

PEOPLE AT PISGAH

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People at Pisgah by Edwin W. Sanborn

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EDWIN W. SANBORN

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AT PISGAH**

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BY

EDWIN W. SANBORN



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The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry, no matter how small, should be recorded to ensure the integrity of the financial statements. This includes not only sales and purchases but also expenses and income. The document further explains that proper record-keeping is essential for identifying trends, managing cash flow, and complying with tax regulations.

In the second section, the author provides a detailed overview of the accounting cycle. This process involves a series of steps that ensure all financial data is properly recorded and summarized. The steps include identifying the accounting period, analyzing transactions, journalizing, posting to the ledger, and preparing financial statements. The document highlights that each step is crucial for the accuracy of the final financial reports.

The third section focuses on the classification of assets and liabilities. It explains how assets are categorized into current and non-current, and how liabilities are divided into current and long-term. This classification is important for understanding the company's financial position and its ability to meet its obligations. The document also discusses the importance of regularly reviewing and updating these classifications.

Finally, the document concludes by emphasizing the role of the accountant in providing reliable financial information. It states that accountants must adhere to high standards of ethics and professional conduct to ensure that the data they provide is accurate and trustworthy. The document also notes that effective communication is key to helping management and other stakeholders understand the financial results of the organization.



PEOPLE AT PISGAH.

I.

THE CORTRIGHT DIAMOND.



IN the dusk of an early summer evening the towering front of Dr. Van Nuythlee's church loomed up on Madison Avenue, massive and solemn. Around the corner its gray buttresses and sombre gothic windows stretched back in long vista into the shadows. In the ivy-covered chapel beyond, the lights of the mid-week meeting gleamed cheerily on passers-by until long after the dusk had deepened into darkness. It was not uncommon for Dr. Van Nuythlee to be thus detained at the close of the mid-week service. When the last word of benediction was spoken, and the people crowded into the aisles and moved slowly out, there were always some who stayed to exchange friendly

greetings, or to discuss the many plans of a great church organization. With so many city homes deserted for the summer the chapel had seemed scantily filled; but the announcement of the death of Courtland Cortright led an unusual number to linger after the service. They gathered around Dr. Van Nuythlee as he stepped down from the desk to speak in hushed voices of the sad event, and of the change it seemed to necessitate in their pastor's plans.

Dr. Van Nuythlee had accepted a flattering invitation to deliver the closing address at the Interdenominational Ecumenical Congress soon to meet at Saratoga, but with the assembling of the Congress close at hand, the pressure of pastoral duties had precluded any preparation for that event.

The deliberations of the Congress were to cover a period of nearly two weeks, commencing on the following Sabbath. Though the discourse of Dr. Van Nuythlee was reserved for the final session, he wished to reach Saratoga as soon as circumstances would permit. To complete the task before him at the earliest moment possible, he determined to pass the intervening days in absolute rural seclusion. A friend had commended North

Pisgah in Northern Vermont as admirably suited to the doctor's purpose, and it had been arranged accordingly that he should set out on the morrow for Pisgah, and for the farm-house of Deacon Meshach Meiggs.

The message announcing the death of Mr. Cortright had urgently requested Dr. Van Nuythlee's presence at the funeral, and, while he was oppressed by the thought that every instant was precious, the immediate duty before him seemed imperative. After earnest consultation, in which it was suggested that a desirable route to the Green Hills would carry him near the Cortright estates, he decided to postpone his departure and perform the last offices for his old parishioner.

On his arrival, two days later, at the desolate manor on the Hudson, Dr. Van Nuythlee learned of a simple trust which Courtland Cortright in his closing hours had committed to his pastor.

He had directed that a certain jewel, long an heirloom in the family, be placed in Dr. Van Nuythlee's charge until the return of Mrs. Cortright, who was travelling with an invalid sister abroad. The jewel was a diamond set in a gold brooch, guarded with a

strong pin and clasp. Though a gem of extraordinary size and value it attracted special notice by its rare color, a peculiar tinge of red, imparting a soft radiance unlike the showy glitter of a clear white brilliant. In repose it sparkled with this warm, ruddy light, but there were times when it could dazzle with its rich lustre, or startle with a fiery gleam. The stone, though roughly cut, was preserved without change as a souvenir of early family history.

Near the dawn of the seventeenth century, Courtlandt van Kourtright, the younger son of a wealthy merchant of Haarlem, had sailed with the hardy navigator Jacob Heemskerk on a voyage to the golden regions of Cathay.

While coasting along the Malay Peninsula, they learned of the arrival in the Straits of Malacca of a great Lisbon carack laden with the richest merchandise; pearls, spices, silks, costly fabrics, and precious stones. The fearless Heemskerk with his two galleots attacked and captured the huge vessel, and this diamond had fallen to the lot of Courtlandt van Kourtright as his share of the spoil.

As they learned in sailing homeward along the Indian coast, the stone had been found half a century earlier near Goleonda, and