

DIGNITY. YES THATS WHAT I WANT. REUBEN LIKES DIGNITY. SO DOES HIS MOTHER AND THEODORA.

NATE

THEODORA, I RECKON SHES GOT ENOUGH FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY.

MAUD

I WONDER WHAT SHE WOULD SAY IF SHE COULD SEE ME DISHINF UP BACON AND GREENS?

NATE

WHO CARES WHAT SHED SAY? YOU JEST LOOK INTO THAT POT WITH THEM EYES OF YOURS AND ILL BET TWO CENTS THERE LL BE A FLAVOR. ~~TO~~ THEN GREENS THAT WOULD MAKE THEODORAS HAIR RAISE WITH ENVY. THAT IS IF IT WAS NATURAL HAIR.

MAUD // LAUGHING //

ILL TRY NATE // EXIT L.2.E. //

NATE

YOU DONE A FIRST CLASS THING COMIN HERE TODAY DANL. I SEE YOURE SORTER PREPARIN HER FOR WHAT, ~~IS~~ ~~EXHIBIT~~ I KNOW IS COMIN. THE JUDGE DONT WANT HER MUCH, THATS SETTLED IN MY MIND. OR HED BEEN ARTER AFORE THIS. SHELL GO WITH ME TO HEMLOCK AND ~~THE~~ AMONG THE FLOWERS AND BIRDS SHELL GIT OVER PRETTIN ARTER HIM. AND GROW UP A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG WOMAN AND MAYBE SOME DAY HE LL LARN HER REAL VALUE AND BE GLAD TO WALK IN AND CLAIM HER.

MULLER // R.C. //

NATE I AM MERY THANKFUL FOR ALL YOUR KINDNESS TO MAUD BUT YOU MUST LOOK FOR YOUR REWARD IN THE NEXT WORLD.

NATE

I CALCULATE TO GET SOME OF IT IN THIS. IN SEEING THE ROSES COME BACK IN HER CHEEKS. NOT HERE IN THIS CROWDED NOISY CITY, BUT WAY OFF IN THE HEMLOCK IN THE WOODS. WHERE THERES GOOD BREATHING AND ANY AMOUNT OF SUNSHINE TO BE HAD FREE GRATIS FOR NOTHING.

MAUD // ENTERS WITH DISH OF POTATOES

L.2.E. // SEE FATHER WHAT BEAUTIES. YOU LIKE THEM WITH THE JACKETTS OR DONT YOU?

VOICE // OUTSIDE //

MAIL. // LETTER SEALED STAMPED AND DIRECTED. THROWN IN WINDOW-NATE PICKS UP THE LETTER -MAUD DROPS DISH L. AND RUNS TO GET LETTER BUT IS TOO LATE //

MAUD // DANCING ABOUT //

ITS COME AT LAST. I KNEW IT WOULD GIVE IT TO ME NATE. ITS FOR ME.

NATE // HOLDING HER AND READING IT //

YES ITS THE DOCKYMENT.

MAUD

I KNEW IT I KNEW IT. REUBEN HAD SENT FOR ME. IM GOING HOME THIS TIME CERTAIN. GIVE IT TO ME NATE. I CAN WAIT ANY LONGER. // REACHES FOR IT //

NATE

HOLD ON. DONT BE SO RAMPAGIOUS. SEE HERE AINT I BEEN A SORT OF FATHER ITO YOU FOR THE LAST THREE WEEKS.

MAUD

YES YES GIVE ME THE LETTER NATE.

NATE

ANYHOW IM BOSS HERE AINT I-?

MAUD

YES YES, THE LETTER. MY LETTER- REUBENS LETTER.

NATE

YOU DONT GET NO LETTER TILL YOU WIPE OUT THE DAMAGE

MAUD // SURPRISED //

THE WHAT NATE?

THE DAMAGE. LOOK AT THE CROCKERY. LOOK AT THE TATERS.

MAUD//MERRILY PICKING THEM UP//

THATS SOON MENDED. ILL GIVE YOU A CUPBOARD FULL OF DISHES. AND A WAGON LOAD OF POTATOES. IM GOING HOME HOME HOME. REUBEN HAS SENT FOR ME.//RUNNING OFF L.U.E.//

NATE

DANL. AINT SHE CUTE// READS ADDRESS/ M.W. CARE OF NATE HARPIN ESQ. THATS PLAIN NUFF AND CORDIN TO ORDER, ONLY JUDGE WAYNE HAPPENS TO BE IN NEW YORK. AND THIS HERE STARTED FROM CROSS CORNERS YESTERDAY 'CORDIN TO THE POST MARK WHATS ON 'T. IS THAT 'CORDIN TO REASON?

MULLER

JUDGE WAYNE MIGHT HAVE WRITTEN THE LETTER BEFORE HE LEFT CROSS CORNERS.-IT IS NOT AE ALL IMLIKELY.

NATE

YES THAT LOOKS REASONABLE. AND ITS SCRAWLY WRITTEN JES LIKE A ~~LAWYER~~ LAWYER. ONLY ITS GOT A PECULIAR SMELL JES LIKE A MUSKRAT.

MAUD//ENTERS L.2.E.//

NOW GIVE IT TO ME NATE.//TAKES LETTER// YES ITS HIS HAND WRITING ID KNOW IT. AMONG A THOUSAND.//EAGERLY TEARS IT OPEN//DEAR DEAR REUBEN.//KISSES LETTER//NOW THEN//OPENING LETTER// LOOKS AT IT- STARTS// WHY- WHY THERE IS SOME MISTAKE IT CANNOT BE. WHY THIS IS MY LETTER. THE ONE I WROTE TO REUBEN. WHY HWAT CAN IT MEAN?

MULLER//ASIDE//

IT IS WHAT I EXPECTED.

MAUD

OH I KNOW NOW. HE DOSENT WHAT ME HE HAS SENT IT BACK WITHOUT A WORD. NOT A LINE. NOTHING. NOTHING. BUT SILENCE AS COLD HARD AND AS TERRIBLE AS THE AWFUL FEELING WHICH IS SETTLING WHICH IS SETTLING DOWN ON MY HEART.//WEEPS AND DROPS LETTER//

MULLER//PICKS IT UP//

LOOK UP MY CHILD. THERE IS WRITING ON THE OTHER SIDE.

MAUD

READ IT FATHER. FOR MY EYES ARE BLINDED.

MULLER//LOOKS FIRST AT NOT, THEN AT

MAUD THEN READS// AS YOU HAVE SOWN. SO SHALL YE REAP.

MAUD//FALLS INTO HIS ARMS//

FATHER. FATHER.

MULLER

THE VILLIAN. HE NOT ONLY TEARS YOUR HEART OUT BUT TRAMPLES ON IT. HE SHALL ANSWER FOR IT TO ME.//TAKES HAT AND STARTS FOR DOOR//

MAUD//RESTRAINING HIM//

NO FATHER IT MUST NOT BE. NOT YOU- NOT YOU- I COULD NOT LIVE IF YOU HARMED HIM. I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN HE WOULD NOT TAKE ME BACK AFTER I HAD DISGRACED HIM SO.

MULLER

DISGRACED HIM? HE IS EVEN WITH YOU NOW. THE VILLIAN. SHAME FOR SHAME. OH MY CHILD MY CHILD.//SINKS INTO CHAIR R.//

MAUD

BUT HE DIDNT LOVE ME FATHER. HE COULDNT I THINK HE TRIED BUT HE COULDNT. WHAT ELSE COULD HE WRITE?//TO NATE// OH NATE I WILL GO WITH YOU NOW. TAKE ME AWAY WHERE HE WILL NEVER HEAR OF ME AGAIN TAKE ME SOON FOR I SHALL STIFLE HERE IN THE AWFUL ROAR OF THIS GREAT CITY.//KNEELING BY MULLER// FATHER I AM GOING AWAY PROMISE ME YOU WILL NOT SEEK TO HARM HIM. PROMISE ME OR I SHALL DIE HERE BEFORE YOU.

MULLER

I PROMISE MAUD

MAUD

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AND NEVER LET HIM KNOW WHERE I AM.

MULLER

HE SHALL NEVER KNOW FROM ME.

MAUD //RISES//

YOU WILL SEE ME SOMETIMES AND DONT THINK I WILL GRIEVE TOO MUCH
ABOUT THIS. ILL SOON GET OVER IT FATHER. AND FORGET IT ALL. AND
THEN ILL BE AS //HAPPY- AS HAPPY AS I WAS BEFORE- OH FATHER MY
HEART IS BREAKING. //FALLS AT HER FATHERS FEET FAINTING//

P I C T U R E

C U R T A I N

Links Dramatic Agency,
191 CLARK ST., CHICAGO.

Trans Transmille Agency
100 Clark St. Chicago

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FOYH THOMAS C H AYUBOV, NOTARY

HESTER

JOHN FREEMAN

NESTER

JOHN

NESTER

JOHN

NESTER

JOHN

HESTER

JOHN

NESTER

JOHN

HESTER

JOHN!! READS POEM!!

HESTER

JOHN

DOES NATE HUNT FOR WORMS WHEN HE'S HUNGRY?

NO NO. I MEAN THE POETRY IS LIKE HIM.

JOHN

WELL IF I CANNOT COMMEND THE POETRY I CERTAINLY DO ADMIRE THE BIRDS CHOICE FOR YOUR CHARMING COUSIN MAUD. I WISH I HAD A VOICE AS POTENT AS MR WHISTLERS.

HESTER

I THOUGHT YOU WAS KINDER LEARNIN THAT WAY. SO ILL TELL YOU A SECRET IF YOU'LL KEEP IT. A MONTH AGO WE DIDNT SPECT AS HOW MAUD WOULD LIVE, SHE LAY IN THERE WITH BR AIN FEVER A YANKIN HER HAIR OUT BY THE HANDFULL. THERE WAS TWO DOCTORS NATE BROUGHT FROM SOME WHERE AND THEY SAID SHE WAS A CONER. YOU COULDNT GUESS WHAT AILED HER COULD YOU?

JOHN

NO I DONT THINK I COULD. WHAT WAS IT?

HESTER

WELL IT WAS LIVE. UNRECIPROCATED LOVE. SHE WAS CRAZY FOR A MAN AS DIDNT CARE A BUTTUN FOR HER. TWAS THE WUSS 'CASE OF LOVE STRUCK I EVER SAW.

JOHN

I CAN SEE SHE BEARS THE IMPRESS OF PAST SUFFERING AND ITS PARTLY THAT THAT ATTRACTED ME TO HER MIGHT I ASK WHO THIS UNSUSCEPTIBLE MAN IS?

HESTER

YOU MIGHT ASK //X-S TO COTTAGE// BUT I SHANT TELL YOU. I WOULDNT LET YOU KNOW AS MUCH AS I DID. ONLY I SEED HOW THINGS WAS GOING WITH YOU.

JOHN

I AM GREATLY OBLIGED TO YOU FOR THIS FRIENDLY MEANT WARNING

HESTER //SIGNIFICANTLY//

WE DONT WANT NO MORE BRAIN FEVER AROUND THESE PREMISES. EXIT IN COTTAGE TAKING MILK PAIL//

JOHN

IT NEEDED ONLY ^{this} TO CONFIRM MY SUSPICIONS. THIS MAUD WALLACE WHOM THEY ARE HIDING HERE IN THIS LOVELY PLACE, IS NO LESS A PERSON THAN MY COUSIN REUBEN WAYNES WIFE. NOW MY FIRST STEP WILL BE TO GAIN THE FIRLS CONFIDENCE. AND IN SOME WAY MAKE KNOWN TO HER THAT I AM A FRIEND OF HER HUSBANDS AND SURPRISE HER INTO A CONFESS ION OF HER IDENTITY. REUBEN WILL BE HERE TOMORROW AND I MUS BREAK THE PATH FOR HIM. //LIVELY MUSIC NATE ENTERS X BRIDIE FROM R. WITH GUN ON SHOULDER BUNCH OF FLOWERS IN MUZZLE OF GUN. SEES JOHN

NATE

MORNIN 'SQUIRE.

JOHN

GOOD MORNING NATE. YOU'BE OFF TO THE WOODS EARLY.

NATE

YES // SEES GUN AGAINST TREE L. COMES DOWN C.// LONG AFORE YOU HAD YOUR EYES OPEN IVE BEEN WATCHING A DEER ABOUT A MILE UP THE STREAM. THARS A GOL DARN BUSTUN POOTY FELLER FOOLIN ROUND THAR. HES MIGHTY CUTE. BUT ILL FETCH HIM YET. I WANT A FRESH BIT OF VENISON IN THE HOUSE FOR THAT FRIEND OF YOURN THATS COMING HERE TOMORROW. YE HAIN'T TOLD ME WHAT HIS NAME WAS YET.

JOHN

DIDNT I-? WELL HIS NAME IS WAYNE HE IS A MASSACHUSETTS JUDGE.

NATE

SHO ' DONT SAY SO. //ASIDE AND WINKS// I KNOWED IT ALL THE TIME. 'ALOUD // WELL SQUIRE I DIDNT SPECT ' TO ENTERTAIN NO JUDGE BUT IF HE CAN PUT UP WITH WHAT WEVE GOT HES WELCOME. AND IF ITS SPORT HES

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AFTER, HE CAN GET THE TALLEST KIND OF HUNTIN AND FISHIN RIGHT HERE
JUDGE WAYNE, THAT SOUNDS KINDER FAMILIAR. THERE USED TO BE A JUDGE
IN CROSS CORNERS WHERE MY HESTER COMES FROM.

JOHN

I THINK IT MUST BE THE SAME.

NATE

SHOULDNT WONDER, AND NOW I LOOK AT YOU 'PEARS LIKE IVE SEED YOU
AFORE. AINT YOU THE GENTLEMAN I SEED WITH THE JUDGE IN NEW YORK
YORK? ABOUT SIX WEEKS AGO?

JOHN

I WAS THERE WITH WAYNE AND I THINK I REMEMBER YOU.

NATE //SUSPICIOUSLY//

LOOK HERE SQUIRE AINT YOU THROWIN' YOUR LINE FOR BIGGER FISH NOR
TROUT?

JOHN

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHAT DO YOU SUSPECT?

NATE

I DONT SPECT NOTHIN' WHEN IM DEAD. SARTIN SURE ON IT. YOU DIDNT
COME TO THE WOOD SPECTIN TO OCCUPY THE HULL TIME HUNTIN' AND
FISHIN' AND JUDGE AINT COMIN TO HUNT FOR FISH NUTHER' NOW WHATS
YOUR GAME?

JOHN

WELL NATE I ASSURE YOU THAT IF I HAVE A MOTIVE IN COMING HERE, OTHER
THAN FISHING OR HUNTING, IT IS A GOOD ONE.

NATE

JES 'SO. IS IT THE GAL?

JOHN

YOU HAVE PENETRATED MY SECRET AND I MAY AS WELL CONFESS. MY SOLE
OBJECT IN COMING HERE IS TO FIND THE WIFE OF REUBEN WAYNE.

NATE

AN 'YOU THINK YOUVE FOUND HER?

JOHN

I AM SURE OF IT.

NATE

WELL YE HAVE AND THATS THE ANGEL AS JUDGE WAYNE DONT KNOW THE VALUE
ON. AND IF YOUVE COME SNOOPIN AROUND THIS CAMP TO DO HER MISCHIEF
YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE A LICKIN' AND I CALCULATE WHEN IM DONE WITH YER
THERE WONT BE ENOUGH LEFT ON YER TO WALK OUT OF THE WOODS.

JOHN

NATE YOU RE THE NOBLEST MAN I EVER SAW.

NATE

SQUIRE GIVE US YOUR FIST, YOU'RE A FRIEND AND ILL BET ON IT.

JOHN

IM A FRIEND TO BOTH MAUD AND HER HUSBAND. AND NOTHING WOULD GIVE ME
GREATER JOY THAN TO SEE THEM HAPPILY REUNITED.

NATE

JES 'SO. WHICH IM AFRAID YOU WONT NEVER SEE AFTER WHATS HAPPENED.
THE GAL IS HEAD OVER EARS IN LOVE WITH THE HUSBAND. BUT SHES GOT
SPUNK I TELL YOU, SHES BEEN MISUSED THE WUST KIND.

JOHN

ALL THAT I AM WILLING TO ADMIT. AT LEAST THAT THE FGIRL IS HONEST
IN HER BELIEF THAT SHE HAS BEEN DEEPLY WRONGED.

NATE

BY JIMMINY I KNOW SHE HAS.

JOHN

WELL WE WILL NOT DISCUSS THAT MATTER NOW. MY SOLE OBJECT IS TO TRY
AND REPAIR THE INJURY AND I RELY ON YOU FOR ASSISTANCE.

YOU CAN HAVE ALL YE WANT AND MORE TOO IF YE WANT IT. HOW DID YE KNOW SHE WAS HERE?

JOHN

WHEN I WAS IN NEW YORK WITH JUDGE WAYNE HE SHOWED ME A PHOTO OF HIS WIFE. I TRACED THE GIRL TO YOUR HOUSE ONLY TO FIND THAT YOU HAD MOVED AND LEFT THE CITY. I HAVE BEEN ~~EVER SINCE~~ *Since* LOOKING FOR YOU *Ever*

NATE

SEE HERE MR TRUEMAN DOES THE JUDGE WANT HIS WIFE IN DOWNRIGHT EARNEST AND NO GAMMON?

JOHN

WANT HER? YOU SURPRISE ME. IN FACT I BELIEVE IF HE DOES NOT FIND HER HE WILL LOSE HIS REASON.

NATE

FIND HER. DOESNT HE KNOW SHES HERE?

JOHN

HE HASNT THE *Q*LIGHTEST IDEA OF MEETING MESS HERE. HE THINKS I HAVE ARRANGED THIS TRIP SOLELY FOR THE BENEFIT OF HIS HEALTH. HE IS BREAKING DOWN FAST.

NATE

I WANT TO KNOW WHY IN THUNDER HE DIDNT THINK O THAT AFORE HE-WELL I WONT HEAR NO ANIMOSITY IF HE MEANS WELL BY HER. IM READY TO FORGET AND FORGIVE. HOW BE YOU GOIN TO 'RANGE MATTERS? SHE AINT GOIN TO FLOP INTO HIS ARMS FUST SIGHT. OR SHE AINT THE GAL I TOOK HER FOR

JOHN

LET ME ARRANGE HIS MATTER TO SUIT MYSELF. *X-S L.* AND I AM SURE OF SUCCESS. BUT IN THE MEANTIME DONT MENTION A WORD TO HER.

NATE

ALL RIGHT SQUIRE GO IN. YOUVE GOT A MIGHTY TEMPTIN BAIT ON YOUR HOOK FOR THAT GAL AND YE CANT LAND HER INTO YOUR BASKET IF SHE BITES. *EXIT JOHN L.E.* THATS A WHITER HEARTED MAN THAN I GAVE HIM. *CREDIT FOR AN HOER AGO* LOOKS OFF *R.3.E.* THERE SHE IS FEEDIN WHISTLER. LOOK AT THAT, AINT HE GETTIN TAME? *BIRD WHISTLES* TUNE UP YOUR PIPE LITTLE FEBLER. YOU'LL HAVE SOMETHING TO WHISTLE FOR BYE AND BYE. *ENTER MAUD R.3.E.*

MAUD

GOOD MORNING NATE. ANY LUCK?

NATE

NO THE OLD FELLER IS A LITTLE SHY. I'LL GET HIM TONIGHT I RECKON.

MAUD

IT SEEMS WICKED NATE TO KILL THE INNOCENT CREATURES.

NATE

SO IT WOULD BE MAUD IF WE DIDNT NEED EM FOR VICTUALS. BUT WHATS FETCHIN THE ROSES BACK TO THEM CHEEKS OF YOURN. SPEAKIN OF POSIES *GETS FLOWERS FROM GUN* THERES A BUNCH ON EM I PICKED FOR YOU. BEHOLD HOW THEY TOIL NOT. NEITHER DO THEY SPIN. NOTHIN' AND YET SOLOMON IN ALL HIS GLORY COULD HOLD A CANDLE TO EM.

MAUD *TAKES FLOWERS*

THANK YOU NATE. I FEEL VERY BRIGHT THIS LOVELY MORNING AND FATHER COMES TODAY-*YOU KNOW.*

NATE

YES THE OLD GENTLEMAN OUGHT TO BE HERE POOTY SOON *BIRD WHISTLES*

MAUD

HEAR HIM NATE.

NATE

YES I HEARD HIM THIS MORNING LONG AFORE YOU WAS AWOVIN AND MR TRUEMAN LIKES HIM TOO. I RECKON I'RS CAUSE YOU DO.

MAUD

PSHAM NATE.

NATE

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I TELL YOU THAT GENTLEMAN THINKS A *big sight* ON YE.

MAUD *//SERIOUSLY//*

YES, HE ISN'T LIKE HE WAS AT FIRST, WHAT MUST-I DO? I CAN'T KEEP OUT OF HIS WAY.

NATE

I WOULDN'T TRY.

MAUD

YOU'LL HAVE TO SEND HIM AWAY NATE.

NATE

NOT BY A GOLL DARNED SIGHT. YOU DON'T CATCH ME INTERFERIN WITH NO LOVE SCRAPES.

MAUD

NATE IF I DIDN'T KNOW YOU ARE JOKING I SHOULD FEEL HURT. SUPPOSE MR TRUEMAN SHOULD REALLY-

NATE

FALL IN LOVE WITH YE?

MAUD

YES.

NATE

HE'D HAVE TO FALL OUT AGAIN. TWOULDN'T HURT HIM MUCH I BECKON.

MAUD

HE SHALL NOT HAVE THE CHANCE IF I CAN HELP IT. I HOPE HE WON'T STAY MUCH LONGER. *//MULLER ENTERS X BRIDGE FROM R. DOWN C. HAS BASKET//*

MULLER

MAUDY.

MAUD *//JOYFULLY//*

OH ITS HATHER.

NATE *//L.//*

DANL MULLER IM RIGHT GLAD TO SEE YOU.

MULLER *//C//*

THANK YOU NATE. AND HOWS MY LITTLE GIRL BEEN SINCE I SAW HER LAST?

MEND *//R.//*

OH NICELY. HOW DO I LOOK FATHER?

MULLER

WONDERFULLY IMPROVED MY CHILD. YOU BEGIN TO LOOK LIKE YOURSELF AGAIN IF THAT HUSBAND OF YOURS COULD SEE YOU NOW I WOULDN'T BE ANSWERABLE FOR THE CONSEQUENCES.

MAUD

HUSH FATHER. IS MOTHER WELL?

MULLER

ALL WELL. EVERYBODYS WELL EXCEPT YOUR AMIABLE FRIEND THEODORA.

MAUD

THEODORA?

NATE

WHAT'S THE MATTER OF HER, HAS SHE SWALLOWED MORE BLOOD THAN NATURAL AMERICAN ENDURE?

MULLER

SHE HAS BEEN VERY ILL AND ACTS VERY STRANGELY. FOLKS SAY THAT ITS HER CONSCIENCE THAT TROUBLES HER FOR HER CRUELTY TO YOU MY CHILD.

MAUD

OH POOR THEODORA I HOPE NOT.

NATE

AN' I HOPE IT IS IT'LL DO HER GOOD. IF IT DON'T HELP YOU KNOW.

MULLER

OF COURSE ITS ONLY COUNTRY GOSSIP. BUT SHE IS MUCH ALTERED, I SAW HER AT THE RAILWAY STATION AS I CAME AWAY.

MAUD

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MAUD //ALARMED//

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OH FATHER DID SHE SEE YOU GET ON THE TRAIN?

MULLER

I DONT THINK SHE DID. I LOOKED FROM THE WINDOW AND COULD SEE NOTHING OF HER.

MAUD

YOU MUST BE VERY CAREFUL FATHER, I WOULDNT HAVE THEM KNOW WHERE I AM FOR THE WORLD.

NATE

NOT IF YOU THOUGHT THE JUDGE WAS IN DOWN RIGHT EARNEST AND WANTED YOU THE WUST WAY?

MAUD

OH NATE HOW COULD HE AFTER SENDING THAT CRUEL LETTER?

NATE

WELL IT DONT STAND TO REASON SARTIN. BUT IM KINDER GLAD ON IT.

MAUD//REPROACHFULLY//

OH NATE.

MATE

WELL YOU SEE IF HE DONT WANT YOU WE KIN HAVE YOU. ITS AN ILL WIND THAT DONT BLOW NO BODY NOTHIN.

MAUD

DONT LET US THINK OF IT ANY MORE THAN WE CAN HELP.//BRIGHTENING UP// AND WE MUST NOT BE GLOOMY TO DAY WHILE FATHER IS HERE, WHAT HAVE YOU IN THE BASKET? GOOD THINGS FROM MOTHERS PANTRY-?

MULLER

YES, JELLIES JAMS AND SWEETMEATS. THAT YOU CANT GET HERE IN THE WOODS.

MAUD

LETS TAKE THEM INTO THE KITCHEN WHERE HESTER IS.//BIRD WHISTLES// DO YOU HEAR HIM FATHER? THATS MY WHISTLER AND HES WHISTLING A WELCOME TO YOU.

MULLER

THE WHISTLER.

MAUD

YES, WHISTLE AWAY BIRDIE THERES SOMETHING IN THE BASKET FOR YOU TOO.//MAUD AND MULLER EXIT INTO COTTAGE//

NATE //LOOKING FATER THEM//

SHE AINT NO HUMAN BEING I DONE BELIEVE, SHES AN ANGEL THAT WAS FLYING OVER AND GOT HER WINGS HURT SOMEHOW OR OTHER AND BROPPED DOWN HERE. THATS THE REASON WHISTLER KNOWS HER SO WELL. TWOULDNT SPRISE ME MUCH TO SEE HER RISE RIGHT UP IN THE SKIES.//GOES TO L. GETS GUN TURNS AND SEE THEODORA SEATED UP ON BANK-SHE HAS ENTERED X BRIDGE AT MULLER AND MAUDS EXIT// JIMMINY KING WHOES THAT?

THEO

DONT YOU KNOW ME MR HARPIN?

NATE

I CALCULATE ITS MISS THEODORA BUT GOOD LORD.

THEO

YOU ARE SURPRISED AT MY CHANGED APPEARANCE. I HAVE BEEN VERY ILL.

ENATE

JES SO YOU DONT OAK AS CHIC. AS LAST TIME I SAW YOU AT THE HUSKIN.

THEO

I AM STILL SUFFERING MUCH AND THE JOURNEY HAD TAXED MY STRENGTH SEVERELY.

NATE

IM REAL SORRY FOR YE MISS DARNED IF I AINT. YOU MUST HAVE WANTED TO SEEN SOME ONE ON US REAL BAD.

I DID. I HEAR THAT YOU ARE A FRIEND TO EVERYONE. I WANT YOU TO BEFRIEND ME. I NEED A FRIEND AS MUCH AS ANY ONE IN THE WORLD.

NATE

BY JIMINY KING ILL DO IT.

THEO

MY BROTHERS WIFE IS HERE. IT IS *her* I WISH TO SEE. I HAVE DONE HER A GREAT WRONG I HAVE COME TO MAKE REPARATION.

NATE

HOW IN THUNDER DID YOU KNOW SHE WAS HERE?

THEO

I TRACED HER BY FOLLOWING HER FATHER. WHERE IS THE GIRL? LET ME SEE HER.

NATE //X-S AND OPENS DOOR OF COTTAGE

IF YOU LL JUST STEP IN THE HOUSE MISS. AND SIT DOWN IN THAT BIG ROG KING CHAIR WITH THE STUFFED BACK YE CAN REST YOURSELF AND ILL GO AND FIND THE GAL. //HELPS HER IN// WELL THINGS IS WORKIN UP INTO A PRETTY CONSIDERABLE SORT OF A MESS. AND BY AND BY OFF LL GO THE HULL CONCERN--//EXIT INTO COTTAGE--ENTER MAUD FROM BEHIND COTTAGE MEETS TRUAMAN WHO ENTERS L.I.E. //

JOHN

GOOD MORNING MISS MAUD .MAY I ASK WHERE YOU ARE GOING WITH THE BASKET?

MAUD

OH YES IM GOING OVER THE HILL TO PICK SOME HUCKLE BERRIES FOR FATHER

JOHN

FOR FATHER?

MAUD

YES, FATHER HAS COME AGAIN TO SEE ME, YOU KNOW I TOLD YOU HE WAS HERE LAST THE DAY BEFORE YOU CAME

JOHN

YES I REMEMBER. WELL I AM GLAD HE IS HERE FOR I MAY HAVE OCCASION TO REFER HIM TO A LITTLE MATTER WHICH MAY INTEREST YOU.

MAUD

IF YOU WANT ~~me~~ TO SEE FATHER YOU LL FIND HIM IN THE HOUSE //GOES R.//

JOHN//STOPPING HER//

THERES NO NEED OF HASTE IS THERE?

MAUD

NO. ONLY I WANT THE BERRIES FOR FATHER.

JOHN

OH THE BERRIES WONT RUN AWAY AND HESTER WILL TAKE CARE OF HIM. BESIDES I WANT TO TALK TO YOU A LITTLE WHILE. I GOT BUT A GLIMPSE OF YOU ALL DAY YESTERDAY YOU SEEM TO AVOID ME. WHY DO YOU DO IT? DONT YOU LIKE ME?

MAUD

OH YES I LIKE YOU WELL ENOUGH.

JOHN

BUT NOT WELL ENOUGH TO DESIRE MY COMPANY? NOW I DO LIKE YOU A GREAT FEEL. BETTER THAN YOU LIKE ME. AND I DO DESIRE YOUR COMPANY YOU COULDN'T GUESS WHY I LIKE YOU.

MAUD

I-I-I THINK I HAD BETTER GO FOR THE BERRIES

JOHN

LET ME TELL YOU WHY I LIKE YOU AND THEN I WILL HELP YOU GET THE BERRIES. I LIKE YOUR NAME 'MAUD' IT IS VERY PRETTY NAME. AND REMINDS ME OF ANOTHER MAUD OF WHOM I HAVE HEARD SO MUCH. POOR MAUD WAYNE.

MAUD//STARTS ON HEARING THE NAME//

MAUD WAYNE?

JOHN

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YES HAVE YOU HEARD THE STORY?

MAUD

NO. ONLY THE NAME IS FAMILIAR.

JOHN

IT MADE QUITE A SENSATION IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD. YOU DONT WISH TO HEAR IT I SUPPOSE. IT IS SIMPLY THE STORY OF A YOUNG WIFE WHO LEFT HER HUSBANDS ROOF THREE MONTHS AFTER MARRIAGE. AND HAS NOT BEEN HEARD OF SINCE.

MAUD

SHE WAS VERY WICKED THEN WAS SHE NOT?

JOHN

SHE WAS ONE OF THE PUREST CREATURES ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

MAUD

THEN SHE MUST HAVE SUFFERED SOME GREAT CRUELTY TO DRIVE HER FROM HER HOME.

JOHN

NO. SHE WENT AWAY BECAUSE SHE THOUGHT HER HUSBAND DID NOT LOVE HER.

MAUD

WHAT MADE HER THINK SO?

JOHN

WELL IN THE FIRST PLACE SHE WAS A YOUNG UNSOPHISTICATED COUNTRY GIRL WHEN HE MARRIED HER, AND I THINK DID NOT UNDERSTAND HIS QUIET BUSINESS WAYS, THEN AGAIN THERE WAS A SISTER OF THE HUSBANDS WHO DID NOT LIKE THE YOUNG WIFE, AND I THINK SHE MUST HAVE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE INJURY

MAUD

I KNOW IT. JUST LIKE A STORY IN A BOOK, THE SISTER ~~RESEMBLED~~ POISONED THE MIND OF THE HUSBAND UNTIL HE WAS ASHAMED OF HIS LOW BORN WIFE AND DISCARDED HER

JOHN

HE DID NOT DISCARD HER. SHE WENT OF HER OWN FREE WILL.

MAUD

HE DISCARDED HER FROM HIS HEART, AND WHAT WOMAN OF SPIRIT WOULD WANT TO REMAIN WITH A HUSBAND WHO DID NOT LOVE HER?

JOHN

BUT HE DID LOVE HER.

MAUD

I CANNOT THINK SO. IF SHE WAS THE ~~PURE~~ WOMAN THAT YOU SAY SHE WOULD SCARCELY LEAVE HER HUSBANDS HOUSE WITHOUT POSITIVE PROOF. I KNOW HE DID NOT LOVE HER I AM SURE OF IT. HE WAS ASHAMED OF HER.

JOHN

YOU DID NOT KNOW THE PARTIES.

MAUD

BUT I CAN JUDGE BY MY OWN FEELINGS. I THINK I SHOULD HAVE ACTED IN THE SAME WAY. IF I HAD A HUSBAND WHO DID NOT LOVE ME IF I WAS SURE OF IT. I WOULD NOT REMAIN. IT WOULD ONLY BE MISERY TO US BOTH.

JOHN

BUT IF YOU WERE MISTAKEN?

MAUD

I WOULD NOT BE MISTAKEN. I WOULD BE SURE CERTAIN BEFORE I TOOK THE FINAL STEP. AND THEN NOTHING COULD STOP ME.

JOHN

I BELIEVE YOU ARE CAPABLE OF IT. YOU ARE MUCH LIKE WHAT I IMAGINE SHE MUST HAVE BEEN. BUT I BELIEVE SHE WAS MISTAKEN. JUDGE WAYNE IS MY FRIEND // MAUD STARTS // AND I DONT THINK HE WOULD DECEIVE ME. HE TRULY LOVES HIS WIFE AND DEARLY MOURNS HER ABSENCE AND I BELIEVE THE HAPPIEST DAY OF HIS LIFE WILL BE WHEN HE FINDS HER AND TAKES HER BACK TO HER HOME.

MAYBE WHEN HE FOUND HER SHE WOULD NOT GO BACK.

JOHN

BUT IF SHE ~~WERE~~ WERE CONVINCED OF HIS SINCERITY? PUT YOURSELF IN HER PLACE AND TELL ME WHAT YOU WOULD DO.

MAUD

I?

JOHN

YES, SUPPOSING YOU WERE MAUD WAYNE HIDING HERE FROM YOUR ~~WIFE~~ HUSBAND THROUGH A MERE CHILDISH WHIM. WOULD YOU NOT GO BACK TO HIM IF HE ASKED YOU?

MAUD

MR TRUEMAN IF I WERE MAUD WAYNE, AS I UNDERSTAND IT. I WOULD NOT GO BACK. I WOULD DIE FIRST.

JOHN

IN WHICH YOU WOULD BE VERY FOOLISH.

MAUD

OH THANK YOU. //X-S R- AND GOES L//

JOHN

I MEAN IF YOU WERE MAUD WAYNE.

MAUD

IT WOULD MAKE NO DIFFERENCE IN MY LOVE FOR HIM.

JOHN

WOULD YOU STILL LOVE HIM?

MAUD

ALWAYS FOREVER, WITH MY WHOLE HEART AND SOUL. I COULD NEVER LOVE ANOTHER.

JOHN

I SEE YOU HAVE ESPOUSED THE WIVES CAUSE WHICH IS VERY NATURAL IN A SYMPATHETIC WOMAN. THEREFORE I WILL NOT ARGUE AGAINST YOU. BUT IT IS OF YOURSELF I WISH TO TALK DO YOU NOT GET LONELY HERE IN THE WOODS AND LONG TO GET OUT IN THE WORLD?

MAUD

LONELY HERE WITH NATE AND HESTER AND WHISTLER? OH NO I WAS BORN AND RAISED AMONG THE GREEN HILLS AND FIELDS. LONELY? OH NO INDEED.

JOHN

BUT DO YOU NOT LONG FOR THE COMPANIONSHIP OF OTHERS-OF YOUR OWN STATION?

MAUD

COMPANIONSHIP? NATE AND HESTER ARE MY BROTHER AND SISTER. FATHER COMES AND SEES ME ONCE A WEEK AND WHISTLER IS MY LOVER. WHAT MORE COULD I WANT?

JOHN

BUT WOULD YOU NOT LIKE TO LIVE IN A GRAND HOUSE IN THE GREAT CITY WEAR FINE CLOTHES AND RIDE IN YOUR OWN CARRIAGE?

MAUD //SADLY//

NO. I LIVED A FEW WEEKS IN THE CITY AND THE MISERY OF THAT TIME WILL REMAIN IN MY MEMORY THE REST OF MY LIFE I ONCE DREAMED TOO OF A FINE HOUSE AND FINE CLOTHES AND FINE CARRIAGES BUT THEY WILL NEVER BE FOR ME NEVER. //GOING L.//

JOHN //GOING TO L. QUICKLY//

THERE MAY BE FOR YOU ISS MAUD. I KNOW OF ONE WHO LOVES YOU DEVOTEDLY AND WHO IS ABLE TO PROVIDE FOR YOU ALL THESE THINGS. //MAUD LOOKS IN HIS FACE A MOMENT THEN HURRIDLY EXITS L.I.E.// SHE IS A NOBLE LITTLE CREATURE AND NO WONDER REUBEN TEARS HIS HAIR AT THE THOUGHT OF HER LOSS. SHE IS MADLY IN LOVE TOO, AS HE IS. WELL, SO MUCH THE BETTER FOR THE SUCCESS OF MY SCHEME. //MUSIC P P. REUBEN ENTERS FROM R. X BRIDGE//

REUBEN

[The page contains extremely faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is organized into several paragraphs, with some lines appearing as bold or indented. The paper is aged and shows signs of wear, including creases and discoloration.]

JOHN.

JOHN

REBEN// GOING TO HIM C.// THIS IS INDEED A PLEASANT SURPRISE.
 //REUBEN SITS L.// YOU HAVE COME A DAY SOONER THAN I EXPECTED.

REUBEN

I COULDN'T BEAR TO BE ALONE JOHN. I CAME LAST NIGHT TO THE VILLAGE AND
 AND WALKED OVER ~~XX~~ THIS MORNING.

JOHN

YOU LOOK AS ^{if} ~~if~~ ^{had} YOU WALKED ALL THE WAY FROM CROSS CORNERS. YOU
 HAVEN'T LOOKED SO WELL SINCE I LEFT YOU.

REUBEN

WELL CAN A MAN BE WELL WITH SUCH A SORROW AS I HAVE ENAVING AT
 HIS HEART?

JOHN

YOU ARE GETTING MORBID. THE FRESH AIR WILL BUILD YOU UP AGAIN. THERE
 IS A NEW LEASE OF LIFE IN EVERY BREATH OF THE FRESH GREEN TREES.

REUBEN

WHY DID YOU BRING ME HERE JOHN? MAUD IS NOT HERE. DO YOU THINK I
 CAN BE CONTENT TO REMAIN HERE? BUILDING UP AS YOU CALL IT WHILE
 THE DAYS ARE SKIPPING BY AND MAUD IS NOT FOUND.

JOHN

WELL A DAY OR TWO WILL MAKE NO MATERIAL DIFFERENCE.

~~JOHN~~ REUBEN

JOHN DO YOU KNOW WHAT WILL BE THE END OF THIS?

JOHN

THE END OF WHAT?

REUBEN

OF THESE SLEEPLESS NIGHTS, THIS WEIGHT ON MY MIND. THE CONSTANT
 DEAD DULL PAIN AT MY HEART. IT WILL BE INSANITY JOHN. AND THE LOSS
 OF EVERYTHING.

JOHN

COME COME YOU ARE TIRED OUT WITH YOUR WALK.// LOOKS OFF L.I.E. ASIDE
 SHE IS RETURNING//ALOUD// SIT HERE A WHILE AND I WILL GO INTO THE
 HOUSE AND MAKE KNOWN YOUR ARRIVAL. I DON'T SUPPOSE YOUR COMING A
 DAY SOONER WILL MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE, BUT IT IS BEST I SHOULD LET
 THEM KNOW.//ASIDE// FORTUNE FAVORS ME. IF IT FAILS NOW ILL LEAVE
 THIS SORT OF WORK HEREAFTER TO MOTHER-IN-LAWS.//EXIT INTO COTTAGE//

REUBEN//RISING//

FATTHFUL FRIEND, WHAT WOULD I DO WITHOUT HIM? HE SEES HOW I AM
 BREAKING DOWN AND THINKS HOW A WEEK IN THE WOODS WILL REVIVE ME.
 BUT HE IS MISTAKEN//BIRD WHISTLES// THAT IS A FINE WHISTLER, IT
 IS A THRUSH OH SWEET BIRD WOULD I COULDS BORROW YOUR WINGS.
 AND FLY AWAY IN SEARCH OF HER.//X-S TO C. LOOKS R.U.E.- MAUD ENTERS
 SLOWLY AND MUSINGLY SITS R.//

MAUD

I WISH MR TRUEMAN HAD NEVER COME HERE. HE MAKES ME FEEL VERY UNCOM-
 FORTABLE. I DON'T UNDERSTAND HIM. HOW STRANGE HE SHOULD TALK TO ME
 OF REUBEN. WHAT DID HE MEAN BY SAYING HE KNEW ONE WHO LOVED ME.
 AH THERE IS BUT ONE IN THIS WIDE WORLD WHOSE LOVE I YEARN FOR.
 OH REUBEN REUBEN IF YOUR LOVE HAD BEEN ONE HALF AS TRUE AS MINE
 NOW DIFFERENT ALL MIGHT HAVE BEEN. 'MIGHT HAVE BEEN' OH THOSE ARE
 SAD WORDS.//REUBEN TURNS AND SEES HER COMES DOWN R.C.// *it might have been*

REUBEN

I BEG YOUR PARDON MISS//THEY RECOGNIZE EACH OTHER// MAUD.

MAUD

REUBEN//IS ABOUT TO RUSH INTO HIS ARMS SUDDENLY STOPS// NO NO
 REUBEN NO NO.

MAUD YOU REFUSE ME? WHY IS THIS? WILL YOU NOT COME TO ME?

MAUD

NO, I CANNOT.

REUBEN

CANNOT MAUD? HAVE YOU NOT SUFFERED TOO AS I HAVE?

MAUD

SUFFERED, OH HOW MUCH.

REUBEN

THEN WHY NOT END IT? SEE MY ARMS ARE OPEN ALREADY TO FOLD YOU TO MY HEART, THE HEART THAT HAS ALMOST DIED FOR YOU, WONT YOU COME?

MAUD

I CANNOT.

REUBEN

MAUD DO YOU NOT SEE HOW I HAVE SUFFERED SINCE YOU WENT AWAY? DO YOU NOT KNOW THAT I HAVE SEARCHED FOR YOU INCESSANTLY DAY AND NIGHT?

MAUD//TEARFULLY//

I KNOW YOU HAVE SEARCHED FOR ME. I HAVE HEARD SO. BUT IF YOU WANTED ME TO COME BACK IT WAS ONLY TO HUSH UP THE SHAME OF HAVING A RUN AWAY WIFE. YOU WERE AFRAID OF WHAT PEOPLE WOULD SAY.

REUBEN

OH MAUD HOW YOU WRONG ME. WHAT SHOULD I CARE WHAT PEOPLE SAID? YOU WERE GONE. YOU DESERTED ME. AND WRUNG MY SOUL WITH THE AGONY OF A HOPELESS LOSS. HOW COULD YOU INFLICT SUCH PAIN UPON ME? HOW COULD YOU GO AWAY? WHY ARE YOU HERE?

MAUD

WHY? OH HOW CAN YOU ASK? UNLOVED BY HIM WHO SHOULD HAVE CARED FOR ME, AND HATED BY THEODORA AND THE OTHERS, WHAT COULD I DO BUT GO AWAY? INTO THE UNKNOWN WORLD HOMELESS, FRIENDLESS, AND BROKEN HEARTED.//TURNS AWAY AND WEEPS//

REUBEN

MAUD THIS IS ALMOST DEATH. IS IT POSSIBLE YOU DO NOT LOVE ME?

MAUD

LOVE YOU? OH DONT SAY I DO NOT LOVE YOU. I COULD NOT BEAR IT. IF YOU HAD SEEN ME LYING THERE THREE LONG WEEKS WITH FEVER IN MY BRAIN AND THE DULL AGONY IN MY HEART YOU WOULD NOT SAY 'I DO NOT LOVE YOU' I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE HAPPIER WITHOUT ME. I DID NOT WANT TO BE A BURDEN TO YOU WHEN I KNEW YOU DID NOT LOVE ME ANY LONGER.

REUBEN

I THOUGHT MY SORROWS WERE ALREADY AS GREAT AS I COULD BEAR. YET I MUST SUFFER THIS ANGUISH TOO. WILL YOU NOT BELIEVE ME WHEN I TELL YOU I WOULD SELL MY LIFE INCH BY INCH RATHER THAN CAUSE YOUR HEART A SINGLE PANG.

MAUD

OH DONT SAY SUCH THINGS REUBEN FOR THOUGH IT THRILLS MY HEART WITH A STRANGE JOY TO HEAR YOU SAY SO. IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE.

REUBEN

I CANNOT UNDERSTAND THIS LOOK INTO MY FACE. THERE ARE LINES THAT WERE NOT THERE BEFORE YOU LEFT ME. THERE ARE DEEP FURROWS IN MY HEART. LOOK INTO MY EYES AND SEE IF THE TRUTH IS NOT THERE, WILL YOU NOT COME TO ME MAUD?//PAUSE// OH MAUD MUST I GO AWAY AND SUFFER ON THROUGH WRETCHED DREARY YEARS. KNOWING THAT SOMEWHERE IN THE WORLD LIVES MY MAUD? MY WIFE. I CAN BEAR IT NO LONGER. I CAN ONLY BELIEVE YOUR MIND HAS BEEN POISONED AGAINST ME BY THESE PEOPLE

MAUD

NO NO REUBEN. NOT ONE WORD AGAINST THEM. THEY DO NOT DESERVE IT I

THE FIRST PART OF THE HISTORY OF THE
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1794.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORDS OF THE
TREASURY, AND THE COMMONS OF GREAT
BRITAIN, IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED,
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THESE
SIGNED DEEDS OF GRANT, HAVE BEEN
SIGNED AND SEALED, AND THE
COMMONS HAVE AFFIRMED THE SAME,
IN THE SECOND YEAR OF THE
REIGN OF OUR SAID LORD THE KING.

WE, THE LORDS OF THE TREASURY, AND
THE COMMONS OF GREAT BRITAIN, IN
PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED, DO HEREBY
GIVE AND GRANT, THAT THE
SIGNED DEEDS OF GRANT, HEREIN
CONTAINED, SHALL HAVE FULL FORCE
AND EFFECT, AS IF THEY HAD BEEN
SIGNED AND SEALED BY US, AND
THE COMMONS, IN THE SECOND YEAR
OF THE REIGN OF OUR SAID LORD THE KING.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, WE HAVE
SIGNED THESE DEEDS OF GRANT, AND
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WILL TELL YOU WHY I CANNOT COME TO YOU, ALTHOUGH I FEEL THAT HEAVEN ITSELF HAS NO GREATER HAPPINESS IN STORE FOR THOSE WHO MERIT ITS BLISS, THAN THIS WOULD BE TO ME. THEO ENTERS FROM COTTAGE & LISTENS. IT IS BECAUSE I KNOW IT WOULD ONLY BRING MORE MISERY IN THE END YOU MAY THINK YOU LOVE ME, BUT AFTER A TIME YOU WOULD BE ASHAMED OF ME AS BEFORE, AND MAYBE STRIKE A MORE CRUEL BLOW THAN YOU DID IN SENDING ME BACK THE LETTER,

REUBEN

WHAT LETTER?

MAUD

THIS GIVES HIM LETTER AND ON REUBEN THE HARDEST BLOW OF ALL WAS LOSS OF FAITH IN YOU.

REUBEN AFTER LOOKING AT LETTER

MAUD WHERE DID YOU GET THIS?

MAUD

REUBEN DID YOU NOT RECIEVE, THAT LETTER AND RETURN IT WITH THAT CRUEL LINE ON THE OTHER SIDE?

REUBEN LOOKING AT LETTER

MERCIFUL HEAVEN WHO HAS DONE THIS?

THEO KNEELING AT REUBEN R. WEEPING

I DID I WROTE IT, REUBEN. MAUD FORGIVE ME.

REUBEN

THEODORA.

MAUD

REUBEN NOW I HAVE WRONGED YOU.

REUBEN

MY WIFE... THEY EMBRACE- ENTER NATE HESTER TREUMAN AND MULLER FROM HOUSE

THEODORA DID YOU DO THIS GREAT WRONG? I CANNOT FORGIVE YOU.

XXX XXXXX.

MAUD

BUT REUBEN. TO ERR IS HUMAN-TO FORGIVE DEVINE

NATE

SO ITS ALL FIXED. ASSISTS THEO TO RISE. I RECKON MISS THEODORY WHAT YOU DID TO DAY LLA WIPE OUT THE SCORE. SO DONT CRY ANY MORE.

REUBEN C

JOHN I CANNOT SAY MUCH BUT GOD BLESS YOU.

MAUD L.C.

AND YOU KNEW IT ALL THE TIME MR TREUMAN. JOHN X'S FROM R.C. TO L OF MAUD SHAKES HANDS FIRST WITH REUBEN THEN WITH MAUD- SHE X-S TO NATE AND YOU TOO NATE, I WISH I KNEW HOW TO REPAY YOU.

NATE

SHO I DIDNT DO NOTHIN BUT WHAT NY FELLER WOULD A CONE. UNLESS THE MILK OF HUMAN KINDNESS HAD SOURED ON HIM, WELL I SAID THINGS WAS A COMIN TO A BUST UP AND THEY HAVE.

REUBEN

OH MAUD THERES NO MISUNDERSTANDING NOW. BURD WHISTLES

MAUD

AH REUBEN ILL NEVER DOUBT YOU AGAIN. GOOD BYE WHISTLER GOOD BYE. FOR IM GOING HOME. BURD WHISTLES- MUSIS HOME SWEET HOME

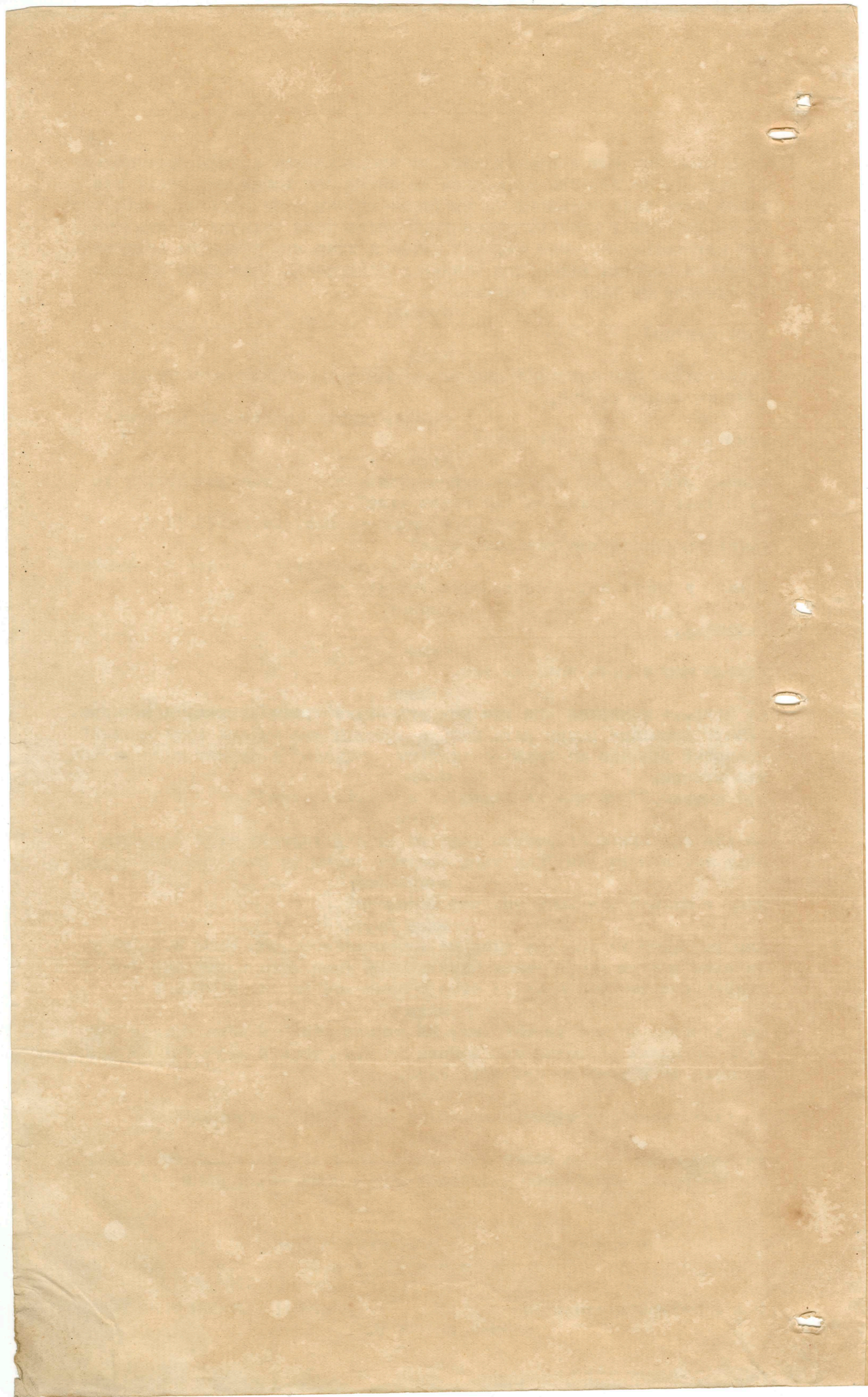
P I C T U R E

C U R T A I N

T H E O --- N A T E --- H E S T E R ---

--- J O H N T R E U M A N - - - M U L L E R

R E U B E N & M A U D C.



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