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#### The Moment of Vision.

BY WILLIAM M'LEOD RAINE. (Copyright, 1902, by Dally Story Pub. Co.) She held out the ring to him, smiling in rather uncertain fashion, but Esterley noticed that she was very white. He was savagely glad of it, for at the time he was cold as ice and hard as iron.

"Has the last word been said?" he asked without a trace of emotion in his voice. "Are you going to turn me away on account of a little thing like this?

"You may call it a little thing if you like. I don't. When one finds the man she is engaged to marry flirting with-

"I wasn't flirting. I have told you that before," he answered doggedly. But of one thing you may be sure, Elise. If you send me away now I shall not return to you."

"You flatter yourself, sir, in thinking I shall want you back," she retorted. "Shall I lay the ring on the table, or will you take it?"

He dropped the ring into his vest pocket, bowed coldly, and turned on his heel. Next moment the street door had clanged behind him. The girl sank into a chair and covered her face with her hands. Presently deep sobs began to shake her. Meanwhile Ned Esterley, in a moody, frowning silence, strode down to the Union Depot with his suitcase in his hand. Fifteen minutes later he was on a train bound for Cripple Creek. He gazed out of the window without seeing any of the glory of the winter sunshine, which fell in a sheen of splendor on the white-blue range of peaks in the distance. He was sick at heart, and bitter against the girl who had misjudged guilty of disloyalty because she had found him with Kate Sanford's hand in his, her eyes swimming in tears? An hour passed, two hours; but

Esterley took no thought of the flight of time. It might be five minutes since he had entered the train, or it might be five hours. He neither knew nor cared. His personal problem drove from his mind other considera-

If Elise were going to believe-There came a sudden jar, which threw Zaterley forward against the seat in front of him. He did not need to be told that the engine had been reversed, and the airbrakes set. There came to him the sharp grinding of wheels on the track, and with it the gradual lessening of speed. A moment

later there was a horrible crash. The

floor of the car rose to meet the roof. The last that Esterley remembered was plunging forward through the air. When he came to himself, he found God, there MUST." was deep hidden in what remained of torn iron and of wrenched steel rodsand some ten feet above him was the open air. A white dead face stared at him through the broken wreckage. Gingerly Esterley moved first one arm and then the other. They were free, and he went over himself coolly to estimate the damage. Except for a cut | ing him that they could not reach him in the head he was quite unhurt, but in time. With the assurance-after his legs were pinned down between two the first frantic rush of fear-there great timbers beyond the hope of extrication. He tied a handkerchief He drew his revolver from his hiparound his cut head, and began his

have been free. Esterley called to a passing brakeman. The man stopped, looked around, me a call, will look up the owners and and caught sight of him. He called

to another man. "There's a fellow pinned down in tais second car, Norton. Send the

Presently Esterley could see that men were at work with axes, saws, and crowbars to rescue him. He had been conscious without thinking of it that



"Has the last word been said?" the air was hazy with smoke, but his mind had taken no account of the fact. Now he heard a persistent, faint crackling sound. A horrible fear flashed through his brain, and he slewed his head round. The car behind him had caught fire. His heart contracted and stood for a moment with a ghastly horror. Good heavens, he would be roasted alive, unless the rescuing party reached him in time! It was a race for his life. He could see that they were working desperately, but the smoke and heat are fearful. but he could not help calling out to hurry for God's sake. He tried franti- a mistake. It was my fault for I cally to draw his feet from the trap should have insisted on explaining which pinioned them, but he only suc- that I was interceding with Kate for ceeded in cutting them against the young Dick Hazle. You know they

### Statement of Taxes Paid by the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad Company to the Various Counties in Nebraska for the Year 1901, with Some Comparisons that may Prove Interesting.

(Issued Under Authority of the Railroads of Nebraska)

| COUNTY     | VALUATION    | TAX PAID    |
|------------|--------------|-------------|
| Adams      |              | \$ 1,086 22 |
| Antelope   | 173,448 00   | 7,477 36    |
| Boone      | 107,640 00   | 4,655 30    |
| Brown      | 102,924 00   | 4,579 83    |
| Butfer     | 232,488 00   | 11,474 19   |
| Cherry     | 405,756 00   | 13,462 39   |
| Clay       | 65,664 00    | 2,970 97    |
| Colfax     | 81,216 00    | 2,749 07    |
| Cuming     | 899,396 00   | 4,736 59    |
| Dawes      | 205,884 00   | 8,836 03    |
| Dodge      | 177,660 00   | 9,273 99    |
| Douglas    | 122,650 00   | 3,788 31    |
| Fillmore   | 116,892 00   | 6,134 09    |
| Hamilton   | 35,712 00    | 1,435 94    |
| Holt       | 206,532 00   | 9,720 00    |
| Knox       | 51,768 00    | 1,865 69    |
| Lancaster  | 66,708 00    | 2,159 56    |
| Madison    | 118,116 00   | 4,801 16    |
| Nuckolls   | 99,504 00    | 4,813 56    |
| Pierce     | 102,096 00   | 3,942 64    |
| Platte     | 116,244 00   | 4,329 03    |
| Polk       | 3.204 00     | 119 37      |
| Rock       | 83,232 00    | 3,625 55    |
| Saunders   | 159,444 00   | 5,897 67    |
| Seward     | 113,112 00   | 5,307 88    |
| Sheridan   | 140,976 00   | 6,304 92    |
| Sioux      | 118,368 00   | 4,691 99    |
| Stanton    | 75,456 00    | 2,865 13    |
| Thayer     | 15,876 00    | 908 45      |
| Washington | 32,760 00    | 1,402 20    |
| York       | 114,120 00   | 6,217 56    |
| \$         | \$151,632 64 |             |

The Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad is a railroad 1,362.84 miles in length, of which 983.95 are in the state of Nebraska.

It is not a trunk line, but one that depends upon the growth of the country immediately tributary to it for its business. The owners of this railroad hope that the prosperity of the country through which it runs will in time make it prosperous.

In 1900 this railroad received in gross earnings.....\$4,121,457.92 They paid for operating expenses 2,689,642.25 Net earnings...... 1,431,815.67

This amount makes a net earning of \$1,050.53 per mile for the system, and they reported \$1,110.42 as such net earnings to the auditor of state in Nebraska, which it will be seen, gave this state credit for the increased amount received from business which originated on the branches in other states. Out of the \$1,431,845.67 they paid \$1,007,851.09 for interest on bonds outstanding, and \$181,599.74 was paid for taxes, which latter amount was equal to 12.7% of their net

No dividends were paid by this company, and during the years 1895, 1896 and 1897 there was a large deficit in the revenues.

In case the taxes on this road were paid on the Wisconsin basis of taxation, it would have been \$120.92 per mile, instead of \$152.95 in the state of Nebraska.

To make a fair comparison with this railroad it is necessary to select roads that do a similar business in other states, and the following table gives this goods

| STATE                                       | RAILROAD             | Miles            | Net Earnings<br>per Mile | Total Tax<br>Paid | Tax Per<br>Mile | Per Cent. of<br>Taxes to Net<br>Earnings |
|---|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--|
| Wisconsin                                   | Green Bay & West'n   | 225              | \$ 440.79                | \$ 9,896.66       | \$ 43.97        | 9 9-10                                   |
| Iowa<br>South Dakota<br>Missouri            | Bur., Cedar Rap. & N | 1,287.99         | 1,048.62                 | 145,996.90        | 119.57          | 10 9-10                                  |
| Kansas<br>Indian Territor <b>y</b><br>Fexas | M., K. & T. R. R     | <b>2,</b> 221.96 | 1,872.13                 | 291,330.18        | 131.11          | 7  |
| Nebraska<br>South Dakota<br>Wyoming         | F., E. & M. V        | 1,362,84         | 1,050.53                 | 181,599.74        | 133.25          | 12 7-10                                  |

Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad in Nebraska, Paid \$152.95 Taxes Per Mile

Then he fell quiet, saying to himself over and over again, "Keep cool, Ned Esterley. Keep cool. There must be some way out of this thing. Good The sweat of about him a great pile of debris. He agony poured from his face. How slow the rescuers were, and how fast the car-a mass of broken timbers, of the flames leaped toward him! He wanted to keep crying out to the men to hurry, but he bit back the words. They were doing all that mortal men could do.

Gradually it dawned upon him that he was lost. Great volumes of smoke rolled between him the rescuers, tellcame to Esterley a singular coolness. pocket, and laid it on the crook of a attempt to free himself. Had the bent rod near his hand, where it would gether, his ankles would have been got from his coat pocket a note book, snapped like pipestems; had they been and from his vest a lead pencil. One two inches farther apart, he would of the brakemen above, hewing away at a cross timber, which barred their way, muttered to the engineer:

"Good Lord, Norton, He's writing,



What are you doing here?"

Saving that we ain't likely going to reach him. Ain't he got the bully nerve?'

Esterley first carefully noted down the address to which he wanted his letter forwarded, then wrote his let-

Dear Elise: Our train has just collided with another, and I am pinned down in the wreckage. The train crew are working to get me out, but they will not succeed, for the wreck is on fire, and the flames rapidly spreading this way. I write this note as my last word to you, and after writing it, 1 shall throw the note book to the men outside. The crew have already been driven back from rescuing me by the smoke and flames. No, they are back at it again-almost within reach of me,

"Oh, Elise, girl, our quarrel was all timbers till the blood streamed from were engaged, but had had a lover's his raw ankles.

never loved any but you. Forgive my is interested in Sunday school work obstinate anger. I can write no more. The flames are all about me. Goodbye-till-

The smoke strangled him. Esterley handed his notebook to the conductor with the request that it be forwarded. With singed hair and eve-

brows the trainmen pried at the timhers which held him. The heat was unendurable, and Esterley fell back unconscious just as grimy hands reached for him. Esterley lay for days in a semicomatose condition. He had an impression that Elise was hovering about the room, and he was told afterward

that he called continually for her. The third morning after the accident he opened his eyes to an understanding of what was passing. Elise bent over him, smiling happily. The doctors had timbers come two inches nearer tobe ready for emergencies. Then he just told her that Ned would get well. You, Elise? What are you doing

'Taking care of you." "Of 1"?? What's the matter with -Oh, there was an accident, wasn't there? How did you know of it?" The conductor sent me your note-

'And-about Kate-"It's all right, Ned. She came and

told me all about it after you left. Will you forgive me, dear?" He nodded, eyes shining with joy.

AROUND THE COUNTY.

Ray. The tent meetings closed Sunday

evening. Rollie Twyford made a flying trip

to O'Neill Monday. Mr. and Mrs Berg were visitors at

Mr. Hardings Sunday. Mrs. Anna Harding and children

were in O'Neill last week. Nr. and Mrs. B. A. Deyarman were pleasant callers at Ray Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Devarmon spent Sunday afternoon at Mr. Will Sterns.

Jas. Harding and son Loyd were O'Neill visitors Monday and Tuesday Sorry to say several of our neighbors are on the sick list again this

Bess and Myrtle Devarmon called on Miss Bea McGinris who is visiting at Saratoga

Mr. Thomas Glenn of Pennsylvania, has been visiting his cousin J. S. Twyford the past week. Mrs. Ross and son Colmre took a

pleasure trip to Spencer Monday re turned home Friday. Hugh Deyarmon visited friends in

O'Neill last week returning home

Wednesday with his sisters. James Harding has field corn that breakes the record, ten and a half feet high who says!Nebraska soil won't

caller in this vicinity on Monday, he port a pleasant time.

and organizing Sunday schools.

Bess and Myrtle Deyarmon returned from O'Neill Wednesday where they attended the wedding of Miss Emma Weekes which took place Tuesday evening.

#### Phoenix.

Mrs. Moore was an Atkinson visitor Wednesday.

Ed Smith visited at his home in Spencer last Sunday.

Peter Greeley marked a load of ap-

ples at Butte Friday. Mr and Mrs Ray Coburn visited at

Peter Greely's, Sunday. Gus Clevenger is working for Wm. McCarthy at present.

Mrs. Dr. Stockwell of Butte visited Phoenix relatives last week. -

Ben Devarmen of Ray was in this vicinity Monday and Tuesday. Jess Brook and family of Atkinson

spent Sunday at Peter Greeley's. Miss Anna Reiser of Badger visited Jess Coburn Thursday afternoon.

Tom Berry of Paddock spent a few days at Louie Couburn's last week.

Mrs. Herman Damero was a caller at Mrs. F. G. Coburn's Monday last. Jim Clevenger left for Dakota Monday where he expects to stay indefin-

Quite a number of Phoenix ladies attended the ball games at Celia Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Nilson and Miss Mary Bartel spent Sunday at Mr. Kinney's at Turner.

Ralph and Jess Coburn and Sophia Palmer went to Butte Monday returning the same day.

Mrs. W. E. Scott and daughter of Atkinson visited at Peter Greely's a few days last week.

Miss Marcia Rich went to Butte Monday for a few weeks visit with friends at that place.

Mr. Rich and daughter also Mary Weston of Atkinson were visitors at Mrs. F. G. Coburns' Tuesday last.

Mrs. H. E. Palmer and daughter, who have been visiting at Mrs. F. G. Coburn's left for Hot Spring's Tues-

Mrs. C. E. Howe and daughters Edna and Mary of O'Neill returned ty years experience. home Saturday after a weeks visit at ATKINSON, her sons.

Vern Stockwell, of Butte, who has been visiting relatives in Holt county last Tuesday.

Nearly all the young people at Phoenix attended the picnic and dance in Rev. Knickerdocker was a pleasant Stein's grove last Saturday and re-

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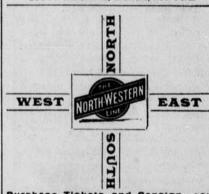
SECOND - Because, if the children are delicate and sickly, it will make them strong and well.

THIRD—Because, if the father or mother is losing flesh and becoming thin and emaciated, it will build them up and give them flesh and strength.

FOURTH — Because it is the standard remedy in all throat and lung affections.

No household should be without it. It can be taken in summer as well as in winter.

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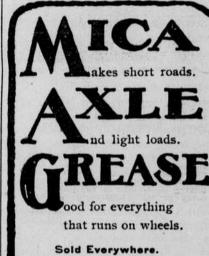


#### F.,E. & M.V. Railroad TRAINS DEPART:

Passenger east, No. 4. Freight east, No. 24, Freight east, No. 28, Passenger west, No. 3, Freight west, No. 27,

2:35 P. M. 10:00 P. M

E. R. Adams, Agent, O'NEILL, NEB.





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