## The Cobbler's Story.

"He came running down the steps of my shop—this very basement—and sat down in the chair, all out of breath. "I was hammering away, polishing off a new sole which I had just fitted to a customer's boot. I was in a hurry, because I had promised the boots at 2 o'clock, and it was now a full quarter past. I should not have minded that, but the gentleman said he should certainly call for them at 2. He was a good customer, and I did not wish to dissa-

point him. "I had finished one and was nearly through with the other. I looked up and was glad to see that it was not the owner of the boots, and I kept hammering all the harder.

"The young man-he was a young man, not more than one and twentysat about a minute, till he got his breath Then he spoke up in a savage, domi-

neering way: "'Look here, old fellow, here's alittle job I want you to attend to while I wait

I am in a hurry.' "I did not like his tone; and raising my eyes to his face, did not like his looks, either. For all that, he was a handsome, well-built fellow-a regular dandy, I should say. What struck me particularly was, that he was as pale as a ghost.

"'Can't touch your job till I am through with this. I shall be done in a few minutes.'

"Times were dull, you see, and thought I would hold on to him, if could.

"He swore a big oath, which startled me so much that I dropped the bootin fact, I may say it was as good as finished-and held out my hand for his. He had already pulled it off. "'How long ?', he demanded sharply.

"I examined the boot-a neat button gaiter, almost new, best French leather, first-class in every way; in fact one of Stiles best-you know Stiles is first class-should say the pair must have cost \$14, perhaps \$14.50, with the leather buttons, which are extra. strangest part of the whole was that the heel had been torn off and the soleripped clear away to the centre-an odd kind of a job wasn't it? "Well,' exclaimed the man, savage-

ly, 'what are you waiting for? Why don't you answer?' "'Where's the heel? I asked.

"'In perdition,' he muttered, 'and have half a mind to send you there after "I was frightened. I had read so

many murder cases in the newspapers, I was afraid I was to make one of them He looked at me as if he would not think twice before putting one of my own knives through me.

can't make a good job at that.' "'Will give you thirty minutes,' he

answered taking out his watch. 'Botch it any way you like, only make it strong. Thirty minutes, mind. "I went to work with all my might,

the young man eyeing me every instant. I felt all the time as if he was pointing a revolver at me.

work?' I said when I came to the heel; | headquarters.' 'it will save a good fifteen minutes.' "'Peg away. he growled. Time's al- | that be the way of it?"

"I managed to get the heel on in some sort of fashion. It didn't look much like its mate-ha, ha, ha !-but I paid no attention to that. "On went the boot.

"'Now button it,' he said. "I did so.

"He took a glance at the street, then he fumbled in his pocket, and pulling out a roll of bills, threw me a five. "There you are !' he exclaimed. 'Will be back one of these days for the

"So saying he darted off double quick, sight before I could count three.

"My first thought was that he had given me a counterfeit note. But I discovered on examining it that it was

genuine, and no mistake "'I am in luck to-day,' I thought. | bank-bill,' he exclaimed. 'Five dollars for thirty minutes work.'

"On looking a little more carefully at | ed it to him the bill. I perceived on one corner a drop red, like red paint or vermillion-yes, in his safe. it was red though-leastwise more red anything particular; yet I was in a kind as I was telling you, quite fresh like. all the good it did. When I put my finger on the spot and took it off again, something stained itdoor was open. Says I:

"'Wife, come here.' "What's that on my finger ?' says I. holding it up. "Blood, says she. How did you

cut yourself ?" "'Its somebody else that's cut, I'm thinking,' and I told her about it. "Go right away to the police,' she

as witness? That's the way they serve went to sleep-forgotten as things are in you in New York. I'll wait first and New York. Often, though, I used to see if the papers have anything to say think of that sweet, pretty girl who open-

"Strange Mr. B-don't come for his P.'s boots home, dressed for her trip to boots,' said my wife. 'I wonder if you | Boston, and of her eager anxiety when could be mistaken about his calling she asked me, "Do you think anything

"'Perhaps he has forgotten them dear! I never could bear to recall it, himself and is waiting at home for them; and here it is three o'clock.

"So saying I took the boots and started for my customer's house. I had a good way to go, but hurried as fast as I could, thinking all the time of the spot, on the greenback, and the spot on my finger, and I thought I ought to wash it off.

"I mounted the steps and rang the "The door was opened so quick that it started me, and there stood a sweet, pretty girl, fourteen years old, dressed

for travelling-hat and all on. "'Papa is not home yet, and it se strange?' she cried. I was watching for him. We were to leave for Boston by the quarter past three express train.

and it is that now. Papa is always so

punctual, I can't think what to make of

"She appeared to be more thinking aloud than talking to me.

Miss-; something unexpected, no and follow him-follow him to the ends

of the earth, and see where he goes-"I could not help casting a glance at | young woman and child. Do you hear?" my finger as I spoke-I mean the finger that had the spot on it. I looked from the finger to the young girl. "Do you think anything has happen-

ed to him?' She demanded earnestly. "'Happened to him? No indeed. Sure to be home in a few minutes.' "The words nearly choked me. How

got them out I don't know. I left the house as quick as possible, holding the finger separate from the other fingers till I reached my shop.

on, wife. We will see it for certain in "'Peter,' said he, 'be sure you don't

wash that finger.'

have I got to be all night with my finger so? I shall not sleep a wink.' "'Yes you have,' says she, 'and I

will do it up with a rag, so nothing can rub the stain out.' "'Please don't do that, wife. makes me feel strange.

"But before I was done speaking, she had the rag on. Then she got supper, but not a monthful could I eat. " 'It's of no use, can't work ; I may either. as well go to bed,' I said.

"I did not light up the shop, but went into the other room and got into bed. I lay awake nearly all night in a terrible state with my finger. At last I fell asleep, and dreamed it began to swell and kept growing larger head. I was in great trouble. There newspaper in her hand.

"' The awfulest thing that ever happened!" she cried. 'Mr. P-was murdered vesterday afternoon, and was his murderer you did that job for.

"The account was short. Mr. Phas been discovered in the basement of his warehouse near his vault, quite dead, stabbed ever so many times. The vault-it was where he kept his valuables-was open. Everything disposable was taken, of which was a large sum in bank bills- a tremendous robbery. From the basement into the vault you crossed an area, covered with an iron grating, which let light into a cellar below. The murderer's heel must have caught between the bars during the scuffle. It was wrenched off and found stuck there. There was no clue whatever except the heel. This was the whole story.

"I jumped out of bed. " Now Peter, what are you going to do?' asked my wife.

"I am going to see lawyer E-"'It will take a good hour, and I (he was one of my customers) and tell him all I know. "That's right,' said she.

"I hurried off as soon as I was dressed. Lawyer E-was not up. waited for him. As soon as he came into the room I told him my story. He took it coolly enough; but that was because he was a lawyer, I reckon-

"Wait till I have my breakfast,' he "'Do you object if I do this with peg | said, 'and I will go with you to police " 'To be locked up?' says I. Won't

> "He laughed. "'I will take care of you, Peter,' says he; 'will go bail for your appearance if

"After he had his breakfast we started off together. Lawyer E--took me to the chief man. I forgot what they call him. I told my story over again. Then I answered so many questions that I began to feel as if I had killed Mr.

"But before they got through they showed me the heel of the boot. could have sworn to it on a stack and, turning up the street, was out of Bibles. Then I pulled off the rag and showed him my finger.

"What's that for,' said the police "I told him.

"Never mind that; let's see "I took it from my pocket and hand-

"He marked it carefully, and then of something red, which did not appear | made me mark it so that I should know to be quite dry. No, I can't say it was it again, he said. Then he put the bill

"They handed me a paper to go bethan anything else. It looked so fresh fore the Coroner's jury that afternoon, that I put my finger on the spot, just and lawyer E-gave his word that I as one might say, without thinking of should be there. Then I went home. "I told the story for the third time of puzzle, too, considering it did look, before the Coroner's jury, and that was

"It was a nine days' wonder-the papers were full of it. Folks came something which—well, I can never crowding to my shop to hear and ask forget until my dying day. I did not questions. They only hindered my know what to do, so I called to my work, it didn't do me any good. The wife-she was in the next room and the | police kept arresting people, and would fetch me to look at them, but they never got the right man.

"'Is that all?' I asked. "'All!' exclaimed the cobbler, with a start; 'I wish it was all! I have only

So saying, he took from his pocket a large colored handkerchief, wiped his face and proceeded: "Nothing more came to light for five

"'And get myself locked up for life years-five years. The whole affair ed the door for me the day I took Mr. has happened to him?' Oh, dear! oh, and to think I had her father's blood on my finger at the very time she asked

> for five years-five years to a month. I was working hard as usual, just as I expect to work all the days of my life. I READY - MADE CLOTHING. don't know what made me cast my eyes up to the street- it is seldom I do itbut I did do it, and-may the Lord help Men's, Youths' & Child- LONDON HOUSE, me! I saw going by, at that moment,

me the question !

Mr. P.'s murderer. "He had a young woman on his arm; she held by the hand a little tot

of a child not more than three years old. who tripped along with her. "The wretch cast a strange glance into my place-he could not see me-and

then turned away. "I threw down my work and ran into the other room for my wife. "'I have seen him, I have seen him, I have seen the murderer!' I screamed in

"I sat like a petrification for more

than a good long hour. Nobody can tell. First, I was so crazy glad to discover that wretch, I did not know what to do. Then I began to settle down more quiet, and when an hour passed "Something awful has been going and my wife did not get back, I fell into a great thinking, and so many things came crowding crowding into my mind

my mouth she was out of sight.

"Quick as thought, almost, my wife

was on the sidewalk.

"This is his wife with him,' I said to myself, 'and that little tot, trudging, "'Why not?' said I, my teeth chat- is his child. God forgive me! what am tering. 'Good gracious, wife,' said I, I trying to do? To make the young woman a widow, and the little tot an

"The perspiration stood in big drops on my face-I could scarcely breathe. "Suddenly the vision of the young girl waiting for her father to come home appeared to me. There she was, standin the doorway. "'He shall hang!' I exclaimed aloud.

"After that I settled down, weak as a kitten, and remained in a tremble until my wife came back.

What is his wife to me or the child

"When she did come she did not look to be the same woman she was. - She had taken off her hat and was swinging it, crazy like in her hand. Her ever and larger until it was bigger than my were as big again as they were before, and she looked neither to the right nor was my wife standing over me, with a left, but plumped herself square into her seat and said nothing.

"Well, where did he go to ?' I asked, after waiting a little while. 'are you sure he is the one?'

"Sure as I am that we are now talking together. " 'Then, may the Lord have mercy

on our souls !' she exclaimed. "I thought she had gone off in a fit, but she came too, presently, and undertook to tell me.

"'I followed them to Mr. P.'s house," she articulated, 'as sure as I live I followed them to Mr. P.'s house, where Mr. P.'s widow lives, and there they went in. I asked the servant, who stood on the stoop a minute, if the gentleman and his wife where staying

" What's that to you, impudence? "'Nothing,' I answered, 'only I

thought I knew the gentleman.' " 'Then you ought to know he stays here without asking.' And with that the door was slammed in my eyes. O Peter, Peter, it can't be the one!"

"'It is the one,' I repeated, 'and that I'll prove in less than an hour.' "I started for lawyer E---. He went once more to the head police. The head police took me all to pieces again; then he charged me to say nothing myself, and not to let my wife breathe a word to any one.

"I heard not a thing for three days, and began to think it was all given up, when slap came the arrest, and I was called upon to be present at the examina-

"I have told the particulars of the awful crime but once since. I doubt if I ever can do it again.' The cobbler stopped, took a long

breath and proceeded "What do you suppose? It was Mr. P.'s own nephew, who lived in Philadelphia, who murdered him. He confessed the whole before he came to trial. He had been on here for two days, and taken leave of his uncle the night before, expecting to start for home in the morning, but being detained the next day, he walked to the counting-room and saw his uncle stooping down to the vault. He entered, unperceived, and waited till the vault was opened, and then committed the murder and robbery. He escaped without notice, and in thirty

minutes after he left my shop, he was on the train, and, strange to say, was never suspected. Three years afterward he courted and married his cousin Miss

P-, whom on the fatal day I encountered at the door. She was his wife, and little tot their daughter. O, my God! "He was tried, found guilty, and sentenced to be hanged. The Governor commuted the sentence to State prison

for life. There he is now. "I sometimes feel sorry," continued the cobbler, after a pause, "that I ever saw the man. But," he added, thoughtfully, "I suppose it was best."

"What became of his wife and child?"

"I cannot tell-they left the country.

Died, for aught I know.' HOUSE COAL **1200 TONS** 

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1880. 1880

" 'Peter,' said my wife, solemnly, International Steam Ship Company. JOINT THROUGH TARIFF.

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diac	PO	24	30	49	56	4
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Traveler's Column.

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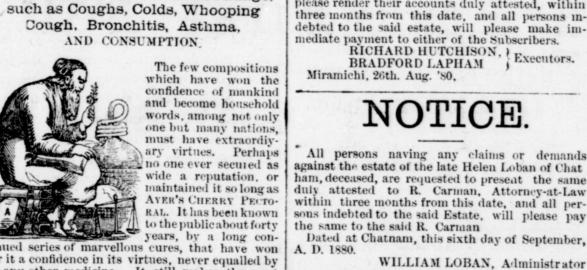
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INOTIOCO OF THE DEADE Extract from Local Summary Convictions Act, Chap 62 of Consolidatde Statutes of New Brunswick

NOTICE TO

Sec. 41-Every Justice of the Peace, shall make to the County Council, of the County of which he is a Justice, an annual return in writing, under his hand and solemn declaration; stating whether or not any convictions have been by or before him during the twelve months previous, and if any the name or names of the prosecutor or prosecutors; and the name or names of the defendant or defendants, the nature of the charge, date of conviction, amount of fine or penalty imposed and received, and the date of receiving and the nanner of disposing of the same, together with such explanatory notes as may be necessary. Sec. 42 - Every such annual return shall be filed in the office of the County Secretary, on or before first semi-annual meeting in each year; and such returns shall be made up to the Tuesday next preeding such meeting, and the same shall be submitted by the County Treasurer to the Council. Sec. 43-It shall be the duty of the County Secretary to have blank forms of the returns re-

quired by the Chapters printed at the expense of the Council, and supply the same, gratis, to any Sec. 44—Any Justice of the Peace neglecting refusing to make any such return, shall be subject to a penalty of not less than five dollars, nor exceeding twenty dollars, for each act of neglect or refusal, (and the ommission to make a return of such conviction, shall for the purposes of this Chapter, constitute a separate act of neglect or refusal) to be recorded before any Justice of the Peace for the County in which the penalty may have been on record in the name of the County The above extract is published for the information of all Justices of the Peace, who are required to take due notice thereof and govern themselves according-SAM'L THOMSON,

Sec'y Treasurer, Co. North' er. 1880. 6r21 Notice. All persons having any legal claims against the estate of John Scott, late of the Parish of New castle deceased, are requested to render their ac counts duly attested, within three months of this

ANDREW SCOTT Moorfield, August 10, '80. Notice! All persons having any just claim, against the estate of the late George Grant, deceased, will please render their accounts duly attested, within three months from this date, and all persons in-

debted to the said estate, will please make im-mediate payment to either of the Subscribers. RICHARD HUTCHISON, Executors. BRADFORD LAPHAM Miramichi, 26th. Aug. '80. NOTICE. against the estate of the late Helen Loban of Chat. ham, deceased, are requested to present the same

duly attested to R. Carman, Attorney-at-Law

sons indebted to the said Estate, will please pay

the same to the said R. Carman Dated at Chatnam, this sixth day of September, WILLIAM LOBAN, Administrator Notice to Trespassers. Bay du Vin Island, as has been the practice with

thereon by cutting trees and doing other damage. All such persons will hereafter be dealt with ac-J. & T. WILLISTON.

All persons having any demands against the estate of the late Wm. Williston, of the Parish o Hardwicke, tarmer, deceased, are hereby required to render the same duly attested to the undersigned John G Williston, within three months from

Dated at Hardwick, this 16th day of August, 1880.

the date hereof; and all persons indebted to the

said estate are required to make payment

JOHN G. WILLISTON, NOTICE.

in like manner.

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