross Feed and Ensilage Cutters.

We will buy 1000 Bushels CLOVER SEED. Bring in a sample of your seed and get our prices.

DOYLE & MAGEE,
dec 22 1y Westminster.

Pianos and Organs.

PIANOS: Behr Bros & Co., Chickering, Blasius & Sons, Hobart M. Cable, Newman Bros.

ORGANS: ESTEY and Newman Bros.

All sold at MODERATE PRICES and on EASY TERMS.

☞ Call and see goods and get prices before purchasing elsewhere.

JOHN T. ROYER,
West Main Street, Westminster, Md.
oct 16 tf

CLAUDE TILDEN SMITH,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
WESTMINSTER, Md.
Office No. 7 Court Street. 12 tf

Protect Yourself From Loss BY WIND-STORMS.

Wind-Storm Insurance Policies Issued very low and losses promptly adjusted. No charge for Policy to persons who have their Fire Insurance in this Agency. Drop a postal card to or call on

JAMES E. SMITH,
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GEORGE O. BRILHART,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
WESTMINSTER, MD.
Office with Chas. E. Fink, Esq., Court St. Residence New Windsor,

THE SILENT PARTNER.

(By Lynn Roby Meekins in the Delineator.)

'Business dear Uncle Marshall, why do you speak of business?'

'Because it is my duty,' said the pleasant old gentleman, whose face looked as good and as sound as a gold dollar.

'And you know I do not understand a single word. I listen and I forget. Why not draw up your chair and toast yourself before the fire and tell what Aunt Martha has been doing today and when you are both coming to dine with me?'

She smiled in the pride of ignorance, and her blue eyes beamed merrily upon him. It was Laura Dalton's delight to tease her excellent uncle when he insisted on giving her facts and figures, and now in the satisfied after hour of dinner she was feeling too radiant in mind and dress for the problems of dollars and cents.

But Mr. Marshall Dalton protested. 'You know well enough,' he said, 'that I inform you of everything connected with your money, whether you make note of it or not.'

'I'm afraid all I do is to make change of notes,' she laughed. 'Now, really, Uncle Marshall, why should I bother? You take care of the estate; I would trust you with my life, and when I want money you give it so beautifully that ——'

'Well,' he interrupted, 'if you do not pay attention, I cannot help it. But it does not excuse me. I make my report to you not only because it is right, but because it is necessary to my own satisfaction. When your father left you and your money in my care I considered the responsibility sacred——'

'And the burden enormous,' she put in, extending her hands in a gesture of infinity.

'Iv'e come to see you on busines,' he insisted, and I'm going to talk business;' and she sat in mock resignatson while he went soberly on: 'Almost all of your money is in bonds, but several years ago I put some of it in good mortgages, the largest of which will be due in a few days. Ordinarily I should have no hesitation in extending it, but the case is peculiar. It is on the Superior Mill which is out of the Trust, and the Trust is going to force it into bankruptcy. That is the confidential information I received today. So far the Trust people have not shown their hands, but they have the whole situation in their power—the notes, the second mortgage, and most important of all, the local banks, so that when an application is made for a renewal of the notes next Wednesday, Carter Keene will simply be unable to find enough money to——'

Her indifference vanished. She sat upright in the chair, 'Carter Keene!' she exclaimed. 'What has he to do with it?'

'Keene owns the Superior Mill. He is fighting the Trust, and he is doing so well that they have got to crush him, or he may——'

'But if he gets the money?' she asked eagerly.

'That's the point. He can't get it. The Trust rules in every bank in Sheffield. He doesn't know what's hanging over him. That's the way a Trust fights. It lets its victim grow overconfident, and then it acts. It's hard on Keene, but we've nothing to do with that. I have come to tell you this because I want you to feel that when the failure comes you need have no uneasiness. Your money is in the first mortgage and you are absolutely secured.'

A tap sounded on the door and a servant brought in a card.

'Mr. Carter Keene,' she read.

Mr. Dalton went downstairs with her, and, as she proceeded to the parlor, he continued to the front door.

Carter Keene was tall and straight. His manner was buoyant and joyous, and his conversation sparkled from the beginning. He carried Laura Dalton with his mood, and she soon forgot Uncle Marshall and his finances, but after a while there came one or two of those familiar and inevitable calms in which the tides of conversation meet in slack water, and the sober remembrance of what her uncle had said came upon her. She began to wonder if Carter Keene had the slightest inkling of his danger—wondered if he knew how he could avert it. They had known each other many years. They had been much together. Carter had been one of her father's employees, and had, in the course of time, struck out for himself and had done well. In Sheffield, Laura Dalton and Carter Keene were pointed out as the handsomest couple in the city—she the acknowledged belle of the local societies and an heiress into the bargain; he an energetic and progressive manufacturer who gloried in his industrial independence and who would not bow to the Trust or its threats. In her thoughtfulness she raised the fan and looked solemnly to the floor, and then she gazed at him with a bit of a smile as she said:

'I fear that I am a great sorrow to Uncle Marshall. He insists on talking business, and I always tell him that I do not want to hear about it. We had one of our usual interviews tonight. But somehow after he left I regretted that I did not show more interest. I believe that I should like to know more about business.'

'Naturally,' he said. 'Your father was the business genius of Sheffield. He made the city what it is. The rest of us are mere tallow dips compared with him. You certainly inherit some of his qualities'

'What qualities?'

'All of them,' he replied admiringly.

'But what special ones?'

'It is not easy to select; but I should say, first, his wonderful calm and level judgment, his clear and ready mind. He was the quickest in decision of any man I ever knew, and when he decided he acted; and before most men could begin he had scored. The fate of this place hung upon him more than once. I well recall how the whole industrial situation here was saved because he had the foresight and the courage to steady it and to keep it on high lines. If he had failed he would have lost every cent he had—but he was not the man to fail.'

Keene's tribute to her father was not new, but she alwaye enjoyed hearing him repeat it, even though she did not like business.

'Why do men strive so?' she asked. 'Why do they toil so hard and spend the hours of sunshine in stuffy rooms? I hear you are at your office as early as your workmen and that you are about the last to leave. Why?'

'That is easily answered,' he said. 'It is because I want to accomplish something worth while.'

'To make a fortune?' she asked again. 'Are you so fond of money?'

He laughed. 'Money is the means of other satisfaction—even ambition cuts a very sorry figure without it.'

'Now, that's interesting,' she declared more positively. 'Your ambitions soar above money?'

'Miles.'

'But'—she tapped the fan thoughtfully upon the arm of the chair—'snppose you spend your life in getting this money; suppose you wear out your best years in an old office when there are so many pleasanter things to do? And suppose the money dosen't come or suppose after you get it you lose it, or—'

'Oh,' he objected, 'you put it wrong. You must not doubt yourself—you must work on feeling that the money is coming—and believe me, if you do your duty, it will come.'

'And then what will you do with it?'

'Just what I want to do——'

'Which is——'

'The aim of every sensible man—to reach the point where he may feel justified in asking the woman he loves to be his wife—when he may be able to build the home of his dreams—when'—

'By which time she may have married another.'

'No, no, no,' he declared emphatically. 'She is not that kind of woman. If she loves she will wait—she will marry no other. If she does not love, she will not marry anyhow. So you see I'm safe.'

'She must be exceptional.'

'She is. And you have no idea how good it is to love her, to feel that some day—why,' he exclaimed with increased enthusiasm, 'every day as I see my mills doing better I find myself saying to the wheels, 'Roll on, roll on; you're bearing me nearer to her.''

'She laughed merrily.' Such romance!' she said. 'Like poetry set to machinery. Does it rumble her name?'

'Constantly,'

'And it is—'

'A secret,' he laughed, rising and holding the palms of his hands toward her in protest. 'A secret that even you cannot draw from me.'

'Are you going?'

'In absence is the only safety,' he declared. 'Do you recall the days we went crabbing? Do you remember how some of the crustaceans would sometimes sever a captured part so as to save the rest of the body? If my secret stays here longer you may get your net around it, and then—' he hesitated for a word.

'And then—' she asked archly.

'We might both be sorry. So goodnight. I leave part of myself hanging to your line, and, like the crab, I shall proceed by going backward,' and, suiting his action to his words, he bowed himself out.

When he was gone she looked around the beautiful parlor of her home without really seeing any of its treasures, or remembering the gatherings of women it had held—social and patriotic meetings, covering wide ranges of interests, from music and art to most of the feminine philanthropies. She forgot her own leadership in these enterprises, and it did not occur to her that in them she had found an outlet for the qualities that came to her from her father. He had possessed an enlightened idea of money-getting; and she had applied her mental inheritance to enlightened plans of money-spending.

But it was not the thought of these things that filled her solemn meditation. Carter Keene stood very clearly before her mind. His pleasant jest was not upon his lips. She saw a man—a real man—a man full of confidence and purpose—a man straight with the world—a man who was honest, sincere, unafraid, who had strived well and gone forward in his work. And this man was so uplifted and spiritualized by love that he could hear music in machinery! Was it fair that he should be the victim of a conspiracy? Was it right that he should awake from his dreams of happiness and find himself trapped and ruined?

Then a contrast came—and this man seemed of larger deserving than all the incompetents, unfortunates and importunates of Sheffield put together. Suppose her father sat in her place with the wealth he had left her? Would he see Carter Keene go down for the lack of a helping hand?

She tried to look at the matter impersonally. With whom was he in love? It made little difference. He was in love—that was enough.

A fervor for business came upon her. Why not? She had the means. She had the desire. She could do something. Her eyes gazed upon figures and possibilities. She slept fitfully. She was awake with the day. She barely touched her breakfast. Nine o'clock never seemed so long coming, for it was at nine that Mr. Marshall Dalton went to his office, and he had not opened his mail when she was standing before his desk.

'Why, Laura!' he exclaimed, 'what in the world has brought you out so early?'

'My conscience, Uncle, my poor, procrastinating conscience.'

'Sit down,' he said, and she obeyed. 'Now, tell me.'

'It's about last night,' she began quite earnestly. 'I'm sorry I was so inattentive. I came to bring my apologies and to say that I have changed my mind—I want to know more about business. I am ready now to listen and to—remember.'

Mr. Dalton's eyebrows went as far they could toward interrogation marks. 'My dear,' he replied benevolently, 'I really never blamed you. I knew you were interested in other things, and so I made allowances. My only wish was that you should fully understand what I had done and was doing with your money.' He paused and then he added with a broader smile, 'I think I shall profit by your present mood and not let you go until I have made you understand.'

'I am ready,' she said.

Mr. Dalton lost no time. He was the soul of method, with the details at command, and she was soon sitting at his side, going over with him lists of securities and rows of figures. Finally, when her head felt like a school arithmetic, she looked in surprise at the imposing totals, and said:

'I thought I had spent so much.'

'That's the trouble,' he declared; 'you don't spend your income, and my difficulty is in keeping the surplus invested. Everything your father touched seemed to turn to gold, and the increase has gone on, for he did not leave an idle or unproductive dollar.'

'Suppose I should want a large sum for any particular purpose—want it at once, I mean. Of course,' she quickly added, 'it is not likely that I will spend it without your knowledge. But if I should want it, might I have it?'

'Within an hour.'

Another interview was in progress in Carter Keene's office.

'Mr. Keene,' said the spokesman of a committee of three from the Trust, three most polite and cheerful gentlemen, 'you know, of course, why we are here. We have tried to buy your mill; we have made you liberal offers, and we are still disposed to act more than fairly. But we cannot afford to let the negotiations drag on. The two mills in Sheffield must come under one ownership—yours or ours. We will sell, or we will buy.'

'When?'

'Today.'

'On what terms?'

'Two hundred thousand cash and the agreement of the selling party to keep out of Sheffield.'

'Let's get that in writing,' said Keene calmly.

It was done. 'I suggest,' said the Trust spokesman, 'the payment of a thousand dollars now to bind the matter and the rest some time this afternoon—say at two P. M.'

'That is satisfactory,' said Keene. 'Excuse me a moment.' He went from the room for a little while, and when he returned he threw a package on the table, saying, I happened to have this in my safe. I think you'll find a thousand there.'

It was as though a bomb had been thrown among them. The smiles left their faces, and consternation came, as the spokesman said haltingly, 'We thought you were selling!'

'No, I'm buying,' answered Keene with a bit of triumph in his words.

The three men looked at one another, and suddenly their solemnity passed. Their change of expression was as though they had forgotten something unusually humorous. The smiles remained all through the fixing of the papers—remained when they bowed themselves out and called to Carter Keene that they would be back at two o'clock.

'I like his nerve,' said the leader in true admiration, 'but I pity him when he awakes to facts; I really do, but,' this more solemnly, 'business is business.'

At first Carter Keene could not realize it. When he did he almost shouted with joy. At last! At last! The whole field, supremacy, victory, fortune—each and all were his. What he had expected after years of ambition and toil had come in the twinkling of a cold, purposeful bluff. And he had called it. Each mill was worth every penny of two hundred thousand dollars to the other. It was worth a good half million to Sheffield. The money? He need not worry. He knew he had saved Sheffield's prosperity. If the Trust had bought, it would have closed both mills. But he had bought of the Trust, and he had no fears. It would be an easy matter to get the cash in the four hours—there was no necessity for hurry—but he believed in pushing it through—and so he started.

Then began the awakening. Bankers congratulated him; they endorsed his arguments; they praised his independence and progressiveness, but really they had little money to lend. Such sums as he needed? Impossible! If he gave them a week or two they might—but the notice was too short—entirely too short. Perhaps the next bank—but no, it was the same story. He saw. He was shut out. Now he knew why the Trust men smiled. And within a week his notes and mortgages would become due. He saw clearly what it meant. Ruin! Ruin! Ruin! His face grew white; his eyes became heavy and red; he felt as if years instead of minutes were passing and pressing. From the last bank he stumbled—almost reeled—and he did not know the sun was shining—everything was black and frightful. He did not see Laura Dalton coming from her uncle's office a few doors away. He did not hear her calling—not at first—but the second time he raised his hat mechanically and before she could say a word, he turned and almost ran toward his mill.

She looked for a moment at Keene's retreating figure—and then she hastened back to Mr. Marshall Dalton's presence.

'Quick, Uncle Marshall,' she commanded, 'quick! Run after Carter Keene and offer him all the money he needs. I don't care how much it is, let him have it. I won't see him ruined—I won't!'

'But—'

'There are no buts,' she commanded. 'I want it done. If you will not do it, I'll go myself, even though I don't want him to know that I have anything to do with it.'

'This is very sudden,' he persisted; 'are you sure in your mind?'

'Absolutely,' she replied, moving to the rack and taking down his hat and coat, 'as sure as though I had thought on it a thousand years. Get these on: Please hurry! That's it! Now fly! All he needs, remember. *All*—if it takes all I have. Run, Uncle, try to run,' and she gave him a push that sent him pattering, to the great astonishment and mystification of the clerks.

Would that day never end? Laura Dalton had a note from her uncle, saying, 'everything accomplished; will see you this evening,' but she wanted the details. She waited with increasing impatience in her luxurious home. The hours seemed days. Time's feet were leaden. The dinner had no taste. Everything was slow and miserable. But finally Mr. Dalton——

'A great thing you've done, Laura, a very great thing,' he said exultantly. 'There's been nothing like it since your father saved Sheffield twenty years ago. But,' and here he spoke more slowly, 'they're heaping the credit on me—on Carter and me. And what do you suppose they are doing? Getting up a public reception for us. Already there's a subscription list five yards long, and the afternoon papers are full of it. I don't like it, and I want you to let me tell them—'

'Uncle Marshall,' she cried, placing her beautiful hand over his mouth, 'if you ever let a soul know it was my money or that I had anything to do with it, I'll leave the city on the first train. Don't you think of such a thing.'

He wiped his brow with his handkerchief and gazed at her as though she were an enigma.

'I've heard of silent partners,' he said finally, 'but you are the silentest——'

'Promise on your soul you'll never tell anyone,' she demanded, holding her finger before him.

'Hereafter you will listen to business!'

'Fie on business! Promise!'

'Quit pulling my ears! I prom—' There was a tap at the door.

'Mr. Carter Keene.'

'He'll tell you,' exclaimed Mr. Dalton, glad of an escape. 'And he doesn't know, I pledge you he doesn't,'

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