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BUSINESS CARDS.

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Horse Blankets, Whips, Brushes, Combs, Trunks, etc., 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

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Acton Bakery, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

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Hurrah, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

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Cheap Bread, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

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Better Bread Than Ever, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

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Cakes, Biscuits, Pastry, Candies, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

Mixed Candies at 25c per lb.
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ACTON, Feb. 29, 1876.
Acton, Feb. 29, 1876, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

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Very Low Prices, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

HEIGH HO, STOP!
Heigh Ho, Stop!, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

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What's the Matter?, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

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Set of Harness, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

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In Acton, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

Fresh and Salt Meats, Fish, Fowls and Vegetables.
Fresh and Salt Meats, Fish, Fowls and Vegetables, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

CHEAP FOR CASE.
Cheap for Case, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

EDWARD MATTHEWS, Acton, March 15, 1876.
Edward Matthews, Acton, March 15, 1876, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

THE DYING MOTHER'S CONFESSION.
The Dying Mother's Confession, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

With admirable presence of mind, he lifted the limp form of Eva Stanley and carried it into the house.
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George! John! for goodness' sake what does this mean, and who have you there?" asked Mrs. Carpenter in a breath.
George! John! for goodness' sake what does this mean, and who have you there? asked Mrs. Carpenter in a breath, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"Blessed if I know," began George; "thought it was Sam, so we concluded to give him a dose in the snow for getting into the best bed and trying to enrage you."
"Blessed if I know," began George; "thought it was Sam, so we concluded to give him a dose in the snow for getting into the best bed and trying to enrage you," 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"Just like you," roared Hannah, as she assisted in depositing Eva once more in the bed from which she had been so unceremoniously taken; "beginning your tricks upon each other before you get fairly into the house. Clear out now!"
"Just like you," roared Hannah, as she assisted in depositing Eva once more in the bed from which she had been so unceremoniously taken; "beginning your tricks upon each other before you get fairly into the house. Clear out now!" 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

THE BEST BED.
The Best Bed, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

The district in the village of Hollythorn was taught by Miss Eva Stanley, who "boarded around" among the scholars, and was considered a paragon of teachers.
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The last week previous to the holiday vacation she had been boarded out here and put into the hands of a Mrs. Carpenter, who was making gigantic preparations for guests she expected from New York.
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"You never met my brothers, Eva," she said. "There's Sam, and George, and Johnny, the youngest; and such times as they have when they get out here and put into the hands of a Mrs. Carpenter, who was making gigantic preparations for guests she expected from New York."
"You never met my brothers, Eva," she said. "There's Sam, and George, and Johnny, the youngest; and such times as they have when they get out here and put into the hands of a Mrs. Carpenter, who was making gigantic preparations for guests she expected from New York," 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"I would actually give myself away this blessed minute, and throw something in to boot. What are we to do? I can't say. I believe I shall dig out of this place and get back to the city before morning. I haven't got the courage to face the music."
"I would actually give myself away this blessed minute, and throw something in to boot. What are we to do? I can't say. I believe I shall dig out of this place and get back to the city before morning. I haven't got the courage to face the music," 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

He began hastily putting on his boots, and would have carried his appearance of Hannah, who once asserted her authority.
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"You are not going a single step, John. I don't wonder you feel ashamed of yourselves. What on earth possessed you is more than I can tell."
"You are not going a single step, John. I don't wonder you feel ashamed of yourselves. What on earth possessed you is more than I can tell," 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"That's right, Han; pitch in, scold away; I'll take any amount of talking just now. I am as weak as a lamb. But who is it we've played so shabby a trick on?" replied George.
"That's right, Han; pitch in, scold away; I'll take any amount of talking just now. I am as weak as a lamb. But who is it we've played so shabby a trick on?" replied George, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"Trick! I should think it was. Why it is Eva Stanley, our school teacher, and this is her week to board here; I don't believe the poor girl will get over her fright. It is too bad; I shouldn't wonder if she had taken her death, being dragged out of a warm bed this time of night and dropped into a snow bank in that fashion. No wonder she cried, poor thing."
"Trick! I should think it was. Why it is Eva Stanley, our school teacher, and this is her week to board here; I don't believe the poor girl will get over her fright. It is too bad; I shouldn't wonder if she had taken her death, being dragged out of a warm bed this time of night and dropped into a snow bank in that fashion. No wonder she cried, poor thing," 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"Cried, did she?" repeated George, with a groan.
"Cried, did she?" repeated George, with a groan, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"I should think she did. I just took her in my arms and let her have her cry out, while I explained to her how she happened to be mistaken for Sam, and became the victim of your mad prank."
"I should think she did. I just took her in my arms and let her have her cry out, while I explained to her how she happened to be mistaken for Sam, and became the victim of your mad prank," 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"That was near in you, Han," said George. "I am awful glad you hugged the poor little thing. Wish you had given her a brotherly squeeze for me—pon my honor I do."
"That was near in you, Han," said George. "I am awful glad you hugged the poor little thing. Wish you had given her a brotherly squeeze for me—pon my honor I do," 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"And how on earth do you expect to stay and take the consequences?" asked John, beginning to look serious. "I am for taking myself off instantly. I had rather face a masked battery than this pretty teacher, after making such fools of ourselves."
"And how on earth do you expect to stay and take the consequences?" asked John, beginning to look serious. "I am for taking myself off instantly. I had rather face a masked battery than this pretty teacher, after making such fools of ourselves," 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"I don't care if you had, answered the sister, in a low voice. The only way to do is to stay and brave it out, both of you, and apologize for your rudeness."
"I don't care if you had, answered the sister, in a low voice. The only way to do is to stay and brave it out, both of you, and apologize for your rudeness," 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"But Sam, how the deuce are we to get along with him? You know well enough, Han, we shall never hear the end of it from him."
"But Sam, how the deuce are we to get along with him? You know well enough, Han, we shall never hear the end of it from him," 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"If you two can keep the secret, I'll find a way to silence Bridget, and it is a subject Eva will not care to have discussed, and fortunately my husband is not at home. So go to bed and rest contented."
"If you two can keep the secret, I'll find a way to silence Bridget, and it is a subject Eva will not care to have discussed, and fortunately my husband is not at home. So go to bed and rest contented," 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

She showed them to the bed she had intended them to occupy, and soon the house was once more hushed in slumber.
She showed them to the bed she had intended them to occupy, and soon the house was once more hushed in slumber, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

Meanwhile their brother Sam had reached the depot a few minutes too late. He found the train he was to take already gone, but on consulting a time-table he found that another train started two hours later, and so decided to take it. He figured to himself, as he impatiently crowded into an empty seat, and was being whirled along at a rapid rate, how angrily his brothers had accused themselves in the best bed, which by right belonged to him, he being the eldest; and contemplated a plan to get even with them.
Meanwhile their brother Sam had reached the depot a few minutes too late. He found the train he was to take already gone, but on consulting a time-table he found that another train started two hours later, and so decided to take it. He figured to himself, as he impatiently crowded into an empty seat, and was being whirled along at a rapid rate, how angrily his brothers had accused themselves in the best bed, which by right belonged to him, he being the eldest; and contemplated a plan to get even with them, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

Sometimes after midnight he was deposited in Hollythorn, and reach-
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ing his sister's house; he scouted around till he found a way of entrance into the kitchen, where he deposited his luggage, and removed his boots. Then he quietly stole up stairs and opened the door of the best room. "Sure enough," thought he, "my fine chips, you are in clover!" For there were not to be mistaken signs of the room being occupied.
ing his sister's house; he scouted around till he found a way of entrance into the kitchen, where he deposited his luggage, and removed his boots. Then he quietly stole up stairs and opened the door of the best room. "Sure enough," thought he, "my fine chips, you are in clover!" For there were not to be mistaken signs of the room being occupied, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

To think of coping with their united strength by dragging them forth was not practicable, but there stood the pitcher of water, and he knew that a good dousing with the icy fluid would bring them out quick enough.
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He lifted the pitcher, approached the bed, raised it and suddenly dashed the contents upon the sleepers.
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Such a torrent of screams as he had never before heard rang through the house, and before Sam could collect his scattered senses the door opened, and Hannah, George and John rushed in, clothed in scanty apparel—Hannah with a frightened look upon her face and a lamp in her hand that revealed the entire scene.
Such a torrent of screams as he had never before heard rang through the house, and before Sam could collect his scattered senses the door opened, and Hannah, George and John rushed in, clothed in scanty apparel—Hannah with a frightened look upon her face and a lamp in her hand that revealed the entire scene, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

There, sitting in bed, with her hair dripping like a mermaid, her right dress deluged, her face colorless, and looking terror, was the young school mistress; and there was Sam, with the empty pitcher in his hand, the very image of imbecility, staring around like an idiot at the havoc he had made. Hannah, George and John instantly understood the situation; and the latter, at the command of their sister, dragged Sam away while she assisted the drenched and terrified girl to dry clothing, and then took her to her own room and bed, explaining for the second time, the mishaps of the night.
There, sitting in bed, with her hair dripping like a mermaid, her right dress deluged, her face colorless, and looking terror, was the young school mistress; and there was Sam, with the empty pitcher in his hand, the very image of imbecility, staring around like an idiot at the havoc he had made. Hannah, George and John instantly understood the situation; and the latter, at the command of their sister, dragged Sam away while she assisted the drenched and terrified girl to dry clothing, and then took her to her own room and bed, explaining for the second time, the mishaps of the night, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"I'll keep you with me, now, my poor child," said she, though with difficulty keeping back her laughter. "The boys are nicely come up with at any rate; and if it were not for your being so terribly frightened, and the way my best bed has been used, I wouldn't say poor child!"
"I'll keep you with me, now, my poor child," said she, though with difficulty keeping back her laughter. "The boys are nicely come up with at any rate; and if it were not for your being so terribly frightened, and the way my best bed has been used, I wouldn't say poor child!" 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"Hannah kissed her cheeks, and went down to see the boys, who as soon as they were shut in the regions below, began to appreciate the joke; and now that Sam was as deep in the mud as they were in the mire, gave no quarter.
"Hannah kissed her cheeks, and went down to see the boys, who as soon as they were shut in the regions below, began to appreciate the joke; and now that Sam was as deep in the mud as they were in the mire, gave no quarter, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"I'll be blamed if I know what it all means," said Sam, looking in confusion at his brothers, who were rolling and kicking in convulsions of laughter.
"I'll be blamed if I know what it all means," said Sam, looking in confusion at his brothers, who were rolling and kicking in convulsions of laughter, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"Means?" said George, holding his sides. "It means that you have stolen like a thief into Miss Eva Stanley's bed-chamber, who is a young lady boarding here; and thinking it was your humble servant and Johnny snug in bed, you attempted to drown us out, and made a grand mistake. How do you like it, Sam?"
"Means?" said George, holding his sides. "It means that you have stolen like a thief into Miss Eva Stanley's bed-chamber, who is a young lady boarding here; and thinking it was your humble servant and Johnny snug in bed, you attempted to drown us out, and made a grand mistake. How do you like it, Sam?" 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"I confess I see the point, but I can't see the joke. It is a most outrageous shame."
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"At this juncture Hannah came in, and began rattling them soundly, thereby letting out the whole story. It was Sam's turn to laugh.
"At this juncture Hannah came in, and began rattling them soundly, thereby letting out the whole story. It was Sam's turn to laugh, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

Miss Eva was not visible the next morning, and Hannah announced that she was sick with a severe cold. Hannah had her own crew under her thumb for once in her life, and had the satisfaction of seeing them behave with some dignity. They appeared never to forget that there was an invalid in the house, and went about on tiptoe. Sam, who seemed to take the entire responsibility upon his own shoulders, sent off slyly to the city for choice fruit and flowers, which he induced his sister to convey to the young lady with the most apologetic and regretful expressions.
Miss Eva was not visible the next morning, and Hannah announced that she was sick with a severe cold. Hannah had her own crew under her thumb for once in her life, and had the satisfaction of seeing them behave with some dignity. They appeared never to forget that there was an invalid in the house, and went about on tiptoe. Sam, who seemed to take the entire responsibility upon his own shoulders, sent off slyly to the city for choice fruit and flowers, which he induced his sister to convey to the young lady with the most apologetic and regretful expressions, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

A couple of days Eva was able to come down stairs. She was looking quite pale, but lovely, and of course divinely, when presented by Mrs. Carpenter to the three brothers, who behaved quite well considering the unpleasantness of their situation.
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But Sam, who had broken the ice by means of his presence, was most to be seen, and by virtue of his age and experience constituted himself the proprietor, and was constantly on hand to offer Miss Eva a thousand nameless attentions; and before the week was out John declared that Sam was "done for!"
But Sam, who had broken the ice by means of his presence, was most to be seen, and by virtue of his age and experience constituted himself the proprietor, and was constantly on hand to offer Miss Eva a thousand nameless attentions; and before the week was out John declared that Sam was "done for!" 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

"Gone under completely!" echoed George with one of his droll groans.
"Gone under completely!" echoed George with one of his droll groans, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

Hannah, singing Eva's praises, commended Sam's choice, and recommended marriage to all of them as the only sobering process she was acquainted with. It is a piece of advice, however, that she did not appear inclined to follow, notwithstanding Sam's happy lot with the pretty schoolmistress of Hollythorn.
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She often reminds her brothers-in-law of her unceremonious introduction to a snow-drift at the dead of night, and they retaliate with the shower-bath given her by Sam.
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Trade Prospects.
(From the Globe.)

As the spring opens, every intimation is given that if the coming season be not a very prosperous one, it will at any rate be one in which a fair amount of business is likely to be done in almost every department of trade. Merchants here have been doing an encouraging spring business, not, it may be, of such volume as in some of the last past seasons, but sound and healthy, while at the same time of such an extent as to indicate that stocks throughout the country are tolerably well reduced, and that the people generally are both able and willing to purchase to a respectable amount. The farming community in general have never felt the dull times to any extent. They have been able to hold to their crops till a fair price offered without interfering either with their comfort or with their business operations. In cities and towns there is every likelihood of a good deal being done in building. Those who have money are convinced that this is a good time for building, as it is for all parties; for it gives the one his building at a low figure, while it supplies the other with work just at the very time when that work is most needed. In short, things look generally hopeful, and the conviction is strong, even with the most cautious, that the worst is past, and that the decennial collapse, having come before its time, has been, on that account, more gentle than usual, and less injurious than it would have been had it been delayed till the full decennial period, which has come to be generally looked forward to as a fixed season of confusion and disaster.
As the spring opens, every intimation is given that if the coming season be not a very prosperous one, it will at any rate be one in which a fair amount of business is likely to be done in almost every department of trade. Merchants here have been doing an encouraging spring business, not, it may be, of such volume as in some of the last past seasons, but sound and healthy, while at the same time of such an extent as to indicate that stocks throughout the country are tolerably well reduced, and that the people generally are both able and willing to purchase to a respectable amount. The farming community in general have never felt the dull times to any extent. They have been able to hold to their crops till a fair price offered without interfering either with their comfort or with their business operations. In cities and towns there is every likelihood of a good deal being done in building. Those who have money are convinced that this is a good time for building, as it is for all parties; for it gives the one his building at a low figure, while it supplies the other with work just at the very time when that work is most needed. In short, things look generally hopeful, and the conviction is strong, even with the most cautious, that the worst is past, and that the decennial collapse, having come before its time, has been, on that account, more gentle than usual, and less injurious than it would have been had it been delayed till the full decennial period, which has come to be generally looked forward to as a fixed season of confusion and disaster, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

The risk now is that, in their shortsighted zeal for money-making, people will again rush into all the former excesses of speculation and over-importation, as if to make up for the temporary but salutary check they have received, and that they will precipitate another trouble. Instead of reconciling oneself to the idea that commercial crash is inevitable every ten years or so, it would be far nearer the truth to hold that there is no need of a crash either every ten years or every twenty years; nay, there is no need for such a crash at all if people would only go about business matters in a sane and sober way, and would not seek to live either above their incomes or even up to them. In their rage to be speedily wealthy many take great hazards, so as to turn what ought to be sure and reliable trade into mere gambling, and that of a very reckless description. The average man, however, must have large profits made by his own means and beyond the requirements of the country. The day of reckoning comes, and they fancy it is something inevitable, for which there are no signs, and which they can do nothing to avoid, and which they could not by any means have averted. As really might the drunkard look upon the headache after the debauch as inevitable. Of course it is inevitable to be a debauch. But then this latter is by no means a necessity. The moderate food and drink will, in all ordinary cases, cause no such headache, and neither will the regular legitimate and healthy business issue in any such crash as is reckoned upon every ten years, and which sometimes comes a great deal sooner. We have now before us the prospects of a prosperous course, which need not have any interruption till 1887 at any rate, and which, were all acting a careful, sensible part, need not come to a close even then. There is no need to be old fogies, but in order to avoid that imputation there is a little need to be reckless gamblers.
The risk now is that, in their shortsighted zeal for money-making, people will again rush into all the former excesses of speculation and over-importation, as if to make up for the temporary but salutary check they have received, and that they will precipitate another trouble. Instead of reconciling oneself to the idea that commercial crash is inevitable every ten years or so, it would be far nearer the truth to hold that there is no need of a crash either every ten years or every twenty years; nay, there is no need for such a crash at all if people would only go about business matters in a sane and sober way, and would not seek to live either above their incomes or even up to them. In their rage to be speedily wealthy many take great hazards, so as to turn what ought to be sure and reliable trade into mere gambling, and that of a very reckless description. The average man, however, must have large profits made by his own means and beyond the requirements of the country. The day of reckoning comes, and they fancy it is something inevitable, for which there are no signs, and which they can do nothing to avoid, and which they could not by any means have averted. As really might the drunkard look upon the headache after the debauch as inevitable. Of course it is inevitable to be a debauch. But then this latter is by no means a necessity. The moderate food and drink will, in all ordinary cases, cause no such headache, and neither will the regular legitimate and healthy business issue in any such crash as is reckoned upon every ten years, and which sometimes comes a great deal sooner. We have now before us the prospects of a prosperous course, which need not have any interruption till 1887 at any rate, and which, were all acting a careful, sensible part, need not come to a close even then. There is no need to be old fogies, but in order to avoid that imputation there is a little need to be reckless gamblers, 411-413 Front Street East, Toronto.

On Loading.
We wonder if the young man embarking on the sea of life ever stop to count the cost. Yet there is nothing so expensive. It costs time—whole days, months, years of it. It costs health, in waste of mind and body. It costs honor and self-respect, and the respect of your fellow-men. It costs happiness, in the loss of virtue, morality and independence. The man who takes up loading for a living is the veriest slave alive. He must submit to the kicks of fortune, because he has not the moral stature to fend them off. Go anywhere and see the well-dressed or ragged inmates that lounge around bar-rooms, or stand on the street corners with cigars stuck in their mouths, day in and day out, and you will find the class that loaf for a living. What good are they but to clutter the God's blessed earth, and to out the food better men strive so hard for? Do something! Sweep streets, shovel coal, dig ditches—work at anything honest—but don't loaf.
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