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# Clearfield Republican.

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**"OUT OF BUSINESS;"**  
 Or the History of a Splendid "Burst Up,"  
 BY OLIVER OPTIC.—CHAPTER I.  
 "Out of business, are you, Ned? Well,  
 that is bad," said Mr. Joseph Murdock,  
 a stockbroker, to his nephew.  
 "Decidedly bad."  
 "But why did you leave Brown and  
 Smith? That is a good concern."  
 "Salary was too small."  
 "Better than you get now; at all events,  
 replied the worthy old gentleman, with a  
 look of displeasure."  
 "Couldn't pay my way on it."  
 "Not on five hundred dollars?" and  
 "Uncle Joe," as he was commonly called,  
 held up both hands in astonishment.  
 "I am in debt at this moment," returned  
 Ned with a rueful glance at his uncle.  
 "And likely to be. Of course you don't  
 expect to pay your debts by wandering  
 about the streets."  
 "I expect to find business again."  
 "You do not expect to get five hundred  
 dollars the first year, do you?"  
 "I intend to strike for a thousand."  
 "Strike! you won't hit it."  
 "Perhaps I shall."  
 "Ned you are going to the deuce, as  
 fast as high living and dissipation in gen-  
 eral will carry you."  
 "Why, uncle, I'm sure you don't know  
 me."  
 "Sit down, Ned; let us talk it over. I  
 want a young man in my office, and per-  
 haps we can make a trade."  
 "Thousand dollars, Uncle Joseph," and  
 Ned Murdock attempted to look sly.  
 "Not out of me, Ned."  
 "Can't live on less."  
 "Better die than I. I want a young man  
 to assist my book-keeper, run of errands—  
 An errand boy, you mean," and Ned  
 felt hurt at a slight put upon his dignity.  
 "An errand boy, then. My clerk in-  
 tends to go into business himself, one of  
 these days, and if you are attentive to busi-  
 ness, here is an opportunity to advance  
 yourself," and Uncle Joe looked seriously  
 into the face of his nephew.  
 "What is the salary?"  
 "Four hundred, for the present."  
 "I should starve upon it."  
 "Live within your means. When I was  
 of your age, I lived on two hundred."  
 "Times have changed since then."  
 "What do you pay for board, Ned?"  
 "Six dollars a week. I board at a ho-  
 tel."  
 "Six dollars a week! Ned, you are cra-  
 zy," and uncle Joe's eyes stuck out "like  
 two tallow candles."  
 "Two of us room together in the attic,  
 so that they board us low."  
 "Should think they did—low for them  
 but high for you. Costs you a hundred  
 for clothes, I suppose, don't it?"  
 "About that," replied Ned, evasively.  
 "Do you go to the 'play' often."  
 "Not above once a week, except when  
 there are stars on."  
 "Not above once a week! Ned you are  
 an extravagant dog; you will die in the  
 Poorhouse!"  
 "Pshaw! Uncle Joseph, you are old  
 fashioned!"  
 "If it is old-fashioned to live within  
 one's means, to pay one's debts, and wear  
 an honest face—thank God!—I am  
 old-fashioned replied the worthy old gentle-  
 man, with considerable spirit.  
 "I mean to be honest, to practice all  
 your old-fashioned virtues."  
 "You can't do it, Ned, on five hundred  
 dollars a year with your habits."  
 "Can't be honest?"  
 "No; it is not honest to run up a bill at  
 your tailor's which you have not the abili-  
 ty to pay; it is not honest to get in debt  
 to support extravagant habits."  
 "You don't mean to say that I am dis-  
 honest Uncle Joseph?" asked the young  
 man, with a blush on his cheek.  
 "Well, well, we won't talk about that  
 now. I want a young man, and if you  
 have a mind to lay aside your extravagance,  
 and go into my office determined to  
 stick to your business, I will see to the  
 rest."  
 "What salary shall I have, Uncle Jo-  
 seph?"  
 "Four hundred, the first year," replied  
 Uncle Joseph, firmly.  
 "But I can't live on that."  
 "Yes, you can. Leave your hotel and  
 board in a private family. Quit the theat-  
 er and the opera, and pay as you go."  
 "But my debts!"  
 "How much do you owe."  
 "About two hundred and fifty dollars."  
 "Uncle Joe scratched his head, contract-  
 ed his eyebrows, and looked decidedly  
 stormy.  
 "Bad business, Ned," said he, after a  
 few moments' consideration. "I could eas-  
 ily get you out of the scrape, provided I  
 saw any hope of amendment on your part.  
 You don't even say that you will reform."  
 "To be serious, Uncle Joseph, I can't  
 see how I can reform. I must live you  
 know."  
 "And you must live within your means."  
 At that moment the penny post deposited  
 a letter on the table, by the side of the  
 stockbroker, the contents of which per-  
 fectly amazed him.

**CHAPTER II.**  
 The letter was from the attorney of  
 Miss Mary Marker, a maiden aunt of Ned  
 Murdock, formerly residing at the West—  
 It contained the intelligence of the spin-  
 ster's death. The lady happening to  
 have a fit of generosity when she made her  
 will, had bequeathed to her graceless neph-  
 ew the sum of ten thousand dollars.  
 Here was a god-son, and Ned leaped  
 up six feet in the air with astonishment  
 and delight.  
 But the worthy stockbroker was trou-  
 bled; for although he was a broker, he was  
 a good christian, and had the welfare of  
 his nephew near his heart. There was  
 something about the youth he liked, not-  
 withstanding he went to the play and board-  
 ed at a fashionable hotel.  
 His only objection was the reformation of  
 the young man, whose ruin and premature  
 decay were foreshadowed in his daily habits.  
 His proposition to employ him in his own  
 office was merely a stratagem to obtain a  
 hold upon him.  
 This legacy seemed to step between  
 him and the accomplishment of his benevo-  
 lent purpose.  
 "What are you going to do with this  
 money Ned?" asked he with a troubled  
 countenance: I am named as your guar-  
 dian, you perceive.  
 "Bah, guardian! I am twenty-one next  
 week Uncle Joseph," replied the young  
 man, unable to conceal the elation the as-  
 tonishing intelligence had produced on his  
 mind.  
 "True; but this legacy may be the ruin  
 of you, Ned."  
 "You are absurd, Uncle."  
 "I am sorry your aunt died so soon; I  
 wish she could have been prevailed upon to  
 live till you had come to years of discre-  
 tion."  
 "If I had known she had intended to re-  
 member me in her will, I should certainly  
 have expressed my desire that she might  
 have lived forever or some such hyperbole."  
 "What are you going to do, Ned? It is  
 rather a serious question."  
 "Time enough to decide it when I get  
 the money."  
 "Take my advice, Ned; settle yourself  
 down in some quiet position, get another  
 clerkship—don't go into business till you  
 are more experienced in the ways of the  
 world. You had better accept my offer  
 and take your first lesson in learning to  
 live within your means."  
 "Be an errand boy on four hundred dol-  
 lars a year, when I have ten thousand dol-  
 lars in my possession? Did they do so in  
 old times?" and Ned bestowed a good na-  
 tured sneer upon his quiet old uncle.  
 "They learned to creep before they  
 walked. If it will make any difference, I  
 will give you the same salary you received  
 at Brown and Smith's."  
 "Couldn't think of it, Uncle Joseph.—  
 A thousand would not procure my servi-  
 ces, now."  
 The stock-broker sighed. Ned was as  
 good as lost, in his opinion. There was  
 no hope for him, and much as it troubled  
 him, he saw no method of preventing the  
 catastrophe.  
 For an hour longer Uncle Joe tried to  
 prevail upon his willful nephew to adopt a  
 prudent system of living, and preserve his  
 capital until a favorable opportunity occur-  
 ed for investing it.  
 Ned was resolute. Visions of balls,  
 operas, theatres, fast horses, and a rich  
 wife flitted before his excited imagination.  
 The sum of ten thousand dollars appear-  
 ed to be inexhaustible. In vain Uncle Joe  
 reasoned that his possession was only equiv-  
 alent to an income of six hundred dollars.  
 Ned was sure of being worth twenty thou-  
 sand in five years, and fifty in ten. It  
 never occurred to him that fast horses and  
 the opera could not be supported without  
 encroaching upon the principle.

**CHAPTER III.**  
 While they were debating the ques-  
 tion, Tom Murdock, a cousin of Ned, en-  
 tered the office.  
 "Ah, Tom," said Ned, "where we are, I  
 had quite forgotten to inform good uncle  
 that you too were out of business."  
 "Is it possible!" exclaimed uncle Joseph;  
 "both out of business. I hope you have  
 not been foolish, Tom."  
 "No, uncle, Tom is never foolish—one  
 of your dignified boys—proper, and all  
 that sort of thing," replied Ned.  
 "My services were no longer required.  
 You know I only supplied the place of an-  
 other," added Tom.  
 "You have been there three months."  
 "Yes."  
 "On thirty dollars a month?" added  
 Ned, "and saved money at that. Tom  
 will just fit your place, uncle."  
 "Do you want a clerk, uncle Joseph,"  
 asked Tom, meekly.  
 "I thought of having another; but it is  
 but small pay," answered the stock-brok-  
 er a little nettled, for he had created the  
 want only to save the reputation of Ned.  
 "I should be very glad to enter your  
 service even at a small salary. Anything  
 is better than being out of business."  
 "Right, Tom, right!" exclaimed the old  
 gentleman. "The salary is four hundred,  
 and you shall have the place."  
 And Tom took the place, while Ned,  
 instead of adopting his uncle's excellent ad-

vice, moved down two flights at the hotel,  
 rode out to Porter's every day, and went  
 to the opera every night.  
 In due time the legacy reached uncle  
 Joseph, who placed Ned in full possession.  
 In another month, a large gilt sign,  
 bearing the "name and style" of a new  
 firm—E. Murdock & Co., astonished the  
 mercantile world, and Ned was no longer  
 out of business.  
 The dignity of the new firm—the Co.,  
 was merely a flourish of the artist's pencil  
 to give eclat to the thing—demanded that  
 the senior partner should have a wife.—  
 Fortunately for the felicitous carrying out  
 of Ned's idea on this subject, things had  
 for several months been progressing to-  
 wards this event.  
 Our young merchant had paid his ad-  
 dresses to the daughter of a mercantile  
 man, reputed to be wealthy, and now that  
 "he had come to his possessions," there  
 was no obstacle to an immediate marri-  
 age.  
 A house in a fashionable street was pro-  
 cured; the cage being ready, the bird was  
 caught, and Ned found himself in the full  
 enjoyment of life. Ned was no niggard,  
 and things went on swimmingly. Dinner  
 parties, and tea parties, and evening par-  
 ties followed each other in rapid suc-  
 cession.  
 Money flowed like water. Notes on  
 three six and nine months were given—  
 Ned said the business was bound to pros-  
 per—like Richelieu in the play, Ned said  
 there was no such thing as fail.  
 One half of his legacy only had been  
 invested in his business at the commence-  
 ment of the operation. Six, nine and  
 twelve months did the rest. But his house-  
 keeping affairs absorbed the other half in  
 less than six months. His wife was from  
 a rich family, he reasoned, and must be  
 supported in state.  
 At the end of those six months, when  
 the first of the notes became due, Ned  
 was not a little astonished to find that he  
 had nothing to pay them with. He look-  
 ed over his books to see where the ten  
 thousand had gone to; it was only dust in  
 the balance when weighed against his  
 business and his family expenditures.  
 Bad debts and unfortunate speculations  
 stared him in the face from every page,  
 and Ned began to be a little troubled. "A  
 dim consciousness that he had been going  
 too fast, crept into his mind. It was a  
 disagreeable reflection, and when he went  
 home to dinner that day, he dodged round  
 a corner to avoid uncle Joe.  
 In the meantime, Tom had acquitted  
 himself to the entire satisfaction of his  
 uncle. The head clerk had left, and he  
 had been installed in his place. Living  
 within his means, indulging in no fashion-  
 able dissipation, the future was bright  
 with hope.

**CHAPTER IV.**  
 One morning while Ned was pondering  
 on the unsatisfactory state of his affairs, a  
 neighbor brought him the news of the fail-  
 ure of his wife's father!  
 Ned was horrified, for it must be con-  
 fessed that in his present emergency, he  
 had based some rather extravagant hopes  
 on the fact of having a rich father-in-law.  
 It was a heavy stroke to his philosophy.  
 The vision of a rich wife was suddenly  
 and violently exploded.  
 A five hundred dollar note came due  
 that day and he had been thinking of drop-  
 ping into his father-in-law's counting room  
 about 1 o'clock, to see if he had "anything  
 over."  
 The thought of applying to uncle Joe  
 occurred to him; but the worthy old gen-  
 tleman was too blunt by half, and would be  
 likely to tell him some homely truths.  
 The day wore away with vain devisings  
 of means to extricate himself from his em-  
 barrasments. The note was not paid—  
 was protested.  
 The next day, people who had long sus-  
 pected that Ned was travelling fast, be-  
 gan to see with a clear vision the true  
 state of the case.  
 Before two o'clock, Ned was in Chan-  
 cery!  
 "How's this, Ned?" asked uncle Joseph,  
 entering the counting room.  
 "Don't mention it, uncle—don't men-  
 tion it! Before you say a word, I will  
 own that you were all right, and I was  
 all wrong," replied Ned groaning in spirit.  
 "I did not come to reproach you, Ned—  
 far from it. I gave the best advice I was  
 capable of giving; but as you did not deem  
 it advisable to follow it, of course I shall  
 not taint you in your troubles."  
 This was kind of uncle Joseph, and it  
 was spoken in a kindly manner, without  
 the slightest appearance of that triumph-  
 ant "I knew it would be so," which wise  
 old men sometimes assume. It went to  
 Ned's heart; for Ned had a heart, not  
 withstanding the little foibles of his char-  
 acter.  
 "Why did you not come to me for assis-  
 tance, Ned? I always meant well by you."  
 "My case was a hopeless one; and to  
 tell the truth," uncle Joseph, after what  
 passed between us; I was ashamed to meet  
 you."  
 "Pie! Ned"—and the old gentleman  
 was highly flattered by his nephew's hu-  
 mility.  
 "I wish I had accepted your offer, even

at a salary of four hundred dollars a year;  
 I should have been a great deal better off  
 now."  
 "Well, well, we will not mind that now.  
 The place is still open."  
 "It is?" asked Ned eagerly.  
 "Tom is my head clerk. Of course I  
 could not displace him."  
 "No, certainly not."  
 "But as you have a wife, I will make  
 the salary six hundred now."  
 "Thank you, uncle; I will gladly ac-  
 cept the place."  
 Ned did accept it, and though it was a  
 sad fall from his former position; he took  
 his place at the desk in his uncle's office  
 as the assistant of Tom, with the best  
 grace in the world.  
 It is surprising how misfortunes will  
 humble a man—how they will make him  
 accept with joy a position at which, in the  
 days of his prosperity, he turned up his  
 nose in disgust.  
 Mrs. Murdock was in the main, a sen-  
 sible person, and made the best of her al-  
 tered circumstances. Three rooms in a  
 retired street were obtained to supply the  
 place of the fashionable residence in Tre-  
 mont street, and the young couple went  
 to housekeeping on a reduced scale.  
 Ned kept within his means this time.—  
 The humiliation of his fall gradually wore  
 away, and he was surprised to find him-  
 self much happier, than when they had  
 been surrounded by all the appliances of  
 wealth and luxury.  
 Ned remained three years with uncle  
 Joseph, who annually increased his salary,  
 thus enabling him to add to the comforts  
 of life, and still keep within his means.  
 At the end of that period, the old gen-  
 tleman finding himself old enough and rich  
 enough to retire, gave up the business to  
 his two nephews, who, we are happy to re-  
 cord, are now doing remarkably well.

**MORAL.**—When you are out of business,  
 do not be over-nice; and when you have  
 a legacy left to you, do not be rash.

**HISTORY OF AMERICA.**  
 When the measures for taxation were  
 brought before parliament, and espoused  
 the cause of the colonists.  
 Lord Chatham with all the energies of  
 his gigantic mind.  
 What declaration did he make?  
 That what can be taken without the ow-  
 ner's consent ceases to be property.  
 What was the fate of his conciliatory  
 measures?  
 They were negated by a large major-  
 ity.  
 Why were the agents of the colonies  
 refused a hearing in parliament.  
 On the plea that they were appointed  
 by illegal assembly.  
 What resolutions were passed by both  
 houses of parliament?  
 That the Americans had long wished  
 to become independent and only waited  
 for ability and opportunity to accomplish  
 their design. To prevent this, and to  
 crush the monster in its birth, was the  
 duty of every Englishman: and that this  
 must be done, at any price, and at every  
 hazard.  
 What measures were adopted on the  
 10th of February?  
 A bill was passed by which the colonies  
 of Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hamp-  
 shire, and Rhode Island were restricted  
 in their trade to Great Britain, and its  
 West India possessions, and also prohibi-  
 ted from fishing on the banks of New  
 Foundland.  
 What result was anticipated from this  
 measure?  
 It was expected that it would prove par-  
 ticularly distressing to the inhabitants of  
 New England as an idea prevailed, that  
 they depended on the fisheries for a sub-  
 sistence, and must, if deprived of them, be  
 starved into obedience.  
 What plan of conciliation was proposed  
 by Lord North?  
 He brought forward an artful bill, which  
 was adopted. Its purport was that Great  
 Britain should forbear to tax the colonists  
 on their agreeing to tax themselves; the mo-  
 ney thus raised, to be at the disposal of  
 the British Parliament.  
 How did the colonists receive the plan?  
 They pronounced it not only insidious,  
 but unreasonable and unsatisfactory.  
 Who attempted privately to settle the  
 difficulties?  
 Lord Howe and Benjamin Franklin.  
 With what success?  
 So wide was the difference that they  
 could advise no scheme of adjustment.

**THE LABORING MAN.**—Mark the labor-  
 ing man who breakfasts at six, and then  
 perhaps walks two or three miles to his  
 work. He is full of health, and a stran-  
 ger to doctors. Mark, on the other hand,  
 your clerk, who takes tea at eight, and  
 goes down to the store at nine or half past  
 nine, is a pale effeminate creature, full of sar-  
 asin and patent medicine, and pills and  
 parilla and patent medicine, and pills and  
 things. What a pity it is that this class  
 of people do not lay down the scythe  
 and the scissiors, and take up the hoe  
 or sail for a year or two. By remaining  
 in their present occupation they only help  
 to fill up cemeteries, and that's about as  
 miserable a use of humanity as you can  
 name.—Albany Knickerbocker.

**THE YANKEE AND THE PIRATE.**  
 There lived not many years ago on the  
 eastern coast of Mount Desert, a large  
 island off the coast of Maine, an old fish-  
 erman by the name of Jedediah Spinnet,  
 who owned a schooner of some hundred  
 tons burthen, in which he, together with  
 four stout sons, was wont about once a  
 year to go to the Grand Bank for the pur-  
 pose of catching codfish. The old man  
 had five things, upon the peculiar merit of  
 which he loved to boast—his schooner  
 Betsey Jenkins and his four sons.  
 The four sons were all that their father  
 represented them to be, and no one ever  
 doubted his word when he said that their  
 like was not to be found for fifty miles  
 around. The oldest was 22, while the  
 youngest had reached his 10th year, and  
 they answered to the names of Seth, An-  
 drew, John and Samuel.  
 One morning a stranger called upon  
 Jedediah, to engage him to take to Havana  
 some iron machinery belonging to steam  
 engines for sugar plantations. The terms  
 were soon agreed upon, and the old man  
 and his sons immediately set about putting  
 the machinery upon board; that accom-  
 plished, they set sail for Havana, with a  
 fair wind, and for several days proceeded  
 on their course without an adventure of  
 any kind.  
 One morning, however, a vessel was  
 descried off the starboard quarter, which,  
 after some hesitation, the old man pro-  
 nounced to be a pirate. There was not  
 much time left them for doubting for the  
 vessel saluted them with not very agree-  
 able whizzing of an eighteen pound shot  
 just under the stern.  
 "That means for us to heave to," re-  
 marked the old man.  
 "Then I guess we'd better do it, hadn't  
 we?" said Seth.  
 "Of course."  
 Accordingly the Betsey Jenkins was  
 brought up into the wind, and her main  
 boom hauled over to the windward.  
 "Now boys," said the old man, as soon  
 as the schooner came to a stand, all we  
 can do is to be as cool as possible, and  
 trust to fortune. There is no way to es-  
 cape, that I can see now, but perhaps they  
 will take such stuff as they want, and then  
 let us cry about it, for it can't be helped.—  
 Now, get your pistols and see that they are  
 sure-loaded, and have your knives ready,  
 but be sure to hide them, so that the pi-  
 rates shall see no show of resistance."  
 In a few moments all the arms which  
 the vessel afforded, with the exception of  
 one or two old muskets, were secured  
 about the persons of our Down Easters,  
 and then they quietly awaited the coming  
 of the schooner.  
 "One word more, boys," said the old  
 man; just as the pirate came round under  
 the stern, "Now watch every motion I  
 make."  
 As Captain Spinnet ceased speaking,  
 the pirate luffed up under the fisherman's  
 quarter, and in a minute more the lat-  
 ter's deck was graced by the presence of  
 a dozen as savage looking mortals as eyes  
 ever looked upon.  
 "Are you captain of this vessel?" asked  
 the leader of the boarders, as he approach-  
 ed the old man.  
 "Yes, sir."  
 "What is your cargo?"  
 "Machinery for steam engines."  
 "Nothing else?" asked the pirate with  
 a searching look.  
 At that moment Captain Spinnet's eye  
 caught what looked like a sail off to the  
 southward and eastward, but not a sign be-  
 trayed the discovery, and while a brilliant  
 idea shot through his mind, he hesitatingly  
 replied:  
 "Well, there is a little something else."  
 "Ha, and what is it?"  
 "Why, sir, I hadn't ought to tell,"  
 said Capt. Spinnet, counterfeiting the most  
 extreme perturbation. "You see it was  
 given to me as a sort of trust, and I wouldn't  
 do right for me to give it up. You can't  
 take anything else you please, for I can't  
 help myself."  
 "You are an honest codger, at any rate,"  
 said the pirate; "but if you would live ten  
 minutes longer, just tell me what you've  
 got on board, and exactly the place where  
 it lays."  
 The sight of a cocked pistol brought the  
 old man to his senses, and in a deprecating  
 tone, he muttered:  
 "Don't kill me, sir, don't. I'll tell you  
 what we've got forty thousand silver dol-  
 lars nailed up in boxes, just for'rars o'  
 the cabin bulkhead, but Mr. Defoe didn't  
 suspect that anybody would have thought  
 of looking for it there."  
 "Perhaps so," chuckled the pirate, while  
 his eyes chuckled with delight. And then  
 turning to his own vessel, he ordered all but  
 three of his men to jump on board the Yan-  
 kee.  
 In a few minutes the pirates had taken  
 off the hatches, and in their haste to get at  
 the "silver dollars," they forgot all about  
 work, and not so with Spinnet; he had his  
 work at work, and no sooner had the last of  
 the villains disappeared below the hatchway,  
 than he turned to his boys:  
 "Now, boys, for your lives. Soth, you  
 clap your knife across the forethroat and  
 peck halcyards, and you, John, cut

the main. Be quick, now, an' the momen-  
 t you have done it jump aboard the pi-  
 rate. Andrew and Sam, you cast off the  
 pirate's grapplings, an' then you jump—  
 then we'll walk into them three claps  
 aboard the clipper. Now for it!"  
 No sooner were the last words out of  
 the old man's mouth, than his sons did ex-  
 actly as they were directed. The fore  
 and main halcyards were cut, and the two  
 grapplings cast off at the same instant, and  
 as the heavy gaffs came rattling down,  
 our heroes leaped on board the pirate.—  
 The moment the clipper felt at liberty, her  
 head swung off, and before the astonished  
 buccaneers could gain the deck of the  
 fisherman, their own vessel was near half  
 a cable's length to the leeward, sweeping  
 gracefully away before the wind, while  
 the three men who had been left in charge  
 were easily secured.  
 "Halloa, there!" shouted Captain Spin-  
 net, as the luckless pirates crowded around  
 the lee gangway of their prize, "when you  
 get them ere silver dollars, just let us  
 know, will you!"  
 Half a dozen pistol shots was all the an-  
 swer the old man got, but they did him no  
 harm; and, crowding on sail, he made for  
 the vessel he had discovered, which lay  
 dead to the leeward of him, and which he  
 now made out to be a large ship. The  
 clipper cut through the water like a dol-  
 phin, and in a short space of time Spinnet  
 luffed up under the ship's stern, and ex-  
 plained all that had happened. The ship  
 proved to be an East Indian, bound for  
 Charleston, having, all told, thirty men  
 on board, a portion of whom at once jumped  
 into the clipper and offered their services  
 in helping them to take the pirates.  
 Before dark, Captain Spinnet was once  
 more within hailing distance of his own  
 vessel, and raising trumpet to his mouth,  
 he shouted:  
 "Schooner, ahoy! Will you quietly sur-  
 render yourselves prisoners if we come on  
 board?"  
 "Come and try it!" returned the pirate  
 captain, as he brandished his cutlasses  
 above his head in a very threatening man-  
 ner, which seemed to indicate that he would  
 fight to the last.  
 But that was his last moment; for Seth  
 crouched below the bulwarks, taking deli-  
 berate aim along the barrel of a heavy  
 rifle, and as the bloody villain was in the  
 act of turning to his men, the sharp crack  
 of Seth Spinnet's weapon rang its death  
 peal, and the next moment the pirate cap-  
 tain fell back into the arms of his men,  
 with a brace of bullets through his heart.  
 "Now," said the old man, as he leveled  
 a long pivot gun, and seized a lighted  
 match, "I'll give you just five minutes to  
 make up your mind in, and if you don't  
 surrender, I'll blow every one of you into  
 the other world."  
 The death of their captain, and withal,  
 the sight of the pointed pivot gun—the pec-  
 uliar properties of which they knew full  
 well—brought the pirates to their senses,  
 and they threw down their weapons and  
 agreed to give themselves up.  
 In two days from that time, Captain  
 Spinnet delivered his cargo safely at Hav-  
 ana, gave the pirates into the hands of the  
 civil authorities, and delivered the clipper  
 up to the government, in return for which  
 he received a sum of money sufficient for  
 independence for the remainder of his life,  
 as well as a very handsome medal from the  
 Governor.

**COMPOUND INTEREST.**—Mr. Wm. Heath,  
 the coach painter, residing in Taunton,  
 England, has furnished a late number of  
 Reynolds's Miscellany with the following  
 interesting calculations:  
 A farthing put to interest at the birth of  
 our Saviour, at 5 per cent. per annum,  
 would, at the end of the year 1852, am't.  
 to the enormous sum of £1,330,260,603,  
 257,932,959,632,098,892,329,164,572,  
 1s. If placed in a line along several sev-  
 enights of an inch for the diameter of some  
 sovereign, the whole would reach 18,109,  
 400,808,015,373,066,700,516,080 miles,  
 1,505 yards, 1 foot, 2 inches and a  
 half. On allowing the sun to be distant  
 from the earth 95,000,000 miles they  
 would reach there 101,572,640,003,919,  
 715,436 times, or form a pathway to the  
 sun of 361,171,180,917,063 miles, 1,741  
 yards, 1 foot, and 2 inches wide. On al-  
 lowing a sovereign to weigh, as it does,  
 12.352, 100th grains, a cubic mile of gold  
 would contain 8,299,852,344,566,000 sov-  
 ereigns. There are, in the principal and  
 interest, 40,312,009,923,964,412,320 cub-  
 ic miles of gold; or allowing the world  
 to contain 245,147,396,476 cubic miles, it  
 would take 162,062,558 globes of gold,  
 the size of the earth, to pay the debt; and  
 if we could pass these at the immense ve-  
 locity of 100 per minute, it would take  
 3 years, 4 weeks, 5 days, 8 hours, 15  
 minutes and 30 seconds to pass them all.  
 The planet Georgium Sidus is distant from  
 the sun 1,800,000,000 miles; the gold  
 would form a roadway to this planet or-  
 bit 37,140 miles wide, and 100,000 miles  
 thick.

✓ In Providence, on the evening of the  
 Fourth of July, a little negro boy set fire  
 to the building in which the fire worksters  
 stowed, for the purpose, as he naively de-  
 clared, of "seeing them all go off at once!"