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GREATER OAK HALL | GREATER OAK HALL

Imperious public need

is the ruling consideration in Oak Hall just now. The Government wants immediately, urgently every uniform we can make and we need room for the tailor-work. To get that room without delay we cut prices on many lots of men's and boys' suits, We throw away cheerfully the profits of the present rising market.

These are some Emergency Prices

$25 and $20 Men's Suits for $15 and $13.00.
$13.50 and $15 Suits for $10.
$12 Suits for $7.50.
$7.50 Suits for $5.
Boys' $7 Suits for $3.50.

We push out Women's Goods, too.

Covert Cloth Suits worth $15 for $10.
Serge Suits worth $16.50 for $10.
Summer waists and skirts—a third under value.

We know of no opening to-day for money-saving (by men and women) on desirable and standard new goods equal to this. The Oak Hall guarantee is back of every garment. The pressure that forces us to push these goods at lowered prices is genuine.

Railroad fare paid on purchases of reasonable amount.

Wanamaker & Brown
Sixth and Market, Phila.

Peerless Machine Shops,

EASTON, MD.

PEERLESS TRACTION ENGINES,
PEERLESS SEPARATORS,
PEER LESS SELF-FEEDERS,
PEERLESS WEIGHERS AND BAGGERS,
PEERLESS SAW MILLS,
PEERLESS
PORTABLE, DOMESTIC AND STATIONRAY ENGINES AND BOILERS.

OUR GUARANTEE: We will guarantee our Peerless Threshing Rigs will do more work and better work than any other make of machine on the market, or we will put them side and side and take the best for the money. Also Imperial Stackers by the car load. Repairing in all branches. Bicycles repaired, re-enameled and nickle-plated at Reasonable prices. For particulars call on or address for catalogue.

C. M. WINGARD,
Telephone call No. 35. Near P. W. & B. R. R. Depot.

W. W. TUNIS & BROTHER LUMBER CO.,

TUNIS' MILLS, TALBOT COUNTY, MD.,
—MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN ALL KINDS OF—

Lumber and Building Material.

Shipments made direct by vessel to all points on navigable water, to inland points by rail.

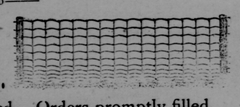
Save Money by Purchasing Direct from Manufacturers.

North Carolina Pine, Our Specialty!

WE DEFY COMPETITION IN CYPRESS SHINGLES.

Saw Mill Daily Capacity, 20,000 feet.
Plaining Mill Daily Capacity, 40,000 feet.

STATE AGENTS FOR



PAGE'S Woven Wire FENCE.

Correspondence solicited. Orders promptly filled.

HOUSE & UHLER,

—DEALERS IN—

LUMBER AND BUILDING MATERIALS,

SEASONED PINE (ORIGINAL GROWTH)

Framing Sawed to Correct Sizes; Shingles; Laths; Flooring; Siding; Lime; Hair; Cement, Etc.

AT OUR COAL YARD, AT THE RAILROAD STATION,

Will be kept on hand a supply of First-Class Morea Stove Coal. It is the best! Farmers are informed that we furnish Kerr Bros.' Wrightsville Land Lime. Now is the time to give yonr order. Satisfaction guaranteed.

PICTURE FRAMES
—AT—
W. E. BROWN'S.
DRUGS AND MEDICINES.

Of Things Essential

GOOD SHOES

Must be mentioned with the first. We have Ladies' Oxfords, Misses Oxfords, and Men's Patent Leather, Russet and Black. You can secure just what you want, to suit your foot, and the price will suit you.

Some Miscellaneous Articles

well worthy of mention, because of their quality and price, are:

BEDSTEADS,
ROCKING CHAIRS,
DINING CHAIRS,
CANE-SEAT CHAIRS,
STRAW MATTING,
OIL CLOTHS,
LINOLEUM.

J. H. NICHOLS & SON.

QUEEN ANNE'S RAILROAD CO.

SCHEDULE IN EFFECT APRIL, 28, 1898.

TIME-TABLE.

Eastward. Leav P. M.	Eastward. Leave P. M.	BALTO. FERRY	Westward. Arrive A. M.	Westward. Arriv A. M.
5 30	3 15	BALTIMORE	11 00	4 45
Ar'iv P. M	Arrive P. M.	TO	Leave. A. M.	Leav A. M
8 15	6 00	QUEENST'N.	8 20	10 –

Railroad Division.

Leav. P. M.	Leave A. M.	STATIONS.	Arrive A. M.	Arrv. P. M.
6 25	8 35	Queenstown	7 55	6 00
f 6 31	f 8 43	Bloomingdale	f 7 50	f 5 51
f 6 38	8 52	Wye Mills	f 7 43	5 42
f 6 44	9 01	Willoughby	f 7 37	5 35
a6 51		D & C Junc.	a 7 29	
6 53	9 13	Queen Anne	7 27	5 23
f 6 55	9 16	Hillsboro	f 7 25	5 21
6 59	9 22	Downes	7 21	5 16
f 7 02	9 26	Tuckahoe	f 7 19	f 5 13
7 07	f 9 35	Denton	7 12	5 05
7 16	9 55	Hobbs	7 01	4 50
7 23	10 05	Hickman	6 54	4 39
f 7 27	f 10 10	Adamsville	f 6 50	f 4 33
f 7 31	f 10 16	Blanchard	f 6 46	f 4 28
7 37	n 10 26	Greenwood	6 40	n4 20
f 7 44	f 10 41	Owens	f 6 32	f 3 57
f 7 47	f 10 48	Banning	f 6 28	f 3 53
f 7 55	f 10 54	Deputy	f 6 24	f 3 49
7 55	c11 15	Ellendale	6 18	3 43
f 8 06	f 11 21	Wolfe	f 6 06	f 3 30
8 11	11 30	Milton	6 00	3 20
f 8 19	f 11 38	Whitesboro,	f 5 52	f 3 12
f 8 22	11 41	Drawbridge,	f 5 49	3 09
f 8 26	f 11 45	Burton,	f 5 45	f 3 05
8 30	11 50	Lewes.	5 40	3 00
P. M.	A. M.		A. M.	P. M.

CONNECTIONS.

"A" connects at D. & C. Junction for points on the Delaware & Chesapeake Railway—Eastou and Oxford.

"B" connects at Greenwood with Delaware Division of the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore Railroad.

"C" connects at Ellendale with the Delaware, Maryland, & Virginia Railroad FOR Georgetown.

Sunday only, boat leaves Baltimore at 9.00 a. m., and Queenstown at 5.30 a. m. and 4.30 p. m.

I. W. TROXEL, Gen. Manager. C. C. WALLER, Gen. Fr't & Pass. Agt.

Wheeler Transportation Line

DAILY STEAMERS FOR Great Choptank, Trappe and Tuckahoe Rivers.

On and after May 22d, 1898, steamers will leave Pier 5 Light Street Wharf daily except Sundays at 6 p. m., for Oxford, Trappe, Cambridge, Chancellor's, Secretary, Clark's, Choptank, Lloyd's, Dover Bridge, Kingston, McCarty's, Ganey's, Todd's, Towers', Williston, Tuckahoe Bridge, Reese's, Coward's, Covey's, Hillsboro and Queen Anne.

Arriving at Oxford the following morning in time for connection with the Delaware & Chesapeake R. R., and at Cambridge with the Cambridge & Seaford R. R.

Returning will leave Hillsboro Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 10 a. m.; Covey's 10.30; Coward's 11; Williston 1 p. m.; Ganey's 1.30; McCarty's 2; Kingston 2.15; Dover Bridge 2.30; Medford's (Choptank) 4; Clark's 4.15; Secretary, 5; Cambridge 7; Trappe 8.30 and Oxford 10, stopping at intermediate landings, arriving in Baltimore early the following mornings.

SUNDAY STEAMER FOR BALTIMORE.

Steamer will leave for Baltimore on Sundays as follows: Wayman's, 4.30 a. m.; Covey's, 5.00; Coward's, 5.15; Williston, 6.30; Ganey's, 6.45; Kingston, 7.15; Dover Bridge, 7.30; Choptank, 8.30; Secretary, 9.30; Cambridge, 10.30; Trappe, 11.45; Oxford, 1.00 p. m., arriving in Baltimore at 6.00 p. m., the same day.

Freight received until 5.30 p.m. daily for all landings.

E. E. WHEELER, Agent,
Pier 5 Light St., Baltimore.
B. B. COHEE, Agent at Williston.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT
—OF—
SPRING GOODS
JUST RECEIVED!

A Well Selected Stock of
HATS AND CAPS.
All the Latest Styles in Derbies and Straw Goods.

DRESS GOODS.
All-Wool Serges, from 32c. to 50c.
Mohairs and Henriettas, from 32c. to 70c.
Novelty Suitings, all-wool, from 25c. up.

A Great Variety in Children's Men's and Women's
SHOES.
A Good, Solid, Ladies' Shoe for $1.

A Large Stock of Men's Youths' and Boys'
CLOTHING
at Very Low Prices.

Furniture, Glass and Queensware.

In fact anything the public may need in our line, at popular prices.

AGENTS FOR
Isaac Robinson's Phosphates,
a Special Mixture for Potatoes and Tomatoes, a Rock, Bone and Fish Mixture for Berries.

We are selling the ADRIANCE PLATT Platform Binders, Mowers, Rakes, Etc., which are Guaranteed in every respect.

H. T. NUTTLE & BRO.,
ANDERSONTOWN, MD.

Carpets, Straw Mattings, Rugs, Oil Cloths,
AND
FURNITURE
—o—
Headquarters
for Drive-well Material, Plows, Wheelwright and Blacksmith Supplies, Building Hardware; Carriage, Wagon, Cart and Plow Harness, Paints and Oils, Tinware, Harness and Shoe Leather, Washing Machines, Belt Lacing, and Steam Packing.

TWELVE ROOMS FILLED WITH GOODS!

I have a large stock of Barbed Wire Cable Wire Buckthorn and Ribbon Fencing, Poultry Netting, &c.
TILGHMAN HARVEY,
Burrsville, Md.

A Pleased Customer is
The Best Advertisement.

A little money does the business here, and our unsurpassed line of
NEW GOODS
is ready for your inspection. Why look elsewhere when you can buy just what you want in the way of

Men's, Boys' and Youth's Clothing,

Hats, Caps, Shoes, and the most modern patterns in Shirts, Collars and Neckwear at prices much

LOWER THAN THE LOWEST.

We also carry a full and complete line of Dry Goods in the latest designs and colors, as well as a very large assortment of ladies'

Dress Skirts,

which are made of stylish and durable material.

We will begin this season with Bargains. We will end this season with Bargains.

When in need of anything in our line a call will convince you.

YOURS FOR BARGAINS,
THE BALTIMORE BARGAIN STORE,
D. KLINE, Prop.
RIDGELY, MD.

FIRE INSURANCE!

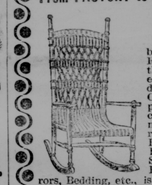
Is your Home, Furniture, Grain, Live Stock, or other Property Insured Against Loss by
FIRE OR LIGHTNING?

If not, if you will apply to one of the Agents of the
Kent Co. Mutual Insurance Co
OF DOVER, DEL
you can obtain insurance at low rates. The Company is Mutual, and you will only pay what the insurance costs, as any amount in
Excess of Cost Will be Returned in Dividends
or at termination of policy.

WM. DENNY, Secretary.

R. PLUMMER, Agent, Greensboro.
J. B. FLETCHER, " Preston.

From FACTORY to CONSUMER.



$1.39
buys this (exact) Rattan Rocker, the largest size ever made; per dozen, $14.50. Our new 112-page catalogue containing Furniture, Draperies, Crockery, Baby Carriages, Refrigerators, Stoves, Lamps, Pictures, Mirrors, Bedding, etc., is yours for the asking. Special supplements just issued are also free. Write to-day.
CARPET CATALOGUE in lithographed colors is also mailed free. Write for it. If you wish samples, send 8c. stamp. Matting samples also mailed for 8c. **All Carpets sewed free this month and freight paid on $9 purchases and over.**

$7.45

buys a made-to-your-measure All-Wool Cheviot Suit, expressage prepaid to your station. Write for free catalogue and samples. Address (exactly as below).
JULIUS HINES & SON,
Dept. 909. BALTIMORE, MD.

ALL CALICOES AND GINGHAMS
5c. a Yard.

Our Motto is to Sell You Good Goods at Bottom Prices.

WE INVITE YOUR ATTENTION this week to our line of
Ladies' Slippers and Oxfords
which have just arrived, and are second to none. We have all grades, black and tan, and all prices. We have received this week also a lot of
LADIES' SHOES,
cheap in price but high in quality. We can sell you a pair of shoes for $1.25 and guarantee them to give satisfaction. You ought to see our $1.25, $1.50 and $2.00 grades. Ladies' Shoes in stock ranging in price from
65c. to $3.50 per Pair.
A good stock also of MEN'S BOYS' and CHILDREN'S SHOES See them before purchasing. The season is here for
STRAW HATS
and we have them in all prices and styles. Please remember our low prices on Clothing. Suits for Men, from $1.75 to $10.00.

When You Paper Your House,

Give us a call for Paper. We have all grades, and are selling at the right prices—same as all our goods are sold at.
Come in and see us.

—o—
R. M. COLLINS
DENTON, MD.
THE SPOT CASH STORE.

Insolvent Notice.

William G. Bradley
vs.
His Creditors.
In the Circuit Court for Caroline county.

The proceedings in the above entitled case having been read and considered, the court hereby approves the election of T. Pliny Fisher, permanent trustee for the benefit of the creditors of the within named William G. Bradley, insolvent, and the said T. Pliny Fisher, as permanent trustee, after executing and filing a good and sufficient bond to the State of Maryland in the sum of one hundred dollars, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his duties as such trustee, and after its approval, is hereby authorized and directed to proceed with the execution of his trust.

And it is further ordered that the said petitioner appear before the Circuit Court for Caroline county on the fourth Monday of June next, to answer such interrogatories and allegations as his creditors, endorsers or sureties may propose or allege against him, and that he give at least forty days notice thereof to his creditors, which said notice shall be published weekly for the period of forty days by inserting a copy of this order in some newspaper printed in Caroline county once a week for the said period of forty days.

WM. R. MARTIN.

True copy—Test:
CHARLES W. HOBBS, Clerk.

Examiners' Notice.

We, the undersigned, having been appointed by the county commissioners of Caroline county to enter upon, examine, and, if found necessary, lay down a public road, beginning on the road from Federalsburg to Denton, on a line between the lands of William Trice and S. Collins and running eastward between the lands of William Trice and C. Lewis in a straight line, crossing the lands of C. Lewis and J. Rosser; thence southeast to a line between the lands of H. F. Trice and P. Trice; thence eastward to F. P. Covey's line; thence to county road leading from Smithville to Federalsburg, hereby give notice that on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 1898, at 9 o'clock a. m., we will meet at said place of beginning to execute our commission. The County Surveyor will please attend without further notice.

L. J. BLOXSOM,
L. N. TODD,
ELIAS W. WILLIAMSON,
May 14, 1898. Examiners.

Notice of Election Supervisors.

The Supervisors of Election for Caroline county, Md., hereby give notice that they will meet at their office in Denton, JUNE 14th, 1898, at 10 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of appointing Officers of Registration for the ensuing year, who shall also act as judges of election for their respective election districts of Caroline county aforesaid.

B. FRANK EDGELL, President,
W. W SEWARD,
JAS. T. SYLVESTER,
Baard of Election Supervisors for Caroline Co., Md.

A BACKLOG FANCY.

The room is dim, the logs burn low,
But in the fitful flash I see
Upon the wall the sunbeams glow
Through the green branches of the tree.

The backlog sputters, and I hear
The forest's leafy summer note,
And in the waves of smoke appear
The blue pools of the wood remote.

Then, like a spirit, witching, gay,
Ascends a throbbing golden spark—
A firefly drifting on its way
Across the lonely marish dark.
—Harper's Weekly.

THE TEST CASE.

It was Morton—I mean Montagu Morton, the well known dealer in precious stones—who told me this story. I was talking to him in his dingy office and was struck by the almost incredibly careless way in which he dealt with some valuable diamonds.

Yes, he owned that he was careless. He assured me that he never registered any letter or parcel, however valuable, and yet had never lost anything in the post. He did not keep a light burning all night, or use an electric alarm of any kind, or give any special orders to the police, yet he had never lost anything by burglary. "And yet this place is perfectly simple—outer door, passage, inner door to clerk's room, opening into my own office, which in turn opens into the strong room. It's wonderful that the burglars never try it."

I suggested that he used precautions of his own—watchmen, private detectives.

Montagu Morton smiled. "Ah," he said, "ever hear of Roynal?"

I had heard of him. Seeing that Roynal advertised his detective agency in every morning paper every day it would have been difficult not to hear of him, and I said so.

Montagu Morton unlocked and opened a drawer in his writing table. He took out a leather tray, divided into compartments, and from one of the compartments produced a green stone, which he handed me. "What do you make of that?"

"An emerald."

"All green stones are emeralds to you," said Morton. "It is not an emerald. It is an opal—a curious sort of opal—and worth whatever I can get for it. I would give £7 or £8 for it myself, but then I never give what a thing is worth, otherwise I could not live. However, that is not the point. The point is that if it had not been for Roynal the stone would not have been in my possession today."

And then Montagu Morton told me the story which I here tell again.

* * * * * * *

When a grocer has his silk umbrella stolen by a tramp, he goes to the police. When an English countess lends a pearl necklace to her sister-in-law and the sister-in-law returns it with the four principal pearls removed and excellent imitations substituted, the countess goes to Roynal. She wants her pearls just as much as the grocer wants his umbrella—probably even more—but the countess does not want publicity and scandal.

Roynal, engaged on these pearls, called on Morton for some information, which Morton gave him with his customary good nature. As he talked Roynal saw an opportunity for extension of business. He mostly divided his time between complaining he had too much to do and endeavoring to get still more. He rarely worked on a case himself. He had any amount of assistants, clever naturally and trained by himself, to do the actual work. It was only a case of exceptional difficulty and importance that would secure Roynal's personal attention.

It having become quite obvious to Roynal that Montagu Morton must be frequently and urgently in need of a detective agency to take care of him, he took especial pains not to mention the fact at the time, but on the following day he instructed an emissary and dispatched him. The emissary was very fashionably dressed, and in face was a little like Napoleon, and the card he sent in to Mr. Morton by the hands of Mr. Morton's clerk bore the name Mr. Michael Hayvers and in the left hand corner "Mr. Roynal's Detective Agency." Introduced into the presence of Mr. Morton, Mr. Hayvers began hesitatingly.

He was sure that Mr. Morton would be glad to hear that the real pearls had been recovered and Mr. Roynal was taking them to the countess that morning. Mr. Roynal had desired Mr. Hayvers to thank Mr. Morton very warmly for the valuable information which he had so kindly given.

Mr. Morton said politely that he was happy to have been of any use.

"It has since struck Mr. Roynal that his detective agency would be of constant use to you, Mr. Morton, in your business."

"Yes? And in what way?"

"In tracing the history of any gem when you thought that necessary. In finding out the financial position of any purchaser far more quickly, surely and delicately than from the usual methods. In exercising the closest supervision over any workman intrusted with the cutting or setting of valuable gems. In representing you at auctions and manipulating the auction in your favor. In a thousand ways that would save you time, trouble and expense."

"There are only two objections. First, your terms are very high."

"When we work regularly for a man of business—much of the work being the merest routine—our charges are very moderate, exceptionally moderate."

"My second objection is that I am by no means sure that you can take care of me as well as I can take care of myself. You might bungle. In a case of real difficulty—I've one in mind at this moment—you might fail altogether."

"Really," said Mr. Hayvers, "that was an objection I had not expected. In the last ten years we have not had one failure—not one. It's in all our advertisements—'Mr. Roynal never fails.' Now, just let me have that case you've got in your mind, and if we do not succeed no charge shall be made at all. Just let us show you what we can do."

Mr. Morton walked up and down his room meditating.

"It's not fair on you," he said. "You couldn't do it."

"Try us What we can't do in that way could be written on a threepenny bit."

At last Mr. Morton was persuaded to put his case: "This morning I sent my clerk to my bank in Lombard street. In his absence I had cut on the table in my office a tray containing 20 opals. One of these was curious—of no particular size, but of an even green color, looking to the uninitiated almost like an emerald. I happened to go into the strong room for a minute. I was not there more than a minute, and I heard no sound in this room to make me suspicious, yet when I returned the green opal was gone.

"The other 19 remained intact. Of course you see what happened. The thief, whoever he or she was, came in from the street and into my clerk's office, probably with some pretext ready if the clerk had been there and really intending to examine the place with a view to burglary. Finding the clerk's room empty, he peered into mine. That was empty also, and the opals were on the table. It was the work of a moment to snatch that opal and get out into the street again. I want that opal back, but I am perfectly certain no one will ever get it for me."

"Is that your difficult case?" said Mr. Hayvers, smiling. "It is the merest child's play. You may consider the opal back in that tray again. Let me, first of all, dispose of your own theory. A thief who was intending to burglarize your place would not spoil his chances by first committing a comparatively trifling theft."

"Sudden temptation," suggested Morton.

"Then he would have taken 20 opals, not one. The fact that the stone was not an ordinary opal makes the case easy. The fact that only just that particular opal was taken shows that the thief was no ordinary thief and makes the case still easier. Don't you see that the field of inquiry is narrowed down?"

"I hadn't thought of that," said Morton rather more humbly.

"Very natural, but in our profession we have to think of such things, and we do think of them."

"I felt so sure that the case was desperate," Morton owned, "that I had quite decided not to apply to the police."

"Well," said Mr. Hayvers genially, "they might have found it for you. They're very painstaking. I'm by no means one of those who sneer at the police detectives. Of course they cannot get the best talent. That's bought up. Mr. Roynal can very well afford to outbid anybody else for the best men. But to come to business"—here Mr. Hayvers produced his pocketbook—"let me take down the particulars."

Morton had no note of the size and weight of the opal. However, he made a rough sketch and gave Mr. Hayvers the weight, approximately, and a minute description. He also handed him a piece of tinted glass to guide him as to the color. "That will do perfectly," said Hayvers. "I should know the stone now if I saw it." He obtained also a great deal of information about the clerk. Mr. Hayvers seemed particularly curious about the clerk.

"Now, then," said Hayvers, "we will begin with a little precautionary measure. A man will come from us this afternoon, ostensibly to examine the electric lighting, in reality to make sure that the stone is not still in the office."

Mr. Morton objected. "My clerk knows something of the electric business. He will find out that your man's a sham."

"But our man won't be a sham. He will really be a practical electrician. We have assistants in all trades and all ranks of life. I may tell you, Mr. Morton, confidentially that we have two duchesses in our pay at this moment."

When Mr. Hayvers had gone, Morton touched his bell, and his clerk, Smith, came in. Then Mr. Morton did what may seem an indiscreet thing.

"Smith," he said, "you are going to be suspected of having stolen an opal."

"Certainly, sir," said Smith.

"That will be all at present."

Smith could not write shorthand or work a typewriter. He spoke no language but his own, and of that he was remarkably economical. Perhaps it was for this economy, coupled with one or two other qualities, that Morton valued him. He must have valued him, for he paid him a salary of £200 a year.

The electrician came, examined and exhausted himself in his efforts to make Smith talk. He received one piece of information—that Smith was going to the Earl's Court exhibition that night.

At the exhibition a fair haired stranger got into conversation with Smith. The stranger did most of the conversation, while Smith drank whisky and soda at the stranger's expense. In a burst of confidence the stranger owned that he was a collector of precious stones, had just bought a couple and would like Smith to look at them. Smith looked and said "Good night!" and incontinently went up the great wheel.

On the following day, while Smith was at Morton's office, a fair haired stranger called at Smith's lodgings to correct the gas meter. "'E did a deal of pokin about," said the landlady. "Ah!" said Smith.

Then a week elapsed, during which the workings of Mr. Roynal's agents were wrapped in darkness. At the end of that time Mr. Hayvers called for a list of Morton's customers, ladies especially, who were in the habit of buying opals.

"You have a clew?" asked Morton.

"We are drawing the nets closer. Patience for a day or two." And Mr. Hayvers, who seemed very busy, left hurriedly.

Mr. Morton exercised patience for a day or two. A month passed without any news of the green opal. One's patience cannot last forever, and Morton wrote a short, sharp letter to Roynal, ordering him to relinquish the case, saying that he would hand it on to the police and greatly regretting that he had not done so at first. The letter promptly produced an apologetic reply. The case had suddenly developed features of exceptional difficulty, but Mr. Roynal was now giving it his personal attention, and it had so far progressed that a satisfactory termination could be guaranteed in 24 hours.

Early on the following morning Morton received a telegram: "Opal recovered. Please call at your convenience. Roynal." Morton found it convenient to call at once and was shown into Roynal's private room.

"Your case was the most difficult I have had to deal with for three years," said Mr. Roynal, "though the difficulty did not lie in the direction you imagined. You cannot prosecute, and I will not give you the name of the thief. But you wanted your opal, and here it is."

"If you don't tell me how you got it, I don't see how I'm to be quite sure it's mine."

"It answers your description, and—but wait a minute." Roynal wrote hastily on a sheet of note paper and handed it to Morton. "There is my guarantee that if your legal claim to that stone is disputed I will pay you £50. Is that satisfactory?"

Morton put the opal in his waistcoat pocket with the guarantee.

"It is very kind of you," he said.

"I have had your bill made out," Roynal went on, "and I have also had it receipted. I take this as a test case and make no charge."

"It is indeed good of you," said Morton.

"All I ask—and expect—is that you will employ us regularly in the future."

And then over Morton's fat and usually solemn face there came an unholy grin.

"I shall never employ you again, Mr. Roynal, because you have failed in this case. The story which I told your Mr. Hayvers was a fabrication from beginning to end. I have never had an opal stolen. The whole thing was an effort of the imagination, a test for you, and you have failed."

"I could never have believed," said Mr. Roynal warmly, "that you could have acted in such bad faith."

"Mr. Roynal, of what use to me would a private detective be who failed to suspect where suspicion was justified? And what am I to think of a private detective who undertakes to find a certain stone, fails and procures a substitute which he attempts to palm off on his client? It must have cost you much time and money to find an opal exactly answering to that description."

"You will return that stone at once," Mr. Roynal said sharply.

"I think not. I have your guarantee in my pocket. Good morning, Mr. Roynal." — Boston Guardian and Lincolnshire (England) Independent.

The Baby Got It.

Somebody who spent some time at a certain resort last summer vouches for the following, which, if not strictly new, is at least a very creditable development of an old story. A mother, a baby and a nurse were seated together on the veranda one morning with a number of other guests. The mother was deeply engrossed in a book. The nurse was occupied by trying to keep the baby out of mischief. "No, no; the baby mustn't have it," was her staple remark, repeated over and over again and invariably followed by wails from the thwarted infant. Presently the mother, without lifting her eyes from the book, said: "Do let him have it, nurse, and at once. Anything to keep the peace." "But, ma'am'"— began the nurse. "Do as I say," interrupted the mother. "The baby is to have whatever he wants." For an instant there was silence, then shrieks so piercing that the preceding wails were as nothing beside them. In accordance with his mother's orders the baby had just grasped a bumblebee.—Philadelphia Times.

First Banker—What a breezy fellow your clerk is!

Second Banker—Yes, but he's not responsible for any of the drafts.—