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The Columbian

BLOOMSBURG, PA., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1878.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

Table with 5 columns: Space, Line, Per Line, Per Week, Per Month. Includes rates for various ad types.

Yearly advertisements payable quarterly. Trade advertisements must be paid for before insertion.

Columbia County Official Directory.

President Judge—William E. Howell. Associate Judge—J. K. Krickham, P. L. Shuman.

Bloomsburg Official Directory.

President of Town Council—O. A. Herrig. Clerk—Paul E. W. Miller.

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

Rev. J. P. Thoms, Pastor. Sunday School—10 a. m. and 4 p. m.

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE CO.

NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. The assets of this corporation are all invested in solid securities.

FRANK BROWN'S INSURANCE AGENCY.

Office, Exchange Hotel, Bloomsburg, Pa. Agents for various insurance companies.

W. M. L. EYERLY, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.

Office in the Commercial Building, Bloomsburg, Pa.

KAUB, FRYMTER & EDWARDS.

Successors to Benedict Dorney & Sons, 222 Market Street. Importers and dealers in...

CHINA, GLASS AND QUEENSWARE.

Constantly on hand Original and Assorted Packages. 222 Market Street, Philadelphia.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

GREAT TRUNK LINE AND UNITED STATES MAIL ROUTE.

THE SAFETY APPLIANCES.

In use on this line will illustrate the far-reaching and liberal policy of its management.

THE BLOOMSBURG SYSTEM OF SAFETY SIGNALS.

JANNEY COUPLER, BUFFER AND PLATFORM. THE WHEATON PATENT SWITCH.

PULLMAN PALACE CARS.

are run on all Express Trains from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington.

WITHOUT CHANGE.

and to all principal points in the far West and South with but one change of cars.

THE SCENERY OF THE PENNSYLVANIA ROUTE.

is admitted to be unsurpassed in the world for grandeur, beauty and variety.

A PLEASANT AND MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE.

Travellers for sale at the lowest rates at the Ticket Office of the Company in all important cities and towns.

FRANK THOMPSON, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.

General Manager. Office in the Commercial Building, Bloomsburg, Pa.

R. F. J. M. CLARK, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.

Office in the Commercial Building, Bloomsburg, Pa.

F. P. BILLMEYER, ATTORNEY AT LAW.

Office in the Commercial Building, Bloomsburg, Pa.

E. H. R. LITTLE, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.

Office in the Commercial Building, Bloomsburg, Pa.

HERVEY E. SMITH, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.

Office in A. J. Ryan's New Building, Bloomsburg, Pa.

C. W. MILLER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.

Office in Broder's building, second floor, room No. 1, Bloomsburg, Pa.

ABBOTT & RHAWN, ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW.

CATAWISSA, PA. Penitents obtained. Dec 31, 77-79.

W. HOWELL, DENTIST.

Office in Hartman's Block, second floor, corner Main and Market Streets, Bloomsburg, Pa.

M. DRINKER, GUN AND LOCKSMITH.

Making Machines and Machinery of all kinds repaired. Office, House Block, Bloomsburg, Pa.

W. Y. KESTER, MERCHANT TAILOR.

Over Mark's Store, Bloomsburg, Pa. April 19, 1878.

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Select Story.

MAJOR HAMMOND'S RING.

'What's this?' cried Miss Hammond, breaking open a letter just handed to her by a servant.

'Small wonder at that; indeed, seeing that Maggie is aged about 18, and the other 65 at the very least, a pleasant looking, well preserved spinster, with a brown resolute face and saucy curls over the forehead.

MADAM—The parishioners of St. Crispin, Gigglesham, in vestry assembled, have determined to rebuild their parish church.

'Leave us, my dear, please,' said Miss Hammond gently. 'I'm not here to be a party to anything of the kind.'

'It is very dreadful—very,' said Miss Hammond. 'I never had much opinion of Uncle Richard, you know; but for the sake of the young people, I hope you'll let it be kept a profound secret.'

'I'm not here to be a party to anything of the kind,' said Miss Hammond. 'I'm not here to be a party to anything of the kind.'

'What end do you propose to serve, Mr. Boodles, by bringing this ancient scandal to light?' asked Miss Hammond, with agitated voice.

'End?' cried Boodles. 'This is only the beginning of it. I am going to a court of law to have myself declared heir to the Westbury estates under the settlement.'

'In that case,' said Miss Hammond, rising with dignity, 'you cannot be received on friendly terms in my house.'

'Oh, very well,' cried Boodles, snatching up his hat and whip, and sweeping out of the room without further ceremony.

'I always feared there would be a difficulty,' said Ellen, tremulously; 'but oh, to think of Boodles having discovered it!'

'We must send for Smith at once; the carriage shall go in and fetch him,' said Miss Hammond, ringing the bell.

'Mr. Smith, of Gigglesham, was the family solicitor, and the carriage was sent off to bring him up at once for a consultation. But Smith brought little encouragement.

'But search must be made everywhere; the evidence of the marriage must be found; the children must not suffer, poor things, and always brought up to look upon the property as their own.'

'Why, they could never marry,' cried Miss Ellen; 'they could never live on Ralph's pay.'

'It's altogether dreadful; and not getting married is the lightest part of the calamity,' said Miss Hammond.

'Smith undertook that every possible search should be made, and went away, promising to set to work at once. But his inquiries had no result. He had traced out the family of the reputed wife, who had been the daughter of a miller living at Milton in Kent.

'I don't talk about that, Ellen, and you five years the younger,' said Miss Hammond, briskly; 'and as you can't prevent its being done, we must make the best of it. Ralph had better go and see to it.'

'Very well, sister, as you like,' said Ellen. 'I'll go and see to it. Sisters, I've been thinking that this would be a good chance to try and get back Uncle Richard Hammond's ring.'

'Uncle Hammond's ring?' repeated the elder sister. 'I don't understand.'

Ralph shook his head incredulously. And yet it might prove of great value. In misfortunes the mild graces at the smallest alleviations, and Ralph consoled himself in his depression by picturing the finding of a splendid ring worth say £10,000.

'I know,' said Ralph; 'they are going to pull the old place down. All right; I'll do it.'

'Then Maggie went on to tell him about the ring, and how Miss Hammond would not have it searched for. 'But it is a very valuable ring—a family one. It would be a great pity to miss it, if it's really there.'

'Well, then, mind you look for it, sir; only don't say a word to Annie, or she'll put a stop to it.'

'I'm dry,' said Ralph, with a knowing wink and attempted a renewal of the osculatory process; but Maggie escaped him this time, and came fleeing in at the dining-room window panting into the presence of her aunt.

'Since she first left the room a visitor had appeared—Mr. Boodles, a distant relative, who had inherited some of the family property, as before explained, a tall grim-looking man, with thin iron gray hair, carefully brushed off his temples.

'The two Misses Hammond (Margaret and Ellen) are joint proprietors of the comfortable estate of Westbury, near Gigglesham, and of the handsome mansion thereto belonging. Maggie, the young girl, is a distant cousin—although she calls them 'aunt'—and lives with them. There is also a young man, Ralph Grant, somewhere about the place, of which more anon.

Old Tom Hammond, the father of the two maiden sisters, was born in the year 1749, and might have seen the heads over Temple Bar after the rising of 1745. He lived till 1830. He had married late in life, and left only these two daughters. Thus two generations bridged over a space of time generally occupied by many successive lives; as in the case of another branch of the family, the founder of which, Major Richard Hammond (the uncle of the two old ladies,) who had been at the capture of Quebec when General Wolfe was killed, being the great-grandfather of Maggie Landerdale and Ralph Grant. Major Hammond was the elder of the two brothers, and should have inherited the Westbury estate; but he offended his father General John Hammond, by what was called a low marriage, and was disinherited in consequence.

Tom Hammond had done his best to remedy his father's injustice as far as he could without injuring himself and his own, by making a settlement of the estate, in failure of his own issue, upon the lawful descendants of Major Hammond, his brother proving that by the issue of his elder brother Richard, the estate should go to the issue of a younger brother Henry, who by the way, had been well provided for by the small estate of Eastbury. This brother Henry was now represented through the female line by a Mr. Boodles of Boodle Court, who now also held the Eastbury estate.

'The descendants of Major Hammond are now confined to these two young people Maggie and Ralph. They are both orphans and without means, their fore-fathers having been mostly in the military and official lines. Ralph is a lieutenant in the artillery and his battery is now in India; but he is at home on sick leave; and he has taken advantage of his furlough to win the affections of his fair cousin. As the Westbury estate would come to be eventually divided between them, it was considered a most fortunate thing the young people had come to an understanding, Ralph was to leave the service when he married, and take the home-farm. By-and-by he would fall naturally into his position as country squire; and it was arranged that eventually he should assume the name of Hammond; hoping to continue the old line from Ceylon.'

This preamble being necessary, let us now return to the comfortable, old-fashioned drawing-room at Westbury.

'What do you think of that, Ellen?' cried Miss Hammond, having read over once more the circular to herself with subdued emphasis. Miss Ellen was sitting looking into the fire, her great wooden knitting pins and bright-colored woollen lying idly on her lap, as she shook her head while talking gaily to herself.

'Do you hear, Ellen?' cried Miss Hammond more sharply. 'What do you think of that letter from Tom's recent?'

'I don't like the idea at all, Margaret. No, not at all. Why can't they leave our ancestors alone? And I am sure I always looked forward to being buried there myself.'

'I don't talk about that, Ellen, and you five years the younger,' said Miss Hammond, briskly; 'and as you can't prevent its being done, we must make the best of it. Ralph had better go and see to it.'

'Very well, sister, as you like,' said Ellen. 'I'll go and see to it. Sisters, I've been thinking that this would be a good chance to try and get back Uncle Richard Hammond's ring.'

'Uncle Hammond's ring?' repeated the elder sister. 'I don't understand.'

'You must have heard our father talk about it. The family ring that ought to have gone with the estates—a ruby and sapphire that General Hammond brought home from Ceylon.'

'I ought to know all about it, Ellen, I darsay; but you were so much more with my poor father, and had more patience with his stories.'

'My father often tried to get the ring, and had offered to give Major Hammond a large sum for it. But he was so vexed with father for supplanting him, that he vowed he never should have it; and they say, sister, that rather than it should ever fall into his hands, he had it buried with him upon his finger. Our father always said that if he had a chance he would have the coffin open to see.'

'Maggie, who had retreated to a sofa, and buried her head in a mound, roused up at this and cried out: 'I hope you will, auntie. I do hope you will have it looked for.'

'I don't know, my dear,' said Miss Hammond. 'I don't approve of violating the sanctity of the tomb.'

With the elder Miss Hammond, a phrase was everything; she delighted to bring a thing within the compass of a well rounded phrase, upon which she would then make a stand—invincible. So Maggie threw up her head in a kind of despair, and ran off to look for Ralph, when last heard of, was smoking a cigar on the terrace.

'The public whipping of a white girl by a Negro constable at Mill Creek village, near Old Point, a few weeks ago, has naturally excited much comment in the press, and the people of Virginia have come in for liberal abuse in the radical press. The Post has taken pains to learn the facts in the case from residents of the place and eye witnesses of the punishment. It is true that a young white girl was stripped to the waist and publicly flogged by a burly Negro constable who the sheriff of the county stood by and told him to lay on hard, but the white people of the Old Dominion have no responsibility for the shameful transaction. The justice who tried the girl, and convicting on slight evidence, sentenced her to the lash, is a carpet bagger named Larrabee, from Dover, Maine. The sheriff is a fresh arrival from some other state, and the constable an ignorant and brutal negro under the control of the other officers. The county is republican, although the white radicals in the county number less than twenty persons. The few votes from