The Democratic Advoc

$2 PER ANNUM. WESTMINSTER, MD., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1884.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE,

In Manchester District, Carroll County, Md.

By virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for Carroll county, sitting as a Court of Equity, passed in cause No. 2243 on the docket of said Court, wherein John W. Tracy next friend of Andrew L. Bowser et. als. is complainant, and Andrew L. Bowser and Charlotte L. Bowser are defendants, the undersigned, Trustee, will offer at Public Sale, on the premises, situate on the Black Rock road, about one-half mile from Lineboro' Station on the Baltimore and Hanover Railroad, and about one mile from Black Rock Station on the Bachman Valley Railroad, adjoining the lands of said John W. Tracy and others, on *Saturday, the 6th day of September, A. D.* 1884, at 1 o'clock, P. M., all the following lots of land:

Lot No. 1, situate as above described, contains

10 ACRES AND 2 ROODS OF LAND, more or less, and is improved with a comfortable Log Dwelling House, Stable and other out-buildings. An excellent spring of water is near the house. There is a good orchard in bearing condition. The land has been recently limed.

Lot No. 2, adjoins Lot No. 1, and contains

8 ACRES AND 1 ROOD OF LAND, more or less. Lot No. 3, adjoins Lot No. 2, and contains

14 ACRES AND 3 ROODS OF LAND, more or less; is well wooded with oak and chestnut.

The above Lots are well located and would make excellent building lots.

If the above lots are not sold separately, they will be offered in a body and sold as one lot.

Terms of Sale.—One-third in cash on the day of sale or upon ratification thereof by the Court, the balance to be paid in equal instalments of one and two years respectively, with interest from day of sale, and to be secured to the satisfaction of Trustee.

JOHN W. TRACY, Trustee.

E. Frank Tracy, Charles B. Roberts, } Solicitors.

At the same time and place will be sold the following Personal Property:—A lot of wheat, a lot of oats, double shovel plow, single shovel plow, corn fork, wheelbarrow, grain cradle, forks, axes, a lot of barrels and tubs, 2 bedsteads and bedding, 4 chests, 2 bureaus, half dozen chairs, 2 rocking chairs, clock, tenplate stove and pipe and other articles.

Terms of Sale.—Cash on all sums of five dollars and under; on sums above five dollars a credit of six months will be given, purchasers to give their notes with approved security bearing interest from day of sale.

JOHN W. TRACY, Trustee.

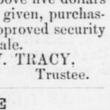
aug 9-ts

EXECUTRIX'S SALE OF A VALUABLE HOTEL PROPERTY, IN WESTMINSTER, MD.

By virtue of the last will and testament of Dr. Francis Butler, late of Carroll county, deceased, the undersigned, as Executrix, will sell at public sale, on the premises, in the city of Westminster, Md., on

Saturday, September 6th, 1884,

at 2 o'clock, P. M., the valuable hotel property known as the Carroll House, on Main street, opposite the Depot. It is a brick and frame building, two and a half stories high, and has a front of 60 feet on Main street, with large stabling and yards in the rear. The building is in excellent repair, and is supplied with the finest spring water by a hydrant. It has accommodations for about 60 guests, the hotel being centrally located, and its proximity to the Depot insures for it, at all seasons, a large transient custom. It is seldom that such property as this is in the market, and any one desiring to engage in the hotel business should attend the sale, as such opportunities are rarely presented. The lot is 60 feet, fronting on Main street, running back even width to an alley, and is parallel with the Railroad, and contains 11,880 square feet of land, more or less.



Possession given on the 1st day of April, 1885; rent (to accrue to the purchaser, which is $50 per month) from the day of sale.

Terms of Sale.—One-third of the purchase money to be paid in cash on the day of sale, or upon the ratification of the same by the court; one-third in six months, and the other one-third in twelve months from the day of sale, the credit payments to be secured by the notes of the purchaser with approved security, bearing interest from date.

For further particulars, apply to Wm. B. Thomas, Agent for

JANE R. BUTLER, Executrix.

aug 16-ts

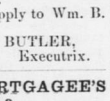
ASSIGNEE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE of a VALUABLE FARM,

In Freedom District, Carroll Co., Md.

By virtue of the powers of sale contained in two mortagages executed by Joseph M. Gist, and wife to Jeremiah Rinehart, and by him assigned to the subscriber, the undersigned, assignee of said mortgagee, will offer at Public Sale, on the premises, situate in Freedom district, in Carroll county, Md., within half a mile of the Baltimore and Liberty Turnpike and three miles from Marriottsville, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, on

Thursday, September 11th, 1884,

at 12 o'clock, M., all that Farm containing 183 ACRES OF LAND, MORE or LESS, improved with a Log Weatherboarded Dwelling House, containing 8 rooms and kitchen, large Bank Barn, 40x60 feet, good as new, and all necessary farm buildings. There is good water convenient to the house and barn. The land is in a high state of cultivation, is under good fencing and has running water in each field. There is a thriving young orchard of choice fruits in bearing condition on the premises. About 25 Acres of this land are covered with good timber.



Terms of Sale.—One-third of the purchase money to be paid in cash on the day of sale, or upon the ratification thereof by the Court, the balance to be paid in equal instalments of one and two years respectively, with interest, and to be secured to the satisfaction of the undersigned. The whole amount of purchase money will be received in cash if purchaser so prefers.

CHARLES B. ROBERTS, Guardian, Assignee of Mortgagee.

aug 9 t-s R. C. Matthews, Auctioneer.

NOTICE.

To the Citizens using Water from the Mains of the Westminster Water Company.

The rules of the Company regulating the use of water are a part of the contract with every person who takes water. Some of our patrons have abused the privileges named therein by wasting water and using it for purposes unauthorized by their licenses. The license for a pave wash simply does not include irrigation, washing of vehicles or general house consumption, as some seem willing to think. It simply accords the right to sprinkle, not waste, in front of your own premises, not your neighbors; the right to wash your front windows and pavement, as necessity may require. Notice is hereby given that the right to use water will be withdrawn by shutting water from all persons who abuse their privileges. Read your license. The water will be shut off in all cases where persons refuse or neglect to obtain license within six days after the previous license expires, and it will not be restored except on payment of the expense of shutting it off and putting it on.

By order, C. H. BAUGHMAN, Superintendent.

aug 23:3t

AUCTION SALE OF STORE GOODS.

The undersigned, trustee of Thos. I. Griffee and Alfred V. Shipley, in insolvency, will sell at public auction, at the store room of Griffee & Shipley, in Mechanicsville, Carroll county, Md., on the Nicodemus road, on

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1884,

At 9 o'clock, A. M., the entire stock of goods contained in said store, consisting in part as follows, viz: DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, notions, boots and shoes, hats and caps, hardware, queensware, glassware, tobacco, canned tomatoes, &c., store fixtures, platform and counter scales, 3 Davis chilled plows, 1 plug plow, 3 iron double shovel shows and 13 corn drags, 2 spring wagons and such other articles as are usually kept in a well-conducted country store. TERMS CASH.

J. OLIVER WADLOW, Trustee in Insolvency.

Reifsnider & Fink Solicitors, aug30;ts

WE BUY DIRECT FROM THE MANUFACTURERS

BOOTS, SHOES, HATS, CAPS,

TRUNKS, VALISES and UMBRELLAS.

BY MAKING A SPECIALTY of the above named goods, we can offer great inducements.

Having had 15 Years' Experience

In this line of business, we claim to be judges of goods and to understand the wants of the people, and to give them in exchange for their money

Goods that will Please Them,

Both as to quality and price. Look at the figures:

Men's Plow Shoes.....90 cents and up.
Ladies' Lace Shoes.....75 " "
Child's Pegged Shoes.....45 " "
Men's Hats.....25 " "

A FULL LINE OF THE LATEST STYLE

STIFF HATS.

CALL AND SEE THE "FEDORA."

☞Having made arrangements with the largest manufacturers, and buying for cash, we will be enabled to give our customers such bargains as will retain their confidence and patronage. Respectfully,

U. L. REAVER & CO.,

First National Bank Building, R. R. Depot,

WESTMINSTER, MD. mar8-1y

GO TO B. G. BLANCHARD FOR

CARPETS, CARPETS, CARPETS!

THE LARGEST VARIETY in Westminster AND THE

VERY LOWEST PRICES.

HANDSOME INGRAIN & THREE-PLY AND BEAUTIFUL BRUSSELS!

Ranging in price from 40 Cents to $2.00.

Call or send for circulars explaining our plan of selling Carpets, which is done through the medium of a most wonderful invention—

RICHARDSON'S CARPET EXHIBITOR.

By the aid of this device we are enabled to show you, *before purchasing*, precisely how your carpet will look when made up and laid upon your floor. Don't fail to call and see it before buying, as you can surely save money by buying in this way.

We also have full lines of goods usually kept in stock, such as

GROCERIES, QUEENSWARE,

BOOTS AND SHOES,

SILVERWARE, WOODENWARE,

CLOCKS, MIRRORS, &c.

Prices as low as any house in Westminster. Very respectfully,

may 8-tf B. G. BLANCHARD.

166 N. GAY STREET. 166

NEW HARDWARE STORE.

E. SCOTT PAYNE & BRO.

166 North Gay Street,

WHITE FRONT.....BALTIMORE.

As our business is largely increasing and requiring more room to store and handle goods, we have removed to the above spacious warehouse, where we will be pleased to see our friends and the public wanting Hardware.

We have a large and well selected stock of

Builders' and Carriage Hardware,

PLOW CASTINGS,

Farmers' Tools, Cutlery, Axes, &c., &c.,

AXLES & SPRINGS,

Steel Tire, Bar Iron and Tool Steel, Felloes, Spokes, Hubs and Wheels, and a full stock of Carriage and Wagon Hardware.

E. SCOTT PAYNE & BRO., oct 28-6m 166 N. Gay St., Baltimore.

LUMBER, COAL, LUMBER.

I have just returned from the Lumber Regions—and am now receiving the largest selection of LUMBER ever offered at this place, at Reduced Prices, consisting of Yellow Pine, Spruce and Hemlock

JOIST AND SCANTLING

of all lengths and sizes, 4-4, 5-4, 6-4 and 8-4 White Pine Boards and Plank, Yellow and White Pine Flooring, Dressed and Undressed Weatherboarding, White Pine, Cypress and Chestnut Shingles, Walnut and Ash Boards and Plank, Plain and Headed Picketts, Shingle and Plastering Laths, prime lot of Chestnut Rails and Posts. Also all the

DIFFERENT KINDS OF COAL.

Thinking large sales with small profits better than small sales with large profits, I have concluded to adopt the former as my guide, and hope I shall be enabled to carry it out by persons in want of anything in my line giving me a call before purchasing elsewhere.

EDWARD LYNCH, Near Depot, Westminster, Md.

feb 29-tf

PATAPSCO GUANO CO., BALTIMORE,

Manufacturers of the following Standard Brands of Fertilizers:

Patapsco Ammoniated Soluble Phosphate, Grange Mixture, Dissolved S. C. Bone, Dissolved S. C. and Potash, Alkaline Phosphate, Dissolved Bone Phosphate, Dissolved Animal Bone, and Dealers in Pure Ground Bone and General Fertilizing Materials.

For Sale by

JOHN LYNCH, Westminster, Md.

july 12:2mos

ICE CREAM AND WATER ICE.

I can supply the citizens of Westminster and Carroll county with a first-class article of Ice Cream and Water Ice. Private families furnished with either by the gallon or half gallon. Large orders will receive prompt attention. Orders delivered within the city limits or at the railroad free of charge. ☞Send orders to Harbaugh's Store, Box 43. Those wanting cream for Sunday should send in their orders by 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

JOSIAH CROWL, may 10-tf Westminster, Md.

WILSON'S GREEN SAND MARL FERTILIZER.

☞ **Single Bag of 200 pounds $1.50. Per Ton $12.00.**

This article has been thoroughly tested ON WHEAT, CORN AND VEGETABLES, And has given very satisfactory results.

IT HAS BEEN ANALYZED BY ONE OF THE BEST CHEMISTS In Baltimore city and New York, and pronounced the Finest Marl ever discovered.

It contains a large percentage of ANIMAL BONE PHOSPHATES.

Warehouse 162 Franklin street, between Green and Paca, Baltimore.

In connection with my Green Sand Marl Fertilizer, which I sell in natural state, I also manufacture a Fertilizer, using the Marl as a basis, for $20 per ton, which will compare favorably with the best Fertilizer known. It has been thoroughly tested on corn, wheat and vegetables, with very satisfactory results.

aug 16:2m

GREAT BARGAINS IN FURNITURE,

$5,000 WORTH TO BE SOLD WITHIN THE NEXT 60 DAYS,

REGARDLESS OF COST.

Parties desiring to purchase will do well to call and examine our Stock before purchasing elsewhere, and we will convince you that

WE SELL AS LOW AS ANY HOUSE IN THE COUNTY, TAKING QUALITY OF GOODS INTO CONSIDERATION.

J. GEISELMAN & SON, mar 8 Westminster, Md.

NEW GROCERY STORE —AT— YINGLING'S OLD STAND.

Having taken the above stand, and stocked it with a new and fine variety of Groceries, such as

SUGARS,

COFFEES, TEAS, MOLASES,

DRIED BEEF, BACON,

HAM, BREAKFAST MIDDLING,

CANNED FRUITS, SPICES,

TIN, WOODEN & WILLOW WARE,

TOBACCO, CIGARS,

CONFECTIONERY, STATIONERY, &c.,

I respectfully ask a share of the patronage of our citizens.

☞All orders delivered in the town.

E. ZEPP, june21:6mos Westminster, Md.

FLOUR! FLOUR! FLOUR!

Westminster Flouring Mills,

W. S. MYER & BRO. PROPRIETORS.

Manufacture and have on sale the following brands of Flour:

Oriole Family, A No. 1 Family } Patent Process.

Westminster Family, Parr's Ridge Family, Westminster Extra } New Process.

Above Brands Flour on sale at Barrel Prices, in

Half Barrel Sacks, (98 lbs.)
Quarter " " (49 lbs.)
Eighth " " (24½ lbs.)
Sixteenth " " (12½ lbs.)

Have constantly on hand and for sale Bran, Middlings and Offall in general. Agents for

Standard Brands of Fertilizers.

For sale at Manufacturers' Prices. feb 4 1882-1y

FRANK K. HERR. SAMUEL K. HERR.

F. K. HERR & BRO.,

Manufacturers of

COACHES, CARRIAGES,

BUGGIES, JAGGER WAGONS!!

PHAETONS, &C.

Special attention given to Repairing. All orders promptly filled and work of every kind warranted.

☞Factory opposite the Montour House, Main street, Westminster, Md. aug 8-1y

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, in Maryland, letters of Administration on the Personal Estate of

MICHAEL T. FROCK,

late of Carroll county, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated, to the subscriber, on or before the 23d day of March, 1884; they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate.

Given under my hand this 19th day of August, 1884.

MARY C. FROCK, aug 23-4t* Administratrix.

NEW STORE, NEW GOODS, and CHEAP.

I have built a Store Room next door to my old stand, Bowers' Hall, and my stock consists of a full line of good fresh GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS, comprising all kinds of Salt Meats, cut to suit, Salt Fish, Coffee, Sugar, Syrups, Spices, Chip Beef, Bologna Sausage, Flour, Corn, and Buckwheat Meal, and all articles generally kept in a good Grocery and Provision Store, all of which will be sold low, delivered to any part of the town. With long experience and by strict attention to business, I solicit a liberal share of the public patronage.

june 14 JOHN H. BOWERS.

MAGISTRATES' BLANKS for sale at this office.

BARGAINS, BARGAINS.

J. T. WAMPLER

Cordially invites his friends and the public generally to call and examine his

LARGE STOCK OF GOODS,

and compare prices before purchasing elsewhere. We have

LADIES' DRESS GOODS

AND DOMESTIC GOODS, &c.,

OF ALL KINDS.

OUR NOTION DEPARTMENT

Is full and complete with all the Latest Novelties. In our

QUEENSWARE DEPARTMENT,

Which is the largest and best selected in the county, we defy competition.

OUR GROCERY DEPARTMENT

Is always complete with all the various grades of Sugars, Coffees, Teas, Spices, Fruits, &c. We keep also a Large Stock of

Japaned Ware, Tin Ware, Wooden Ware, Glass Ware and Sample Goods,

All of which we sell at Rock Bottom Prices.

J. T. WAMPLER, ap 22-tf West End, Westminster, Md.

WORTH READING & AGENTS WANTED.

One or two live men in each district in Carroll county to sell the Unrivaled Washing Machine. It has been the aim of the inventor to construct a washing machine which, unlike its contemporaries, WOULD DO the WORK AS WELL AS BY HAND, and in a much shorter time, without destroying the clothes or breaking the buttons. **The Atkinson is a machine which will stand the most rigid examination, and do all that is claimed for it. It is simple in construction, thereby enabling the manufacturer to sell at a price which puts it within the reach of all. It is light and durable,** not liable to get out of repair, and is easily operated. The principle is unique and original, differing widely from that of any machine ever designed for a similar purpose. The time-worn system of beating, rubbing and grinding the articles to be washed is totally ignored, and a new one (founded on an established law of hydraulics, which treats of the suction and pressure of water and air) is substituted. ☞Every good housekeeper should examine it. It is a valuable addition to articles of household economy. Wherever sold they have given entire satisfaction. We warrant them to be as represented. Any live man can make $15 a week profit. It has been done. Write me at once. Terms and circulars furnished on applying to

O. M. HITESHEW, Owner and Manufacturer of the Unsurpassed Machine, P. O. Box 26, Uniontown, Carroll county, Md. may 26-tf

FOR SALE BY A. N. STEPHAN.

The finest stock of Spring Goods ever offered in this market, such as Hames,

TRACE CHAINS OF ALL GRADES,

Tongue, Breast, Stay, Halter,

☞ LOG AND FIFTH CHAINS, ☜

Forks, Shovels, Hoes, Rakes, Spades, SAWS of every description, Grindstones and Hangers, Vises, Anvils, Bellows and Blowers.

STEEL SHOVEL BLADES,

of all sizes. To any one needing such goods it will be to their advantage to call and see my stock. Also HARDWARE, Iron, Steel, Coach Goods, Wheels, Leather, Glass, Oils, Paints, &c.

CUCUMBER PUMPS,

The Celebrated Excelsior COOK STOVES,

LONDON HORSE and CATTLE FOOD,

☞ READY-MIXED HOUSE PAINT,

BARB FENCE WIRE.

A. N. STEPHAN, feb 17-tf Near Depot, Westminster, Md.

NEW WINDSOR COLLEGE.

[Chartered by the Legislature of Maryland 1843.]

WINDSOR LADIES' SEMINARY	NEW WINDSOR COLLEGE
For Young Ladies, with Preparatory and Primary Schools for Girls.	For Young Men, with Preparatory and Business Schools for Boys.

Fall Term opens September 10, 1884.

These Institutions have distinct and separate courses of study and government, and offer advantages not surpassed in the State. For healthfulness and beauty the location is unrivalled. The government is moral and Christian, and is not embarrassed by *Denominational* or *State* control. Each department has now a fund to assist worthy students needing aid.

Scholarships are not recommended, for obvious reasons; but when insisted upon Scholarships for three years' tuition will be sold for $90, and those holding such will be charged for board, room, washing, fuel and light *only $136 per year.*

For Catalogues and the fullest information, visit the College, or address

REV. A. M. JELLY, D. D., President, june21:4mos New Windsor, Md.

VALUABLE Frame Buildings, Brick and Stone Material *AT PUBLIC SALE.*

We will sell at public sale, at the Taylor Works, near the Court House, in Westminster, Md., on

Saturday, the 13th day of September, 1884,

at 2 o'clock, P. M., several large frame buildings, composed of heavy joists, girders, heavy frame timber, large quantity of heavy plank, 1 turning lathe, planing mill and patent machine for drilling iron.

The material in these buildings is in excellent condition, and the attention of persons desiring to build houses, barnes or shedding, is invited to this sale.

Terms of Sale.—One-half cash and the other one-half in six months; the credit payment to be secured by note of purchaser or purchasers with approved security, bearing interest from the day of sale.

CHAS. B. ROBERTS, WM. B. THOMAS, CHAS. T. REIFSNIDER.

R. C. Matthews, Auct'r. aug16:ts

FARMERS, Take Notice of This.

I am selling all the different brands of PHOSPHATES which I handle at from one to three dollars per ton less than I sold them last year (including "Star Bone"), and still giving you crop time without interest. I am prepared to sell you goods of the same analyses or better for **less money** than any dealer or agent in the county. As the price of wheat is very low, I have determined to retail the goods I handle at wholesale prices. Don't buy until you see me.

JAMES E. SMITH. Warehouse on Liberty street, one door east of Lynch's sale stable.

Pure Ground Bone for sale. aug23:2m

Select Poetry.

THE SKEIN WE WIND.

If you and I, to-day,
Should stop and lay
Our life work down, and let our hands fall where they will—
Fall down to lie quite still—
And if some other hand should come and stoop to find
The threads we carried so that it could wind,
Beginning where we stopped; if it should come to keep
Our life work going, seek
To carry on the good design
Distinctly made in yours or mine,
What would it find?

Some work must be doing, true or false;
Some threads we wind; some purpose exalts
Itself that we look up to it, or down,
As to a crown
To bow before, and we weave threads
Of different lengths and thicknesses—some more shreds—
And wind them 'round
Till all the skein of life is bound,
Sometimes forgetting at the task
To ask
The value of the threads, or choose
Strong stuff to use.

No hand but winds some thread;
It cannot stand quite still, till it is dead,
But what it spins and winds a little skein.
God made each hand for work—not toil stain
Is required, but every hand
To spin, though only ropes of sand,
If love should come,
Stooping above when we are done,
To find bright threads
That we have held, that it may spin then longer—find but threds,
That break when touched, how cold,
Sad shivering, portionless, the hands will hold
The broken strands, and know
Fresh cause for woe.

Select Story.

THE NEW AGENT.

"Susan, I tell you, I can't live so much longer. I'm workin' the flesh off my bones; I'm starvin' myself; you are starvin'; and the Lord knows our children are poorly enough off. I tell you, 'tain't no use. I can't live so. Sometimes, when I git to thinkin' of it right up an' down—in earnest—I feel as though I'd rather go to the workhouse and have done with it."

"I know it's hard, Malcolm; but, really, couldn't it be harder?"

"Harder! Be harder? What can you imagine harder'n what we have to endure now?"

"I was thinking of the health of our little ones, Malcolm, and of our own health, too."

"Aye," exclaimed the weary man, with a twist in his face that was comical, for it was a comical idea that had struck him, "and jest see what the health and robustuousness of them youngkets is costin' me. I sometimes think they'll eat us all up afore they get their growth."

Susan laughed, for she knew how fondly and tenderly her husband loved those same "youngkets," and how much he would sacrifice for their sakes.

She was afraid he would be finally giving up the farm.

She was born on it, and she loved it dearly, and it would pull terribly upon her heartstrings to leave it.

Her six children had been born beneath that same sheltering roof, and, altogether, her life had been a very pleasant and happy one.

Yet she knew that they were paying an exorbitant rent—altogether too much—more by far than the farm was worth. But others did the same, and he and she must bear with them.

All this she said to her husband as he sat by the fire filling his pipe. She spoke modestly, and kindly, and persuasively.

Malcolm lighted his pipe and smoked for a time in silence. At length he brought his foot down with a crash and burst.

"Dang it all! I didn't mean to tell you, Susan, but I can't keep it no longer. Carter says the squire's goin' to make another rise on the rent."

"No, no, Malcolm. You do not mean it?"

"It's just as true as gospel. Five shillin's a month. That's three pounds a year."

"Oh, Malcolm, I don't believe the squire's got any hand in the business. It's Carter's own doin', now you depend upon it."

"I've thought o' that myself, Susan; but look; The young blood is away on the Continent—in Paris, I believe, where he's been ever since he come from Cambridge, and he's spendin' money fast. I tell you I look to see the whole grand estate, hall, abbey and all, put up to the highest bidder one o' these days. Ah, 'taint as 'twas when young Philip's father was livin'. We weren't ground down then. He lived on his place and looked out for hisself, and now you see where the money's goin' 'at he laid up—thousands upon thousands of pounds!"

A further smoke in silence, and he added:

"If anything should happen 'at Master Philip should be obliged to begin to sell, this farm would be the very first bit o' property to go. It's the farthest outlyin' farm of the estate. Just think of it! We're nigh on to five miles away from the Hall, and yet he owns all the land atween here and there—every rood of it. What a shame it is 'at a young man without any family, only his mother and two sisters, should eat into such a grand old heritage so outrageously! Halloo! I declare it's rainin'."

"Why, it's been raining this half-hour, Malcolm."

"Well, I never noticed it until now. Eh! who's that, I wonder?"

It was a rap upon the outer door. Malcolm got up and took a candle and went to answer the summons.

He found on a broad door-stone a young man, tall and strong, clad in a rough forest garb such as gamekeepers and foresters were wont-to wear—leather breeches and leather jacket, with strong leather gaiters, and upon his head a Highland bonnet. He carried in his hand a fowling-piece, with shot-pouch and powder-horn at his sides.

Malcolm Wansley was not the man to keep a wayfarer at his door to tell his story when the whole story could be read at a glance.

"Ah, stranger! got caught in a shower, eh? Come right in. We've room, sir, and a bit o' fire to boot."

Come to bring him into the full light, they beheld a fine-looking man, nearly a head taller than his host, and well-proportioned; his skin tanned by exposure to the weather, his blue eyes bright and clear, his face handsome, with a look of keen intelligence upon it.

The stranger spoke pleasantly and cheerfully, and in a laughing way described his mishap.

He said the gamekeeper of an adjoining estate was a friend of his, who had given him permission to run down a deer if he could, but he hadn't done it, though he had found a good wetting, which would help to fill out the story of the day.

After he had partially dried his garments, the good wife asked him if he would take a sup and a bite, if she would set it before him.

With a genial smile, he answered that he was hungry. He would not put her to trouble, but if——

Malcolm stopped him abruptly.

"Don't talk of putting us to trouble, sir. What are we good for, if we can't help one another in times of trouble and want? We hain't got much, and what we have got's plain and homely, but it's good, and it's honestly come by."

And thereupon Susan set out a small table, and prepared a substantial meal.

Her three elder children came in from the little kitchen, where they had been parching corn, and seated themselves modestly by the fire with a dish of the snowy corn before them.

The stranger begged a few kernels, and the eldest, a girl of twelve years, at once offered him half of all they had, but he only thanked her and accepted a small quantity; and as he ate he told the little ones how he had loved popped corn when he was a child like themselves.

When the meal was ready the stranger ate and drank with a relish, and when he had concluded he gladly accepted a pipe, and as he smoked he began to question the host about himself and his affairs. He said he was almost a stranger in that region, and he knew but little of it.

"What," said he, in surprise, after Malcolm had told him who was his landlord, "does this farm belong to the Maxwell estate? I had no idea that the territory extended so far."

"Yes, sir," responded the farmer. "Young Philip Maxwell owns a big estate, and it's a pity he don't take care of it. If all I hear is true he's runnin' through it pretty fast."

"Is that so? What makes you think it?" asked the stranger.

"What makes me think it?" echoed Malcolm, elevating his brow and blowing out an extra cloud of smoke. "Would a young man like him, without a family—leastwise I never heard of his bein' married—would he, ownin' such a grand estate as this, crowd down on a poor man like me till he'd got almost his last shillin' and then, on top o' that, jam and crowd harder still, if he wasn't goin' it pretty fast?"

Malcolm was becoming excited, and the thought of the last rise in his rent, which had been made known to him on that very day, filled his cup of indignation to overflow.

"Yes, sir," he went on, "I've been payin' a rent for this farm that no man ever ought to pay—a rent that has robbed me and my good wife and the little ones of things that we really needed—and now it's to be raised again. Susan—that's my wife, sir—her father rented this farm and she was born here, which, you'll understand, kind o' taches her to the place. Well, her father paid £10 a year and paid once in six months. My first year's rent was £12, then it went up, and up, and up, and for three years last past I've paid £2 a month, and now, sir, I've got notice that I'm to pay an advance of five shillin's a month. That's £3 more a year. Not much, you may say, but it's the last ounce that breaks the camel's back. When a man's payin' all he can pay, how can he pay more?"

"But," said the wayfarer, shaking the ashes from his pipe, "why don't you speak with the squire himself?"

"What! and he away in Paris?"

"Then why not write to him?"

"Ah, sir, there you've hit it! When young Master Philip came into possession he made it a law that the man who complained to him should be turned off at once. He's kind o' ticklish, I should judge, about bein' bothered, and he don't like to have his feelin's stirred up; so when he took possession he was determined that he wouldn't have no complaints nor faultfinding. He planned that he would enjoy all of life that could be enjoyed, and if his tenants had troubles they shouldn't saddle 'em off on to him. So, d'see, he just made that rule—and he made it strong—the man that opened his head to him about his rent or about any short-comin' whatever, or that dared to write to him, should be turned off, neck and heels, without further warnin'."

"But, dear man, do you really think Master Philip Maxwell would do that thing?" the guest asked with considerable interest.

"Would he? And didn't he?" cried Malcolm, explosively. "Go and ask poor old Dan Simpson what he thinks. Old Dan had the Goodspeed Farm—one of the best of the estate—as large as six of this. He dared to post a letter to the squire, and he got his discharge papers off hand. Yes, sir, he was turned away and the farm let to another within a week after the letter had been put into the post. Silas Carter must have the postmaster under his thumb. In fact the squire owns the line of buildin's where his store is and where the postoffice is. Ah, it was different when the old squire was livin'. He never turned a deaf ear to an honest tenant—not he!

"Why—look, Susan an' me—we'd kind o' promised ourselves that we'd give our second child—little Georgie—he's ten years old now, sir—that we'd give to him a leetle better eddication than boys of his rank generally get, but we can't do it now. This last rise in our rent has took the last penny—and more, too. Really and truly, I dont't think I can pay it. I hate to give up the dear old place, where Susan was born and reared; but it must come. I can have a farm of Sir Oliver Thorndike for about one-half what I've got to pay another year of this.

"But, pardon me, good sir. This is no business of yourn; but you asked me a question, and I got a goin' and didn't know how to stop, seein' that the rise in my rent had just been made. But, believe me, good sir, I ain't in the habit of tellin' this stuff out o' school. You're the first man not one of us that I ever opened my head to on the subject. I wouldn't like that Silas Carter should hear what I've been tellin', 'cause, d'you see, such things sound so different when they're told second-hand."

"Have no fear of me, my good man," returned the stranger, heartily. "My name is Sidney—George Sidney. I have met young Maxwell, and should I chance to meet him again you may be sure I shall give him a gentle hint of how things are going on here. Is there anyone on the estate who, you think, would be entirely fit and competent in every way for an agent in Carter's place?"

"Yes, sir," answered Malcolm, promptly and heartily; "I know just the man, savin' my wife's presence. It's her brother—John Guilford. He used to rent a farm here, but he got disgusted with Carter's uppishness and left. He's now with Sir Oliver—a sort of useful man about the old castle, but not engaged permanently."

"Did you ever write to your young master?"

"No, sir—never."

"I suppose you—can write?"

The honest, hard-handed farmer colored up to the eyes; and, before he could speak, his wife answered for him:

"Good sir, Malcolm's got into a sort of careless way of speaking, but I do assure you he has a good education. As for writing, he's done that ever since he was a child; and Mr. Carter'll tell you if he'll tell the truth—that my husband has straightened out his accounts and written important letters for him, more than once. Malcolm won't speak for himself, but I'll speak for