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BY MRS. ROBINSON.

'I've made an engagement for you to spend a day out this week,' observed Squire Crosby, as his wife was placing dinner upon the table.

'Have you? I'm sorry, for fear I shall fast. be too busy to fulfil it,' she rejoined, in a elight tone of regret.

'Busy about what?' testily exclaimed the speaker. 'I would respectfully inquire, for somewhat less than the hundredth time, what you can possibly find to do? It seems to me that you must really suffer from want of exercise.'

equire; decidedly. It is a comparatively used the evening before. These she did to him that he should carry a waiter full indeed quite forgotten dinner. The fire quarrel; we'll bring her round in no time, of dinner, and if people can't come in a t idle life for a woman to attend to a few household cares.

'A few household cares.'

'Yes, my dear Mrs. Crosby, and the washing put in into the bargain. What a laborious business!' Squire Crosby looked very wise, and spoke with a slight degree of irony.

'You talk like one who is acquainted with this subject; but at the same time I am willing to allow that you know as much about it as the generality of men; and that can't be construed into a compliment to the sex by any means.'

'But isn't the fact a self evident one, Mrs. Crosby? Haven't I eyes, and can't I see-observe-look about me-compre-

hend?' demanded the Squire. 'You might without doubt; but whether you do, is another thing,' rejoined his

'Be that as it may, however, I am satisfied that I can find enough to do to keep me out of idlenes.'

'When there's only two of us.' 'Only two of us,' added Mrs. Crosby, quietly; 'for it is just as necessary that two should cat as four.

'Well, it certainly must be a great undertaking to cook a little food, wash a few dishes and lay the table three times a day! Why, I could accomplish the whole in less time than two hours!'

'Those duties you have named do not comprise the whole of housekeeping, Mr. Crosby.'

'Perhaps not, I shouldn't mind throwing in a little dusting and sweeping once and a while. But it certainly appears laughable to hear a woman complain of the work when there is only two in the family. I verily believe it is nothing but habit,' quoth the squire, with becoming gravity.

'Suppose you try it for one day,' proposed Mrs. Crosby, with like seriousness 'I'll go to the office and do your work, and you can remain at home and do mine.'

'It's rather a novel proposal, and I don't at this time recall to my mind any celebrated men who have done housework. Haven't the least objection to trying it, notwithstanding, and presume that it will be the easiest days work I shall have this year,' rejoined the husband.

Both being agreed, the next day was selected for the exchange of employment. A quiet smile lurked upon Mrs. Crosby's mouth, and the squire thought it a fine joke; one which would afford him a large fund of merriment, and be the means of proving to his wife that housework was nothing more than a pleasant amusement.

The deluded woman thought her time was fully occupied in keeping a good sized house tidy, and in devising new means of gratifying the palate of the squire; who strange to stay, liked good food, and abundance of it. He seemed to think that and that Mrs. Crosby (or some other per- seated. and everything was done. But to hear have got.' And setting down the cup his hands, and finally at a large stain on Simeon Snooks. Fill out a quit-claim ined, and nothing like a promise of mar-knives cleansed, stove blacked, fire kept, son) had to utter but a few magical words these trifling duties termed enormous, when there was 'only two of them' to look sterner sex know how much they were imposed upon.

While reflecting on this laudable determination, Mrs. Crosby had occupied herself in jotting down a list of the duties ruptly said the lady. which demanded attention the next mornto her husband, requesting him to make have you done to it?' she continued, push- suit of assault and battery!' cried our in- zleton (firm of Buzzleton and Buggs) out days; that will bring him right to a setout a similar paper, so that no misman- ing a large piece of the obnoxious article cipient housekeeper, making a few des- of the office. Browbeat Mrs. Chandler tlement. agement might ensue.

the lady smiling at the earnestness with happen so often as they do!' which he surveyed it. 'I go through the What a woman this is to remember, to trembling hand.

ed considerable property by the same .- asserting. She had no particular desire to be praised; though he had lacked food for weeks.

printed with neatness and despatch, on reasonable say the least, and she awaited the experi- he observed 'was much more pleasant.'

She allowed herself to do just what her call.' inclined to limit his privileges at this time. next.

ed, without looking up.

extra nap of five minutes.

in rather an awkward manner.

ged them, but in spite of all his attempts ed at the clock. sorbed in her reading.

Adjourning to the kitchen, the squire housekeepers. heated and impatient, Mrs. Crosby re- up the brush."

master of ceremonies.

out the coffee.

slices varying in thickness from a wafer hands were certrinly not the cleanest that ing the document in question. With the ing him to step up to the office. While morrow.' to a junk of four inches.

he started for the missing article. Plac- semblance to blacking. Crosby, and he inwardly resolved to write plate, he renewed his attempts at coffee they like! he exclaimed impatiently, go- ment in the case of Brown vs. Smith.— tion of the case, as there was no reason- 'Hold on, Mrs. Crosby, for heaven's an article on the subject, and let the pouring, and this time was successful; but ing to the wash basin and trying to bring Examine letters respecting Mrs. Bright's able hope for her succeeding if the letters sake! No woman alive could do all that tainty as he passed it across the table. 'Muddy coffee again, Mr. Crosby!' ab- so.

The squire hadn't a word of reply.

'The list is no longer than usual,' said extremely careless, or such things couldn't mistook for the towel, and hurrying to- son's nose. The above to be done, be-

same performance every day. It is nec- be sure! Anybody would suppose that 'Ah, good morning, squire!' said a 'Well, here's work!' thought our lady, not come to depose in the slander case, essary, for they cannot be omitted. But she had kept a dairy of my unlucky ob- well dressed, good looking young lady, her ardor considerably cooled by this Wigging versus Briggs, the fair lawyer don't be frightened; you can take your servations for a year. Why, she has who evidently expected to see somebody formidable array of duties. 'Tom do and willing clerk passed to the next item, think that I am a little wiser than I was own time, she added in a bantering tone. them all at her tongue's end! thought the else appear. 'Mrs. Crosby in !'

Feigning the utmost indifference to the individual addressed, though he did not 'Yes-I-no, she isn't in' he stammer- her self-possession. results, he remarked that he should prob. see fit to make any immediate rejoinder. | ed, for truth to tell, the squire was thinkably 'make quick work of it,' and placing The squire had but little appetite; his ing more of his personal appearance than did or not-yawned twice-but express-

the paper in his pocket, returned to the wife remarked the fact and hoped 'that his wife's absence; besides he imagined ed no opinion in words. the simple exercise of getting a breakfast that the young lady looked at him with The liege lord of Mrs. Crosby practised had not taken it away, as one person who some curiosity, and this embarassed him law in a suburban town, and had acquir - should be nameless, was in the habit of the more.

her own housework, but could not help himself a generous slice of bread and but- dress, and the stain in upon his linen as-

'justice where justice is due,' was her mot- When the morning meal was conclu- ped his eyes, and forgot the stain in con- please. What is habeas corpus?' to; and our readers will perhaps coincide ded, Mrs. Crosby donned her bonnet and templating his sooty hands. with her belief that it was rather hard to shawl, and remarking that she would send | 'Excuse the disorder of my dress this false imprisonment, or from one court to work busily a whole morning, and then home the dinner, left the house. Our morning, Miss Haynes,' he added. 'I another!' said Tom promptly. be told that 'she had done nothing com- hero was now alone, and could carry on was so unfortunate as to upset the inkparatively.' It was not encouraging to operations without an eye witness; which stand just as you rang, and you see the case !'

ment of the next day with much interest. 'Now we'll consult the list,' he added, This, it must be confessed, was rather Morning came, and the squire aroused aloud, 'and have things go on in regular a departure from the truth. But the his wife, and informed her in a significant order. Here goes: 'Get breakfast, squire couldn't think of any other way to tone 'that it was quite time to dress and clear table, wash dishes, put closet in or- excuse himself from the dilemma; and he you come in. make a fire.' Mrs. Crosby did not wait der, wipe down shelves, cleanse sink, rub was not disposed to confess the exact for a second bidding, but remarked, as silver, black stove, keep fire, attend to state of the case to his fair eyed friend, she left the chamber, 'that he might put door bell, sweep hall, brush stairs, sweep who, after making a few common place you to my husband. himself in readiness to see about break- parlor, dining room and kitchen, dust fur- remarks, took her leave. Our heroine had taken the precaution wash meat for oven, clean vegetables, Nobody but a lawyer would have thought habeas corpus and the writ of replevin. It was thus that Mrs. Crosby went on lings, and in a short time had a brisk fire. tertain visitors, if they should happen to complacently in a mirror pertaining to Tom?'

husband had been in the habit of doing, 'Bless me is that all?' cried our house- at descerning a black streak across his climax of his forehead, and said, 'y-e-s' zleton & Buggs) out of the office; browand no more. He usually left the coal- keeper, 'I call that making a great fuss face which gave it a most ludicrous as- in a very peevish manner. dust and cinders for her to sift and clear about a little matter. It sounds larger pect. No wonder the young lady looked away, as well as the remnants of wood and than it really is. I think I'll clear the at him with curiosity, for nothing proba- Have you had a quarrel with that young 'Now as none of these persons are shavings to pick up; and she didn't feel table, to begin with, as that is put down | bly but good manners restrained her lady lately?'

'I do, undoubtedly,' said Mrs. Crosby, The dining table stood in the middle of So at it he went, knocking things hiththe room, also covered with books, pa- er and thither at a great hazzard of their en with a slow step. To his utter aston- again.' 'It can't be otherwise,' continued the pers, writing materials and other articles demolishment. As the idea didn't occur ishment it was twelve o'clock, and he had 'Never fear; I'll warrant you in that 'Exactly; but it is now about the hour not molest, and without pulling up the of articles at one time, he made a great | was entirely out, the room was in a sad Tom; but-but-I must get through with proper business hours, how can they ex shades, or putting back the chairs, she many journies between the dining room | plight, the list of duties not half comple- the list.' took a newspaper and began to read. and kitchen, which necessarily consumed ted, and the neat, vegetables, etc., re- 'I'll put you clear through it by- en, or tweaked?' So my young friend, The squire had evidently completed his considerable time. The dishwashing mained untouched. toilet quicker than common, but it was proved rather an awkward affair and His seal had cooled amazingly since nevertheless nearly an hour before he didn't progress so rapidly as he could morning, and he half repented acceding made his appearance. It was something have wished. He couldn't wipe the cups to his wife's proposition. He had expec- means; but blast me-that ain't swear- self in any way you please-by going to novel to see his wife reading before break- handily, the saucers seemed bungling, ted to see her enter every moment, ex- ing, ma'am-if I don't do my best for see Margaret, perhaps. Lock the office fast, and he could not help smiling to wit- and the plates would slip back into the pressherself satisfied with the experiment, you in any way you name.'

water; but after breaking a costly cut and desire him in a very humble manner 'Margaret is a fine girl-next comes services.' 'I've been up a long time, and renew- glass tumbler, (which he felt certain of to go back to the office and resume his the quit-claim deed. You have got blanks On her return our gentle attorney met ed the fire twice, Mr. Crosby, she remark- matching the next day,) knocking a large | legitimate sphere of action. piece out of the platter, (which he resolv- But Mrs. Crosby did not appear, and This was the squire's favorite saluta- ed to paste together while dinner was he was at length obliged to collect his ention when his wife happened to take an cooking,) and cracking a pet dish of his ergies for the purpose of making the fire. Mrs. Crosby. wife's, while setting up a pile of plates, The gentleman made no reply, for he the matter was brought to a close. The ceeded in his undertaking, and consigned deed for styles, in popped Captain Saun- What a ludicrious spectacle met her understood what the remark meant with- knife cleaning was another thing altogeth- the meat to a cold oven. It was too late ders to take advice concerning an action vision, Mr. Crosby with a segment of a out the aid of an interpreter. He pro- er; there wouldn't be any danger of break- to think of a pudding, Mrs. Crosby must for damages brought against him by Jas. squash in one hand and a potato in the cceded to business with great alacrity, ages, and he could 'put'em through quick. excuse that item, although he had always Jones. piling the books and papers upon chairs, But the black spots were deeper set than expected it of her, under all circumstan- 'My husband is not in at this moment, 'I have brought a friend home to dinand nearly spilling some oil, by carrying he imagined, and required the exhibition ces. He began to think that it did re- Cartain, said Mrs. Crosby. 'Please sit ner, Mr. Crosby,' added the lady. a lamp the wrong way; and by allowing of more elbow grease than he had any i- quire some ingenuity and calculation to down and wait a little while."

ceeded in getting the cloth laid, though being awkwardly bandled, inflicted a housekeeping wasn't such a fine joke af- manners, which were generally pleasing der, at his wife's gravity. deep cut, as a slight token of remem- ter all. He wondered how Mrs. Crosby to the other sex. The captain was not 'How soon will dinner be ready!' she steak, Mr. Crosby, remarked the lady many other mistakes during this day, ow- herself safe at home; busied himself in much satisfaction.

ly as he busied himslf with napkins, cups, foresaid list was carefully laid in a conspic. should happen to call for advice. This know that I have studied law extensively keeper, opening the oven door to look at saucers, plates, knives, forks, etc. He uous position, and frequently referred to. last was such an amusing idea, that our myself?' continued the squire's wife. tried to recollect how Mrs. Crosby arran- He attended to the silver and then glanc- lawyer rubbed his hands together and Saunders was quite ready to relate his with the heat.

dy for advice; as she apparently was ab- admonished him that 'time waited for no that time making. man,' and no sympathy for unexperienced

of coffee,' and had a long struggle with he thought, consulting his memorandum. office, and note her experience there. beefsteak, which refused to broil to his 'Ah stove to black! Well, I must admit Tom Pettifogger, the lawyer's clerk, which act the owner had brought an ac- is such a thing as crowning before one is satisfaction. When returning to the din- that the coffee which boiled over hasn't stared somewhat persevereingly when he tion. ing room, after a long abscence, looking improved its appearance much. I'll look saw Mrs. Squire Crosby enter the office

marked, consulting her watch, 'that he | So saying he prepared the polish and | hang up her bonnet and shawl with a had been absent long enough to make a set about the operation at once. The genuine business air. stove was quite hot, and he couldn't work | 'Tom,' said Mrs. Crosby, snapping her The observation the squire remember- to any advantage. The more liquid he fingers carelessly, 'is this office in perfect ed to have heard before, but did not make would put on the more it would sputter order?' it apparent. At length the coffee and and fly off with a cracking noise. He 'Yes ma'am,' replied the infant barmeat were brought in, and all things thickened the liquid, but it would not ad- rister, more surprised.

it was bewitched. Mrs. Crosby seated herself and began At this stage of affairs he happened to here? Pick them up and file them in to carve; the squire took his place at the recollect that somebody had said that proper order.' head of the table, and proceeded to pour milk was the best thing to wet the powder 'Where is the-squire?' asked Pettiwith; so he hastened to the pantry, and fogger, with mouth agape. 'The bread, Mr. Crosby,' suggested the pouring out a quantity, applied it to the 'I'm squire to-day, Tom, and you are refractory stove. That didn't mend the my man of business. Mr. Crosby, told Bless me, I forgot it!' he exclaimed, matter much, and the smell of burned me that you had a memorandum of todropping the coffee pot, and jumping up milk began to be quite disagreeable. The day's work. Produce it if there's such a can.' so hastily that he came very near over- room was filled with smoke, the floor a- thing. The bread was soon procured, cut in spots of blackening, and the squire's mong the papers, and succeeded in find- was dispatched to Farmer Jones, request- did not want him-he will be back to-

'The butter, Mr. Crosby,' suggested resounded through the house, making our could produce, Mrs. Squire Crosby read versus Smith, Jones made his appearance, 'I said Tom, sir. And how have you this jumped upon the table ready cooked, his companion, when he was again fairly hero start as though he had been surpris- as follows: ed in some dishonorable act.

> it must be confessed that he eyed the his hands to their accustomed color; but breach of promise case. Get up an issue were the only evidence in the premises .- in one forenoon!' dark looking beverage with some uncer- a second ring warned him that some per- between Townsend and Ferris. Distress Higgen's bill was sent, and Tom wrote a 'Beg your pardon; before you is a wo-

it's some old man for boots, clothes, grease north of the Misleto River, claimed by 'Very smoky beefsteak my dear! what or rags. If he does it again I'll bring a Talbot and Tompkins. Kick Bill Buzon one side of her plate. 'You must be perate dashes at the dish cloth, which he for her landlord Hoggin. Tweak Johnwards the door, which he opened with a sides attending to incidental office busi-

Now it must be observed that our hero His wife had independence enough to do The gentleman winced, and prepared was remarkable for the neatness of his that she deserved some credit for so doing. ter, which he proceeded to dispose of as sumed enormous dimensions under the searching glance of his visitor. He drop-

effects of the accident.

niture, trim lamps, do chamber work, 'What an ingenious excuse that was!the hat tree. Imagine his mortification from a hearty laugh.

Squire Crosby went back to the kitch- I'm afraid she wont come around right 'Why just as the squire would-wait

were pronounced ready by the officiating here to the stove, and he began to think 'I beg leave to differ with you sir. Do haps.'

you see these papers scattered all about

Items,-Habeas corpus for Levi Lew-"I declare!-what a poor memory I He looked towards the door, then at is. A writ of replevin for the distress of and damages in case of Folger and Fol-'Confound the titinabula! I suppose som. Examine the title of land lying item next on the programme? ness, as it may occur.

you know much?' she asked, recovering | 'To get up an issue between Townsend

Tom didn't seem to know whether he

I mean, are you any part of a lawyer?' means.' resumed our fair barrister.

'Very good! You must co-operate with me to dispatch all the items here next. Is that right, Tom?" named with the least possible delay. I

'A writ for delivering a person from

'Very good. What about this Lewis swindler Sampson.'

'I made it out last evening, ma'am.' writ of replevin.

'I'm glad that you attend to your bus-

'Thank you, Mrs Crosby.' 'Two things are disposed of, then- and Folsom.'

the night previous to prepare the kind- stew cranberries, make pudding and en- of it!' soliloquized our hero, glancing Do you know our pretty seamstress, and by noon, with the able assistance of

'Help me, Tom, and I'll help you .-- nose.' Day before yesterday-and-and- Crosby, looking archly at Tom.

'Ah, Tom don't swear !'

ready to fill up doubtless?' 'Exactly !'

After wearing out his patience, he suc- While Pettifogger was filling up the ically, 'ready for dinner?'

rest of the items, we will attend the foot- certain times, sundry quantities of corn yourself about !

'I can tell you what to do in this case worth, do you suppose?' she resumed.

'Just about six dollars, Mrs. Crosby. 'What do you imagine the whole affair by will cost if it goes to trial!'

'Twenty-five or thirty dollars, per. ted Mrs. Crosby. 'Then the cheapest way will be to-to leave me ten dollars, and I'll settle the the lady.

case, Captain,' added the lady, with a smile that was really bewitching. The captain mused a moment, and then replied, 'I'll do it! Blow me if I ton, of the firm of Buzzleton & Buggs.'

The captain left the money and de- Tom?' round the stove was dotted with little Pettifogger fumbled about awhile a parted. The moment he had gone, a note 'Locked the office and sent him offever was, when a violent ring of the bell faintest possible smile that a woman Tom was engaged on the writ of Brown 'The deuce, Mrs. Crosby!' and the swine affair was settled for seven attended to the cases which I left for you

The letters of Miss Bright were exam- ed, closets in order, shevels wiped down, which he had taken up the second time, his shirt bosom, which bore a strong re- deed for John Styles. Advise Captain riage could be made out of them. Mrs. hall swept, stairs brushed, parlor swept Saunders about action for damages a. Crosby immediately wrote to that young and dusted, lamps trimmed, chamber-'I won't go! they may ring all day if gainst Farmer Jones. A writ of attach- lady, advising her to drop the prosecu- work doneson without was not inclined 'to give up the Widow Sanburn. Make out costs threatening letter to Thompson; but how man who has done it every forencon for was she to 'terrify Joe Runker'-the years.'

> 'Nothing easier,' said Tom. White and tell him his case will come on in a few

Pettifogger was instructed to write a note to that effect, and also respectfully invite Col. Drummer, to call and settle Major Green's bill. As the witness had ful surrender of these premises."

and Ferris. Don't that mean a quarrel,

'Just that,' said Tom. 'Well then, let us prevent it by all

'We have only to let it stand as it is,

'I know all about the squire's business then, for they are peaceable fellows that won't quarrel for themselves.' 'Distress the Widow Sunbury, comes

'The Squire had orders to lay an atwill test your knowledge a little if you tachment on all her things, said Tom, by

way of explanation. 'For what?'

'Because she can't pay some kind of a humbug bill brought against her by that

'Can't this unjust action be quashed?' 'It ought to be, at any rate. It can 'You acted very properly. Next comes be put off long enough to give the Widow warning of what is going on, that she 'That's all reddy-finished it just as can put her things out of his reach,' re-

plied Tom. 'Pettifogger, you are a treasure. Just iness, Tom. I'll speak a good word for run over and give the ridow a sly piece of advice, and then I will help you to make out damages in the case of Folger

Tom, had reached three last items, viz :-Mr. Pettifogger colored to the very 'Kick Bill Buzzleton (of the firm of Buzbeat Mrs. Chandler, and tweak Johnson's

present, what am I to do?' inquired Mrs.

till they come in. pect to be kicked down stairs, browbeatwe will go to dinner. You will not be wanted this aftereoon, therefore you need 'Well, I don't know what all this not return to the office but amuse yourand give me the key; I won't forget your

her seamtress, and having some work to consult her about, asked her home to din-'Dip your pen and dash it off,' added ner. As soon as she entered the house, she knocked at the door and said, lacon-

'The deuce you have!' cried the squire, the kettle to boil over, some five minutes dea of. He contended longest with the dispose of so many duties in a morning, Now, our heroine was a very pretty elevating two notoriously smutty eyebefore he got ready to take it out, he suc- carving knife, which, in consequence of and to have some faint suspicion that woman, and had exceedingly captivating brows, half in vexation and half in won-

'I think I should relish a piece of beef- brance. This was a mistake that caused prospered, and whether she didn't wish at all averse to 'waiting awhile' with continued, drawing forth her watch with the air of one being in a hurry. ing, undoubtedly to the clumsy bandage anticipating how much work had been 'Please tell me something about this 'Judging by present appearances, it 'Ab, then you shall have it,' remarked which the squire wrapped about his hand. laid out, and how completely nonplussed difficulty of yours, Captain. I should will be on the table in about an hour and the house keeper of the day, patronizing- It may be well to remark that the a- she must inevitably appear, if a client like to know the particulars, for do you a half from this time, said the new house

the meat, which was not yet blistered laughed to himself at the ridiculous figure troubles to such a listener, and so straight 'As there is only two of us, Mr. Croshe could make no application to that la- The hands pointed to an hour which which he fancied Mrs. Crosby was about way unbosomed himself. It appeared by, I cannot listen to any excuse for this that his neighbor Jones' swine had tres- unpardonable delay. For my part I

Leaving the squire to work out the passed upon his grounds, destroying, at can't see what you have found to employ attended the making of a 'delicious cup 'What's next on the doket, I wonder?' steps of Mrs. Crosby to her husband's and potatoes, and to indemnify himself, 'Come, Mrs. Crosby, don't exult until he had shot one of said quadrupeds, for your task has been inquired into. There

> out of the woods. 'If you refer to my office business, I am with an assured step, and proceeded to precisely as well as the squire himself, very glad to be able to inform you that said Mrs. Crosby, smiling still more it is successfully accomplished, and I have pleasantly.' 'What was the animal half a day to spare,' replied the lady,

consulting her watch. 'The habeas corpus- began Mr. Cros-'And the writ of replevin!' interrup-

'And the Saunder's case?' resumed the 'And the threatening letter chimed in

'The land case, and the breach of

promise affair ?" 'All attended to sir, as well as Buzzledon't believe you can settle it if any body 'Ha, ha! no, no! you can't put that load on to me; Mrs. Crosby! Where's

Ahem ! let's see. Are the dishes wash-

'For only two of us ?

'For only two of us, Mr. Crosby.' 'Are you a worning of veracity, Mrs. Crosby?' asked the squire, with a smile. 'No gentlem an has yet presumed to

call it in question,' respond the lady, with a slight inclination of the body. Then I give it up, and make a grace-

'And only two of us?' 'Mrs. Crosby, I beg your pardon. I - (CONCLUDED ON FOURTH PAGE)