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. LINDSAY, On

### The Weekly Post.

LINDSAY, FRIDAY, MAY 18th, 1900



A NEW ENGLAND TALE By the Author of "Sundries."

CHAPTER I.

"Well, I swan to man!" energetically exclaimed Deacon Abijah Underwood, "If there isn't Peltiah Perkin's brindle cow, coming straight an end, like all possessed! And there's that young scapegrace, Jonce Smiley, clinging to her back like a monkey in the caravan to the Shetland pony! Why, the little rascal will certainly be thrown and break his dumb neck!"

"Never you fear," said the Deacon's wife-"that's not the way his neck will be broke and he'll never be drowned melther, I can tell you."

The subject of this pleasant prophecy shot by the deacon's house on his queer conveyance, to use his own expression, "like a streak of chalk," unmindful of all the uncharitable predictions which were shouted as he passed, by more than one kind well-wisher. The fact was, he was used to such things, and any other language would have been to him a scrap of the unknown tongue. When Peltiah's cow reached the homestead, Jonathan, or as he was usually nicknamed, Jonce, slipped off like a little Margaret Smith was an orphan cat, and took to his heels with a warn- and a charity girl; a child taken from ing instinct of the danger of Peltiah's the almshouse, to do double the labor eart-whip-for he was used to hard of a well-paid domestic, and receive knocks, too, as well as to hard words. therefor such of the cast off clothes of He was an unlucky little Ishmaelite, the children of the family as could not always in disfavor with somebody for be tortured into decent appearance any cause, and often without cause—as, longer. She was sent to school certain when any mischief was discovered, the months in the year; for her indentures origin of it was invariably imputed to Fonce. If the bars of any body's corn- ous heart of little Jonce was moved tofield were left down, or thrown down ward this sister in misfortune; and the my unruly cattle, it was Jonce who bore assistance which she dared not ask of the blame-if the wind shook off the any of her own sex, our hero volunteerparson's fruit, it must have been Jonce ed. He made her lessons intelligible cows came home dry, Jonce had been with her when from companionship surreptitiously milking them-if the le- from their mates both were exiled, he body's cat disappear? Jonce had certainly drowned her. Shivered glass, stolen melons, tricks on travelers, and matter of course, all accredited to "that dumb Jonce Smiley."

the other boys in the neighborhood. In wain did poor Jonathan protest his in- or spoken of love, except for bread and nocence he was only whipped for lying, in addition to the original count: the sympathy in situation and circumand if he persisted in his denial, he re- stance which knits even older hearts, ceived commonly a blow or two for his was a child to love. A mild blue eye, hardy and unressonable impertinence, added to the pensive cast of a countein refusing to acknowledge what every- nance which had thus early been body knew must be his work; and poor Jonce not unfrequently saw the real sulprit among the edified spectators of his castigation. Under such a state of affairs, as other boys could not be expected to feel Jonce's aches, and as they found it not at all disagreeable to and capable of giving her little mate be whipped by proxy, we are not to wonder that the more Jonce was whipped, the more offences multiplied against the peace and good order of the village of Hardscrabble, and the commonwealth of Massachusetts. No matter if he could prove an alibi-that did not mend the case at all. No matter if shother boy was caught in the very act of transgression—the real sinner was passed over, and his parent or guardian took the first opportunity to catch and oulf Jonce Smiley, for "putting his boy up to such mischief!"

· But the little rogue, far from perishing, seemed but to thrive under such discipline. He could scrabble out of a horse trough, or creep from under a pump, and shake himself dry, sooner than any duck in New England. As to kicks, he knew the length and momentum of every leg in the township, and could slide just one inch beyond the reach of the sole of any man's shoe, with almost unerring exactness. He knew whose hand was horny, and whose not, having auricularly tasted of every palm in the parish, more than once; and he had a most capital way of defeating the women's wrath, by shocking their knuckles with his elbows, when they tried to rain their up and down blows upon the back of his neck. Broomsticks he could dodge so scientifically that not one whack in twenty entended ones would reach him. Inda d he rather like the excitement of playing -dodge with all he met, and grew in time, almost to consider his position one of enviable distinction, and agreeshie pastime, rather than of uncomfortable mishap. He considered those days blanks, at the end of which he was obliged to lie down to sleep without a bruise, or scratch, or other memorial

of exciting adventure. Our hero had few such days in his experience. If nobody else cuffed him, his mother's good night was usually sapped upon his knowledge-box, with only punition that Jonathan cared any. other places of more note, a man's exthing about. He could not, as a duti- otic reputation is a capital assistant to ful son, accidentally kick her ankles. his home standing.

with his needs, or plant his foot upon her toes, as was his wont when other women administered such discipline to him, and his only method, when the maternal blessing visited his ears was to hold his breath, and bear it. This was rather irksome, but he found consolation in inwardly vowing that he would one day be a man, in spite of his mother and all her abettors. He felt that she was cruel, and, except that she fed him, as she did her cat, (only not so kindly,) that she was any thing but a parent to him; but he had reason enough, young as he was, to make excuses to himself for her conduct. He In w that she was every day beset with complaints about his unruly and wickbehavior; he knew that when people come in to complain of his alleged misdeeds, even on occasions when he had been peaceably under his mother's eye all day, that she was assured, and, what was worse still, convinced, that he only stayed at home to escape suspicion, while he did his mischief by deputy. So he said, "let her thump, if it does her any good; she'll be sorry for it one of these dars." At school poor Jonce was always at

the "foot of the class," though he setually knew more than any of his mates. There was no kind prompting voice at his ear, when he hesitated, there was no waiting for him to collect his thoughts when a question was put to him-habit had taught the pedagogue to call out "Jonathan"-"the next!" almost in the same breath. And in school he was not less the foot-ball and scapegrace than he was out; for the merit of all misdemeanors was, as a matter of course, his peculiar perquisite. In the play-ground, if the agreeable diversion of pelting any one with snow-balls, turf, or stones was suggested, Jonathan was the victim; at foot-ball his shins received more kicks than the ball, in cricket he was avoided as one of the unlucky, for he was always out; at marbles he lost his "toys" whether by the rules of the game he won or lost; and "come now, that's not fair play!" put him down invariably, whether he was right or wrong. All voices were against him.

In short, he had no friends. No friends! We are wrong. There was among the girls a child as much persecuted by her sex, as Jonathan by his, but in a different manner. Poor secured that to her. The really gener-

Tho pelted down the apples-if the to her, loaned her books, and chatted gal lookers for eggs made a return by active abuse, and she by that silent mon est, Jonce had the credit of having and cruel contempt which the fair half been poaching. Was any body's dog of creation understand so well how to Jame? Jonce had stoned him. Did any visit upon one another. The little couple were mutual confidants, and while Jonathan honestly confessed his retalscrawls on fences, mud on house doors, jatory misdoings (for he did occasionally thus indulge) to Margaret, he all and singular the boyish pranks stoutly denied those of which he was within a ten miles' circuit, were as a not guilty, and she implicitly believed him. Can we wonder that boy as he was, Jonce loved his only friend, or This was decidedly convenient for all that she reciprocated the attachment, while, as yet neither had read romance, butter. And little Margery, aside from schooled into the expression of patient sorrow, and she had natural advantages of which even her hard lot could not deprive her. Quick of apprehension, as she was slow to anger, she was apt and patient beyond her years, in misfortune excellent advice and assistance out of school, in return for the aid which he contrived to give her

> She was the bondmaid of Deacon Abijah Underwood, whose ejaculations open this chapter, and she was not an unmoved eye-witness of Jonce's mad prank, and an ear-witness of the remarks made upon his approach by her master and mistress. She knew that this frolic would cost poor Jonce a taste of discipline. if not for the ride, certainly as an additional count in the very next complaint which should be made against him; a thing quite likely to occur within the very next half hour; for poor Jonce's position as scapegoat, as we have already remarked, kept him in continual demand when village spite required to be visited upon

Deacon Abijah Underwood was a deacon of the old school, and held many offices in the state, as well as in the church at Hardscrabble. He was keeper of the village inn, and of the village pound, postmaster, head of the overseers of the poor, and town-clerk. With his business of innholder, he united that of "merchant" or "storekeeper," having on hand articles of all descriptions, from a German flute to a penny whistle-from a stick of tape to one coat pattern of broadcloth, and a prime assortment of satisfetts, and pepperand-salt cassimeres, three threads to the inch. The reader, if he has any reverence, has doubtless by this time perceived that Deacon Abijah Underwood was the man of his age and his country, so far as the village of Hard- choir. A choice program will be renscrabble was considered. It was also | dered. Concert commences at 8.15. currently believed in Hardscrabble that Deacon Underwood was a man of no small influence and consequence even in Boston-the political, commercial, and literary Jerusalem of New England; an impression which the Deacon himself was at some little pains to fosher knuckles, and this was about the ter; as in Hardscrabble, as well as in

of last appeal in Hardscrabble. Doctor, the Squire, and even the Parto set up separate and independent their several careers in Hardscrabble, but the Deacon had succeeded at length in reducing them all three. He was, in fact, the autocrat, and the others were content at last to hold permitted authority as the heads of the three departments of divinity, law, and physic, subject to the control of Deacon Abijah, who confirmed or disapproved of their decisions as his humor dictated. The Deacon's standing force was public opinion, and an irresistible agent of his will it was too; for all public opinson must be either primarily issued by him, or by him endorsed, before it could become current, or be received as genuine. They say in Hardscrabble was only another phrase for "the Deacon says"-that is all the "they says" which were admitted as valid. The opinion of the public upon the Parson's sermons, upon the Squire's decisions, upon the Doctor's practice, were only so many reissues of the Deacon's judgment; and to finish the idea of his absolute sway, it is only necessary to add that he was the richest man in the township, perhaps in the county.

When as hereinbefore related, Jonce Smiley made his unceremonious entry into the village of Hardscrabble, on Peltiah Perkins's cow, the Deacon, having heard his wife's opinion that the boy's neck would not be broken by accident, repaired to his bar-room to settle the public opinion upon the matter; for he well knew that such an event as this must necessarily furnish a subject for confab. Peltiah Perkins soon arrived, with others of the immediate neighbors, and the last high crime and misdemeanor of poor Jonce was forthwith entered upon. And the somewhat unusual occurrence of a real traveler, or travelers, added to the interest of the occasion. An emigrant family, on its way to the West, had stopped to give their horse entertainment at the Deacon's pump; and to draw for themselves upon the Deacon's cider-barrel; such a method of "patronising" public houses being nothing unfrequent twenty years ago, or even now, in the interior of New England. Bread and cheese for the family, and grain for the horse were drawn from supplies in the wagon.

Peltiah Perkins and all the rest, as a matter of course, walked out, and stood round the vehicle with their hands in their pockets, intently examining the wagon, harness, and horse. They shook the wheels to see if the axels were firm, and the linch-pins in good order -looked at the tires, to see if they were tight, and at the buckle-holes in the harness, to ascertain whether the same length was used for this long journey as for former short trips. The age of the horse was "judged upon;" and the family, within the vehicle, were not very modestly eyed to see if they would be likely to stand it, on a long

The boys, faithful copyists of their seniors, also gathered about, and stood just one step behind their parents, the hands of the juniors being also in their pockets, and their attitudes as nearly resembling their elders as constant copying on such occasions could make them. The women from the houses adjacent also peeped out-some standing in the doorways, and shading their eyes from the noonday sun with one hand; others, particularly the young girls, slipping boldly out into the street. Among these latter was our little friend Margaret.

The greatest, the wisest, and the most prudent men occasionally forget their greatness, their wisdom, and their prudence; we are not therefore to wonder that boys sometimes forget their habits of careful management. The stoppage of an emigrant party to dine under the Deacon's elm-tree was a great event to Hardscrabble generally, but a greater event to Jonce Smiley in particular. He thought that in this foreign invasion domestic matters might be forgotten; and ventured, stealthily at first, outcast as he was, to join the admiring group about the emigrant wagon. For the first few moments he was safe enough. At length Peltiah Perkins, who, we should say, very trying trip. He started at a retary of state, and head of the de- 50 cattle to Carnegie's ranch at partment of matters and things in gen- Indian Point, Balsam Lake going via iness of the skin. Heals every kind of eral, had made up his mind that the Coboconk, a distance in all of some wheel tires were not put on at any establishment with which he was ac- not numerous, and time after time quainted—that the horse was about Frank had to follow the cattle through fifteen years old-that the mother of the family had seen a great deal of trouble, and was not too old to see more that the dog had a cross of the hound-and that on the whole the wagon might be permitted to pass. the herd joined forces with 40 head Having reached these sage conclusions, of Mr. Ben. Burtchell's cattie, bearhis mind was at ease, and he was just ing the same marks-the lot had to turning to report the facts to the Dea- be driven to Mr. Burtchell's farm, con, before he ventured to give them where after a great deal of trouble utterance to the world of Hardscrabble generally, when his eye fell upon Jonce

Unlucky Jonce! Had Peltiah but seen him at the moment while the wheel tire was yet unsettled, or while the age of the horse was yet unresolved; or had the image of Jonce been painted on the retina of Peltish's eye a moment or two later, when that worcrossed Peltiah's vision just at the one inauspicious moment, and was seized by the farmer, and soundly belabored with the emigrant's whip. In vain Jonce exclaimed that Peltiah's son John rode the cow himself first all around the field; and that when he had coaxed Jonce to ride, he maliciously let down the bars, and sent the cow home at noon, to tell her own story, with Jonce on her back. For every accusation against John, Jonce received a harder whack, as John stood by, denying the whole impeachment. When at length he was released, poor Jonce crept off, with every inch of his skin smarting, and Peltiah Perkins, as great bullies, when they have threshed small men, or weak boys, invariably do, walked off with a most noble consciousness of power, and pride of victory.

(Continued next week.)

Musical Entertainment

The musical entertainment in the Queen-st. Methodist church this evening under the auspices of the choir, promises to be far shead of former years, Mr. E. Pearson, clarionet virtuoso, of Stouffville, will give a number of selections, while local talent will assist the members of the

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Heals the ulcers, clears the air
passages, stops droppings in the
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No other Sarsaparilla approaches it. In age and in cures, "Ayer's" is "the leader of them all." It was old before other sarsaparillas were born. \$1.00 a bottle. All druggists.

Ayer's Pills aid the action of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. They cure bilious-" I have used Ayer's medicines for more than 40 years and have said

from the very start that you made the best medicines in the world. I am sure your Sarsaparilla raved my life when I first took it 40 years ago. FRANK THOMAS, P. M., 24, 1839. Enon, Kansas.

Write the Doctor. and desire the best medical advice you can possibly receive write the doctor fromy. You will receive a prompt reply, without cost Address. DR. J. C. AYER, Lowell, Mass. MAN TO SHARE THE PARTY OF THE P

LOCAL BREVITIES

-Mr. McIllhargey shipped a load of Butchers' cattle to Toronto Monday. -The new Bobcaygeon cheese factory is one of the largest and best equipped in the district, having cement floors and the latest improvements. Provision has also been made to turn the building into a butter

factory when the cheese season closes. -Peterboro council has given a grant of \$300 to the Citizens' committee in charge of the Queen's birthday celebration and \$125 for the Orangemen's demonstration on July These sums are not guarantees in case of loss, but actual cash con-

-Morton evidently intends to keep in touch with the citizens' hot weather yearnings, as he has just completed the purchase of one of the most complete soda water fountains made, at a cost of nearly \$1,000. The new fountain is said to be a beauty, and its equipment is of the most modern description. He expects to put it in position this week.

-Oshawa merchants have been feeling the loss of trade caused by the action of the Toronto departmental stores in running the steamer Garden City as far east as Cobourg. To block the scheme the owner of the Physician on application. only wharf demands dues of 20c. per ton, or \$80 every time the steamer t'es up there. This the book people cannot pay, and threaten to run a free stage from Oshawa to Whitby for

-On Saturday Mr. Frank Jordan, buyer for Mr. McIllhargey, made a very early hour to drive a herd of 35 miles. Fences in that district are bring them back to the road. Five head became exhausted at different points en route, and had to be left in farmers' fields to recuperate. Perhaps the worst mix-up occurred when the cattle were separated. Mr. Jordan returned to Lindsay the same night, making the trip of 70 miles under most exhausting circumstances.

Obituary.

-The funeral of the late Wilhemina Morrison, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Morrison, Russell-st., took thy would have been delivering his en- place on Sunday afternoon to the dorsed opinions on the wagon, and Riverside cemetery. The service was things pertaining thereto, all might conducted by Revs. W. G. Clarke, of have been well. But the hapless boy Woodville, and G. Brown, of Cannington. Mr. and Mrs. Morrison moved to town last November and shortly afterwards the deceased young lady took ill. After a long siege of suffering she passed away last Thursday, at the early age of seventeen years, Our citizens sincerely sympathize with Mr. and Mrs. Morrison in the loss of their daughter, occurring as it did, so soon after taking up their residence with us.

> One of the most dangerous and repulsive forms of Kidney Disease is

> > Pills are the only certain cure. In Dropsy the Kidneys are actually dammed up, and the water, which should be expelled in the form of urine, flows back and lodges in the cells of the flesh and puffs out the skin. Remove the filth which plugs up the drain. Restore the Kidneys to health. There is only one

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renders it possible for gentlemen to shut their eyes and pick. They cannot be wrongly dressed or ill dressed in a SHOREY suit. Every garment is made to fit (not made to order) and every stitch is guaranteed. Your money back if dissatisfied.

Sold by reliable dealers only-an additional guarantee to the purchaser.

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Spring Overcoats Are all Rigby Waterproofed

Took aBad Tumble.

A man named Harry Burton, from Millbrook vicinity, visited the Y.M.C. A. rooms while in town on Saturday afternoon, and while on his way down to the street he missed his footing and fell down the steep stairway, cutting and bruising his head in a shocking manner. Mrs. Philip Morgan happened to be passing when he landed at the street entrance in an almost insensible condition, and being a trained nurse she rendered valuable aid until other assistance arrived. Burton was taken away by a friend, and we have not been able to learn his condition to-day.

Setting Off Sky-Rockets

Storekeepers who sell small boys and Peel sts. fireworks should not forget to explain to their youthful customers how the things go off, and illustrate the point before letting the boy go. Saturday morning a small boy begged a match from a passer-by on Lindsay. st. He had a small rocket is his The man rummaged for a match, and asked the boy how he intended to hold the stick. The plan he intended to follow would mean that the contents of the rocket would discharge into the lad's hand, and if he held the rocket high like a Roman candle, as he mistook it for, he might have got the burning power in the face. The pedestrian gave him a lesson on how to set off the rocket and advised him to go to some place where

there was plenty of room. Boys who

know, so little about fireworks should

not be allowed to handle them.

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A Suggestion.

and there is only a very lemited number of well bred high, they will get very much higher; they are not in the country and will not be for a good many years. The surplus is all gone; we are commencing over, and there is money to be made and plenty of it for the breed only to the best, breed for good sire, good color. beauty, and extreme trotting speed. Don't be afraid of a little expense; breed to the best stallions, wherever they are. We can't get the good things of this world without on effort on our part

The Pure-Fred Imported Clydesdale Prince George, 391' KINTYRE 3733. DARLING OF ROSEBANK 2923 Prince George is royally bred in Clyde-d-le lines

very desivable sire. His stock, and they are legion in this district, have become noted as the very best sellers and highest priced horses in the market to-day. Prince George will make the season

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The autocrat of the shoe factory—the cutter and designer-was shaping them in his head when we placed the order. They are "the very latest." Wish we felt sure of getting more, but we're not-the demand is great. Call soon.

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