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

AMERICAN SENTINEL.

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

$1 PER ANNUM. WESTMINSTER, MD., FRIDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 30, 1906. VOL. 75--NO. 13.

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.

George L. Stocksdale, Attorney.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION.

In the Orphans' Court of Carroll County, Md.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ABSENCE OR DEATH OF ELLIS T. JENKINS FORMERLY OF CARROLL COUNTY, MD.

The object of the petition filed in the Orphans' Court of Carroll County, Maryland, by Wiley W. Jenkins, petitioner, is to obtain a decree or order of said Court, declaring Ellis T. Jenkins, an Absentee, dead.

The petition states that a certain Ellis T. Jenkins resided in Freedom district, in Carroll county, Maryland, with his parents until about the 6th day of May, A. D. 1888, at which time he left his home, and has not been heard from since the —— day of —— A. D. 1889, and whose whereabouts are unknown to said petitioner, his brothers and sisters.

That the said Ellis T. Jenkins is now entitled to the sum of Three Hundred and Seventy two Dollars and Forty-three Cents, ($72.43), which said sum of money is now in the hands of Messrs. George L. Stocksdale and F. Neal Parke, trustees, in cause No. 4192 Equity, in the Circuit Court for Carroll county, Maryland.

That the said Ellis T. Jenkins has been unheard from for about sixteen (16) years, and for more than seven (7) years last past, and during all of said which time, the said Wiley W. Jenkins, petitioner, has not heard from his brother, the said Ellis T. Jenkins, nor has said petitioner, brothers, sisters, or neighbors heard from him, since the year A. D. 1889, yet inquiry has been made for said Absentee.

That Kansas City, Kansas, is the place, and that the —— day of —— A. D. 1889, is the time when the said Ellis T. Jenkins was last heard from, and has been absent ever since said time.

That the said petitioner has made diligent inquiry among his brothers, sisters, friends and neighbors in the neighborhood where the said Ellis T. Jenkins resided before he left Freedom district, Carroll county, Maryland, and that letters have been written to the place where said Absentee might have gone, or have been since his absence, or might have been since his said absence, and other enquiries made of him, and no information has been received from said Absentee by any of these means, since said absence as aforesaid.

That said petitioner believes his said brother the said Ellis T. Jenkins, said Absentee, to be dead.

That said Absentee if not now living. He has left surviving him the following brothers, sisters and niece, his next of kin, and only heirs at law, viz.; a brother, Wiley W. Jenkins; a brother, Ernest H Jenkins; a sister, Emma Stambaugh; a brother, Albert V. Jenkins; a brother, Hiram A. Jenkins; a brother, Grant Jenkins; a sister, Mamie Condon; and Zeta Lucy Jenkins, only surviving daughter of Octavius Jenkins, deceased.

And in his prayer to said petition, prays the Court to pass an Order of Publication thereon, giving notice to the said Ellis T. Jenkins, said Absentee, to be and appear in said Court, on or before a certain day to be therein named, and show cause if any he has, why he should not be declared by an order of said Court, dead. And that Letters of Administration be granted upon his estate, to an Administrator, and collect his property according to law, and distribute the same according to law among his next of kin, and heirs at law, &c.

And for such other and further relief as his case in the premises may require, &c.

That said petition is accompanied with an affidavit thereon by said petitioner, stating that the matters, facts and things set forth in said petition are true as therein stated to the best of his knowledge and belief.

It is thereupon, this 20th day of March, in the year Nineteen Hundred and Six, ordered by the Orphans' Court of Carroll County, Maryland, that the petitioner, by causing a copy of this order to be inserted in some newspaper published in Carroll county, once in each of four successive times before the 23rd day of April, A. D. 1906, give notice to the said Ellis T. Jenkins, said Absentee, of the substance and object of this petition, warning him to be and appear in this Court, on or before the 21st day of May, A. D. 1906, to show cause, if any he has, why a decree or order should not pass as prayed.

A. KURTZ MYERS,
JOHN S. ECKENRODE,
GEORGE R. KUPP,
Judges.

True copy.—Test:
ma 23 5t J. J. Stewart, Register of Wills.

CONDENSED STATEMENT showing the condition of the Michigan Mutual Life Insurance Company

OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN,
DECEMBER 31, 1905.

Total Income during the year	$ 2,049,077.73
Total Disbursements during the year	1,516,468.93
ASSETS.	
Real estate owned by company	$ 314,008.90
Mortgage loans on real estate	7,605,307.81
Loans secured by collateral	22, 00.00
Loans to policyholders on the company's policies	901,169.59
Premium notes on policies in force, of which $281.98 is for first year's premium	77,537.10
Bonds and stocks owned by company	25,000.00
Cash in office and in bank and trust companies	155,472.70
Interest and rents due and accrued	136,293.21
Net uncollected and deferred premiums	174,252.51
Agents' balances	10,825.40
Market value of real estate over book value	21,690.18
Market value of bonds and stocks over book value	3,750.00
Gross assets	$ 9,447,807.20
ASSETS NOT ADMITTED.	
Agents' balances more than three months due, unsecured	537.62
Total admitted assets	9,447,269.58
LIABILITIES.	
Net reserve	$ 8,925,351.61
Present value of amounts not yet due on supplementary contracts	45,475.35
Total policy claims	5,157.11
Premiums paid in advance	8,904.63
Dividends due policyholders	613.14
Capital stock paid up	250,000.00
Deposit account	1,993.63
Unassigned funds (surplus)	209,792.11
Total liabilities	$ 9,447,269.58
Amount at risk in United States December 31, 1905	$49,837,230.00
Amount written in Maryland during 1905	204,314.01
Premiums in Maryland in 1905	27,032.22
Losses paid in Maryland in 1905	4,500.00
Losses incurred in Maryland in 1905	4,500.00

State of Maryland, Office of the State Insurance Department.
Baltimore, February 1st, 1906.

I hereby certify that the above is a true abstract, taken from the annual statement of the Michigan Mutual Life Insurance Company for the year ending December 31, 1905, now on file in this Department.

BENJ. F. CROUSE,
Insurance Commissioner.

J. BURKLOE BROWN,
State Agent, 432 Equitable Building, Baltimore, Md.

W. RILEY MYERS, Agent, Westminster, Md. ma 23 3t

Why Not Cure Your Cough or Cold?

WESTMINSTER, April 10th, 1890.

MR. JOS. B. BOYLE:

Dear Sir:—For many years I have suffered intensely, on taking cold, from a very troublesome cough, for which I have used a number of various remedies, and obtained but TEMPORARY RELIEF. During the past Spring I was again troubled with the same cough, and through a friend was induced to try YOUR Pectoral Syrup, which not only gave almost INSTANT RELIEF, but a PERMANENT CURE. It gives me great pleasure to say that I believe it to be the best remedy I ever used for the purpose for which it is recommended. Hoping that any person afflicted as I was may be fortunate enough to give it a trial, I am, Truly yours,

EDWARD LYNCH.

For Sale by all Druggists and Merchants in the Country. PRICE 25 CENTS. feb-24-ft

BABYLON & LIPPY CO.

"The New Stores!"

Chinaware and Household Goods.

Largest Selections and Lowest Prices.

Largest selections and lowest prices of Chinaware and Household goods, just received and now on sale, ever displayed in Carroll county. The above goods are direct shipments from factory and in such quantities, we purchased them at remarkably low prices. We invite you to join the army of shoppers and share some of the Extraordinarily Big Bargains.

A FEW QUOTATIONS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:

CHINAWARE.

Regular 38c Cups and Saucers 15c set.
Regular 19 and 25c Pitchers 10c choice.
Regular 35c Dinner Plates 15c set.
Regular 40c Dinner Plates 18c set.
Regular 15 and 20c Large Meat Plates 8c each.
Regular 15c Round Vegetable Dishes 5, 6 and 7c each.
Regular 12½c Bakers 5c each.
Regular 10c Soup Dishes 5c each.
Lot of extra Saucers 1c each.
Lot of Cups and Saucers 10c set.
Lot of Dinner Plates 1c each.

Another lot of big bargains in Decorated China, that we guarantee to be the cheapest, without a single exception, in Western Maryland.

These goods are strictly first quality and decorated superior to any we ever had.

We have in great variety Vegetable Dishes, Dinner Plates, Pitchers, Bread Trays, Butters, Bowls, Soups, Meats, Bakers and in fact anything that goes to furnish the China Closet. Don't miss the rare chance of getting such values at the low price of 10c each.

We also carry a full line of Jardiniers, Cuspidors, plain and decorated Lamps of every description, including Hall and Hanging Lamps, Vases, Opalware and a general assortment of Glassware.

Our 5c table of Glassware is a winner.

Household and Kitchen Needs.

To new beginners we are headquarters for everything you may need and advise you to look at our stock and get our prices before buying Household and Kitchen Wares such as Scrub Brushes, Rolling Pins, Enameled Pint Tins, Rotary Egg Beaters, Covered Tin Buckets, ½ gal. Cups, Tooth Picks, Towel Racks, Tack Hammers, Loose Bottom Cake Pans, Patent Pie Plates, Vegetable Slicers and hundreds of other articles all displayed on our 5c Tables.

They are all useful articles and every day needs, at our low price of 5c each.

A few items quoted here from our 10c Tables to inform you of the immense assortment we carry in such ware of every day needs: Enameled Pans, Buckets, Coffee Pots, Large Tin Dish Pans, 12 qt. Buckets, Double Towel Holders, Slaw Cutters, Hat and Coat Racks, Large Frying Pans, Soap Dishes and Sponge Holders for Bath Tubs, Dish Drainers and hundreds of other things that will surprise you, to be had for only 10c each.

Large Enameled Tea Kettle 50c.
Large Tea and Coffee Pots 19c up.
Large Sauce Pans 15c up.
Large Dish Pans 25c.
Half gal. Milk Buckets 25c.
10 qt. Enameled Milk Pails 39c.
21 qt. Extra heavy Retinned Bread Raisers 75c.
Pat. Lace Curtain Stretchers 98c.

Window Shades 10c up.
Window Shade Strips, the handiest article known to put up shades quick and durable, easy to take down. Only 5c each.

Oil Cloths and Linoleums in endless variety at prices that defy competition.

New arrivals of Spring Clothing, Hats, Shirts, Shoes and Oxfords of every kind coming in daily.

BABYLON & LIPPY CO.,

CASH DEPARTMENT STORES,

WESTMINSTER, - MARYLAND.

C. E. NUSBAUM & CO.

SPECIAL VALUE in CHAMBER SETS.

NEW SPRING GINGHAMS. NEW WHITE MADRAS FOR WAISTS. NEW LACES AND EMBROIDERIES.

NEW CHAMBER SETS.—Each set has 10 pieces, all are strictly first quality, and pretty floral decorations; would be cheap at $2.50. We are selling these at $1.98 the set.

NEW GINGHAMS AND MADRAS FOR SPRING.—Prepare now for your spring and summer sewing. The assortments are the best and the prices are low.
Pretty Ginghams 6½c. Better Ginghams and Seersuckers 7½c Beauiful Madras Ginghams 10c

WHITE MADRAS FOR WAISTS.—There is an increasing demand for these goods. Our line is complete, and the styles are the best now. Nearly 10 different patterns, all new, at 15 cents a yard.

NEW LACES AND EMBROIDERIES.—We invite you to call and see them, as it is impossible to describe them on paper.
Beautiful match sets, baby widths.
Shadow Embroidery Bands for waists.
Wide and showy open work patterns, good margins for Undermuslins and Corset Covers, strong values, at 5 and 10c the yard.

C. E. NUSBAUM & CO., Popular Cash Store,
my 26 1y 2 New Windsor, Md.

Every Woman Wants a Beautiful Foot.

EVERY WOMAN CAN HAVE THIS DESIRE GRATIFIED IF SHE WILL WEAR

DOROTHY DODD,

THE FAMOUS SHOE FOR WOMEN. THEY FIT WHEN OTHERS FAIL.

Oxfords $2.50 and $3. Shoes $3 and $3.50.

We carry all other grades of Shoes and Oxfords in Women's, Misses' and Children's, from the cheapest to the best grades. We have special values to offer you in Men's Heavy

Working Shoes

and can save you 25c a pair. Remember us when you want anything in

Hats, Shirts, Collars, Neckwear, Gloves, Hosiery,

Suspenders, Trunks and Suit Cases. Give us a call and save money.

WM. C. DEVILBISS, 22 W. Main St., Westminster
dec 23-04 1y

JOHN D. BOWERS.

To the people of Westminster and Carroll county, I wish to say that I have got the

Best Grades of Coffee and Tea

in the county for the money—Coffee of 4c and Tea of 10c better quality than present prices.

My Flour is the WHITE ROSE, GEM AND PILLSBURY, at low prices. All kinds of CEREALS. A full line of

FANCY BOX CRACKERS.

CANNED GOODS, at prices to suit everybody.

Whitman's Confections:

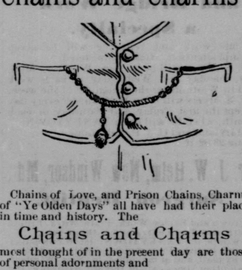
You all know the rest. These goods are the best in the United States, as shown by statistics. Also the highest classed. Prices ranging from 20c to 80c per pound.

We have HOT AND COLD DRINKS at fountain. We give one Soda Ticket with every cash purchase of ONE DOLLAR, which entitles you to Hot or Cold Drink.

Call—we will please you.

JOHN D. BOWERS, 47 and 49 East Main St., Westminster.
jan 23 04 1y 11 Both Phones.

Chains and Charms!



Chains of Love, and Prison Chains, Charms of "Ye Olden Days" all have had their place in time and history. The

Chains and Charms

most thought of in the present day are those of personal adornments and

Watch Protection.

Will you take a look at them? Our door swings in—Push.

I am, respectfully yours,

JAMES H. CASSELL,
Jeweler and Optician., East Main Street, Md. Telephone. Westminster.
1y 5

Bark Wanted AT Tannery Station.

WE WILL PAY

Seven Dollars AND 50 Cents

($7.50) per Ton of 2,000 POUNDS for 2,000

TONS OF PRIME CHESTNUT OAK BARK,

AND FIVE DOLLARS

($5.00) Per Ton for BLACK OAK BARK,

of this year's peeling, delivered in good order and condition at the Carroll Tannery, before the 1st day of August, 1906.

We will not buy any Span Oak Bark this year, and will only buy Black Oak Bark from parties who will sell us their Rock Oak Bark.

THE CARROLL OAK TANNING CO.,
of Carroll County, Md.
Tannery Station, on Western Md. R. R.
ma 2 3m

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Office of the Chas. Schaeffer Fertilizer Factory,
Westminster, Md., Feb. 7th, 1906.

The undersigned has been appointed by the executors of the late Chas. Schaeffer, deceased, agent to settle up the Fertilizer Business of the said deceased. All persons indebted to said estate on account of Fertilizers or Meal, whether by Book Account or Note, are requested, where the same is due, to make immediate settlement with said agent, at the old office of the deceased, on Green street, opposite the mill of Roberts, Roop & Co.

feb 9 3m. A. H. HUBER.

Regular Dinner 25 cts.

STEAKS AND CHOPS TO ORDER.

OYSTERS.

THE CARROLL DINING AND QUICK LUNCH ROOM,
WALTER R. DEVILBISS,
formerly of Carroll County,
118 PARK AVENUE, near Lexington St., Baltimore, Md.

DAIRY LUNCH oct 28 6 mo

Paroid Roofing has no superior. Sold by Smith & Reifsnider for six years, as exclusive agents.

PUBLIC SALE OF VALUABLE HORSES, MULES, LIVERY GOODS,

&c., AT REISTERSTOWN, MD.

The undersigned, intending to go out of the Livery Business in Reisterstown, will sell his entire lot of goods at Public Auction, on

FRIDAY, APRIL 6th, 1906,

at 10 o'clock, A. M., consisting of

20 HEAD OF GOOD HORSES,



single or double drivers, saddlers and work horses; 4 good work MULES, 10 Falling Top Buggies, in good order; 1 Closed Carriage, 1 Rubber Tire Runabout, 1 2 or 4-horse Coach, 1 Steel Tire Runabout, 1 Combination Buggy and Runabout, 1 3-seat 3-spring Dayton Wagon, 1 2-seat 3-spring Dayton Wagon, 1 3-seat Nine Passenger Surrey, 3 2-seat Four Passenger Surries, 5 new Cutter Sleighs, square backs; 2 2-seat Sleighs, 1 new 4-horse Sleigh, 26 passenger; 15 sets good Single Harness, 3 sets good Double Harness, 2 sets Coach Harness, nearly new; 2 sets Plow Harness, 2 sets Lead Harness, 3 sets Harness and Traces, 12 light weight Horse Collars, 1 small Hand Force Pump, lot of Sleigh Bells, Horse Blankets, Stable Blankets, Lap Blankets, 14 sets Fly Nets, nearly new; 1 Veterinarian Syringe, 1 Power Horse Clippers, lot of Stable Fixtures, 2 Gent's Saddles, Ladies' Side Saddles, 5 Riding Bridles, 2 Open Bridles, 1 3-year old Pony, Harness and Runabout; 1 good Alderney Family Cow, 1 Wheelbarrow, 1 new Osborne Lever Harrow, 15 te th; nearly new Lever Harrow, 15 teeth; 1 Single Shovel Plow, 1 Oliver Chilled No. 40 Plow, 1 two-ton Broadtread Wagon, 1 Hay Carriage, 1 new Ontario Grain Drill, 8 hoes, 1 single row Empire Corn Planter, 5 new Buggies, 1 new Rubber Tire combination Buggy and Runabout, 1 new Steel Tire combination Runabout and Buggy, 1 new Canopy Top Surrey, 1 new Umbrella Top Rubber Tire Trap, 2 Double Barrel Breech Loading Hammerless Guns, 12 gauge; 1 large Coal Stove, 2 small Coal Stoves, lot of Hay, Corn and Fodder, lot of Poultry Wire, Chickens, 2 Bedsteads and Bedding, Chairs, Oil Cloth, Matting and Carpet, Churn, Washing Machine, Kitchen Safe, and many other articles too numerous to mention.

Emory Grove Trolley Cars pass the Stable.

Terms of Sale.—$15.00 and under, cash; over $15.00, 4 months note with interest and approved security. All goods to be settled for before being removed. Liberal discount to all cash buyers.

Everything positively must be sold as I am going into business in the city. Sale positive.

J. A. JONES.
Caleb S. Hobbs, Auct. ma 23 2t

NO. 4064 EQUITY.

In the Circuit Court for Carroll County.

Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer, executrix of Samuel D. Buchen, deceased, et al., plaintiffs, vs. Albert Z. Buchen, et al., defendants.

Ordered, this 23rd day of March, 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 9th day of April 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.

DAVID P. SMELSER, Clerk.
True Copy.—Test:
ma 23 2t DAVID P. SMELSER, Clerk.

NO. 4063 EQUITY.

In the Circuit Court for Carroll County.

Sarah Jane Virginia Schaeffer, executrix, &c. et al., plaintiffs, vs. Henry Z. Buchen, et al., defendants.

Ordered, this 23rd day of March, 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 9th day of April 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.

DAVID P. SMELSER, Clerk.
True Copy—Test:
ma 23 2t DAVID P. SMELSER, Clerk.

NO. 4062 EQUITY.

In the Circuit Court for Carroll County.

Elizabeth Buchen, et al., plaintiffs, vs. Albert Z. Buchen, et al., defendants.

Ordered, this 23rd day of March, A. D. 1906, that the accounts A., B., C. and D. of the Auditor filed in this cause be finally ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 9th day of April 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.

DAVID P. SMELSER, Clerk.
True copy.—Test:
ma 23 2t DAVID P. SMELSER, Clerk.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscribers have obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, Md., letters of Administration on the estate of

ELI HULL,

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 6th day of October, 1906; they may otherwise by law be excluded, from all benefit of said estate.

Given under our hands this 6th day of March, 1906.

C. JESSE HULL,
LEWIS E. HULL,
ma 9 4t Administratrators.

FOR SALE.

5 H. P. Peerless Plain Engine.
10 H. P. Peerless Traction Engine.
12 H. P. Huber Traction Engine.
18 H. P. Capital Gasoline Engine on wheels.
8 H. P. Huber Traction Engine.
Separators—35x50 Peerless Wind Stacker.
24x40 Huber Plain Stacker.
32x48 Huber Wind Stacker.

The above Machinery has been thoroughly rebuilt, tested and nicely painted. Write and we will make you special prices.

HUBER MFG. CO.,
Harrisburg, Pa.

In writing mention this ad.
ma 16 3t*

To the Public!

I AM STILL IN THE

Harness Business

at the old stand in Unionville, where I will be glad to serve my customers and the public with first-class

Saddlery Goods

of all kinds, at prices that defy competition.

Repairing done promptly and in first-class manner.

Come and see me this spring if you need an outfit in my line.

C. IRVING LINDSAY,
feb 23 m Unionville, Md.

MOTOR POWER



REPLACES THE HORSE.

$20.00 TO $85.00.

300 head of HORSES and 25 pairs Young blocky-built MULES, ages 6 to 8 years, weighing 900 to 1,400 pounds, to be positively sold, by order of the United States Transfer Company, on account of our new motor-wagon system; will be sold at the rate of 50 head weekly; all good, serviceable stock, right out of the hardest kind of work; some big, fat MARES, pavement sore, will come sound in the country. See

MANAGER AT COMPANY'S STABLE,
415-417 N. Paca St., Baltimore, Md.
Branches—Philadelphia, New York and Pittsburg. ma 9 4t

A FINE RESIDENCE FOR SALE.



Three story 10 room Brick Dwelling, corner Center and Willis streets, in Westminster, Md., most desirable residential section of city; bath and modern improvements; lot 120x198 feet; front and back porches; bay windows in every room; fine fruit; easy terms.

ma 2 tf MARY E. VANDERFORD.

FOR SALE.

A Fine Young Bay Driving Horse, suitable for either Buggy or Carriage.

Apply to or address,

J. WALTER ENGLAR,
ma 9 3t New Windsor, Md.

Commissioners Notice.

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

By order, FRANCIS L. HANN,
feb 10 05 Treasurer.

DO NOT FORGET.

Do not forget as you go on your way
Through this busy world, with its toil and strife,
Often a kindly word to say
To those you meet in the paths of life.
Do not forget that a smile of cheer
May comfort a heart that is sad and drear,
And brighten a day that is hard and long.
The burning words that f r ever live
It may not be yours to speak or give—
But there's heart and hope in a bit of song.

Do not forget that wherever you go
Kindly deeds may be found to do;
No one so poor but can bestow
The help that will courage and faith renew!
No one so weak that cannot give
The hand that may help a soul to live
And rise again from the trodden clay!
Splendid achievements may never be yours,
But the deed that for love's sake is done endures,
And will blossom forever from day to day.

The Heroism of Landers.

By Arthur Stanwood Pier in Scribners, Magazine.

'How you feelin', son?'

'Thirsty, dad.'

The answer came without a particle of expression in a weary little voice.

'But doc says you musn't drink often, son, answered the man, gently. I dasn't let ye drink, yet. Now shet your eyes an' see if ye can't ketch a little nap.'

The man who was bending over the bed laid his hand gently on the sick child's forehead. The child did not move or reply. His face was worn and shrunken to its little bones; its great blue eyes protruded in a way that made one feel that sleep never visited them, and that, nevertheless, they saw nothing.

'Well, Jim,' had said a friend, cheeringly, who had come up to see how Landers' child was getting along, and whose attention was at once fixed by those eyes. 'I guess 'tain't so bad. They ain't a tear' 'ithin five feet of him.'

'No, nur a smile either,' Landers had answered hopelessly.

And now Landers sat down and gazed on the apathetic face, as he had been want to do of late, with a mournful fascination.

'Yes, it's bad, bad,' he murmured. 'He's goin' the same way his pore ma did, the very same way.'

To be sure, the doctor had not given up hope, which was kind of him, as he never expected to be paid for his services. Not that there was a more honest man in the town than Landers. But the mill had been closed now for two months on account of hard times, and there was no present prospect of its being reopened. Most of Landers' savings had gone to meet the expenses caused by his wife's illness. She too, had had typhoid fever; she had died two weeks before, and had been buried with little ostentation. Landers was an undemonstrative, earnest sort of a man, and, moreover, had the serious condition of his only child to think about. He was obliged, perhaps, to neglect the dead for the living.

For the last week he and the child had been subsisting on credit, which Landers could not help feeling was only another name for charity. The child had been failing under the *regime* of economy which Landers tried to introduce. And the doctor now said that it could pull through only if it had good nursing and the proper things to eat. The proper

[redacted]

selling on credit. The end was.

With this ruthless fact confronting him, he had gone out, day after day, in search of work, while, in the meantime, a neighbor, Mrs. Lennan, watched over the child. Each day his search had been equally vain; he knew beforehand that it would be. Men were standing idle on the corners and growing riotous through lack of food and work. Yet on this afternoon, when Mrs. Lennan came to sit with the child, he went out as usual.

He made his ordinary unsuccessful round. As he was passing a group of idlers, who were sitting in front of the grocery, one of the men, who had a newspaper called out to him:

'I'd like to git into somethin' like this, wouldn't you, Landers?' said the man. Landers took the newspaper and read, in a half-hearted way, how somebody somewhere with a little trouble, though without risk, had saved a railroad train from being wrecked, and had received on the spot a purse of over one hundred dollars.

'No train ever come near bein' wrecked roun' here,' said the man, complainingly. 'Queer how some fellers git all the luck.'

'Luck ain't fur me,' said Landers, very quietly. 'The only way I could ever git anything was by work. I can't git nothin' there now.'

He walked away when the men began to discuss the advantages of socialism. He knew that they meant nothing practical, and that they were merely amusing themselves. He could not amuse himself; his whole mind was constantly with his child. As he walked home, looking idly down at the puffs of dust that shot out from beneath his feet, he felt utterly discouraged.

'I guess we both of us might's well just' lay on our backs till our noses is covered,' he said despairingly.

Then suddenly, when he reached the foot of the stairway that led up between two walls to a sick room, he smote his thigh and exclaimed:

'I won't give up. I'm a-goin' up to argue this thing out with God.'

And argue it out with God he did. He waited till those weary, doleful, blue eyes had for a few moments forgotten themselves and fallen asleep. Then he rose from his seat by the bed tiptoed to the window to collect and arrange his thoughts. Down below was Mrs. Lennan's garden, filled with rich purple larkspurs and sweetwilliams and verbenas. A small pear tree stood beside the garden and threw its shadow across half of it. And then in front of the pear tree and the garden ran a clean yellow picket fence, which Landers had helped Lennan to build several years before. These small familiar sights Landers took in unconsciously as he stood at the window. Somehow, he found his mind running away from the argument back to the day when he had helped to build the fence. It had been a pleasant, cool, summer evening, he remembered, and his wife had come out to sit on the front 'stoop' with the baby and look on. Then Mrs. Lennan han gone over to sit with her, and there they both had sat while the hammers rang out merrily on the nailheads. And after the fence had been built, they had all gone down to the river for a row, and——

Landers stopped remembering. He turned from the window, and walking solemnly to the centre of the room, looked up and said, in a business-like voice:

'God, what am I to do? You know, God, that if they was any work, the humbles' or meanes' or mos' dang'rous, at any wages, I'd willin' an' glad to do it. But, God, I've been through this whole town day in and day out fur a week, an' there ain't any work; there won't be any till the mill starts. People ain't able to give a body work; they're all in the same bad fix as me, only mebbe not so bad. An' you know, God, I can't leave the chil' to go an' hunt a job in some other town. If you're made up your mind, God, that it's right and ness'ry the chil' should die—w'y I know we've all got to die, an' lonely as I'll be, I'll try to comfort myself thinkin' his ma' couldn't git 'long 'ithout her little son. Only don't you think, God, you'd ought to give him a fair show? It don't seem fair to me to starve him to death. It don't seem to me his ma, no matter how much she longed fur him, 'd want that. Now, God, I know you kin tell, I know you kin inspire it in my heart, an' I ask you, jus' as if I was a little brother askin' his big brother, or a son askin' his father, 'God, what am I to do?'

II

'You're not hurt, are you?' asked the conductor, excitedly.

He was kneeling beside a man who lay prostrate in the ditch below the track. A group of passengers had collected round him; others were descending from the steps of the train and others were running up along the ditch. Brakemen with their lanterns were hurrying this way and that. The man lying in the ditch moved.

'No,' he said, faintly, 'I guess I ain't hurt. The log kind o' fell on me, but there ain't no bones broke, guess.'

The conductor and two others half lifted him to his feet. He leaned against the embankment for a moment; then he suddenly started up.

'Did yon ketch them?' he cried, anxiously.

'Who?' asked the conductoe.

'The robbers—wreckers. They were down in them bushes.'

He pointed. The brakemen made an enthusiastic and energetic dash for the bushes, swinging their lanterns violently, but they soon returned bringing only their lanterns.

'How do you know they were there?' asked somebody.

'They fired on me' answered Landers, for it was he. 'When I begun tryin' to pull that log off the track, bang, bang, went a couple of guns from them bushes. It kin' o' made me jump an' hesitate. Then I heard the train a-rushin' behin' that curve, an' thinks I, 'My God, I can't stan' here an' see this,' so I ups with the log again, an' again off went them guns. I seemed to feel bullets whistlin' throunh my hair an' on both sides o' me. But I hung on an' heaved away at the log. It was that heavy, seemed's if I could git it jus' so high an' no more, an' that train come rushin' nearer and nearer. An' once agin bang went the guns. I guess they wasn't much on shootin,' though I did think I felt my hat kind o' givin' away.'

'You weren't mistaken,' said one of the bystanders, taking off Landers' hat.

'Two bullet-holes.' He held up the hat and pointed to the crown.

'Well, I gave one more heave, an' I tell ye I never till that moment knowed the stren'th at was in me. I got the end o' the log up on my shoulder that time, an' jus' then the head-light o' the engine come flashin' roud' the curve. I took one long breath, an' then with all my might I took one step an' threw that log from me. An' then I jumped to follow it, but I caught my foot an' went tumblin' an rolling' down the bank. Then I heard the train go hissin' an' whistlin' an' clangin' bells an' lettin' off steam up above. That's all there is to it, I guess.'

The people could see that Landers' voice was striving hard to be modest. They mentioned it to each other afterward when they got on the train. The men struggled 'round him to shake hands. The engineer lifted up his voice.

'I seen him fall. Caught his foot in the rail an' went head over his heels. He got that log out o' the way just in the nick o' time. A little more an' we'd all be grindin' to mince-meat in the bottom of the culvert just ahead. The skunks chose their ground, they did.'

A little stout man, who had been bobbing impatiently on the outskirts of the crowd during Landers' story and the engineer's epilogue, now shouted.

'Boys a man who risks his life to save ours that way deserves something, I say. I'm going to start the hat with a ten dollar bill. Pass her round.'

'I take the liberty of thinking I'm more valuable,' said the man who took the hat, with an attempt at jocularity. He was a florid gentleman naturally, but he was still pale, and his hands still trembled as he dropped in fifteen dollars.

Landers tried to protest.

'I did nothin',' he said; 'nothin' anybody else wouldn't ha' done.'

But they would not listen to him. The hat went round. When each person outside had testified his gratitude, somebody carried the hat into one of the cars and went through the train with it. Meanwhile, Landers was beseiged with questions as to his name, home, age, business and so on.

Finally, the man who had been passing the hat turned and delivered it to the owner. Being in this way made the spokesman, the stout gentleman advanced to Landers.

'Hold your hat, Mr. Landers,' he said, 'and stop up the bullet-holes with your fingers, so that the dimes, if there are any, won't roll out. There oughtn't to be any dimes. I don't know how much there is here, but whatever is is, it isn't enough. God bless you my friend.'

He poured the money into the hat that Landers held sheepishly.

'If you ever get into trouble and want help, come to me,' said the stout gentleman, handing him his card.

'And me,' said several others, producing their cards.

'Thank ye,' said Landers, and made as if to go on, but his voice choked, and he turned his head away.

'And now, boys,' cried the stout gentleman, with enthusiasm, 'three times three for Landers! One, two, three!'

The cheers were given with a will, and the stout gentlemen was left panting and searching for his handkerchief. When he found it he wiped his eyes. Then he pressed Landers' hand.

'Good-by,' he said. 'God sends such men as you.'

They all mounted into their cars. The whistle blew, the bell clanged, and the train moved away. Landers was left alone in the darkness with the money.

III.

It was a cold afternoon late in November. The court room at Alinda was a boon to the idle and the talkative on such days, for at the back end of it was a great stove, round which people could congregate and gossip, undisturbed. Furthermore, one did not feel obliged to leave one's seat to seek the spittoon in a far corner of the room when the tobacco-juice in one's mouth attained a degree of superfluity incongruous with comfortable or cleanly chewing; the floor of the Alinda court room having been consecrated from time immemorial to the divine right of the American citizen—the right of spitting what, where, and when he pleases. The floor of the court room was now a mottled brown, and people said that if it lasted long enough it would look as if it had been painted.

On this afternoon a case was being tried in the court room, but that made no difference to the company round the stove, and the company round the stove did not interfere with the case. It was a very stupid, tedious, and unimportant case, and even the judge was bored. Now and then, when the conversation round the stove became too loud, or when somebody laughed forgetfully and boisterously, the judge would frown and cry, in a loud voice, 'Order, order!' Then the conversation would subside again, and the judge would settle back into his seat, and try to become interested in the will of Hiram Jones. The two lawyers pecked at the witnesses and wrangled with each other, and got excited, and

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