# THE ACTON FREE PRESS."

Volume III. No. 42 -Whole No. 147

ACTON, ONT., THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1878.

\$1.00 per annum in Advance

### THE ACTON

Is Published EVERY THURSDAY MORNING,

Free Press Building, Next to the Post Office.

TERNA-One dollar a year, strictly in out It is failed a half will be charged; or f two dollars it no Could till the end of the fi year Single copies turce cents. No pater will he soul to any person more than one year unpaid. per line for drevinsertion, and two cents. per tine for each subsequent insertion. Sant alvertisements of eight lines and uniter, \$1 for three insertions. Business Cards, of eight lines and under, \$1 per A liberal discount allowed on adverdisements inseriod for extended periods. A tvertise ments without special instinc-tions inserted till forbid, and charged

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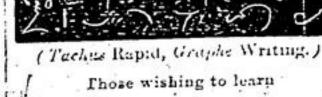
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rounding neighborhood that he has ed with city life, that she had alprocured a magnificent HEARSE. | ready extended her visit longer duct Funerals on the shortest notice and most moderate terms.

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JOHN SPEIGHT. Acton, Feb. 10, 1877.

can buy first-class Pianos

other manufacturer in the United who fancy they have found their Austria—1—I dunno. I have been in married soon after returning to growing intimacy, and he made no friends wherever he went.

Was she satisfied? At least she im how blind she had been in magning that she had ever loved any one of the friends wherever he went.

Was she satisfied? At least she im how blind she had been in magning that she had ever loved any one of the first class, and arc sent that rose; between her and the grave and dignified, with his open on from pan or organ) to which is added over by the man, and won him hosts of friends wherever he went.

Was she satisfied? At least she im him how blind she had been in imagining that she had ever loved any one but him. Of course, but it was an honest, that rose; between her and the grave and dignified, with his open on their right index to the noble, unselfih soul of the man, and won him hosts of friends wherever he went.

Was she satisfied? At least she im him how blind she had been in him how blind she had over loved any one but him. Of course, but it was an honest, that rose; between her and the grave and dignified, with his open on their rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; between her and the happy consummation of hur rose; betwe

He was old and poor, and a stranger In the great metropolis, As he bent his footsteps thitherward To the stately editice. Outside he enquires, "What Church

"Church of Christ," he hears the Ah! just the place I am looking for,

And up the carpeted aisle, And as he passed, on many a face, He saw surprise and smile, Not a friendly voice had bid him sit

To listen to gospel truth; Not a sign of deference had been paid To the aged one by youth. No door was opened by generous had The pews were paid for, rented, And he was a stranger, old and poor, Not a heart to him relented.

Then again passed into the street, p to his shoulder lifted a stone That lay in the dust at his feet ; mil bore it up the broad, grand aisle In front of the rank of fews, hoosing a place to see and to hear, He made a seat for his use.

Folding his arms on his knees, Slowly reviewing the worshippers A great confusion he sees ; Many a check is crimsoned with shame Some whisper together low, And wish they had been more courtcou ·To the stranger old and poor.

As if by magic some fifty doors Open instantaneously,

He thinks it was a mistake after all, And that Christ came late that day. The preacher's discourse was eloquent . The organ in finest tone, But the most impressive sermon heard,

And the church preserves the sacred

# That the truth may not depart.

first pleasant weather of the season. Egbert Vivian was a man in the heart of a romantic young girl, mean-"

gentleman accustomed to all the luxuries and privileges accorded to Mr. Wilde. delicious types of budding woman | Does-does he bring had news?".

coquettish way of flashing glances promenades." at you from under the long, silky | And with this parting shot at

the Green Mountains of Vermont. away By the indulgence of her fond "Who is this John Martin?" parents she had been permitted to asked Vivian.

And is prepared to attend and con- than any one had expected her to. ton to see you?" ceived as to the cause of this, but bore !"

She and Egbert Vivian knew the cause! She had met this young man at a dinner-party at her uncle's house, and their friendshi bad ripened into a very romantic attachment; for our little heroine IEL F. BEATTY, Washing | was of a romantic disposition, just ton, New Jersey, than any as many other girls of her age are, Why? Because he sells hero as soon as some well-dressed

assured her that Vivian, though flowers. belonging to a rich and respectable "Why, Fanny, I came to be family, did not bear a good name among those who knew him best, and was known to be very loose come for? You sin't angry, I down to the city and come back to us, that I must now exercise and signified their read. ess to be Keep your eye on your neighbors.

He took her nerveless hand in his, and signified their read. ess to be Keep your eye on your neighbors. Take care of them. Do not let you from home any longer I will be down to the city next week, and you and before Mr. Peabody could may do something wrong, if you and was known to be very loose come for? You ain't angry, I must be prepared to return home with and dissiputed in his habits. In | hope?" no respect was he the person to be entrusted with the happiness of an innocent young girl, and if Fanny continued to encourage his visits,

duty to apprise her father of the state of affairs: , This only roused Fanny's indignation. Her uncle was prejudiced -the world in general was prejudiced-she was not blind-her as sociation with Mr. Vivian had of polish, and you will cut a sorry forded her ample opportunities of figure among them. discovering his traits of character, and if he had been anything but a said John. very paragon of manly virtue, she would have found it out long ago.

he (her uncle) would feel it his

This was what she thought, but she did not express these thoughts to her uncle. Indeed, she rather made a pretense of heeding her uncle's advice; in view of his threat to inform her father of what he deemed her exceptionable conduct; but, instead of doing so in reality, the foolish girl began to meet the young man clandestinely, away

from the house. They were enjoying one of these stolen meetings on the day we introduce them to the reader.

They had just entered the Common, for the purpose of threading its numerous shady walks, when And as many seats, and books and Fanny, who was chatting gaily in ther exuberance of spirits, saw her Changing his stone for a cushioned pew companion lift his hat and bow gracefully to some one, accompanying the act with a pleasant-"Good afternoon, Mr. Wilde."

The girl turned her head with a startled glance, and felt a sudden voice, "but I didn't think of that. the saw a middle-aged gentleman, you didn't seem to mind what I of commanding appearance, ap- wore, so that I came to see you prouching at right angles to the often course they were pursuing. It was

but he dropped alongside the culp- be" We doubt if there was a hand- able twain, and walked a short dis-

"I have just come from the

Fanny started, and the little cruel before the rush commences in order were enjoying the benefits of the fingers tightened their grasp on Vivian's sleeve. "A-I- did you say from Peach suppose you mean to hold me to every way calculated to captivate Valley?" she fultered: "You that silly engagement?"

vantages of an elegant figure, and Fanny turned very pale now, creature who promised to be true At that moment the carriage repossessing features, were com- and trembled so violently that to me though every man in the stopped in a dark, narrow street,

"Scarcely an hour ago," replied

"What can have brought him Funny Wilde was one of those here? Is anything wrong at home

hood not met with at every turn in "Nothing has gone wrong-he think you would hold me to: a panion, he knocked softly on nineteen summers had showered came down to pay you a visit, since their brightest roses on her puth- there seemed to be no prospect of way. She had big brown eyes that your returning to Peach Valley laughed whenever their owner soon. But I must leave you here. laughed, and had a distracting I can't trifle away my time in idle

the handsome cavalier, whom he Yet Fanny was only a country held in such contempt, the indusgirl, whose home was up among trious man of business burried

pay a visit to her rich uncle in the . Oh, he's one of our Peach city, with the understanding that Valley neighbors," replied Fanny, she was to remain as long as she carelessly. "Only a country clown strangely calm, he said : liked; and Fanny was so infatuat who has always appeared to be "Fanny, I release you. God conscious of feeling very guilty. very fond of me."

It was now nearly three months | " I don't know-I shall be so come my wife. You have changed room, and engaged in a low, earnest since she left home, and still she mortified. He is thoroughly rustic since you came to the city. I see conversation. did not talk of returning. Some both in dress and manners, and now how far above me you are, "By Jove!" muttered the soiof her fyrends may have been de and—in short, he's an intolerable and how foolish I was to entertain disant minister, after a pause, dur-

CHAPTER II. Two hours later she sat in the presence of her country friend, in her uncle's parlor.

John Martin was a fine specimen of the physical man, big, and stout and well-proportioned, neither handsome nor ill-looking, but with a countenancethat stamped him every

In explanation of this advice, he picking to pieces a bouquet of "My DARLING DAUGHTER:-We

"Oh, no; but I wish you hadn't

"Well, it is such a bore to have people asking me who you are, and criticising your manners." " I don't mind 'em, Fanny." " Of course you don't, but I do

My friends here are all ladies and gentlemen of refinement "I wou't mingle with them,

"Nor give me a chance to home-till I returned."

"I -I thought you would be house was softly opened from withglad to see me, Fanny," faltered in, and a female figure, closely John, vigorously swallowed the veiled, came out, and glided down lump that kept rising in his the steps.

" Pshaw! are we children that we can't endure a separation of few weeks? You ought to have known better than to come down here and mortify me in the presence of my city friends. 1 am most ashamed to sit with you while you have on that article of giving a few hasty directions to the apparel which you dignify by the driver, he sprung in after her, and

John Martin looked at the gir He could scarcely believe she had changed so in three morths.

"I might have bought a coat of late cut," he said, in a tremluous clicking sensation in her throat, as There was a time, Funny, when Did you expect your father to ar-

"I was only a silly child then, and you should be more consider- the depot just before I came to the Another move like that and you He nodded stiffly in answer to ate than to remind me of my for house. The train arrived while will be passed over to the police, Vivian's polite salutation, and gave mer foolishness," said Fanny, with I was there, and I saw a who are yet ignorant of your FANNIE'S ROMANCE; his niece a look of stern reproach. his niece a look of stern reproach. freezing dignity. "Our spheres in man get off who enquired the way criminal conduct to night."

OR, His whole manner betokened the life are very different now, and to Mr. Wilde's residence. A young Completely cowed, Egber grave surprise and annoyance which you and I can never be to each man of rather rustic appearance leaned back against the mantle be and yet oh, relieve this killthe unexpected encounter gave him, other what we once pretended to stepped up and grasped him by the piece, and folded his arms in sullen ing suspense! Alexander, have

> John Martin rose to his feet with two. Your father (if, indeed, it had dropped into a chair. an exclamation of surprise and was he) called the young man John pain on his whitening lips.

"Oh, Fannie, you don't mean to cast me. off! You can't be so "Cast you off!" echoed Fanny.

in a tone of vexation. "Then ] "Fanny ! Fanny ! don't speak too late to separate us. At least, such as she who now leaned confi- "His name is Mr. John Martin," so! You will drive me mad! Oh, it will not be safe for them to un-

heavens! can this be the darling dertake it !" oh, I can't believe it !" ome men to be provokingly at notice his glance, and made a strong | The girl left the sofa, and walk- enough to give the driver a sum of

> she said, coldly, as she gazed upon corridor on the second floor of the street. "It is very bad taste large building. Here, after whisand will attract the attention of pering a few words of encouragethe family. I certainly did not ment in the ear of his fair com-

"Don't-don't tell me that you love another !" gasped John. "I do," was the icy rejoinder, and I ask you as a gentleman to furnished room, saying as he did

release me from our engagement, 80: since you chose to regard it as ing which Fanny Wilde's heart body. Mr. Peabody, this is the the child's fainted," said Farmer

listened for the man's reply you-Miss Wilde." Presently he came close up behind her, and in a voice that was take her hand and press it, but she knows I didn't know I was doing Then she sunk into an arm chair, But why did he come to Bos- wrong by holding in sacred re- while Vivian and Mr. Peabody membrance your promise to be- withdrew to the furthest end of the

a hope of ever possessing such a ing which he had glanced furtively Ah, Fanny, it was wrong to say treasure. I beg you to forgive me, at the little figure in the arm-chair, in your new sphere of life. Good- It seems a pity to-"

not, had it been to save her life. you want to spoil the whole thing uncle. Before reaching it, the got 400,000 roaring ment. His calm, manly voice broke into by your accursed nonsense? Do poor girl returned to consciousness a dry, choking sob as he uttered what I hired you to do-that is all and wept bitterly en her father's the Bosphorus. that last word and hurried away. I ask -and don't forget that you shoulder. She heard the door close on his are a minister of the gospel. Come, But it was not until the next retreating form, and felt that John now, there is no time to loose; get day that she threw herself sobbing you do that. Austria will roar Martin had gone from his presence your books, and let us see how into John Martin's arms, and

have waited so long for you to end As ever your affectionate FATHER.

"Just as I expected !" exclaim ed Fanny, toaring the letter pieces. '" Uncle has written him, and advised this step. knew he would do it when he discovered me and Egbert on the

Commons that day."

CHAPTER III. One very dark night:a carriage drove up to the curb in front of Mr. Wilde's residence, and stopped. man, muffled in a long black cloak, man turned pale. stepped out upon the sidewalk and gianced up at the dark front of the house. A light glimmered at one snapped the girl, impatiently. "I of the upper windows for an inthink you might have remained at stant and disappeared. A few minutes later the street door of the

"Is it you, Fanny?" whispered

"Yes, Eghert, it is I."

"Good! You have kept your What af brave little romise. She did not reply, but he helped her into the carriage; then, after

the carriage rolled away. "You are a brave little woman darling," repeated Vivian, as they rattled along the stony street. "I'm afraid I'm a very wicked

one," was the half sobbing re-"Nonsense! you are only neryous. Your fears will soon vanish.

rive to-night?" "I don't know. Why do you and levelling it the astonished vil-"Ob, nothing; only I was at

hand, and there seemed to be a submission, while the Rev. Mr. you failed " said his wife, with The blow had fallen. Honest mutual recognition between the Peabody, being too weak to stand, clasped hands.

"John Martin !" gasped Fanny, in great trepidation. "I thought he had gone home. Oh, if it should be my father! Oh, what will I

" Never mind, little one; there is no occasion for alarm. Before they discover your flight, it will !

ed to the window. She did not money, and dismiss him; then he

through his arm, and led her up a "I hope you won't cause a scene," flight of stairs to a dimly-lighted promise made in my simple-minded door, which was opened from with-

white "chocker." walk in !" Vivian led the girl into a neatly youthful appearance.

the gentleman who is to make us fainting in her father's arms. kept up a violent beating as she voung lady of whom I spoke to Wilde, in a husky voice, as he do that. Taint right.

Fanny permitted the minister to moved towards the door. kept her pale face averted, and was

s cold and calmas a marble image. He took her nerveless hand in his.

utter a word, Fanny suddenly do. To be sure, you never knew quailed and uttered a sharp cry. them to do anything very bad, but Vivian threw his arm around her, it may be on your account they the matter ? Speak, darling-"

body is coming! Oh, what will I any effort to keep them where they Sure enough, there were footsteps own business-that will take care on the stairs. He heard them dis- of itself. There is a man passing tinctly now. They were coming along-he is looking over the fence rapidly, and evidently belonged to -be suspicious of him; perhaps

more than one person. The guilty be contemplates stealing, some of "Great God! what does it mean?" knowing what queer fancies may he ejaculated., "Can it be possible have got into his head. that we have been pursued! Lock If you find any symptoms of any the door! Lock the door! Quick one passing out of the path of duty.

flew open with a jar, and two men many. It is a good way to circusprung into the room and stood in late such things, though it may not the presence of the terrified trio. benefit vourself or any one else them at a glance, and uttered a low going-silence is a dreadful thing ; shriek. One was her own father - though it was said there was the other was John Martin!

"Fanny, what does this mean?" half an bour, do not let any such demanded her father, sternly. But the poor girl could not re

ply. She was clinging to the back of a chair, and trembled violently. "I'll tell you what it means! cried John Martin, in a clear, ringing voice. "It it one of the vilest plots ever concocted to effect the ruin of an innocent girl, and these are its perpetrators cowering here before us like whipped curs.'

himself up and putting his hand in As if by magic, a pistol appeared the young countryman's hand lian, he said cooly:

"Fool, put down your hand Completely cowed, Egbert Vivian You look so depressed. It cannot

tin, addressing the girl, "when up. you sent me from your presence

Something seemed to tell me come back? that I would be needed here, and I stayed. I watched Egbert Vivian, and was surprised to find him the for your brother Joseph ? black heartel villain that he is. I made the discovery that he contemplated your ruin. I overheard ander Bislack, have you had ana conversation between him and other attack of vertigo? this cowardly companion of his, in which they formed this heartless scheme of eloping and defrauding | Murphy pledge ! Egbert Vivian tarried only long you by a pretense of marriage; and when I met your father at the

depot this evening, I told him all, I knew it all the time-I felt sure and we followed you hither. it was so. Mr. Lebonair has asked Fanny, this marriage would have for Seradhina? been a farce; you would have been ruined; this low wretch who would have performed the ceremony is no another minute, what has happenmore a minister of the gospel than ed; I can bear it; let me know the am. Look! I will show you worst.' that he is disguised,"

As he spoke he stepped up to told you about has got tired of body, and snatched from his head it is." "Ah, Mr. Vivian, is it you?" the gray wig, disclosing to viewlan he said, cordially. "Walk in! under covering of very black hair, which gave the fellow quite a

This was the last straw on the camel's back, and with a low, pite-"Fanny, permit me to introduce ous moan, poor Fanny fell back that's right. There was a long silence, dur- happy for life—the Rev. Mr. Pea- "Come, John; let's go now;

> lifted his daughter in his arms and I John once faced the two villains three, or twenty, or thirty millions as he backed out of the room. "We will bid you adieu now," e said, " and you may thank your lucky stars we have let you off so it. casily. I advise you never

cross this young lady's path again,

Egbert Vivian. If you do, your blood be upon your own head!" He left them with that, and followed Farmer Wilde down the and—and—I wish you happiness "she is a beauty, and no mistake. stairs, to the carriage that was I think I'll cork up the Bosphorus, awaiting them in the street. too. "Shut your head!" interrupted They entered and drove rapidly She did not reply—she could the other, in a fierce whisper: "Do toward the residence of Fanny's the Bosphorus I will roar. I've

well you have learned your part." | hegged his forgiveness, and told

# How to Make Mischief.

But before Mr. Peabody could may do something wrong, if you have not. Perhaps if it had not "What is it, dearest? What is been for your kind care, they might have disgraced themselves a long "Hark! don't you hear? Some. time ago. Therefore, do not relax

ought to be. Never mind your these dark nights; there is no

tell every one else what you see, But it was too late. The door and be particular to see a great Fanny recognized the both of particularly. Do keep something silence in heaven for the space of

thing occur on earth-it would be too much for this sphere. If, after all your watchful care, you cannot see anything out of the way in any one, you nay be sure it is not because they have done unything bad; perhaps in an unguarded moment you lost sight of them-throw out hints that they are no better than they should be, that you should not wonder if the Liar!" hissed Vivian, drawing people found out what they were after a little while, then they may not hold their heads so high, Keep it going, and some one else may take the hint, and begin to help you along, after a while; then there will be music, and

# everything will work like a charm.

In Suspense. Why, my dear, what is the What can you mean matter?

No. my dear; my credit is yet "Fanny," continued John Mar- unimpaired, and business is looking 'You can't mean to say, dear,

that day, I did not go home. that your old pain in the head has 'You havn't had to pay the note

'Has your cashier broken his

'Now I know-I expected it-

'Have you-now tell me Alex-

' No. nothing of the kind." 'Then tell me, without waiting

Well, that breeches button

England Will Roar. Russia-I want several provin-England-Now, I don't think

Russia-I'm going to take these Turkish ships. England-Now, you shouldn't Russia-Let's see. But that sn't near enough. I want two or

England-By George, you'd better take Turkey and be done with Russia-Don't know but that I

England-Now, if you touch Egypt I shan't like it. I'll roar. Russin-O, roar and be-

shall. Now there's Egypt.

England-Now, if you cork up Russia-Yes, I'll put a fort on England-Now, I'm going to

commence to roar right away if Anstria \_ I \_ I \_ dunno.

# BEATTY'S

one of the best works of its kind ever in end of the strong best works of its kind ever in every plan oandorgan player. Sent portionally support of the United State of Panny. It was from her pull to any part of the United State of the with a sinster expression of having been refused to introduce it some of whom you may know. Addraws DANIEL F. BEATTY, Wash-serveywhere. Address DANIEL F. BEATTY, Wash-serveywhere. BEATTY Washington, New Jersey. lington, New Jersey.

### A FREE SEAT,

I trust ho is in to-day." To passed thro' the spacious columned

From pow to pew, up one entire side, And then across the broad front space From pew to pew down the other side He walked with the same slow pace.

He paused outside a moment to think

Calmly sitting upon the huge stone,

And wiping a tear away.

Was preached by a humble stone. Twas a lesson of lowliness and worth That lodged in many a heart,

FOLLY AS IT FLIES.

CHAPTER I. somer couple in Boston, on that tance with them. Sid-ilery, where you get the worth | beautiful spring day, than Egbert Vivian and Fannie Wilde, as they house," he said to Fanny. "There A splendid lot of NEW COLLARS strolled lessurely up Tremont-st. is a Joung gentleman there from Certainly, none attracted more ad. Peach Vulley, who has come to see All parties intending to pur- miring attention from the throngs you." chase Harress should do so at once of people who, like themselves,

> dently on his arm. With the ad- interrupted her uncle, coluly! bined the gift of relined composure, Vivian looked down on her in sur- city sued for her hand? I can't- and the occupants got out. and that society polish that enables prise. But she pretended not to ease in the company of ladies He effort to calm herself. was diessed fushionably, even to "When did he come?" she ask- dare to look her outraged lover in drew the girl's trembling hand extravagance, and had the air of a ed.

the daily walks of life, petite in brings no bad news. Your parents figure and very childlike, though are as well as usual. He said he ignorance of the world and its in by an old grey headed mun in a the trembling creature called Pea- hanging on by one thread, and here

she did not attempt to deceive her-