

# A BIG FIND

But It Proved to Be a Burden

By REGINALD D. HERON

My interview with Edith's father was a stormy one. He gave me to understand that I could have no daughter of his; that if I persuaded Edith to marry me without his consent he would never recognize either of us any more than if we were strangers to him, and that the results of our folly and Edith's ingratitude must be endured without any assistance whatever from him.

"What kind of a young man are you," he thundered, "for a gentleman to give his daughter to? As poor as a church mouse, you have come here in a hired carriage to see me."

"Yes," I retorted, "and I'll go away in the carriage in which I came."

"And I hope you'll stay away."

We turned our backs upon each other, he to go into another room, I to go out and get into the cab. I saw Edith at an upper window with a pained expression on her face. She kissed her hand to me, and I waved mine to her. Then I got into the cab, shut the door with a bang and was driven away.

As it happened I sat down on the left side of the carriage, whereas I had come on the right side. The seat was uneven, but I was too hot from my recent interview to notice it for some time. Presently without getting my mind off the latter I endeavored to arrange the former. The hump remained. I arose and lifted the cushion. There lay a package about seven inches long by three wide, the wrapper being brown paper. I was not so absorbed in having been refused the girl I loved but that I removed it and revealed a package of bank bills. The one on top was of the denomination of \$100. The next was \$1,000, the next \$500, and so on of mixed denominations to the end. I counted \$50,000 in all.

Here was a find—a big find—a deuced big find. It would be impossible to give the confusion of thoughts passing through my mind. I had stumbled upon the wherewithal to recoup Edith's would yet be mine. Would the owner of the bills turn up? What would be the outcome? These were a few of the flashes upon my brain, but give only a faint picture of the turmoil there. I can only say in justice to myself that almost instantly all gave way to the fact that the money was not mine and its owner must be found.

During the next few days I bought every newspaper issued in the city where I lived and had found the bills, not doubting that their loss would be advertised. When the next morning after I had found them I saw no notice of them I was surprised. When on the second morning no notice appeared I was astonished, and on the third morning, having gone through with a dozen newspapers without finding what I looked for, I was amazed.

On the morning of the eighth day I received a telegram from my college chum, Henry Harker:

Come at once. The position is vacant and cannot remain so forty-eight hours.

This was in response to a letter I had written a few days before to Harker, who had succeeded his father as president of a large manufacturing establishment, asking him to give me a job. I am not one to go back on my proposition and began at once my hurried preparation to leave. But what should I do with the bills I had found? Acting on the principle "the least said is soonest mended," I had kept the matter to myself and the money under lock and key. I being the only one who knew where, I must act at once. I thought of depositing the bills in a bank. No; that wouldn't do at all. Fifty thousand dollars of a stranger's money in one's possession involved danger. It might land the finder in jail. To give it to a friend for safe keeping would require depositing the secret with him at the same time.

I spent hours turning over different plans and finally settled on the following: I went to a safety deposit company and rented a box. It was the last thing I did before taking a train and I was in a dreadful hurry. My plan was to use an assumed name, but in the hurry of preparation I had not settled upon a name. When the custodian, an old man, took out his book and asked "What name?" I gave him the first that came into my head—Custavus Hall Williams. He wrote it down; handed me the key to the box went with me to the vault. I put away the bills, turned the key and for the first time since I had found them felt relieved.

Harker put me in a position that had not been prepared to fill. He said he knew I could learn the duties as went along. I did learn them, but my mind was fixed on them to the exclusion of everything else. I thought of the fortune locked up in the safe deposit company once in awhile, but since there was nothing concerning it to think about more than when I left my mental dwellings upon it were very brief and less and less frequent I had paid a year's rental for the box and given an address that did not exist so I was not troubled with any communications from the company to remind me of it.

To tell the truth, I was more inter-

ested in Edith Ford than in some one else's money which had fallen into my possession and which instead of being a blessing was a burden. Harker advanced me rapidly.

Edith remained true to me, and her father, having been agreeably disappointed in me, consented to our marriage. All was ready for the nuptials when one day a shabby man with a hangdog look about him came into the office and asked to see me.

"This is Mr. George Winchell?" he asked.

"That's my name."

He took a dirty paper from his pocket, to which he referred, and said: "On the 12th of November, 19—, John Flynn, driving cab No. 58, took up a fare at the door of the University club and drove the gentleman to 246 Summit avenue."

"Never mind the rest of that," I said. "Tell if you are looking for any thing that was lost."

The man appeared ill at ease. "Please don't speak so loud, sir. If you are the man who was driven that day in that cab from the University club to—"

"I was. Go on."

"You may have found a package of bills."

"I did."

At this point the man hesitated, and seeing that he was not getting on with his revelation, I took him to a private room and said:

"Now, out with it."

After much trouble I learned that he had got the money I had found from a gentleman to carry somewhere and had hired a cab for the purpose. Not daring to take the bills out of the cab when he alighted, fearing an arrest, he left it under the seat, taking note of the cab's number. He was arrested for having stolen an overcoat and was sent to prison for a year. He had recently been discharged, some time having been taken off his stay for good behavior, and had communicated with the man from whom he had got the bills, and the two had set about tracing them. The person who had employed him to carry the money was a cashier of some institution, from which he had purloined it.

I had had enough of the matter and agreed to a plan by which the amount could be returned to its rightful owners, they paying the ransom a small sum and guaranteeing their immunity from prosecution. All the details had been arranged when it occurred to me that I had rented the box in which I had deposited it in a fictitious name.

What name? I could no more remember than I could repeat the book of Job.

As soon as I could get away from my duties I took a train for my former home and on arrival drove to the safe deposit company and asked for the custodian. A young man stepped forward, and I asked for the old gentleman who had rented me a box about a year before. He had died five months ago and the young man had been put in his place.

My story as to the renting of the box was told—that I had not given my own name and had forgotten the assumed one. I was informed that I would find the number of the box on my key, but I replied that, having been fearful of losing the key, I had put it in a very safe place, but where I had also forgotten.

Then the custodian looked grave. The money must remain where it was till I produced the name or the key.

What was I to do? I had acknowledged that I had found the lost bills and still had them in my possession. I was bound to restore them, and if I didn't I would be sued for them and likely prosecuted criminally. Being about to be married, I was in an agony of fear lest the matter should come out and be printed in the newspapers on the eve of my wedding.

I went to Harker, who was more like a brother to me than an employer, and told him of the fix I was in. While he was ready to do anything for me in his power, there seemed to be nothing definite for him to do. He could not help showing a slight suspicion. This revealed to me that my story was not very credible. I was in agony. Meanwhile the parties concerned began to grow suspicious of me.

Then I was told that if I didn't pay over the money at once I would be arrested. I realized that I must raise \$50,000 or go to jail, besides losing Edith. I asked how long a time I would be given for the purpose and was told that I could have a week. I laid the matter before Harker, and his affection for me conquered his doubts and his indisposition to pay out for me \$50,000 that he might never get back. He drew a check for the money, payable to me, and I turned it over to the persons who were hounding me. But I realized that a wedge had been introduced between me and Harker that would not be removed until I could return the money he had put up for me.

A few days before the wedding I went on a visit to Edith to confess to her the incubus resting upon me. I told her the story, to which she listened eagerly and, when I had finished, said:

"I wonder if long I have upstairs that you sent me what ago has anything to do with the matter?"

"What did I send you?"

Instead of replying she left me and in a few minutes returned with a box of trinkets, through which she began to hunt. There were bits of old jewelry and odds and ends of all kinds. Presently she took out a little flat bit of metal with irregular teeth on one side. I made a dive for it, and, holding it up, I saw stamped on it the number 396. Then, like a flash, I remembered having sent a duplicate key of my safe deposit box—I had been given two—to Edith to keep for me in case I should lose the one I retained.

## Too Much For Webster

In the somewhat famous case of Mrs. Bodgen's will, which was tried in the supreme court many years ago, Daniel Webster appeared as counsel for the appellant Mrs. Greenough, wife of the Rev. William Greenough, was a very self possessed witness. Notwithstanding Mr. Webster's repeated efforts to disconcert her, she pursued the even tenor of her way until Webster, becoming quite fed up with the result, arose, apparently in great agitation, and, drawing out his large snuffbox, thrust his thumb and finger to the very bottom and, carrying a deep pinch to both nostrils, drew it up with gusto, and then, extracting from his pocket a very large handkerchief, he blew his nose with a report that rang distinct and loud through the crowded hall.

He then asked, "Mrs. Greenough, was Mrs. Bodgen a neat woman?"

"I cannot give you full information as to that, sir. She had one very dirty trick," replied the witness.

"What was that, ma'am?"

"She took snuff!"

## Resting on His Laurels

An undertaker was discussing queer-sepultures.

"A queer sepulture indeed," he said, "was that of a German playwright, Gustava von Moser. Von Moser kept in his house a costly and beautiful urn. He purposed to be cremated, and his ashes were to be put in the urn afterward."

"But the strangest thing about the urn was that it contained a little bed of ashes during Von Moser's life. He used, you see, to get a good many laurel wreaths when his plays were put on, and he would take a sprig from each wreath, burn it and drop the ashes into the urn."

"My own ashes," he would say, "will lie on top. Thus after death it may be truly said of me that I am resting on my laurels."—New York Tribune.

## Flags We Have Known

The first flag to float over American soil was the royal standard of Isabella, emblazoned with the arms of Castile and Leon. A white flag with a green cross was its companion. Some years after Columbus landed at San Salvador the Cabots planted the banner of England and of St. Mark of Venice on the eastern shore of North America. In the centuries that have intervened since a variety of national flags have waved where now only the stars and stripes is the accepted emblem. Over Texas have floated the French, Spanish, English, American and Confederate; in Louisiana the lilies of France, the Spanish flag, the tricolor, the American and Confederate flags; in California the Spanish, Mexican, Russian and American.

**Moors Consider Us Dirty.**  
A habit of our own which we consider far more cleanly than eating with our fingers is looked upon by the Moors as filthy—that is, washing our hands or face in a basin and, still more, taking a bath where the water is not running. The cleaner we become, they say, the dirtier the water we are washing with must necessarily become, and eventually we step forth as cleansed from water which is no longer clean. A Moor to wash his hands has the water poured from a vessel over them and never by any chance dips them into the dirty water. The same way in their baths. The water is thrown over their bodies out of bright brass bowls and flows away through holes in the marble or tile floor.

**Mummy's Expedient.**  
Little Tassus was becoming very objectionable in school because his wool was growing longer and longer, far beyond the cutting stage. The teacher tried hinting to no purpose and then told him outright to go have his hair cut, giving him a quarter for the purpose.

Rastus broke out crying and said: "No, ma'am; I dassin't hab it cut. My mammy, she wants a new switch, and she's done a-growin' it on me."—Ladies' Home Journal.

**In a Bad Way.**  
"I fear that my husband will break down. He is suffering from brain exhaustion."

"How dreadful! What are his symptoms?"

"He latterly keeps repeating himself in his excuses for coming home late from the club, dear."

**What She Really Wanted.**  
Ferdie had just proposed to Millie.

"No, Ferdie," she said; "I cannot marry you. The man who gets me must be a grand man, upright and square."

"My dear girl," said Ferdie, "you don't want a man; you want a piano."—Exchange.

**Translating the Definition.**  
Johnny—Papa, what does preocious mean? Papa—if means—a—it is a term applied to children who know more than is usual at their age. Johnny—Oh, yes; it means a fresh kid!

**For Appearance.**  
"How can you marry a man as old as all that?"

"Well, mother says I will look well in white, and sister says I will look well in black."—Pittsburgh Post.

**Money and Trouble.**  
"Money, after all, means nothing but trouble."

"Still, it is the only kind of trouble which it is hard to borrow."—Baltimore American.

He that falls into sin is a saint; he that grieves at it is a devil.—Fuller.



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**PROBATE NOTICE.**  
In the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska, Dec. 27th 1912.  
In the matter of the estate of John O. Wilmeth, deceased.

Notice is hereby given, that the creditors of said estate, before the County Judge of Lincoln County, Nebraska, at the county court room in said county, on the 28th day of January 1913, and on the 29th day of July 1913, at 9 o'clock a. m. each day, for the purpose of presenting their claims for examination, adjustment and allowance. Six months are allowed for creditors to present their claims, and one year for the Administrator to settle said estate, from the 28th day of Dec. 1912. A copy of this order to be printed for four successive weeks in the North Platte Tribune, a semi-weekly newspaper published in said county prior to Jan. 28th, 1913.

JOHN GRANT, County Judge.

**Referee's Sale.**  
By virtue of an order of sale issued in the district court in and for Lincoln county, on the 18th day of December, 1912, in an action of partition wherein Shellie Schneider is plaintiff and Eva B. Weaver, S. W. Weaver, Gusta Satterlee, George Satterlee, Leonard Salter, Leonard Burton, Cora M. Burton, Cora C. Sabin, Charles H. Sabin, Lafayette Calvert, Claude Shephard and Charles Shephard are defendants, I will sell at public auction at the east front of court house in the city of North Platte, Lincoln county, Nebraska, on the 25th day of January, 1913, at the hour of one o'clock p. m., the following described real estate situate in Lincoln county, Nebraska, to-wit: Southeast quarter of the southwest quarter (S. E. 1/4 S. W. 1/4) south half of southeast quarter (S. 1/2 S. E. 1/4) and northeast quarter of the southeast quarter (N. E. 1/4 S. E. 1/4) of section twelve (12), township ten (10), north of range twenty-eight (28), west of the 6th P. M. The terms of this sale will be cash in hand.

Dated at North Platte, Nebraska, this 23rd day of December, 1912.

O. E. ELDER, Referee.

**Referee's Sale.**  
Notice is hereby given by virtue of an order issued to me by the district court of Lincoln county, Nebraska, under date of December 21, 1912, in an action wherein Nellie Kain is plaintiff, and Henry M. Bebout and Elizabeth E. Bebout, his wife; Ivan L. Kain, a minor under fourteen years of age; Mary E. Kain, a minor under fourteen years of age; are defendants, I will on the 30th day of February, 1913, at 1 o'clock p. m., of said day, at the East front door of the court house of the city of North Platte, Lincoln county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the following described real estate, to-wit: all of section twenty-five (25) in township eleven (11) north of range thirty-four (34) west of the 6th p. m. (except ten acres for building spot on the north forty of the northwest quarter of said section twenty-five) and the southwest quarter (sw1/4) of southwest quarter (sw1/4) (known as lot four), the northwest quarter (nw1/4) of the southwest quarter (sw1/4) (known as lot three), the southwest quarter (sw1/4) of the northwest quarter (nw1/4) (known as lot two) and the southeast quarter (se1/4) of the southwest quarter (sw1/4) of section thirty (30) in township eleven (11) north of range thirty-three (33) west of the 6th p. m., situate in the county of Lincoln, state of Nebraska.

Dated this 23d day of December, 1912.

J. G. BEELER, CHARLES WALTER, Atty. Referee. d13-5

## Estray Notice.

Taken up by the subscriber on his enclosed lands in Payne precinct in Lincoln county, Nebraska, on the 21st day of December, 1912, a brown mare weighing about 1,100 lbs, shod on all 4 feet supposed to be 14 yrs of age. Said mare has small white spot in forehead.  
Jan. 10, 1913. C. E. CARLSON.

## LEGAL NOTICE

To George Herbert Bos and Georgina M. B. Bos, his wife, non-resident defendants. You and each of you will hereby take notice that Isaac S. Gaudreault, plaintiff, filed his petition in the district court of Lincoln county, Nebraska, against you and each of you in a suit in which you are impleaded with Wellfleet Real Estate and Improvement Company, a corporation, the object and prayer of which petition are to quiet in the plaintiff against you, title to the following described lands situate in Lincoln county, Nebraska, to-wit: Lots 7 and 8 and the south half of lot 8, in block 7, of the original town of Wellfleet, Nebraska, and more particularly to quiet title against a certain claim deed made and executed by you to lot 7 and the south half of lot 8 in said block 7, on June 29, 1907, to one C. F. Hicks and to cure certain apparent defects therein and particularly in the acknowledgment thereof.

You and each of you will make answer to said petition on or before the 3rd day of March, 1913, or your respective defaults will be taken.

Dated at North Platte, Nebraska, January 30, 1913.

ISAAC S. GAUDREAULT, Plaintiff.  
By H. E. EVANS, his Attorney. j14-4

## Sheriff's Sale.

By virtue of an order of sale issued from the district court of Lincoln county, Nebraska, upon a degree of foreclosure rendered in said court wherein Lincoln county Land Company, a corporation is plaintiff and Viola A. Brodine et al are defendants, and to me directed I will on the 24th day of February, 1913, at 2 o'clock p. m., at the east front door of the court house in North Platte, Lincoln county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, to satisfy said decree, interest and costs, the following described property to-wit: northeast quarter (ne1/4) and the south one-half (s1/2) of section twenty-one (21), township ten (10), range twenty-nine (29) west of the 6th P. M. in Lincoln county, Nebraska.

Dated North Platte, Neb., Jan. 30, 1913.

A. J. SALISBURY, Sheriff.

## LEGAL NOTICE

In the district court of Lincoln county, Nebraska, To Herbert Dwight Rockwell otherwise Hubert D. Rockwell and the unknown heirs of Mary C. Rockwell, deceased, defendants:

You and each of you are hereby notified that William Smith plaintiff, filed his certain petition in the district court of Lincoln county, Nebraska, on December 30th, 1912, against you and each of you and that upon due cause shown said court made an order on the 30th day of December, 1912 that the said plaintiff should proceed to obtain service by publication upon said unknown heirs of Mary C. Rockwell, deceased, by publication of a notice for four consecutive weeks in the North Platte Semi-Weekly Tribune. The object and prayer of which petition are to quiet and confirm in the plaintiff and against the defendants and each of them title in and to the following described lands, situate in Lincoln county, Nebraska, to-wit: Southeast quarter (se1/4) of section twenty-three (23) township nine (9), north of range thirty-one (31) west of the sixth principal meridian and particularly against a certain mortgage made and executed by John M. Smith on July 13, 1889 to Riley Bros. and by said Riley Bros. assigned to Mary C. Rockwell; and that said defendants and each of them be forever barred and enjoined from setting up and claiming any interest in said premises and from disturbing the plaintiff in the peaceful and quiet enjoyment of same.

You are required to answer said petition on or before the 10th day of February, 1913.

Dated at North Platte, Nebraska, December 30th, 1912.

WILLIAM SMITH, Plaintiff.  
By E. H. EVANS, His attorney.

## Legal Notice.

To Charity Miller and — Miller, her husband, first and real name unknown, Benjamin Ball and — Ball his wife, first and real name unknown, Joseph Ball and — Ball, his wife, first and real name unknown, Joseph Sells and — Sells, his wife, first and real name unknown, John Sells and — Sells, his wife, first and real name unknown, Ella Sells, Addie Sells and May Davis, nee Sells, and — Davis, her husband, first and real name unknown, Rosanna Armstrong, nee Ball, and — Armstrong, her husband, first and real name unknown, Worthington Ballard and — Ball, his wife, first and real name unknown, Bertha Savage and — Savage, her husband, first and real name unknown, Amelia Wilkins and — Wilkins, her husband, first and real name unknown, Florence Shephard; You and each of you are hereby notified that you have been sued in the district court of Lincoln county, Nebraska, together with Thomas Ball and — Ball, his wife, first and real name unknown, Alma Stevens and — Stevens, her husband, first and real name unknown, by Hezekiah Ramsey, Plaintiff, the object and prayer of the petition filed therein being to quiet and confirm in the plaintiff title and possession against you and each of you in and to an undivided one-half interest in the following described lands situate in Lincoln county, Nebraska, to-wit: A portion of lot 11 of the County Clerk's subdivision of part of the northwest quarter of section 33, township 14, range 30, west of the 6th P. M., described as follows: Commencing at the northeast corner of said lot "11," thence west from said northeast corner 10 degrees north 220 feet west; thence south 10 degrees west 198 feet; thence east 10 degrees south 88 feet; thence north 10 degrees east 132 feet; thence east 10 degrees south 132 feet; thence north along the east line of Lot "11" 66 feet to the place of beginning, owned by the plaintiff under and by virtue of a deed thereto from one George H. Woodword and further to have the estates and shares of the defendants or so many of them as the court may find entitled to share therein as the heirs of the said Hezekiah Ramsey, deceased, confirmed, and set aside the remaining undivided one-half interest in said property of which Elizabeth Ramsey died seized in fee, the same to be confirmed and set aside to the plaintiff and the defendants or so many of them as may be found entitled to share therein as the sole heirs at law of said Elizabeth Ramsey, deceased, and to have all of said described property partitioned to the plaintiff and the defendants as their estates therein shall be confirmed by the court, and for such other and further relief as justice and equity may require.

You and each of you will make answer to said petition on or before the 24th day of February, 1913, or decree will be taken as in said petition prayed.

Dated at North Platte, Nebraska, January 10th, 1913.

HEZEKIAH RAMSEY, Plaintiff.  
By E. H. EVANS, His Attorney. j14-4