

ANNUAL TAX SALE.

The Circuit Court for the County of Berrien, in Chancery. In the matter of the petition of Perry F. Powers, Auditor General of the State of Michigan, for and in behalf of said State, for the sale of certain lands for taxes assessed thereon.

STATE OF MICHIGAN.

To the Circuit Court for the County of Berrien, in Chancery: The petition of Perry F. Powers, Auditor General of the State of Michigan, for and in behalf of said State, respectively shows that the list of lands hereinafter set forth and marked "Schedule A," contains a description of all the lands in said County of Berrien upon which taxes were assessed for the years mentioned therein, and which were returned as delinquent for non-payment of taxes, and which taxes have not been paid; together with the total amount of such taxes, with interest computed thereon to the time fixed for sale, and collection fee and expenses, as provided by law, extended against each of said parcels of land.

SCHEDULE A.

Table with columns: Section, Acres, Amount of Taxes, Interest, Collection Fee, Charges, Total. Includes sections for TAXES OF 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900.

Table with columns: Section, Acres, Amount of Taxes, Interest, Collection Fee, Charges, Total. Includes sections for TAXES OF 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900. Includes sub-sections for CITY OF ST. JOSEPH, VILLAGE OF NEW BUFFALO, CITY OF NILES, and VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN.

Table with columns: Section, Acres, Amount of Taxes, Interest, Collection Fee, Charges, Total. Includes sections for TAXES OF 1898, 1899, 1900. Includes sub-sections for CITY OF NILES, CITY OF BENTON HARBOR, and VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN.

Table with columns: Section, Acres, Amount of Taxes, Interest, Collection Fee, Charges, Total. Includes sections for CITY OF BENTON HARBOR, VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN, and VILLAGE OF NEW BUFFALO.

A Water Duel

[Original.]

Near the border which divides Siberia from Russia lived Count Arkadyevich, a country gentleman. His daughter, Marya Alexandrovna, an attractive girl of eighteen, was sought in marriage by many of the sons of the neighboring landed proprietors, but seemed to prefer Ivan Mikhalof, a lusty but lazy young fellow who had never been known to take an interest in but one thing—the town fire department, which he had organized and drilled, becoming very expert himself in the drenching of burning buildings.

A battalion of troops came to the town commanded by Major Nikolai Levin, a middle aged man whose private fortune was large. From childhood he had been accustomed to having his own way. He had studied and practiced the use of every known weapon, and when any man stood in his way he would insult him, challenge him and, if necessary, kill him. All kinds of weapons had been tried against Levin, from a Turkish scimitar to a mountain howitzer, and he had handled every one with perfect skill. He had no sooner set eyes on Marya than he fell violently in love with her. Marya, though she accepted his attentions, could not be completely won over from her athletic suitor, Ivan. Levin at last concluded that with Ivan in the way he could never win the girl, so he made up his mind to kill him. He soon found a pretext for considering himself insulted by the young man and sent him a challenge.

Marya heard of the intended assassination and was much troubled. In her extremity she sent for a former schoolmate, Kostia Sanin, in whose ingenuity she placed great confidence, and asked him to help her.

"Well, I will offer him my services, and if he accepts them I will see what I can do for him," said Sanin.

A few hours later Major Levin received a visit from Sanin. "I am to arrange this affair between you and my friend Mikhalof," he said, "and, since he is the challenged party, choose for him the weapons, the time and the place of meeting."

"That is your right. It is immaterial to me with what weapon I fight, and I beg you will choose that with which the young man is most skillful."

"You show a magnanimous spirit, major, and I shall meet your wishes. The only weapon with which Ivan Mikhalof has any skill whatever is the nozzle of a hose. I therefore choose this weapon."

"If you think you can turn the affair into a jest, you are mistaken."

"I propose no jest. The terms are that you and your adversary are to go into an unheated room, wearing no clothing whatever, each furnished with a hose, and play upon each other till you are satisfied."

"What an absurdity!"
"Nothing of the kind. You know that the temperature here at this season is never above zero and the water is icy cold. Neither of you will be able to endure the torture more than half an hour without dying a terrible death, and in any event there is great probability of pneumonia setting in after the combat."

Sanin then named the time and place and took his departure.

The major submitted the case to the officers of his battalion, who, after long deliberation, decided that he must accept the terms. At the appointed time he and his antagonist stood stark naked in a large room, each armed with a half inch nozzle. At a given signal the water was turned on by the seconds, and the contest begun. Ivan had always lived in that northern region, while the major had been born in the south. Ivan was hardy, while the major was delicate and sensitive from having led a luxurious life. At the first stroke of the icy water he was shaken by a terrific chill, while the sturdy Ivan, who had bathed in water as cold that very morning, braced himself against the shock and stood upright and firm as a rock. One of the seconds stood with a watch in his hand, while the other kept a hand on the water cock. At the end of two minutes time was called and the water turned off. The principals were permitted to move about for two minutes to recoup and break the ice forming on their bodies, when they were required to take their positions, and the water was turned on. At the end of the next round Levin was shivering terribly, his skin was livid, and his lips were blue, while his opponent had readily restored circulation. At the end of the next round the major was informed by those of his officers who were present that he might give up the unequal contest without sacrificing his honor, and he declared that he was satisfied. He was taken into a warm room, dosed with hot liquor, rubbed and put between blankets. Nevertheless he was stricken with pneumonia, from which he nearly died. Ivan polished himself with a crash towel, put on his clothes and took a brisk walk. Kostia Sanin went to Marya and gave her an account of what had occurred. "You are now free to marry either of those men you choose. I presume from your interest in Ivan that your choice will fall on him."

"No; it will not fall on Ivan."

"Then it is the major."

"No, nor the major."

"Well, then, I should like to know what all this trouble has been about."

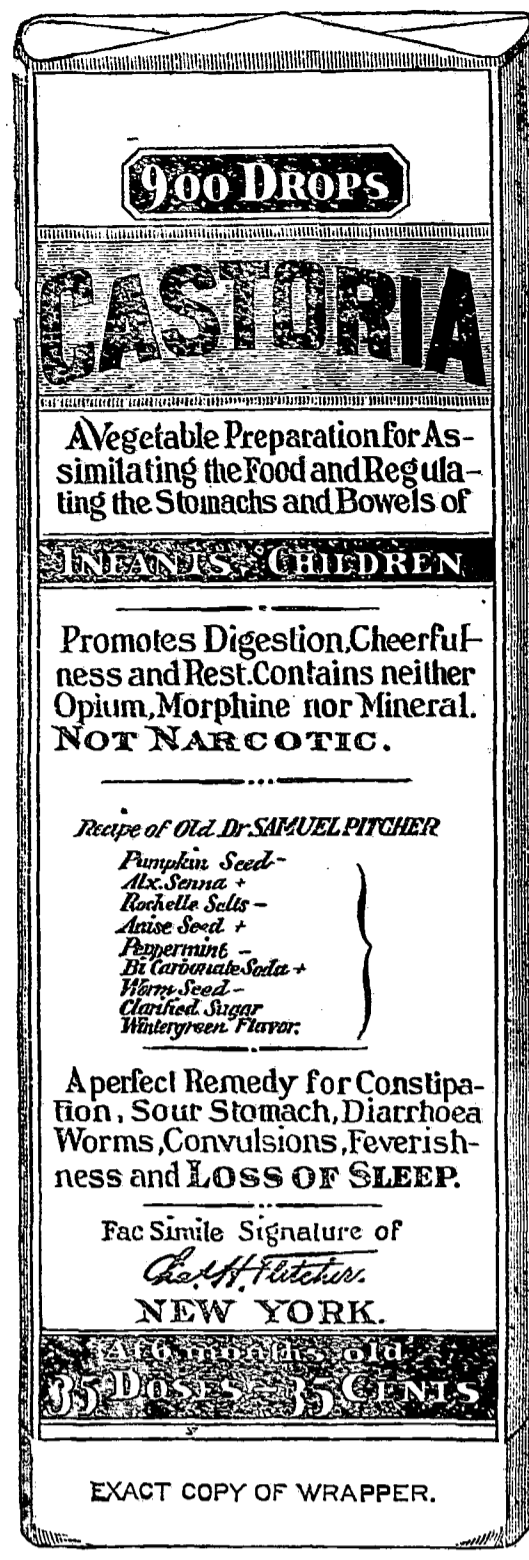
"To change the subject, how shall I reward you for helping us out of this difficulty?"

"Well, you might let me kiss your hand."

"What do you say to my lips?"

A light broke in upon Kostia. He went to Marya, took her in his arms and kissed her, but when he had kissed her once there was no stopping.

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