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The Somerset Herald,
Somerset, Pa.

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PITTSBURGH, PA.

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China Matting,

Drugs,
Shades, &c., &c.

The Best Quality that
is Made of each Partic-
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ATE AS CAN BE FOUND.

H. McCALLUM,

CHARLES HOFFMAN,

MERCHANT TAILOR,

SOMERSET, PA.

LATEST STYLES and LOWEST PRICES.

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R. C. LANDIS

PURE RYE WHISKY

MEDICAL AND MECHANICAL
PURPOSES.

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MERCHANT TAILOR,

COR. WOOD ST. AND SIXTH AVENUE.

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Agents for Fire and Life Insurance.

JOHN HICKS & SON,

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CUMBERLAND, MD.

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DAVIDSON HOTEL.

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Professor Arnold says:

Let the poor sufferers from female

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Vegetable Compound.

Sent by Mail, Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham,

236 Western Avenue, Lynn, Mass.,

for pamphlets.

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SOMERSET, PA., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1880.

WHOLE NO. 1530.

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AN ONLY OFFER.

"Aunt Phoebe, were you ever

married?"

"No, I was sixteen I was con-

sidered so. I was very like you,

then, Julia. I am forty three now,

remember."

"Did you ever have an offer—an

offer of marriage, I mean, aunt?"

"No, well, that's not true; I

have an offer."

"And you refused it?"

"No."

"Then he died, or went away?"

"No."

"Or deserted you?"

"No."

"Then you deceived him, I sup-

pose?"

"I did not."

"What ever happened, then? Was

he poor, or crippled, or something

dreary?"

"He was rich and handsome."

"Suppose you tell me about him?"

"Never talk about him to any

one."

"Did it happen in the old place?"

"Yes, Julia. I never left Rye-land

until I was thirty. This happened

when I was sixteen."

"Was he a farmer's son in the

neighborhood?"

"He was a fine city gentleman. I

thought he was a duke, but he was

only a doctor, and he was a bitter

enemy, and that Dr. Orman was

the only friend he had in the world.

Any further efforts I made to get

at the secret of his life were equally

fruitless, and only threw him into

paroxysms of distress. During the

month of August he was very ill, or

at least Dr. Orman said so, and I

was with him, and he frequently

saw him, and he frequently the

disputes between the two men rose

to a pitch which father seriously dis-

liked.

"One hot day in September, every

one was in the hills, or orchard, or

one was in the house. Early in the

afternoon a boy came from the vil-

lage with a letter to Dr. Orman, and

he seemed very much perplexed, and

at a loss how to act. At length he

said, 'Miss Phoebe, must you be

in the village for a couple of hours;

we soon deeply in love with each

other, and love ever finds out the

way to make himself understood.

We had many a five minutes' meet-

ing, no one knew of it, and if these

meetings, rose bush near his win-

dow hid for me, and I understood

the love letters. In fact, Julia, I

found him irresistible; he was so

handsome and gentle, and though

he must have been thirty-five years

old, yet, to my thinking, he looked

handsomer than any young man

could have.

"As the weeks passed on, the Dr.

seemed to have more confidence in

me, or else his patient was more

completely under control. They had

much fewer quarrels, and Alfred and

I walked in the garden, and even a

little way up the hill, and in oppo-

sition or remark. I do not know

whether I received the idea, but I cer-

tainly did believe that Dr. Orman

was keeping Alfred sick for some

purpose of his own, and I deter-

mined to take the first opportunity

of arousing Alfred's suspicions. So

one evening, when he was sitting

alone, I asked him if he did not

wish to see his relatives."

"He trembled violently and seem-

ed in the greatest distress, and only

by the tenderest words could I

soothe him, as, half sobbing, he de-

clared that they were his bitterest

enemies, and that Dr. Orman was

the only friend he had in the world.

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at a loss how to act. At length he

said, 'Miss Phoebe, must you be

in the village for a couple of hours;

"Died him, never. His elder brother

"died more than a year ago. I sup-

pose Alfred died many years since;

he was very tall and delicate. I

thought it was ill health."

"Poor Aunt!"

"Yes, child, I was very happy

while my dear father lived; and never

would believe but that Alfred in his

love for me was quite sane, and per-

haps more sincere than many wis-

er men."

After this confidence Miss Phoebe

seemed to take a great pleasure in

speaking of the romance of her

youth. Often the old and young

independents sat in the twilight dis-

cussing the probabilities of poor Al-

fred Compton's life and death and every

discussion led them more and more

positive that he had been the victim

of some cruel plot. The subject

never tired Miss Phoebe, and Julia,

in the absence of a lover of her own,

found in it a charm quite in keep-

ing with her own youthful dreams.

One cold night in the middle of

January they had talked over the

old subject until both felt it to be

impossible to resist the temptation

to go to the window and see what

Julia drew aside the heavy stain

curtains and looking out, said: "It

is snowing heavily, aunt; to-mor-

row we can have a sleigh-ride. Why,

who can it be? a gentleman, aunt,

and he is coming here."

"Close the curtains, child. It is

my lawyer, Mr. Howard. He prom-

ised he would call to-night."

"Oh, dear! I was hoping it was

some nice stranger person."

Miss Phoebe did not answer; her

thoughts were far away. In fact,

she had talked about the old subject

until there had sprung up a new

in her heart a strong sentimental

affection for his memory; and when

the servant announced a visitor on

business, she arose with a sigh from

her seat, and went into the recep-

tion room. A few minutes Julia heard

her voice, in rapid, excited tones, and

she could decide whether to go to

her or not, and she went to the

room, holding by the hand a gentle-

man, whom she announced as Mr.

Alfred Compton. Julia was disap-

Insolvent Laws.

In seven of the thirty-eight

States of the Union—Alabama, Ar-

kansas, Colorado, Florida, Tennessee,

Texas and West Virginia—there are

no insolvent laws. In California,

New Jersey and Nevada the claims

of both resident and non-resident

creditors are discharged upon the

debtor making an assignment of all

his property and giving notice there-

of by publication. In Pennsylvania

a debtor may make an assignment,