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THE KNEELING DEER.

FOUR DUMB ANIMALS.

A traveller through Canadian woods Was hurrying benighted : Twas nearly midnight; and the moon His lonely pathway lighted.

When suddenly a shadow passed, Along the footpath gliding : He paused and 'neath a low-hung bough, Beheld an Indian hiding.

"Hush!" And he held his finger up, While through the umbrage stealing "'Tis Christmas eve! Me watch to-night To see the wild deer kneeling."

The air was still; yet overhead The pines were softly singing; While glowed the moon, upon the snew Their silent shadows flinging.

Ah! we may say the legend old Was but an idle notion; A Cornish peasant's fancy wild,

Transplanted o'er the ocean; Yet on the first bright Christmas-eve, Around the lowly manger. The soft-eyed brutes with angels gazed Upon the heavenly stranger.

We cannot know how far and deep Their mystic instinct reacheth: Nor what mute sense of Right and Love, These poor dumb children teacheth.

But Love that can redeem and save, For evil, good returning, Can hold all creatures to its heart,

The humblest never spurning. Honor the voice that dares to speak,

The cruel jest unheeding, For those who cannot speak themselves, A word of friendly pleading. Castine, Me.

JOHN CAREW'S CHRISTMAS

(CONCLUSION.)

"Where did you get all your information?" he exclaimed angrily.

"Oh, the proverbial little bird, of course. One hears these things, you know! And she is to marry-let me see; what is the name? Oh, yes, Carew, that's it! A shrewd young farmer, who can sign his check for ten thousand at any time. I've got it down pat. And what a memory I have!"

"I wish you could have forgotten me." "Naturally. Now if you could only sign your name for ten thousand, Frankbut what an idea! And you are to marry this pretty Mabel to the shrewd young farmer, while all the time your heart is aching with your devotional love for her! Why, really, when you come to think of it, it's quite romantic! But your case isn't hopeless. When she is married you will, of course, be her father-confessor, and that covers a multitude of sins, you

know." "Stop! I forbid you to speak her

name!' "Why, really, when you come to think of it, it's quite romantic. And I daresay she's in love with you. There, you needn't glare, my dear boy! You shouldn't wear your heart on your sleeve, you know. And all the while this big lover hasn't the faintest suspicion of the romance of it all, nor of the unhappiness he is creating in two young hearts. Why, it would make quite a play, a capital curtain-raiser. Don't you think you could do your own part, Frank? You would require positively no making-up."

"Will you not cease?" cried the young

"Why? Does it hurt so much to have this village beauty's name flung in your face by such as I?"

"You seem to know your own worth!" he replied bitterly. "It is pollution." "It is pollution, is it? It wouldn't have been pollution two years ago, my

me good enough then !"

You thought me good enough to ask me the room. to marry you!"

the young man wearily.

stand ! She belongs to someone else, and

you."

alive with you."

"Then what do you follow me for?" for one of them. burst out the young man, confronting her, "Why have you taken all the trouble to come here?"

"Money, my boy, m-o-n-e-y." Ellerby laughed ironically.

"Look here!" she said sharply, and springing up and facing him. She was a "If this is so very distressing you can cut. it short. I want money, that is all !"

"You must be mad. How do you suppose I can have money?"

"Get it! Otherwise-"

" Well ?"

"Otherwise, my dear boy, I shall simply drive out to your parish, or whatever you call it, and let your 'flock' know, It would be quite a change in the programme of the wedding to-morrow, for instance, wouldn't it?"

and down; she tapped the carpet with her well-shod foot.

"Now you are talking business. Look you. Give me five hundred dollars and I

tion, isn't it?" Ellerby laughed ironically again, be in his arms! 'You are mad!" he said

say three hundred, then."

ficiently compromised by coming here, without trying to borrow a sum like that?

and the young minister started back.

"Carew !" he cried. overheard your conversation, that is all, the women there? and I think the sooner this matter is ended the better."

dred dollars."

"You shall not do this!"

"Two hundred dollars, Mr. Carew, John Carew. adventuress; but John cut her short.

you would get in court," he said curtly. this time. Beyond, the beacon light of "But write what I dictate and you shall his own farm was shining still; and over John had supposed it would; and after tioning. A sudden, storm-like sense of

hand." remarked John. "Please begin him calm and clear-eyed and masterful.

Carew," she said, giving John an arch tender and half kind. glance; but the look was lost upon John. Lights were still burning in the church,

she had put his brief sentences upon the thrown upon the frosted panes. John paper. " Now, sign 'Aggie Winter, alias drew up at the gate.

the paper was complete; "and this," he | the mare. added, handing the document to the "Ellerby," he said, "I'm truly sorry spiritual friend, when you asked Aggie young minister who had been standing | for you." And he held out his hand.

"I was a fool, that is all. I was blind." door, and there is nothing to detain us such as I never had. I can say no more." "You didn't think you were blind we will go home." He placed his arm He held John's out-stretched hand in a then! But of course you hadn't been through the young minister's, and, with- vice-like grip that made John wonder; 'ordained,' and you hadn't so many phar- out another glance at the woman who and then the mare sped on. But, glancasaic phrases at your tongue's end then! stood gazing curiously at them, they left ing back, John saw the young man gazing Leased Lines.

And so together, side by side, the two light silhouetted against the snow. "A proof of my blindness," answered men sat behind the black mare's hurrying He drove to Mabel's. The door was hoofs, the young minister silent and de- opened by Mabel herself ere he had "A Christian retort. And just because pressed, his eyes upon the receding road; stamped the snow from his feet. A lamp you fancy yourself in love with this pink John handling the reins, his brows knit, was burning in the parlour, and he strode at Montreal. and white rustic you give yourself airs his glance stern and troubled, his heart far in there. Yet, despite his resolve, his But you can't have her, do you under. that lay before, beyond the white, still moment he dared not look into her eyes. meadows glimmering in the light of the "You found him-you have brought even if she didn't I would stand between !" late-risen moon. beyond the hills and him back ?" she half-whispered, placing a "I would rather kill myself than marry valleys and level stretches, straight to the hand upon his arm. old farm-houses where the woman they He looked down into her white face, "And I would rather die than be buried both loved was straining her eyes down then turned and walked to the window the white road, her heart beating, beating and stared out. The glittering stars in

fire by turns and, despite his effort to put him rose a vision of that slender, motionin his broad bosom. His brain seemed the cold moonlight as a blasted tree in the numb, and yet his reasoning faculties were | lightning. tall woman, and as they stood confronting his Mabel loved this other man, this slight time, she saw the despair in his face. each other her fine cold eyes were on a being at his side, that he could crush in level with those of the young minister. his strong hands as a child crushes a flower, "Mabel," he said quietly, "why did that she was going to the altar only to you not tell me?" keep her troth, then-no, God help him! he would not give her up! She was his, and began to cry. his by right, and what he had he would be his only course.

Forget her? Forgot Mabel? John Where is your father?" broke the silence of the frosty air with a harsh laugh that made the mare leap, and you." she answered, sobbing. he felt the young minister start and shiver There was a pause. Ellerby strode up Could he forget her were he in this man's say a word to you." He paused for a "How much do you want?" he said at laughed aloud again, and struck the mare's and was gone. But as the outer door flank irefully with his whip.

It was a dream, a bitter, devilish dream. here, Frank, I don't want to be hard on He would wake presently and find life as and he felt faint and dizzy. The snowbright for him as it had been an hour ago, laden fields appeared a blur, and objects give you my word of honour you won't ere this man came between; and, in a seemed swimming in a mist, while the hear from me again. That's a considera- little while, Mabel, Mabel who could be keen air cut through him. As he stum-

"Well, if the business is such bad pay fire again his blood, freezing his heart, across the pallid world. you shouldn't have gone into it. Let us numbing his brain, relentless memory came. He tried to fight a thousand in-"You are talking impossibilities, I tell sidious thronging thoughts aside, but he you," cried the young minister impa- could not forget. He recalled how anxtiently. "Don't you suppose I am suf- ious had been Matel's mother that her daughter should marry prosperous John Carew; how listless and strange Mabel You must do your worst, if you will have had been of late; how forced had been her gaiety and her attention when he had The door was opened without ceremony | talked what their life together would be. If Mabel did not love this young minister how else was he to account for her having "It isn't necessary for me to offer any swooned in the church? How else for explanation," said John quietly. "I have the strange and yet significant manner of

Bah! he would not be a fool. If it should prove that Mabel cared for this Mrs Julian Wall smiled, but it was a pale-faced young fellow, he would make colourless smile, and she said nothing. his heart of stone. At worst it could be John's unexpected entrance and his nothing more than a girl's passing fancy. masterful manner had robbed her of her Even the best of women were unreliant creatures, and their nature played them "Now," said John, as he walked over strange vagaries at times, for which they to a small table upon which were writing | themselves could not be held accountable. materials, "if you will write at my dic- | She was his affianced wife. and she should tation and sign a relinquishment of all be his wife to-morrow. If she were unclaim upon Mr. Ellerby, based upon his | certain now, why, he would teach her to offer of marriage, I will pay you two hun- love him; he would show her what his love could be; so that, ere long, in place "Carew!" cried the young minister, of this sentimental whim would be the blood flaming into his pale face. smiling wonder that she could ever have thought for a moment of any man but

would scarcely compensate—" began the The mare breasted the hill, and the village lights rose and gleamed on the farther "It is two hundred dollars more than | side of the valley, few and far between have the money." And he took from his there was Mabel's-well, he would soon pocket-book some crisp bills. This oper- know. He would see Mabel at once, and ation roused the woman's cupidity, as her face would tell the tale without quesregarding the money and John's impas- rage and hate, so alien to John that it sive face for a moment or two with half- seemed to smother the action of his heart, closed, calculative eyes, she gave her fine swept over him. His hand tightened shoulders a shrug, sat down at the table, upon the rein, and he dared not trust himself to turn and look at the silent fig-"You must use your own natural ure beside him. Then it passed, leaving He knew his course, and he smiled to him-"You are certainly very shrewd, Mr. self, a triumphant smile, and yet half-

"That is all right," he remarked, when and the shadows of moving figures were

Mrs. Julian Wall,' date it 'at the Grand "Go in," he said quietly, speaking for Hotel,' and I will attach my name as a the first time. "You need tell them nothing. Leave that to me." He shook "Here is your money,' he said, when the reins, and then impulsively checked

Winter to be your wife! You thought statue-like and silent through it all, "is "Carew," replied the young minister, yours. And now, as my cutter is at the "you have been a friend to me to-night after, a slight, black figure in the moon-

the velvet-blue heaven seemed mocking Which one? John's heart was ice and him with their splendour; and before aside his fear, was beating tumultuously less figure at the church gate, clear-cut in

clear, inexorably clear. If what that "Yes," he answered, "I have brought woman had said should prove true, that him back, Mabel." Then, for the first

"John," she faltered.

"Why, John, " she stammered;

"Don't do that !" he said; and a pashold. This man at his side, if he loved sionate longing to take her in his arms Mabel, must bear his pain like a man; he almost burst his heart. "It has been my must go away and forget her. That could fault, I have been blind. But I am glad I learned the truth to-night, Mabel.

"He is at the church—he went to meet

"I will see him at once; they shall not place? Forget Mabel, little Mabel, whom | moment at the door, gazing with yearning a score of others had wooed in vain? He eyes at the bent girlish figure; then turned closed he heard her call his name.

Outside, the blood surged in his brain, waiting and watching only for him, would | bled towards his sleigh his tired mare threw up her head in greeting, and the bells of Then, like the sting of a lash, setting on | the village rang in the Christmas morning

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PREPARING FOR SESSION.

FREDERICTON, Dec, 18.

Premier Emmerson, Attorney General White, Surveyor Generel Dunn and Commissioner for Agriculture Labillois arrived by last evening's train. Provincial Secretary Tweedie arrived by yesterday afternoon's Canada Eastern express. The mee'ing is for the purpose of closing up some errears of business, the straightening out of departmental work and also for arranging an outline of programme for the approaching session of the legislature. It is understood that the House will meet either on the 3rd or 10th of February, probably the 3rd. The departmental reports are all fairly well under way, and instructions will go out to the printers to push the work along with all possible despatch. There is not a departmental report being published in Fredericton this year. The Government have taken the ground that the newspapers supporting them in this city have neither the circulation nor the influence that would warrant them in continuing to extend any amount of public patronage to such papers.

For Infants and Children.

MORE I. C. R. CHANGES.

It is understood that after January 1st the name of the I. C. R. will be changed to "The Government Railways of Canada System," in three divisons, viz. Intercolonial, Prince Edward Island and

J. M. Lyons will be general passenger agent for the whole system, with head-

quarters at Moncton. J. B. Lambkin, district passenger agent from St. Flavie West, with head-quarters

H. A. Price, district passenger agent and feel yourself too good to marry me, ahead, beyond the slender track of road heart was beating furiously. For the from St. Flavie East, with headquarters at St. John.

A. Morrison, general baggage agent of the whole system, with headquarters at York.

er of the Drummond Railway, has been Elizabeth found the bodies of two men appointed superintendent of the Intercol- and shortly after the fifth body was reonial for the section between Montreal covered. Two of the bodies were naked and Ste. Flavie, in the county of Rimous- and all were sterribly bruised and cut by ki, to take effect on Thursday.

ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.

An Ottawa special to the Patrie. announces that Mr. J. N. Greenshiolds and Mr. W. Mitchell, general manager of the Drummond Railway, had a lengthy inter view with the Hon. Mr. Blair and Mr. D. Pottinger, general superintendent of the Intercolonial Railway on Friday last, concerning the extension of the latter road as far as Montreal, and that it is now definitely settled that the government will assume the control of the Drummond Railway on Jan. 1, next.

The same organ fornishes the further statement that, besides the present Intercolonial trains to and from Levis, which will come to Montreal after Jan. 1, the Intercolonial will establish a local passenger train between Mor: real and Drummondville, for the Eastern Townships

W. H. OLIVE DISMISSED.

W. H. Olive, eastern freight and passenger agent of the I. C. R. at Montreal, recently appointed, has been dismissed by benefit after two or three doses. Four Hariss, general traffic manager. So says bottles completely cured me, and I am as

a Montreal report. The Star says that rumors were in cir. | Short. culation that the local ticket office of the I. C. R. on St. James street, now under the direction of Mr. W. H. Olive, was to but the Star is authorized to state that the pose they must imagine gold was as plenti-

report is not sure. A CONFERENCE.

The same journal on Monday said: Mr. A. H. Harris, traffic manager of the Intercolonial Railway, is back from the con- ings he lately finished a frost proff cellar, ference of the chief officials of the road with Hon. Mr. Blair, Minister of Rail- and think it one of the best on the river. ways, at Ottawa. Many important mat- Mr. McGregor is a hustler. not yet been made public.

Wednesday Mr. Harris had a meeting road that their will be a lady in the party. with the chief passenger officials of the I. C. R. including Mr. John M. Lyons, general passenger agent, Moncton, N. B., and Mr. J. B. Lamkin, the recently ap- good. pointed district passenger superintendent. Questions of detail were under discussion with a view to the general reorganization of the department necessitated by the extended territory over which the Intercolonial hereafter proposes to exert a business influence.

HIDNEY WARNING.

A Score of Symptoms Tell the Victim | we think this could be settled to the satisthat Eddney Disorders Have fastened Themselves on Him-South American Kidney ('nre is the Potent Remedy.

A simple backache, or a little pain in the kidney region, may cause you no alarm, but it is one of the never-failing signs of kidney disease, and to neglect the and cures permanently. Sold by W. W.

YOUTHFUL PRACTITIONER.

bert, the seven-vear-old son of Ja become 21 years of age.

which he passed would have been a creditable one to any applicant.

LOST AT SEA.

ALL THE CREW ARE LOST EXCEPT ONE,

PORTLAND, Dec. 17 .- The most terrible disaster that has occurred on this coast for many years happened on this point of Cushing's Island at 8 o'clock Tuesday evening. The schooner Susan P. Thurlow, owned by Capt. J. H. Wheelden, of New York, went to pieces on the rocks and the captain and all the crew, save one

seaman, were drowned. The single survivor of the terrible wreck came to the custom house and reported the disaster to Collector Deering. He said that the Thurlow was plaster laden, from Hillsboro, N. B., for New

A visitor to the scene says: Messrs. Smith and Raimann went to the scene of The latest budget of I. C. R. reports is the wreck and found the dead bodies of the captain and two of the sailors. When "Mr. A. Ouillete general traffic manag- he arrived the life saving crew from Cape washing against the sharp rocks. One of the bodies recovered is supposed to be that of the Mate McLain, as the letters

G. M. McL." are tattooed on the arm. The vessel is a total wreck, having gone completely to pieces in the terrific northeast gale which prevailed during the early part of the night. The bodies of the drowned men were brought to this city by Capt. Trundy, of the life saving service and turned over to an undertaker.

RHEUMATIC AGONY

There's Dilightful Relief in One or Two Doses of South American Rheu

matic Cure. E. H. Nerton, of Grimsby, Ont., says: "I tried homeopathic and other remedies and was under medical attendance for inflammatory rheumatism. None of them gave me any relief. My legs and arms were useless. I could do nothing for three weeks. I was confined to my bed and suffered agonies. I was advised to try South American Rheumatic Cure, I felt well as ever I was." Sold by W. W.

MILL CREEK NOTES. By the number of pedlars travelling be closed up under the new arrangement, through this settlement, one would sup-

> ful here as in Klondike. Mr. McGregor who a few years ago purchased the Conn farm has made large improvements both to farm and dwell-We had a chance of viewing this cellar

ters affecting the policy of the road are Three of our young men intend startunderstood to have been discussed, as well ing for the gold regions in the spring but as several appointments, but they have one would think by the number of time Mr. B. is seen going in the N. W.

> We are sorry Mr. M. Wartlan has had to close his meetings for this season, they largely attended, and we trust did some Some of the ladies are very much dis-

apointed at having to walk home from

prayer meeting while one gets a drive

with the white horse. We hear a number of our friends complaining about our hall not being warm enough that the fire is not lighted in time nor enough lamps lighted now. If some of those would just have a meeting called

faction of all concerned. J. and A.

CAT'T ENS' REQUEST GRAN-

Just before going to press we were informed that the committe appointed by warning may mean the deep seating of the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Associathat most insidious of diseases which puts tion to interview the Hon. Mr. Fisher in more people in an untimely grave than reference to the quarantine regulations all other causes combined. South Amer- had done so, and that he had consented to ican Kidney Cure relieves in six hours, appoint competent veterinarians to test all cattle purchased for exportation to Canada before leaving Great Britain. Mr. Fisher also informed the committee that. at the urgent request of the Hon. John Topeka, Kan., Dec. 15. on Gil- Dryden, he had made arrangements for W. | testing some cattle that are now on the D. Gilbert, of Atchison, has been gran. vater en route for Canada before they teft a conditional license to practice law be- and, and that these cattle would be fore the supreme court of Kansas. The admirted without being subjected to the license is to take effect when the lad shall tubereulin test at the port of entry, on presentation of the certificate of the Brit-The boy is a wonder. He is well versed ish veterinarian that they were free from on all law points and the examination tuberculosis before leaving. This important concession should stimulate the importation of parebred cattle into Canada, and we shall undoubtedly see a large in-He is the youngest practitioner ever ad- flux of new, young blood in the new fumitted in the history of jurisprudence. tute. Even how several of our prominent His father was formerly judge of the dis cattle breeders have latimated their intrict court of Atchison county and is well ten ion if making large importations as soon as possible.—Farming.