

PEOPLE LIVING IN HOUSES
 Are interested to know the best and cheapest way to decorate the walls of living rooms. Nothing compares with
CHURCH'S COLD WATER
ALABASTINE
 In point of cheapness, good looks or durability, for the walls of any building. Anyone can do plain tinting. Artistic decorating, with the aid of our instruction book, is easily done.
 ALABASTINE is not a salamine, but a permanent coating. Sold by hardware and paint dealers everywhere. Packages only—never sold in bulk. Valuable information by return mail if you write us. Address
The ALABASTINE CO., Limited, PARIS, ONT.

IT PAYS TO BE HONEST.

Story of a Little Game of Poker That Conveys a Straight and Practical Moral.

It was at the time of those exceedingly cold days in January last. Four men of large affairs, classified in the public knowledge as successful in commercial and financial matters of the country, were guests of a small hotel in a small inland city. The name of the city is of no consequence. Suffice it to know that it was far inland and on the border lines of civilization. Each one of the party not only represented much capital on his own part, but much more on the parts of others willing to abide by his judgement as to investment. Such was the high standing of each. Their business was to survey and determine the value of a large tract of land lying adjacent to the city which, rich in certain mineral ores, would serve their investment purposes. Availability was the question for them to determine.

They had gathered by prearrangement from different points of the country. Everything had been forecasted, save the temperature. On the day of their arrival the mercury had taken such a plunge to lower depths that it was not deemed advisable to take the trip marked out for them. So these men whose moments were valued at thousands of dollars to the enterprises they were identified with, were compelled to wait in this little hotel until such time as the mercury should reappear and show a disposition to be aspiring.

To men so active and who were so absorbed in the weighty matters this lounging about an indifferent hotel was a bore. The scanty literature at command had been exhausted and indeed so had all means of aiding the passage of time without weariness. One evening, when the wind was howling dismally about the house and the windows were so incrueted that they failed to serve the purposes of their being, these four men were gathered about a roaring wood fire, silently. Conversation and discussion, even controversy had failed.

Finally, said one with a half laugh, somewhat apologetic in tone:

"I suppose we four men are what the world calls most successful men and all of us what it also calls self-made men. Involved in that latter phrase is a quality of praise in that it infers the possession of so much ability and force that we have risen in wealth and influence above the vast majority of our fellows. I have no desire to belittle the estimate which my acquaintances may have of me, but as I sat here my mind ran back over my own career and over others I have known and been in contact with. Here and there, in this remembrance, I can pick out a man who, by sheer force, sheer ability and sheer determination has triumphed in the line of occupation which he had chosen would be his. But, in the main, accident, so far as I am informed, has determined the occupation of most of my acquaintances, and opportunity, which is akin to accident, the growth to wealth. Such has been my case, at all events. My dream was to be a lawyer. It was the intention of my parents that I should be. But the failure and subsequent death of my father took me from school to become the money hunter for my family. With me it was to get a dollar somewhere. Without influence I started out to find employment, going from store to store, and office to office, asking for it. Finally, I found it, on enquiry, with a lumber merchant. The accident of turning into an office where was I not known but where they wanted a boy, determined the line of business that was to be my life work. The accident of the death of the superintendent of the lumber district supplying the firm, and the further accident that I was the only person available to send out to take his place, temporarily, as it seemed to me, placed my feet on the road to fortune."

"Ah! But you measured up to the requirements," interposed one of the group.

"Perhaps. Say I did. Yet accident placed me where judgment did not and gave me the opportunity to display qualities I was not credited with possessing by my employers."

The elder of the quartet, perhaps the richest and most powerful, smiled as he took his cigar from his mouth and quoted:

"Some village Hampden that with dauntless breast

The little tyrant of his fields withstood,
 Some mute inglorious Milton here may rest,
 Some Cromwell guiltless of his country's blood."

"That is it exactly," said the first speaker. "The qualities which the world credits me with possessing I possessed then and might

never have been displayed if accident had not juggled me into a place where I could display them."

"I apprehend," said the third, "that all of us, looking back to what we call our starting point, will find accidents mixed with our good fortune. It was in my case, I know."

"It mine, too," remarked the fourth. The one who had quoted from "The Elegy" made no remark, though the others looked to him for his testimony. At length the first speaker asked him:

"Was your first start in life an accident or not?"

"I am not quite certain what to call it," he replied. "That is why I have hesitated in giving my experience. You see, it came out of a poker game."

"A poker game?" chorused the others in surprise.

"Precisely. A poker game," replied the other. "I will tell you the incident, and you shall judge whether it was accident, opportunity or what not. I had been employed for several years in various occupations and in various capacities, without much accruing success or gain. In more than one case the concerns I was connected with had failed before I could impress the world with my abilities, while in others the necessity for retrenchment had thrown me out before I could show the value of my services. Driven by necessity, I was forced to take the agency of a concern whose home office was in a far western city and sell its products in a prescribed territory with the understanding that the engagement would last but one year. At the end of that year I was forced to go to the western city to collect my commissions, which amounted to about \$1200. It so happened that another concern owed one in my own city a sum between \$8000 and \$9000, which they had had difficulty in collecting. The cashier of this creditor concern was a friend of mine, and knowing that I was about to visit the western city, prevailed on his principals to entrust the collection to me. I was instructed to obtain a cheque, and, on receipt, to mail it to my principals, immediately, having first obtained certification of it."

"Well, in the mission I was successful. I obtained my own commissions, a little short of \$1200, the sole payment of a year's labor, and had collected the large sum. But I departed from my instructions. My suspicions as to the western house owing the house of my own city so much money had been excited. I had gone to lengths in obtaining the cheque by threatening immediate legal proceedings and, having received the cheque under this threat, I had grave doubts whether the cheque would be good two days after, for the bank on which it was drawn, for reasons they did not deign to explain, refused to certify. I determined, therefore, to turn the cheque into money. It was not so easy as it appeared, but I managed to make the acquaintance of a mining capitalist of the place, and to convince him of my integrity in the matter and through him got the cheque cashed. When it was accomplished it was too late to forward the cash, nor could I then deposit the money and obtain a certificate of deposit. So I securely placed the large sum in bills in a pocket apart from my own \$1200."

"That evening in the hotel, where I was stopping, I was invited to sit in a small game of poker. I will admit the game of draw poker had great fascination for me, and I accounted myself rather a good player than otherwise. However, I took my seat, to find among others, the mining capitalist who had helped me in the matter of the cheque. I also found that the game which my inviting friends called a small one was in fact a stiff one, the limit high and the ante rather staggering to me. And as the game proceeded, I found the betting far above my average at least. However, once in, I held on, thinking that by close play and careful throwing down of hands, when the values were not high, I could at least hold my own. The game went on for some time with varying success, so that I was neither better or worse off when in a deal. I caught seven, eight, nine and ten of hearts and the king of spades. I discarded the king, saying to myself, I have got two chances to catch a straight flush and if not that at least a flush, which latter even will not be bad in view of the way the hands have been running—a full having been out but once and that the highest. When I lifted my card I found it a jack of hearts. I had a straight flush of high value. The betting began, by myself, cautiously. One after another dropped out until only the mining capitalist and myself

were left in. He showed no sign of letting up. He bet the limit each time with confidence. So backward and forwards we saw until \$1000 of my money was in the pot.

"Let's lift the limit," said the capitalist, "I'll see your raise and bet a hundred."

"Rapidly I thought that if he did so, and I saw and raised him, my money would be gone. Then I thought that I had the \$8000 odd in my inside pocket to fall back on. So I said 'all right.' He bet in his hundred. I shoved up another hundred to see his raise, and thrust my hand into my breast pocket to take out the \$8000 odd roll. As my hand touched the roll the thought flashed over me that I had no right to use that money for such a purpose. While I was confident that I should win, yet there was a chance that he might hold a higher straight flush than myself, as unlikely as it might be. But, however great my chances were, and impossible as it might appear I should be beaten, I had no right to use that money. So I withdrew my hand from my vest pocket, empty, and said, 'call'."

"The capitalist laid down four aces.

"No good," said I as I spread out my straight flush, jack high. There was a shout from the others, and some contemptuous remarks about my want of sand with such a hand.

"The pot is yours," said the capitalists.

"As I was drawing it in, he eyed me keenly and asked, 'Why did you call?'"

"A \$2800 pot is a pretty good pot to call, isn't it?" I asked in return, evasively.

"That was not your reason," he returned.

"Did you know the value of your hand?"

"Yes; I think so; about one in 60,000."

"All of that," he replied. "Now, knowing its value, why did you call?"

"To be frank with you," I replied, "I was all in. All of my money that I brought into the room was about in the pot. I could not see another raise by you, and so I called."

"Yet to my certain knowledge, persisted the capitalists, you have in your cloths over \$8000 in bills. With my four aces I should not have stopped if you had bet all that."

"Perhaps," was my answer. "But that money is not mine to gamble with, not even to borrow. I hold it as a trust. I was certain I should win and will confess my first impulse was to use it, but reflection showed me I had not the right."

"You're a chump of chumps!" cried one, but the mining capitalist smiled and said, "After this we can close the game."

"The next morning as soon as I could I deposited the \$8000 odd, obtained a certificate of deposit and telegraphed my principals of my success in collection. Returning to the hotel, I found a message from the capitalist to call on him at his office."

"I want you," he said as I entered to him. "You can be of great aid to me and make your own fortune. You are essentially an honest man; you are prudent, courageous and self-possessed, with your wits about you. All this I discovered in the poker game last night. There is no place like a poker-table to read a man. His qualities come out to one who knows how to read. You're trustworthy, too. I want your aid. You can help me and I'll help you."

"Well, gentlemen, to end the story. I closed a bargain with him at once. He did all he promised. Until the day of his death I was his confidant and he placed my feet on the road, following which I have become a multi-millionaire. Now, was this start of mine due to accident or what?"

All were silent, not willing to commit themselves to a decision. Then something said:

"Say, can't we have a little game to while away the time?"

And the cards were obtained.

Representative Mudd of Maryland is firm with his children, but they love him and do not fear him. One day he was told that one of the youngsters had been pitching pennies—heads and tails. The young fellow was brought to the rack, and, like the immortal George, he could not tell a lie, but confessed that he had been trying his luck.

"I think," said Mr. Mudd, "that it is my duty to give you a sound whipping for this act, for you know how bitterly opposed I am to such a species of gambling."

"Well, father," said the boy, "I know I ought not to have been pitching pennies, but I'll go you head or tails for two whippings or none."

The boy didn't get his jacket tanned.—Washington Times.

Butter Paper for sale at this office.

Confetti.

There are no shipwrecks in a puddle. There is no value in your grist of knowledge unless you can grind it.

He who seeks honor often finds a harness. Women haven't learned how to conceal information yet, and you can't form any idea of how formidable knowledge can become until a woman gets possession of it.

A street is really more poetical than a meadow, because a street has a secret.

Freedom of speech means practically, in our civilization, that we must only talk about unimportant things.

It has pleased God so to isolate the individual soul that it can only learn of all other souls by heresy.

The aroma of the cup of joy, when drained by others, is not always pleasing.

Through the love of money is said to be the root of all evil, it does not follow that the lack of money is the root of all good.

Some people would rather commit a crime than establish a precedent.

Success doesn't come like a new sunrise every morning.

The man who steps to the front will have the pack yelling at his heels.

What a race of giants, if each might reach his youthful ideal.

Rowens—Where did you say you caught these lovely fish?

Rupert—Oh, I didn't have a bite; a fellow sitting close to me caught these as fast he could pull them in, and I gave him 50 cents for them.

Rowens—Rupert, do you feel well? You are getting so good you scare me.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

"Pardon me," said the straw-vote idiot, "but are you for Hearst for President?" "No," replied the passenger upon whose brow gloom sat like a brooding hen on her nest. "I've been operated on for appendicitis, when I merely had a bad case of stomach-ache. That's what makes me look so foolish." —[Puck.

From Bradstreet's annual report for 1903 it appears that 84 per cent. of the merchants who failed during the year 1903 were NON ADVERTISERS, and the other 16 per cent. were weak advertisers, or didn't advertise enough. It surely is a case of go in and win or fall by the wayside.

Intercolonial Railway.

TENDER FOR PIPES, FITTINGS, ETC.

Sealed tenders, addressed to the undersigned, and marked on the outside "Tender for Pipe-Fitting," will be received up to and including

FRIDAY, THE 22ND DAY OF JULY, 1904,

For the providing and erecting of all Pipes, Fittings, Valves, etc., in connection with the Pipe-Fitting in the Engine Houses at St. JOHN, N. B., CHAUDIERE JUNCTION, P. Q., STE. FLAVIE, P. Q., and RIVIERE DU LOUP, P. Q.

Tenders will be received for one or more of these places. Plans and specifications may be seen at the Station Master's Office at St. John, N. B., Chaudiere Junction, P. Q., Ste. Flavie, P. Q., and Riviere du Loup, P. Q., and at the Chief Engineer's Office, Moncton, N. B., where forms of tender may be obtained.

All the conditions of the specifications must be complied with. D. POTTINGER, General Manager.

Railway Office, Moncton, N. B., 4th July, 1904.

NOTICE.

The Marble and Granite Works of the late John Gallagher will be continued under the same name, J. Gallagher & Son, at the old stand, under the management of Gallagher Bros.

Thanking the public for past favours and hoping for a continuance of their patronage we would advise persons wanting anything in the above line to give us a call, examine our stock and learn prices before purchasing elsewhere.

Satisfaction guaranteed in quality of stock, workmanship and prices.

Yours truly,

GALLAGHER BROS.

April 27 3m.

THE BEST PLUMBING

At most reasonable prices is what I am offering the public. Estimates cheerfully furnished on any kind of work in my line. A full line of materials of all kinds. Aqueduct Pipe at specially low rates. All work guaranteed first class.

I. C. CHURCHILL,
Connell Street, Woodstock

The Sunshine

of public favor is poured upon the Life Insurance Company which deals justly and fairly with its policy holders.

THE LONDON LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Has established a reputation for Honesty and Fair Dealing. Premiums payable yearly, half yearly or quarterly.

Write for information to
 W. S. SAUNDERS, Chief Provincial Agent, or
 J. N. W. WINSLOW, District Agent.
 WOODSTOCK, N. B.

BUSINESS EDUCATION.

The practical work of life calls for well trained minds, and young people who are ambitious to succeed in life need the help of a

Whatever is worth having is worthy of an honest effort to secure. Get an education that can be at once applied to the practical work of life.

SUCCESS

Cannot be achieved without the employment of successful methods. Educate for success and thus deserve it. We have a first-class equipment for illustrating business as it is practised, and a thorough, practical, up-to-date course of study. Take the road to success via

THE HOULTON BUSINESS COLLEGE, HOULTON, MAINE.

VALUABLE PREMIUMS

HAVE YOU NOTICED THE USEFUL PREMIUMS GIVEN WITH

Orange Meat

THE NEW CEREAL FOOD!

Ask your Grocer to show you a sample of these Premiums

COUPONS IN EVERY PACKAGE