

Rest.

Rest.
My hands are tired,
My soul oppressed—
I care what I have long desired—
Rest—only rest.

Rest—only rest.
In barren ways:
In harvest days.

Rest—only rest.
For rest—sweet rest.

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Chelms, on whose worth he dilated, and to whose memory he wiped his eyes; and would, I believe, have furnished us with complete biographies of every relative he had ever possessed.

Mr. Chelms having no friends in the vicinity whom he cared about troubling in the matter, gave us the name of a firm somewhere down by the Docks as referees. I say "somewhere down" for I did not take the trouble, as I ought to have done, of going there to make the proper inquiries.

It may be guessed that Susan and I sat up for some little time talking over the strange and unexpected events of the night; of our good fortune in securing such a lodger; and what a good thing, too, it was that he had not come a few days earlier, when he would have been subject to all the annoyance and turmoil of the sale.

Well, the morning came; and punctually at the time he had named, came Mr. Chelms, also closely followed by a small van-load of furniture. We were pleased to see that this furniture was all in good condition; was, in fact, almost or quite new, so bright and shining was everything.

The deposit he had left in my wife's hands had enabled us to purchase one or two necessities, and even luxuries; and in the evening Mr. Chelms joined us at tea, and was so cheerful in his conversation, and so full of queer little anecdotes, that he quite led us away from our own troubles, until he brought them back by asking, but in a very nice way too, what I thought of doing in the future.

While I was talking, and while Susan was talking, Mr. Chelms listened with great interest; but it was difficult to avoid a smile when I saw him put up his double eyeglass, as though he listened with it; and then, when it fell off, as it was continually doing, the helpless way in which he would grope about for it, was more comical still.

Very soon after this, the latter's leud knock was heard; and then Mr. Scote was immediately shown in. Mr. Chelms rose as he entered, and after a very friendly bow to the visitor, said to us: "I shall be down again in a few minutes, Mr. Matley, when, if you will allow me, I will sit for half-an-hour and have a chat with Mr. Scote and your yourselves."

Scote listened to his retreating footsteps with a knowing look, until he was satisfied Mr. Chelms was out of hearing; then turning to us with the grin and wink so customary with him, said: "You've got the old boy all right then?—You will always recollect, Mrs. Matley, that I said at the first moment 'he would do.'" My wife assured him she should always remember this; and then Mr. Scote proposed that we should sit: down and talk business.

He at once said he had seen the friends from whom he hoped so much, and that they were quite willing to engage me, so that I might expect to hear from them in a few days. If I did join them, I should find it somewhat better than drudging on in a miserable office as clerk. His friends did not go in much for clerks—no, no; that was not their game. On hearing this, I naturally inquired in what "their game," as he styled it, consisted; but although he launched out into copious praise of their

liberalty, and admiration of their extensive transactions, I could not understand what kind of business they carried on, or what particular situation I was likely to fill. Yet he kept on talking about the firm, and congratulating me upon my good fortune in securing a position with them, and glancing at the confidence they reposed in him, as shown by their accepting a stranger on his recommendation, until I heard Mr. Chelms's slow lumbering step approaching.

I called his attention to this, and said that we perhaps had better go up stairs into the parlor, dismantled as it was, for a short time, in order that we might for a few minutes more speak uninterruptedly. Scote reflected for an instant, then exclaimed: "O no. Never mind the old fellow! I shan't say anything that I don't want him to hear. I shan't let him know too much, believe me. Besides, he is rather good fun, and I like to watch him.—Hush! here he is. Ha! Mr. Chelms," he cried, with an assumption of the heartiest good-fellowship, as the old gentleman entered the room, "how are you now?"

Mr. Chelms, as he came in, answered the salutation frankly; and then Mr. Scote proceeded to repeat the information he had just given to us. While Mr. Scote was telling all this to Mr. Chelms, my wife left us, to superintend Lizzie in her domestic operations.

The eyes of Mr. Chelms twinkled and glistened more than ever as he listened to this, until finally he said, that the idea seemed so good, so feasible, and so profitable, that having a great deal of time on his hands, and some spare capital by him, he was more than half inclined to set foot on something of the kind himself. At this Mr. Scote's eyes twinkled and glistened even more than those of the old gentleman, and he said that, with his influence, it was not impossible but that Mr. Chelms might be admitted to take a small share in this very business.

"Not a great deal—not more than eleven or twelve hundred pounds, which, by-the-by, is already invested," returned Chelms, who seemed by his tone to admit the contemptible smallness of the sum he spoke of. "All the rest is in houses, with a few ground-rents."

"Well, never mind; I will see what I can do about it," returned Scote. "When can you get at your money? I ask, because I know they are making a lot of purchases, so now will be the time."

"As soon as you please after the first of next month," replied Chelms—"That is very far off—What name did you say your firm's was?"

It was certain that Mr. Scote had not mentioned any name; and he advised the old gentleman not to go any further with his inquiries at present, until he knew whether there would be any chance of his money being used. But Chelms by this time was in no mood to be put off or evaded, and he determined to have their names, if only to wish success to the venture.

"Banner, Wreggs, and Carrowble, that's them," said Mr. Scote at last; and then he went on to explain that the time named by Mr. Chelms was the most auspicious he could possibly have chosen for his money to be accepted, and this being the case, he would not lose a day in breaking the matter to his firm.

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