### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* The Highest Bidder

A Washington Birthday Story

By CLARISSA MACKIE Copyright by American Press Associntion, 1911.

\*\*\*\* The old house looked grim and cold in the chill light of the February day. The gray clouds lowered over its mossy roof, and the naked elms creaked dismally in the bitter wind. The small porch was on a line with the ancient fence and the land stretched away in the rear-gnarled old fruit trees, acres of wornout pasturage and a line of dark cedars against the horizon.

Austin Ely and his bride descended from the station stage that had brought them to the steps of their future home. Their trunks were dumped in the small porch, the box of supplies that Austin had prepared ere they left the city stood at the door, and the stage rolled away with the driver peering curiously back at them over his fur clothed shoulder.

Austin looked up and down the lone ly road with its scattering of equally dismal houses and shivered. He bent down and gathered his wife into his strong young arms. "Dorothy, dear, what sort of a place is this to bring you to?" be demanded wrathfully. "A poor beggar like me ought never to marry. Well, you know, dear, it isn't fair to you to start out in this old rookery!

Dorothy placed her gloved hand over "I won't hear a word against your Uncle Bob's legacy. Just think of owning and occupying the oldest house in the state! Why, tradition says George Washington slept here once when it was the best known tavern on the post road. Do get out that huge brass key and let us go in. It is bitterly cold out here!"

Austin brought out the key and thrust it in the lock. "If you had only let me come on ahead and open up the old place, Dorothy-have it partly furnished and a warm fire for you""Tut, tut!" admonished Dorothy,

crowding into the narrow hall in his wake. "You know very well I'm perfeetly crazy over old houses, and I would never forgive you if you denied me the pleasure of rummaging out the old stuff in this place. Oh, isn't that the dearest old room, and see, Austin, the enormous fireplace?" She waltzed gayly across the uneven floor, her teeth chattering with the cold.

Her husband forced up the small paned windows and threw back the heavy wooden shutters, letting in the cold light of day. It was a long low room, the walls hung with an ancient striped paper. The furniture was very old, and its possession would have made a collector wild with joy. A pair of long settles, a large mahogany buf- a large loaf of Vienna bread, butfet, a great round table to match with the accompanying chairs, were placed on the wide polished boards now covered thickly with dust. The large fireplace contained brass andirons, and on the chimneyplece were brass candlesticks-a long row of them-a dozen

"Let's have a fire at once," suggested room our headquarters till we are settled."

"It will be fine and dandy when spring comes," said Austin dubiously, "but I don't know what you're going to do in the meantime, Dorothy, Here it is the 22d of February, and April is a long way off. Won't you be lonely?"

Dorothy smiled away his wistful giance. "Lonely where you are?" she said. "And, besides, think of all the chickens we're going to raise and of all the money you're going to make next summer with your eggs and your broilers!"

"If we only had \$300," he sighed, everything would come out all right." "Come to the garret with me and see if we can't find another small table for the south window. I can sit there and sew while you're writing at the big secretary I think you're going to drag in here from the hall."

Together they mounted the steep stairs to the low attic, redolent of cedar shingles, where innumerable wasps crawled stickily to and fro.

"There are chests and chests and chests! Let me peep inside this old hair covered one, Austin; I'm sure it belonged to some eighteenth century belle. No, I'm not a bit cold. How could I be with these great warm chimneys jutting out into the garret? Ah!"

Dorothy's ecstatic cry was echoed by Austin's prolonged whistle of amazement at the beautiful garments divulged by the lifting of the lid of

"Two white wigs-one for you and one for me!" she cried delightedly, tossing one to him and placing the other, a towering erection of puffs and ourls, over her own sleek hair.

Austin crammed on his wig just in time to see his wife's rosy face beam- him back his money or the table. If ing at him from under the whiteness of the other. Simultaneously they bent

in stately greeting. "Good morrow, Mistress Washing-

ton," said Austin mischievously. "Ah, Mr. Washington!" Dorothy dipped a splendid courtesy and suddenly turned to the chest. "Oh, let us put on these perfectly gorgeous garments, Austin. We might as well enjoy ourselves until the man brings the coal."

Dorothy slipped into a blue brocade, admired the towering mass of white curls above her forehead and waited while Austin arrayed himself business until April was well on her in the same manner. "We are fright- way.

fully fault to I brown," she said, rathe wearly, "out I simply must do some thing interesting or I shall be horribly homesick ronight.

"Then let us go down and eat on supper in these things," suggested Austin hastily, "Don't be homesick, Dorothy; please don't, or I shall be tempted to weep on your shoulder and throw up the chicken business altogether."

Dorothy paused before him, looking very lovely in her ancient garb, her sweet eyes serious and thoughtful "Austin Ely, tell me truthfully, did you want to go into the chicken business or are you merely doing it to pro vide a home for me?"

Austin walked over and kissed her face. "Fil confess to a weakness for the city," he admitted sheepishly. wasn't cut out for a farmer. Dorothy. although I do love to be with you all day long here in the country. There is something about the life and bustle of the city that calls me. I wish we might keep this for a country home and live as we always have done, in town during the winter."

"Some day we will," encouraged Dorothy, with her sweet smile. "Let ns go downstairs."

All at once the great knocker on the front door was lifted three times and resounding racket echoed through the sparsely furnished house.

"Who can that be?" gasped Dorothy as she drew near her husband. "Some neighbor." he assured her as he led the way down to the lower floor. While Dorothy lighted the bayberry candles and set the table for supper Austin went to the door and

flung it open There at the curb throbbed and pulsated a monster touring car. In it were three shadowy forms, while

fourth stood on the doorstep. "Ho-the inn!" called the man on the doorstep lustfly. "Let us in, good people, and show us what you can do by way of entertainment."

"This is not an inn," said Austin brusquely. "You will find a very good one at the end of this street."

"Nay, 'tis not so," corrected the other. "Many's the time I have sate here in the bar of the Blue Boar and slipped my glass o' toddy. Come in. landlord says all are welcome and that he will broll chickens for us. Make haste, my man.'

Austin planted his feet firmly in the loorway. "It's a cold night and you re welcome to come in and have a ifte to eat, but there won't be anything to drink unless I can find some applejnek."

The four entered with noisy hilarity, and it was plain to be seen that they were all in a state of semi-intoxication. They were well dressed men, and their faces were not unpleasing, though more than one of them showed signs of dissipation.

With the impression that the sooner he served these unwelcome guests the earlier he would be rid of their doubtful companionship. Austin beckoned Dorothy into the kitchen and together hey concected a tray full of refreshments that were mostly got from the provision box. A large piece of cheese, ter, cold boiled ham and a pitcher of applejack completed a repast that brought forth a cheer from the group gathered before the dining room fire.

Suddenly they looked at Austin in is festal garments of drab velvet and herry satin, with gray silk hose and buckled shoes, and at Dorothy peeping around the door gorgeous in blue bro-Dorothy eagerly. "We can make this | cade. With one accord they arose and touched their glasses.

"It's George Washington and Mis-tress Martha," gasped the spokesman. "Your healths and long-long-er, you know!

With bulging eyes the four drank the toast, while Austin and Dorothy laughed until they cried. At last they returned to the dining room, where a curious sight met their gaze.

Standing in the middle of the round mahogany table, the spokesman of the party was calling for bids for its pur-"As pretty a-bit-of colonial furniture-as ever your eyes lighted n-gentlemen. Who will start the bidding on this table, the property of the immortal George-you, Freddy? What am I offered for this table?"

"One dollar," said Freddy feebly. "Pooh! Who will give me more to over this insult? Cecil, you bloated bondholder, bent it up!"

Cecil solemnly entered his bid of a hundred dollars, and as if they bad been waiting for this amount, the four proceeded to raise the value of the mahogany table by hundreds until it was knocked down to the languid Freddy for \$1,000. From a plethoric roll he peeled off the amount and tossed it to the table, and then, forgetting the incident, he led a solemn procession from the house and into the waiting auto-

Dorothy and her husband stared at each other across the mahogany table. "Oh, Austin-what does it mean? Were they drunk?" she asked.

"As lords," said Austin feelingly. Tomorrow morning they will awake without the slightest recollection of what they have done tonight. I've got my work cut out for me to try to trace up that Freddy chap and give can't find him, why-I reckon we needn't start that chicken business till April, ch. Dorothy?"

"Don't call me Dorothy," said that young woman airily as she spread wide her brocaded skirts. "For the rest of this curious night I am Mistress Martha Washington, and you are George himself-but, oh, Austin, I do hope you won't find that highest

"I'm not likely to," said Austin, trying to look unhappy, and it is on record that they didn't start the chicken

## HUMOROUS

Words From the Mule.

fit is proposed to use camels instead of mules in the army for transporting sup-plies.—Dispatch From Washington.] They've been trying to shelve the army

mule
For a matter of twenty years,
But you bet I'll be there in the smoke
filled air
When the "boom-bung" splits the ears.
They said goodby to me long ago
When that auto thing came in,
But I shed my blood in the oozy mud
At the guns in the battle's din.

They say the camel will beat me out On the hot and dusty plain.

It's silly and flat—such talk as that.

It causes me naught but pain.

Who hustled the redskins off the map
in the Arizona wild?

Who was it brought wos to Geronimo—
Who, then, but the mule, my child?

Then let the experts fuss as they will
And let them experiment.
When begins the fun I'll come on the run
With the grub and the soldier's tent.
I'll be there with the ammunition sure,
Be the weather freezing or hot.
They'll be cheering the mule in war's grim
school
When camels will be forced.

When camels will be forgot. -Arthur Chapman in Denver Repub-

Bad Judgment. "Poor girl, I'm sorry for her." "What's the matter now?"

"She sprained her ankle."

"She tried to do the barn dance in s hobble skirt." - Detroit Free Press.

Other Ways. "Money isn't everything." sighed the young man.

"Of course not," said the girl. know of a couple that started housekeeping nicely on tobacco coupons alone,"-Louisville Courier-Journal.

Luxuries Barred. "I think you change too much to be a good politician. Remember that consistency is a jewel."

"I'm posing just now as one of the plain people and can't afford jewels,"-Philadelphia Ledger.

The Preventive. He-Of course after we're married I won't have you trotting around as you do now

She-No, of course not. I won't have You'll buy me a car.-Spokane to. Spokesman-Review.

Appropriate Selection. "That vacuum company is certainly going to build on an appropriate site

"How so? "It has bought a vacant lot."-Baltimore American.

The Reason. "No man cares what people say of him after he is dead."

"I suppose that is the reason we are so likely to say good things about people after they are gone."-Chicago Record-Herald.

Widely Pushed. "A pleased customer is the best advertisement. Everybody pushes our goods.

"What do you sell?" "Lawn mowers."-Washington Herald.

Dyspepsia Specialist (irritably)-But, madam, you must chew your food. What were your teeth given you for? Patient (calmly)-They weren't given to me. I bought 'em.-Spare Moments.

False.

Killing Time.
"Business is kinder dull," remarked the man who doesn't advertise.

"Yet you just hired a third clerk." "Yes. Now we can make up four hands at whist."-Pittsburg Post.

The Truth.

The judge rode past Maud Muller. "Couldn't stop because I have hay fever," he explained. However, he gave Whittier a more poetic version.-New York Sun.

Medical Note. First Doctor-I've discovered a sure cure for a rare disease.

Second Doctor-Great! Now, how

can we make the rare disease prevalent?-Cleveland Leader. So Inconsiderate In Her. "A feller don't seem to never be so sure that his personal rights is bein'

imposed on as when his wife gits

sick," said Deacon Blimber.-Brown-

ing's Magazine.

Two Ways. Defeated Pug-I weighed in all right before the fight! Backer-Maybe you did. But you

certainly didn't wade in during the fight!-Puck.

How to Keep Your Furnace Going. "Much of a job to get your husband to care for the furnace?"

"None whatever. We always keep a barrel of prime cider in the cellar." -Judge. A Coming Statesman.

Teacher-Bobby, you were not at school yesterday. Boboy-Nope, I was paired wit' Skimpy Jones .-- Chicago Tribune.

Can You Blame Him? "Pa, what does 'skeptical' mean?" "That describes a man's feelings when a woman tells her age."-New York Press.

It Will Happen. A little girl was asked how old she was. "I was four," she replied, "but one day I got five."-Harper's MagaJ. C. Clements, New Head of Commerce Commission.



Judson C. Clements of Georgia, who succeeded Martin A. Knapp as chair man of the interstate commission, is the senior member of the board, having been appointed by President Cleveland in March, 1892. Mr. Clements is a Democrat: but, while the commission is composed of four Republicans and three Democrats at present, it has been its uniform policy since its creation to elect its senior member as chair man, irrespective of his political affilintions. Mr. Clements is considered one of the conservatives of the commission, although he has always advocated in public speeches and before congress adequate supervision and control by the government of the opera tion of common carriers. It is said that no decision by him has ever been reversed on its merits by the supreme

Commissioner Clements is a native of Georgia and Is sixty-five years old. For a number of years he was a member of the legislature of his state being largely instrumental in the for mation of the Georgia railroad commission. From 1880 to 1890 he was a representative in the national congress refusing a renomination in the latter year because of his opposition to gov ernment ownership of railroads, which a majority of his constituents advo cated.

Cautious.
"I have a remarkable history" began the lady who looked like a possi-

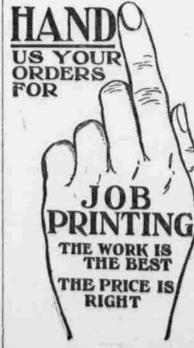
"To tell or sell?" inquired the law yer cantiously.-Washington Herald.

A Dubious Saying. He—They say that the face is an Index of the mind. She-I don't know It doesn't follow because a woman' face is made up that her mind is.-Bos ton Transcript.

Fox as a Gamester.

Charles James Fox. the English statesman, was even more notorious in the gaming world than he was famous in the world of politics. He had squandered \$250,000 before coming of age. He became one of the most profilgate gamesters of the vicious days in which he lived. Some of his finest displays in debate were sandwiched between excitement such as would unnerve most men who had no serious business on hand. Walpole has given have filed their petitions for a li a glimpse of a typical passage in this cense, and the same will be presentextraordinary man's life. He had to ed to the Court of Quarter Sessions take part in the discussion on the on Monday, March 13, 1911; thirty-nine articles in parliament on a certain Thursday. He had sat up playing hazard from Tuesday evening until 5 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. An hour before he had recovered \$60,000 that he had lost and by dinner time. which was 5 o'clock, ended losing \$55. 000. On Thursday he spoke in the debate, went to dinner at past 11 : night; thence to a club, where drank till 7 the next morning; thence to a gambling house, where he won \$30,000, and between 3 and 4 in the afternoon he set out on a journey to Newmarket.

Eye Treatment. For the baggy appearance under the eyes try rubbing gently with the tips of the fingers dipped in alcohol. Follow this treatment by massaging carefully with cold cream.



Snake Den in Hollow Tree.

Alexander Huston and his h'red man while going to work on the H is ton farm, near the Allegheny count line, saw a large black snake on oak tree. The next day the hir man took his pistol along and seet the snake again, mounted the tre and shot it and another whiel craw ed out of the hollow trunk. Believ that there might be more snake, the old tree trunk, a fire was stabelow and in a short time the gun crawled out in such large runn that the man up the tree descein a hurry. A vigorous fight en o and when the contest was over men had eighty-five dead st measuring from one and a half over nine feet in length .- Grown burg Daily Tribune.

#### Castaway Sailors.

Sailors cast away on uninhabit islands in temperate regions h managed to subsist for long per o Thus, the crew of the Carol p wrecked on Ducie Island, in t Souht Pacific in July, 1883, liver there quite comfortably until taken off in May, 1885; while the survivors of the whaler Essex were three ye and four months on the neighboring Henderson Island before being res-

CASTORIA The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Chart Hillthire

## Rollof HONOR

Attention is called to the STRENGTH

# Wayne County

City has published a ROLL OF HONOR of the 11,470 State Banks and Trust Companies of United States. In this list the WAYNE COUNTY SAVINGS BANK

Stands 38th in the United States Stands 10th in Pennsylvania. Stands FIRST in Wayne County.

Capital, Surplus, \$527,342.88

Honesdale, Pa., December 1, 1910.

PPLICATION FOR LICENSE \$ FOR THE YEAR 1911. The following named persons 1 HOTELS

Canaan-James Gildea. Clinton—H. T. O'Neill. Dreher—H. B. Smith, O. E. Sions, Charles F. Wert. Dyberry-Asa K. Kimble, Mat-

thew F. Clemo. Hawley—Christian Lehman, Mar-tin Reaffer, August H. Frank, Geo. Kohlman, F. J. Hughes, Frank J. Denison, F. J. Crockenberg.

Honesdale—Frank N. Lord, Jr., P. F. Lennon, and M. F. Coyne, Albert G. Loomis, Charles Clint Doyle.

Lake—Flora M. Schadt.
Lehigh—C. W. Garagan.
Manchester—Benj. F. Westbrook,
William A. Bleck, Frank and Martin

Mount Pleasant-I. W. Bunnell, William T. Davis. Preston—Anthony Yeager, P. F. Madigan, Warner Knapp, W. J. Hea-

ley. Salem-H. F. Nicholson, Ralph South Canaan-John Bentham.

Starrucca—John Woodmansee.
Texas—Thos. Gill, Frederick
Kranz, James Mundy, F. W. Bunnell, Charles H. Murphy, George Meyer, John C. Smith, Victor Mess-ler, J. Monroe Austin, Frank Mang. Waymart—Walter J. Mitchell.

RESTAURANTS. Canaan-James J. Burnett, Trus-

Clinton—John Opeka. Hawley—Mary Deit: Adams, Louis Geisler. Deitzer, Jacob Adams, Louis

Honesdale — Christopher Lowe,
Henry Buerket, John H. Heumann,
Gelbert, F. W. Michels,
Tanah Fred O. Gelbert, F. W. Michels, Benjamin Loris, Jr., Albert R. Taeub-ner, Lawrence C. Weniger, T. D. O'Connell, Herman Meyer, W. B. Roadknight, Chas. P. Silsby, John

Beck. WHOLESALE LIQUOR. Hawley-Patrick H. Kearney. Honesdale-Michael Galvin, Paul

Texas-Chris J. Hook, Jacob

Theobald.

McGranaghan, Leopold Fuerth. Texas—The Pennsylvania Central Brewing Company BOTTLERS. Honesdale—John Roegner. Palmyra—Luke P. Richardson.

Texas-Fell Brewing Company, William Neimeyer. M. J. HANLAN, Clerk. Feb. 14, 1911.

### PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

Attorneys-at-Law.

Office adjacent to Post Office in Dimmick office, Honesdate, Pa.

ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR-AT-LAW.
Office over post office. All legal business
promptly attended to. Honesdale, Pa.

C. MUMFORD, L. ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR-AT-LAW Office—Liberty Hall building, opposite the Post Office, Honesdale, Pa.

HOMER GREENE.

Office over Reif's store, Honesdale Pa. CHARLES A. McCARTY,

O ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR-1T-LAW.
Special and prompt attention given to the collection of claims. Office over Reif's new store, Honesdale, Pa.

F. KIMBLE, ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR-AT-LAW Office over the post office Honesdale, Pa.

E. SIMONS, ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR-AT-LAW

Office in the Court House, Honesdale DETER H. ILOFF.

ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR-AT-LAW.
Office—Second floor old Savings Brok
uliding, Honesdale, Pa. SEARLE & SALMON,

ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS-AT-LAW Offices lately occupied by Judge Searle THESTER A. GARRATT, ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR-AT-LAW. Office adjacent to Post Office, Honesdale, Pa

Dentists.

DR. E. T. BROWN. DENTIST. Office-First floor, old Savings Bank build-ing, Honesdale, Pa.

Dr. C. R. BRADY, DENTIST, Honesdale, Pa. Office Hours-8 m to p, m Any evening by appointment Citizens' phone, 33 Residence, No. 85-X4

Physicians.

P. B. PETERSON, M. D.
1126 MAIN STREET, HONESDALE, PA.
Eye and Ear a specialty. The fitting of glasses given careful attention. Livery.

> ALL CALLS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO. FIRST CLASS OUTFITS.

LIVERY.--Fred. G. Rickard has re-moved his livery establishment from corner Church street to Whitney's Stone

### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* SPENCER

The Jeweler

would like to see you if you are in the market for

JEWELRY, SILVER-WARE, WATCHES, CLOCKS, DIAMONDS, AND NOVELTIES

"Guaranteed articles only sold."

### WHEN THERE IS ILLNESS

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

in your family you of course call a reliable physician. Don't stop at that; have his prescriptions put up at a reliable pharmacy, even if it is a little farther from your home than some other store.

You can find no more reliable store than ours. It would be impossible for more care to be taken in the selection of drugs, etc., or in the compounding. Prescriptions brought here, either night from day, will be promptly and accurately compounded by a competent registered pharmacist and the prices will be most rea-

O. T. CHAMBERS, PHARMACIST,

Opp. D. & H. Station, HONESDALE, PA.

### FOR SALE!

Magnificently located residence and large grounds of

W. F. SUYDAM

Splendid site for hospital or hotel. House steam heated. Electrically wired. Large Corner lot. 125x150. barn.

J. B. ROBINSON, Insurance and Real Estate. Jadwin Building.

LET US PRINT YOUR BILL HEADS, LETTER HEADS, STATE-MENTS, NOTE HEADS. OPES, CIRCULARS, ETC., TTC.