

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF

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RED CLOUD, - - NEBRASKA.

A SLIGHT MISTAKE.

It's been fully a year since I saw you, dear boy. And in all of that time, do you know, I haven't once heard so much as a word of your whereabouts. Where did you go? Oh, you've been round the world in your yacht, have you, lad? And you don't know a word of the news. Well, just you sit there, in that big arm-chair, and then ask all the questions you choose. Engaged to be married? Not a bit of it, no; And you heard it in Egypt, you say? Well, news travels a fast, but as for this last, it's old news, first months, if a day. But I'll tell you the truth, man, I am not engaged. And I don't mean to be very soon. In love with Nan East? A nice little girl, who was married, dear fellow, last June.

A CONQUERED ENEMY.

"You are to have the Coopers for neighbors, I hear," said Mrs. Bailey, as she stopped on her way "down town" to visit for a moment over the fence with her cousin, Mrs. Sunderland. "Look out for squalls!" Mrs. Sunderland paused, in her work of snipping the withered blossoms from a running rose to turn an inquiring glance toward the speaker. "What is wrong about the Coopers? They are honest, sober, industrious folks, are they not?" "Al of that, with many other virtues beside," Mrs. Bailey replied, laughing. "Nevertheless, I'd rather have them live next door to you than to me." "Don't be so mysterious," Mrs. Sunderland said, her good humored face beginning to wear a shade of anxiety. "Either tell me all there is to tell, or tell me nothing."

was startled to see, coming over her back fence, first a cabbage, then a peck or so of potatoes, and finally the basket in which she had that morning sent to Mrs. Cooper the vegetables thus unceremoniously returned. An explanation of this surprising shower followed in Mrs. Cooper's voice: "I'll thank you after this to keep yourself and everything belonging to you to yourself. If my boy hasn't fit society for your boy, we don't care if we want nothing to do with you." Of course to such a speech as this no civil reply was possible, so Mrs. Sunderland quietly withdrew from the scene of action, leaving her neighbor in possession of the field. The predicted quarrel had come, greatly to Mrs. Sunderland's mortification, for to have it known to the whole town that she was at variance with her next-door neighbor—as, thanks to Mrs. Cooper's unscrupulous tongue, it speedily was—was felt by the widow to be a real disgrace. All that she could do to smooth matters she did, with no effect, however, except that Mrs. Cooper subsided gradually from a ferocious into a sullen mood, but lost no opportunity of exhibiting her dislike and ill-will in the numberless little ways which a near neighbor can always make available. The quarrel between the boys was of much shorter duration. In the course of a few days Charlie's red head was again seen bobbing over the division fence, and Frank being responsive, the former intimacy was soon reestablished. When September came and the schools re-opened the two lads became school-mates and class-mates. Charlie was a bright boy, and his parents had kept him studiously at school, and were very proud of his attainments; but though he was two years older than Frank, the latter was more than his equal in school-standing. There was no brag about Frank, however, and there would probably have been no jealousy on Charlie's side had it not been excited by home influence. Mrs. Cooper was bitterly jealous and envious, and her sneers and innuendoes did much towards making her son as unreasonable and suspicious as herself. A few months after the school opened, an examination was held for the purpose of promoting such of the scholars as were fitted for the advance to higher departments in the school. Frank Sunderland was the only boy in his class who was successful in passing the examination, though Charlie Cooper had been far behind him, and his heart, and his mother's as well, had been set upon his obtaining the promotion. That he failed to do so was, in itself, a bitter disappointment, but that Frank should succeed where Charlie failed was a trial much harder to endure. Mrs. Cooper's undisciplined tongue wagged freely, and her opinion that the school was conducted upon the rankest principles of favoritism was widely disseminated. She would even have been foolish enough to withdraw Charlie from the school had not his father interposed his rarely exerted authority and put a positive veto upon any such absurd proceeding. As usual, Charlie's wrath soon evaporated, and as there was no occasion for a real rivalry between them, the two lads got along very harmoniously, and Frank was able to do many a kind turn for Charlie, which the latter, as a general thing, fully appreciated. Though very well aware of the rumor of Mrs. Cooper's feelings toward her and Frank, Mrs. Sunderland was sensible enough to feel rather amused than irritated, even when Mrs. Cooper's conduct, on their chance meetings, verged upon actual insolence. The widow's cheerfulness and pliancy continued to be quite invincible until the events of a certain morning proved to her that forbearance had at last ceased to be a virtue. It was a cold day in January; Frank had gone to the well to draw a bucket of water, but found the well bucket half-full of ice, so that it would not sink when lowered into the water. His mother came to his assistance, but succeeded no better than he had done. Charlie Cooper was at the well in their own lot, scarcely a stone's throw distant, and he called out: "Come fill your bucket here, Frank; our well is all right."

The lad had a cold and a sore throat as the result of his drenching, and his anxious mother, during the period of his indisposition, entertained towards Mrs. Cooper a resentment hearty enough to have satisfied even Dr. Johnson. Frank got well that time, however, and was soon at school again bright and merry as usual. But he had several attacks of sore throat before the winter was over, and they left him so weak and puny that his mother never before welcomed spring weather so gladly as she did that year. Frank seemed to get quite well and strong as the warm weather came, and there ere perhaps less prudent, for in May he again caught cold and came home sick from school. He was severely ill from the first; in a few days diphtheric symptoms developed themselves, and twenty-four hours later the bright young soul was freed from its frail tenement, and Mrs. Sunderland was a childless widow. I will not dwell upon her desolation; the whole community sorrowed with her; everybody had liked merry little Frank Sunderland, and his mother was almost an equal favorite. If friendly sympathy could have lightened her grief, that solace would have been hers; perhaps it did, even though unconsciously to herself, but as she sat by the side of her dead darling, she felt as though there could never be any more brightness or pleasure for her this side of eternity. She sat there tearless, speechless and despairing, and heard not the timid knock that came upon the door, nor did she notice the figure that a moment later entered the room, until a voice choked with sobs said: "Please, Mrs. Sunderland, mayn't I see him?" Then she turned and saw Charlie Cooper. The boy's swollen eyes showed that he had been crying, but Mrs. Sunderland looked at him, apathetically, and when she had realized what it was he wanted, turned quite calmly towards the coffin and withdrew the cloth that covered the waxen face. Charlie gazed for a few moments upon his dead schoolmate, awed and silent, though the tears chased each other down his cheeks. In a little while the mother kissed the marble brow, still with that unnatural calmness, and re-covered the face. Charlie was trembling from head to foot with repressed agitation, and Mrs. Sunderland almost unconsciously laid her hand upon his shoulder as if to calm him. At her to which the boy's self-control gave way; with a child's instinctive desire for comfort and support in sorrow, he flung his arms around her and dropping his head upon her bosom, burst into a violent fit of weeping. "O, Mrs. Sunderland!" he cried, "I can't bear to have him die; I can't—I can't—he was always so good to me." The mother's lips quivered, her features worked convulsively; the healing tears came at last to her aching eyes, and with her face bowed upon Charlie's curly head, she too, wept freely and softly, and with the blessed tears the first bitterness of her anguish passed away. Mrs. Sunderland's friends came to her and took her away from the scene of her bereavement. All that affection could do was done to cheer her, and after a few months her healthy, cheerful temper began to reassert itself, and so did the almost benevolent nature that by September she felt able to return to Greenville and her boy's grave, and to become again, in a measure, her old calm and gentle self. The schools had just reopened, and though the remembrance of one short year ago, when her own boy was there, the brightest and most hopeful of the young through who commended the school-year together, brought a pang of almost unbearable pain to the mother's heart, she endured this suffering as she had endured all the rest, uncomplainingly. The examination for promotion was again held, and this time Charlie Cooper ranked first among the five of his class who were promoted to the higher department. Mrs. Sunderland was sincerely pleased when she heard of the lad's triumph, and a few mornings later when she met him, she stopped to shake hands with him, congratulating him most cordially. "But how does it happen you are not in school, this morning?" she asked. "I—don't go to school, just now," he stammered. "I've stopped awhile." "When will that happen? Surely now is the very time you ought to be most regular in attendance." "I know—I'd like to be, but"—again he stopped, much embarrassed, and it was not without a good deal of questioning that Mrs. Sunderland at last drew from him the information that he had ceased to attend school on account of his father's inability to procure for him the new set of school-books his promotion had made necessary. "Father's had a felon on his hand all summer, and it's not well yet. He hasn't been able to work much, and we've had to be awful economical. Mother cried like everything when father said he just couldn't spare the money to buy a lot of new books; she was mad at first, but she soon got over that, for she knew father couldn't help it. She's saving up now, and so am I, and we'll raise the money between us before Christmas, I guess, though those kind of books do cost like smoke," he concluded, with a rueful sigh. After he had gone Mrs. Sunderland went into her darkened parlor, and sitting in her rocking chair, rocked and cried softly for a long time. Then she went up stairs and opened a deep drawer in a bureau, from whence issued a strong perfume of wild rose-leaves. She removed the linen towel that shrouded the contents of the drawer, and from one corner drew forth a slate and a pile of school-books—almost new. She opened the books one by one, and in each she kissed the name "Frank Sunderland," inscribed in a big boyish hand; then she laid her cheek upon the books, fondling them as though they were living creatures, and cried again. At last she wiped her eyes and tied up the books in a neat strong package. "I am doing just as he would want me to do," she said to herself. She wrote the name of Charlie Cooper upon the package, and giving it to her little kitchen-maid, directed her to take it to the house of her neighbor, Mr. Cooper.

The evening of the same day, as Mrs. Sunderland sat alone, reading over a few verses from her Bible before retiring for the night, she heard a bustle of approaching footsteps, the door opened, and her little maid said: "Here's Mrs. Cooper wants to see you a few minutes, Mrs. Sunderland." She ushered into the room a tall, gaunt figure, whose head and shoulders were shrouded in a dark shawl, and then discreetly withdrew. Mrs. Cooper, or she it was, advanced toward Mrs. Sunderland as the latter arose. "I've come to talk about the books you sent to my Charlie," she said, roughly, almost fiercely. "Yes," replied Mrs. Sunderland, deprecatingly: "I hope you don't feel offended; Charlie told me his father did not feel able to buy him the books he needed just now, and I thought it a pity he should be obliged to get behind his class on that account." "My Charlie says them books is the ones you bought last year for your Frank; is that so?" "Yes," Mrs. Sunderland said, her voice faltering a little, "they were my boy's. Charlie was fond of him—I couldn't have given him those books if he had not been." "You're right," and the fierce voice grew suddenly husky; "my Charlie's been crying lower than ever since he got them, and I don't wonder, for the sight of 'em has made me do what I never did for living creature in half my life afore. I've come over to beg your pardon for all my hugginess to you and to him that's gone; you poor, dear soul, you—bido, bido," and fierce, evil-tempered Mrs. Cooper ended her sentence by burst ng into a hearty fit of crying. Mrs. Sunderland clasped in hers the knotted, tow-worn hands outstretched toward her. "Don't cry," she said, tears rolling down her own cheeks as she spoke. "I know you're sorry. We'll have to be friends after this, and we will never quarrel any more." And they ne'er did.—M. R. House-keeper, in *Your's Companion*.

PLEURO-PNEUMONIA. The Illinois Passes the Senate Establishing a Bureau of Animal Industry. WASHINGTON, May 1.—As amended and passed by the Senate, the bill providing for the establishment of a bureau of animal industry and the extirpation of contagious cattle diseases, provides that the Commissioner of Agriculture shall organize in his department a bureau of animal industry, with a chief who shall be a competent veterinary surgeon, and who shall investigate and report upon the condition of the domestic animals of the United States and the causes of the contagious and communicable diseases among them. He shall also collect such other information on those subjects as will be valuable to the agricultural and commercial interests of the United States for the purpose of the bureau. The Commissioner of Agriculture is authorized to employ a force not exceeding twenty persons at any one time. The Commissioner is to appoint two competent agents, who shall be practical stock raisers, or men experienced in commercial transactions affecting live stock, who shall report the best manner of transporting and caring for animals; means to be adopted to suppress pleuro-pneumonia and other dangerous or communicable diseases. The compensation of such agents to be fixed at ten dollars a day. The Commissioner is to prepare as early as possible such rules and regulations as may be necessary to extirpate the disease; name and certify such to the executive authority of each State and Territory, and invite the co-operation of such executive authority in the execution of the act of Congress. When the rules, etc., shall have been accepted by such executive authority, the Commissioner may expend in the State so accepting so much money as may be necessary for the purpose of the investigations contemplated by the act, and for such disinfection and quarantine measures as may be necessary to prevent the spread of disease from one State or Territory to another. In order to promote exportation of live stock, special investigation will be made as to the existence of contagious disease along the dividing line between the United States and foreign countries, and along transportation lines from all parts of the United States to parts from which the cattle are exported, and reports made to the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall co-operate with State and municipal authorities, corporations and persons engaged in the transportation of cattle by land or water in establishing regulations for the safe transport of cattle and preventing the spread of disease, and the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to take such steps as may be necessary, not inconsistent, to prevent the exportation of cattle affected with contagious diseases, especially pleuro-pneumonia. Transportation companies are forbidden to transport cattle affected with any contagious disease from one State or Territory to another. The so-called splenic or Texas fever is excepted from the category of communicable diseases, so far as regard transportation of cattle to market. Violations of the act by railroads, companies or vessels is declared a misdemeanor on the part of the manager, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$5,000 or imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both. It is made the duty of the United States District Attorney to prosecute the cases. The sum appropriated for the purposes of the act is \$150,000, instead of \$250,000 appropriated by the House.

FOREST FIRES. The Mountains of New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey a Blaze of Fire—Loss of Life and Property. NEW YORK, May 3.—Forest fires in the country round about the atmosphere here with smoke. Middletown, N. Y., reports the mountains west and north of the Shawangunks and Catskills on fire. A strong wind was blowing. It was impossible to see only a short distance. No damage reported yet, but the danger to isolated farm houses and barns was great. Clouds of smoke and ashes filled the air. Fires were raging on Storm King Mountain, near Cornwall, and in the highlands west of Haverstraw. The air at Newburgh was filled with smoke and ashes of burned leaves floating about. Much damage to standing timber was apprehended. A Wilkesbarre, Pa., special says forest fires have been raging fiercely thereabout lately. The first serious damage was reported yesterday afternoon. Whitehaven and the neighboring hills caught fire and for a time the town was in great danger, owing to a strong wind. The fire department of Wilkesbarre, with the whole population of the place, subdued the fire. At California, a lumbering town near Whitehaven, a fierce fire started and eleven houses occupied by lumbermen were consumed. Two bridges on the Beaver Creek branch of the Lehigh Valley road were destroyed; also the stables of Albert Lewis & Co., lumber contractors. Eleven horses also perished in the flames. A large quantity of valuable timber was destroyed. The total loss is estimated at \$50,000. The fire is now under control. WASHINGTON, N. J., May 3.—An extensive conflagration is raging in the Blue Mountains, twenty-five miles from here. The wind carries the smoke in dense clouds over this part of Warren County. At five o'clock yesterday afternoon it became completely dark and a smoky pall, almost suffocating, rested over this town. The inhabitants were alarmed, and the Mayor has requested a number of the members of the fire department to remain on duty. A large tract of valuable woodland is burning about three miles from Mattavay, threatening a number of residences. Farmers are fighting the flames. Near Ashland, Pa., extensive fires are raging, and the Ashland fire department has been ordered in readiness for service. At the State Miners' Hospital workmen are now fighting the flames near the building. The loss to timber tracts will be large. A heavy wind storm visited Northumberland County, Pa., yesterday, and fanned to increased fury the forest fires. The works of Charles Woods and 5,000 cords of charcoal were destroyed. The fires also ignited Culbank at Mine Hill Gap. The Colliery mine is in danger, and 300 men are thrown out of employment. The towns are beset by smoke from the burning mountains. Emporium, Pa., sends word of forest fires raging all through that section. The season is unusually dry and the wind is blowing a perfect gale from the west, sweeping the fire through the forest with great velocity and destroying a large amount of property. At Sterling Run, nine miles from Emporium, several buildings belonging to the tannery company burned yesterday, and a large mill was also destroyed. The village was only saved by aid from Renova. Two families are reported lost, and it is feared the loss of life will be great. At Swisshorn, fifteen miles west of here, two mills with a large amount of lumber were destroyed. SCRANTON, PA., May 3.—The barrel mill, press house and canning mill of the Moosic Powder Company, Col. H. M. Boise, President, blew up, and the soda gins and pulverizing mills were fired and burning yesterday. The mills were ignited from the forest fires. Several days ago one of the employees was burned to a crisp in the wash house. Several hundred cords of powder wood are now burning and it is expected that the glazing mills will go. The iron magazine containing several tons of powder is so far safe. No one dares to travel the road to Archibald for fear that the rest of the mills will blow up. The loss thus far is \$30,000. CATTLE DISEASE. JEFFERSON CITY, May 3.—Governor Crittenden has received a letter from Governor Glick, of Kansas, requesting him to unite with the Governors of Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska, Colorado and Kansas in establishing a quarantine against the introduction of diseased cattle into the above States from certain districts in the Eastern States, where pleuro-pneumonia exists, and the following reply was sent to the latter: JEFFERSON CITY, May 2, 1884. To His Excellency, G. W. Glick, Governor of Kansas: DEAR SIR:—I am in receipt of your letter of the 29th ult., inviting me to co-operate with the Governors of Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado and Kansas in issuing a proclamation quarantining those States against the introduction of cattle from the infected districts of other States. I fully appreciate the importance of such a movement, and would join you if I were invested with the power. No law exists in this State giving the Governor the right to issue such a proclamation. It is an omission which will be remedied in the future. The stock growers of this State are too largely interested in the industry to suffer future legislation to longer overlook the enactment of such laws as will more securely protect that important part of their property rights. Very truly yours, THOS. T. CRITTENDER.

Favorable to Railroad.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 3.—The railroad bill in the Legislature known as the "Barry" bill, and which, in the largest measure, covered the object for which the extra session was called, was, in an amended form, passed by the Senate by a unanimous vote. Under the bill as passed by the Assembly, where it originated, the railway companies would have forfeited their right to operate within the State, first, if they suffered discriminations in freight over their roads; second, if they failed to keep track and structures in efficient repair; third, if they accepted charters from any other Government, State or sovereignty; fourth, if they failed to comply with the fare and freight schedules fixed by the Railroad Commissioner. In its amended form the first and third conditions are rendered nugatory, the special contract system remains intact and the forfeiture of railroad charters is placed beyond State laws. At the present moment the relations of railway companies to the State Government are as before the call of the extra session. It is now clearly established that no radical anti-railroad measure can pass the Senate. An early adjournment is quite possible.

Watching for the Building to Fall.

ST. PAUL, MINN., May 3.—The wall of the wholesale millinery house of J. Oppenheim & Co., on Fourth street, cracked, and carpenters were sent to work to brace the building while the work of removing \$70,000 worth of stock was in progress. A large crowd collected, and considerable money, on and against the building falling, changed hands, some betting that the whole building would fall, and others that only a hole in the wall would result. During the afternoon a portion of the wall fell, making a gap twenty feet wide, from ground to roof, and letting a portion of the roof down into the second story, crushing a large quantity of stock to the amount of \$25,000.

BOLD BANK ROBBERS.

An Attempt to Rob the Bank at Medicine Lodge, Kas.—The President and Cashier Shot. KANSAS CITY, May 1.—A special to the Times of this morning, from Harper, Kas., says: A courier just in states that a bold but unsuccessful attempt was made at ten o'clock this morning to rob the Medicine Valley Bank, at Medicine Lodge, Barber County, in which George Geppert, Cashier, was instantly killed, and E. W. Payne, President, fatally wounded. Four men, well armed with Winchester repeating rifles and revolvers, rode up to the bank soon after it opened, two remaining with the horses while the others entered and demanded the money. Both the President and Cashier refused to comply, and were at once fired upon as above stated. Just then the City Marshal appeared, and taking in the situation at a glance opened fire on those inside, which soon attracted others, and resulting in the robbery. The robbers mounted and rode away without the swag. Within ten minutes thirty men were in hot pursuit and doubtless ere this have captured the bandits and sent them to join their victim. No clue to their identity was had. Mr. Geppert was a promising merchant, while Mr. Payne was editor of the *Index* and a wealthy and influential stockholder. Medicine Lodge is situated about fifty miles west of Harper, and has no any railroad or telegraph line, news has to come by carriers. There is the greatest excitement here over the bold affair, as both Geppert and Payne are widely known citizens through this portion of the State, and have hundreds of friends among the stockmen. It is thought the robbers came up from the Indian Territory, and the killing of the bank officer was brought about by what followed after the robbers entered the bank. Officers and men from Harper are ready to assist in the pursuit and capture of the murderers, and if caught they will undoubtedly be lynched.

A Struggle With a Maniac.

TRENTON, N. J., April 30.—Philip Hildebrecht was a bartender at A. Aberlee's saloon in this city. For some days he has given evidence of mental trouble. He slept with Lewis Pfleger, a jeweler, at Aberlee's. He was excited and talkative, and while Pfleger's back was turned he struck him a terrible blow with a pitcher. Then began a struggle for life, as Hildebrecht had become a raving maniac. Pfleger finally downed Hildebrecht and ran from the room, locking the door after him. Officers were summoned and the door unlocked. Hildebrecht was on the floor in a pool of blood. He had tried to kill himself by cutting deep gashes in the neck and arms with pieces of the broken pitcher. He was very weak and muttered a desire to die. His wounds were dressed and he was removed to the asylum. He may recover. Pfleger's wounds are not serious.

The Alert.

NEW YORK, May 1.—Contrary to expectations, the Alert, which the English Government contributed toward the Greeley Relief Expedition, has turned out to be in hardly the necessary condition for a voyage to the Arctic. Repairs that will cost about \$20,000 will have to be made so as to properly equip her for the work. These will be made as quickly as possible. Two Arctic houses are being built, which will be taken North upon the deck of the Alert. Men are working day and night upon the Thetis, which sails on Thursday. It is now being provisioned. The Alert will be the first of the three vessels to return, leaving next fall to report what progress has been made.

How Oatmeal is Made.

The first operation in the manufacture of the meal is the removing from the oats all chaff, small oats and foreign seeds of whatever kind, for if any of these remain in the quality of the meal is much injured. Black oats, if even of good quality, give a bad appearance to the manufactured meal, as it reappears in the form of black particles, which to the tidy housewife appears to be a something much more uncleanly. After the oats have been properly cleaned by sifting they are subjected to the operation of drying. This is accomplished in dry kilns, with special apparatus constructed for the purpose. This operation requires some care to prevent the oats from burning. As soon as sufficiently dry they are removed from the kiln while still very hot and stored in such a way as to have them retain the heat; after thus remaining three or four days and hardening they are ready for the shelling operation. This shelling is accomplished by passing the oats through millstones of a special pattern. The product that comes from the stones is groats, or the whole kernels, dust, seeds, etc., and these must be separated. By means of a combination of sieves and fans the groats are separated from the other material, and are then ready for grinding. For extra quality they are passed through a brush machine. The grinding of them must not be long delayed, as a few weeks' exposure renders them unfit for milling. In grinding the groats, the great aim is to avoid pulverization, and to have the granules cut a size and of uniform size. Oatmeal is generally denominated by the cut—as pin-head cut, rough cut, medium and fine cut—though these terms have different meanings in different districts. After the grinding the meal is passed through sieves and the siftings graded according to size.—N. Y. Herald.