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> From the Knickerbocker. HOW TO PROSPER!

OR, THE FATAL MISTAKE. BY A. B. JOHNSON, ESQ.

Jeffersonian Republican.

Of the few overgrown fortunes that have been made in our country, the greater number seem to have fallen into the possession of naturalized citizens rather than natives, notwithstanding the superior shrewdness with which our self-complacency is prone to endue Yankee intellect. Of our naturalized citizens, the French, with Girard as an exemplar, seem to have accumulated the largest fortunes; and the Germans, with Astor in the foreground, seem to stand next in the grade of wealth accumulator, although possibly they may contend for precedence over the former class; while the Scotch, with Robert Lenox at their head, or Duncan of Providence, or Greig of Canandaigua may be unwilling to concede a pre-emmence ing that he would himself select the next hat at the to either of the others

Among the successful Germans, in a moderate way, one some years ago resided in Baltimore, who from the humble employment of a blacksmith, had arrived in the possession of a pretty large estate. How his name was pronounced and spelled in German is uncertain; but it had become Anglicised into the word 'Heapupit.' He was an old man at the period of our last war with Great Britain, but still occupied in commerce, which occasioned frequent visits by him to New York, where his present historian became accidentally acquainted with him at a private boarding house. As his humble origin was known to the boarders, they took an interest in the conversation of the old appetite, they arrived at their destined hotel, man, although his language and manners retained many traces of his early rough employments, but modified by a quickness of perception and shrewdness of remark, which are apt to appear in selfmade men. He perceived that his conversation was listened to attentively, and he seemed gratified with the homage thus given spontaneously to his sagacity; and he often remarked to young men, eye to the many pretty things which were dis- Fred always possessed strong nerves, and could that the great point for a man to discover was what he was fit for; when this is learned, the progress of a man toward wealth becomes sure, though it may be slow. He was fond of adding in illustration, that he had lost much time fruitlesswas not fit for that business, but was for mercan- they entered the shop and hought the gloves; paytile pursuits.

er, and to economise time and money turned a necessary preliminary journey to Philadelphia into a wedding tour. The facilities for travel were not good in those days, and as he wished to enjoy the journey with his bride, he hired a one horse chaise. in which he and his wife left Baltimore on the morning of the wedding. The day was as bright as the occasion, and the bride had tasked all her pecuniary resources not to discredit by her dress the elevated position of a merchant's lady, into which she was emerging from a condition as humble as her husband's. She gloried in the possession of a pea-green silk pelisse with a silk hat to match; and her appearance when thus arrayed and sitting in the chaise, fully justified her judgment in their procurement.

The happy husband was perhaps as proud as his wife, but his pride rejected externals and rejoiced in a purse which, though not very large, yet contained what with prudence would supply the expenses of the journey and obtain the few special articles of merchandise whose procurement constituted the great object of the expedition. But pride. They had not travelled many hours in their open vehicle over an intensely dusty road, before the husband saw with alarm that the dust was making fearful havoc with the fine habiliments pupit at the old house, and his shrewdness and his of his bride, and especially with her hat. She story were almost forgotten by all who had been had, unconscious of the mischief, applied repeat- its inmates, and the survivers of whom had themedly her moist hands, (the temperature was July) selves become old; when accidently one of them, to adjust the hat, as the current of air or the jolt- in passing lately a few days at Baltimore, ascering of the chaise disturbed its proper position, and tained that he had been a long time dead, and that every touch had combined with the dust in leav- he had left his proporty to a large family of chil- of his maxim; but at Paris his funds diminished ing the marks of her pretty fingers distinctly and dren, of whom two only were sons. When he even faster than at Havre, for he could not resist indelibly imprinted on the silk. Nor was that the found that his end was approaching, he sent for participating expensively in various novelties of whole mischief: the dust had insinuated itself in- these sons, and as a last act of patern al solicitude, that city of curiosities, in occasionally uniting in to all the seems and crevices of the hat and rib- told them that his estate was to be divided equally its more personal dissipations, and in becoming a bons, and aided by a soft moisture exuded from among his children, according to the provisions of victim to the swarm of sharpers, foreign and naparts beneath, the whole superstructure was so a will that would be found among his papers; and tive, that make Paris their head quarters, and evpitilessly rained, that when they arrived at Havre although owing to the great number of his dede Grace, where the night was to be passed, and scendants, the share of each would amount to onwhere some cousins of the bride resided, a new ly sufficient for an eligible commencement of predations on his fortune, if he could have seen hat became indispensable. The fortune of the wife business, yet they severally could not fail of erecthad been expended on the bridal-dress, so the new ing thereon a large fortune, if they would careful- coming rich by reciprocation of benefits; and for hat had to be procured with the money of the hus- ly conduct their business on the principle of a pre- such a commencement his urgency increased in a band, causing an inroad that he had not anticipa- cept which be duly, for their edification, repeated, direct proportion to the decrease of his resources. ted; but his gallantry conquered his avarice, and with all the cunning emphasis that his warning Like the ancient spinster immortalized by Russel. he determined that the joys of the honeymoon strength would permit. The precept thus solemn the burben of whose inquiries was, "Why don't

should not be frustrated by the accident. His res- ly heralded at the hour of death was sufficiently the men propose, mamma?" so could be have sung olution was happily seconded by finding at the only milliner's shop in the little village a beautiful white hat, just suited for a bride, and which indeed had been made for one; but the accommodating milliner could make another in sufficient season, and would even allow a trifle for the spoiled green; hence, by an expenditure of some nine dollars, the breach of costume was repaired, and the bridal twain were again happy, and departed hopefully in the morning with an immunity against dust, for its wings had been dampened during the night, and its flying effectually prevented by a copious rain.

Bright again was the sun, and gay the leave-taking at Havre de Grace; but the party had no sooner proceeded onward sufficiently far to be beyond the reach of shelter, when the treacherous clouds began to rally their scattered fragments, and to open their renewed batteries on the wayfarers beneath; and in spite of a leather top to the chaise, and a leather apron, the rain confederating with the breeze that seemed to raise for the occasion, drenched both bride and bridegoom. In vain were hankerchiefs spread to shield the new hat; they only broke down its artificial flowers, which, like dying dolphins, emitted various hues, till the original whiteness of the hat was almost undiscoverable, and its paper crown and sides slouched over the wearer's head and face in shapeless ruin. The result was too distressing for the fortitude of the bride, and yielding to the last resort of female sufferance, she wept profusely and

The poor groom loved his money and had none to lose, nor had he been before aware of the expenses and mischances of matrimony; but his wife must have a hat, and he accordingly satisfied his chagrin with a heavy malediction against hats that were fit for neither rain nor sunshine, and by vowfirst proper opportunity. This was not long in occurring. They reached Philadelphia in the evening without further misadventure, and as they passed a milliner's shop, on their way to their intended tavern, where they desired to make a fair appearance, they stopped, and he selected a Leghorn which gave sufficient indications of durability, without being devoid of taste or fashion. The superiority of his judgment in this selection, over the frail puschase of his wife, was so gratifying to his vanity, that with a very mitigate reluctance he handed to the seller a twenty dollar bill, receiving in return the new hat and a ten dollar note.

Thus re-furnished, and with rather a craving streets during the unoccupied time that remained of the evening. They passed several shops which erable interest; he with reference to the shop which he was to open at Baltimore, she with an played at the windows. She at length saw some bear anything. gloves, and remembered that hers were utterly ruined; she had also money enough remaining of her own to purchase a pair, but she had left it at the tavern. With this intimation he offered to be her banker till their return to the inn, and ing therefor out of the ten dollar bill which had shopman looked at the bill and then at the queer a moment, one of them put on his hat and walked out of the shop, while the other came back and senger soon returned, but brought with him anbill was a counterfeit, and that he must be taken which he came by the bill, and to ascertain if there were any more in his possession.

was a good joke to Heapupit in all after times, adage meant, as he supposed, when interpreted self-complacency of vanquished early difficulties, ed, intead of being tickled, every man on board tehe could repeat it after dinner, as was usually his garded himself only, or seemed to vie with each the process of 'you tickle me, and I'll tickle you,' wanted to amuse his guests or friends; but it was the ship might be floated; and when his damaged a sad difficulty at the time, and from which he ex- cotton was in a position to be sold, every purchastricated himself only by going with his accuser's er exaggerated its defects and sought to obtain it to the milliner's and fortunately obtaining her ad- ruinously low. His experience thus far, therefore everything in nature seems to conspire against mission that the note was an old counterfeit which was anything but propitious to his hopes; while she had inadvertently, in the twilight, passed to the steadily occurring diminution of his patrimony

continued illiteracy. It was nothing but the homely, vulgar distich :

> 'Tickle me Billy, do, do, do; You tickle me, and I'll tickle you.'

He declared its operation was founded in hu man nature and therefore infalliable, when the precept was prudently obeyed. 'He cautioned his sons against the vulgar error of striving to prosper by practices that are inconsistent with the prosperity of the persons with whom we deal .-The true golden rule is, 'You tickle me, and I'll tickle you.' The man who acted thus would obtain wealth if he perseveringly directed his efforts to that object. The maxim was the key by which could be unlocked all the avenues to prosperity.

The old man spoke to his sons in German, for that was the languge in which his thoughts flowed more fluently than in English. The young men had heard the lesson very many times before, but as this was to be the last infliction, they listened to it, as though they had heard it for the first time, and were astonished at its sagacity and freshness. Thus comforted in his tenderest vanity the old gentleman lay a short time silent and was dead.

The literary education of the sons had been sady neglected, not from any censuable indifference to the subject in the father, but from his want of knowledge. They had been taught to read a little which accomplishments, with some skill in the elementary roles of arithmetic, he deemed by a contrast with his own deficiencies great attainments. The sons were not, consequently qualified for any higher employments than the mercantile traffic which had been followed by the father, and into which they had become partially initiated. They possessed, however, dissimilar intentions, for while Frederick, the elder, determined to continue the old commercial business of his father, and in the old shop, the other, Peter, intended to see something of the world before he established himself finally in any place and in any given occupation. He felt also a strong desire to see Germany, the native country of his forefathers, where many of his paternal relations were still supposed to exist; and as they were known to be poor, Peter's vanity may possibly have desired to glorify itself a little by astonishing them with the splendor of the American branch. His share of the paternal spoils was a tenth of the whole, and when reduced into money amounting to twenty thousand dollars, which, after a decent period of mourning, and with a view of killing two birds with one stone, he converted into cotton for the French market, and took passage with it in a ship for Havre, sorwhere, after a warm and bountiful meal, they con- rowfully remarking to some of the cautious old cluded to stroll through some of the neighboring friends of his father, who disliked these evidences of a roaming disposition, that grief was impairing his health, and that a change of scenery was absoold shop he knew would kill him, and he wondered how his old brother could endure it; though

The ship in which Peter embarked experienced a succession of the most favorable winds, but was unfortunately standed on a fatal sandbar, almost in sight of its destined port, and after all thoughts of danger had been dismissed from the minds of the passengers. They were all saved except two who were washed overboard and drowned; and most He began merchandising and matrimony togeth- been received at purchase of the bonnet. The of the cargo was eventually saved and taken on shore by the lighters, but it was badly damaged by customers and called another young man who al- the salt water. This was a contingency against so looked. After the two had consulted together which Peter had guarded by any insurance, for where he ventured his life he thought he might venture his property. His loss was large, and he and said he had sent out for change. The mes- felt it severely; but at the commencement of life pecuniary losses are much mitigated by an exuother person, who turned out to be a police offi- berance of undefined hopes. He could not howcer; and then Heapupit was informed that the ever, help occasionally reflecting that as yet the maxim of his father had been impracticable. Noto the mayor's office to account for the manner in body had tickled him, though he felt keenly disposed to tickle in return, according to the injunction of the adage; that is nobody had conferred on This sad climax of the adventure of the bonnet him any benefit, which was the tickling that the when, in the known posession of wealth, and the literally. On the contrary, when the ship strandwont, whenever a good occasion occurred, and he other in throwing into the sea Peter's cotton, that irritated all the latent avarice which his father's After the war nothing further was heard of Hea- precepts had constantly fostered in him, and made him specially anxious that the tickling process

should be commenced speedily. As soon as he realized from the wreck of his renture all that could be obtained, he hastened to Paris, in the expectation that a change of scene would produce a favorable change in the operation ery stranger their special object of attack. Still he could have borne equally these manifold deamid them a commencement of the process of be-

characteristic of the old man's associations and as feelingly, "Why don't men tickle, papa !"-His soul and all that in him yearned to exchange his silver franc pieces for golden Napoleons, but nobody would commence the traffic; and instead there of every body that he gamed with seemed intent on fleeceing him; shop keepers, servants and restaurateurs imposed on him to the extent of their several opportunities; while the mass of population, who could in no way use him to their advantage, spattered him with their equipages or passed him without regard. Once indeed he began to believe that the tickling process was about to be commenced in the person of a very agreeable young man, whom he met at a table d'hote; and who seeing that Peter was a stranger courted his society assiduously. Peter was determined that he would interpose no obstacle to this auspicious indication, and he repaid the young man's politeness by copious draughts of wine. The two shortly became inseparable companions, but as the new friend introduced him to pretty extensive practices, the tickling with which Peter requited his friend cost much more than the friend's original tickle deserved; and Peter's remaining funds were soon so far exhausted, that unless he proceeded forthwith toward Germany his chance of ever reaching it would be frustrated. He accordingly lost no further time, and as he had no cere monious congees to make, he paid his bills and stepped into a diligence, was soon on his route to-

wards Vienna, the residence of his kinsmen. The journey was long, and cost him much more than he had anticipated, and before he arrived at its termination he would have gladly retraced his steps homeward, but he feared his remaining money would not supply the means, and when he finally reached Vienna, he was almost penniless .-He lamented that he had ever left Baltimore, or that he had not returned thither before all his property had become dissipated; although he felt at have restrained him from returning in his present condition had the ability been presented to him.-He was fortunate in discovering his relations more readily than he could well have expected, but they were all situated in the lowest walks of life; and although he was himself reduced to an equality with them in poverty, he almost repented, when too late, that he had acknowledged his consanguinity to so discreditable a kindred. From his external appearance, which greatly overrated his true condition, and from rumors that reached them of the affluence of his father, they received him with diffidence and awe and with every demonstration of grovelling affected, but when, from indications that could not be long mistaken, they eventually found that he had as little to bestow on them as they had to bestow on him, they remitted their respect, while they increased in good will and cordiality. Feeling no longer any reason to believe that their poor provisions would be despised, they shared freely what they had with the necessitous wanderer, and made him as comfortable as their poverty would permit.

While Peter was thus in the home of his ances-

tors, realizing the early condition of his progeni-

tors, his brother Frederick in Baltimore was enboth Heapupit and his wife looked at with consid- lutely necessary for his spirits. To remain in the deavoring to establish himself gradually and slowly in the mercantile business, to which he had been trained from early life. He, like his brother was looking hopefully to the precept which had been enjoined on them by their father, and he commenced the practice of it by hiring a good pew in the German Lutheran church, and in sending to the minister a large ham and turkey as a Christmas present. When the good dominie was thus tickled he thought Frederick a very amiable young man, who merited the good offices of all right minded, and he failed not to speak thus of him to members of the church, who in turn applauded him to others, and his shop soon became the mart for the whole congregation, from a principle of esprit du corps, that often actuates small communities .-Frederick lost no time also, in identifying himself with the German Benevolent Society, and at their annual festivals talking feelingly and copiously of the Fader-Land, not forgetting the more substantial requirement of a liberal annual contribution to the society's funds. The members and officers of the society being thus tickled in a spot that is apt to be sensitive, failed not to tickle back again through the medium of his merchandise and cred-But he unexpectedly received another benefit. The President of the society, an honest German of considerable wealth which he had acquired by patient industry, and despite of the want of all literature, was so pleased with his patriotism that Frederick ultimately became his son-in-law by a marriage with the old gentleman's eldest daughter, to the no small increase of the young man's consideration in Baltimore and prospective wealth. Nor did Frederick fail to patronize all the city

> whose mercantile enterprise and integrity were an In due progression he emerged from the chrysalis condition of a retailer to the splendors of a full jobber, and no man was ever more friendly than Think of the crown all the ransomed shall wear more for their supplies of merchandise. If the dealers were young and gay he attended them to the theatre, and if they were old he invited them to a seat in his pew. He seemed to feel toward all his country dealers the same intuitive love which a cat feels towards catnip, and they could do no less in return for so much kindness than to give him their custom and recommend him to the Sing to the Lamb who in Heaven doth reign. Sing till the world shall be fill'd with his name,

newspapers by liberally advertising in their col-

umns; and as no class of men understand better

than newspaper editors, they took every opportu-

nity to allude to him in their respective papers as

their public spirited townsman, Heapupit, Esq.,

As he continued to be economical in his expenses and prudent in his credits, and omitted no opportunity of tickling persons who could tickle back gain advantageously, he gradually but steadily increased in property. His family grew also with his other possessions, and he came to be surrounded with numerous children, while he in the perpetual engrossment of business lost all record of the flight of time, and seemed unconscious that he | Come when the sun sheds its last glimmering ray, was no longer so young as formerly. But although | Come and rejoice that I thus pass away, he could lose sight of time, time took care not to lose sight of him, but stealthily kept tally of the fleeting years by whitening his hair, imprinting in-law had been dead some years, and he was one falling back into single blessedness. of the executors of the deceased's will, and a legatee of no inconsiderable portion of the estate.

was well satisfied with himself, and by conse- will probably be barrels

quence well satisfied with the world, and all that therein is, he began to think of his brother, of whom he had not heard since they separated. He knew the ship had been stranded in which Peter sailed, and that some of the passengers were drowned, and he always supposed his brother was one one of the lost. By a coincidence which is far from uncommon, while he was thus musing on his brother, a letter from him was brought to the store, announcing that he had long been in Vienna in the most deplorable destitution, and craving assistance to enable him to return to Baltimore .-This was a case in which if Frederick tickled ever so much he could expect no lucrative return; still avarice had not rendered him wholly callous to the ties of consanguinty, and he forthwith answered the appeal of his brother by sending him a bill of exchange, with the proceeds of which, if managed prudently, he could come home.

The meeting of the brothers, which in due time occurred afforded a surprise to both as far as personal appearance was concerned. They had separated as young men, and they had met as old men. Still they soon recognized each other's early lineaments, and amused themselves by the rehearsel of early incidents. But what most astonished Peter was the wealth of Frederick; and what most astonished Frederick was the poverty of Peter, especially as both professed to have been governed in their conduct by the great maxim of their father. On an explanation, however, the mystery became solved. Poor Peter had committed a fatal mistake. He had never tickled any person, but had waited to have them tickle first; while Fred. erick had practised on the plan of tickling in advarice, and especially those who could tickle back again with many per cent. of advantage. The opposite results of the two modes were well exemplified in the different destiny of the brothers; and in view of this difference, which communicated an entirely new idea to Peter, he insisted that the maxim was wrongly worded, and that instead of reading:-

'Tickle me, BILLY, do, do, do!' the maxim ought to read :-

'I TICKLE YOU, BILLY; see, see, see!

I'll tickle you, and you tickle me!'

In his donation to his unfortunate brother, he seemed to be disinterested, but he derived therefrom an intellectual pleasure, which was more than an equivalent for the pecuniary expenditure. And now that he had obtained a taste of the pleasures that result from benevolence, a desire therefor grew in him fast, and he gradually extended gratuities to numerous objects where no pecuniary return seemed possible; but very unexpectedly to him he found that many of these cases would either collaterally or directly result in larger pecuniary rewards than his most selfish ticklings. This was trikingly exemplified in the assistance which he occasionally made to his brother, who, enfeebled by dissipation and disappointed early hopes, had brought home a constitution as enfeebled as his purse. Frederick had long supported him comfortably, when on the formation of a new settlement made in the vicinity of Baltimore by the Canton Company, the counsel of the company discovered that a piece of land, which was essential to the project, was owned (unknown to everybody) by the heirs of old Heapupit, and it had to be purchased, and it brought a large sum of money .-Peter's share was more than sufficient to repay all advances which Frederick had made for him and to leave an ample sufficiency for his own support. But as usual, when blessings come late they are not long enjoyed, and Peter, after a very brief realization of his new prosperity, was afflicted with appoplexy and died, but not before he had bequeathed his property to Frederick, who alone substantially sympathized with his necessities.

Finally, Frederick found himself possesed of a much larger estate than had ever been owned by his father. He had long been respected as a prosperous man with large wealth but with sordid views. He now began gradually to acquire additional respect, by reason of the active benevolence that his later actions developed, and by several disinterested benefits he conferred on his city. He eventually retired from commercial business, resigning the establishment to his sons, and employed a still vigorous old age in the various cares that attended the due investment of his property, and embracing every opportunity to make himself useful. He aided all worthy public enterprizes, contributed to all useful charities, assisted all meritorious individuals who resorted to him for counsel or pecuniary aid, and to his last moment (which occurred only a year ago) he insisted that the maxim of his father was a true guide to prosperity; but that whoever would attain the full benefit its practice can insure, must perform the tickling from no mercenary or selfish motive, but simply from a principle of duty toward Gop, and of good will toward all mankind. He was a good deal vain-glorious of his discovery, which he thought entirely new; and he was almost sorry when after repeating it one day with his usual self-complacency, he was told that it was as old as the Bible, being plainly included in the promise, that 'he that watereth shall be watered, and the liberal soul shall be made fat.'

## SHED NOT A TEAR.

Shed not a tear o'er your friends early bier, When I am gone, I am gone. Smile if the slow tolling bell you should hear, When I am gone, I am gone. Weep not for me when you stand around my grave, Think who has died his beloved to save,

When I am gone, I am gone. Shed not a tear when you stand round my grave, When I am gone, I am gone. Sing sweet song unto him who doth save. When I am gone, I am gone, Sing to the Lamb who on earth once was slain,

Plant ye a tree that will wave over me, When I am gone, I am gone. Sing ye a song, if my grave you should see, When I am gone, I am gone, Come at the close of a bright summer's day, When I am gone, I am gone.

When I am gone, I am gone.

The Arabs allow a man to divorce himself from wrinkles at the outer corners of his eyes, and in- a wife who does not make good bread. Were creasing his rotundity, until he was to every eye such a law in force in our country, half the young but his own, a portly old gentleman. His father- married ladies, we fear, would be in danger of

In a country paper, the marriage of a Mr. Coop-In this halcyon period of his existence, when he er to a Miss Staves is announced. The result