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DUME VII.

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ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—Nogiven to the collecgiven to the collectice is hereby given to the members of tion of the accommodations detailed by the He had in India seen a good deal of defipearances, untenanted, though I underthe Protection Mutual Fire Insurance Compa-ing Cambria, Hunting-d Clearfield counties.

The Protection Mutual Fire Insurance Compa-ing of Cambria County, that the regular annual chase, rent, sell or ex-lind it greatly to their in EbenSburg, on Monday, January 12th, 1851.

To the lovers of mystery. I commend

THE FAIN DROPS.

A farmer had a field of corn of rather large extent. In tending which, with toil and care, much anxious time he spent; But after working long and hard, he saw with grief and pain, His corn began to droop and fade because it

So sad and restless was his mind, at home he could not stop. But to his fields repaired each day to view his withering crop.
One day as he looked up despairing at the

Two little rain drops in the clouds his sad face chanced to spy.

wish I could do him some good-indeed I would be glad. Just see the trouble he has had, and if it should not rain, Why, all his toil, and time, and care he will

have spent in vain.' What use are you!" cried number two, "to water so much ground? You are nothing but a rain drop, and could

What you have said," his friend replied, 'I know is very true, But I'm resolved to do my best, and more I

'I'll try to cheer his heart a bit, so now I'm off; here goes!' And down the little rain drop fell upon the farmer's nose.

Whatever's that?" the farmer cried; "was it a drop of rain? do believe it's come at last; I have not watched in vain!"

Said he, "I'll go as well and try to cheer the farmer's heart. But many rain drops by this time had been quickly as he could. attracted out,

To see and hear what their two friends were talking so about. 'We'll go as well," a number cried, "as our two friends are gone.

We shall not only cheer his heart, but water, too, his corn We're off! we're off!" they shout with glee, and down they fell so fast, 'Oh, thank the Lord!" the farmer cried,

food was dressed. and do my best. This useful lesson, workingmen, you'll not forget, I'm sure

A STRANGE STORY.

fond of ghost stories, and therefore I re- erville drove home; it was hotter still in glance was sufficient to show him that late for their benefit the following legend his bedroom, yet he felt scarcely any incli- there was no one there. He went ap stairs, about a certain London house. For obvi- nation to sleep. Another eight, be thought, carefully examined Warren's room; then ous reasons I suppress the names of per- would soothe him into somnolency, so he be went down stairs, walked through the sons, and exact localities, and I further accordingly lit one, and tried to amuse drawing-room, dining room and study, desire it to be understood that I do not himself by considering how he should fur- then into the offices, but he encountered hold myself responsible for the accurate nish his new house, having due regard to nobody. Then he proceeded to examine truth of all the details of the story : I need the exigencies of London gas and atmost the doors and windows of the basement, only at I that the events are to be taken phere. His eigar finished, he undressed and satisfy himself that nobody could have as having occurred some years ago.

found that he had not been deceived by the floor."

his valet on the floor above. He retained yourself to-morrow morning, Warren." had to live on. The house became the got into bed again and tried to go to sleep. property of the Colonel at mid-summer, Colonel, who at that time was frequently actually entered as a resident. But in they positively refuse to be fulled to slumthat house he only remained one night and he never slept there again.

He arrived in town about mid-day on the Wednesday in the first week in August. The day was oppressively gloomy and dull in the country, and all London seemed to be seething in a sullen heat. He went with his valet straight to his new house in -Square. The cabman took the fare offered | no doubt about it ! there was the sound of to him without grumbling, observing (as a stealthy footfall upon the stairs. He lit

Now, when the second rain drop saw his house), "This is the first time as I ever turned toward the door, which he had drove a gentleman, nor a lady neither, to locked after it was settled Warren should this 'ere 'ouse," and he went away as

> Colonel Somerville took no notice of the remark at the time, though it came vividly to his recollection afterwards.

Having deposited his luggage, and seen that his room looked tolerably comfortable, he told his servant that he intended to eleven. The elderly deaf woman, I should say, was in attendance.

ness, dined at his club with a friend, and to capture the intruder. But the passage returned to his house shortly after eleven outside was vacant and silent. Try, do your best-do what you can-angels low, opened the door for him, showed him strength, and thoroughly accustomed to to his room, asked for his orders for the danger, he did not hesitate about continumorning, and, having received them, re- ing his search. There were only two other tired to his room above.

"I don't quite know what is the matter."

sum demanded, and naively inquired if one of the kindest of human beings; "come | bed-room. He entered and locked the

ingly replied that the house was in very ague had seized him and the Colonel has tonishment he found that Warren, whom good repair, and would not require more tily took his flask from his dressing-bag he had left sleeping soundly, was gone. than the usual outlay upon decoration, and gave him some strong brandy and The Colonel pressed his inquiries, and, as water. This seemed to do Warren good, loudly. No answer. He harried up stairs

or two. "Have you ever had malarial six weeks, Col. Somerville received a let-"No, sir; never that I am aware of."

"Oh no, thank you sir. I feel so much

better go back to bed again." The man became pale again instantly,

dence, and in due course the purchase was cause of Warren's strange behavior; and this story — "London Spelate".

"I think not, sir; I shall only be most So Warren rolled himself in the blanket,

His efforts were in vain. He knew him-185-. Towards the end of July the rooms self to be provokingly wide awake, and mentioned were furnished in a temporary | though he counted numberless sheep going manner for the accommodation of the through a gate, and resorted to all those devices which are popularly supposed to encourage sleep, he remained as wide

> Everybody knows how preternaturally acute the senses are when after midnight ber; and the Colonel felt as terribly on the alert as he had felt sometimes in the Indian mutiny. Warren had quite got over his bad dreams and indisposition, and spered in the most comfortable manner.

> Suddealy some noise within the house made the Colonel start up in his bed and listen attentively. Yes-there could be remain. He saw the handle move.

In a flash of thought he asked himself what this could be. London thieves would never dream of running the risk of entering a house in which there was absolutely nothing to steal. To physical fear Colone! Somerville was a stranger, and so he at once snatched up the short, heavy poker dine at his club and should be home about from the fireplace, and without waiting to arouse his servani, whom he saw was sleeping heavily, he went quietly to the Well, the Colonel transacted his busi- door, unlocked and opened it suddenly,

rooms upon this floor; these he entered. It was not in the streets as Colonel Som- and, as they were describe of furniture, a leisurely and got into bed ; the wind, such entered there. His examination of the Some years ago, then, a gentleman whom as there was, came from the south, and he lower part of the house occupied him about we will call Colonel Somerville, was desi- heard the giant clock of Westminister a quarter of an hour, and then he arrived rous of buying a house in the west end of strike twelve. By and by he heard the at the conclusion that he had been the victhe town, and passing, one day, through a quarter, and then t'a half hour, and then tim of his own imagination. Then he well known square, he observed a house to he fell off into a dose from which he was yawned and began to think he felt really be sold, which seemed to him, as far as awakened by repeated knocks at his door, sleepy, as he ascended from the offices. outside appearances and situation were He called out "Who's there?" but the an- thinking that he should get a few hours concorned, to be the very thing he wanted. swer was unintelligible, though he heard a rest at last. Just as he put his foot upon The printed bill referred him to a firm of voice in reply. He hastily lit the candle, the first step of the stairs leading from the estate agents in the city, and to them he and opened the door. In the passage he hall, somything glittered from the floor, at once went, though he could not help en- found his servant half dressed looking. He stooped down to see what it was, and tertaining a misgiving that the price would frightfully pale, and shivering violently be picked up what appeared to be a nec-"Why, Warren, what on earth is the with a tiny steel button at the end. He was the reply. "Please sir, may I come before. The point he remarked, appeared "Certainly," said the Colonel, who was sole result of his search, he returned to his door after him, and was about to throw off The man entered shaking as though an his dressing gown, when to his intense as-He opened the door again and called

he seemed to be a likely and desirable pur- and then his master asked him again what to his servant's room-no trace of him there; indeed no trace of him anywhere, cumstances under which the house in ques- "I don't rightly know, sir," he answer- and Col. Somerville never saw or heard of tion was to be sold. It had belonged to a ed. "I went to bed all right and went James Warren again. He had no reason queer old gentleman who lived in Clerk- very sound asleep. But I had a bad dream. to suppose that there was any motive enwell, and who had died intestate, and I thought a pale-faced man came into my for his mysterious disappearance, for he the sale was ordered by his next of kin, room, although I knew I had locked the had not robbed or defrauded his master in who had been found with some difficulty. door, and he stood beside my bed, looking any way whatever. The next day the po-This old gentleman bad died, strangely for all the world, sir, as if he would like to lice examined the house thoroughly, but enough, in the very act of drawing up his eat me; and then the air in the room be- nothing of importance transpired. Need will. He had just penned the words "And came so oppressive that it seemed to weigh I add that Col. Somerville's new house Three facts remain to be recorded: First,

spection, and the tarnishes upon the point were found to be human blood. Secondly.

A NEW YEAR SONG.

A tear for the dying Old Year-His locks are all whitened with care; Let him go with his record severe, 'Mid warm benediction and prayer,

A song for the laughing New Year-A shout for his heaven-lit flame; He scatters the clouds of despair, And covers corruption with shame.

Breathe odors of fragrant delight For Hope in her vestal array; Her tresses are bathed in the light And her garments are woven of day.

Bring confident words for Old Time, Whose footsteps are hastening ever, But onward, still onward sublime, Seeking the boundless forever.

An offering accepted above, An earnest of bright coming days In atonement and love. Speak freedom to millions oppressed. Be just to your brother, and good, And the boon shall be ever confessed

Bring songs of thanksgiving and praise,

The price of a nation's best blood. Speak, speak then the life-giving word, And oucoming ages shall say, As proudly the deed they record, "A nation was born in a day."

KATHLEEN O'NEIL.

"Kathleen, is it possible that you are crying again? Did I not tell you that I would discharge you if I found you indulging in this foolish whimpering any more." Poor Kathleen O'Neil had been dusting the elegantly furnished drawing-room, and

she stood before an exquisite little painting of one of the blue, sparkling Irish lakes, set in gold green shores, with a sky beyond like liquid amber-stood with her apron to ber eyes, and her ruddy cheeks deluged

"I couldn't help it, ma'am," she sobbed, but it puts me in mind of home."

"Home!" scornfully echoed Mrs. Arnott. Your home! A shanty in a bog. It isn't likely that you ever saw such a spot

Kathleen, "and many a time; for we hved without any such preliminary ceremony. "There, that will do," said Mrs. Arnott, "Mrs. Arnott wouldn't have lifted her fincoldly, "I don't case about any reminis- ger if we'd all been dying, and I believe

glowed in either cheek. "She looks down on me as if I was a solves by sending in to inquire ; even hired dog!" Kathleen thought to herself. "And nurses avoided the malignant fever. niver a kind word spoken to her? O, but sympathy died out of the world?" the blue sea that rolls between us, and it's arranging the table. all alone I am !"

Poor Kathleen! the sense of desolation leen!" she cried. voice sounding in her cars.

"It's a great pity to be obliged to do with to be done." these wild, untutored Irish."

Kathleen was just bringing up the tray, and Mrs. Arnott's words sounded distinct-'y in her ears as she paused on the top step to get breath.

if it lay in my power." "I wish they were all at the bottom of . All Mrs. Arnott's children had the fever

the sea," said Mrs. Arnott, "and then, per- -last of all she was prostrated by it-and Swedes, or Chinese, or somebody that true and tender. you, Kathleen? Why don't you bring the day she sat up, with the Irish girl arrangce water in at once, instead of dawdling ing the pillows about her wasted form,

Kathleen obeyed, but the dreary, homepulses can hardly be described.

"If I was only at home again," she tho't, "But, Kathleen, I was cruel to you-so 'where the poorest and the meanest have perfectly hoartless !" a kind word for each other! They scorn and hate me here; and, sure, I've tried to Kathleen, evasively. do my best, but the lady has a heart of stone, and even the little children in the pleaded the lady, once so haughty, nursery, with their French maid, make fun "I forgive you, ma'am, as free as the

of Irish Kathleen." And the lonely exile wept herself to sleep . "And you'll stay with me always, and on her solitary pillow that night. It was be my friend, Kathleen." a mere closet of a room, without light or ventilation, that she occupied. Mrs. Arnott thought that any place was good enough for Kathleen. The bed was hard and insufficiently provided with clothing, have made men and women of the little but, as Mrs. Arnott carelessly observed, it was no doubt a great deal better than she fever; and strangers who visit Mrs. Arwas accustomed to at home. And she had nott searcely know what to make of the just paid to Isaacson & Co. a thousand dollars apiece for draping her drawing- moves about the house apparently as much room windows with lace and brocatelle- at home in it as the mistress herself-who so, of course, there was nothing left for is always consulted about everything, and such a trifle as the comfort of her servan's. trusted with all secrets.

"Is Kathleen sick, mamma?" little Julia Arnott asked one day; "she cries so a relation?" some one once asked. much and looks so white.'

Mr. Arnott, a stout built, good-natured man of forty or thereabouts, glanced up

"What does the child mean, Lucretia?" tle after your girls."

"Of course I do," she said, sharply. "Kathleen is a silent, sullen thing, and I "Has she any friends in the country-

NUMBER 49.

Kathleen, I mean?" "Not that I know of."

"Seems to me I wouldn't discharge her, then. It would be rather hard, unless she is guilty of some fault."

Mrs. Arnott bit her lip. "Gentlemen understand nothing about the management of a household," said she, tartly. "These girls haven't our sensitive natures, either. They are quite used to knecking around the world. Are you going down town now?"

"Yes. 22 "I wish you'd stop and ask Dr. Hart to stop here this morning; little Clarence is

feverish." "Anything serious?"

"I hope not," the mother answered. "but I always like to take these things in time."

Dr. Hart leaned over Clarence's little crib; he involuntarily uttered the name of a malignant type of fever just then raging

in the city. "I wish that you had sent for me before. I fear that it is too late to secure the exemption of your two other little ones. But with constant care I think we may save the little fellow. You have a

good nurse?" "An excellent one. I can trust Natalia

rs I wou'd trust myself." "You are fortunate," said the doctor. He had scarcely closed the door, when Natalia came to her mistress.

"My month expires to-morrow, madam; will you pay me my wages and let me take my departure at once?"

"But, Natalia, the baby is sick-" "One's first duty is to one's self ; I would not risk the infection for twice what you pay me."

And Natalia packed her trunk and departed, without even coming into the nursery to bid little Clarence good bye.

The cook was the next to give warning. "Deed did I, then, ma'am." answered Matilda, the laundress, took herself off "I am going, too," said the seamstress

in doing to others as they do to me." Kathleen did not understand the five And almost before she knew it, the stricksyllabled word, but her quick nature com- en mother was left alone by the bedside of prehended the sarcastic tone. The tears her suffering babe. Neighbors crossed on were dried in their fount-the scarlet spot the other side of the street like the priests and levites of old; friends contented them-

sure it's the same flesh and blood God has "Is there no one to help me?" she given to us both. How would she like it, mouned, wringing her white jeweled hands I wonder, to be in a strange land, and together. "Have all pity and womanly

if I could see the mother and little Honora, A slight noise caused her to turn, and and Teddy, that's but a baby yet; but it's Kathleen O'Neil was at her side, busy in

"I thought you, too, had gone, Kath came upon her with sickening power just "Sure, ma'am, what should I be going then as she stood before the picture of the for?" asked Kathleen, simply, "and the

sweet Irish lake, with the wet splashes on bits of children sick, and you in sore trouher cheek, and Mrs. Arnott's cold, bard ble? I nursed the little brothers and sisters at home, and I know just what needs

And she took little Clarence in her arms with a soft tenderness that went to the "Are you not afraid, Kathleen?"

"What should I be afraid of, ma'am? "Of course, my dear," said Mrs. Tudor Isn't the God's sky over us all, whether Audor, sympathetically, "they're bad, thor- it's the green banks of Ireland, or the oughly bad, the whole lot of them. I'd church steeple of this great confusing city? send them all back to their native country Oh, ma'am, He'll not take the bonny baby from us."

haps, we would have a chance to employ Kathleen watched over every one, faithful, would at least earn their bread. Is that "Kathieen," Mrs. Arnott said, the first

"Oh, Kathleen, I don't deserve this." "Sure, ma'am, if we all had our deserts sick feeling that thrilled through all her in this world, it's a sorry place it would be, I'm thinking," laughed Kathleen.

"We won't talk of it, ma'am dear," said

"But say just once that you forgive me!"

sunshine," Kathleen auswered softly.

"If God wills it, ma'am." And Mrs. Arnott put up her lips to kiss

the fresh, cool cheek of Irish Kathleen. The years that have passed since then people that Kathleen nursed through the plump, comely, middle-aged woman who

"Is she a housekeeper, or a servant, or Mrs. Arnott replied : "She is my true

and trusted friend, Kathleen O'Neil," A MACON negro who went into a trance at a revival the other night, was accidenthe asked his wife. "I hope you look a lit- ally overlooked." When he found the lights were all out he followed the congregation succeeded in seriously of the deacons. He gives as an excuse that "dey lugged udder niggers home, and dey no place ter git up 'stinctions in s'ciety,'

EBENSBURG, PA., FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 1874.

wanted rain.

"I feel so grieved and vexed," said one, "to see him look so sad.

not wet one mound.

cannot do.

willing friend depart,

"the rain has come at last." The corn it grew and ripened well, and into Because one little rain drop said, "I'il try

It is possible that some readers may be

be exhorbitantly high and beyond his from head to foot. means. No harm, however, could be done by simple inquiry. He was agreeably as. matter?" he exclaimed; "are you ill?" tonished to find that the sum demanded was only four thousand pounds. Not being a commercial man, he could not help in?" expressing his astonishment at the small the mansion was very much out of repair. 'in, Warren, you must be ill." The representative of the firm unhesitatchaser, he was soon informed of the cir- was the matter.

I desire that my house in - Square upon my face and head, and then this ter- was up again for sale immediately. should be-" when some kind of fit seized rible shivering came over me as if I was him, and he was discovered the next morn- lying out of doors in a bitter frost, though the strange-looking needle which the Coling by his housekeeper dead in his chair. I knew at the same time how hot it was." Now the next of kin was found in Australia or some remote colony, and was anxious me feel your pulse." to realize on the property as quickly as possible. The house in - Square had been uninhabited for years. There was not a fever, intermittent, or that sort of thing ?" scrap of furniture in it; but it had been scrupulously cared for and kept clean by an elderly deaf woman, who did not live and fetch a doctor?" in it, but used to go to it every morning and spend almost all day there, and preserved it in such a condition that the own. er might have furnished it at any time, and come to live there without experiencing any sense of discomfort which would and another attack of shivering seized ordinarily arise from residing in a house him, and he exclaimed almost in agony: which had not been inhabited for a long "Oh, no, sir, not to that room! I feel He gave a cheque upon a well known bank time. It was well known, I may add, that certain that I should see that white-faced for the amount and it was duly honored. the elderly care-taker never slept there. man again, and feel that weight upon my The only pecularity about Mr. Williams The Colonel went to view the house. He face and head. Oh, sir, do let me lie upon was that he had a remarkable pale face.

hurry to enter, and as Mrs. Somerville time and he had never any reason to suphappened to be unwell at this particular pose that he was not thoroughly tempertime, and unable to come to London to su_ ate and sober. So he said, "Well you can perintend the furnishing, he contented take this blanket, and lie down upon the himself with preparing a bedroom for his floor, or sit up in a chair as you please. I own use on the first floor, and another for expect you will be heartily ashamed or the services of the elderly deaf woman, who appeared to be grr 'eful for his con- grateful to you,' sideration, as she alleged that the pay she received for her trouble was almost all she and Col. Some, ville put out the caudle and called to town on business, but it was not till the first week in August that Colonel awake as ever he had been in his life. Somerville, accompanied by a valet who had been in his service for about two years,

he glanced somewhat suspiciously at the his candle hastily again, and his gaze was

clock. His servant, a smart, active fel- Being a man of more than ordinary

"Incipient fever," said the Colonel, "let "Strange," he muttered, after a minute

"Well, theu, Warren, I think you had

dle of about four times the ordinary length examined it curiously, for he did not remember to have seen such an implement to be slightly tarnished. With this, the

onel found was subjected to chemical inwhen the house had been for sale about ter from the agents, announcing that the house was sold for the same amount that "But yet you must be ill. Shall I go he gave for it. The Colonel being a man of strict honor thought himself in duty bound to make the purchaser aware of all that had occurred and hurried up to town to the agents for the purpose of procuring the name and address of this person. All that the agents could inform him was that the purchaser was a gentleman named Williams and appeared to be an American. Thirdly, the house has never since been external appearances, or by the descrip- The Colonel looked gravely at Warren. put up for sale, but it remains to all ap-