Jonathan Crabshaw's Glorious Fourth

By S. E. Kiser

"NO, SIR," said Jonathan Crabshaw, "I ain't got any money to waste in any such way. If the rest of the people of this town want to make fools of themselves, that's their business. Let 'em go ahead and do it, but you needn't expect me to put a cent in this fund you're raisin'. What do I care how much the people of Greenville are goin' to spend celebratin'? Let 'em spend a million if they can raise it. They'll only have that much less to spend for things that might do their town some good."

"But don't you see," said Thomas Spurgeon, "that we can't afford to let Greenville get ahead of Paddington in this matter? Since the old-fashioned way of celebrating the Fourth has been done away with every town that amounts to anything has a general display which is for the benefit of everybody. By stopping the sale of dangerous explosives and all that sort of thing we can have a day of comfort and safety; but we owe something to the youngsters, so we propose to have a fine exhibition of fireworks in the evening. It will be in charge of men who know how to handle such things, and you can readily see that it will be much bigger and more thrilling than it would be if everybody celebrated in his own way. Besides, there will be no chance for the boys to lose their fingers or have their eyes put out. The people of Greenville have been boasting that they beat our town in everything, and we want to show them for once that they can't do it. Don't you feel that you can afford to contribute a couple of dollars?"

"No, I wouldn't contribute a couple of cents for any such foolishness. I tell you it's all poppycock. It's nothin' more nor less than burnin' money up. What's the use teachin' the kids that they're to expect something every time we prevent 'em from actin' like a lot of crazy young savages. I'm glad the shootin' has been stopped. I wish they'd stop everything—fireworks and all. Them's my sentiments, and that's all I've got to say."

It was on the following day that Jonathan Crabshaw's wife received a letter from their son in the city.

"Jonathan," she said when he came in from the garden, "William's wife's got to go to the hospital."

"That's just like them city women," he grumbled. "They're always goin' to hospitals. If William had married a girl from the country he'd be a blamed sight better off than he is. Why is he writin' to us about her goin' to the hospital, anyhow? I s'pose he's hard up and wants money, eh?"

"I'm afraid your heart's hardened, pa," Mrs. Crabshaw replied. "What's the use feelin' so bitter? William's the only child we've got, and if his wife ain't our kind that's no reason why we should treat him as if he was our worst enemy. I s'pose he thought it would be different when he married her. Now she's got the appendicitis and there's no knowin' what may happen. He wants to send little Henry



"No, I Wouldn't Contribute a Couple of Cents for Any Such Foolishness."

down here to stay with us for a week or two."

"Oh, that's what he wants, is it? It's a wonder he feels like trustin' him with us. Here he is, nearly ten years old, and we ain't never seen him. And they named him after her pa, too, when, by rights, he ought to been named after me. Write back and tell 'em to keep him there. I don't want no boy around here—specially no city boy."

Mrs. Crabshaw looked at her husband for a long time. He was generally considered a "hard" man. Everybody knew that he had plenty of money, but no one ever saw him spend any of it. His wife, who was growing feeble, was compelled to do her own housework and get along upon the barest necessities. He had driven his son away from home and then blamed him for not returning, humble and penitent. Most of his time was spent in his garden. It was the only thing he semed to care for.

Having given his wife orders to write that they had no place for their grandchild, the old man took it for granted that the matter was settled and walked out of the house.

It was on the second of July that Jonathan Crabshaw, who was busy in his garden, heard the hinges of the gate squeaking. He looked up and saw a little boy who had just stepped inside. No little boy had ever entered there before. Jonathan Crabshaw's garden was forbidden territory. Even his wife was afraid to go into it.

The little boy stood for awhile, looking at the "hard" old man who was half leaning upon his hoe.

"Well," the old man asked, "what do you want here?"

"I want to come in and help you," the little boy replied.

"Get out!"

"Are you my grandpa?"

"Your grandpa? What do you mean?"

"I'm Henry. Grandma told me you was out here all alone."

Jonathan Crabshaw dropped his hoe and began rubbing the dirt from his hands.

"How did you get here?" he asked.

"I came all by myself on the train," the little boy said. "My papa put me in the car and grandma was waiting for me when I got here. My mamma is very sick."

There was a big apple tree in one corner of the garden, near the gate. Under it was a seat which Jonathan Crabshaw had made for himself. He went to it and sat down.

"Come here," he said.

The little boy went to him and leaned upon his knee.

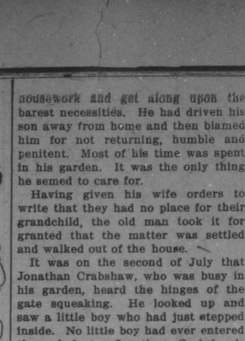
The old man had a "hard" look, but in spite of that the little boy bore a strong resemblance to him.

"So your name's Henry, is it?"

"Yes. And your name's grandpa, isn't it?"

The "hard" look seemed to fade out of Jonathan Crabshaw's face.

"Well," he said with something that was almost a smile, "that ain't exactly my name, but you can call me it.



"Are You My Grandpa?"

You've got another grandpa, though, haven't you?"

"Yes, but I don't think I like him as well as I like you."

"Why not?"

"He hasn't any nice garden like this, and he never sat under a nice big tree like this alone with me. Why doesn't grandma come out here with us?"

"I—I don't know. Maybe we will have her come out here with us some time."

"Grandpa, do you know what?"

"No. What?"

"Day after tomorrow's the Fourth of July."

"Good gracious! Is it?"

"Yes. You have the Fourth of July here, don't you?"

"Of course we do."

"And fireworks?"

"Fireworks? Um, yes, we have fireworks here, too."

"Goody! We'll have some, won't we?"

"Certainly. And your name's Henry?"

"But that's only part of it."

"Oh! What's the rest of it?"

"My name is Jonathan Henry Crabshaw."

A rough old hand was laid gently upon the little boy's head.

"How would you like it if I called you Jonathan instead of Henry?"

"I'd like it. That's what papa always calls me when I do anything that makes him glad."

Jonathan Crabshaw's contribution to the celebration fund made it possible for Paddington to "put it all over" Greenville in the matter of Fourth of July fireworks. When the old man and his wife and their little boy got home after witnessing the splendid display Mr. Crabshaw said:

"Mother, I never really knew before what the Fourth of July was for. Ain't it been a glorious day all around?"

Then he kissed the little boy and after that he put an arm around his wife and kissed her and said:

"I'm mighty glad Mary's out of danger. As soon as she's well enough to get around again I guess we better go up there and see about buyin' 'em a house. Little Jonathan ought to have a nice yard to play in, and I can show him how to start a garden of his own."

A WARNING.

On the Fourth, Little Tom and his chum
Started out to make everything hum;
He gave to the cap
Of the cartridge a rap
And now he is minus a thumb.

The new dance called "half and half" will probably be popular about as long as the dancing teachers can find any one to teach it to.

If the college girls who have just graduated wish to acquire a husband, they will have to study up on baseball and sedulously conceal the fact that they are familiar with Mr. Browning's poetry.

The proposition to give sex instruction in Sunday school might possibly increase the attendance.

Congress declines to give the vice-president an automobile, feeling that there is plenty of standing room in the street cars.

It would never do for baseball players to shave every day, as they would not look rough enough to scare the other teams.

It may be too hot to work in a comfortable chair in a shady office, but not too hot to sit out on the hard and sunny baseball bleachers.

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Executors' Sale OF Valuable Real Estate

ON THE SAM'S CREEK ROAD, MIDWAY BETWEEN SAM'S CREEK AND WINFIELD

By virtue of an order of the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, the undersigned, as executors of the last Will and Testament of Jesse Stuller, late of said county, deceased, and by virtue of said Will, will sell at

PUBLIC SALE,

on the premises, named above, on

SATURDAY, JULY 25th, 1914,

at 2 o'clock, P. M., sharp, the following very valuable Real Estate to-wit:

A Farm, containing

234¼ ACRES

2 square perches, situated on the Sams Creek road midway between Sams Creek and Winfield, and adjoining lands of Edgar Jenkins, Mrs. M. A. Kiler, Mrs. Leah Franklin, Charles Franklin and others, and known as the Stephen Gorsuch farm.

This is one of the best Farms in Carroll county; the land is in a high state of cultivation and productive, is easily tilled, it is divided into convenient fields, with running water in every field, and has 25 acres of fine meadow land, 25 acres of valuable timber land, and 10 acres in good second growth timber, principally chestnut. The whole farm has recently been limed. There are two good Apple Orchards and an abundance of Pears, Cherries and other fruits.

The improvements consist of a two-story Dwelling House, with ten rooms, partly log and partly frame and all weatherboarded and in perfect repair, with wash house at the dwelling, large Bank Barn, in good condition, Wagon-Shed and Carriage House, with Corn House, Meat House, Hog House, Spring House and Dairy with an abundance of pure water; and all other necessary outbuildings; pump of good water at the house and running water in the barnyard.

This Farm will be offered as a whole or in two parcels, the one containing 162 acres and having all the improvements thereon; the other containing 72 1/4 acres, 2 square perches and having one of the apple Orchards named. It will be sold as may seem most advantageous to the executors.

Any persons desiring to see this property are requested to call upon the undersigned, who will be glad to show the premises and give all needed information.

A deposit of $200 will be required from the purchaser or purchasers on the day of sale.

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

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D. RAYMOND STULLER.

F. A. Crawford, Auctioneer. Executors.

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Baltimore's Best Store

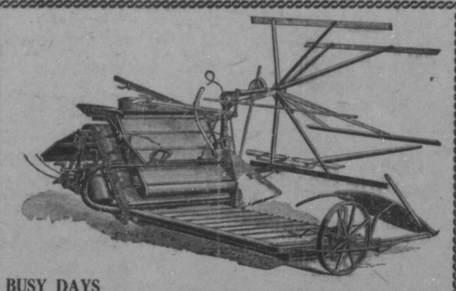
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Write or call upon Guy W. Steele, attorney, Westminster, Md.

7 11 tf

COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE

The County Commissioners of Carroll county will meet at their office, in Westminster, every Monday and the first Tuesday after the first Monday of the month in April, 1913, for the transaction of business.

By order,
O. EDWARD DODRER,
8 11 Clerk.

J. S. MYERS, D. D. S. J. E. MYERS, D. D.

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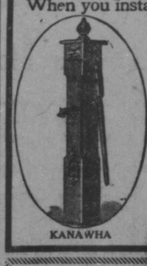
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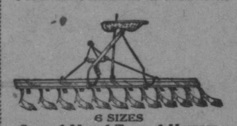
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