

(From the Citizen and Round Table.)
A STORY OF A PAINTING.

BY A. JEFFREYS.

[CONTINUED.]
"You speak truly, perhaps," I said, "and yet each art has its own peculiar advantages. Notwithstanding the picture tells me that there was an accident by water, and a rescue, it does not tell me when or where, nor by what chance, it happened; and I confess that my curiosity has been aroused by this painting in a manner which I think so excellent, can never gratify."

"It is a simple story," said my host to answer to this hint, assuming a thoughtful look, as he recalled the incident. "You smoke? Then take that pipe; you'll find tobacco in the box on the end of the mantelpiece. Never mind the room. We're not so particular here in the country about such matters, and we don't have visitors every day, you know."

I seated myself on an end of the high-backed, old-fashioned sofa, where I could keep the picture well in view, while my host went on to relate as follows:
"It was during the war, or rebellion as you'd call it, that I first saw Edwin there—I mean the one with the glowing eyes and smiling face, of course. He was traveling through our country as correspondent, or something of that sort, for some Northern journal, and curiosity or chance brought him to my door. Owing to lameness, I never was fit for a soldier, and before, at heart I never was 'warlike,' though I've passed my life among them; and we liked each other from the start, Ned and I, so that he stayed here quite a time, off and on, making trips to different places and about, and always coming back here again."

"I had a daughter, that is she with the long dark hair, that makes the drops of water, as they stand upon it, look like beads of gold. She was away when he first came—up North, where I had sent her to receive an education; for you see, although a plain farmer, my own education was not neglected in my youth, and I know the value of it, and down here our advantages in that way have never been much to boast of. It seems that he had known her there, too, and felt more than an ordinary interest in her—though I believe the opportunity, or something, had been wanting to make it plain to her. At the time I speak of, it chanced that there were several others stopping here, friends of mine, and one day word came that my daughter was coming down to see me—poor thing! She was worried about me, for my letters had miscarried; and in fact she had got as far as Conklin's here, where she halted, weather-bound. You know Conklin's, at the 'forks,' about three miles east of here."

"Well, that was a storm, the like of which I hadn't seen for many a year! How the lightning shot in yellow gleams, that made the dark woods clear as sunlight; how the thunder shook the air and made the ground to tremble as an earthquake would, and how the wind roared among these hills, and roared up big trees that the mightiest engines devised by man could not have budged, as I would rot up weeds, and scattered them about the valley—I need not tell. You have traveled far and wide, and no doubt seen the like of this many a time. But the brook you found coming here to-day was swollen with the torrents that rattled down the hills, so that the best gun in all these parts could not have sent a bullet over, and was deep enough to sink this house from sight, chimneys and all! Toward night it lightened up a little; that is, it stopped raining, though the clouds were thick as ever, and the darkness so intense that you might have fancied you could touch it. In the midst of all this we heard that a rebel party was coming up the road, and the Union troops were posted all along this region there was likelihood of a skirmish occurring anywhere."

"Well, I suppose my daughter would have been as safe at Conklin's as here, but you understand the feeling, air—I could not be easy, and I spoke my mind quite freely on the subject. In short, I wanted her here, and just because I thought it was impossible to get her here I wanted her the more, and was all the more impatient in her absence. It was worth as much as the life of the best drummer to have entered that stream at daylight then; they all saw that, and none of course would venture it by sight, and we knew it would take a good ten hours to run off all that water. Ned noticed my uneasiness, which for that matter, was plain enough to all, and spoke of trying to cross and bring her in before the rebels came. But, Lord! sir, I knew it was madness, and said it. I begged him not to think of it again; I didn't want any lives risked to please me; so he seemed to acquiesce, and said no more about it. But still my anxiety about those rebels would show itself, and I suppose I must have tried my company with my plans for at night—that is, when the darkness shut in everything, and there wasn't a rift left to tell which was earth and which was sky—Ned retired, said he was indisposed, and went to bed."

"Well, it was late in the fall, and what with the season and the winter storm, a fire was not an unpleasant thing to sit before. So we brought in some kindling logs, and had a cheery blaze flaming on the hearth in the other room, the dining-room. All the company gathered there around a bowl of punch, and we enjoyed ourselves to the utmost, at least they did, but I couldn't get that dread from off my mind, that the rebels might come up and trouble might ensue, and they—my daughter. That was all I thought of—my daughter; and I wished she were here."

"The light from a lamp shone through that window there, which you can see from where you sit, and made a straight and yellow streak upon the darkness, without that one might almost walk on. It seemed so plain; and but for that, once outside the house, with the door shut in your face, and you wouldn't have known the way in again."

"Well, we were at what, and I was paying but little attention to the game, and losing in a way that would have angered me at any other time. But now I cared not for it, I was thinking of my Jennie, and wishing for the morning."

"I don't know how long we had been playing, nor how many games I had lost, when all of a sudden a very rang out upon the murky air, and started us all to our feet."

To be continued.

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Increase in Net Assets for the Seven and a Quarter Millions.

STATEMENT
OF
THE MUTUAL
Life Insurance Company
OF NEW YORK,

144 and 146 BROADWAY, FOR ITS TWENTY-EIGHTH FISCAL YEAR, Being for the year ending December 31, 1870.

RICHARD GOODHIND,
OFFICES: OPPOSITE THE SALT LAKE HOUSE,
Agent for Utah Territory.

Net Assets, January 1, 1871, \$35,311,593 71
Exchange and Postage, 1870, 132,716 69
Premiums and Policy Fees, 1,352,573 45
On Bonds and Mortgages, 1,083,288 28
Stocks and Bonds, 794,544 57
Commissions, 108,020 73
Rents, 82,477 78
Total Cash Receipts, 14,647,400 92
Disbursements, \$49,859,073 73

DISBURSEMENTS:
Claims by Death, \$1,982,724 62
Matured Endowments, 27,000 00
Paid to Policyholders—Additions to Death Claims and Matured Endowments and Post Mortem Dividends, 292,846 64
Cash Dividends on Reduction of Premiums and Surrendered Policy, 2,564,896 87
Commission to Agents, 234,609 15
Paid Agents for Purchase of Policies, 440,456 87
Taxes, Law Expenses and Office Expenses, 211,907 39
Salaries and Wages, 221,545 72
Advertising, Printing and Stationery

I have carefully examined the foregoing statement, and find the same correct.
New York, January 18, 1871.
ISAAC F. LLOYD, Auditor.

INSURANCE STATEMENTS:
Number of Policies issued and restored during the year, 11,463
Amount insured thereby, \$33,458,217 69
In force at the end of the year, 222,423,354 50
The foregoing is a statement taken from the Actuarial Records.

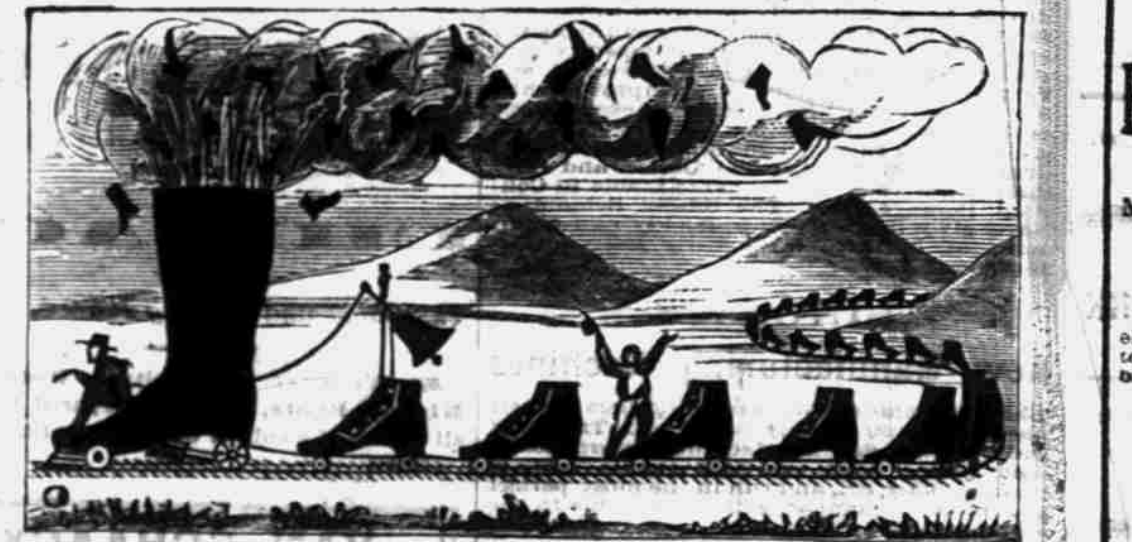
The Board of Trustees has authorized a Dividend for the year of 1870 of two millions of dollars, CASH, which amount may be subsequently increased. These Dividends will be paid to policyholders as they may elect, in cash or in the purchase of additional insurance, as soon as the equitable portion of each can be determined.

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FREDERICK S. WINSTON, President.
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