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MY HAUNT.

I know a bank—a wide bank— Where birds are singing all the day...

JESS.

By H. RIDER HAGGARD.

CHAPTER II. HOW THE STEERS CAME TO MOONFOOT.

John Niel, English gentleman, sat so peacefully in his chair...

"Yes, indeed," he answered, laughingly; "you had a warm welcome at any rate."

"What an earth is the matter, Bessie?" she said, with a quick glance at her companion...

"You never think that the old blood ran in your veins, would you?"

"Just then I thought I heard a faint sort of rapping at the door, and Ben had just come in."

CHAPTER III.

From both of them, and the eldest might have been 11, and the second about 8.

"What!" he exclaimed, started out of my chair as well as I could.

"And now, young ladies," I said, "come and give me a kiss, both of you, and tell me how you came here."

"Well, Capt. Niel," said the old man, "up above it looks well if you mean to take to farming."

"Bessie!" he said, looking at her with a keen eye, "I have a question to ask you."

"I don't know," she said, "but I am sure I have never seen you before."

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CHAPTER III.

complain of the way that nature has treated you. She blushed a little, more at the tone of his voice than the words, and went on hastily:

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Our State Contemporaries.

The Press and Banner thinks that the orator at the dedication of the Calhoun monument on the 26th inst., in Charleston, should have been selected from the family.

Another building and loan association, on a different plan from those now in operation here, will shortly be put in operation.

The horrible news proceedings in equity in the Court of Common Pleas yesterday were enlivened by a very unusual and somewhat exciting incident.

The abolition of duelling in South Carolina was regarded as a step forward in the civilization of this age, and yet with the experience of both systems, we doubt whether the change has been conducive either to morality or the saving of human life.

There have been many complaints concerning the postal facilities from Sumter, S. C., to neighboring towns at a distance from that place of from 10 to 18 miles.

The recent decision of the Supreme Court of the State of South Carolina in reference to the jurisdiction of trial juries in cases of petit larceny has resulted in the addition to the dockets of the Circuit Courts of a large number of very trifling cases that should never have been permitted to enter the Court House.

A case in point is one tried in Aiken on Monday, in which Riley Ziegler is charged with stealing a bushel of potatoes valued at fifty cents.

The Gold mines near Glendale have been attracting some attention lately. It is not proper to give such an "entree" into an undue and unearned boom.

every dollar which he possesses, but the existence of such a fever is good evidence that the stories of what may be expected of the iron and coal are hardly equal to the truth.

The best grades of cotton are now selling in this market at 10 cents per pound. However this high price, nearly always rules at this time of the year so that our farmers can be induced to believe that the same price will be paid in the fall, and thus they are fooled into planting a big crop which lowers the price, and when selling time comes they have to take about 83 or 9 cents instead of the 10 cents that they expected.

The "oldest inhabitant" cannot remember ever having seen as dry a fall, winter and spring in this section as we have had since last July. Many lakes have dried up that were never before known to be dry at this season of the year, and all the streams are very low.

Stopping over in Blackville for a short while last week, we observed every indication of that abiding energy and push that has always characterized the town. In the wake of the fiery misfortune that so recently overtook her people, we find them actively engaged in clearing away the debris and landing brick and lime for the construction of new and more substantial buildings.

There have been many complaints concerning the postal facilities from Sumter, S. C., to neighboring towns at a distance from that place of from 10 to 18 miles. One party even declared that a letter addressed to him took seven days to pass from Sumter to Providence, and that he had written to Providence a letter addressed to him took seven days to pass from Sumter to Providence.

The investigation shows that under the present system, as conducted in the neighborhood of Sumter, there are ample and good grounds of complaint. It appears to be a fact that letters sent from Sumter to adjoining towns first go to Charleston, then up the South Carolina Railroad, then up the Camden Branch of said road to Clarendon, a distributing point, the journey the correspondence travelling under favorable circumstances, occupying five days before reaching its destination, only a few miles from the place it was mailed from.

There is only one mail-a week, to some of these places, and if one is not promptly on time, his letter may have to perform a still more arduous journey ere it reaches its "home port."

The Gold mines near Glendale have been attracting some attention lately. It is not proper to give such an "entree" into an undue and unearned boom. For more than half a century it has been known that gold was to be found in this neighborhood. The Spartan will report only the facts in the case which will be just both to operators and the owners of adjacent lands.

The interest which the South is exhibiting at the North is remarkable, although it is not greater than is justified by the increasing indications of Southern progress and prosperity. There is scarcely a newspaper of any prominence in any of the Northern cities which has not more or less to say about the wonderful development that is going on in the Southern States.