THE SPECULATIVE MARKETS

Wheat Opened in Line with the Prevailing Weakness.

LABOR TROUBLES CAUSED LOWER PRICES

Closing Cables Were Weak, But the Market Had Aiready Anticopated That and Recovered Some from the Low Point.

CHICAGO, Ill., Aug. 20.-With the exception of cats the markets were all either very weak or barely steady. The article which continued weak to the en i was wheat, but even that was a shade over its lowest point for the day. The labor troub e at Buffalo was the chief factor in producing low prices. Wheat opened in line with the generally prevailing weakness and in the course of the first hour's trading the price for September had declined to a point as low as had previously been seen since trading for that de ivery had been done this season. On July 12 September wheat just touched 75%c, since then it has sold as high as 80c, but until today it had not declined again

A firm with foreign correspondents congratulated themselves on being able to buy today wheat for May delivery at 514c, or 54c over what December was selling for at the same time. They figures that the actual cosof carrying the wheat for their foreign cus-tomer from December to May, reckoning even

tower from December to May, reckoning even at the present low rate of interest, would amount to 754c per bu. The foreign markets were unit at lower prices, according to the early cables. Liverpool was quoted at from 34d to 1d decline.

The receipts were still heavy at the winter wheat markets. Maneapolls also reported literal receipts of spring wheat. The export clearances from the four principal Atlantic ports were close upon 20,000 bu. in wheat and flour. Bradstreet's report of the wee, 's clearances of wheat and flour from bold coasts was 3,75,00 bu. on the corresponding day of last year. Closing cables were weak, but the market had already anticip ted that and recovered some from the low roint.

The corn market, considering the limpness in wheat, the disordan zation in railroad transportation resulting from the switchmen's strike and the absonce of buying orders from cutside, held up remarkably. There was a short neriod of considerable weakness during the first half hour of the session, but there were lots of buyers who stood in wait for the offered chance. Trade was largely of a scaiping order, but there was no period of actual duliness during the short seasion. There was a good deal of talk about the backward crop and drouth in various sections. Light showers fell this morning, however, in some portions of Kansas and Nebraska. Upra was sold in Buffalo for shipment, and this was regarded as an indication that the strike was weakening.

The provision market is still laboring under

garded as an indication that the strike was weakening.

The provision market is still laboring under a plethora of long stuff in weak hands, which is coveted by men of larger means. There was another considerable break in pork early, but the larger portion of the early loss was recovered before the close. Fluctuations in lard and ribs were less material. Closing prices show declines in pork of 7½ cand about 2½ c in ribs. Lard closed without change from Friday's resting prices. Hog receipts were light and some of the heavy traders were acting as if satisfied with the amount of the recent decline. Estimated receipts for Monday: Wheat, 900 cars; corn, 400 cars; oats, 350 cars; hogs, 12,030 head.

Lake freights were steady on the basis of 2c for corn to Buffalo.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

ARTICLES.	OPEN.	HIGH.	LOW.	CLOSE.
WHIAT No. 2 August September December	75 73 Y 78 Y	8 7516 7574 7836	74% 75% 78%	74% 75% 78%
August	52%	5234	52	5256
	52%	5214	5134	5256
	53	5336	5284	53
August September October Mrss Ponk	3234 3334 3434	3414 3414	3254 3354 3354	2334 24 3436
September	11 87%	11 40	11 1256	11 27%
October	11 47 %	11 4734	11 20	11 37%
January	12 70	12 70	12 50	12 57%
September	7 80	7 80	7 75	7 7734
October	7 80	7 80	7 75	7 7734
January	7 15	7 15	7 1234	7 15
Beptember	7 85	7 8716	7 80	7 774
October	7 724	7 7216	7 65	7 674
January	6 55	6 5756	6 50	6 574

Cash quotations were as follows: FLOUR-Cash, quiet and unchanged; winter patents \$4.00@4.20; winter straits, \$3.50@3.75; spring patents. \$4.00@4.50; spring patints, \$3.50

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 7)%c: No. 3 spring, 68@ 72c; No. 2 red, 75%@75%c. CORN—No. 2, 52%c; No. 3 cash, 50c; No. 4. OATS-No. 2, 324@12%c; No. 2 white, 334@ 334c; No. 3 white, 3 @334c. RYR-No. 2, 62c. BARLEY-No. 2, 63c; No. 3, 56@62c; No. 4, 34@

Sc. FLAX SEED—No. 1, \$1.004 TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, \$1.54 POHK—Mess, per bbi., \$11.25\tilde{\pmu}(1.30; lard, per to bbs. \$7.80\tilde{\pmu}(7.55; short ribs sides (loose), 7.05\tilde{\pmu}(8.00; dry salted shoulders (boxed), \$7.20\tilde{\pmu}(8.00) 30: short clear sides (boxed), \$5,2078.25. Witsky-Disthlers finished goods, per gal.,

SUGAR-Unchanged. ccipts and shipments today were as fol-

RECEIPTS, SHIPMENTS. Flour burrels 230,000 895,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter frarket was quiet; creameries, 17@31c; daires, 15@21. Eg. s, firm at 17c.

St. Louis Markets.

St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 2).-Flour-Weaker patents, \$1.70@3.80; extra fancy, \$1.35@1.45; others unchanged,

others unchanged,
WHEAT—Was demoralized today by the news
from all quarters, closing at 1624c down;
No. 2 red, cash, lower at 50c; August, 70c bld;
September, 70246713c, closing at 70346703c;
October, 72c; December, 75346753c.
CORN—Went cown with wheat; No. 2, cash,
lower at 473c; August, 473c bld; September,
486183c, closing at 483c; October, 483c bld;
December, 46c; May, 49c.
OATS—Futures firm; No. 2, cash, lower at 34c
old; August, 3436614te; September, 485c;

December, 48c; May, 49c.

CATS—Futures firm: No. 2, cash, lower at 34c bid; August, 344@34;c; September, 344c; October, 36c; May, 39c.

Rye—No trading.

BRAS—Weak; 64c at mill.

HAY—Quiet, unchanged.

FLAXSEED—Unchanged at 96c.

Timothy Sketp—Higher at \$1.45@1.59,
LEAD—In moderate demand at \$.90.

CORNMEAL—Lower at \$2.50@2.55.

BANGISG—64@74c.

Luon Cotton Tiks—\$1,10.

PROVISIONS—Duil. Pork—Standard mess.

\$12.55. Lard—\$7.55@7.75, nominal. Dry salt meats—Unchanged; loose shoulders, \$7.25; long, \$5.00; shorts, \$8.15. Bacon—Unchanged; packed shoulders, \$8.00; longs and ribs. \$8.75; \$borts. \$9.125. Hams—Unchanged: sugar cured. \$11.50@1250.

RECKHITS—Flour, 4,000 bbls.; wheat, 279,000 bu; corn, 29.400 bu.; oats, 4,000 bu.; rye, 2,000 bu.; barley, none.

Shipments—Flour, 3,000 bbls.; wheat, 161,000 bu.; barley, none.

Omnha Produce Markets.

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PEACHES — California, \$1.50@1.65; southern Ilinois, 65@75e per basket.

LEMONS—18.50@20.00.

ORANGES—California, out of market; imported, \$8.00@5.50.

BLACKBERRIES—\$3.0. Scarce.
PLUMS—California, \$2.5 @2.00.

HANANAS—\$1.6 @2.73.

CABBAGE—Home grown, 50@50.2 per doz.

MRLONS—Watermeions, crate.l., 2.c.

PARS—Bartlett, \$3.00.

BUTTER—Packing stock, 124@13c; small lots select dairy, 14@17c.

CANTALOUPES—Per crate, \$3.5; joms, 75c per basket.

CALIFORNIA GRAPES - Per case, \$2.00. CUCUMBERS-Per doz., 25@30c. NEW P TATORS-\$2.00 per bbl.; in sacks, 165 154c per lb. Per bbl. \$3 0 001.25.

BLUEDERUIES -: 6-qL boxes, \$2.002.25. TOMATOES -- 4 basket crates, \$1.25; bu boxes,

GRAPES-Per 9-1b, basket, 63@75c. NECTATIONES—\$1.7562.10, DAMON PLUMS—24-qt. case, \$1.0561.21 APPLES—Good shipping stock scarce at \$1.25

Poutray-Spring chickens, \$2,00@3.76 per dezen; old hens, 7@8e per lb.

New York, Aug. 2.—Floure-Receipts, 18,00) lest: exports, 8,9 c bois. 4,480 sicks: easy, gpt demand; sales, 17,500; winter wheat, low rades, 82,0 65,10; fair to fancy, 81,0 61,20; Innesota clear, \$1,006,350; patents, \$4,556

OHNMEAL-Quiet, steady: yellow western, WHEAT—Receipts, 308,000 bu.; experts, 63,000 bu.; saies 1,043,000 bu. of futures, 85,000 bu. of spot. Spot. auli, lower, closing steady; No. 2 red, 80%c in store and elevator; 81%c affont; 82%682%c f. o. b.; No. 3 red, 18%c; No. 1 northern, 85% 62886; No. 1 hard, 91%691%c; No. 1 northern, 85% 62886; No. 1 hard, 91%691%c; No. 1 northern, 85% 62886; No. 2 Milwaukee, 80%6810. Options

opened weak on easier cables, declined \$2.5c on large receipts, liberal electroness, fore gn seiling, west weak and fine weather; advanced be on covering and closed steady at high cunder yesterday; No. 2 red. August, Sharashe, closing at 815c; October, \$15-15 (RN high closing at 815c; October, \$25-65)c, closing at \$25c; December, \$25-65)c, closing at \$25c; December, \$35-65; at \$55c; May, 180000000; closing at \$25c.

RYR-Dull, weak; western, \$25c.

BARLEY-Nominal,

BARLEY-Nominal,

BARLEY-Nominal,

BARLEY-Nominal,

BARLEY-Nowed state, \$2500c; Canada, \$56000000.

80.0625.20.
Hors—Quiet, steady: state common to enoice, 28235:; Pacific coast, 2725-2.
Sigar—Raw, firm and fairly active; fair refining, 2 %c; centr fugal, 26 test, 3 %c; sales, 22,518 bars; contrifugal 85 test, at 5 %c, and 575 bars molasses sugar 85 test at 2 %c; refined firm, fairly active; No. 8, 4% 54%c; No. 7, 3 15-16 424-16c; No. 8, 3 %65: No. 10, 3 %63%c; No. 11, 3 11-1623 13-16c; No. 12, 3 %63%c; No. 13, 3 5-153 17-16; mould A. 4 %64%c; standard A. 4 %64%c; confectioners A. 4% 44%c; cut loaf, 5 13-665 15-16c; crushed, 5 13-665 15-16c; orushed, 5 13-665 15-16c; orushed, 5 13-665 15-16c; ovedered A. 5 %c; granulated, 4 %64%c; cubes, 4 %55.

Eb.
Molasses-Foreign, nominal; 50 test, 10c;
New Orleans, firm and quiet; common to Molases-Foreign, nominal; 50 test, 10c; New Orieans, firm and quiet; common to fancy, 55...

Bice-Firm, moderate demand: domestic fair to extra. 45455c; Japan. 5635c.

EGGS-Fn fair demand and firm; western prime. 25275c; recepits. 4823 pkgs.

Hides-Steady and quiet; wet salted New Orieans selected. 45 to 60 lns., 567c; Texas melected. 50 to 60 lbs., 567c.

Ponk-Duil and week; old mess. \$12.00% 19.50; new mess. \$12.00% 19.50; new mess. \$12.50% 13.00; extra prime. \$12.756710.

El. 756El. 01.

**CUT MEATS—Steady but dutl: pickle1 bellies. 85,635;c: pickled shoulders. 65,67c; pickled hams, H\$\sqrt{61}\$;c: middles, quiet; short clear. \$4.75. Larif—Duff, nominal; western steam closed at \$4.15; option sates none; Scotember, closed at \$5.12; October closed at \$5.07. BUTTER—Moderate demand. steady; western, H\$\sqrt{61}\$; western creamery, H\$\sqrt{62}\$; western factory, H\$\sqrt{61}\$; Elzin, 23\sqrt{62}\$; western factory, H\$\sqrt{61}\$; Elzin, 23\sqrt{62}\$; Chiers—Weik and very quiet; part skims, \$364\sqrt{64}\$;

3664c. Pig Inox-Quiet and steady; American, \$13,50515,50.

Kansas City Markets. KANSAS CITY, Mo., Auz. 20 — WHEAT—Weak to it lower: No. 2 hard, 60@fic: new, 61@615c; No. 2 red, 64@655c. CORN—Firm: No. 2 mixed, 40c; No. 2 white, 51

©515c.
OATS-Firm; No. 2 mixel, 274@28c; No. 2 white, oit, 31c.
RYE-Stendy; No. 2, new .66c.
FLAXSEED-Stendy at 88@1c.
Bnax-Strong; sacked, 55@57c.
HAY-Strong and unchanged; timothy, \$7.50
@9.00; prarie, \$5.00@7.00.
BUTTER-F.rm; creamery, 15@23c; dairy, 15@20c.

Eggs -Weik at 15e. RECEIPTS -Wheat, 50,030 bu.; corn, none;

SHIPMENTS-Wheat, 34.000 bu.; corn, none;

Wool Market. London, Aug. 20.—During the past week business in the wool market has been restricted to a few transactions with French buyers. The imports for the week were: From New South Wales, 5,625 bales; from Victoria, 530 bales; from South Australia, 28 bales; from West Australia, 15 bales; from New Zeatand, 6,472 bales; rom the Cape of Good Hope and Natal, 3,534 bales; from Persia, 1,736 bales, and from various other places, 1,226 bales.

Anywarp, Aug. 20.—A series of wool, sales

1,225 bales.

ANTWERP, Aug. 20.—A series of wool sales will begin here on Tuesday and will last four days. There are available for the series, 598 bales of river Platte wools, 200 bales of Spanish, 47 bales of Australian and 2)7 bales of miscellaneous kinds.

OH MACKST.

OII Market.

New York, Au.; 2).—Perroleum—Market quiet. steady; crude in barrels, Parker's, 51c; crude in bulk, \$1.05; Washington, \$5.05; Washington, in brik, \$2.55; United closed at 52c for September; refined New York, \$5.10; Philadelphia and Baltimore, \$6.05; Philadelphia and Baltimore in bulk, \$1.55@3.63.

COTTONSEED OIL—Firm, quiet; crude, 20@27c; yellow, 31c.

COTTON-EED OIL-Firm, quiet; crude, 25@
27c; yeilow, 31c.
TALLOW—Quiet, stendy; city (\$2.00 for packages, 45-16@4%c.
ROSIN—Fair demand, steady; strained, common to good, \$1.306...71%;
TURPENTINE—Steady, quiet; 2814@29c.
LONDON, Aug. 20.—CALCUTTA LINSEED—30s per guarter. PERFINED PETROLEUM-1%@1%d per gal.

Cotton Market.

Galveston. Tex., Aug. 20.—Steady; middling, 6 15-16c; low middling, 6c; good ordinary, 5 15-16c; net and gross receipts, 771 bales, in-cluding 715 bales new crop; sales, 213 bales; stock, 16-81 bales. stock, 16,98) bales.

New Onteans, La., Aur. 20.—Steady; midding. 7c; low midding. 64;; good ordinary, 6c; not and gross receipts, 12) bales; exports coastwise, 675 Lales; sales. 451 bates; stock,

Coffee Market. New YORK, Aug. 29.—Options opened barely steady, 5 to 10 points down; closed steady and unchanged to 10 points down. Sales, 19, 60 bags, including September, \$13.403/24.45; O tober, \$13.2/2613.25; December, \$13.103/20; January, \$13.15; March, \$13.103/13.15; spot Rio, quiet and steady; No. 7, \$14.252014.37%.

Liverpool Markets. Livenpoor, Aug. 29 — Wheat — Demand poor; holders press sales; C.l. forniz, 16s 94d per cental; rel western, spring, 6s 3.1@6s 4d; red western, winter, 6s 214 1956 304d. Conn—Easy; demand poor; new mixed western, 5s per cental.

THE KNOTTED CORD.

Charles Kelsey Gaines in Philadelphia Fress. The boat was a mere wisp of the thinnest cedar and wavered like a leaf as I held it.

"Steplightly to the center," I said, gazing upon her through the faint, witching starlight, "and then-" "And then," she cried mockingly. 'Oh, yes; walk steadily to the bow and

seat myself. Of course. Don't I know "By heart?" said I.

"Yes, by heart," she almitted softly, "every word that you ever spoke to me. And how else should I step but 'lightly,' you fussy, uncomplimentary-lover and my lord and king," she concluded in a breathless whisper.

We were but nine days married, Madge and I. We could not bear as yet the rude stare of the world, and like birds we had flown to the depths of the forest. Eccentric! What cared we?-reveling amid woods and waters adoring each other, happy beyond belief. It was the fulfillment of our dreams, itself how dream!ike!

The painter lay at her feet. Stooping, she caught it up. "Before I step at all," she announced.imperiously,"I shall tie a good hard knot in this rope. See how the end is frayed. I can't allow any such slovenly housekeeping in our

boat." "Oh, hurry!" I muttered, with a sudden thrill of impatience. "It will be broad light before we get under way, and there'll be no chance of deer."

How stight a matter. Yet- She stopped and looked at me; I knew that her eyelids trembled, but to that moment no such tone had ever jarred upon her ear from me. The knot was half tied, but the cord dropped from her hand; she entered the skiff without a

word. How quickly things ever to be remembered seem to be lo gotten! I dipped my paddle in the dark water, and as we glided from the deep shade of the overhauging wood and came under the sparkling sky of the open river all shad-

ows seemed left behind. She twined her fingers around the not unfamiliar stock of a light rifle. seems deadful to shoot at them," she

said, "but I'll try."
It was the last hour of night, but as yet no star had waned. On the water all was dim; the shore was a belt of dark-ness; the voices of the forest were sunk to a whisper. An expert with the paddie, I loved my art. The cance, under

my delighted touch, slipped onward, smooth and still. I could hear a faint ripple from the prow as it cut the wave-lets; I could hear the low rustle of my clothing at every motion; I could almost hear the soft breathing of my loved one. If a lity pail had brushed beneath the keel the sound broke like a crash on the But the keen, thin blade of the paddle was mute; not even when I let my hand lave with it in the warm gush that swelled along the side did any gurgle rise from its eddying stroke. It was an hour of eestacy-how can I tell it? We were lovers in a world so new and fresh and sweet, floating alone in the tremulous gloom, and as for the future, or whither this tranquil stream was bearing us-whither does every

stream bear every life? The banks that were skirted first were high and steep and gave little hope of game. Then the river widened, the shore was low and marshy, and the light fringe of lily pends brondened to undulating meadows that reached far out over rods of pondlike shallows. The forest was waning now, and the air was full of noises, crashings in the brush, splashings among the reeds, wood cries of every sort just before us, almost at the water's edge-a weird sight always and spectral in that wan light-a grove of dead timber stretched up with gaunt, blanched arms as if in warning. I saw that Madge dropped her giance. All over the surface of the w ter chill shreds of mist were scudding, and the familiar expanse loomed out like an unknown sea. A slight shiver sent its tremor through the skiff. "Have we not come a long way?" she

Again I was betrayed.
"Oh, be still. This is the very place for game."

The hasty whisper left my lips with an arrowy hiss. She gave a little gasp as if an arrow indeed had struck her. "Dearest," I cried aloud, for the hunt was forgotten. She turned with a bright look, but her eyes shone with tears, didn't mean to," she said simply. didn't see any, and I didn't think they'd scare, I was just a little bit afraid my-

I burned with remorse. But for the prudish hunt we should have had a settlement then and there, but cedar skiffs are sensitive in matters of decorum and ever threaten indiscretion with the ducking stool. Checked in my loverly impulse by a restive lurch the words that were in my heart fell back

"We have been moving very slowly," I explained, with guidelike fluency, "and the Shannore can be heard more than a mile away. Beside, at the head of the rapids they say there is a small, bare island, just where the suck sets in and the rippies begin to play. Keep above that and with a good boat and a steady arm there isn't a shadow of dan-She turned imploringly, but was ger. silent; soon she resumed her wonted manner.

"I suppose it's really chien noir," she mused. "Almost everything seems to have started French up here, but it hasn't stayed French. And of course there's a creepy legend about somebody that this dreadful beast has swallowed. Oh, don't, don't iet us go near him! we're just the ones that these black death dogs raven after-we that are so happy, dear."
"We'll turn back at the first sound of

his bark. And now look sharp for venison; it is now or never." "I can fancy that I hear him this minute. But I'll be still and watch. Oh! what is that?" she cried. I followed her gaze.
"It looks like a dead bough floating."

"But why," urged she excitedly, "does it keep moving out into the river?" I looked more closely. "It is a deer

swimming-the rarest chance"-I shouted, and drove forward the wallowing boat with all my force. We are the children of a predatory

race, and the sight of escaping game rouses uncontrollable instincts. gentle Madge was as wild as I, crouching in the bow, panting with eagerness, her cheeks outflaming to the dawn-for the moment she was but a beautiful beast of prey.

Our laboring victim was now within easy range, but the long line of his back and head, just level with the water, made a difficult aim. "Try him!" I cried, and the quick rifle rang out, but the bullet splashed a foot beyond its mark. The animal-was nearing a low sandbar in midchannel. I had thought to run him down before he reached it. but a sudden eddy swerved us aside, and already as he began to emerge we had passed below him. "Wait! wait!" I cried, "for a full flank."

Madge, in tumultuous excitement, had risen to her feet. The deer for one instant paused to shake off the incumbering drip. The moment had come; with paddle tight gripped and rigid I steadied the frail craft; again the rifle pealed. The deer, with a spasm of pain and effort, bounded high and felt headlong in the stream beyond.
"See! see!" she screamed, "he's hit;

he struggles; he can't swim. Look, how the current whirls him." "Oh, Madge, sit down," I entreated,

and as I spoke the frenzy left me. I turned a quick glance behind. From the head of the narrow shoal, now falling swiftly astern , two long, low, divergent billows stretched down, enfolding us as they rolled and swayed like the arms of some hideous devil-fish. From the flush of the chase to the gates of death. The revulsion was horrible.

"My God! My God!" I wailed, "we are in the rapids of Shannore.' It was reither oath nor prayer-it was a cry out of Tophet, hopeless. And Madge-She lifted from her lap the little rifle and dropped it in the stream. "I'll never shoot again," she said. Turning upon the sent she faced me, pale and still already with the white, unearthly

beauty of an angel. Then with mad energy I plied the paddle; for one second the prow touched shore. My heart gave a great throb, but the driving current swept round the stern and bore us on. For a moment longer, by frantic endeavor, I held my own. Then as my strength failed, we were whirled away to plunge amid the swift, thronging waves that ever press in tumuit down the gorge. For now on either side rose dark walls of dripping ock, and the spray-drenched gusts that eat against us were vibrant with the oa se baying of Shannore.

Surely the end was near. We were flying at racehorse speed over a billowy swell. At every swing the boat seemed sinking from beneath us. Yet thus far it had borne us in safety; fitted at each end with an air tight chamber of copper, unless it was dashed in pieces it would not sink. Madge's strange boding words sang in my ears; I was startled with a desperate hope. Not with gun but with boat might she not still by some miracle shoot this flerce Shannore.

The brink was in sight. I would drive over at utmost speed.
"Madge! Madge! Catch by the painter and hold fast!" I cried. But she, before obeying, leaned toward me and whispered three words; often I had heard them; through all the din of the cataract I knew them, and even as she poke the boat, flung broadside on hidden rock, was gone like a bubble.

Reader-vou who sit at ease and drink in quiet of the summer air-what power of mine can bring to you a conception of what followed? Had you eyer a night-

mare dream of thurgling agony in a dark underworldreaf raving waters? The change was absolutely without interval. I had sat in light with my leved one, thrilled with a sudden hope, listening to sweetest words. I was lost, I knew not how, I knew not where wightless, he had a sudden hope, with the same water water with the same water wate knew not where, sightless, helpless in a chaos of overwhelming forces, sounds, sensations, too confounding for thought Something my hand, not I, had clutched and held with convulsive grip. A great surge bore me up; Leaught one flashing glimpse of light and sky, and the same instant I was sinking, all was sinking, with swooning swoop, and a bellowing and pounding as of a descending avalanche. Down, down, driven by stunning violence, I sank, deep in a black abyss' and watery mountains thundered over

I was drowning; the cataract's crushing foot was upon my chest; my sout was blank. Then through the darkness and faintness I heard something plucking. Something—yes, a rope—was dragging through my grasp, and as it slid a loose knot drew beneath my fingers and slipped, and tightened and held fast. Recollection waked Madgel Was she the ced forgotten? Again I saw her so nding in translucent startight, with quivering lashes. The rope still tugged, and stolidly clinging I came at last with bursting expiration to the surface; once more the day beamed in my eyes and sweet breath was in my nostrils.

Slowly, trembling with weakness, I male my way through the uneasy surf, hand over hand along the rope toward the skiff. Incredible it seems, but so profound was my bewilderment that I thought of Madge as still within; I won-de ed with querulous imbecility why she did not help me. The boat, as it drifted, churned heavily, and the gunnel sagged low; with half petulant expecta-tion I raised myself and looked in. Except weltering water, nothing. Then, with a frightful pang, reason returned, and I comprehended. Of all the cruel anguish of that day this awakening was the worst. I sank back with a strug-gling sob, and but that the skiff was already beating upon the shore I had sunk with no rising. As it was my feet just touched on the shelving bottom and struggling forward I stumbled upon the bank and lay unconscious.

O Madge! could you see me there! How many precious minutes fled while thy strength waned and thy spirit faint-

ed and thy lover lay unheeding.

The sun grew hot on my cheek; its fire balls gleamed beneath my eyelids. I roused and sat upright. The knotted cord lay under me; the skiff was still grinding on the beach. Instinctively I sought to draw it toward me, but the rope, lashed in the ring with but a singie turn, and already pulled almost to the end, at the first wrench slipped from its fastening. The cord hung in my hand. My knot had toosened, hers held firm; but she who had tied it-I raised my eyes. Its sunlit column wreathed in weaving lacework of filmy foam, Shannore stood resplendent. What vision sends my blood in fierce, hot pulses? What wild hope drives me in blind leaps toward the ctiff? Only a speck of gray, dim in the rainbow mists above the pull; but it is Madge.

The ascent was rugged. Breathless I mounted the summit. In the midst of the fall a rocky islet rose like a pier. Beyond poured the main torrent, but the channel next me was comparatively shallow, brawling among great boulders. Leaping, wading in deadly peril for three unsteady steps I pressed across. And there—in the main channel, almost at the verge of sheer descent, on a low ledge over which the surges ever broke, with feet braced in a crevice and straining arms flung around a hore of rock, pallid and spent, but preathing and not quite beyond the hope of rescue, clung my Madge-my beautiful, brave Madge. I crept to the water's edge. She was hardly six feet away, but through the deep sluice between a black tide raced and swirled, and its swell lapped at my feet as I reached toward ner. Surely she could clasp my hand; oh, how I longed to feel that touch. But she met my look with eyes distressed and downcast. Was she blinded with spray? Was she dazed with fear? Could she not understand? Alas! she only was saue. I had offered her but the clasp of Even while I persisted my treacherous footing failed; terror writhed on her face, but I staggered

backward. What could I do? How dull is terror. Absorbed in a single thought, mad with dread, it was only now, as I clenched my hands in impatience.that I heeded the knotted cord still in my grasp. Be it Providence, instinct, chance — utterly without thought I had borne it through all this fevered haste that else had been in vain. and by it she, too, should be saved. Taking a firmer stand I cast the end close by where she lay. But again she drooped her eyes and clung the tighter. saw that she dare not slacken her fastfailing clutch. Or was it rather that she saw too well that my plan was sui-cide instead of rescue, that had she complied the resistless draught of the torrent would have swept me like a pebble

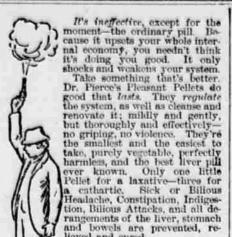
from the slippery shate? Full well I knew its potency. I was in despair.

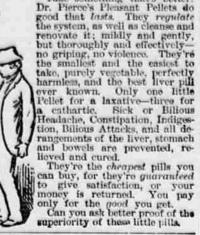
What trifles turn our fates to life or death! There arose in my mind a memory of childhood-of sailing shingle-boats ir the rapid creek. With long line attached I would toss them out in the stream, and I recalled my vexation because, as I held the twine on the bank. my ships would not stand off and float free, but constantly towed to shore. And now-if only I could fasten a rope somewhere above! In the very spot grew a scrubby beech with awlike roots pro-truding, but the co was short. Then a ragged branch stretching over the water caught my sight.

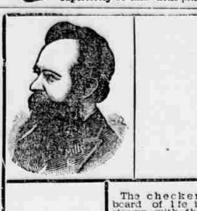
O Madge, was it not weary waiting? I climbed far out on the bough, and as it bent reaching still further forward made fast the rope. "This time it shall hold," I thought grimly; and swung my-self down in the seetbing flood until it drew me close beside my beloved. At last, at last, her dear arms were locked about me, and all the dashing turmoil of Snannore could not drown my gladness. Under the double strain the tough bough sprung like an angler's rod, but it was stiffer than F had thought; we swayed out to where the flumelike rush was fiercest and there hung. How long could weary arms endure? There was but one remedy, the stress must be made yet sharper. It was no time for hesitation. I plunged my head beneath the drift of foam and brought to bear the full brunt of the burling current. The waters roared and tugged. With every nerve and sinew I resisted. Sweet Madge, borne under unwarned, deemed that the end had come. But the great limb cracked and writhed and yielded and as we lifted up our faces we were swept in against the shore. Still, for one quaking instint, all lay at hazard then the solid rock was under us. were saved.

Happy! We were as weak as is a newborn babe, but our joy was like the joy of the mother who has borne it-joy that they only may know who after stark death agony are brought back to the

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