The Examiner.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL OF POLITICS, LITERATURE AND NEWS.

"This is true Liberty, when Freeborn Men, having to advise the Public, may speak free."---Euripides.

VOL. XVII. 1 CHARLOTTETOWN, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. MONDAY, APRIL 1, 1867. 1 NO. 21

CHARLES QUIRK,
MANUFACTURER
OF
Square Rod, Gents' Bright
AND
Natural Leaf Good Smoking
TOBACCO.
Queen Street,
Charlottetown, - - - - P. E. I.
January 21, 1867. 1y

ARCHIBALD McKAY,
Moncton, N. B,
CONTRACTOR AND AGENT FOR THE PURCHASE AND SALE OF
Ships Timber, Masts, Plank, House Frames,
and LUMBER of all dimensions and descriptions.
☞ Orders for early shipment will receive prompt attention.
Feb'y 18. 1867. 3m

CARD.
THOMAS KELLY,
Barrister-at-Law, Notary Public,
AND
CONVEYANCER,
Summerside, - - - - P. E. I.
Dec. 10, 1866. 1y pd

R. REDDIN,
Attorney and Barrister-at-Law,
CONVEYANCER, &c.
Office: -- Great George Street, Charlottetown.
(Near the Catholic Cathedral.)
September 3, 1866 tf

FRANCIS S. LONGWORTH,
Barrister and Attorney-at-Law,
OFFICE—PAVILLION HOTEL.
(next door to Hon. Joseph Hensley's)
Charlottetown, - - - P. E. Island.
Jan. 14, 1867.

A. McNEILL,
Auctioneer and Commission Merchant,
MASON'S THREE-STOREY BUILDING,
Dorchester Street.
Charlottetown, ... P. E. Island.
July 23. tf

FALL GOODS.

By various Ships from ENGLAND, Steamers from BOSTON and HALIFAX, I have received my

FALL & WINTER STOCK,
consisting in part of
26 Casks & Cases General Ironmongery.

1 Cask Cutlery,
1 do Traces,
1 do Shovels,
1 do Hoes,
1 do Shot,
26 Boxes Tin,
226 pieces Plough Metals,
16 Tons Nails & Spikes,
23 bundles spring Steel,
15 do Shoeing do
3 do Cast do
7 do Blister do
18½ Tons Iron,
1 Cask Cart Boxes,
1 do Bolts & Nuts,
1 do Screws,
1 do Files,
1 Box Axles,
5 Pairs Bellowes,
1 Basket Vices
158 Kegs Paints,
12 Drums Varnish,
6 do Turpenzine,
2 Casks do
4 do Putty,
2 do Venetian Red,
1 do Yellow Ochre,
Vermillion,
Prussian Blue,
Drop Black,
Umber,
De Sienna,
4 Hhds Paint Oil,
1 do Olive do
2 Bbls Seal do
1 do Lubricating Oil,
10 do Kerosene Oil,
111 Boxes Glass,
2 Crates Scuttles,
1 Case Shoemaker's Thread
1 Bale Curled Hair,
1 Cask Glue,
3 do Dyewoods,
250 lbs. extract Logwood,
5 Bales Rope.

These goods have been well bought, and with Stock on Shelves and in Warehouse, form a very large assortment, and are offered at my usual low prices—either wholesale or retail—for Cash.

W. E. DAWSON.
Great George Street, Dec. 3, 1866.

NEW GOODS! NEW GOODS!

THE Subscriber would inform the Inhabitants of P. E. Island, that, on the arrival of the Brig *ANN*, from Liverpool, G. B., he will offer,

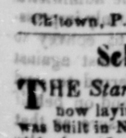
Wholesale and Retail,
For Cash or good Joint Notes of Hand,

Nos. 1, 2 & 3 WHITE LEAD, in 56, 28, & 14 lbs.;
Black, Red, & Yellow PAINTS, in 28 & 14 lbs.;
Boiled and raw LINSEED OILS;
Chance's Smethwick GLASS;
PUTTY, Black and White, in Bladders 28 and 14 lbs.;
CUT NAILS, and CUT SPIKES;
Diamond Head DECK SPIKES;
Bars Refined and Common IRON, assorted sizes;
Barrels and Kegs COAL TAR;
Barrels Black and Bright VARNISHES;
Coils HEMP and WIRE CORDAGE;
Bolts Extra and Navy Boiled CANVAS;
Bars YELLOW METAL, ⅜ to ⅞;
YELLOW METAL BUTT BOLTS, 7 × ⅞;
CLINCH RINGS, Iron and Yellow Metal;
Crates and Casks GLASS, CHINA, and EARTHENWARE,—Crates assorted for country use;
A NEW MIXTURE for Bottoms of FISHING BOATS, much approved of by English fishermen.

Parties wanting any of the above articles will do well by calling and inspecting them, at the OLD STAND, formerly occupied by W. W. LORD & Co., HEAD of LORD'S WHARF, Water Street.

ARTEMAS LORD.
Oct. 29, 1866.

SOURIS PACKET.



THE SCHR. *JOSEPHENE* will commence her trips as a Packet between Souris and Charlottetown, calling at Georgetown, immediately after opening of Navigation

A. CHIVERIE, Master.
Ch'town, P. E. I., March 11, 1867. 3m

Schooner for Sale.

THE *Star of the Sea*, 58 tons register, now laying in Charlottetown, four years old; was built in New Brunswick out of the best material; is perfectly tight, and well found; has two Chains, three Anchors, Standing and Running Rigging and Sails, all in good order.

For Price and further particulars inquire of W. B. DEAN, Esq., Charlottown, or of the owner.

REUBEN TUPLIN.
Margate, New London, February 25, 1867.

Wanted,

AN ACTIVE, SOBER MAN, as a FARMER. Liberal wages will be given. Apply at this Office. March 11, 1867. 4i

FOR SALE!
At the Establishment of
W. W. LORD,

Barrels FLOUR.	Puns MOLASSES
Barrels SUGAR.	Hhds SUGAR.
Barrels Lab. HERRING	Half Bbls HERRING
Chests of TEA	Boxes of SOAP
Box. RAISINS F. R. L.	Boxes FIGS

With a quantity of Shelf GOODS, which will be sold low for Cash.

W. W. LORD.
Ch'town, Feb. 25, 1867.

LOWDEN'S TOBACCO FACTORY.

The Subscriber begs to announce that he has a

SUPERIOR QUALITY
OF
VIRGINIA LEAF
SQUARE ROD TOBACCO,

now being manufactured, which he knows will compete with any article imported, and solicits the inspection of those who are

JUDGES OF THE WEED.

Dealers are invited to
Examine our Stock,
and judge for themselves.

THE GENUINE ARTICLE ONLY.
will be obtained at this Establishment.
Enquire at the Old Stand.

MORIN LOWDEN.
Charlottetown, March 18, 1867.

A PLEA FOR THE
Confederation of the Colonies
OF
BRITISH NORTH AMERICA;
ADDRESSED TO THE PEOPLE AND PARLIAMENT OF
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND,
BY MATTHEW RICHEY, D. D.

He is the sincere and wisest friend of his country who is at all times ready, on a crisis of importance, to give a temperate yet a manly and decided testimony of his opinions.—GISBORNE.

Charlottetown, P. E. I. Geo. Bremner, 'Excelsior' Printing Office, Prince Street, 1867.

For Sale at the Bookstores of Mrs. Bremner and Mr Henry A. Harvie.

March 11, 1867.

FREDERICK LEPAGE
has on sale at the
Glasgow House,
Queen Street,

A LARGE assortment of Goods suitable for spring trade, which will be disposed of cheap for cash.

COMPRISING:

Gents', Ladies and Misses' Rubber Shoes, Ladies, and Misses' Rubber Boots, White and Grey Cottons, Fancy Printed Cottons, Table Linens and Towellings, Black and Coloured Mantle Cloths, Black Broad Cloths.

Black and Fancy Doeskins and Cassimere, White, Colored and Fancy Flannels, Plain and Fancy Dress Stuffs, Hollands and Grass Cloths, Men's Hats and Caps, Ladies' and Misses' Hoop Skirts, &c., &c.

A slpendid lot of Stamped Embroidery, Fancy Frillings, Daisy Trimmings, Edgings, Laces, Ribbon, Velvets, Linen Shirt Fronts, and a large variety of other Goods.

ALSO—The usual assortment of Groceries, &c., &c., &c.

March 11th, 1867. isl pat

Desirble Family Residence.

THAT commodious and beautifully situated COTTAGE, with the Ground attached, fronting 44 feet on the south-western side of King's Square, by 84 feet in depth, being in a retired part of the city, is well adapted for a private family, and will be disposed of at private sale. Terms moderate. Apply to the subscriber at the "Osborne House."

JAMES DAVIS.
Ch'town, March 18, 1867. tf

Big Loaf for a Small Price.

THE Subscriber offers for Sale, at a reduced price,

200 Barrels Extra Family FLOUR.

W. McGILL.
Ch'town, 11th March, 1867.

Flour, Tea, Sugar, Molasses, Gin and Rum, &c., &c.

THE Subscriber has in Store and for Sale—

11 Hhds. Bright Porto Rico SUGAR,
25 Puns. Bright Retailing MOLASSES,
80 Puns. Demerara RUM, Pale & Colored,
150 Chests Superior Congo TEA,
25 Hhds. Holland GIN,
500 Bbls. Superior Extra FLOUR,
80 Boxes Liverpool SOAP,
140 Bundles White Cotton WARP,
Hhds. and Qr. Casks Pale BRANDY,
Hhds. Port and Sherry WINE.

OWEN CONNOLLY.
Ch'town, 25th Feb., 1867.

Dissolution of Co-Partnership.

THE partnership hitherto existing between the Subscribers is this day dissolved by mutual consent.

All persons indebted to them are hereby notified that their respective accounts have been placed in the hands of an attorney for collection.

THOMAS DELANY,
EDMUND F. BYRNE.
Ch'town, 11th March, 1877. hi

Bank of P. E. Island,

NOTICE is hereby given that a BONUS of Five Pounds per centum, on the Capital Stock of the Bank of P. E. Island, hath been this day declared, and will be payable to Stockholders on and after the 18th day of MARCH, inst.

WILLIAM CUNDALL, Cashier
Ch'town, March 11, 1867.

Dissolution of Copartnership.

THE CO-PARTNERSHIP heretofore existing between the Subscribers, as TOBACCO MANUFACTURERS, is this day dissolved by mutual consent.

All parties owing the late Firm are requested to make payment to MORIN LOWDEN, who alone is authorized to receive debts, and who assumes the liabilities of the late Firm.

MORIN LOWDEN.
D. J. RICHARDSON.
Ch'town, January 1, 1867.

REFERRING to the above, the Subscriber would respectfully inform the public that he will still continue the business of manufacturing the best SQUARE ROD TOBACCO, from pure Virginia Leaf, and trusts, as the superior quality of the article is so well known, that he will continue to merit a share of public patronage.

MORIN LOWDEN.
Peake's Building, Queen Street, Jan. 1, 1867. Feb'y 11.

18, Trafford Chambers.
South John Street, Liverpool.
January 1st, 1867.

J. T. THOMAS begs to inform his friends that he has this day taken into Partnership his son, JOHN T. THOMAS, JUNR.

The business will in future be carried on under the style or Firm of

THOMAS & SON,
MERCHANTS.
Liverpool & Prince Edward Island.

Jan. 28, 1867. tf

WANTED,

TO RENT, a COTTAGE or TENEMENT, suitable for a small family. Possession required about the 1st of APRIL next. For particulars apply to A. McNEILL.
Reading Room Building.
Charlottetown, Feb. 18, 1867.

Selling Daily!
Who wants Bargains?

THE Subscribers have decided to Sell the whole of their extensive Stock of Dry Goods, Hardware, and Groceries, at unusually low prices for CASH. All persons having money to expend will find they can make a profitable investment of it by purchasing from us at Georgetown or Montague Bridge any article comprised in our Stock. The

DRY GOODS
CONSIST IN PART OF:

Grey, White, and Printed Cotton; Striped and Fancy Shirtings, in Cotton and Wool; Cotton and Linen Bed-tick and Sheeting; Cambric Lining; Silesia, Holland, Casban, and Fancy Linings; Coburgs, Orleans, Winceys, Merinos, Tweeds, Lustres, Serges, Checks, and other Dress Goods; Shawls and Mantles in variety; Mantle Cloths, Tweed, Satinet, Beaver, Doeskin, Whitney, Pilot and Broad Cloth; Ready-made Clothing; Ladies', Gents' and Childrens' Boots, Shoes and Slippers, Hats, Caps, Furs and Hosiery; Ribbons, Flowers, Feathers, and Fancy Goods in variety; Tailors' Trimmings, &c., &c., &c.

Hardware,
COMPRISES:

Flat, Round and Square Iron, best Scotch, German Cast; Blister, Spring, and Shoeing Steel, all sizes of Nails, Spikes and Brads, both cut and wrought; Horse Nails, Plough Mounting, Window Glass, Chain Traces, Codlines and Hooks, Shovels, Spades, Hoes and Forks, Stoves and Stovepipe, Shelf Hardware, &c., &c., &c.

Groceries.

Tea, Sugar, Molasses, Soap, Candles, Tobacco, Lucine and Kerosine Oil, Lubricating Oil, Paint Oil, Varnish and Paints; Prime pickled Herring, dry Codfish and Scale Fish, barrels Pork and Beef, &c., &c., &c.

Canvas, No. 1 to No. 6, Hemp Cordage from 9 thread Ratlin to 5½ inch, Sail Twine, Pitch, Tar and Rosin.

All the above goods and many other articles are now offered to the public at extremely low figures for Cash.

We want the cash. Don't you want the bargains? Come with your money, for without it great bargains cannot be expected.

A. A. MACDONALD & BROS., Georgetown.
MACDONALD & BROS., Montague.
February 11th, 1867.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
March 15, 1867.

WHEREAS by a resolution of the House of Assembly, passed on the 14th day of April, 1863, it was resolved that the initiation of all Money Votes should be with the Executive:

Notice is hereby given that all applications for MONEY GRANTS, for Roads, Bridges, Wharfs, &c., and all Petitions for grants in aid of any object whatsoever, which parties may desire to submit to the Legislature at its next annual Session, are required to be sent into this Office on or before the 5th day of April next.

By Command.
GEORGE COLES. Col. Sec'y.

P. E. ISLAND
Boot & Shoe Factory.

THE Subscriber would hereby inform his numerous friends and customers that he has in course of preparation, a very superior style of

LADIES' KID BOOT,

suitable for the coming season. Also, Ladies' and Gentlemen's Wear, in every variety, such as

Ladies' and Misses'

Balmoral Kid BOOTS,	Congress BOOTS,
Grain Calf Congress do,	Serge do,
do Balmoral do,	Imitation Lace do,
&c. &c.	&c.

Gents' and Boys'

Calf Tap soled BOOTS,	Balmoral BOOTS,
do Single do do,	Shooting do,
Grain Leather do,	Knee do,
Heavy Congress do,	Kip do,
Light do do,	Brogans & Shoes,
&c.	&c.

Wholesale Dealers before sending their orders abroad should call and examine the large and varied stock of

Ladies' & Misses', Gents' & Boys'
BOOTS & SHOES,
Specially manufactured for the Trade of P. E. Island.

GEORGE NICOLL,
South Side Queen's Square. March 4th, 1867. tf

Flour! Herring!

THE Subscriber has on hand, and will SELL CHEAP for CASH, at his Store, corner of Prince and Grafton Streets,

200 Bbls. FLOUR,
warranted as good as any on the Island.
150 Bbls. Prime HERRING.
☞ Call and judge for yourselves.

JOHN QUIRK.
Charlottetown, Feb'y 18. 1867. tf

Bark! Bark! Bark!

1500 Cords of Hemlock Bark wanted at the City Tannery.

THE Subscriber is now prepared to make Contracts with parties for the above compliment of Bark, which will be let in lots from Thirty Cords and upwards.

Further particulars will be made known on application to the Subscriber at the City Tannery.

W. B. DAWSON.
Feb. 4, 1867.

AT GEORGETOWN,
and for sale Cheap for Cash by
R. MUNRO,

Prince Edward Island Maps,
Room Paper, Window Paper Hangings,
Putman's Patented Curtain Fixtures,
BEDSTEADS,
"Model Parlor" Stoves and other Stoves,
20 Bbls. No. 1 Labrador Herring,
50 Bbls. Choice Family Flour,
Tubs Butter & Bbls. Pork,
Marine Clocks,
Stationery and a variety of other Goods,
1 set Second Hand Harness.
—ALSO—
Bills Exchange, Bills Lading, Charter Parties, Ships Papers, Bills of Sale, Blank Deeds, &c., &c., which will be either sold or engrossed to suit customers, by me.

R. MUNRO.
Jan. 28, 1867. tf

Flour, Wines, Spirits, Groceries, &c. &c.

THE Subscriber offers for sale at his Store in Water Street,

Bbls. Extra FLOUR,	Bbls. Superfine DO.
Do. Fine DO.	
Qtr. Casks Port Wine,	Qtr Casks Sherry,
Qtr. Casks Brandy,	Hhds. Gin,
Punch'ns Rum (strong)	Cases Scotch Whiskey,
Cases Irish Whiskey,	Cases Pale Brandy,
Cases Dark Brandy,	Cases Claret,

Chests & half chests TEA, Bags Rice (Arracan)
Boxes English Confectionery (assorted)
Kegs Coleman's Mustard,
Boxes do. Starch,
Bags Pepper (unground)
Cases Sardines (½ lb. boxes)
Cases Blacklead (7 lb. packages)

Boxes Soap,	Bbls. Washing Soda,
Bales Grain Sacks,	Bales Corks,

Coils Manilla Rope (assorted sizes)
Coils Hemp do. do.
Bundles Oakum (best navy), &c. &c. &c.

DOUGLAS M. HARINGTON.
Water street, Jan. 14, 1867. isl 6j 3m

LITERATURE.

AULD LANG SYNE.

DONE UP IN TARTAN.

The following *jeu d'esprit* was written by the Minister of a small rural parish, near Perth, with reference to the Highland belief in the antiquity of the Gaelic language:—

Should Gaelic speech be e'er forgot,
An' never brocht to min',
For she'll be spoke in Paradise
In the days o' auld lang syne.

When Eve, all fresh in beauty's charms,
First met fond Adam's view,
The first words that he'll spoke till her,
Was "Cumar ashum dhu."

And Adam, in his garden fair,
Whenever the day did close,
The dish that he'll to supper teuk
Was always Athole brose.

When Adam from his leafy bower,
Cam oot at break o' day,
He'll always for his morning teuk
A quaich o' usquebae.

An' when wi' Eve he'll had a crack,
He'll tent his snees) in' horn,
An' on the tap ye'll weel micht mark
A pony braw cairngorm.

The sneeshin' mull is fine, my frien's,
The sneesbin' mull is grand,
We'll teuk it hearty sneesh my frien's
An' pass't frae hand to hand.

When man first fond the want o' claes,
The wind and cauld to fleg,
He twisted round about his waist
The Tartan philabeg.

An' music first on earth was heard
In Gaelic accents deep;
When Jubal in his oxter squeezed
The blether o' a sheep.

The braw bagpipes is grand, my frien's,
The braw bagpipes is fine;
We'll teukit anither pibroch yet,
For the days o' auld lang syne.

TOLD IN THE TWILIGHT,

OR

NURSE BROWN'S STORY.

It was in Autumn, in cold, gloomy weather, that I was shut up in a dingy city house, nursing old Mr. Tredgold, the lawyer. He had been stricken down with a fit, which had left him so weak and ill that there was little, if any, chance of his recovery.

I disliked my task in one respect, and only one, for I was well paid and well fed; and if he was terribly fretful and impatient, why I was too much used to people's ways in illness to be much troubled at that; but whether I'm a sick nurse or a motherly nurse, I do like to see the fear of God before His creatures' eyes, and to be sit down sometimes with my Bible. But it seemed out of character in Lawyer Tredgold's room, and his oaths and blasphemies often made me wish myself away.

The old woman, who was the only servant he kept, was dirty, careless, and so addicted to drinking, that things were seldom done decently, unless I did them myself; and, among other annoyances, the door-bell used frequently to remain unanswered until I could attend to it; and a sore heart it often gave me to see the anxious faces that waited patiently there while I took notes and messages to the lawyer, never returning with what I considered a satisfactory reply. It was always, that the cause was going on very well, or they must call next week, or that they should here from him soon; and, as his senses grew clearer, he would sometimes have his clients to his bedside, and tell them this himself, while I stood by, wondering as much at their weak readiness to believe him, as at his craft and heartlessness, and often wished for courage to ask him if he guessed how fast the end of this life was approaching, and what good deeds his soul could cling to in that awful hour.

One day—I well remember it—towards the close of the afternoon, a gentleman, young and handsome, but with the troubled look that every one wore that came there, urgently begged admittance, and my master ordered me to show him up, although I objected, for his clerk had been with him and he was almost exhausted. On the arm of the gentleman leaned a young creature, deeply veiled, who sank wearily on the chair I placed for her, but kept her hand in her husband's as he stood by her side.

They were in deep mourning, and I learned from the first few words that passed that they wore it for the father of the young gentleman.

'I am sorry to intrude upon you at a time when business must be fatiguing,' said the stranger, 'but the affair is of too much importance to me and mine to admit of delay.'

Mr. Tredgold's reply was snappishly spoken.

'I can't understand why you come to me at all,' he said. 'I'm your brother's solicitor, Mr. John, not yours.'

'Not mine!' repeated the young man. 'You speak as if I contemplated a suit for the restoration of my rights; but you are mistaken. It is not a litigious spirit that actuates me, but the necessity of providing for those dependent upon me.'

'Ah, I dare say,' said the lawyer indifferently; 'if I may presume so far, I should advise you to see your brother, and try to make terms with him.'

The gentleman bit his lips.

'You bandy me from piller to post!' exclaimed he. 'I have been to my brother, and received his assurance that he has nothing to do with it!—that his affairs are entirely in your hands. Now I hasten to you, and am mocked with a similar tale. And yet—what do I ask?'

'A tolerable slice of your brother's property, is it not?' sneered the lawyer.

The lady pressed the hand she held with an entreating whisper, and her husband paused a moment ere he replied.

'No, Mr. Tredgold,' said he, 'I do not demand any part of Richard's rightful inheritance; he is my elder brother, and I grudge him nothing the law of promogeniture bestows; but he is well aware—and I believe you are also cognisant of it—that the little fortune of my mother was invested for my benefit, and I demand the writings concerning that investment.'

'Your proofs, sir, produce your proofs,' said Mr. Tredgold, shrugging his shoulders.

'What proofs can my brother require from me?' demanded the young man. 'Had he not long known our father's intentions?'

'Pshaw!' said the lawyer, rudely, 'this goes for nothing. The late Mr. Norris left no will, and who can prove that he contemplated such a division of his property?'

'Is my word as a gentleman—' commenced the young man, angerly, but the raised hand of the invalid checked him.

'My good sir,' said he, 'the law will not recognize your unsupported assertions.'

'But I saw those papers,' was the vehement reply—'saw them in his possession a few days previous to his decease.'

'Well, and if so, where are they?' asked the lawyer. 'Can you affirm that they are in existence? Is it not probable that your father, of sound mind and body up to a few hours before his unexpected demise, destroyed them himself?'

Mr. John Norris shook his head incredulously, and stood in deep thought, while my master turned uneasily on his pillow, and the lady's deep sigh evinced her strong though silent interest.

'It is impossible!' cried the young man. 'My poor father knew so well how little kindness we should receive from Richard that he would not leave us penniless. I say 'we,' Mr. Tredgold, for my young sisters have no other home than mine, and if Richard persists in withholding my father's gift, we are penniless.'

His voice trembled with emotion, and his wife pressed closer to his side.

'This is nothing to me,' murmured Mr. Tredgold; 'it does not concern me to know this.'

'It concerns you so far as this,' was the prompt reply: 'I have with much difficulty extorted from my brother an avowal that he has intrusted to you all my father's papers; and that it is from you I must seek those I claim.'

He waited breathlessly for an answer, whilst Mr. Tredgold changed his position deliberately.

'I can look them over if you wish it,' said he. 'I have no objection to going over them again; but, as I told you before, unless you can bring proofs that such writings are in existence, your case, Mr. John, is really not worth carrying on.'

'But may I depend upon your forwarding them immediately?' inquired Mr. John, eagerly. 'You will not leave me in suspense a moment, will you?'

'They are not found yet,' said the lawyer, with a smile so crafty, that it drew a passionate exclamation from the wronged man, who, now galled beyond endurance, scrupled not to call Mr. Tredgold and his brother a pair of designing villians.

The excitement of this scene was too much for Mr. Tredgold, who, calling for wine, querulously requested his visitors to depart.

'I am not your legal adviser,' he said with a feeble effort to raise himself, and shaking his shrivelled hand at them, 'you know you never liked—never tolerated me. It was through your influence with your father that he refused me his countenance when it would have been invaluable. Take your scruples and your honesty elsewhere; you are nothing to me. Nurse, nurse, I say, come here, you hag! will you let me lie here and die?'

While I was busy about the fainting man, the disappointed couple turned to depart, and I heard the husband say, 'You must acknowledge now that I was right, dear Janie; I will, however, make one more effort to arouse Richard's better spirit, although I fear——. Ah! love, if it were not for you and the orphan girls who lean upon us——'

The voice died away as they left the chamber, and I grieved at my master's requiring all my attention, for I longed to follow them, and to whisper a comforting word to the poor young lady, who it was evident to my experience would soon be a mother, that she was wholly unfit for the agitation of such an interview.

After some time, Mr. Tredgold becoming calmer, I proceeded down stairs for something or other, I forget what, but on reaching the hall I found the servant parleying with another gentleman, who, from his likeness to our preceding visitor, I should have guessed to be Mr. Richard Norris, if the woman had not accosted him by that name.

Disregarding my assurances that my master was too ill to see him—that he must call on the morrow, and so on, he rudely pushed me aside and ascended the stairs; when I followed him into Mr. Tredgold's chamber, he was arousing the drowsy man with angry exclamations.

'You have deceived me—sold me, Tredgold! I know that my brother has been here—closeted with you for an hour. You are cruelly deceiving me!'

'Bah!' said my master peevishly; 'are you always watching and suspecting? Suppose he has been here, what then?'

'You were not compelled to admit him,' retorted the other. 'Who knows what admissions he has drawn from you?'

'Am I a fool?' demanded Mr. Tredgold. 'Would it be to my interest to further your brother's views?'

Mr. Norris gased at him searchingly, but he met the scrutiny without flinching. He made an attempt at apologising, which was heard in silence, and I hoped that the unwelcome guest would now take his departure; but drawing a chair close to the bed, he desired me to withdraw.

'No, no,' exclaimed Mr. Tredgold, 'I cannot do without her! I am not fit to be left without her assistance. Besides, she is deaf.'

He had imbibed this belief from the silence with which I passed over the oaths and bitter speeches I hated to hear, and had no other way of repressing.

'Not fit to be left!' repeated Mr. Norris, with sudden interest. 'You do seem rather queer.'

'Worse than you think for, worse than you think for,' cried my master piteously. 'I am ill—very ill. If you had seen my sufferings an hour ago—they were dreadful, dreadful!'

The visitor swayed backwards and forwards in his chair, and asked, carelessly, 'Do you think you shall get over it, eh?'

'Yes—no,' was the hesitating answer; 'how can I tell? Do I look very bad?'

Mr. Norris nodded, and the sufferer writhed and moaned at this confirmation of his worst fears.

'So very ill as you really are, Tredgold,' said Mr. Norris, drawing still closer to the bed, 'wouldn't it be wise to hand those writings over to me. If anything happens to you, we don't know whose busy fingers may be at work; there is no harm in making sure.'

'No harm at all,' replied my master, quietly.'

'Certainly not,' said Mr. Norris, with a satisfied air; 'and they would be as safe with me——'

'Perhaps safer,' interposed the lawyer; 'they might now meet the doom from which I rescued them before; once on the fire—eh, Norris? Look you,' said he, suddenly changing his jeering tone to one of passionate contempt, 'while I live you shall never have them! I know you to well to trust you. Frown and stamp as you will, I have your secret, and intend to hold it.'

'I thought you knew me better,' said Mr. Norris, controlling his anger with an effort. 'I am quite satisfied for them to remain in your care; but if anything should occur——'

'For old acquaintance sake they shall be restored to you, Norris,' said Mr. Tredgold; 'nay, to ease your mind still more, as soon as you hear the welcome news you can fetch them. They lie in the drawer of a bureau in the adjoining closet.'

His voice was now so faint with exhaustion that Mr. Norris had to stoop forward to catch his words.

'But the key, the key!' said he. 'Rouse up, friend; you have not told me where to find the key.'

With an effort Mr. Tredgold drew a bunch of keys from beneath his pillow, and held up one of peculiar make, immediately restoring them to their hiding-place, with a distrustful look at his visitor, who rose, in compliance with my broad hint that I only waited his going to administer my patient's nightly composing draught.

'Well, then, I'll be off,' said Mr. Norris. 'Good-bye, old fellow!—you'll be all right again in a few days.'

Mr. Norris extended his hand, but my master did not appear to perceive it, as he significantly asked, 'Are you satisfied with me?'

There was a pause—a hesitating 'Yes.'

'And with yourself?' was the next query.

'Why do you ask?' exclaimed Mr. Norris: 'I do not comprehend you. No one knows better than yourself how completely this course has been forced upon me. With my affairs so completely involved, what could I do?' he asked, now fairly working himself into another angry fit. 'Why do you turn round on me in this manner? Have you not been my adviser? It was a most unjust thing for my father to contemplate. Am I not his heir? What on earth should make you espouse John's cause, unless——'

He looked suspiciously at my master, who in a sudden burst of passion called him 'a fool! a weak, credulous fool!' and bade him go, lest he should be tempted into the course he was suspected of pursuing; but Mr. Norris still lingered, evidently bent on justifying himself to his companion in wickedness.

'John is younger than I am,' he continued; 'better able to earn his living; and with his education is sure to do well. And as for the girls, I fully intended, as I told you before, to act handsomely by them; but they have taunted me with John's excellencies and John's wrongs, till a saint must have quarrelled with them.'

'I wish you would leave me,' moaned Mr. Tredgold. 'You have worn me out; I feel so much worse.'

'I can go,' Mr. Norris replied, moodily; 'but I should like to have your word that you will not part with those papers to any one but myself.'

'I promise,' was the almost inaudible reply.

With this assurance he departed, flinging me a shilling as he went, and as the door closed, my master beckoned me to him.

'Nurse,' he said, 'don't let that man—don't let either of them—come here again; or if they force their way in, don't leave me alone with them. They hate me, and might rob and murder me. Do you hear what I say?'

It was long ere my promises calmed him, and I bitterly reproached myself for permitting these scenes, as I heard the half-delirious mutterings of the sick man, who long wrestled with the stupifying effect of the opiate, so strongly was his mind impressed with the strange fears he had conjured up.

I am not more superstitious than most women of my age and station, but uneasy sensations crept over me as I sat with my fingers in the grasp of my charge, on whose pinched and ghastly features an awful change was gradually stealing. A thought of summoning the servant once crossed me, but I knew she had been drinking freely and would be peevish and troublesome, so I kept my place by the bed, listening to the noise of the rats which made a home behind the wainscot and the hollow sighing of the wind in the wide chimney, till my limbs were cramped, and I could have fancied a faint breathing mingled with my own, and that low sighs burst from other lips than the livid ones I was moistening. At last Mr. Tredgold seemed to dose; and gladly changing my position, I drew a chair to the fire, where I sat warming my chilled feet and musing on the events of the day, until fatigue overpowered me and I fell asleep.

The room was in darkness when some slight noise aroused me, and shivering and yawning, I endeavoured to renew the fire, and remembered where I had left burning the lamp we ordinarily used.

It was on a small tadle near the foot of the bed, and wondering at myself for leaving it in so unusual a place, and murmuring half aloud my surprise that it had gone out although so carefully filled, I was proceeding to relight it when Mr. Tredgold called me—so strangely, so sharply, that, hastily putting it down, I ran to know what ailed him.

The bright flame of the wood I had heaped in the grate enabled me to discern that he was trembling violently and that his face was distorted with horror. He childishly clung to me, entreating that 'I would send it away. For God's sake send it away.'

'Nonsense,' I answered, lightly; 'you have been dreaming, sir; there is nothing to send away.'

'Nothing!' he repeated, pointing to the opposite side of his couch. 'Do you call that nothing? Speak to it, woman; I dare not.'

Following the direction of his glaring eyes, I saw with unspeakable alarm, that a dark figure really stood there, half-hidden by the folds of the dingy curtains. It neither moved nor spoke; and I had not courage to approach or accost it, for all the presence of mind I generally boasted had forsaken me; but Mr. Tredgold broke the terrible silence.

'A light, nurse, a light?' he cried. 'It is getting dark, darker; must I die with this dreadful presence about me unseen?—make haste, make haste.'

I strove to obey, and, without turning my back, was slowly retreating towards the place where I had left the lamp, when the object of our terror suddenly sprang towards me, and catching a white face with glistening eyes and arms extended *as if to seize me*, I fled from the chamber, loudly and uselessly crying for help as I went.

Hurriedly groping my way down the broad staircase, I reached the hall, stumbling at every step, and defeating my endeavours to get out of the house by the frantic manner in which I shook the complicated fastenings of the heavy door. When I was almost in despair, the chain fell, and I was in the act of stepping across the threshold, when a hand across my shoulder, a breath upon my cheek, deprived me of the little sense remaining, and I fell insensible on the floor.

The night wind blew freshly in my face, and a wondering policeman leant over me when I recovered. To his questions I could only give confused answers, and beg him to accompany me to my master's room, for I dared not return alone.

We found Mr. Tredgold unhurt, but so near death that, after making, with the policeman's assistance, that careful search of the premises I considered to be prudent, I awakened the grumbling servant, and made her remain with me until my charge passed away. It happened soon after dawn, but so silently, that it was not possible to ascertain the exact moment life fled.

As soon as Mr. Tredgold's death was known, Mr. Norris came, and slipppinq a sovereign into my hand, reminded me of the deceased's promise respecting some papers in the third drawer of a desk in the adjoining closet. He was prepared to increase the bribe if he found me as unscrupulous as himself; and I certainly hesitated, though not from the motives he suspected.

Knowing what I did, I felt unwilling to give up the papers. But how refuse? I was an ignorant woman, with no one to counsel me, for the lawyer had died without a will, and no relatives appeared to claim his property, or follow him to the grave.

While I stood, endeavouring to put my objections into shape, Mr. Norris thrust another gold coin upon me, and seizing the keys I had unwillingly produced, led the way to the inner chamber or closet, and opened the old-fashioned bureau, its sole piece of furniture.

The third drawer proved to be empty. Then, after a long search through the dusty, worm-eaten documents, ending in disappointment, he turned furiously upon me, and denounced me as a thief. This of course I indignantly denied; but it was not until he had plied me with bribes, threats, and entreaties, that, becoming convinced of my innocence, he cursed the memory of the dead, expressed his conviction that Mr. Tredgold had actually sold the missing papers to his brother John in the very hour he had vowed to hold them safely as long as he lived.

This I could have contradicted, but was too well pleased at his loss. I often wondered if my ghostly visitor was connected with it, but as I was discharged directly after the funeral, and the house shut up, I heard no further tidings of the lawyer's clients.

About two years after this occurrence, a medical gentleman, who knew me well, recommended me to fill the place of one of our sisterhood, who had been compelled to leave it suddenly by illness. I learned that my patient was a young lady, rejoicing in the birth of a healthy daughter, and progressing so favorably that my services were scarcely necessary; but her family were more than commonly auxious about her from the fact that her first infant had been born prematurely, and her life endangered for some weeks.

It was evening when I reached their pretty villa at Dulwich, and the lady, fatigued with the efforts of leaving her room for the first time, was already in bed and asleep. But her husband's pretty young sisters gracefully received me, and I had been introduced to the most charming baby in the world, and installed in the lady's chamber for some time, when she awoke and drowsily asked for some tea.

Filling up a cup from the teapot before the fire, I stepped quietly towards the bed; but, ere I reached it, the invalid started up with a cry of surprise and alarm, while I, equally started, dropped the cup, and stood speechlessly staring at her, for there I beheld the white face and glittering eyes of the apparition at Mr. Tredgold's.

'I know you,' she gasped; 'you are the nurse. *Oh, don't betray me!* dont tell any one! It has never been known—never suspected: you will not tell, good nurse, kind nurse, will you?'

'If you don't lie down and be calm,' I repeated, 'you will compel me to call for assistance. I have no wish to repeat anything you want to conceal; besides, I know nothing, or at least——'

'You know enough to make you wonder at me,' she said hurriedly. 'Let me tell you all about it.'

'When you are stronger,' I said soothingly. If I do feel a little curious, I can wait till then.'

'No, no!' she cried; 'I must tell you now. It will not harm me half so much as to lie here and watch you as you move about and fancy you are thinking worse of me than I deserve. Fasten the door, and sit close to me, nurse, so that I can whisper to you.'

'You remember my coming to Mr. Tredgold's that day, don't you, and how my poor husband begged for his own? I saw your pitying looks when we left the room, and have often thought of you since; but then I was troubled for my poor John—deeply troubled; for anxiety was preying upon him, and I feared he would be goaded into madness.

'As we descended the stairs together, I begged him to let me go back and try a woman's pleadings with the cruel lawyer; I knew that an old grudge steeled his heart against John; but to me, he could have no personal antipathy.

'It was a faint hope, nurse—a very faint one; but I prevailed upon him to depart without me, promising not to attempt the journey home alone, but to pass the night at the house of a friend in an adjoining street.

'With an inward prayer I returned to Mr. Tredgold's chamber, but he was too ill and you too busy to notice my return; and unable to intrude my request at such a moment, I quietly stepped round to the other side of the bed, and seated myself in a low chair at the head, where the heavy curtains concealed me from a casual observer.

'Here I sat endeavoring to compose myself, and to frame such appealing words as should invoke his sympathy; and as soon as your retreating footsteps gave me the desired opportunity I arose, but the invalid was sinking into a slumber, from which pity for his sufferings made me hesitate to arouse him.

'While I lingered, my husband's bad, heartless brother burst noisily into the room, and shrinking back to my hiding place, I listened with sinking spirits, and with Mr. Tredgold's final promise to Richard, lost all hope of returning home the delighted possessor of those papers.

'For some time after his departure I sat half stupified. It seemed vain to struggle against such wickedness—and I began to think that there was nothing to be done, but let the stream carry us where it would. But oh, nurse, I did so dread going home!—to see the dear faces there eagerly seeking consolation from mine, and to know that there was not the faintest chance of recovering our rights.

Again and again I debated the possibility of making use of what I had overheard, but, alas! how vague it was!

'Then, as the night deepened, and the difficulty of departing, unquestioned, pressed on me, came the temptation to remain till nurse and patient slept, and possess myself of the documents. At first, the deed seemed too desperate; but the remembrance of my husband's inevitable ruin nerved me to look upon it as feasible. After all, it was but taking what they were not justified in withholding; and the danger of detection—what was that compared with the anguish of witnessing John's dreadful struggle with the poverty already creeping upon us!

'Perhaps, nurse, my brain was somewhat excited just then: indeed, it must have been, for I often wonder now that I summoned up a false courage, and keeping the thought of home steadily before me, waited till the moment arrived for the attempt. I tremble and pant now as I recall the brushing of your garments against me, as you arranged the sick man's pillows, the long watch by his side; and when, at last, both slept, the uneasy movement of the dying, as breathlessly I slipped my hand beneath his pillow, and possessed myself of the keys. Again I feel the guilty awe with which I kept my face towards you as I seized the lamp, and stole to the closet where I knew the papers lay. But with them in my bosom, thief as I felt myself to be, the worst was over, and lightly and quickly I turned to Mr. Tredgold's side to replace the keys where I found them.

'Too hastily closing the door, my lamp was extinguished. This was a real trouble, involving, as it did, my departure in darkness; but I succeeded in groping my way back to Mr. Tredgold's pillow, although in the agitation of the moment I must have replaced the keys more carelessly than I supposed, for he awoke, perceived the dim outlines of my shrinking figure as the firelight played across it, and I stood paralyzed with fear.

'Nurse, you know the rest. Seized with a frantic dread that you would recognize and denounce me; perhaps call in others, and imprison me as a guilty creature, I sprang forward to implore your pity and confess the motives and extent of my sin. But you remember how wildly you fled, and I vainly sought to form my parched lips into sounds that should check your hasty footsteps, until the door being reached, and my hand laid on your shoulder entreatingly, you sank (poor nurse!) insensible at my feet.

'Afraid to delay, I hurried into the street, and seeking the nearest cab-stand, was soon in the arms of my husband, and comparatively safe. In the joy of receiving the papers and the alarm evoked by finding me seriously ill, he asked but few questions, and to this day believes that my importunities won them from Mr. Tredgold.'