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I CARRY THIS BANNER FOR DAVIS' Hardware Store. Seasonable Hardware. PRICES LOW. Cash Tells. Illustration of a man in a hat holding a banner.

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GUYS PLACE. FINEST SAMPLE ROOM IN NORTH PLATTE. Having refitted our rooms in the finest of style, the public is invited to call and see us, insuring courteous treatment. Finest Wines, Liquors and Cigars at the Bar. Our billiard hall is supplied with the best make of tables and competent attendants will supply all your wants. NORTH'S BLOCK, OPPOSITE THE UNION PACIFIC DEPOT.

The Semi-Weekly Tribune. IRA L. BARE, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. SUBSCRIPTION RATES. One Year, cash in advance, \$4.00. Six Months, cash in advance, \$2.50. Entered at the North Platte (Nebraska) postoffice as second-class matter.

The Globe-Democrat remarks that it is a significant fact that the most of the active promoters of the new silver movement have "ex" prefixed to their names.

The national convention of silver men will consist of 1,300 delegates; at least that is the appointment. It is extremely doubtful if more than half that many delegates attend the meeting.

In recommending that "less talk and more work, less beer and more books" be used in the settlement of labor questions, Eugene Debs shows good horse sense. He is pretty well convinced that these troubles cannot be settled by force.

It is not strange that Spain should have a desire to sell Cuba. The insurrection has cost her more than the island is worth and the task of subduing the patriotic Cubans is apparently no nearer completion than it was at the start.

PROSPERITY has always accompanied protection to American industries and free-trade has always caused a derangement of our commercial interests. If you doubt this delve into the commercial history of this country for the past fifty years.

It seems surprising to many that John Tyler, son of President Tyler, should be living in poverty; but any country which makes it possible for a poor man's son to become president, makes it equally possible for a president's son to become a poor man. In this country mistortunes, as well as honors, are easy.

FINANCIAL agencies say that the sale of the one hundred million dollars gold bonds, which will be consummated ten days hence, will start a trade revival. It is to be hoped however, that the time is not far distant when trade revivals will occur without the boosting effect of bond sales. With republicans in full power of the government, bond sales will be unknown and trade will need no tonic.

Did you ever! The New Era explains why Congressman Kern was not placed near the head of any committee. It is because speaker Reed "considers Kern entirely too bright to give him another opportunity to pour the soup into the republicans," which might occur if located so near the committee chairman that he might have an opportunity through illness or absence of the chairman to report the committee's deliberations. Wouldn't that paralyze you? Reed afraid of little kern.—Kearney Hub.

COL. WEBB, of the Callaway Tribune, has spoken and Gov. Holcomb's political aspirations are turned into Dead Sea fruit. Webb says the Governor may get a few votes from Custer county delegation to the state convention if he is a candidate for re-nomination, provided he drops the society of Billy Bryan and otherwise depots himself as a pop shod, but as for congressional honors Holcomb will not get a smell. Webb and Custer county are against him and his cake is dough, to use a classical expression. It was an accident that made a governor out of our friend Silas, and no one knows so well as the populists themselves that he never can be re-elected, and that is the reason his party enemies are insisting on his re-nomination.—Broken Bow Republican.

ATTORNEY MORRISON who represents the first-mortgage bondholders of the Union Pacific railway whose holdings amount to over \$5,000,000 is working to take possession of the road reorganization. Mr. Morrison has prepared a bill which he will ask Congressman Powers, the chairman of the committee on Pacific railroads, to bring before congress. The plan includes the appointment of three government commissioners who shall secure the co-operation of all the other creditors they can enlist, bringing about a foreclosure through the company's failure to pay interest on the last three coupons due and buy the road at the sale. The organization would be made by issuing new first-mortgage bonds for the full amount of the property's debt at a rate which the commissioners might decide was justified by the net earnings of the road.

Dr. Sawyer, Dear Sir: Having used your Pae titles, I can recommend them to the public. I have been attended by four different doctors, but one and a half boxes of your medicine has done me more good than all of them. Yours respectfully, Mrs. Maggie Johnson, Bronson, Branch County, Mich. Sold by F. H. Langley.

AN ARTIST IN CRIME. BY RODRIGUES OTTOLENGUI. [Copyright, 1895, by G. P. Putnam's Sons.]

Meanwhile, in New York, Mr. Barnes was still burrowing into everything that seemed to have any connection direct or otherwise with the mystery or mysteries that baffled him. Of one thing he had satisfied himself beyond all doubt. That was that Mr. Fisher had not been implicated in the train robbery. His spy had found that he had been absent from the city during three days at the time of the crime, but this very fact had been shown to be his safeguard. By some skillful work the man discovered that during that time he had simply been off shooting ducks in a part of the country where it would have been impossible for him to be an accomplice. This simple fact should not have been hard to discover were it not that Fisher had kept his trip a secret. This for some time puzzled the detective, but finally he followed him out of the city, and eventually accompanied him on a similar outing, after which he learned that his sister was morbidly opposed to all killing, whether for sport or for a livelihood. It was to humor this idea that her brother made his excursions in secret. The spy learned from the man from whom the dogs were hired that Mr. Fisher had used them in December. So that left him out of the score, or at least so it seemed. It was still possible that he was implicated in the ruby robbery, though, saw that he was present, there seemed nothing against him. Mr. Barnes did not entirely leave him out of the account.

Thus practically the detective made no progress, and was chagrined to be compelled to admit it. Finally, however, an idea occurred to him, upon which the more he dwelt the more fascinated he became with it. To put it into practice, however, he felt that he must await the return of Mr. Mitchell. He thought he would injure his cause by seeking him and so disturbing him during his pleasure trip.

The Mitchels did not keep their promise to go to the White mountains, but, on the contrary, prolonged their western travel, so that it was November before they were at home again and temporarily quartered at the Fifth Avenue. A few days after, Mr. Barnes sent up his card, and, as usual, was cordially received. "Any news of my wife's ruby?" asked Mr. Mitchell, grasping the detective warmly by the hand. "No, Mr. Mitchell, I am sorry to say that I am utterly unable to prove any of my theories about that. But I have come to a set determination, and one that to you may seem a peculiar one. I have come to ask your assistance in the murder case."

"Why, certainly, I will help you. Did I not tell you so at the very outset? Have I not always been willing to talk freely to you?" "You have, but as long as I thought that you yourself might have committed the crime, how could I come to you to ask you to assist me?" "Then I am to understand that at present you do not suspect me?" "I have come to that conclusion at last and wish now that I had done so sooner."

"Would you mind telling me why you have altered your mind? You have told me so much that seemed to implicate me that I am curious to hear the other side."

"Certainly. I overheard your wager. When came the robbery and then the murder. Later there was a second jewel robbery. All of these crimes occurred within the limit which you set. One of them, of course you committed. It seems more probable that you stole the single ruby, for in doing that you committed a crime for which you could not be punished, especially since you have married the lady. Even before she would willingly have testified that it was understood between you, and that it was simply a trick to win a wager. Is not that correct logic?"

"Correct logic! Yes. Of course I admit nothing as to facts. "Either of both of these robberies are secondary to the murder. That I have determined to unravel if I can. At present I think the train robber and the murderer was one and the same person. Now, there is one clew which I have not been able to follow, but which, if pursued, I am certain will lead me straight to the criminal."

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report. Royal Baking Powder. ABSOLUTELY PURE.

"Keep it a moment. When Miss Remsen ordered these buttons, she directed that a tiny initial should be adroitly carved in the hair of each of the Romeo and Juliet buttons. In the former she ordered an 'R.' She calls me Roy. And in the others a 'Q.' I call her Queen. This would escape ordinary observation, but once seeing it with a lens one may readily find it with the naked eye after ward. Now take this lens and examine your button, just at the base of the hair, near the neck. So! What do you find?"

"By heavens," exclaimed the detective, "this is most important! This is a Juliet, and if one of your set it should have a 'Q' on it. I believe that there was an attempt to make that letter, but the tool must have slipped, and so it is a poor result, a chip, in fact, which marks the continuity of the letter. I doubt if with the eye alone, as you looked at it that day when I first showed it to you, that you saw any letter at all."

"You are correct. I simply looked for the 'Q,' and not finding it was satisfied."

"This is serious. This button evidently was made by the same hand that made yours. It was spoiled and another cut to replace it. The man who carved it or the person who became possessed of it must and shall explain to me how it came into the room where the murder was done. You must tell me now where these buttons were bought."

"I will do so upon one condition."

"Name it."

"That whatever you discover you will tell me before you act, and that you will not act before Jan. 1 unless absolutely necessary."

"You mean as to making an arrest?" "That is precisely what I mean. You need not fear to make the promise. I will guarantee that your man shall not escape. I know him."

"To know the object of a crime, of course, is a great assistance, but much would depend upon the attendant circumstances."

"True. The object then is important. From this point I reached the conclusion that if a man approached another, totally unknown to him, at night in a lonely neighborhood, struck him on the head, killing him, and then, unseen, reached his own home, it would rest entirely with himself whether or not he would ever be caught. I wanted a chance to try this experiment—that is, to commit a crime solely to test the ability of the detectives to discover me afterward. The difficulty was that a gentleman of honor would scarcely wish to engage in such a reprehensible piece of business. For years, therefore, I could think of no way to have my wish, till the merest chance threw the opportunity within my grasp. Waiter, fill up the glasses."

He paused a moment while this was being done. The men went around with champagne, and when Mr. Thaurer was reached he asked to have his burgundy glass filled also. Mr. Mitchell was again speaking when the waiter returned with the red wine and did as requested. Mr. Barnes also presented his glass for the same liquor, saying in an undertone to Mr. Thaurer, "I cannot take too much champagne."

"One of my hobbies," continued Mr. Mitchell, "as you all know, is the collection of jewels. A few years ago I heard that a magnificent set was offered for sale. A rich East Indian nobleman, so the story goes, had procured the gems as a present to his wife. They were of the choicest quality and of each exactly two, matched precisely in size, cutting and coloration. In time he had two daughters, twins, the mother dying at their birth. Eventually these girls grew up and were married, the ceremony being a double wedding. The father took the set of jewels and divided them, giving to each girl one of each. This greatly diminished their value, for the matching of gems adds to their price. "Reverses of fortune tempted one of these women to offer her jewels for sale. They were taken to a Paris dealer, who chanced to be a man through whom I had made many purchases. He undertook not only to dispose of the gems, but to reproduce them with a high order of imitation, so that the woman retained the original settings and continued to wear what her friends supposed to be the genuine gems. I bought the most stones. Subsequently her sister, learning the secret, and seeing that there was a way by which the jewelry could be retained, while the jewels themselves could be turned into money, engaged the same dealer to serve her in a similar way. Of course I was doubly anxious to obtain this second lot, for by doing so I enhanced the value of those which I had already. I therefore bought them also."

He paused a moment, to allow the company to recover from the surprise at learning that the stolen jewels were his. "This lot was sent to me through the Boston custom house. I instructed the dealer to do this because I had found that goods can be received with less delay in Boston than in New York. Being notified by my broker there that they were ready for delivery, I went to Boston and obtained them. I placed the wallet in a peculiar satchel which had been made to order for me, and carried it to my room at the Hotel Vendome. Later in the day I met Mr. Randolph, and went with him to a theater. His was to return to New York by the midnight express, and I went with him to the depot. As we stood awaiting our turn to purchase tickets you may imagine my utter astonishment to see a woman pass and board the train having my satchel in her hand. There could be no mistake whatever, because the satchel was peculiar, both in shape and color. Of course I saw at once I had been robbed. It was useless to go back to my hotel, for that would be time wasted. If, by any miracle there were two such satchels, mine was safe in the hotel. I therefore astonished Mr. Randolph by offering to accompany him, and I did so, occupying the same section with him."

"While I was thinking what action I should pursue, knowing that once the train started my thief would be safe as far as New Haven, Mr. Randolph began to praise Mr. Barnes, and like a flash it

noticed that several persons quickly counted these present to test the fact. Continuing, he said: "The superstition in connection with 13 at dinner is a well defined one, and the supposition is that one of the number will die within the year. I offer as a toast, therefore, 'Long life to all present—who deserve it.'" The last clause, after a slight hesitation, made a decided effect. However, the least was drunk in silence.

"As some present may not entirely understand what my wager was I must explain that 13 months ago tonight I was in a Pullman sleeper with my friend, Mr. Randolph. Mr. Barnes here had just accomplished a neat capture of the criminal Pettingill, who has since been convicted. The papers were praising him, and Mr. Randolph did so to me in glowing terms. I ventured the assertion that detectives run down their prey largely because the criminal class lack intelligence sufficient to compete with their more skilled adversaries. I offered to wager that I could commit a crime within a month and not be detected within a year thereafter. The amount was to be \$1,000 and was accepted by Mr. Randolph. I stipulated for conviction, though had I been arrested within the stated period and convicted afterward I should have considered that I had lost the wager. That is why I awaited the arrival of Mr. Barnes so anxiously. I had not seen him for some time, and it was possible that at the last moment he might be prepared to arrest me upon evidence that would later convict me. However, gentlemen, I have escaped both arrest and conviction, yet I committed the crime as wagered."

"You must prove that," said Mr. Randolph, "and, according to our agreement, it must have been a crime which was much talked about."

"Quite right, my friend, but I shall be able to demonstrate all that. By a curious coincidence a robbery was committed on the very night and upon the same train upon which we made our wager, while another robbery was committed almost at the moment when the stipulated month expired. Thus two crimes transpired within the time allowed me, and with both of these my name has been connected in the mind of the detective, Mr. Barnes. Now, that you all may better understand the circumstances I must go to what I might call the beginning. Years ago certain circumstances in my earlier life gave me an intimate acquaintance with the methods used by detectives, and I then acquired the idea which led me into this undertaking—that where the criminal has succeeded in escaping actual watching during the commission of his crime, so that there is no witness to the act, the detective is almost powerless until he learns the object for which the crime was undertaken. Am I not right, Mr. Barnes?"



The detective is excited.



He had my satchel.