BAFFLED CONSPIRATORS

BY W. E. NORRIS

CHAPTER VIII.

A PAINFUL PREDICAMENT.

"And if you do go south where will you go?"

When these two friends were left together Lord Guise threw himself back in his chair and laughed until the tears came into his eyes.

"Upon my word," he exclaimed, "this is about the best joke I have ever heard of!"

"It may be," answered Percy rather grimly, "though some people might think that it was a little spoilt by being so ill natured."

"Ill natured! What do you mean? You look as if you meant me, but I hope you aren't so unjust as that. Is it my fault that three men over whose actions I have no control—except the limited control which they have been so kind as to give me—have seen fit to play the fool at one and the same time? I suppose I may call that singular coincidence a joke without giving offense, may I not?"

"Yes; but what you are chuckling over is the way in which you have checkmated us all. I don't deny that it is funny; only I don't call it exactly friendly."

"Thorold, you are very ungrateful. Much as I dislike matrimony in the abstract, I fully recognize the fact that well to do men with domestic proclivities are bound to marry, and if my voting for you would have done you any good you should have had my vote. To the best of my knowledge and belief Miss Leslie is unexceptionable; but Moreton and Schneider, you see, think otherwise. I can't help that."

"And I have only myself to thank for the absurd fix that I am in. That is true enough, I suppose; but at any rate I have to thank you for suggesting this foul project. What on earth made you do it?"

Lord Guise shrugged his shoulders. "Oh, I dare say she won't quite believe you," he admitted; "but that, as I told you before, is entirely your own fault. You ought to have consulted us before you gave her to understand that you loved her."

Strictly speaking, Percy had not gone quite so far as that; still he had gone far enough to give his abrupt retreat a very ugly look, and it was with shame as well as grief in his heart that he set forth on the ensuing Wednesday afternoon to keep the appointment he had made with Miss Leslie. Now in making that appointment it had occurred to him that Mrs. Leslie would be terribly in his way, and he had wondered how he should contrive to get her out of the room just for a few minutes; but now he desired nothing more ardently than the presence of this third person, because, of course, what he had to say could be much more easily said to the two ladies together than to one of them alone.

Surely, however, he might have known better than to imagine that no chance of speaking a private word to Dorothy would be given him. Mothers who give such chances are usually sneered at; yet how can the poor things help themselves? If we ourselves were mothers, and if we had reason to suppose that a young man of large means and excellent character desired to say something particular to a daughter of ours, and if there was but one occasion left on which he could say it, what should we do? It seems exceedingly likely that we should act precisely as Mrs. Leslie acted, and arrange to have an old lady at tea with us on the arrival of the young man. The tea table is in the back drawing room; there is a folding screen between it and the arm chair in which you have planted the old lady; you talk to your guest about her suppressed gout or some other topic of equally absorbing interest, and you grant the young man his opportunity without making it too disgracefully apparent that you are doing so.

So, when Percy Thorold made his appearance at the house in Ebury street, there, sure enough, was the requisite old woman, and five minutes afterward he was seated beside Miss Leslie in comparative seclusion. Hard was his fate, and hard the task which he had to perform. It is a fact, and rather a melancholy one—but nobody will deny the fact—that love, more than any other of the passions to which we are subject, is increased by being thwarted. Never before had Dorothy seemed to him so charming; never before had he felt in the same degree the impossiblity of saying even the most commonplace thing to her without letting her see how he adored her. He could not help noticing that her color was a little brighter than usual, that her speech was somewhat quicker, and that there was a suspicion of nervousness in her manner. It was beyond a doubt that she had guessed the original object of his visit, and flesh and blood could hardly withstand the temptation to give her a hint as to the true position of affairs. However, he was an honorable man, and he knew that he must not dally with that temptation. To place himself beyond reach of it he said rather suddenly:

"I suppose one won't see you again for an age, Miss Leslie? I am thinking of betaking myself to the uttermost ends of the earth until parliament reassembles."

Well, she certainly looked surprised; but perhaps it may not have been so much his announcement as the tremulous voice in which he made it that surprised her.

"What do you mean by the uttermost ends of the earth?" she inquired, smiling. "Not Westmoreland, I am afraid. That is where we shall be for a long time to come."

"No," he answered sadly, "not Westmoreland. I had an idea of India and Japan and San Francisco. I shall hate the voyages and the journeys, and indeed the whole thing from beginning to end; but one comfort is that when it is over one will never be expected to do it again."

"Oh, I dare say you will enjoy it," she said carelessly.

"I think not; but it is the sort of thing that has to be done sooner or later. Everybody goes round the world nowadays," he pleaded, making his desire to excuse himself a trifle too obvious, "and—and I think I have rather knocked myself up with these night sittings, and no doubt I shall be all the better for a complete change, though the process may not be altogether pleasant while it lasts. And then, you know, there is one great advantage of going far away, which is the intense delight of returning to one's friends."

But of course he could not better his position by such speeches as that. Say what he would, the facts remained that he had paid marked attention to this girl; that he had begged a flower from her on the occasion of their last meeting, and that he had made an appointment with her for the ostensible purpose of saying good-by to her, and the unmistakable purpose of saying something else. Now, apparently, he had nothing to tell her except that he meant to run away, and that he was a good deal ashamed of running away. Whether she loved him, or hated him, or did not care a brass farthing about him, such conduct must inevitably strike her as contemptible. And that it did so strike her the unfortunate man perceived plainly enough, although she said nothing worse to him than:

"I can't imagine any delight being exactly 'intense' to you; you would always be thinking of the reverse side of the shield, even though you couldn't see it."

"Indeed you are quite wrong!" he protested warmly. "Very likely I do keep rather too watchful an eye upon the seamy side of most things; but that only gives me a keener joy in the things which have no seamy side. And one of those things," he ventured to add, "would be a visit to Westmoreland. Will you be there the whole of next winter, do you think? In the month of January, for instance?"

"I really don't know; but we live there and we don't often leave home," answered Dorothy.

"So that if I were to turn up at that time—if I happened to be staying for a few days with my cousin, Sybil Belvoir—I might hope to find you in the neighborhood? I don't see why I shouldn't invite myself to stay with Sybil when I return," he continued musingly. Then something that he saw in Dorothy's face prompted him to add, "She and I are nothing more than friends and cousins now, and I am sure that she is quite as glad of that as I am."

Miss Leslie made no rejoinder, but presently she asked him whether he would have another cup of tea, and on his declining moved into the front room, whither he followed her perforce. The old lady, who may have had intelligence enough to surmise why her company had been desired, and why her room would now be more welcome, rose at once to depart, and after she had gone poor Percy had to pass through an uncomfortable five minutes. Mrs. Leslie was a simple, honest sort of woman, and as the news which her daughter imparted to her so calmly filled her with consternation it was quite out of her power to conceal what she felt.

She said, "Oh, indeed!" and then remained absolutely silent while her visitor explained somewhat confusedly that he required a change, and that it was the fashion to go round the world now, and so forth; but when he reached the point of saying that he should try to be in Westmoreland in six months' time she could not refrain from giving him a tolerably direct snub.

"We do not see much of Lady Belvoir's friends," said she. "Lady Belvoir scarcely visits at all in the country, and I should not, in any case, care very much about that kind of society. Besides, I am not at all sure that we shall be at home in January. I should be glad to escape the long winter, and we may very possibly move south when the cold weather sets in."

"And if you do go south where will you go?" asked Percy, who felt that he could not afford to accept a snub.

"That is quite uncertain. Dorothy, dear, didn't you say that you wanted me to go to some shops with you? And do you see what the time is?"

After that Percy could only take himself off as speedily as possible. Mrs. Leslie's method of showing displeasure was lacking in grace and dignity, but she had every right to be displeased and he had none to resent the very chilling accents in which she bade him farewell. Dorothy, if less undisguisedly angry, was scarcely less cold, and the impression which he took away with him was that his chance of ever being forgiven was small indeed.

Carlton House terrace was perhaps rather an odd place to go in search of consolation; nevertheless it was to Carlton House terrace that he betook himself straightway. His cousin was the only person, except Lord Guise, to whom he could confide even a portion of his woes, and he remembered that she had more than once displayed a good natured sort of interest in this second love affair of his.

Lady Belvoir was at home, and the speech with which she received him was a welcome one to his ears, because it enabled him to plunge without preface into his subject.

"Have you come to ask for my blessing?" she inquired. "I heard that you were expected in Ebury street this afternoon, and I am so extraordinarily clever that I can guess what errand took you there."

"You are very clever," he replied; "but like other clever people you sometimes make a bad shot. I went to Ebury street to say good-by. The fact is that I have made up my mind to take a trip round the world, and I suppose I shall hardly be back before the beginning of next year."

"Dear me!" said Lady Belvoir. "And what do you mean by that, pray?"

"Oh, I don't know; nothing in particular. I want to see Bombay and Calcutta and Yokohama and—and all the other horrid places that people talk about."

"You look as if you did. And I wonder why you wanted to begin by seeing me, and I wonder what you think I can do for you, and I wonder whether Dorothy has refused you or whether you only concluded for some insufficient reason or other that she would refuse you if you asked her?"

"Well, she hasn't refused me, and I haven't asked her, and I'm sure I don't know what the consequences of my asking would have been," said Percy, laughing a little. "As to what you can do for me, I think that if you were very good natured and kind you might give me a general invitation to stay with you in Westmoreland when I return from this abominable trip."

"Consider yourself generally, not to say particularly, invited," answered Lady Belvoir; "might a bewildered friend inquire once more what you mean by starting off on a trip which you call abominable?"

This was a very natural and excusable question; but of course it was not in Percy's power to make any reply to it. After a moment of hesitation he said:

"I have reasons, but I am afraid I can't tell you anything about them, except that they aren't discreditable or dishonorable reasons."

"One is relieved to hear that," observed Lady Belvoir, with a twinkle in her eye. "One has acquired—quite against one's will—a certain knowledge of the ways of men which leads one to distrust even the best behaved of them. However, my faith in you knows no bounds; so that I am willing to take your word for it that you are going away because you think you ought to see Yokohama. The only thing is, do you really imagine that Dorothy Leslie is the kind of girl to wait meekly until you come back, and to drop a curtsy when you are graciously pleased to offer her your hand and what remains of your heart?"

"Ah, that's just it! You know, Sybil, you have treated me rather badly, haven't you?"

"So you have always said, and you are one of those people who are always right. How can I make amends? Shall we renew our engagement?"

"No, thank you; I shouldn't like that; nor would you. But although you certainly did treat me badly I don't believe you are altogether heartless, Sybil."

"This is indeed gross flattery!" exclaimed Lady Belvoir. "What can he be going to ask for?"

"Not for any very enormous favor. What I was thinking was this: You may feel that you owe me a good turn, and it wouldn't give you a great deal of trouble to write to me once or twice while I am away. And couldn't you, perhaps, just put in a word for me sometimes, when you saw your opportunity? Owing to circumstances which I can't at present explain it will be impossible for me to say a word for myself."

"I see. I am to hold the fort for you, and I am to keep on repeating, 'He will return; I know him well.' But what if you don't return, my good friend? What if you meet with some enchanting creature on board one of the many steamers in which you will have to take a passage and forget the poor maid of Westmoreland?"

"You know I shall not do that."

"Do I? If I do it's all I know about your mysterious disappearance. Now, look here, Percy, as I told you before, I have a childlike faith in you; I may say that you are the only perfectly honest man whom I have ever known. But if I undertake this job it must be upon the distinct understanding that I am to be enlightened eventually as to the whole meaning of it. I rather think that I can smell a rat; still I am not sure, and I must be made sure, or I shall die of baffled curiosity."

"It will give me the greatest possible pleasure," answered Percy gratefully, "to tell you all about it as soon as I am at liberty to do so. And do you think, Sybil—candidly now—do you think that there is any hope of my being pardoned? I don't mind confessing to you that I went rather farther than I ought to have done, and I know Mrs. Leslie is furious with me. One can't blame her."

"Oh, you goose!" exclaimed Lady Belvoir, laughing, "what signifies Mrs. Leslie's fury? Don't you understand that if you want to be pardoned by a woman all you have to do is to make her love you? After that she will pardon anything and everything. More fool she, no doubt; but we are made like that."

"Are you made like that?" asked Percy wonderingly.

"Would you mind going away now? I am about to hold an interesting and affecting interview with a friend of yours who has been gnawing his nails with impatience in my boudoir for the last half hour."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Quite a number of Knights of Pythias boys from Auxvasse and Mexico went to Salisbury, Mo., Monday to assist in instituting a lodge at that place to-night. They will be joined by a large delegation from Centralia.

All operations for catarrh, strabismus, etc., made without anaesthetic and painlessly by Dr. Dennis.

Peyt Morris Monday received a box of fine cigars as a Christmas present from his son, Jack, who is in California. Peyt shared with the LEDGER, as he always does when he has anything good.

Dr. Dennis, the specialist, at the Windsor hotel, Mexico, Thursday, January 8. Consultation free.

Messrs. Clarence Kidwell and A. E. Casen, two of Montgomery's most promising young men, visited in Mexico this week. They think Mexico a great city.

Francis Brandon, public administrator of Callaway county, died last Saturday in Fulton from a a carbuncle on his neck. Deceased was a brother-in-law to Elijah Bennett, of this city.

COL. BOB YOST, one of the brightest writers in the country, has resigned his position in the Secretary of States' office and will be assistant managing editor of the St Louis *Republic*.

If your child suffers from cross eyes or any defect of vision a rare opportunity is now presented of consulting one of the most successful specialists in America.

W. V. White is in Mexico on a visit from Iowa. He has a host of friends in Audrain who would like for him to come back to stay.

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NARROW ESCAPE.

Geo. A. Morris' Elegant Residence Catches on Fire From the Kitchen Range.

The elegent suburban residence of Geo. A. Morris had a narrow escape from fire Sunday at 11 a. m The fire caught from the range and had a good start before Mrs. Morris, who was at home alone with Miss Belle, Mrs. Belt and a servant, discovered it. Mrs. Morris, showing rare presence of mind, had the servant to cut a hole in the floor and opened up the faucets in the kitchen and turned on as much water as she could. In a few moments she had the fire under control. In the meantime an alarm had been turned in and the fire company, with a large crowd of people, arrived but the fire was out. Mrs. Belt, who is ill in one of the rooms on the far side of the house, did not know of the fire at all and was not told, as she is very nervous.

The damage is about $250; and except for the prompt work of the ladies the house and furniture would have been destroyed and the shock to Mrs. Belt might have been fatal.

Glasses fitted for all errors of refraction by Dr. Dennis.

The LEDGER's Christmas gift came at last. Mrs. D. W. Steele has sent us some of the nicest cake of different kinds we have sampled lately. Mrs. Steele knows printers are poor and deserving.

Dr. Dennis cures catarrh.

At some of the gospel meetings Dr. Walker left his Oxford Teacher's Bible some weeks ago. His name is upon the fly leaf. Any one knowing anything of it would confer a favor by delivering it to the family.

Dr. Dennis cures catarrh.

Mrs. Monkus, of near Worcester, died on Saturday and her sister, Mrs. Jones who lived West, of Mexico, died on Sunday. They were both interred at Skull Lick cemetery Monday.

Dr. Dennis will make regular monthly visits to Mexico.

Hon. I. W. Boulware, of Fulton, is in the city. Mr. Boulware will soon give up the practice of law and enter a monastery as a novitiate.

IF the show advertised for the night of the 31 is one-half as tough as its bills respectable people should stay away.

AUXVASSE, Mo., has a new paper, the *Times*, which is a bright and newsy sheet, edited and owned by R. G. Hale.

IT is time you were preparing to "swear off" your annual "swear off."

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WHEN they find how rapidly health is restored by taking **Ayer's Sarsaparilla.** The reason is that this preparation contains only the purest and most powerful alteratives and tonics. To thousands yearly it proves a veritable elixir of life.

Mrs. Jos. Lake, Brockway Centre, Mich., writes: "Liver complaint and indigestion made my life a burden and came near ending my existence. For more than four years I suffered untold agony. I was reduced almost to a skeleton, and hardly had strength to drag myself about. All kinds of food distressed me, and only the most delicate could be digested at all. Within the time mentioned several physicians treated me without giving relief. Nothing that I took seemed to do any permanent good until I began the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla, which has produced wonderful results. Soon after commencing to take the Sarsaparilla I could see an

Improvement

in my condition, my appetite began to return and with it came the ability to digest all the food taken, my strength improved each day, and after a few months of faithful attention to your directions, I found myself a well woman, able to attend to all household duties. The medicine has given me a new lease of life, and I cannot thank you too much."

"We, the undersigned, citizens of Brockway Centre, Mich., hereby certify that the above statement, made by Mrs. Lake, is true in every particular and entitled to full credence."—O. P. Chamberlain, G. W. Waring, C. A. Wells, Druggist.

"My brother, in England, was, for a long time, unable to attend to his occupation, by reason of sores on his foot. I sent him Ayer's Almanac and the testimonials it contained induced him to try Ayer's Sarsaparilla. After using it a little while, he was cured, and is now a well man, working in a sugar mill at Brisbane, Queensland, Australia."—A. Attewell, Sharbot Lake, Ontario.

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A PERSONAL CARD.

Mr. Veerkamp Makes a Statement in Regard to the Rush Hill School.

To the Editor of the Ledger.

RUSH HILL, Mo., December 29—Under date of November 13th your correspondent at Rush Hill, in reporting "Arrested for whipping an unruly school boy," has intentionally, I think, tried to do me an injury. I should have taken notice of it at an earlier date, but have been out of the county all fall, and had not seen a LEDGER until a few days ago. While at Rush Hill a friend showed me the article in which your correspondent says "our public school for the last few years has been somewhat defective in government. This year our efficient directors determined that a change for the better government was absolutely necessary," etc. Now, Mr. Editor, in justice to myself, I wish to state that I taught three consecutive terms of school at Rush Hill, and a majority of the present "efficient directors" were also directors during the entire time that I was engaged at teaching in Rush Hill. It will occur to the thoughtful reader that the "efficient directors must have been fairly pleased with the government of their school, otherwise they would not have re-employed the same teacher the second and third terms. The truth is, your correspondent was never in the school, nor did he patronize it during the entire time I was engaged at teaching in Rush Hill. Hence, I think his statement concerning the government of the school, for some cause unknown to me, was intended to do me an injury. As to the subject matter that called out the Rush Hill correspondent, I know nothing, but this I will say, that Kendall's boy went to my school for two terms and any statement that I had trouble in governing him is untrue.

Very Truly,

JAS. P. VEERKAMP.

FIFTH ANNUAL SALE.

Books Now Ready For Entries in the Great Combination Sale—Get Your Stock Ready.

The books are now open for entries in the Clark & Potts combination sale which begins Feb. 24. Parties who contemplate entering stock for sale should see that their animals are put in proper condition and entries should be made at once. This sale has been a success every year. Buyers are attracted from all parts of this and adjoining states. Good prices have uniformly prevailed. The success of the former sales is the best possible guarantee as to the future. No sale to equal it has ever been held in Missouri. Send to Clark & Potts, Mexico, Mo., for entry blanks. 37 4t.

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SUDDEN deaths are becoming very frequent in Mexico.

Dr. Rodes was over from Fulton to attend Dr. Walker's funeral.

MEXICO never enjoyed a more merry Christmas than the present.

C. E. Purnell is home for the holidays. Wish he would come to stay.

Running ear (otorrhoea) cured by Dr. Dennis.

TOM CARTER has resigned as clerk of the Sturgeon Court of Common Pleas.

THE red fly netting cut the usual figure in Christmas presents this season.

Drs. Lemon, Crawford and Berry were here to attend the funeral of Dr. Walker.

H. Kombrink is Treasurer and P Helwig is Secretary of Rev. M. Kratt's congregation.

Miss Kate Houston is home from Brunswick, where she holds a fine position as teacher.

Mr. Nevius is over from Illinois on a visit to his brother, who is now a resident of this city.

Elder George R. Dodson, of Fulton, is soon to wed Miss Nellie Wheeler, of the same town.

Miss Clyde Eubanks, the lovely and popular daughter of Sephus Eubanks, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Mitt Hindrix.

A mathematician has figured out that a man fifty years old has spent three years in buttoning his collar. He probably doesn't include the time spent in looking under the bureau for the button.

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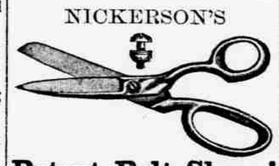

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Overcomes the weak point that ruins the working of every other shear made. The only shear made with a perfect elastic joint which always *KEEP YOUR SHEARS SHARP.*

Also has a lock nut which prevents the working loose in every joint. If you want the best pair of Shears you ever used, come and get a pair and try them. We warrant every pair to give perfect satisfaction and wear longer than any two pairs of Shears made. Try them. We are sole agents for this Shear.

Jas. Garrett's Hardware Store,

West Side Square, Mexico, Mo.

HIGHEST PRICE PAID AT ALL TIMES FOR **HIDES, SHEEP PELTS, Feathers,**

FURS, TALLOW, BEESWAX, RAGS, SCRAP IRON, METALS,

And all Kinds Country Produce.

Special contracts made with country butchers on hides for the season.

SAM MORRIS.

Stockholders' Meeting

MEXICO, Mo., Dec. 20, 1890.

Notice to the Stockholders of the Audrain County Agricultural and Mechanical Association:

You will take notice that a meeting of the stockholders of said corporation will take place at the Court House in Mexico, Mo., at one o'clock, p. m., on the 26th day of February, 1891, for the purpose of increasing the capital stock of said corporation ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00).

Done by order of the Board this Dec. 20, 1890.

W. J. BOTTS, President.

J. A. GLANDON, Secretary. td.

REMINGTON, STANDARD TYPE WRITER BEST IN THE WORLD. TYPE WRITER SUPPLIES. WYCKOFF, SEAMANS & BENEDICT. 308 N. 8TH ST. ST. LOUIS, MO.

DRUNKENNESS LIQUOR HABIT.

IN ALL THE WORLD THERE IS BUT ONE CURE

DR. HAINES GOLDEN SPECIFIC

It can be given in coffee, tea, or in articles of food, without knowledge of patient if necessary; it is also absolutely harmless and will effect a permanent and speedy cure, whether the patient is a moderate drinker or an alcoholic wreck. IT NEVER FAILS. It operates so quietly and with such certainty that the patient undergoes no inconvenience, and soon his complete reformation is effected. 48 page book free. To be had of

J. F. Llewellyn, Druggist, Mexico, Mo.

C. W. WATTS, M. D.

Mexico, Mo.

Office over Savings Bank, two front rooms. Hours, 7 a. m. to 5 p. m.

Residence, in Worrell property, on East Liberty street. nov 15 yr

Some Plain Facts!

In order to meet the requirements of our large and growing trade we have made larger purchases than usual and at prices that we will be more than able to meet any competition.

We are Trying to Double Our Business This Season

AND IN ORDER TO DO SO ARE

Making Lower Prices

Than ever before, preferring to do a large business at small profits to a small business with large profits. Our expenses are comparatively light; we are doing most of our own work and handling

A GENERAL LINE OF GOODS

We are enabled to MAKE PRICES that cannot be met by specialty houses on the same quality of goods. We carry a large and well selected stock of

Dry Goods!

Dress Goods and Notions, Carpets and Oil Cloths, Clothing and Gent's Furnishing Goods, Goots and Shoes,

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS!

All under one roof and all bought for spot cash from headquarters, consequently we are in shape to make you low prices and we are willing to do it.

LADIES' WRAPS!

We have also added to our stock a large and complete line of Ladies' Wraps of every description and on which we are able to make you extremely low prices. Call and see these goods.

We Handle Large Quantities of Country Produce

And will always buy anything you have at the highest market price.

We are in Far Better Shape!

Than ever before to take care of our trade and all we ask is a trial from those who have never traded with us to convince them that we can do them good in their fall supplies.

Thanking all of our old customers for their liberal patronage in the past and assuring them that we are more than willing to serve them in the future we are your friends, AT THE OLD STAND,

Turner, Jackson & Co.

J. F. Llewellyn, DRUGGIST,

West Side of Public Square.

SPONGES, CHAMOIS SKINS,

Patent -:- Medicines,

PERFUMES, SOAPS, WINDOW GLASS, PAINTS AND OILS.

Mixed Paints $1 per Gal.

Mercantile Cigars, Best 10c. Goods Made.

J. F. LLEWELLYN,

West Side of Public Square,

MEXICO, MO.

A Deep Cut

—IN PRICES ON—

HOLIDAY GOODS

—AT THE—

"TEMPLE OF ECONOMY,"

East Side of the Public Square, Mexico, Mo.

We Have a Tremendous Stock

Of these goods and they MUST all be sold before Christmas We will not carry them over until next season if LOW PRICES will sell them, consequently we have gone through the entire stock and made a cut in price where ever it was possible to do so.

Chamber Sets and Lamps.

We have the handsomest line of these goods in town, bought expressly for the Christmas trade. In order to clean them out we will allow a discount of 16 2-3 per cent. from marked prices. FOR THIS WEEK ONLY.

Temple of Economy.

French & Garrett,

DRUGGISTS,

South Side of the Public Square

MEXICO, MISSOURI.

TO THE PUBLIC!

The undersigned would respectfully call the attention of the public to their fine line of

LIQUORS!

We buy direct from the distillers and carry all liquors until fully matured in bond, which enables us to offer

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To those in need of Liquors for medicinal purposes. Our specialty is

BOND & LILLARD,

One of the finest hand-made sour mash whiskies made in Kentucky. This whiskey is made at the distillery of Bond & Lillard, near Lawrenceburg, Anderson county, Kentucky, and is absolutely pure.

We offer spring of '85, six summers $4 00

We offer spring of '86, five summers 4 00

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Guaranteeing satisfaction in every particular or money refunded.

E. B. NORRIS & CO.

E. B. Norris. dlm w3m Harry Wilt.

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D. D. Woodward,

Having removed to the

Shootman Building,

N. E. Corner of Square,

Is prepared to sell you all kinds of the very best and freshest

GROCERIES

As Cheap as the Cheapest.

Canned Goods, Fruits, Candies, Nuts, &c.

A specialty. Come and see us. We will treat you right.

We Are Here to Stay!

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PLUMBER,

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GAS & WATER PIPE,

All kinds of Valves and Fittings, Pond Hydrants and Pond Checks.

Boiler Feed Pumps, Injectors, Inspirators and Jet Pumps.

All Kinds Hose.

Makes a specialty of engine repairing and public and private waterworks building.

Office in U. S. Express building, opposite the Post-office.

OPIUM & LIQUOR HABITS CURED WITHOUT NERVOUS SHOCK Or Distress.

Home or Sanitarium Treatment.

Our Double Chloride of Gold Remedies for the cure of the OPIUM and LIQUOR HABITS, have been on the market for ten years, during which time they never failed to make a Cure of either habit, where they have been given even a meagre chance. We will cure Opium Patients at their own homes in from 4 to 6 weeks, painless, and without loss of food, sleep or occupation. We easily Cure Drunkenness inside of three weeks. Full proof of the above furnished and literature for the Cure of either Habit sent free on application. Address,

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The Mexico LEDGER knows of a large number of cures effected by Dr. Keeley's treatment. At least a score of men we know personally have been saved. Not a failure has been made so far as a single patient has broken over. We take great pleasure in recommending Dr. Keeley and his treatment. We consider his cure certain and permanent.—(EDITOR LEDGER.

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THIS preparation, without injury, removes **Freckles, Liver-Moles, Pimples, Black-Heads, Sunburn and Tan.** A few applications will render the most stubbornly red skin soft, smooth and white. **Viola Cream** is not a paint or powder to cover defects but a remedy to cure. It is superior to all other preparations, and is guaranteed to give satisfaction. At druggists or mailed for 50 cents. Prepared by

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