## THE ACTON FREE PRESS.

Volume II. No. 48-Whole No. 101

ACTON, ONT., THURSDAY, MAY 31, 1877.

"None of your business how it |

"You have said enough ! Will about it."

"As the agent of the promisee !"

He drew out his pocket-book,

and trembling with rage and im-

I could not deny his power to act

"I am," he answered.

sand dollars around with me,

suppers, and better furniture than

Buckleton was the villain who

" Pay then !"

Do you mean to insult me?"

mean to insult me."

grandfather !"

or inferiors.

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Confessions of a Bank Officer.

CHAPTER XV.

MY UNCLE IS SAVAGE.

Captain Halliard was as grim as an ogre, and evidently intended to make me pay the thousand dollars I owed my Aunt Rachel. Of course he did not care half so much about the money as he did to bring me to a realizing sense of the peril of liv- belonged in the forecastle. He was | houses are scarce." ing too fast. He had worked hard not in the habit of permitting his for me, and used his influence in positions to be disputed by those and furniture are worth as much to obtaining the situation I then held. He was fond of power and influence, and a failure to consult him in re-

was a mortal insult. His views on life and living were snapped he. different from mine, and I found it necessary to steer clear of him. 1 | lect it ?" I inquired. do not say that this was not a mistake on my part-it was. If I had followed his prudent counsels, I patience took a document from it, are." should have kept out of trouble. I which he thrust into my face. It had sinned against my uncle, and was a general power of attorney, was no more worthy to be called a authorizing him to transact any protege of his. I had married, I and all business for my aunt, and had taken a house, I had furnished ratifying all his proceedings under it, I had given a party, without it. Of course it was dated before consulting him, and even without | Aunt Rachel's present sickness, but | inviting him to any of the later fes

almost a cause of offence to ask him a triumphant tone, and he folded! to attend a merry-making of any He had lent me three hundred dollars for my bridal tour, though he did not know what it was for -if he had, he would not have loaned it to me. He made me pay him when it was least convenient for me to do so. Now he crossed old fellow. my path again in the same disagree-

tive occasions. I knew that they

were not to his taste, and it was

able manner. Aunt Rachel was Issuer of Marriage Licenses. very sick. Probably Captain Halliard had deemed it his duty to look over her papers while she lay in- be called upon to pay this note tosensible on her bed. Notes or in- day. It is not convenient for me terest might fall due. Perhaps it to do so." was proper enough that he should; do so, but it was deuced unfortun- uncle. "But you seem to have

> It was equally unfortunate that I had written this note "On de- I can afford to have in my house, mand, with interest?" I had done so because I did not wish to fix a had been talking to my uncle time when Aunt Rachel would feel " Better? furniture" meant the compelled to ask me for the money. etagere. But I must not quarre In avoiding a dun in this direction, with my uncle. He had the power I had courted one in another. As to throw me out of my situation sharp people are apt to do, I had in the bank. As my mother's

> overreached myself. brother he would not be likely The Captain was in bal humor, do that. I was even willing to be I had once been his favorite: If I lieve that he was acting for my was so now, I was under a shadow. good, but certainly he was doing But the case was a very simple one. so in a very ungainly and clumsy I had been acting without his ad- manner. He evidently wished vice, and contrary to his well get me into a tight place, where he known opinions, which was per- could control me, and thus compel hans very imprudent in me. He me to forego my habits of extravawas a man of the world, with no gauce. fine feelings to interfere with what | " Uncle, the champagne supper thing as paying him. He looked

said my uncle, sternly.

v too fast," I replied.

"Who was be?"

" Well, I dare !"

one. My pride revolted.

Pay the note!"

by that ?"

are my guardian." I answered

When you owe your aunt a thou-

sand dollars you shall not fool away

your money on champagne suppers.

"The note don't belong to you,

the uncomfortable dilemma,

was vexed and indignant

it if you dare.'

"Champagne suppers!"

" I don't think so, sir."

" I think so !" he added in a tone

was a mistake. I did not kn course I could not think of such a there was to be any wine until saw it. My wife ordered it with ugly, and my pride was touched by out my knowledge. I did not sus the attitude in which he placed pect she intended to have it, or I should have spoken in season to " Paley, you are going too fast!"

"Very well; let that pass," sai he, considerably mollified. "You have fifteen hundred dollars' worth of furniture in your house. I wi sell you all mine for balf that sum "Buckleton cheated me into taking twice as much as I wanted

which was intended to indicate that he regarded the question as settled, and that it would be useless for me to attempt to argue the mutter with " Humph! Did Le?"

"I don't know what you mean " He did." "Did you pay cash for all the

"Only one, and probably I never " Of course I did ; though I did shall have another as long as I live. not intend to pay Buckleton for "You had a party at your house month or two. But he is a scoun and the champagne flowed as free drel, and I was glad to get rid as water. Two or three hundred even at the expense of sacrificdollars for wine in one evening, as some stocks I had." am informed by one who knows!"

"Stocks?" said my uncle, "I havn't been so reckless "No matter who be was. Deny you think I have," I replied. saved two thirds of my salary till was married, and doubled it by "Show me the bill, then !" said

speculation every year." " What did you borrow a thous and dollars of your aunt for?" ' Because I didn't wish to sell this man had labored to procure my thousand dollars' worth of "conituation: that he was my mother's pers" I had, and still have," I coninued, knowing yery well what would satisfy my uncle. "Somebody was "bearing" them Then

but they are all right now, and shall make a pretty thing on them "I don't understand that you "That's all very well; but you "I'm not vour guardian? If are living too fast. were, I would send you a hundred I was afraid he would ask miles from the city and make you what "coppers" I had been dicker work on a farm. I'm the guardian ing in, but he did not, probably of this note, though; and it must be paid, or I'll trustee your salary.

reserving an inquiry into the details of my financial operations till we were on better terms. "I don't think I am living bevond my means."

"I do think so. You must give ed the captain, out of patience with thing by selling, I believe in real I added, doggedly, as I beat about up that house in Needbarn street, me. added, sternly.

"Don't belong to me!" growled I actually began to think that my uncle. "What do you mean he was in league with Mrs. Oli-"I think I can live as cheaply " How did the note come into

there as anywhere else."

came into my possession, you puppy! money it will cost you." "I differ from you there, uncle, I replied, mildly. "I paid-"

"No, sir; but I think you "Insult you!" sneered he. ed he angrily. "Do you think I paid!" exclaimed he, darting out of 'Why, you young cub, I am your don't know what I am talking the ante-room where we had gone then.' I added. uncle, and old enough to be your about. I am older than you, and to talk over the matter. -I have seen more of the world. I I felt very much like sinking slapping his fist upon the table, great results hang on the pretty "You are not old enough to in- know what it costs a man to live." through the floor. Not only was I and then swallowing another potion. fraud.

you pay the note ?" demanded he, arbitrarily as ever. "You can thousand I already owed her. The He talked to me as though he dispose of your lease, and sell your means for making my account good were on the quarter-deck while I furniture for all it cost you, for with the bank were gone, for Aunt sult, you cannot be in doubt in re-

whom he regarded as his dependents | me as to any one." "Not till you have shown me hy

"Did she authorize you to col-

"None of yours to me!"

"That gives you no right to call " Will you listen to reason ?" "I will, but not to abuse."

"Do you know Brentbone ?" " No. sir." " He would have taken the house where you live if you had not. While he went to consult his wife. "Are you satisfied ?" said he, in

up his paper and restored it to his would take the house in half an

bour if I did not." "Brentbone was the man. He our party, and had drank more was terribly disappointed, for he champagne than any other five per-"When do you want the money?" had set his heart upon having the sons present. I asked, in a tone of easy indiffer house. He is an old friend of 'How are you, Cormorin?' I reence, for I saw that I could make mine, and still wants it. He is plied nothing by attempting to bluff the willing to give you a hundred dol-

lars bonus for the house, and pay all the bills for the furniture." "Ot course I don't carry a thou-"I am much obliged to him for his liberal offer, but I must decline my pocket, and I did not expect to it," I replied, firmly, for I could my misery-something to enliven not think of leaving the English my spirits. I went, and found that

basement house, when I was just Cormorin had a mission with me. beginning to realize the joys of "I suppose not," sneered my home "Are you mad, Paley ?" money enough to pay for champagne

" Not just now."

Your mother in law will board you at half the rate it will cost you to live in this house." Upon my word, it looked more and more as if Captain Halliard

"You can't afford to live there.

was in league with "dear ma." I hate mysteries, and I may as well explain the facts as I afterwards discovered them. Mr. Brent-

neans, who had just married a second wife. The house in Needham phant, but this was about the time seemed to have but little effect too indignant to mention the subect to me, though I remembered that she had suggested the idea of selling out the furniture and giving

As we moved in, Brentbone gave up his purpose, and tried to find a house elsewhere. Failing to suit himself, he again turned his attention to the house in Needham street, and spoke to my uncle about it. Captain Halliard was probably startled to find I was living in a

house which would satisfy a person of Brentbone's means. The matter was left in my uncle's hands for negotiation. He assured the would be purchaser that there would no difficulty in completing the arrangement. All this Brentbone told me himself in self-defence. few weeks later, when I made his

acquaintance. As my uncle had in a measure pledged himself to complete the ar- don't go to the opera above a dozer rangement, he felt a pride in doing | times a year. I don't own a horse, so. He honestly and sincerely be- I don't average hiring one more lieved that I was living beyond my than once a week. I have been i means, and here was an opportunty for me to change my style, and make something by it at the same time. He might have succeeded

better if he had not begun by attempting to drive me into com-"I have no idea of boarding way in the world to eke out my with my mother in law again, and paying her thirty dollars a week for accommodations I can procure for ten," I replied to my uncle's

"Then board somewhere else don't care where you board; but t will cost you three thousand dollars a year to live in that house." "I think not."

"I think it will," responded my incle, sharply. "Time will tell." " Leave a fool to his felly," snarl-

me for the means of escaping from and live within your means," be "I will leave you to youre," I! 'Isn't it better to wait when a jeweller, is in Detroit living a fast

"Will you pay the note ?" "When ?" " Now." "No, sir; I will not." "When will you pay it?"

"You can board for half the "To-morrow," I replied, willing to gain even a day's delay.

"Very well; if it isn't paid tomorrow I'll trustes your salary, give the president of our bank six-"You differ from me!" exclaim- and keep doing it till the note is pence to insure me."

"I think I know something cut off from obtaining the two thousand dollars from Aunt Rachel, ed, kindly asking the question he "No, you don't!" replied he, as but I was called upon to pay the suggested

"I don't wish to do so, the house to me. What could I do? I went into the banking-room, and balanced my cash-two thous "Paley, you are a fool !" said he, and short! No one knew it but myself. Mr. Bristlebach was a "I came of your stock, then," I careful man. He made frequent to say anything more or not. He them chiefly thyself. If thou find retorted, rashly, for my blood was forays into all the departments of was struggling to reach some point, anything questionable there, use the institution, and the fact could though I could not imagine what it the commentary of a severe friend "None of your impudence to not long be concealed from him. was. I began to suspect that he rather that the gloss of a sweet-It was about time for the directors wanted to borrow some money of lipped flatterer. There is more to make an examination a few days, me. If he did, he had come to the profit in a dispasteful truth than "I am an older man than you or weeks, at most. I could only wrong man, He labored heavily, deceitful sweetness." study how to defer rather than like a ship in a storm, and I was avoid the catastrophe. I put my beginning to be rather impatient at

cash into the safe, and left the building. My face was like a sheet as I saw it in the glass before I left the bank. My heart was in my throat, said he, after a long pause, as he I could not see anything or any body as I walked along State street.

"Glasswood, how are you!" I turned to the speaker. It was Cormorin, paying-teller of the For-"I was told that another man ty-third. I was well acquainted with him, and he lived near my house. He had been present a

> 'In a hurry, Glasswood? 'No, not specially.'

'Come into Young's with and drink a bottle of wine. That was just what I wanted in

CHAPTER XVL CORMORIN AND I. Cormorin was not a man whom I had ever entertained any great respect, and I wondered how: he contrived to retain his position in the bank, for he was rather dissolute and dissipated in his habits We went to a private room in the hotel, and he sent for champagne. He talked about different matters for a time, but I was soon satisfied

that he had something more than bone was a man of considerable these to bring forward. I was not mistaken. We finished the first bottle of street pleased him, and, too late, he champagne before the plan of my because I experienced any aston- son. Of these 40,000, 30,000 are found that it pleased his wife even companion began to be developed. more. He was acquainted with He ordered another; but I ought tions. Mr. Oliphant and with my uncle. to add, in justice to myself, that When he ascertained who had taken be drank three glasses to my one. moved in, and "dear ma" was upon him, for he was accustomed to drink stronger fluids than cham-

"Glasswood, what salary do you get now?" asked Cormorin, after we had begun upon the second

"Two thousand," I replied. "The same as mine. But can "I think I can, though I have not had much experience since

"I can't live on mine." "You drink expensive wines." "'Pon my soul, I don't," he proested. "I haven't tasted cham nagne, except at your house-warmng, for a year, until this afternoon. can't afford to drink champagne

more than once a year; and I have to stimulate on cheap whiskey Well, even on this campbene, can't make the ends meet. 'I'm as economical as a London Jew. the same fix these two years."

run in debt?" I inquired, willing to help him reach the point at which he was evidently aiming. "Just that; and nothing less. nothing more. I've tried every

fair way to put about ten thousand dollars into my pocket." "I congratulate von." "If I had sold my stock to-day should have put five thousand

ncome; and, just now, I'm in

nto my exchequer." "Why didn't you do it, then Because I would rather have ten thousand dollars than five.' replied gulping down a full glass of the generous fluid before us,

When a man can make a good

much a week hence?

'Are you sure?' if I can hold on for a week.'

'If I were reasonably certain I should hold on; by all means.' O. I'm dead sure! I wouldn't

'Of course you will hold 'That's the trouble, said 'What's the trouble?' I inquir-

Why, the holding on. But, if you are sure of the re-

Rachel was too sick even to speak gard to your course.' 'Well. I'm in no doubt about

What are you in doubt about? He looked at me steadily, and appeared to be uncertain whether books alone, but men, amongst the slowness with which he pro-

'Glasswood, give me your hand, extended his own to me across the

I took his hand, for I could not refuse to do as much for a man who was paying for the champagne. 'We are friends-are we not? e continued.

'Certainly we are.'

' Do you mean so ? 'Of course I do. I don't say one thing and mean another. you want to say anything, Cormorin,

'As a friend, I will,' said he with compressed lips, as though he had made up his mind to do a desperate deed. 'This is between 'us.

you know?

'Certainly,' I replied. The champage I had drank had omewhat muddled my brain; and was in that reckless frame of mind which is so often induced stimulating draughts. If I drank nothing, I should have been cautious how I permitted myself to be dragged into the counsels of such a man as Cormorin. As it was, was becoming rapidly prepared for any desperate step. I was very curious to know what my companon was driving at.

'I'm in a tight place, then ? said he, filling his glass again. A tight place! Why, I thought you were on the high road to and towns. The chief city is Erzerishment at his apparent contradic- Turks, 5,000 orthodox Armenians,

are exactly true, and equally sus at 80,000. The number of the inthe house, he went to see Mrs. Oli- His frequent potations, however, ceptible of demonstration. You habitants is constantly changing, think enough to sharpen your wits. of people who arrive and depart I am kept out of my capital?

> Precisely so; that is not a difficult problem to comprehend, I city contains 28 khans, 13 public

along as fast as I do.' "I understand you now. 'That's all.' 'Let's go home, then,' I added,

understand my position? 'Very clearly ; you are short. am I. If I could help you, I would do so with the greatest pleasure.' 'You can help me. We fare to wrong or injure any one!

'That's myself for one,' I replie

ising from the table

He seemed to be using the very arguments which I had applied ny own case while borrowing the funds of the bank that employed me. What did he mean by it? Could it be possible that he ever "What do you mean-that you suspected me of taking the money of the bank? Had he by any means obtained a hint of my financial operations? He was in another establishment. He could not sus pect what none in our bank sue pected. I was excited with champagne, and I dismissed the fear as

preposterous. 'That's myself for another ? exclaimed he, with more emphasis than the subject matter seemed to | Minneapolis, Minn., has outdone require. 'My coppers have doubl- | himself and caught the small pox.

ed on my hands. What are your coppers? I inquired. 'The Ballyhack,' he answered Do you think promptly.

haven't any? (To be continued.)

Ollendorff, the Montreal runaway and family.

Gems of Thought. The man who is only honest when honesty is the best policy is I not really an honest man. Hones-I ty is not swerving policy, but stable principle. An honest man is honest from his soul, nor deigns to stoop to aught that is mean, though

We should not be too hasty in hestowing either our praise or our censure on mankind, since we shall often find such a mixture of good and evil in the same character that it may require a very accurate judgment and a very elaborate inquiry to determinate on which

side the balance turns. An old writer says :- 'Read not!

Every human soul has a germ of some flowers within, and they would open if they could only find sunshide and free air to expand in. Not having enough of sunshine is what ails the world. Make people happy, and there will not be half the quarreling or a tenth part of the wickedness there is.

Our success in life generally bears a direct proportion to the exertions we make; and if we aim at nothing we shall certainly achieve nothing. By the remission of labor and energy it often happens that poverty and contempt, disaster and defeat, steal a march upon prosperity and bonor, and overwhelm us with re-

erses and shame. How many great men have testified that their whole lives have been influenced by some single remark made to them in their boyhood! And who cannot recall words spoken to himself in his childhood, to which, perhaps, the speaker attached no. importance, but which sank deep and immovably into his memory, and which nave never lost their power over aim! Make sunlight! The world at best is dark enough. Do what you can to make it more cheerful

The City of Erzeroum. The pashalic of Erzeroum is the most important in Asia Minor, including a population of 800,000 people distributed in 1,500 villages wealth!' I replied, rather to help oum, which has a population estihim forward in his statement, than mated at 40,000, besides its garriand 2,500 Catholic Armenians. In 'Exactly so! Both propositions | 1827 the population was estimated are dull, Glasswood. You don't however owing to the great number Don't you see that while I am wait- with the caravans. Pestilence has ing for a further rise in my stocks, often made serious inroads upon the population, and emigration has baths, 70 mosques and mesjids and Well; you don't seem to get churches of the Armenian Latin and Greek Christians. The new Go | part of the town is partly surround ed by an old castellated wall, but a large part of the place is not wallled. A deep ditch was excavated 'Not yet. Hold on! Don't you to keep off the Russians. There

round the suburbs some years ago are some curious ancient buildings in and around the citadel, and nearly 30 tombs in the form of circular towers, with conical stone roofs, after an early Saracenic style of architecture, dating, some of them as far back as the twelfth century The plain about the city, which is 30 or 40 miles long, formerly contained 100 flourishing villages, but emigration has now depopulated many of them which now lie in waste. The chief trades are dveing and tanning morocco leather. Great numbers of horses and cattle are reared in the plain. Regarded strategically, the town is not favorably located. Although at a high elevation, it is surrounded on one side by a higher bill, which in the hands of an enemy would render a defence exceedingly difficult. Some of the sum nits of these wills are continually covered with snow.

The best base-ball catcher

Vinegar, nastard, and oil makes a good dressing; but it's just us well to stick to flannels until the

A husband who can't pull two

hundred mounds dead weight is not strong enough to tie up his wife's A New Haven frog company

man is sure of making twice as life on his creditors money. He uses a steam hammer and anvil has offered ten cents on the dollar weighing thirty five thousand to his creditors, although he hand- pounds. This may be fun for the "I wish I was as sure of living all ed over the proceeds of his large company, but the Courier Journal week as I am of making this money, and valuable stock to his mother thinks it must be death to the

ups, Molas-New Cur Raw Oil.

pans, etc.

hite Lead,

cos. Cigars Washing

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