

"SYCAMORE"

BY CY WARMAN.

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Something his host said at dinner—some passing reference to the meteoric rise of Mr. J. Spencer Atwood from law to literature—had set that prosperous young author thinking on the not very remote yesterday of his life.

He might have hailed a hansom; indeed, he could well afford a carriage and a pair of his own, but this night he preferred to walk home.

In a narrow lane just off the Strand he found himself at the street door of a dainty brick building. Coming out of his reverie he laughed a noiseless little laugh, and stood for a moment looking up at a window which, for years, had been his one opening to the world.

As he walked slowly to his luxurious apartments Atwood began to ask himself why he had come back to the old place at midnight and alone. Was it Mr. Gladstone's reference to the old days? Or Mr. Gladstone's old port? or was he losing himself in his work?

Anyhow he was glad that his stout limbs had carried him back that he might take leave of his old bachelor home before his departure for America.

As he walked away with elevated chin and a look of gloom. He had stumbled over the slab that covers Goldsmith's grave.

"What a narrow swath I shall be cutting a hundred years hence," said Atwood, hurrying on.

"Sycamore," always attractive, was never more so than now. Outney, the old gardener, was arranging the rustic seats under the great trees where the robins were roosting, when a carriage swung in at the lower gate and rolled leisurely along the gravelled driveway, arched over by drooping bows of ancient forest trees.

Atwood was charmed with the place. He had come to Canada expecting to find only new crude things and was agreeably surprised.

He saw, too, that the welcome accorded him was genuine. The hostess, Mrs. Deering, was sister to his mother, sweet soul, who had gone from him when he was but a boy.

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of the lens watcher at the window. Studying the case and peering into the hall. The room was dark over Atwood's door. He had retired, though he had been in the habit of writing long after midnight.

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together, keeping her room day and night.

Promptly at 11 o'clock the watchers took their places under the great trees, completely surrounding the mysterious birch.

The detective, who had been upstairs, reported Mr. Atwood sleeping like a third child. A heap of manuscript lay upon his table with the word "Finitis" written on the bottom of the last page.

By this time the doctor, who had been called by telephone, arrived.

"Let him sleep," said the doctor, when he had heard the story and looked the patient over.

Just as he was about to leave the room the doctor noticed the stack of manuscript, turned it over and read the title of the tale that Atwood had been living for a fortnight.

"The Ghost of a Miser."

SUPREME COURT SYLLABI

The following opinions will be officially reported.

11548. Rank against Garvey. Appeal from Douglas. Former judgment affirmed.

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11551. Rank against Garvey. Appeal from Douglas. Former judgment affirmed.

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THE ILLUSTRATED BEE

JAPAN'S POSITION IN WAR

JAPAN'S POSITION IN WAR. With Russia is the subject of an interview had by Mr. Frank G. Carpenter with the Japanese minister to the United States. It is one of the most interesting contributions to the discussion of the present controversy and forms the leading feature of the number of the Illustrated Bee that will be out on Sunday.

THE ILLUSTRATED BEE

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When a husband dies the owner of a tract of land selected and occupied by himself and family as a homestead, which is so situated that the dwelling house, and the interest in the land, cannot be set apart from the residue of the tract.

1. A mortgage given in violation of the law of the state in which it was made is void.

1. A creditor of a bankrupt cannot escape the consequences of the bankruptcy act by assigning his account to a purchaser of the property of the bankrupt under an arrangement whereby such purchaser assumes the liability, and satisfies such account contingent upon the purchase of the bankrupt's property as a part of the consideration such purchaser agrees to assume such liability and reserves from the purchase price an amount sufficient to satisfy the same.

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