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THE FIREMAN'S MOTHER.

In the famous Chickamauga vale. Where the crape moss trails and the cypress

Lives a poor old mother, whose woeful wail Now moans with the pines.

Last night at McIvors a derailed train-(This brief, brutal message the wire thrilled North from Atlanta) and Richard M'Clain, The fireman, was killed.

Only a fireman, so this will do, Briefly to tell to the mother heart, With a three line paragraph, terse and true, To strike like a dart.

That never more need she set a light

In her country home on the window sill That would say to her boy going by in the night, "Your mother is well." These three short lines in the morning press

Her home, on the train. And now, when the rushing train goes by, In that dark vale where the shadows be, No more will his answering signals say,

"I remember thee."

Told not that a mother watched in vain

For the son, who never again would pass

-Miriam Baird Buck in Arkansaw Traveler.

A SPECULATION. "I tell you, sir, I will not give my

sanction unless by the 1st of next month you can show me a balance at your banker's of £5,000 or securities in your own name to that value."

"But, Mr. Saymour, where do you think I am to get £5,000 from in less than a month? Nellie and I are both young and can afford to wait for better times. I am confidential clerk to one of the best firms of stockbrokers, and have every reason to believe I shall one day become a partner. My salary from them is £250, and my old uncle allows me £100 a year and looks upon me as his heir. What more can you want?"

"It is of no use prolonging the discussion, Mr. Bartley. It is for your own sakes I do this. When my daughter marries I shall settle £10,000 upon her, and I think her husband ought to have at least £5,000. If, as I said before, you have that sum by the 1st of April next, I will sanction your engagement. If not, I shall use every means in my power to bring about her marriage with Captain Tredegar, and in the meantime shall send her off to my sister in Scotland out of your way."

With these words he touched the bell, thus intimating that the interview was at an end.

Mr. Saymour was chief partner in the firm of Saymour, Giveless & Co., stock brokers, and was reported to be worth a million, but there were city men who whispered that he was in rather a shaky state just now owing to heavy speculations on his own account, and that he would probably be in want of a few thousands before the next settling day.

When I left Mr. Saymour's office in Victoria street I wandered about for two hours, hardly knowing where I was going. I was unable to concentrate my thoughts upon anything definite. All I could think about was £5,000. Every- of the month, and the last settling day "Well, Mr. Bartley," he said, "I am thing. The very sound of the wheels of the omnibuses and cabs seemed to suggest, "£5.000, or Nellie is lost." I felt that I must have the money if I committed a crime to obtain it.

At last I called a cab and drove to my chambers. When I was seated in an easy chair by the side of a bright fire, with my pipe in full swing, I tried to think the matter over calmly. The only hope I could think of was my Uncle John, but it was like depending on a broken reed, indeed. He had always cautioned me against getting married at all, and pointed to himself with pride as one who had had next to nothing to do with women all his life; but before 1 went to bed I had made up my mind to run down to Eltham on the morrow and

I wrote a note to the office saying that I felt rather indisposed that evening in the Great Cumberland mine for next (which was quite true) and should probably not be in the city in the morning.

Next morning, after a restless night, the chance of my uncle acceding to my request seemed smaller than ever, but there was no other hope, and I must face him and make the best of it. At breakfast I took up the paper as was my wont, and glanced down the money article. Suddenly an idea flashed across my mind. Being on the Stock exchange ! knew that fortunes were made and lost every month; why shouldn't I try and make £5,000 by speculating in some stock? The more I thought of it the better I liked it.

Of course I knew it was risky; I couldn't do it in my own name without it coming to the knowledge of my firm. and they wouldn't tolerate that sort of thing for a moment, and whatever plan wished I should be ruined. But life without Nellie wasn't worth living, and I must have her at any cost.

The first thing to decide was the best stock in which to speculate. The markets were very quiet just now, with the exception of the South African Mining market, in which there had been lately

quite a "boom." One company in particular had caused a great sensation. This was the Great Cumberland Diamond mines, whose ten pound shares were quoted at twenty-five pounds. The company was supposed to have a most valuable property in south Africa, and although only started six months previously had already paid a dividend of 20 per cent., and the future dividends were expected to be as high as 30 or 35 per cent. That they had paid the 20 per cent. dividend was quite true, as I had received that on the few shares I held myself; but whether it was paid out of the profits or otherwise I did not

What I did know was that if any adverse report of the mine came over the price of the shares would inevitably drop quicker than it had risen. I therefore determined to confine my operations to Great Cumberland. Of course it would be sheer speculation, and there are people who say this is no better than robbery, and although I can't say I quite agree with them, I don't in any degree uphold the practice. It is one of the greatest evils of the age, but in my case I felt the end would justify the means. all right, but it looks very much like victory it was. -Harper's Young People.

affect the market?

What I wanted was some startling information, damaging to the prospects of the mine, to be communicated to the London financial papers. Any one who knows anything about Stock exchange business knows that in some stocks the most trivial telegram will immediately cause a rise or fall of several points. I had fixed upon the great Cumberland company because I knew the shares were held principally by dealers and speculators and not by the outside public.

My conscience thus was easier. After breakfast I settled to go off at once to Eltham and see my uncle, and if, as I expected, he would not give me the money I would write to my friend, George Whymark, in Cape Town, tell him how I was situated and ask for his help. I knew that George would do anything in his power to help me. We had been schoolfellows and always firm friends, and a year previously he had gone out to South Africa, partly on account of his health and partly to make his fortune-if he could. We had no secrets and had sworn always to help each other whenever the help was asked for, even at our own personal inconvenience and loss.

I went down to my uncle's place, put the whole matter before him, and asked him to lend me the £5,000. As I expected, he was very angry at first and tried to persuade me to let the whole affair drop. He said if I didn't get the money Mr. Saymour would withhold his consent. This wouldn't be my fault, and I could thus withdraw honorably. Of course, I scornfully rejected such ad-

"Well, Harold," he said, "I am very grieved to think that after all my advice you have made a fool of yourself at twenty-six years of age. But it shall make no difference in the future, my boy. I shall leave you all my money. But at present, even if I would, I couldn't realize £5,000 without great loss, as all my capital is locked up in various speculative undertakings, and I must say that for your own sake I am glad that you can't get the money."

I thanked him for his kindness and went back to town.

That evening I wrote a long letter to George Whymark and told him everything and asked for his help. I told him I wanted a telegram dispatched to some leading paper in London, saying that things were decidedly wrong with the Great Cumberland Diamond mines, or something to that effect. This seemed very simple, but I didn't disguise from George that it wasn't altogether in accordance with the law, although I believe things like it are done very often in the world of speculation. I told ago you said you would only give your George that I left the matter in his sanction on condition that by today I hands, but asked him for the sake of our great friendship to help me if he conscientiously could.

ter to reach George. It was now the 2d | objection to our engagement?" was on the 30th, so if George did as I would leave about five days for the operations. I lived in a state of feverish excitement for the next fortnight or so. I knew that if George was unable to help me, or if the market did not go as I wished, I should be ruined for life, and have to relinquish all hope of Nellie. I had not seen her since the evening of the interview with her father, but received a note from her three days after, saving she was that day starting for Scotland and would be away about six weeks. She told me to cheer up, as she knew all would come right in the end. I wished I could have felt as sanguine. On the morning of the 17th the senior

partner of my firm came to me with an open letter in his hand.

"Here is a letter from a Mr. Duncan, of Eltham, asking us to sell 1,000 shares account. He mentions your name as a reference. Do you know anything about

I knew all about the letter, as it was one I had written myself and posted lie.

"Oh! yes," I said, "that is all right. He is a friend of my uncle's. He men tioned the other evening that he wanted to deal in Great Cumberlands, and I advised him to do business through us."

"Well, you had better see to it, as I have to attend two meeting this morn-

During the day I managed to dispose of 1,000 shares at prices ranging from £24 10s. to £25 10s. per share, and had the contract notes made out and posted to W. Duncan, Esq., Castle hotel, Eltham, the proprietor of which I knew very well, and with whom I had ar-I adopted I knew if things didn't go as I ranged to have any letters so addressed forwarded to myself. On Wednesday the 23d, I received a telegram from George with the two words "On Friday." Words cannot express how relieved I felt. I knew George would do nothing by halves, and I felt almost

sure of success. That afternoon I left the office early and went hown to Eltham and dined at the Castle hotel. After dinner I wrote a letter, which I addressed to my firm, all the same." Messrs. Pritchard & Co., and arranged with the landlord to have it posted on the morrow, in order to be delivered in the city first post on Friday morning.

On Friday I seized the paper and glanced hurriedly down the money article. Yes! it was there sure enough.

"We received a communication last evening to the effect that the Yaranga | huge dimensions and great height of the River district in South Africa was flooded and that great damage had been were drowned. The loss to the company was believed to be irretrievable."

This I knew was bound to make the shares fall. You may be sure I felt in a great state of excitement, but I tried to look as unconcerned as possible when I arrived at the office.

About 10:30 Mr. Pritchard came to me with a letter.

"Here is another letter from Mr. Dun-

But how was I, alone and unaided, to speculation. I see there is a bad report of the mine in the paper this morning, so he will get them cheap. One would think he knew something about the telegram. However, that has nothing to do

> to buy; the price is sure to drop." On my way to the Stock exchange I called at the office of the Great Cumberland company and asked if they knew anything about the telegram published that morning. They said they had received the same information, but thought there was some mistake. They were and 7:30 P. M. Sunday School 10:30

taking steps to have it confirmed. When I arrived at the exchange I went straight to the mining market, and, as I expected, found it in a state of the wildest excitement. Every one was asking questions about Great Cumberlands. All the dealers were sellers. "Great Cumberlands!" "Great Cumberlands!" "I sell 100 at 23; I sell 200 at 221/2. Any buyers?" and such like.

I waited and watched closely. The price went down every minute, until presently I heard a man offer 300 at 21. I bought them. I noticed several dealers eyed me suspiciously, and one asked me if I knew anything. I answered, "No, but we have an order from a client to buy." Presently a dealer offered a parcel of 500 at 1916. I took them at once. The other 200 I had no difficulty in obtaining in small lots at about £19 to £19 10s. I went back to the office and reported to Mr. Pritchard that Great Cumberlands had dropped five or six points, and told him I had bought 1,000 shares for Mr. Duncan at an average price of about 20.

I had the contract notes posted that day to Mr. Duncan. On going through the account I found that after deducting brokerage and all expenses there was a clear profit of £5,350.

I had thus gained my end. On settling day it would only be necessary to pass on the names from the firms I had sold to the firms I had bought from, and post a check for the difference to Mr. Duncan, which of course was the same as posting it to myself.

The next morning a telegram was published by the company notifying that the information published the day before was exaggerated. The Yaranga district was flooded, but their property had not been touched. On the strength of this the shares in a few days regained their former quotation.

I wrote to George, told him of my success and thanked him for what he had

On the 1st of April I called Mr. Saymour. He seemed rather surprised to see me, but was very polite.

"Mr. Saymour," I said, "when I asked you for your daughter's hand a month was worth at least £5,000. I have called to inform you that the amount of my balance at my banker's is now £5,785. 1 It would take three weeks for the let- therefore presume there will now be no

surprised, but also pleased, because, as asked him as soon as he got my letter it said last month, I have no personal objection to you as a son-in-law. I will write at once and fetch Nellie back. But how did you manage to make £5,000 in a month?"

"Well, you know, sir, on the Stock exchange it is very easy to make or lose £5,000.

He laughed and said: "You have been lucky this time, but take my advice and don't go in for 'plunging.'"

"I don't mean to, Mr. Saymour, but desperate cases requiredesperate means.' "I expect you thought me very mercenary, Harold, but I must now tell you why I made that stipulation. People suppose I am very wealthy, but lately I have lost heavily, and am now in want of a few thousands for a week or two and haven't any available security to

"Will you lend me your £5,000 for a month? You shall have it back with interest, and when you marry I will keep my promise and settle £10,000 on Nel-

"You are quite welcome to the money,"

I said. "All I want is Nellie." We were engaged six months, and have now been married three months, but I haven't yet regretted my first and only speculation. I didn't tell Nellie all the facts of the case. She thinks it was owing to a lucky rise in one of my small investments that I was enabled to satisfy her father, and I don't think it necessary to undeceive her.-New York World.

Almost a Hint.

They were walking under a very little umbrella, and she liked it well enough not to want a large spread of alpaca. He was modest, and seemed to be nervous, and she finally remarked very softly,

and with a note of interrogation: "Charley, I'll carry the umbrella if you will let me."

"Oh, no! I can carry it." "Yes, Charley, but you see your arm

takes up so much room that one side of me is out in the wet." "I know, Fannie, but what will I do with my arm? Won't it be in the way

"I don't know, Charley. Tom Clark always knows what to do with his arm when he is under an umbrella with

Mary Martin, because Mary told me so." -Texas Siftings.

The Size of an Orang-outang.

Various stories are told about the orang-outang, but I have never seen one

over 4 feet high from head to heel, and done to the Great Cumberland Diamond | from 7 to 8 feet, measuring from finger company's property. The mine was to finger across its outstretched arms, flooded and it was feared 100 workmen | the width of the face varying in measurement from 8 to 12 inches, though the accounts of larger animals having been met with may be correct .- San Francis-

A Historic Remark.

The battle of the Nile was fought Aug. 1, 1798, between the French and English fleets. Sir Horatio Nelson was in command of the latter, and as the engage can asking us to buy in the 1,000 Great | ment was about to begin he exclaimed Cumberlands for him. I suppose he is | "Victory or Westminster abbey!" And

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Services: Mass at 8 and 10:30 A. M.
School at 2:30, with benediction,

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PRESENTERIAN.—Services in new church ner Sixth and Granite sts. Rev. J. T. I pastor. Sunday-set ool at 9;30; Frea at 11 a. m. 25d 8 p. m. The Y. R. S. C. E. of this church meets Sabbath evening at 7:15 in the baseme the church. All are invited to attend

FIRST METHODIST.—Sixth St., between and Pearl, Rev. L. F. Britt, D. D. D. Services: 11 A. M., 8:00 P. M. Sunday S. 9:30 A. M. Prayer meeting Wednesday

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SWEEDISH CONGREGATIONAL Granite tween Fifth and Sixth.

Colored Bartist.—Mt. Olive, Oak, be Tenth and Elevepth Rev. A. Roswe-tor. Services 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. meeting Wednesday evening.

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Fort Sidney is to have a new de tachment of troops, the twenty-firs infatry being ordered to New York

ALittle Girls Experiencein a Ligut house.

Mr. and Mrs, Loren Trescott are keepers of the Gov. Lighthouse at Sand Beach Mich, and are blessed with a daughter, four years. Last April she taken down with Measles, followed with dreadful Cough and turned into a fever. Doctors at home and at Detroit treated, but in vain, she grew worse rapidly, until she was a mere" handful of bones"

-Then she tried Dr, King's New Discovery and after the use of two and a half bottles, was completely cured. They say Dr. King,s New Discovery is worth its weight in gold, yet you may get a trial, bottle free at F. G. Frickey Drugstore.

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