

Spirit of the Age.

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The Fire-Side. THE TWO CLERKS, OR THE ORPHAN'S GRATITUDE. A Tale of Honor and Crime. BY AUGUSTINE J. H. DUGANNE. CHAPTER XIII. A bold, had man, Who murder with a smile upon his lip, And laughs at villainy.—Brooks. RICHARD and FRED. left the hall together. "When can you let me have it, Dick?" "To-morrow night." "Honor bright?" "Honor bright."

blat it he'll blab my secret if I try to injure him. I'm in a hobble; but I reckon I'll sleep on it." So saying the "nice young man" adjourned to the land of Nod. After Fred. Johnson left Dick, he took his course for the North End, and crossing the Mill Creek, wound the back street, till he reached Sun Court, where now stands the Mariner's Bethel, but which was then occupied by one of those old oak-panelled, family mansions that have now nearly all been swept away before the avalanche of bricks and mortar. It was once the residence of one of the colonial dignitaries, when Boston was a colonial town, and the North End was in its glory. But it was now no longer illumined by the blaze of festal mirth, nor echoed the deserted chambers to the sound of merry music. Fred. entered the unfastened front door, and passed along the broad hall, till he reached the small winding staircase, which conducted him to the chamber of his Mary.

"Not need it," echoed Dick. "Surely, surely, Fred.—" "I do not wish it. You have nothing to fear from me, however." "Can I speak a few words in private with you?" whispered Dick. "If you wish it." He opened the door of a small apartment, and ushered Richard into. "Martin," said he after the door was closed, "I do not want this money. I have given up my old principles, thank God! I wish you would."

knew not whether they had dragged you. But—but—" "Go on, Mary—tell me—" "He brought a coach to the door; I entered it with him, and we were driven I know not where; I found myself among strangers, and—and—he insulted me—with the vilest propositions—O Frederick—would we had been married!" "He has not dared—" "He would have dared anything. I spurned him, for though fallen, I am not the wretched thing he deemed me. Three days was I confined, and insulted by the villain!" "By the God of heaven he shall answer for this—I will—" "Let us leave him to the God of heaven," said Mary—I have escaped—" "And how, Mary?" "This morning he came to me again.—He renewed his infamous proposals. He told me you had been tried and sentenced—that I was alone, and helpless. I knew the villain lied—I told him so, and he was enraged—" "And—and—Mary—what—" "He swore that I should be his—I resisted him—I screamed, for he was strong, and a stranger rushed in, and—I—" "Was preserved, my Mary—who was he?" "He led me from that dreadful place—I begged him to take me to the prison—he complied. He is below, now."

Loves you, Kate? ha, ha! But tell me—speak—ha— Ned could not finish the sentence. Kate looked at him with a vacant air; she seemed to wait for him to speak. "He is a villain, Kate Willis; a villain of the deepest die; he has tempted others to crime, only to desert them; he has consigned his friend to a prison, and attempted the honor of that friend's wife—" "This is not Richard." "It is true, by heaven! Kate promise me you will guard yourself against this man. He will ruin you." "Oh, Edward Rifton, spurn me from you. I am lost! I am fallen! I love him not. But—but—" She sank insensible at the feet of her astonished visitor. Ned raised her from the floor. As he did so, the door opened, and Richard Martin entered. With an oath on his lip, Ned sprang to his feet, and confronted the clerk. "Villain!" came to his lips. "But you have not long to run." Dick laughed. "Before to-morrow, mayhap, you nor your d—d fool of a friend, Johnson, will be able to track Dick Martin, ha, ha! I heard your fine story, my dear friend Ned." Ned rushed forward, and grasped the throat of Dick.

LAW OF VERMONT. 3.—ANACT, to improve the management of state Finances. It is hereby enacted, &c. sec. 1. The supreme court at their next session in each county, shall appoint a court auditor for such county, who shall be sworn to the faithful performance of his duties, and who shall hold his office until the supreme court appoint another. sec. 2. At each session of the several courts in each county, or within six days thereafter, and at no other time, the court auditor so appointed shall audit the accounts of the sheriff, state's attorney and clerk, and all such as arise out of inquests of the dead and the prosecution of crime, including the maintenance of state prisoners and state paupers. And in his allowance of any claim he shall especially note all such items thereof; if any, as he shall have disallowed. And in case of his disability, the above mentioned accounts shall be audited by the auditor of accounts. sec. 3. The County Clerks shall draw an order on the Treasurer for the sum allowed by the Court Auditor on each account, payable to the person in whose favor the same is allowed; but no order payable to himself shall be valid unless countersigned by the Auditor. And no order shall be drawn by any clerk, unless upon the allowance of the Court Auditor, nor by any Chancellor or Judge. sec. 4. With six days after the rising of each Court, the Clerk shall forward to the Treasurer an abstract of all the orders drawn by him since the Court commenced, which shall be certified by the Court Auditor to correspond with the accounts allowed by him. And the Clerk shall draw no further orders until the commencement of another supreme or County Court, or court of Chancery. And the Treasurer shall pay no order drawn by a Clerk until he shall have received such abstract of the same. sec. 5. Previous to each election in which returns are made to the County Clerks, the treasurer shall furnish them with funds out of which they shall pay the officers making returns to them their fees, and take their receipts. sec. 6. Within ten days after each Election, and the rising of each court, the clerk shall pay to the Treasurer so much of the money furnished to him to defray the expenses of such Election, or court, and of the fees accruing to the state, as shall not have been expended in such Election in paying returning officers their fees, & to such court in paying the fees of jurors and witnesses, and of the Assistant Judges of the county court in state causes; and the Treasurer shall furnish him duplicate certificates of the amount so advanced to him, and of the amount, if any so paid by him in the Treasury. sec. 7. Within forty days after each election the clerk shall forward to the Auditor of accounts one of the certificates so furnished him, and the original receipts of the returning officers. sec. 8. Within forty days after the rising of each court, the clerk shall forward to the Auditor of Accounts one of the certificates furnished to him by the Treasurer as above mentioned; also a statement of the fees which have accrued to the state and to the Assistant Judges of the county courts in state causes, with copies of the