

A Simple Man

By MADELINE LEWIS.

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Young Mr. Trask, the lawyer, intended to be a candidate for the legislature in the Fourth district. He had the reputation of being sharp, keen and shrewd. Many said he was "up to snuff." Others said that he would see that the interests of the district were not overlooked. Some thought he ought to have the nomination because he was just beginning his career, and this would give him a boost. The young man had been in Waterville only a year, and as he was only twenty-seven, good looking and bound to succeed he had made a place for himself in society. He could flatter himself that he had made progress in every family but one, the Thompson family.

They called John Thompson "Honest John." That had been his appellation for years. He was part farmer and part citizen and not well off in this world's goods, and yet he had a reputation that plenty of men might envy. His daughter Minnie, an only child, was neither a belle nor a leader of society, but she was fair looking and possessed of strong character and not at all the young lady to be captivated by the personal advantages of the young Mr. Trask.

They had met socially, and she had not at all been taken with him. On the other hand, he had been greatly impressed. Intuition told him that he was not in favor, but the opposition only stimulated him. He had easily made friends with the father, but he found that to win the girl's interest would be a far different thing.

For weeks it had been a foregone conclusion that Mr. Trask would be nominated and elected, but when the convention was finally called it developed that the ring politicians had not counted on the farming community. The men of the plow had become tired of the politicians and their tricks—of the promises so freely made and so often broken—and when the moment came they broke away and made a surprising nomination.

"Honest John" was the nominee. He had never held a political office in his life. He was home and at work instead of being at the convention, but his friends pledged him to stand, and he accepted it. Only one influence decided him in this matter, and that was the advice of his daughter.

"Father," she said to him when the news came, "you are not a politician, and you are not a schemer. You can't make a speech, and you won't be heard of in that body. You are simply a plain, honest man, and you will go there to represent others of the same ilk. It is a time when plain, honest men are wanted at the front. Go there and do your duty as best you can."

"I wish Lawyer Trask had got it," he sighed. "He can make speeches and mix in with the best of 'em and come home to be talked of in the papers. I shall be only a toadstool on a stump. By the way, hasn't he coming here pretty often?"

"Yes; he calls occasionally."

"I thought it was a little oftener than occasionally."

"If it is, he is wasting his time. Father, I don't like Mr. Trask. He is too ambitious to get ahead. He is so ambitious that he loses sight of the scruples that should guide all honest men. He wants to go to the legislature simply as a means to advance his own interests."

"But I took him to be a young man of good principles."

"Politics has no principles, and he seeks to be a politician. There is but one watchword with them, and that is to win. You will be elected as an honest man and not as a politician."

"Oh, I shan't do any stealing," smiled the father, "but I'm thinking that I'll feel like a cat in a strange garret up there. I'd a heap rather they had sent some one else, but I'll try it for a term if you say so. Perhaps there'll be three or four other old codgers like me to get in with."

There was no question about the chagrin and disappointment of the young lawyer over his defeat, but he dissembled fairly well before the girl when he made his next call. He acknowledged that it was something of a setback, but rejoiced that it was her father who had secured the nomination.

Before departing he grew sentimental and might have made a declaration of his love if he had not been checked. He must have plainly understood that he had as yet created no interest, but in his perversity he determined to continue.

The farmer had hardly been settled in his seat at the state capital when Trask appeared. He was more than usually deferential and friendly. He could and he did give the honest man many helpful pointers, and it was a fortnight before the errand that brought him there was stated. He was a lobbyist for a certain corporation which wanted an old railroad charter renewed.

"Honest John" had read and heard something about that charter. He had never fairly got to the right or wrong of it, but when the lawyer came to talk with him about it and endeavor to enlist his aid John Thompson gave no pledge. Trask was promised that the question should be looked into, and if it could be conscientiously done he should receive the farmer's aid.

It looked easy for a man who was "up to snuff" to handle this old farmer. He handled others, and then sent

them to Thompson to argue and discuss and win him over. Money and promises were freely used, and there came a time when the lobbyist could at least figure on an even vote in the house.

"Honest John" still stuck out. He hadn't the acumen to discover where the colored gentleman was hidden, but he had a feeling that he was there in the wood pile somewhere, and he would not commit himself.

It was then that the lawyer dropped argument for the more powerful weapon. He knew the financial condition of the farmer. He doubted if the man had ever had a thousand dollars in his hand. Though rated as "honest," there was a doubt as to whether he could stand temptation—legislative temptation.

One night he paid Thompson a visit in his room and went over the whole matter with him, putting everything in a most favorable light, and when he went away he left a thousand dollars in crisp greenbacks on the bureau. That was double the price he had paid others, but he had reasons for increasing the bribe. The money was found after he left, and next day the old farmer came to him to restore it.

"It must have been left by some other caller," was the reply. "Probably by some one who was in there arguing in favor of my bill. He may speak to you about it in the course of the day."

"But he was mighty careless to leave a thousand dollars lying around that way."

"Oh, he isn't worrying about it. Perhaps he wanted to make you a little present and took that way of doing it. It's often done here in the legislature, you know."

"It may be, but I've done nothing to earn it, and I don't know more than ten members by name. I wish that the fellow who left it would come back."

He was told to hang on to the money until the owner called for it, but he was much perplexed and put out. By a curious coincidence three weeks later he found two other farmer members who had come into possession of \$500 each in just as mysterious a manner. There seemed to be a philanthropist going about among the conscientious members and distributing rewards of merit.

When the house adjourned for a week and "Honest John" went home to his daughter he had that thousand dollars with him, and its history was still a mystery. In a few hours, however, he was enlightened, and he went back to the legislative body to enlighten others.

The day finally came when Lawyer Trask's bill was up. He had counted noses and was sure of its passage. He sat there in the utmost confidence, to be amazed and dumfounded when it was defeated by a majority of three. Honest John and his two farmer friends had recorded their votes among the "nays," although they had been bought and paid for. An hour later the former had a caller at his room. The caller was pale, faced and desperate.

"Mr. Thompson," he said, "I left a thousand dollars on that bureau one night a few weeks ago."

"Geewhittaker! But you denied it was yours!"

"It was a little present."

"But why should you make me a present of a thousand dollars?"

"Because—because I wanted your help on that bill and because I was going to ask your daughter to be my wife."

"And maybe you left \$500 apiece for Crane and Williams?"

"Yes."

"And you were going to ask their daughters to be your wife?"

"No-o-o."

"See here, Mr. Trask," said the old man after looking at him for half a minute, "if I were you I wouldn't ask Minnie to be your wife. I told her all about the money when I went home. She said it wasn't yours and as no one had lost it and as Crane and Williams was in the same fix that the money belonged to charity."

"We sent it down to her, and she divided it between a couple of orphan asylums, and she's got the receipts to show that it reached 'em. No, I wouldn't ask her. I might object to you as a son-in-law, and she might take it that you were trying to buy your way into the family."

"Lemme just add that you are a mighty careless man with your money, and if you don't mend your ways you'll bring up in the county house before you are forty years old."

The Reporter's Dictionary.
Brilliant, a. Must be used in describing parties or receptions given by people worth \$5,000 or more.

Magnificent, a. Indispensable in referring to any house costing no less than \$3,500.

Sumptuous, a. Must be used in referring to a parlor furnished at an expense of \$250 or more. Must be used also in referring to a repast consisting of three or more dishes.

Recherche, a. Indispensable in referring to any society event, no matter how insignificant.

Intoxicating, a. Any kind of music, no matter how discordant, furnished at a swell reception. "Ravishing" and "entrancing" are also good words and are perhaps more appropriate than intoxicating in a prohibition state.

Spacious, a. Grounds embracing two or more lots.

Event, n. A party given at a residence containing eight rooms or more.

Party, n. Obsolete.—Atchison Globe.

Like a Prince.

"You said that if I bought this suburban house I could live like a prince. With malaria and automobiles I'm in fear for my life!"

"Well," answered the agent soothingly, "think of the princes who live in fear of their lives."—Washington Star.

Run-Down People of Fredericton Need Vinol.

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Many people right here in this vicinity are all run down and hardly able to drag about—don't know what ails them.

In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred this is caused by overwork, too close confinement or continued strain and worry.

Our local druggist, Geo. Y. Dibble, says: "Such people need Vinol, our cod liver preparation without oil, which contains in a highly concentrated form all of the medicinal and strength-creating elements of cod liver oil actually taken from fresh cods' livers, but from which the unessential has been eliminated and tonic iron added."

Vinol cures conditions like this because in a natural manner it increases the appetite, tones up the digestive organs, makes rich, red blood, and strengthens every organ in the body.

We ask every man, woman and child in this vicinity who is run down, tired and debilitated to try Vinol on our offer to return money if it fails. George Y. Dibble, druggist, Fredericton, N. B.

GREAT FUR PRESERVE.

Enormous Quantity of Skins Shipped to Other Countries.

Mr. Harrison Young gave an interesting address before the National History Society of Edmonton the other day on the fur-bearing animals and fur trade of the north. He spoke from an experience of forty years spent among trappers and fur-traders. He states that the greatest fur preserve in the world lies within northern Alberta, in the Peace and Athabasca district. Said he: "When I first came to Edmonton in '69 the traders of the Northwest found their cash market in St. Paul. After 1870 this trade began to centre in Winnipeg, and when Edmonton became a town, the trade came to it, and some day it will find a new home in some of the towns that will surely arise in the north."

Mr. Young noted that the badger was the crest, so to speak, of the Edmonton district a hundred years ago. Comparatively few badger skins are now placed on the market. The ermine is now king, and has increased wonderfully in value. The beaver is becoming rare. Speaking of the quantity of North American furs annually sold in London, a great proportion of which come from Canada, he said:

I have with me the complete catalogues of all furs sold by three large firms, and from them I take the following totals. To these totals must be added a large number of skins and furs shipped to other countries and used by American and Canadian manufacturers: 14,469 badger, 13,833 black bear, 471 brown bear, 126 grizzly bears, 256 polar bears, 65,210 beaver, 7,215 fishers, 11,536 cross foxes, 3,140 kit foxes, 132,645 red foxes, 2,439 silver foxes, 23,494 grey foxes, 31,120 white foxes, 3,974 blue foxes, 90,905 lynxes, 90,343 martens, 22,610 mink, 2,263,031 musquash, 17,836 otters, 1,188,312 skunks, 1,576 wolverine, 45 musk ox, 165,955 racoon, 582,041 opossum, 18,114 Russian sable, 564 sea otters, 37,701 wolf, 193,827 ermines, 22,335 rabbit.

BARELY LIVED THROUGH IT.

A terrible experience had Edw. J. O'Connor of Sault Ste. Marie. "From boyhood," he writes, "I have been a constant sufferer from asthma and catarrh. My nose and throat was always stopped up and I had drooping in the throat. When attacks came on I thought I couldn't live through the night. I would sit up and gasp for breath and endure great distress. Catarrhzone made me entirely well." No stronger proof is required. Asthma is curable, so is catarrh. Use "Catarrhzone" and your recovery is guaranteed. Two sizes, 25c. and \$1.00 at all dealers.

ASSESSORS' OFFICE.

City Hall, Fredericton, N. B.

The Board of Assessors of Taxes or the City of Fredericton in the recent year, hereby require all persons liable to be rated, forthwith to furnish to the Assessors true statements of all their real estate, personal estate and income; and hereby give notice that blank forms on which statements may be furnished under the City Assessment Law can be obtained at the office of the Assessors and that such statements must be perfected under oath and filed in the office of the Assessors, within thirty days of the date of this notice.

Taxpayers who fail to comply with the terms of the City of Fredericton Assessment Act, 1907, as above set forth are not entitled to appeal from the ratings which may be made by the Board of Assessors in the Assessment Roll of 1908.

The Assessors Office will be open from 9.30 a. m. to 12.30 p. m. and from 2 to 5 p. m., on every lawful day of the ensuing thirty days; copies of the Act and blank forms will be given out there and will be mailed to applicants upon request. Information furnished and oaths administered without charge.

Dated this 8th day of April, A. D. 1908.

LEONARD W. JOHNSTON,

Principal Assessor.

Apr. 8, 1908.

Nell—Miss Antique says she has just turned 17.

Belle—What nonsense! Why she is 70 if she is a day.

Nell—Well, isn't 71 just turned 17?

Mamma, Mrs. Oldcastle just went wild over our new bust of Shakespeare when she was here this afternoon.

Burst, my dear—burst. Mercy sakes, how can you use such slang? And you've been to Europe twice, too.

SHE WAS WILD WITH PAIN.

From Willow Creek, Ont., Miss E. Diegel writes: A few years ago I was drenched with rain and got lumbago; it was like a steel rod piercing my back. I also had earache and was just wild with pain. I applied bathing soaked with Nerviline to my ear and rubbed on Nerviline for the lumbago. That rubbing relieved and in a few hours I was well. No other liniment could do this. It's the penetrating power of Nerviline that makes it superior to all other liniments. Nothing beats it, 25c. at all dealers.

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NOTICE OF LEGISLATION

THE CITY OF FREDERICTON will apply at the next session of the Legislature of New Brunswick for an Act to authorize the said City to issue \$21,000 of debentures to provide for the completion of recent improvements to the City Water System, \$8,000, Debentures for completion of the Sewerage System and \$6,000 of City Debt Debentures, all payable by instalments. ALSO for an Act to provide for the appointment by the City Council of a Constable to attend and execute all writs issued out of the City of Fredericton Civil Court.

J. W. McCREADY,

City Clerk

City Hall, April 2nd, 1908.

Apr. 3 & 1 mo.

DENTISTRY.

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All Dental work done by latest and improved methods.

Teeth extracted absolutely without pain.

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Begins This Thursday May 7 at 8 a. m.

Twenty One Bargain Days In One Sale

It will be and must be one of the Best and Biggest Sales we ever held

New Stocks in every corner of the Peoples Big Store

These goods were bought at under regular value and will be sold with the same savings to every one who will share in this big event.

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Seasonable goods that will go in to this big sale. We have printed price lists just out from the press

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Your name and address on a postal card that cost one cent will be the cause of saving you many dollars in the purchase of your new cost of wearables for self and family and house hold goods.

Come and See the Display at the Big Store

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