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Freedom Press (London) Eviction

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Eviction

Freedom Press (London)

STRETCH'D a score of straggling hovels scatter'd down the mountain

side,

Throng'd the tenants at each threshold famine-stricken, terroreyed;

Age in every shape of suffering, feebleness, decrepitude-

Manhood fire-eyed, husky-throated,-tear-brimm'd, wan-faced woman-

hood,

Youth wild-wondering, expectant, a westruck in an unknown dread,-

Infancy, eye wonder lacking in the sharper lack of bread; All a hamlet watching, waiting; terror-stricken, dazed, aghast; Such a night upon the moor-side, roofless in the winter-blast! All the straggling, scattered hamlet waiting, watching through the

snow,

For the crowning act of "justice,"-for-Rent's lawful murder-blow!

Scatter'd, huddled by the moorside, all a hamlet's chattels, cast, Thrust from hovel, hut and cabin, to the snow-drift and the waste Crouch'd around each little home-wreck, round each squalid household

heap,

Age and infancy and sickness in as squalid clusters creep;

While a score of clanking troopers, while a score of arm'd police,

Guard "emergencies" commiss'd in the name of law and peace,

By a Christian queen's strict warrant, 'neath a Christian govern-

ment,

To unhouse, unroof a village in the sacred name of Rent!