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VOLUME XV.

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THE SCOTTISH BANKER'S DILEMMA.

IN TWO CHAPTERS, -- CHAPTER L. Mr. Duff, the worthy and respected agent of the Central Bank at Tollkirk, was startled by his teller, James Hamilton, coming to him to say, just as the banker had signed the last official letter before proceeding to lock up the safe: "I am sorry to say, sir, the cash appears to be one hundred pounds short." James was very pale as he spoke, and, despite his efforts to prevent it, his voice trembled. A stranger could not have told whether the youth's agitation was the result of fright or guilt.

Mr. Duff knew him too well to let the latter alternative dwell in his mind for even a moment; but the lad's excitement was somewhat infectious, and it was with ust a little throb that he replied: "You're oking, Jamie." Mr. Duff leaned back in his chair and nibbled the feather end of his quill as he looked in the lad's face. "I was never more serious in my life," reiterated Hamilton.

is some mare's nest, depend upon it," said Mr. Duff, in a tone that partly re-assured the young fellow. "Have you been very busy at the desk to-day, James?" "That is the mystery of it, sir; we have not been busy. Hardly three pages of our cash-book are filled."

"A handred pounds! Hm! I am going up-stairs to dinner. In the meantime, theck your summations and your cash, and by-and-by I'll come in to lock up the safe The teller went from the banker's room

to the outer office with a very grave face. Mr. Doff, who lived with his family, as is customary in Scotland, in the very com-modious house attached to the bank, sent his letters to be copied by the junior clerk, and then went leisurely upstairs to dianer.

Mr. Doff's was, for a man who does not object to permanent residence in a provincall town, a very easy and pleasant mode of life. His work was not hard, nor were his responsibilities very heavy. He had a pretty and comfortable home in an oldshioned country town, and although his wife lay in the churchyard on the brae by the riverside these ten years, still be had two of the prettiest girls in Tollkirk — Minna and Mary Duff (besides Jenny, the married daughter, who lived in Edin-lurgh), whose delight it was to make his sunny and happy. He was naturallybeing known to possess private means, and on account of his official capacity as the lispenser of discounts and custodian of the wealth of the neighborhood—a man of some importance in Tollkirk, and formed part of, as well as moved in, Tollkirk's best society. He was magistrate and farmer as well as banker; and on Sundays, for many a long year, he had stood beaming behind "the plate" at the entrance to the

every ratepayer on his side of the county He took life very easy, as I have said. making no undue fuss when an accommoention bill was presented to him, if he knew-as he was certain to know-the pedigree and progress through life of drawer and imposer. He was respected, of professe and sagacity, who never made but dolor, never troubled them with appli-cations for rise of salary or transier of agency — whose books always small the minutest inspection, and who, speaking generally, wanted no favors from them. Rather, granted favors, by occasional in-vitations to visit him at Tollkisk, where there is custifpused front and salmon linkand where the local distillery yields a liquid of more than local reputation. The hy-birds were not slow to accept such invitations, Mr. Duff being over a tumbler of New Block Vereits. Now De Grade Striped blood Velesta Now Block Vereits. Now Block Colored Plant of the first inspector of the hank came often enough to woo the full Jenny, the eldest of the falls. Seemed, subject to which discolars at the first of the fally, and took her away with him one and not warrented. Best makes Gorsamer

Circulars, on the state cach.

OPEN TO-DAY.

Large Immeriation of New Hambers Edrings.
New Swiss Emirrolderius, New Laces, Ac.

When he went ap-stairs he did not give a second thought to James Hamilton's pale face, but quickly settled himself in his arm chair, after doing justice to his simple repast, to read for the second time the report of his own recent great speech at the Tollkirk Herald, the fine roll of his ownsomewhat improved — spoken sentences seen in black and white, communicating a pleasing sense of complacence and importance as influencing public opinion. It was nearly seven o'clock before Mr. Duft remembered that he had not yet locked up his safe, and that his clerks were probably waiting below for him. He was surprised when he opened the office door-leading to Every Floor is provided with but and cold the hall of his house-to find Hamilton still bending over his cash-book with an expression of deep anxiety on his face, and bundles of bank notes lying on the desk

Location ever of access by Ballway and re-covered for bould follows.

Accommodations for four hundred (400)

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The Faculty is composed of Eminent Eds. 'out doubt Hamilton had toiled through every entry Bepartments—Normal, Classical, Commer over and over again, had counted and re-counted his bundles of notes, and now had a very sharply defined fear in his heart, and a vision in the background of his imagination of a dearly loved old mother

waiting for him at home, and who was ill able to bear the responsibility of such a loss—if loss it should prove to be.

"A mare's nest, I'll be bound," Mr. Duff said, good-naturedly, taking Hamilton's place before the cash-book. Very carefully Aug. 25, 1881.-41.

Aug. 25, 1881.-42.

Aug. 25, 1881.-43.

Aug. 25, 1881.-43.

Aug. 25, 1881.-44.

Prescreat Protes.

"A mare's nest, I'll be bound," Mr. Duff said, good-naturedly, taking Hamilton's place before the cash-book. Very carefully and with a keen eye he went over each unity; very carefully, too, he counted the set how by her second and final account, hereby gives notice that he will set at his office in Ebenshurg.

Aug. 25, 1881.-44.

Prescreat Protes.

"A mare's nest, I'll be bound," Mr. Duff said, good-naturedly, taking Hamilton's place before the cash-book. Very carefully and with a keen eye he went over each unity; very carefully, too, he counted the cash, and recounted it; but only to find that Hamilton's words were too true. The dates of said appointment, when and where all dates of said appointment, when and where

utiful and elegant cards, MINERAL LAND FOR SALE! ing, you may depend upon it." Then the A The undersigned effers at private sale and accommodating terms a tract of land lying three foreths of a urite from the Pennsylvania Railroad and containing 77 Acres. The land is underlaid with coal. Fine that you had income and is also well timbered, has a good saw-mill seat therson, and esaid be readily roughed by a railroad track from the main line. For further particulars easily on er address.

Aug. 12, 81.-81.\* Wilmore, Cambria Co., Fa.

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The angle of the first place of NDO WOOD, M. C.,

"fully concent to the assection will return to you of their supation."

Milwood, July 28, 1881-208."

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Milwood, July 28, 1881-208."

Common and superstance of the concent STHAY MULE.—Came to the prembershed Chemier address SWITHits Hell. A. M., Garrard Esits Media, Pa. Bundles from Phila.

STHAY MULE.—Came to the premthip on or shout the lothed July last, a black mule,
the Media, Pa. Bundles from Phila. best of the subscriber, in Washington township, on or about the lothed July last, a black mule, about fixtum hands high, and having ten white spots on his rump. The owner is requested tax-me forward, prove property, pay charges and take him away; other who he will be disposed of as the law directs.

Washington Twp., Aug. 28, 1881—31.\*

with his gloom; for she knew how her boy's heart 'ay in regard to the banker's younger daughter; but her son's reply was equivalent to a snub.

He was in the office two hours before official bank-hours on the following morning; but no trace of the missing money

CATION OF WORLN. Ex
Exp. 14th. Cardingues

W. L. DEAN, Registrar.

D. Ladics' Seminary.

Indicas' Semina honest enough to return it. Then for the first time in the history of the Tollkirk branch, a deficiency in the cash had to be reported to the head office. A hundred ands to a rich ran may seem a small matter to worry over; but to James Hamilton, whose yearly salary, after ten years' faithful and conscientious service, did not

annuity left by her husband-was in great measure dependent upon him—the liability to refund this sum weighed heavy. He became anxious and nervous, not being altogether certain that the authorities of the bank might not suspect him of having ap-propriated the money; and from very nervousness was guilty during the next few days of making several small mistakes in his cash dealings, which confirmed him in the belief that he had paid the money

to some unscrupulous rascal who did not mean to acknowledge it. It seemed an age, although in reality barely a month had passed, before a note from Mr. Tait, the chief inspector (Mr. Duff's son-in-law) set the matter at rest. "In consideration," the note ran, "of the admirable mode in which the business of the branch at Tollkirk has hitherto been conducted, the directors have agreed to wipe off the deficiency in cash, which it may be hoped will yet turn up and be recredited; but in doing so it must be firmly kept in view that the directors by no means establish the present case as a precedent, and must remind the gentleman who has charge of the bank's cash at Tollkick that

attaching to his office."
"There, Jamie; take that to your mother," said Mr. Duff, kindly, handing the official note to Hamilton, "I thought Peter would manage it " (referring to his son-in-law, the last effect of such and such a date. Mr. Duff began to think the place was the banker, relapsing into broad Scotch, to haunted. Wherever the money was gone, put the reproof, if such it might be called, feelings.

at no future time will the directors be dis-

posed to relieve him of the responsibility

There were tears of relief in Hamilton's eyes as he read the note, "That is generous imposery was all the deeper that during the treatment, sir; I was afraid they would day of the difference in Traill's each it had

Then the youth went home to his mother the police, had the matter passed into their obilant, a burden lifted from him. But on the next evening, after business that there was an itinerant locksmith, a hours, Hamilton's face was whiter than gipsy, in the neighborhood to whom popuever. His hands were trembling as he fumbled over his cash, and "cast" and "re-cast" the long columns of figures in | I would take a very clever locksmith inhis cash-book. It was market-day, a busy day, and large sums had passed into and out of his hands. To his horrer, he found without leaving traces of his work. The his cash three handred pounds short! He tafe had a foundation of eight feet of stone, had not the courage on this occasion to go | and was coaled on the floor, wall, and roof o Mr. Duff's room with his plaint. But | with a two-inch plate of solid iron. The the banker saw at once as he passed through the office on his way up stairs that some there were four doors—had two keys and thing was wrong.

"Yes, sir; but I think I won't be long;" was necessary to be in Mr. Duff's his line felt non-had from excitement. he knew everybody; and perhaps nobody respected him the less because he pretty

well knew to within a pound or two what

He was sitting looking into space, his head | Baskers and clerks were fast becoming de-resting on his bunds. | Baskers and clerks were fast becoming de-resting on his bunds.

Mr. Duff asked, with just a perceptible edge of annoyance in his tone. "No, sir. I differ three hundred pounds." \* Over or short?

"Short, sir!" must bestir yourself and - and find it. I have to go out to a meeting to-night." The bunker spoke sternly. Hamilton once more, under Mr. Deff's ounted his cash. The deficiency could in

When Mr. Duff returned from his meeting at eleven o'clock, Hamilton was as far from peace as ever. The younger clerks had gone away. Again the banker and Hamilton went over each item together-

whatever happens," queth Mr. Duff, grimly.

What is to be done, sir?"

They looked blankly in each other's faces. Both men went to bed with heavy hearts; nor did the search next day throw any light on the mysterious transaction. Mr. Duff could not bring himself to report this second deficiency to his head office; and the only alternative left was to refund the amount from his own private means. This, as may be imagined, he did very reluctantly, and for the first time in his experience he watched the younger men, and perhaps his trusted teller too, with just a faint and irrepressible glimmering of enspicion. A mistake of this sort might other matters than mere loss of money. one could come near the cash in future but Hamilton himself. And so, with what grace he could summon, and with many grave warnings, Mr. Duff poid the "short" money, having, as he said, to "grin and

For a week or so things worked well under the new arrangement; but for the third time Mr. Dull was destined to see Hamilton pering over his books long after bank hours, this time to hear on inquiry an amount than five hundred pounds! Had the shrewd, quick witted James Hamilton after ten years of faithful service, become

"This is beyond endurance," the banker said, sharply, as the fact was communicated "It is most strange," replied the helpless teller, feering that the Pates were against

"It is impossible you can have paid the "It is gone, sir." "Then you must find it. I can no longer

be responsible for your blunders. Here is no less a sum than nine hundred pounds in less than six weeks to be accounted for Many a one has been sent across the sea for The youth put his hands over his face

and fairly burst into tears. "I must give it up, sir. I can't stand this. I must leave Mr. Duil was looking at him with very keen eyes as this was solited out. "Leave Tolikirk? Understand, Mr. Hamilton, that

matter is cleared up." For he greater part of the night the men sat up searching; but when the morning came they were as far from the mark as Mr. Duff, much to the surprise of cuttomers of the bank, next day "took over"

from want of practice, became his own cashier. Hamilton was degraded to sub-

good deal of time in Mr. Duff's company.

amount to one hundred pounds, and whose mother—save for the help of a triffing to the directors of the bank for the appointment of joint agent or partner with himself in the management of the Tollkirk branch. So it came about that in a short time George Trail, a shrewd, practical business man, relieved Mr. Duff at the telling-table, in order to familiarize himself with the faces of the bank's customers. For some days all went well. Then came market-day. At close of the day Mr. Traill's cash was five hundred pounds short!

CHAPTER IL

Dismay fell on the quiet little bank it. Tollkirk. The former uneasiness became in the office a panic. Hamilton had been made ill by the anxiety of his position, and was in bed on the day that Mr. Traill's deficiency occurred. After closely scrutinizing every entry in the books, Traill came to the conclusion that he had not paid the money in excess to any one, and that the notes must have been stolen by that the notes must have been stolen by some one on the premises. The bank's safe was duly examined; but the locks bore no marks of being tampered with. The windows and doors of the office were unaffected; and Mr. Duff's domestics—who swept out the office—had been his servents and were broken. vants and were known to him for years, The matter was on this occasion reported to the bank's head office; but thence cargo the cold intimation that no further data clency could be made good, and referring the bank agents to their recent letter to

It had to be paid up; raising the total in the gentlest form, to spare the lad's cosses made in this mysterious way to the feelings. pounds in less than three months. The roup [sell by auction] me and my old an appened there had not been a single cash mother out of Tollkirk."

"Roup ye? I couldn't spare ye, ind."

"Roup ye? I couldn't spare ye, ind."

"Roup ye? I couldn't spare ye, ind." payment amounting to five hundred pounds. Then there came vague rumors—such as hands, would certainly have made use ofar rumor attributed almost miraculous power in the manipulation of locks. Yet deed to open the Central Bank's safe unheard in the house, and to close it again separate locks. Through the lock of the "You are late, Mr. Hamilton." (Mr. Suter iron door an iron belt was each even-Duff never in a general way called James ing shot down from Mr. Duff's bedroom "Mr." His doing so now implied misgiv. above, and while that bown the down it. key in the world could open the door. Are ye ready to lock up the safe with It was extremely improbable that there "Not quite. If you are in no hurry, sir, the nocessary keys in their hands, find

perhaps we can lock up when you come their way into the strong-room unaided.

No longer was Mr. Duff able to leave Wery well."

Mr. Duff went up-stairs; but on this occasion he did not linger over his meal. When he came down half an hour later, Hamilton was not ready to lock the safe. He was closely on the watch. Yet there was no visible cause for suspicion. Have you balanced your cash now " sheer fright, accelerated by mystery, and a sense of titter helpitssaness in face of it Mr. Deiff might for beiter be loning his for is money away on turf speculations; in wese there would be some remote chan-"Mercy on us! This will not do. You of profit, if not satisfaction in losing his ust bestir yourself and—and find it. I require. His back had up to this time thel in smooth sees had even hitherto, and in a sheltered bay, unexposed to each of a dangerous sort had spring, as likely, he imagined to ingulf him at his anchorage as any bulleting of waves in

"This is terrilly awkward, James."

There were tears in the youth's voice as the filtered: "Yes, sir; and it will drive me was thin and worn and ill with anxiety and rateling. They were all watching. Traill was watching Hamilton; Hamilton turned a term glance on the boys; the boys kept Mr. Dull was unwilling to put the matter in the hands of the local police, knowing What is to be done, sir?"

that the array for the affair would specifity become fown gossip. Secretly Mr. Duff. began to think the place which began to think the place as being called that the first to be suspected would be his

His partner, George Traill, being called upon to pay up half of the five hundred pounds, resolved to get to the bottom of he matter. He had a bed fitted up in the panker's business room, and determined to spend his nights there until some solution of the problem presented itself. His trans-fer from the Aberdeen branch seemed just then to prove a bad bargain. The keys of the safe, it should be mentioned, numberthe locking up of the safe and the dropping of the iron bolt from the banker's bedro in a strong box, the key of which was alhappen once; but to happen a second time armed with a revolver, in spite of Mary's at so short an interval, made him gnessy on protests and Mr. Dull's jeers, occupied the He had a framework of mahogany and and waited philosophically the course of glass made for Hamilton's desk, so that no events. He slept little for the first night or two; but no intruder came to disturb his The long dull hours crept on without adventure or other result than to make Traill sleepy and cross during the following days. The bankers were beginning to despair of discovering the thief. Yet Trail!—despite Mr. Duff's perfectly reasonable argument that if any man broke into the safe it would not be merely five numbered pounds that would satisfy him, nor would be likely risk a second or third visit-continued to spend his nights in the

At daybreak, however, on a certain morning in the following week, Traill, who slept very lightly, was suddenly awakened and startled by hearing the boit that passed through the lock of the outer door of the safe drawn sharply up. He could hardly believe the evidence of his ears, thinking that perhaps he had dreamed. But the "click" was still reverberating, exaggerated as all sounds are in the stillness of night. If the bolt was really lifted, the person that drew it up must be in the room where Mr. Duff slept. Traill was a courageous man; but in spite of himself, he trembled as he felt for and examined his revolver. When the reverberation subsided, there was a silence for a few moments as of Death, Sleep's twin brother. Then be thought he heard, far off, a door open, folwed by a step on the stairs. ight showed at the seam under the door; presently the door opened, and a man enered, carrying in one hand a lighted canvolver was firmly held in Traill's grip, and before firing, he was about to utter a cry of warning, when he noted that the figure paid no heed to his presence, but passed him, making straight for the safe door. In the dim light, to his astonishment, he dis-tinguished the fixed, even rigid features of his friend and partner Mr. Duff! His eyes tomers of the bank, next day "took over" were wide open, and he moved with his the cash himself, and, rather awkwardly usual deliberation, but with an air of stern preoccupation quite foreign to his working habits. Trail saw at a glance that the banker was walking in his sleep.

ordinate duties. His spirit, poor fellow! was fairly broken. No trace of the missing His first impulse was to seize him and money could be found. Of course, Mr. wake him; but a moment's reflection de-Duff could not long continue acting as cided him to wait the natural issue of teller. The work interfered with even events. Mr. Duff, without hesitation or fumbling, chose the right keys for the A son of Mr. Traill, the parish minister, outer door, and pushed it, as the lock who was employed at the Aberdeen branch | sprang back, slowly open; then the wicketof the same bank, at this time visited Toll-kirk, and being of the same craft, spent a gate, the inner from door, and so on, until he disappeared silently in the vault-like shades of the strong-room. When he The subject of the missing money was broached and discussed between them. It so happened that George Traill was engaged to be married to Mary Duff; and bundle containing five hundred; he then noiselessly shut and locked each door as he ilton and feeling sorely in need of capable 1 retreated. He paged within arm's length

of Traill, bearing the bundle of notes. The keys, and his lighted candle; left the office —followed by his partner—walked slowly up stairs to his bedroom, where he deliberately dropped the bolt back in its place, and finally laid the keys carefully, apparently counting them, in their usual place in the box fixed in the wall for the pur-pose. Traill expected he would then re-tire to bed; but it was evident that the somnambulist had not finished his night's work. Having safely put away the keys, he lifted his candle and again went down stairs, carrying the notes in his hand. Traill followed him through the kitchen and out into the courtyard behind. With the same purpose-like deliberation that he had shown at the safe, he now marched to -the unvarnished truth, O romantic reader, must be recorded—to the Pig-sty! Ar rived there, he lifted a loose fold of thatch that rested on a slab of stone in the rickety roof, secreted the bundle of notes there, replaced the thatch carefully, and then turned

with an air of relief and went indoors. Traill did not disturb him, did not even take the trouble to follow his partner to see if he reached his bed safely, but sprang eagerly to the loose thatch, in which, snugly lying, he found the comfortable sum of one thousand nine hundred pounds in bank notes! He could not help laugh-ing as he stood there in the dim gray morning, hardly half-clad, for the pursuit had not been without excitement. "An expensive roofing for Duff's pigs," he murmured, gathering the various dusty bundles together and retreating indoors from the

cold morning air.

"I think, Duff," said Traill, seriously, when they met in the office, after breakfast—"I think, to make certain that no thief, or witch, or ghost has been tampering with the cash during the night, we had better count the cash henceforth in the morning as well as at night; that will make certain whether the money disappears by night or

Mr. Duff assented. "Suppose you begin this morning."
Again Mr. Duff assented; and with reluctant fingers, at his partner's suggestion,
counted the money. "Powers of darkness?"
he exclaimed, "I shall not stay another day in this house. The cash is again five hundred pounds short!" Had Mr. Doff not been a remarkably bald man, be would have probably torn his hair in agony.

"How much do you reckon your pigs cost you annually, Duff?" Trail asked with apparent irrelevance, and, as Mr. Duff ought, flippency. Pigs! Hang the pigs! Hang the bank! - Yes; I mean to resign my office I'm not going to remain here to be robbed and ruinest."

"Are you mad, Traill?"

"Well, let me see. At the rate of two thousand pounds, say, in three months, that pig-sty will cost you and me just about eight thousand pounds a year," Traill was apparently in his gravest mood, "That's pretty moderate, ch?" "Poor Trail!! The loss of his money

has taken his brain. What demon has ontered this house?" sighed Mr. Duff in the presence of a despair more trugic even "Look here, old fellow!" sald Traill, suddenly bursting into laughter-"look here I found these in the roof of your pig-six

this morning; and what is more, I saw you put them there with your own hands." Yes, all the missing money was there. banker gave a champagne dinner to his delighted clerks on the evening of that day. His own health, however, was in rather a bad way. In a month or two he resigned his office, retiring on a liberal pension to his farm; and in order to compensale James Hamilton for all his recent rouble and misery, Mr. Duff requested, as a personal and final favor, that the Direc-ors might appoint him to the position of sistant-agent with George Traill; a proposal which the Directors favorably en tained. These offices both of the gentle men hold with honor to this day. It may be mentioned too that George Traill and James Hamilton are now brothers in-law, each having in due time wedded one of Mr. Duff's daughters. The bank is James Hamilton's home; while George Traill has rented a farm aujoining Mr. Duff's. The fresh country air, and exercise, and fishing, and unlimited golfing—all enforced on him by the doctor as the best medicine have put an end to the old banker's som-

THE END.

Stories About a Famous Hymn.

"A curious mistake," says a corres pendent, "was made on the hand-bill tributed among the worshipers at It has been found convenient to prin on slips of paper the feynmas sung at each of the special services new being held, and on the slip given out yesterday appeared the well-known hymn be-Lard, clemiss us with thy blessing."

with this appended statement of au-

thorship: 'Hon. Walter Shirley, 1774. The compiler of the handbill seems to have trusted to the editorial accuracy of John Wesley, in whose collection of hymns the composition in question was first attributed to Shirley. In two other collections it is assigned to some poet named Madan, who is otherwise unknown; but the author was Dr. Hawker, of Plymouth, well known to evangelical persons at the beginning of the present century as the writer of the devotional work 'Merning and Evening Portions,' and to general readers of the present day as the grandfather of Robert Stephen Hawker, the eccentric vicar of Morenstow, whose biography has been written by Baring-Gould's and Dr. F. G. Lee. In Baring-Gould's memoir there is an amusing story of how, when quite a boy, Robert Stephen Hawker wrote what he considered an improved version of the hymn, and presented it to his grandfather with the remark that the original was 'crude

near being run over by the locomotive of the special train. Had it not been that an old negro, at the risk of his own life, seized the boy by the collar and jerked him backward just as the cow-catcher reached him, he would undoubtedly have been out to pieces. net, said, to the old negro :

country, and sends de boy to town to him with a howl and a mouthful of panta-

owes me foah two mumis board ob dat tor with squills. \_\_\_\_ as expressed at the centur promute boy ; so you see dis ain't de right time fosh him to be ron ober by do kears." | doctor

Did you ever ride a mule? I don't mean tails made a straight line behind. a civilized creature accustomed to good so- If his horse flagged, the mule started him ciety, but a wild steed of the plains brought up again with a vigorous bits on the rump up on the grass and rattlesnakes, and accus- that seemed to infuse new viger into tha tomed to eavort regardless of the constitu- medicated animal. We passed my rival sittion as amended, or the rights of man. ting on the roadside nursing his off leg as if Mules are pretty much alike the world over, | it hurt him. He never came back, acknowl-

A RIDE FOR A WIFE.

I rode one the other day, and I'm going to manner. try to tell you about it. It won't be very | The doctor soon put Araminta's little not the girl—she isn't deep a bit—and as my rode into Araminta's affections on a mule. luck would have it, another fellow fell about

the same distance about the same time. He's not a bad looking chap, and wears store clothes on week days. He parts his JONATHAN JINKS ON THE DREAD GIRLS hair in the middle, and oils it up with bergamot and cinnamon. He has his name printed on pieces of pasteboard and drops them "old maids" is a matter that the majority of around promise nously for fear people might | men cannot understand, for the sensible porforget that A. Brown was about. I had to tion of the sterner sex look with something neknowledge that between this felfow and akin to reverence upon a maiden lady who myself, in the affections of the divine Ara- has outgrown the frivolity of youth, and minta, it was nip and tuck, with the dog a blossomed into a kind-hearted, pure minded. little ahead.

I put on my best clothes one day and walk- helping hand to assist the poor, or smooth ed over to the girl's house, intending to move the pillow of the sick and suffering. Of on her works and have the little thing set- course there are many old maids-the cross tied without any further debate. My rival and cranky ones-who are an exception to was there, and seemed to have on his best this rule, but the good Samaritans among clothes. That didn't amount to much, for I them are by no means in the minority. didn't allow gregular hours.

had a diversion that broke up the sitting. | Clearly traceable to marriage entered into to

Araminta is possessed of a little brother— escape using called old maids. I hate girl's brothers I II they are little they Now, it is my firm conviction that a great play tricks on you, and if they are big they | deal of the evil results from the proper parborrow your money, get drunk, and insult | ties failing to come together in early life. In you with impunity, knowing that you are in other words, there are just as many young love with his sister and wen't resent an in- men who would make good husbands, who

"I see you are putting a new roof on your sty, and papering it," Traili went on sententiously. "Sparing no expense on it, garden patch, and running out, found little from minusing such and make its predicting their children from minusing such found little." brether on the ground in active convolsions. opposite sex. Many a young man who is He was trying in cal his way through the now wasting his days and nights loating

to be death in the family, and Araminta ciety of good and decent girls, instead of screamed a scream and yelled at us to run confining his companionship solely to boys

get Araminta for life. My rival went over by for you yet to be looking out for a wife, the fence like a deer, and seized the only still I think it high time that you should learn horse in the stable. He bridled and saddled to appreciate the value of female companion-the animal in double quick time, while I ship. Your heart is young and tender, and found nothing left me but a mule. I seized just in the condition to fall desperately in a blind bridle, and rushing at the animal, laws with some fresh, blue-eyed damsel of felt something whizz over my head that I am fifteen or thereabours. Once desperately in sure was a pair of beels. They narrowly es- love with a pure-minded maiden, I am confi-

caped my skull but carried off my hat.

Nothing danned. I seized the creature by grace your parents, or leave a statu apon the car, put on the bridle, fastened the chain your memory to be regretted in the years to by which he was haltered and led him from come, when you have acquired more discret the stable. He went out willingly, so much then and judgment. Now go and fail in love, so, indeed, that I had some difficulty in keep- and if you haven't got the cash for ice-cream ing up, and had not the creature stopped out- theatres, and the other necessities for courtside to give vent in a prolonged bray, I could ship, you may draw on me every week for a not have mounted. As it was, before he got reasonable amount, and I shall consider it through with his musical entertainment I was money well invested.

this performance, and stood turning it over a girl to love, I shall find one for him, and if In his mind for a minute, while I dug my be don't love her, I'll "whale him" within heels vigorously into its sides. He seemed an inch of his life. pretty secure hold.

cained on the horse to such an extent that the timid Benedicts half-way and do a large Aramieta might have offered two to one and share of the courting themselves. It is thus no takers, but exhibited his superabundance that good men and pure woman often get of bottom by throwing in, at intervals, the the very refuse and scum of the market, liveliest kicks that ever emanated from a while the real matrimonial prizes are picked

About a mile out we closed in on the cob, really undeserving of their good luck. and as we passed Muley favored him with a salute that was most diabolically foul; for THE WORST SNAKE STORE EVER PRINTED. planting his two heels upon the quarter of the honest Bucehalus, I heard a yell, and glaucing around, saw my rival and horse go down in a promiscuous manner. My steed of the desert kept straight on. We had a ride of eight miles before us; and I left satisfied that in that distance, at the rate we were traveling, Muley would have a good avail. We camped out that night, and about deal of demon taken out of him. I became aware of another fact, and that was my best pants were giving way.

midnight were aroused by many and loud sounds of hissing and ratting. We jumped up and followed in the direction from whence the sounds came, and had not gone far when

About five miles out we struck a watermeion patch and went straight through. I
could, hear the melons bursting under me like
bombs, and when we emerged from the furto filteen feet, the larger ones standing on and flat. 'Crude and flat, sir!' roared ther side specimens of this fruit were strung their tails in a circle with oract bodies and

taken a pull on Pike's Peak. We struck the parson's family about amidships, and went self with one hanging from above : they then

undoubtedly have been out to pieces. A gentleman, who witnessed the heroic act, said, to the old negro:

"I suppose you are the father of that boy?"

I knocked over the cradic and upset the supper table. The doctor came to my resone per table. The doctor came to my resone around boy around box and bonner. "No, sah; his fodder libs out in the with a kick in the ribs of his dog that sent port ) Pa.) Sun and Banner. get his edification. De boy boards wid me, sah."

You seem to take a great deal of interest in him."

As old Mr. — heaved the last scuttle of four tons of coal into his cellur, he was little devil of a brother was dying of too much watermelon patch, and wanted a flow.

Greaten would last all winter."

had been favored with, kept the lead, his pill bags flapping in the air, while his coat

Jon Printing of all kind nearly and expeditiously executed at lowest prices. Don't you forget

trator's and Executor's Notices ...

Advertising Rates.

The large and reliable circulation of the Cam-mula Pariman commends it to the favorable con-sideration of advertising, whose favora will be in-serted at the following low rates:

2,80 8,00 6,00 10,00 12,00 10,

only the Texas mule is a little more so. edging his defeat in the most gentlemanly

well written, because my right arm has been | brother in a perpendicular position, and that in a sling, and I have more bruises than night at the bedside of the little sufferer, bones. You see I fell in love with a girl- keeping well to the front, I proposed, was deep as a forty foot well-I mean my love, accepted, and the happy day was fixed. I

> -1 -0 b BUNTING FOR A WIFE.

HAVE OF BEING OLD MAIDS.

Why woman should dread to be classed as self-sacrificing woman, ever ready to lend a

knew that at ten o'clock, six hours after my However, notwithstanding the views of arrival there, he'd have to wend his winding men whose opinions are worthy of respect, way home, for the old tady be bounded with | there is no disgnising the fact that the intjority of the fair sex look forward with hor-If he got to his frugal couch, or rather the | ror to the day that will see their names class house containing it, be might skin his knuck- eq with those of "an uncertain age," and to les and kick his boots off, but he wouldn't escape therefrem, often sacrifice themselves get in after that hour, and the hay mow is by marrying the most graceless scamps that not a very pleasant bed room in Ben time. come in their way. On every hand are evi-But I was soon relieved of all anxiety. We denote of blighted, rained lives, which are

stay at home, languishing for female society, While we were talking in a small way, and as there are young girls living in dread of dymelon patch. It was a disgusting failure, for he could not have bursted open or gone into the contents of ten or twelve.

As it was, it looked as if there was going and a happy husband and father, had his patents encouraged him in mingling in the soof his own age. I know when my boy reach-We both took in the situation at a glance es sixteen, no matter how bashful he is, I -the man that got the doctor first would | shall say to him, "My son, although it is car-

That is the way I shall talk to my son-The beast seemed somewhat asionished at yes, and it he is too big a booby to hunt up

suddenly to come to the conclusion that a Why is it that in nine cases out of ten you change of administration would be an excel- find the women really worth marrying—the lest thing, and to this end began going up pure-minded, sweet-faced, obedient, indusand down like a saw gate. I really expected trious, faithful ones-united to men who ofto be split in two, and would probably have ten treat them little better than slaves, while been pitched over but that, in the midst of men who are really parogons of husbands so this pleasing exercise Muley caught sight of frequently have wives unworthy of them? I the horse disappearing at a hard gallop in will tell you the reason. The bold, bad felthe distance. He seemed animated by the lows, who have plenty of cheek, go forth, landable ambition of overtaking the horse, and, metaphorically speaking, pluck the best and started so suddenly that he came very fruit in the market. The shy, timid fellows near leaving me behind. i worked my way mustwait patiently until circumstances throw forward until I could get hold of the halter them in the way of some shrew of a longchain, and pulling this rigging tight, got a tongued, brazen-faced female, grown desperate at the neglect of the sterner sex, and How that beast did run! He not only rather than not have any husband, they meet up by adventurers of both sexes who are

the irate Doctor. 'Young puppy, it is mine. I wrote that hymn. The young emendator was only abashed for a moment. 'I beg your pardon, grandfather,' he exclaimed; 'I did not know that. It is a very nice hymn, indeed, but but—'and as he went out of the door, 'mine is better.'

His Interest in the Boy.

A negro boy in Galv ston came, very near being run over by the locomative at the specimens of this fruit were strung on the mule's legs like heads.

A mile beyond this I saw our excellent minister of the gospel wending his solemn way areas the parties with a wagon full of infant Jacobs, and I saw that unless he whipped his borse lato a most extraordinary run, we would be into him almost instanter. I pulled hard on the near rein with one hand, while I steadled myself with the chain with the other, but with no more effect than if I taken a pull on Pike's Peak. We struck the

les can be praised,

zheny the and