ERIE WEEKLY OBSERVER.

SLOAN & MOORE, PUBLISHERS. | $1 50 A YEAR, IN ADVANCE. | B. F. SLOAN, EDITOR.

VOLUME 27. | ERIE, SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 28, 1857. | NUMBER 13.

THE ERIE OBSERVER.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY B. F. SLOAN AND M. M. MOORE, Corner of STATE AND FIFTH ST'S

B. F. SLOAN, Editor.

TERMS: $1 50 a year in advance, or within 3 months, $1 50, if not paid within 3 months, $2 00 will be charged. No paper will be discontinued but at the option of the Editor, until all arrears are paid, unless the paper is ordered to be discontinued within the year, the paper will be sent to the end of the time for which it is paid, unless the order be accompanied with a proper officer for collection.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING: Ten lines or less make a square.

One square 1 insertion	$ 75	One square 3 months	$ 00
" 2 insertions	1 00	One " 6 "	5 00
" 3 "	1 25	One " 9 "	6 75

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Business Cards in the Business Directory at $3 per annum. Notices of Religious Societies, and other notices, half the above rates.

Advertisements here requiring frequent changes in their nature will be allowed two squares, paper, and card, for $10. Larger advertisements will be in proportion, and the business notices in proportion to the legitimate business of the establishment. Transient advertisements required payment in advance. Payment of transient advertisements required before publication. Yearly advertising will be presented half-quarter in advance. Payment will be made on all except transient advertisements, when paid in advance.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

NEILER & WARREN, No 1, American Block, Collection Office in the cities of the United States and Canada promptly remitted. Bank Notes, Gold and Silver bought and sold. 1st real paid on time deposits. Money to loan, Land Warrants bought, sold and located. 33

J. Q. A. STERRETT, Dealer in Wool and Dry Goods, Foreign and Domestic Fruit, Wooden, Willow Ware, Flour, Fish, Salt, Glass, Nails, Powder, Shot, No. 4 French street, opposite the Reed House. 33

BARNEY & M'CONKEY, Wholesale and American Hardware and Cutlery, Iron and Steel, No. 3 Reed House, Erie. 27

EMPIRE STORES, Erie City, Jobbers and Retail Dealers in every description of Domestic Dry Goods, Carpetings, Oil Cloths, State street, corner of Fifth, Erie, Pa.

CHAUNCEY HULBERT, Dealer in Anthracite Coal, Great Pennsylvania Head Quarters, No 213 Market Street, Philadelphia. 36

DRS. BEEBE & DICKINSON, Have formed a copartnership, would respectfully offer their services to the citizens of Erie and vicinity. Especial attention given to obstetrics. 33 S. DICKINSON.

P. MINNIG & BROTHER, Wholesale Produce, Pork, Fish, Salt, Grain, Seeds, Tobacco, Nails, Brooms, Pails, Wooden, Willow Ware, Cincinnati Prices low. No. 4 Wright's Block, 2 doors above the Post Office, Erie, Pa. 33

WILLIAM THORNTON, Dealer in Real Estate, Bonds and Mortgages, Deeds, Agreements, Bonds and Mortgages carefully drawn. Office in Reed's Block, Erie, Pa.

STARR & PAYNE, Commission MERCHANTS, Dealers in Coal, Fish, Salt, Plaster. Public Dock, east of State street, Erie. 33 JAS G. PAYNE

CLARK & METCALF, Exchange BROKERS, Erie, Pa. Interest allowed on Deposits. Time and sight Drafts, Checks and Specie, uncurrent Bank Notes bought and sold. Collections and Land Warrants bought and sold. Collections promptly made in the United States; money remitted on reasonable terms. 31

DR. J. G. STEWART, Office Stewart & Sinclair's Drug Store, State and Seventh streets. Residence, east of Sassafras street. 33

W. B. RUSHMORE, Wholesale Jobber in Foreign and Domestic Dry Goods, Notions, Hosiery, Gloves, Suspenders, Cutlery, Fancy Goods, &c. No. 2 Cortlandt, Johnson, & Co's Row, New York. CHARLES A. SHEPHERD, CARTER A. SAUNDERS 33

HOLLIS, HAYES & CO., Manufacturers of Cabinet Furniture, Chairs, Tables, Bedsteads, Fancy and Staple Dry Goods, Groceries, Crockery, &c. No. 1 Brown's Block, Erie, Pa.

MAGILL & CO., Dealers in Dry Goods, have their office in Beatty's Block, north side of the Public Square, are prepared to engage with all other operators in prices, estimating work according to its quality and real value.

ALLEN A. CRAIG, Office removed to No. 1 Hughes' Block, second floor, Erie, Pa. 33

E. H. ABELL, (Successor to William H. Sherman,) Public Square, Between the Reed House and Post Office, is taken in the best style of the art and warranted. 33

THOMAS M. AUSTIN, (Late of the firm of G. Loomis & Co.,) Watches, Jewelry, Silver Spoons, Musical Instruments, Glasses, Lamps and Fancy Goods, wholesale. 33

ROGERS & KENNEDY, (Successors to Caldwell and Bennett,) Dealers in Hardware, Crockery, Glassware, Nos. 11 and 12 Empire Block, Corner of Fifth and State streets. 35 J. KENNEDY,

LIDDELL, KEPLER, & CO., Manufacture Fence, Railing, Steam Boilers, Vault Doors, Safes, and all kinds of Machinery and Fancy Cast Iron. Order. 36

M. CHAPIN, Surgeon Dentist—office in the American Block, Corner of State street and the Public square, upstairs. Prices reasonable, and all work warranted. 33

M. SANFORD & CO., Exchange on Eastern Notes, Certificates of Deposit, &c. Drafts on principal cities constantly for sale. Office in Reed's Block, State, Erie. 33

T. HERRON STUART, Fifth street, a few doors East of the Post Office, Erie, Pa. 33

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BOOTH & STEWART, Dealers in Fancy and Staple Dry Goods and Groceries, Reed House and Brown's Hotel. 33

GEORGE H. CUTLER, Erie, County, Pa. Collections and remittances promptness and dispatch. 33

CARTER & BROTHER, Dealers in Drugs, Medicines, Paints, Oils, Nos. 5 & 6 Reed House, Erie, Pa. 33

JOHN SWEENY, Office in Beatty's Building, up-stairs, Erie, Pa.

JOHN HEARN & CO., Commission Merchants, dealers in Coal, Flour, and agents for line of Upper Lake Steamers, Public Dock. 33

J. W. DOUGLASS, Office with Benjamin Grant, Esq., Park Row, Reed House and Brown's Hotel, Erie, Pa. 33

GEORGE J. MORTON, Commission Merchant, Public Dock, Erie, dealer in Flour and Plaster. 33

C. B. WRIGHT & CO., Dealers in Gold and Silver Coin, uncurrent Bank Warrants and Certificates of Deposit. Also, the principal cities in the Union, and all parts of Europe for sale. Office, Beatty's Building, in the room of Beatty & Cochran, North side of Park. 33 C. P. BAILEY, C. B. WRIGHT.

T. R. BLAKE, Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Foreign and Domestic Dry Goods, Artificial Flowers, Ribbons, Silks, Laces, Millinery, No. 6 Reed's Block, State street, Erie. Attention paid to Orders.

CAUGHEY & CLARK, Importers and Dealers in Domestic and Imported Wines, Segars, Tobacco, Fruit, Fish, Oil, and Agents for Erie, No. 7 Bonnell Block, State street Erie. 23 N. J. CLARK.

JOHN W. AYRES, Wholesale and Retail Dealer in all kinds of Fancy, Parlor, Office and Dining Chairs, No. 4 Keystone. 23

G. W. DE CAMP, Corner J. B. Gunnison's Bookstore, Park Row. 33

JAMES C. MARSHALL, Office upstairs in Tammany Hall building, State street. 32 Erie, Pa.

W. C. BRALEY, Veterinary Surgeon and Farrier, Livery Dealer, Trainer and Jockey, offers his services to the public. He will attend at Canal Landing, where he will be glad to see his friends from the west. W. C. BRALEY, 46

CONCERT HALL BILLIARD SALOON, Located between Fifth Street and the Park. J. J. LINTS, Proprietor. 33

J. J. LINTS, Dealer in Periodicals, Monthly Magazines, Cheap Publications, Newspapers, Gold Pens, Pocket Cutlery, &c. Opposite Reed House, Erie. 33

L. W. OLDS & CO., Wholesale and Retail dealers in Well and Cistern Pumps, the cheapest and best now in use. Cor. Peach and Bear Peach, Erie, Pa. Pure running water for family, farm or mechanical purposes. 33 P. AKELEY, M. L. LOW

JAMES CROOK & CO., Manufacturers of Sash Doors and Blinds, Peach st., Erie, Pa. Connected by Hugh Jones.

S. R. CHURCHILL, Dealer in Double Rectified Whiskey, in the Diamond. 33

WILLIAM S. LANE, Commission Merchant, Office Northeast Corner of Park Row. 33

S. A. DAVENPORT, Office, Office nearly opposite the new Court House, Erie. 33

CONROY & SPAFFORD, Agents for Eastern Oysters, Oysters by the Can, and Dealers in Domestic and Imported Wines, Liquors, Segars, Tobacco, Fruit, Fish, Oil, and Agents for Erie, No. 1 Perry Block, Erie, Pa. O. D. SPAFFORD.

CLARK & BALDWIN, (Successors to Burton & Herron,) Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Drugs, Medicines, Paints, Oils, Dye Stuffs, Brushes, Perfumery, Fine Soaps and Fancy Goods, No. 5 Reed House, Erie, Pa. 27

Park Hall.

A LARGE and commodious Hall for Concerts, Lectures, and Public Meetings of all kinds, East side of the Park. Enquire at the Banking Office of M. Sanford & Co., No. 8, Reed House, Erie, Penna. Erie, Sept. 27, 1856. 30tf

GRANAL MILLS, ERIE, PA. JAMES C. JACKSON, Wholesale and Retail Manufacturer of FLOUR, CORN, MEAL, MILL-FEED, BRAN, &c., &c. Cash Paid for all kinds of Grain. 26

BEFORE offering these Wafers to the Public, they were thoroughly tested, and the Proprietors can now confidently recommend them as a certain Remedy for EXPELLING WORMS FROM THE SYSTEM.

They contain no Calomel or Mercury in any form, or any other injurious ingredients, and may be given to the youngest infant with perfect safety. The Wafers are free from the objections to most other Vermifuges, as they are PLEASANT TO THE TASTE. "Children will eat them as readily as Candy."

They have been before the public less than one year, and within that time have won for themselves a reputation unprecedented in the annals of medicine. They are used and recommended by our FIRST PHYSICIANS and most respectable families with the most marked success.

Prepared and sold, Wholesale and Retail, by CLARK & BALDWIN, (Successor to Burton & Herron,) Wholesale and Retail Druggist, No. 5 Reed House, Erie, Pa. STEPHEN PAUL & CO. 149 Chambers Street, N. Y. Wholesale Agents. Price 25 Cents per Box. Dec. 13, 1856—1y

ERIE, Dec. 12th, 1856. Messrs. Clark & Baldwin:—GENTS.—I have for some time past been prescribing your "Anthelmintic Wafers," and I must say that to my long practice I have never yet found so certain, safe and pleasant remedy for worms" as the Wafers prove themselves to be! I am daily recommending them to my friends and patients and am happy to say in every instance with the most marked success. They have never failed in a single case, operating as effectually upon adults as children. They have the advantage over vermifuges being so "pleasant to the taste that children will eat them as readily as candy." Being personally acquainted with their composition I unhesitatingly pronounce them the best worm specific now in use, and it can be administered to the youngest infant with perfect safety. I most confidently recommend them to the patronage of the public. P. FAULKNER, M. D.

For sale in Girard by J. A. White and John S. Foster. Waterford by Copp & Curtis; Edinboro by H. R. Terry and W. S. Proudfit; Mulcreek by S. N. McCreary; Lockport by J. M. Barnes and Wm Tyler. Albion by Davenport & Flowers; Concord by J. M. Farr; Springfield X Roads by Wm H Townsend. West Springfield by Riley Potter; Fairview by B. Pettis; North East by Jones & Jewett, and by Druggists generally.

PARKER, GRAY & DAVIS, REAL ESTATE BROKERS; LAND, INSURANCE AND GENERAL AGENTS, Council Bluffs and Sioux City, Iowa.

PARKER & DOYLE, Bankers, Dealers in Exchange, AND LAND AGENTS, Chicago.....Iowa. | PARKER & GRAY Land Agents, and Real Estate BROKERS, Lyons.....Iowa.

Select and enter Vacant Lands in Western and North Western Iowa, Secure Claims, and Pre-emptions in Nebraska Terr'y for residents and non-residents, Pay Taxes, &c.

S. T. DAVIS, Attorney at Law and Notary Public, Sioux City. REFER TO Hon. John Galbraith, and M. B. Lowry, Esq. Erie. D. Derrickson and H. L. Richmond, Esqs. Meadville. Hon. M. C. Trout, Sharon, and Samuel Brotherton, Waterford, Pa., Dr. S. C. Plummer and Pending and Connelly, Rock Island, Ill. 1-47

J. J. LINTS, INSURANCE AGENT. REPRESENTING the following reliable Companies, viz:

ÆTNA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, Of Hartford, Conn. Capital $500,000
COMMONWEALTH FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE CO., Harrisburg, Penna. Capital $300,000.
PENNSYLVANIA FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE CO., Pittsburg, Pa. Capital $300,000.
ETNA LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, Hartford, Conn. Capital $150,000

Rates in each as low as security to the Insured will permit. Office in Post Office Building. Erie, April 18, 1856. 49

KEPLER, BOOTH & CO.

NEW 3 PERRY BLOCK, STATE ST., BETWEEN 5th and 6th, Erie, Pa. Have Just returned from the East, with a large and well selected Stock of Winter Dry Goods, Groceries, Queensware, Hardware, Boots and Shoes, Hats and Caps, and a good assortment of Millinery Goods.

DRY GOODS

French Merinos,	Satinets,
All wool De Laines,	Jeans,
Paramattas,	Cloth, all shades & qualities,
Woollen Flannel, all colors,	Black Cassimere,
Cotton, do	Fancy do
Brown Sheeting,	Black Drees Silks,
Bleached Muslin,	Fancy do
Ginghams,	Jaconetts,
Ticking,	Cambrics,
Checks,	Diaper.

GROCERIES.

Sugar House Molasses,	Sugars—Brown, Refined, and Pulverized.
Syrups,	Teas—Black and Green,
Rice,	Soaps,
Rio, Java and Laguira Coffee,	
Dye stuffs, of all kinds.	

HARDWARE.

Table Cutlery,	Nails,
Pocket do	Axes,
Putts,	Shovels,
Screws,	Forks,

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Men's fine Calf Boots,	Ladies' Mo. Bootees,
" Kip "	" Calf "
" coarse "	" Gaiters,
Boys' Boots and Shoes,	Misses' Mo. and Calf Bootees,
Children's Heavy Shoes,	Child's fine Shoes.

HATS AND CAPS

Men's fine Cassimere Hats,	Men's Cloth Caps,
" Wool "	Boy's Wool Hats,
" Plush bound Caps,	" Cloth Caps,

MILLINERY GOODS.

Bonnet Satins, All shades,	Bonnet Frames,
French Flowers,	Whisker Blond,
Coon "	Crown Lining,
Plain Straw Bonnets,	Rush-s.

We have not attempted to enumerate a few of the articles we keep, but the fact is we keep almost every class of goods above mentioned or needed in a family.

Please call and examine our stock. No trouble to show goods. Country Produce taken in exchange, for which the highest market prices will be allowed. Erie, January 31, 1857.

The Insurance for Town and Country!

THE Erie County Mutual Insurance Company continues to make Insurance on every description of property in Town and Country, at as low rates as are consistent with security. Risks are divided into two classes, viz: the Farmer's, in which nothing but farm property and dwellings, 60 feet or over from exposures, are insured, and the Commercial, in which all kind of property are insured. The funds in either department are not liable for losses in the other.

Cash Insurance made in either Department at the usual stock rates.

DIRECTORS.

James C. Marshall,	C. M. Tibbals,	WM. F. Rinderneckt,
P. E. Burton,	John Zimmerly,	Jos. M. Sterrett,
M. P. Kepler,	Thos Moorhead,	Jacob Hanson,
George A. Elliot,	E. Babbitt,	WM. B. Hays,
	Alfred King.	

OFFICERS.

JAMES C. MARSHALL, Pres't. JONAS GUNNISON, Sec. CHARLES M. TIBBALS, Treas.

Office, over J. S. Sterrett's, Cheapside. Erie, June 21, 1856. 6

THE DELAWARE MUTUAL SAFETY INSURANCE COMPANY, (of Philadelphia,)

ARE now doing business on the Mutual plan, giving the insured a participation in the profits of the Company, without liability beyond the premium paid.

Risks upon the Lakes and Rivers navigated on the most favorable terms. Losses will be liberally and promptly adjusted.

Fire risks on merchandise, buildings and other property, (owe occupancy, for a limited term or permanent.)

DIRECTORS.

Joseph H. Seal,	James C. Hand,	Edmond A. Souder
Theophilus Paulding,	John C. Davis,	H. Jones Brooke,
Robert Burton,	John Garrett,	John B. Penrose,
Hugh Craig,	Samuel Edwards,	George Serrell,
Henry Lawrence	David S. Stacey	Edward Darlington
Charles Ketley,	Isaac R. Davis,	J. G. Johnson,
William Polwell,	William Hay,	John J. Newlin,
Dr. S. Thomas,	Dr. R. M. Huston,	John Tellet, Jr.
	Spencer McIlvaine.	

Richard S. Newbold, dec'd. Wm. Martin Pres't. APPLICATIONS can be made to J. KELLOGG, Erie Agent. Erie, Feb. 16, 1856.

BLAKE'S BONNET ROOMS.

WILL now be receiving every week, from New York, Boston and the Eastern Factories, large supplies of MILLINERY, STRAW AND FANCY GOODS, of the latest importations. The best styles, and as prices that defy competition. Erie, Oct. 25, 1856. T. R. BLAKE.

A FARM TO LET.

THE undersigned will lease for a term of years a farm situate in North East Township, known as the Newton Farm. There are about one hundred and sixty acres of improved land—and well adapted to the dairy and grazing business. For terms apply to Erie Nov. 8, 1856—26 tf. JAMES C. MARSHALL.

COFFEE.—Do you want good coffee, then call at Dec. 27. RINDERNECHT & JUSTICE'S.

CORN STARCH, Chocolate and pure Spices at Dec. 27. RINDERNECHT & JUSTICE'S.

WILLOW BASKETS of all kinds at Dec. 27. RINDERNECHT & JUSTICE.

POWDER, Shot, Caps and Lead for sale at Dec. 27. RINDERNECHT & JUSTICE'S.

HOPS, nice and fresh, only 25 cents per pound, at Dec. 27. RINDERNECHT & JUSTICE.

BRUSHES.—Dusting, Scrub, Paint, Whitewash, Graining, Cloth & Shoe Brushes, may be found at April 19. STEWART & SINCLAIR'S

TOMATOES in Tin Cans, retaining the flavor as fresh as from the vines, on sale at December 13, 1856. J. MANSON'S.

PORTSMOUTH LAWNS!—1 Case 1000 yards Portsmouth Lawn, desirable stripes and figures, at 10 cents per yard. May 15. TIBBALS, HAYES & CO.

Tea for One Shilling per Pound.

THE SHANNON BOYS will not allow the public to be humbugged any longer—will sell Hyson Tea for One Shilling—come and see. July 12.

LINSEED Oil and Spirits Turpentine, by the barrel or in quantities to suit purchasers, by June 7, 1856. CARTER & BRO.

SUGAR CURED HAMS.—A fine lot of Cincinnati sugar cured hams, just received and for sale by JOS. A. STERRETT. May 10, 1856. Grocery, No. 3, Hughes' Block, State st.

SALT, Coarse and fine at Dec. 27. RINDERNECHT & JUSTICE.

T! T! T!

A GOOD assortment of all kinds of good TEA, and at almost any price from 37c to 1s per lb., 3c a lb. cheaper than 50c pounds. June 7, 1856. 4 J. S. RINDERNECHT.

Select Poetry.

TELL ME NO MORE.

Tell me no more amid these silent mountains,
Beneath these green leaves, musical with song,
Lull'd by the whisper of these upland fountains,
The old unvarying tale of guilt and wrong.

Leave me alone one day, with nature's beauty,—
One day—one night—an alien to my care!
The needful rest will serve my soul to duty,
And give me strength to struggle and to bear.

If it be true that love is born to sorrow,
That hope deceives, and friendship fades away,—
Let the sad wisdom slumber till to morrow,
Nor stand between me and this summer day.

If I am free to dive in truth's deep ocean,
I will be free to linger on the shore,
To watch the billows in their wild commotion,
And hear far off their melancholy roar.

Pearls for the diver battling with the billows!
Pearls for this mournful pomp and lonely pride!
For me, this day a harp upon the willows,
And flowers fresh gather'd by the water's side.

Choice Miscellany.

THE DEAD SECRET.

BY WILKIE COLLINS

CHAPTER IX.

The New Nurse.

As the clock struck seven, Mr. Orridge put on his hat to go to the Tiger's Head. He had just opened his own door, when he was met on the step by a messenger, who summoned him immediately to a case of sudden illness in the poor quarter of the town. The inquiries he made satisfied him that the appeal was really of an urgent nature, and that there was no help for it but to delay his attendance for a little while at the inn. On reaching the bedside of the patient, he discovered symptoms in the case which rendered an immediate operation necessary. The performance of this professional duty occupied some time. It was a quarter to eight before he left his house, for the second time, on his way to the Tiger's Head.

On entering the inn door, he was informed that the new nurse had arrived as early as seven o'clock, and had been waiting for him, in a room by herself, ever since. Having received no orders from Mr. Orridge, the landlady had thought it safest not to introduce the stranger to Mrs. Frankland before the Doctor came.

"Did she ask to go up into Mrs. Frankland's room?" inquired Mr. Orridge.

"Yes, Sir," replied the landlady. "And I thought she seemed rather put out when I said that I must beg her to wait till you got here.—Will you step this way, and see her at once, Sir? She is in my parlor."

Mr. Orridge followed the landlady into a little room at the back of the house, and found Mrs. Joseph sitting alone in the corner farthest from the window. He was rather surprised to see that she drew her veil down the moment the door was opened.

"I'm sorry you should have been kept waiting," he said; "but I was called away to a patient [illegible] eight, if your memory is not at fault; but it is not eight o'clock yet."

"I was very anxious to be in good time, Sir," said Mrs. Joseph. There was an accent of restraint in the quiet tones in which she spoke which struck Mr. Orridge's ear, and a little perplexed him. She was apparently not only afraid that her voice might betray something, but apprehensive also that her voice might tell him more than words expressed. What being she was anxious to conceal of. Was it irritation at having been kept waiting so long by herself in the sad sick room?

"If you will follow me," said Mr. Orridge, "I will take you to Mrs. Frankland immediately."

Mrs. Joseph rose slowly, and, when she was in the act, rested her hand for an instant on a table near her. That action, momentary as it was, helped to confirm the Doctor in his conviction of her physical aptitudes for the position which she had volunteered to occupy.

"You seem tired," he said, as he led the way out of the door. "Surely, you did not walk all the way here?"

"No, Sir. My mistress was so kind as to let one of the servants drive me in the pony chaise." There was the same restraint in her voice as she made that answer; and still she never attempted to lift her veil. While ascending the inn stairs Mr. Orridge mentally resolved to watch her first proceedings in Mrs. Frankland's room closely, and to send, after all, for the London nurse, unless Mrs. Joseph showed remarkable enthusiasm and aptitude in the performance of her new duties.

The room which Mrs. Frankland occupied was situated at the back of the house, having been chosen in that position, with the object of removing her as much as possible from the bustle and noise about the inn door. It was lighted by one window overlooking a few cottages, beyond which spread the rich grazing grounds of West Somersetshire, bounded by a long monotonous line of thickly wooded hills. The bed was of the old fashioned kind, with the customary four posts and the inevitable damask curtains. It projected from the wall into the middle of the room, in such a situation as to keep the door on the right hand of the person occupying it, the window on the left, and the fire-place opposite the foot of the bed. On the side of the bed nearest the window, the curtains were open while at the foot, and on the side near the door, they were closely drawn. By this arrangement the interior of the bed was necessarily concealed from the view of any person on first entering the room.

"How do you find yourself to-night, Mrs. Frankland?" asked Mr. Orridge, reaching out his hand to undraw the curtains. "Do you think you will be any the worse for a little freer circulation of air?"

"On the contrary, Doctor, I shall be all the better," was the answer. "But I am afraid—in case you have ever been disposed to consider me a sensible woman—that my character will suffer in your estimation, when you see how I have been occupying myself for the last hour."

Mr. Orridge smiled as he undrew the curtains and laughed outright when he looked at the mother and child. Mrs Frankland had been amusing herself, and gratifying her taste for bright colors, by dressing out her baby with blue ribbons as he lay asleep. He had a necklace, shoulder-knots and bracelets, all of blue ribbon; and to complete the quaint finery of his costume his mother's smart little lace cap had been hitched comically on one side of his head. Rosamond herself, as if determined to vie with the baby in gayety of dress, wore a light pink jacket, ornamented down the bosom and over the sleeves with bows of white satin ribbon. Laburnum blossoms, gathered that morning, lay scattered about the white counterpane, intermixed with some flowers of the Lily of the Valley, tied up into two nosegays with strips of cherry colored ribbon. Over this varied assemblage of colors, over the baby's ruddy cheeks and arms, over his mother's happy, youthful face, the tender light of the May evening poured tranquil and warm. Thoroughly appreciating the charm of the picture which he had disclosed on undrawing the curtains, the Doctor stood looking at it for a few moments, quite forgetful of the errand that had brought him into the room. He was only recalled to a remembrance of the new nurse by a chance question which Mrs. Frankland addressed to him.

"I can't help it Doctor," said Rosamond, with a look of apology. "I really can't help treating my baby, now I am a grown woman, just as I used to treat my doll when I was a little girl.—Did any body come into the room with you?—Lenny, are you there? Have you done dinner, darling, and did you drink my health when you were left at dessert all by yourself?"

"Mr. Frankland is still at dinner," said the Doctor. "But I certainly brought some one into the room with me. Where is the name of wonder has she gone to?—Mrs. Joseph!"

The housekeeper had slipped round to the part of the rooms between the foot of the bed and the fire place, where she was hidden by the curtains that still remained drawn. When Mr. Orridge called to her, instead of joining him where he stood opposite the window, she appeared at the other side of the bed, where the window was behind her. Her shadow stole darkly over the bright picture which the Doctor had been admiring. It stretched obliquely across the counterpane, and its dusky edges touched the figures of the mother and child.

"Gracious goodness! who are you?" exclaimed Rosamond. "A woman, or a ghost?"

"Mrs. Joseph's veil was up at last. Although her face was necessarily in shadow in the position which she had chosen to occupy, the Doctor saw a change pass over it when Mrs Frankland spoke. The lips dropped and quivered a little; the marks of care and age, about the mouth, deepened; and the eyebrows contracted suddenly. The eyes Mr. Orridge could not see; they were cast down on the counterpane at the first word that Rosamond uttered. Judging by the light of his medical experience, the Doctor concluded that she was suffering pain, and trying to suppress any outward manifestation of it. "An affection of the heart, most likely," he thought to himself. "She has concealed it from her mistress, but she can't hide it from me."

"Who are you?" repeated Rosamond. "And what in the world do you stand there for—between us and the sunlight?"

Mrs Joseph neither answered nor raised her eyes. She only moved back timidly to the farthest corner of the window.

"Did you not get a message from me this afternoon?" asked the Doctor, appealing to Mrs Frankland.

"To be sure I did," replied Rosamond.—"A very kind, flattering message about a new nurse."

"There she is," said Mr. Orridge, pointing across the bed to Mrs. Joseph.

"You don't say so!" exclaimed Rosamond.—"But of course it must be. Who else could have come in with you? I ought to have known that. Pray come here—(what is her name, Doctor? Joseph, did you say?—No?—Joseph?) pray come nearer Mrs Joseph, and let me apologize for speaking so abruptly to you. I am more obliged than I can say, for your kindness in coming here, and for your mistress's good nature in resigning you to me. I hope I shall not give you much trouble, and I am sure you will find the baby easy to manage. He is a perfect angel, and sleeps like a dormouse. Dear [illegible] you are in very delicate health, I [illegible] if Mrs. Joseph would not be offended with me, I should almost feel inclined to say that she looks in want of nursing herself."

Mrs. Joseph bent down over the laburnum blossoms on the bed, and began hurriedly and confusedly to gather them together.

"I thought as you do, Mrs. Frankland," said Mr. Orridge. "But I have been assured that Mrs. Joseph's looks belie her, and that her capabilities, as a nurse, quite equal her zeal."

"Are you going to make all that laburnum into a nosegay?" asked Mrs. Frankland noticing how the new nurse was occupying herself.—"How thoughtful of you! and how magnificent it will be! I am afraid you will find the room very untidy. I will ring for my maid, to set it to rights."

"If you will allow me to put it in order, ma'am, I shall be very glad to begin being of use to you in that way," said Mrs. Joseph. When she made the offer she looked up, and her eyes and Mrs. Frankland's met. Rosamond instantly drew back on the pillow, and her color altered a little.

"How strangely you look at me!" she said.

Mrs. Joseph started at the words, as if something had struck her, and moved away suddenly to the window.

"You are not offended at me, I hope?" said Rosamond, noticing the action. "I have a sad habit of saying any thing that comes uppermost. And I really thought you looked just now as if you saw something about me that frightened or grieved you. Pray put the room in order, if you are kindly willing to undertake the trouble.—And never mind what I say—you will soon get used to my ways—and we shall be as comfortable and friendly—"

Just as Mrs. Frankland said the words, "comfortably and "friendly," the new nurse left the window, and went back to the part of the room where she was hidden from view, between the fire place and the closed curtains at the foot of the bed. Rosamond looked round to express her surprise to the Doctor, but he turned away at the same moment so as to occupy a position which might enable him to observe what Mrs. Joseph was doing on the other side of the bed curtains.

When he first caught sight of her, her hands were both raised to her face. Before he could decide whether he had surprised her in the act of clasping them over her eyes or not, they changed their position, and were occupied in removing her bonnet. After she had placed this part of her wearing apparel, and her shawl and gloves, on a chair in the corner of the room, she went to the dressing table, and began to arrange the various useful and ornamental objects scattered about it. She set them in order with remarkable dexterity and neatness, showing a taste for arrangement, and a capacity for discriminating between things that were likely to be wanted and things that were not, which impressed Mr. Orridge favorably. He particularly noticed the carefulness with which she handled some bottles of physic, reading the labels on each, and arranging the medicine that might be required at night on one side of the table, and the medicine that might be required in the day time on the other. When she left the dressing table, and occupied herself in setting the furniture straight, and in folding up articles of clothing that had been thrown on one side, not the slightest movement of her thin wasted hands seemed ever to be made at hazard or in vain. Noiselessly, modestly, observantly, she moved from side to side of the room, and neatness and order followed her steps wherever she went. When Mr. Orridge resumed his place at Mrs. Frankland's bedside, his mind was at ease on one point at least—it was perfectly evident that the new nurse could be depended on to make no mistakes.

"What an odd woman she is!" whispered Rosamond.

"Odd, indeed," returned Mr. Orridge, "and desperately broken in health, though she may not confess to it. However, she is wonderfully neat handed and careful, and there can be no harm in trying her for one night—that is to say, unless you feel any objection."

"On the contrary," said Rosamond, she suits me to a marvel. There is something in her face and manner—I can't say what—that makes me feel curious to know more of her. I must get her to talk, and try if I can't bring out all her peculiarities. Don't be afraid of my exciting myself, and don't stop here in this dull room on my account. I would much rather you went down stairs, and kept my husband company over his wine. Do go and talk to him and amuse him a little—he must be so dull, poor fellow, while I am up here, and he likes you, Mr Orridge—he does, very much. Stop one moment, and just look at the baby again. He doesn't take a dangerous quantity of sleep, does he? And, Mr. Orridge, one word more: when you have done your wine, you will promise to lend my husband the use of your eyes, and bring him up stairs to wish me good night, won't you?"

Willingly engaging to pay attention to Mrs. Frankland's request, Mr. Orridge left the bedside. As he opened the room door, he stopped to tell Mrs Joseph that he should be down stairs if she wanted him, and that he would give her any instructions of which she might stand in need later in the evening, before he had left the inn for the night. The new nurse, when he passed by her, was kneeling over one of Mrs Frankland's open trunks, arranging some articles of clothing which had been rather carelessly folded up. Just before he spoke to her he observed that she had a chemisette in her hand, the frill of which was laced through with ribbon. One end of this ribbon she appeared to him to be on the point of drawing out, when the sound of his footsteps disturbed her. The moment she became aware of his approach, she dropped the chemisette suddenly in the trunk, and covered it over with some handkerchiefs. Although this proceeding on Mrs. Joseph's part rather surprised the Doctor, he abstained from showing that he had noticed it. Her mistress had vouched for her character, after five years' experience of it, and the bit of ribbon was intrinsically worthless.—On both accounts, it was impossible to suspect her of attempting to steal it; and yet, as Mr. Orridge could not help feeling when he had left the room, her conduct, when he surprised her over the trunk, was exactly the conduct of a person who is about to commit a theft.

"Pray don't trouble yourself about my luggage," said Rosamond, remarking Mrs. Joseph's occupation as soon as the Doctor had gone.—"That is my idle maid's business, and you will make her more careless than ever if you do it for her. I am sure the room is beautifully set in order. Come here, and sit down and rest yourself. You must be a very unselfish, kind-hearted woman to give yourself all this trouble to serve a stranger. The Doctor's message this afternoon told me that your mistress was a friend of my poor, dear father's. I supposed she must have known him before my time. Any way, I feel doubly grateful to her for taking an interest in me for my father's sake. But you can have no such feeling; you must have come here from pure good nature and anxiety to help others—Don't go away, there, to the window. Come and sit down by me."

Mrs. Joseph had risen from the trunk, and was approaching the bed-side—when she suddenly turned away in the direction of the fire-place, just as Mrs. Frankland began to speak of her father.

"Come and sit here," reiterated Rosamond, getting impatient at receiving no answer. "What in the world are you doing there at the foot of the bed?"

The figure of the new nurse again interposed between the bed and the fading evening light that glimmered through the window, before there was any reply.

"The evening is closing