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A PEEL FOR AIR TO THE SEXTANT OF THE OLD BRICK MEETINOUSE.

O sextant of the meetenou.e, wich sweeps
And dusts, or is supposed too! and makes flers,
And lites the gass, and sumtimes leaves a screw
loose. in wich case it smells orful—worse than lampile

BY A. GASPER.

Wich them that thinks deer, let on try it;
Getin up befo. "star-lite in all wethers and
Kindlin fires when the wether is as cold
As zero, and like as not grean wood for kindlers
i wudn't be hired to do it for no some—
But o Sextant! there are 1 kermoddity
Wich's more than gold, wich doant cost nothin,
Worth more than anything exsep the Sole of
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At least 10 times, and let it up agin, and wats more, The same individible dont have the privelige of ethen his own are; and no one's else; Each one must take watever comes to him, Each one must take watever comes to him,
O sexiant, doant you no our lungs is belluses,
To blo the fler of life, and keep it from
goli out; and how can belluses is blo without wind,
And aint wind are? I put it to your concluens.
Are is the same to us as mik to babies,
Or water is to fish, or peadons to closs—
Or roots & airbs unto an injun Doctor,
Or hoys to gurks. Are is for is to brethe,
Wat signifies who procches if I cant breche I
Wats Poil! Wats Pollus to sinners who are ded I
Ded for want of breth I why sextant when we dyo
Its only cox we cant brethe no more—that's all.
And now, o sextant, let me heg of you
2 let a little are bito our clurch.
(Pewer are is certain praper for the pews)

2 let a little are into our chirch.

(Pewer are is certain praper for the pews)
And do it weak day and Sundays tew—
It aint much trouble—only make a hole
And the are will come in of itself;
(It luys to come in whare it can git warm;)
And a how it will rouze the people up
And a perrit up the preceher, and stop garps,
And y awas and forcits as effectional.

THE ROMANCE OF A COUNTING-HOUSE.

And yawns and figgits as effectional As wind on the dry Boans the Profit tells of

CHAPTER I. It came about in this way. I had married and was going to make my fortune, and therefore (having that laudable end in view) left a good situation in Yorkshire to settle down in Liverpool as a merchant "on my own acand one serene September evening, many years ago, I was walking up and down St. George's landing staget building castles in the air, wondering whether rents were high at New Brighton, and whether Kate would prefer a pony phacton to a brougham. I am not sorry to add that I still reside in a modest house up Edge Hill way, and that I come to ousiness as Clesar went to Rome, according to Joe Miller, "summa diligentia," on the top Moses to return to his office in a street hard by _eall it Mersey Street, and for the reas let which his advertisement called "two spa- for the prosecution of my plans-Cous counting-rooms,"-goodness knows I never counted much there in the shape of coin and I did not like the situation ; nor the narrow, dark staircase; nor the look of the boy of Hebrew extraction who bawled "Cub id,"

when I knocked, and told me "Mr. Boses pounds a year was very cheap, so I told my quence.

The office was clean and tidy, and the floors coung friend I would call at that time, and look at the " counting rooms." How well I remember that night! The f rry-boats from the Caeshire shore gliding along with their lights twinking like glowworms, the vast hull of the Great Eastern just visible in the Sloyne, the squared yards, and all a tant look of a seventy-four of the old school, showing black and distinct against the daffodil sky, and the lap of the swell against the under timbers of the stage-I was inclined to be sentimental; but Mr. Moss Moses claimed my attention, and once more I entered his office and found him awaiting me.

spoke decent English; and who I afterwards found out, was constantly affirming in season, and out of season, that he was no descendant "Hillo, Brunton!" he cried, jumping from his chair. "My lad told me you'd been; where have you been these two months and

He was a little, fat, good-tempered Jew, who

your place; but you can have it on the old terms. "Some mistake sir, I believe;" and I handed him a card bearing the inscription " Charles Harker.'

He took it and held it to the gaslight, lookpondered over it upside down. Then taking the candle his clerk had brought, held it close o my face. "It you are not disposed to proceed to busi-

ess, I will bid you good night," said I, greaty annoyed at his nunner.' "It's him, and it ain't him," he said aloud Carl never could look a man in the face as his one does. And yet I don't see my way hrough the features." "There is no necessity for you to trouble

pening the door,-" good night. take, upon my honor."
"All a mistake," echoed young Isaac. My curiosity was excited, and, besides, I cally wanted the offices; and I therefore al. tion enough to overcome the dislike. lowed myself to be persuaded into mounting the narrow staircase, until we faced a door pearing the name of Brunton on it in white

letters, and having the two upper panels glaz-

ed, more, I should imagine, to supply light to the staircase than for admission of light to the Mr. Moss produced a key, and turning to rattle of the cabs outside me with a good-natured smile, said, "I'd have a cheerful place, after all! sworn you were Brunton five minutes ago, myen't. It's Brunton's face all but the eyes,

And he unlocked the door and invited me vithin. oocket-book. o derive any benefit from any virtues Mr. | caught you at last."

s, to the twinkle of cm, you know."

o be. Be good enough to read that letter-" It was one from a merchant in the north. mly received that morning, and mentioned circumstances which were sufficient to settle any doubts as to my identity.

resented it to me with a bow.

moment I fancied it was Carl; but what opportunity of showing. puzzled me was, that such a surly fellow should take to larking and playing the fool.

You are very much like my last tenant, sir, that is all." us look at the rooms."

The lighted gas showed me a large one and very barely furnished. There was a large leather-covered table with a desk on it, four chairs, an inkstand, and a partially filled waste-paper basket, and that was all.

"Rather meagre, Mr. Moss." "Now, my dear sir, what more could you want? Would you like a safe? I've got one to spare down stairs and you shall have it. and a new mat for your feet,-there now,-I hate haggling."

"Let me see the other room, please," It was one which a person sitting at the tae would have right opposite to him, and it had no door. "It was a clerk's office," Mr. Moss said. "and you wanted your eye on such chaps." I suggested that the principal might he had the door down stairs and it should be hung at once if I wished it." But having of ours has watched for your return, and we agent between them being the Louise before no intention of engaging a clerk at present

told him it was of no consequence.

The room was about half the size of the uter one, and contained a desk and stool .-There was a large closet for coals and such like matters, and a good allowance of dust

and cobwebs all over. "I'll have it cleaned up to-morrow," said shortly," Mr. Moss. "It looks beautiful when clean, and you'll find the desk to be real Spanisl mahogany.''

They would suit me well enough, and I old Mr. Moss so; paid him a quarter's rent n advance, and rose to depart. "O, by the way, Mr. Moss, I exclaimed, sudden thought striking me; "I will send sharply towards me. man to paint my name on the door, and or

the wall down stairs." "Very good, sir; I would do it at once if" were you. Carl was a loose fish, and if you delayed it until you got here you might be annoved." 'How so? What was he ?"

you do look when I don't see your eyes!" semble a leose fish before, Mr. Moss." "I didn't mean that. Have you never see an ugly person resemble a very handsome one? I have many a time, Well, about Carl: he was here about two years, and call me a Jew if I could reckon him up. He used to come here about noon, and work up to eight or nine o'clock at night; but what bus iness he worked at I could never find out. I know he had a big ledger, and two or three

business any more than a big caapet-bag will, and search; he will be raising an alarm prescount," and commence to make it without de. and he always carried one. He would come ently." lay. I had not much capital, and so resolved and smoke a cigar with me now and then to economize at first. In course of time I but I never came up here during all that time, magined the tidy brougham and the country and he kept this door locked. He always open my mouth; and there I sat helpless house across the Mersey would certainly come; seemed to be expecting a blow did poor Carl, whilst they turned out the contents of my desk have had none to-day, and I feel delirium more like a rat in a corner than anything and drawers, not forgetting my cash-box, else, poor beggar! Well, sir, one morning I found the key on my mat, and found the place | waist-coat pocket, and the contents approprijust as you see it, and have never seen Carl ated. Knowing that the two scraps of paper took raw, and his shaking hand hold out the inquired about him, and asked if he was com- placed in my drawer, must have reference to

likely enough he will." and I felt inclined to yawn in Mr. Moss's even if these men escaped; and I had quite poor, very poor. Will you give me sixof an omnibus. I was waiting for Mr. Moss face; but I thanked him for his information, determined that they should not escape, for I pence?" and promised to take possession in three days, was insecurely bound, and had been working I gave him half a crown. hard to get my right hand free, and, thanks "Now what can I do for that Mr. Moss Moses had a furnished place to troduction, and making other arrangements to having a very narrow one, I now found At length the eventful day arrived, and

was waiting for a friend to call on me (who by the way, had promised to put me in the way of doing some business that very day), would be id at eight o'c'ock ;" but twenty-five and felt impatient for his coming in conse

had been well scrubbed.

blazoned on the door and passage wall.

basket of all that lumber? The office-keeper had lighted a fire, and I took up the basket to perform the operation myself; but from some cause or other I placed it on the table and began idly to burn the scraps one by one-I had nearly disposed of them all when a amiable." Then to me,scrap attracted my attention and I read it .-

and it ran thus :you may rely on our finding you. Forward to be removed. he plates at once, or--' Then another piece of mysterious paper,

apparently a plan of some place or other. What did this mean? But I had no time to consider, for my friend

fire, and went out with him to do a good day's ore ? Look here, old fellow, I've advertised work. fire and addressed myself to the writing of two be deducted from your share, and that you into the darkness, and we following in the di important letters to be posted at 11:30 that night, in order to be in time for the Cunard liner, which sailed early in the morning; and of at the back, considered it endways, and then it was that the black darkness of the

doorless room opposite to me began to trouble me most. It had troubled me before, but on this night it troubled me tenfold. From childhood I have been imaginative, and knowing this, I eyes wandered to the black darkness of the doorway, and I began to ransack my memory for statistics of men who could tell by some throat before I could grope my way to the occult power if any one were hidden in the stairs. room they entered; and I laughed aloud when ourself about my features!" I exclaimed, gentleman, who by this same occult sense had

I own I dislike being in the dark, but I will do myself the justice to say that I have resolu-Therefore I proposed to myself to very quietly walk into the dark room which troubled me (and without a light), look out of the wind-

ows, and slowly return. I went,-the very first step beyond the threshold dispelled my fears. I could see the glimmer of the stars through the glass, hear the Why, it was quite Ha! there was a shuffling noise there by the

always swore as he came up stairs, and you powered me. I strove to walk out like a tragand I'd swear to the eyes any where. That the door, and heard the shuffling noise close to at my throat, and helpless on the floor with me, and the next moment a powerful hand was the cold muzzle of a pistol pressed to my head Walking to a table on which he had placed I was bound and dragged into the outer office, ne light, I took a chair, and produced my thrust into my chair and confronted by two quiet-looking men, one of whom laid his re-Before we go further, Mr. Moss, let us volver on the table, saying at the same time

CHAPTER II. Brunton may possess, and I am going to con-The speaker was a mild, intelligent-looking ince you that I am what I represent myself nan of about thirty-five. In a proper dress he would have looked like a High-Churchman I imagined a German. Hewas about fifty but I know them well." years of age, and wore spectacles, and a pro-

Mr. Moss read it, folded it up briskly, and fusion of beard and whiskers covered more on the one which seemed to be a plan, there than half his face. But he had a winning looking around, said-"Sir, I apologize. I confess that up to this smile and good teeth, which he often took an

"We have found you at last." I am thankful to say that I am not nervous "Very well; now that matter is settled, let | Moss, the landlord of these premises, has not the fireplace in this room, on what I judge satisfied that I am not the same. Depend the hearthstone, and another cross against the upon it that I shall make you repeat this out-

> I tried to rise to call for help from the street but the pistol was cooked and pointed at me,

position. "I will sit down," I replied, "and hear unravelled. what you have to say; but if I choose to do

of your revolver." "Louise always say he a plucky one." ometimes want privacy, whereupon he said well described you, that putting another name New York gang to engrave the plates, and

man : " ve vill have the plates."

"And you think you can throw us, throw tin case, but looked like one accustomed to ME over in this way! Do you think you deal rule, and who would not hesitate to adminiswith children ?"

"I think I deal with a burglar. Most certainly with a rascal of some sort or other." Here my two friends held a whispered con-

up the plates, and marry my sister ?" German; and from which I opine that he years' penal servitude; and in due time I reprided himself on a knowledge of English covered, and dismissed the matter from my In spite of my serious position I was getting

" Take a cigar first, Mr. Harker, you'll find unknown terrors to my excited imagination; no better in Liverpool. Lord! how like him even in spite of the revolver.

> taking a second; and as for the plates, please explain what you mean." ing on the floor. "You'll remember insulting the sister of stood face to face with Carl Brunton, and I

They thrust a piece of rope between my ter. May I speak to you?" teeth, compressing my windpipe to make me "Yes, go on." teeth, compressing my windpipe to make me which was opened with a key taken from my One or two queer-looking men have I had found in the waist-paper basket, and glass for more. ing back, and I said most likely he would and their visit, I watched very anxiously when is it not? If so, you will find him to-morthey opened it. But they escaped notice, and row, at ten o'clock." "Not at all an interesting story," I thought, I felt that I had got some clew to the mystery, encircled the wrist; but I "bided my time," seem poor, but I am rich-ah! so rich !--and stood in my own office, with my name em- for I saw that a false move might bring a bul- 1 will pay you well."

I let through my head. "De plates is in ze oder room, Carl Branton, mon ami," said the Baron, smiling and patting my shoulder. "Vy not say? Vy self, and den, Acla Gott! you upset the cart have robbed me, and I shall starve." of de apple.'

Why hadn't they emptied the waste-paper don't upset your cart of deapple before long." found, and inquired if h
"In dare; in back room?" asked the Bafute of Lis accomplices. on, with another amiable smile. I said " Yes." with my eyes.

"And you will marry Louise, who lofe you It was torn so as to leave a few words intact, like old boots ?" My other hand was fres now. I tried to here for? O, sixpence. Lend me sixpence; "Louise has given your description, and speak, and implored with my eyes for the gag. I'll give you a hundred pounds for it to-mor-

The Baron removed it, and while doing so

I resolved on a plan of operations. plates ?" "I will give you every satisfaction." entered, and putting the two pieces of paper in my drawer, I emptied the basket in the forward. "First the plates. Then you renext below, whilst we, unable to pass him, turn with us to New York, and keep your looked on wondering how it would all end. omise to Louise. Why give us this trou-Returning late in the evening, I relit the ble! I tell you frankly that the expense will casting a terrified glance around, fled away

Louise. Now, where are the plates?"

" Look in the closet in the next room; rake

out the coals and take what you find." "Good. Come, Baren." Springing up, I seized the revolver, darted to the door, and in a moment had locked them another at the bottom of the river; so you stirred the fire, called myself an ass, and went in. But my triumph was of short duration; may call me a Jew if any one troubles you on with my letter. But not for long. My for Orloff was on the other side like lightning, again." the rotten woodwork tore out under his vigorous wrench, and his hand was on my

have out your throat but for my promise to wards that a begger had thrown himself into Louise. Now, where are the plates?" the Mersey from St. Goorge's landingstage,

Then I knew that life depended on the I remembered that I had read of one sensitive struggle, and I fought like one possessed for form in rags, pressing its face to the glass, and the revolver. The Baron came to his friend's gibbering and moving at the busy stream of Stop, stop, my good sir: and don't be gentleman, who of this same occar sense had below the found time and opportunity to human life which surges to and fro forever.

Stop, stop, my good sir: and don't be gentleman, who of this same occar sense had below to help; but I found time and opportunity to human life which surges to and fro forever. send him reeling to the ground. Orloff was the weaker man, but he outdid me in skill; A WALL STRENT SENSATION. and a dexterous feint threw me off my guard, leaving the revolver in his hands. Perole with passion, he fired instantly, and the asharp sting in my left shoulder; and

then all earthly things seemed to be fading

away, and a world beyond opening to view. When I recovered, I found myself laid on a mattress on the office table, and my wife agent of Edward B. Ketchum, announced his tearfully bending over me. There was a calm-faced surgeon, too, who showed me the of stating that he had failed. Subsequent inball he had extracted, and told me to cheer up, for I should be better in a few days, for but I am sure now that I was wrong. Carl closet, and then my fears returned and over- no damage was done. Mr. Moss was there, too, and came to my bed-I mean my tableedy hero; but my pace quickened as I neared side, and whispered how he had been called up by the police, who, hearing a pistol shot, had come up stairs, and arrested Orloff and bleeding, had sent for a surgeon and my wife,

in my pocket. I was only faint from loss of blood; the bullet did little damage, and I preferred get; quite understand each other. I have no wish | with an ugly sneer, "So, Brunton, we have ting up, and then gave an account of the eve-

His companion was evidently a foreigner, and sault on you I have no evidence against them;

"This is a plan of your office." "Call me a Jew if it ain't !" exclaimed Mr

Moss, taking it. "Yes, it is cortainly a plan of your office. when I see a danger, and I boldly replied - See, here is a doorway, and there comes the "My name is Harker and not Brunton ; Mr. other room. Then there is a cross against ticed my resemblance to his late tenant, and is from the lines to mean the fourth board from sixth from the hearthstone in the other room.

Get a crowbar, Mr. Moss." There's one down stairs." I do believe that if you'd asked for a crocoand there was that in the man's face which dile he would have got one "down stairs." cautioned me against rashnoss in my helpless | Crowbar and a policeman to wield it were

soon produced, and then the mystery was Close to where I sat were unearthed several it I shall do my best to raise an alarm in spite | copper plates for the forging of Russian rouble notes of various amounts; and in the back "Vell spoke, Carl," said the foreigner; | room, under the flooring, were found several hundreds of well-executed forgeries carefully "Now then, Brunton," whispered the soldered up in a tin case, together with cor other, "let us have no nonsense. We have respondence implicating Orloff and the Baron not met before, it is true, but Louise has so It appeared that Brunton was engaged by a on your door was simply idiotic. Besides one that he had never seen his employers, the communicated with him directly we landed. mentioned, whose fair hand I had been com Go free if you like, but we will have the plates." pelled to decline. Brunton had evidently be-"Dat's the matter vid us," cchoed the Ger-come frightened and had fled. He was no traitor, or he would have decamped with the "I know nothing of any plates," I cried, plates. Perhaps the dread of having to espouse nor of Louise, nor of you. All I know is, Louise may have had to do with his flight. that you will see the inside of a prison very She was a very handsome woman, if I may judge from a photograph of her found in the

ter wholesome correction to her spouse. Assisted into a carriage which was waiting I had the satisfaction of seeing the Baron and Orloff brought down in handcuffs, the Baron ference. Then he of the revolver turned regarding me with a sweet smile, and Orloff scowling on me like a flend. I did not prose-"Will you marry Louise? Will you give cute, for they were so well known to the police as forgers, that there was evidence enough to "She lofe you like old boots," added the procure a conviction and a sentence of ten

mind. But I had not heard the last of it. About thoroughly amused. The dark doorway held twelve months after the trial and condemnation of the Baron and his friend there came but two commonplace fellows who had made one night a timid knock at my office door, and a mistake only caused a feeling of merriment, may clerk (for I had such a luxury then) ushered in what, at first sight, seemed to be a "lam sorry Teannot oblige you," I replied, moving bundle of rags. Strictly speaking, "I am flattered by the lady's preference; but the bundle of rage insisted on seeing me, and having one wife already, I fear I must decline ushered itself in, spite of all remonstrances. It came and stood before me, and resolved itself into the resemblance of a man,-a man The answer to this flippant speech was a lean, haggard, sunken-eyed, ragged, and blow on the face, which sent the blood stream- dirty, but with a face something like my own; and without putting a question, I knew that I

such books; but a big ledger won't make a Louis Orloff! Here, Baron, let us gag him, addressed the rags by that name. "I took that name," the poor, shivering thing replied, "but my name is-but no mat-"Will you give me some drink first? I

> I sent the clerk for some brandy, which he 'I imagine it is Mr. Moss you want to see,

tremens coming on. O, how cold it is, and

"No, no, you, you I want-I-I am very

"Now what can I do for you?" " 1-1 left some property here when I went myself able to slip it through the loop which away. You don't refuse to give it up? I

"You mean the forged rouble-notes

the plate you engraved them from ?" "Ah! Who told you that? Then you have found them, and used them? I ran shoot we you? You do dem so well, we no away from them, and wished to lead a better get any like dem. And you use dem your, life, but they drew me back; and now you I explained to the poor wretch what had

become of his possessions, and how they were "Yes," I thought; "and it's odd to me if I found, and inquired if he had not heard of the "No: I have been wandering about the country, living in hospitals and workhouses See now, my Louis, you were too rough, because they haunt me down from place to You into him pitch like dam. So see him place. They will kill me as they killed the Posen Jew and the engraver at Stockholm, They are dogging me to-night-one of them is outside dow. Let me see, what did I come

"You will marry Louise and give us the clerk to fetch a medical man. But before he could execute the order, the bundle of rags crept down the narrow stairs, sitting on each The street gained, he stood upright, and, will be strictly watched in future. I should rection he had taken, learned shortly after-

I made a further donation, and, as the man

was evidently in a state of delirium, I told my

His body was never found, and I, having had enough of Mersey Street, moved my And they left me to operate on the coals. quarters, much to the regret of Mr. Moss, for, quoth he, "Two of 'em are at Portland, and But I went; and the office is still without a tenant, and I shudder when I pass through

the street at night, and, looking up, see the

two black shining windows like two great eyes

watching me, and fancy I can see a shadowy

and had sunk to rise no more.

change was relieved yesterday by a fresh sensation of an old actor in the scene. At the beginning of business a broker, acting as the inability to fulfill his contracts—the formal way vestigation showed that Young Ketchum since his return to the street has been again speculating on a gigantic scale, his operations in gold and stooks reaching a total of about ten million dollars. As a stock speculator he was this time successful, and his good luck in this line prevented disastrous results to his ventures in atively small amount of only eighty thousand dollars. The mistake which Young Ketchum made was in endeavoring to "bull" gold, which his old experience had led him to think was always bound to rise. He made a mistake which many others made who forget that the war is over and that the country is stead.

having found my private address from a letter

ting up, and then gave an account of the evening's adventure, not noticing at the time that a tall inspector of police was in the room.

"Will you kindly show me those pieces of paper?" he said, advancing. "I kave the men in Mr. Moss' office; but beyond the assault on you I have no evidence against them; but I know them well."

I produced them and the inspector fastened

EDWAYD B. KETCHUM IN A NEW ROLE. The Horald says: The summer monotony of the Stock Ex-