LOVE'S BLINDNESS.

BY CHARLES FABAIN.

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I know it's the sort of thing I ought to leave other people to say, but I think Aunt Mildred liked having me stay with her. It's not to be wondered at, perhaps, for she was a lonely little woman.

Robbed of her husband by death only three years after marriage, her son Jackie—a bright little fellow of 7—two brothers who had gone abroad, one to Canada and the other to Australia—mother and myself completed her circle of relations. So every year I used to come up from the country to stay for a month with her at Streatham.

It was about a week after my arrival, and auntie and I were chatting before the fire in her boudoir, when the servant brought in a card. Aunt took it, and read "Mr. Andrew Stewartson."

On going into the drawing room half an hour after, I was surprised to find he was still there, and I noticed that aunt had evidently been giving him afternoon tea.

"Nora, dear," said my aunt, as soon as I entered, "this is Mr. Stewartson. Let me introduce you. Mr. Stewartson—this is my niece—Miss Macqueen! Mr. Stewartson has only recently arrived from Montreal, dear, and I'm sure you'll be interested to know he's a great friend of your Uncle Frank's."

Mr. Stewartson rose to go.

"Let me see," he said, almost as if to himself, "what did I do with my gloves?"

He thrust his hand into his coattail pocket, apparently to feel for them, and instantly his face became the picture of dismay.

"Great heavens!" he exclaimed. "I've been robbed!

"How very vexing!" murmured auntie sympathetically.

"Yes, it is," asserted the Canadian, "it's not the loss of the money—that's nothing; but it upsets my plans for this evening. I'd arranged to meet an old friend at 6 o'clock at Charing Cross, dine with him and go to the theater afterwards. It's nearly 5 already, and I don't see how I'm to get over to my rooms at Hampstead and back to Charing Cross in an hour. But one can hardly have an evening out on this."

He drew out a shilling and three coppers and looked at them disgustedly.

"But—surely we can arrange a little matter like that, Mr. Stewartson?" said auntie kindly. "Can I—can I er—offer to lend you——"

"Would—er—would seven pounds be too much?"

"No, I think I can manage that. If you'll excuse me I'll just go and get it."

When auntie returned with the money, the cheque was signed and ready.

"I'm sure I'm deeply obliged to you, Mrs. Vincent. I shall not forget that, but for you, I should have had to forego an evening enjoyment with an old chum."

And Uncle Frank's friend shook hands warmly with us both and took his departure.

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It was when Jackie was having his tea that the bolt fell.

"Mother," said my small cousin between mouthfuls of bread and butter and jam, "Such a nice gentleman spoke to me as I was going to school this afternoon. He gave me some chocolates and asked me what my name was, and where I lived. So I told him, and then he asked me if I'd got any uncles that didn't live in England, and I said there was Uncle Frank in Montreal and Uncle Ralph in Sidney.

"And then he asked me if I was sure they lived there, and I said I was, 'cos I'd seen the places on the map."

"How very extraordinary!" exclaimed his mother, when Jackie had concluded his narrative.

"I think it's rather more than extraordinary, aunt" I said, a little excitedly. "I'm afraid it means that you've been swindled to the tune of seven pounds!"

When she informed the police, it was only to learn that others in the nighborhood had been victimized in a similar way, and it was believed that two imposters were playing the same game.

It was a few days later, and I was putting the finishing touches to my toilette previous to a shopping expedition, when auntie came hurriedly into my room.

"Nora! Nora!" she exclaimed in a state of great excitement. "He's come—he's come."

"Whose come, auntie?" I asked in astonishment.

"Why, the other one they told us about, and, naturally, he's from Sydney—a friend of your Uncle Ralph's, of course."

Then it dawned upon me what my aunt meant.

"Where is he?" I said.

"In the drawing room he asked for me—just like the other man, and gave Susan his card. Here it is!"

I took it and read: "Mr. James Goodwin."

"It does look rather suspicious," I replied. "What are you going to do?"

"Do? Why, send Susan for a policeman, of course! What else should I do?"

Susan was sent off with a smile on her face, which showed that the errand was quite in accord with her taste.

I followed Aunt Mildred into the drawing room, and was at once introduced to Mr. James Goodwin, from Sydney. I knew it was very rude, but, for a moment, I stared in amazement. Could that open bronze countenance, lit by a pair of the frankest brown eyes I ever saw, belong to a rank fraud? If it were so, I vowed that I never again would I attempt to judge a man by his face.

We managed to get out a few commonplace remarks, but the conversation soon lagged.

At that moment Susan entered the room, closely followed by a police officer. The sight of the latter was quite enough for aunt.

"Here he is, constable!" she exclaimed excitedly. "Take him in charge—take him in charge! We managed to keep him talking here till you came," she added triumphantly.

Mr. Goodwin rose to his feet.

"What is the meaning of this?" he asked.

"I should think you ought to know," said my aunt severely.

"Pardon me, but I don't! If this is a joke, I'm afraid I haven't caught the humor of it up to the present."

"It's no joke, sir," interrupted the constable; "but, if I understand the matter right, you'd best come along with me and give an account o' yourself at the station."

The man in blue led the way to the door, but paused on the threshold.

"It'll be necessary for you or somebody to come to the station, too, ma'am," he said, looking at Aunt Mildred. "There's the charge sheet to sign, if needs be."

"Oh, I can't—I can't!" replied aunt, who was getting a little hysterical. "I'm so upset. I feel ready to drop! Nora, dear, you must go and tell them all that's occurred."

When we were ushered into the inspector's presence, and after what I suppose were the preliminary formalities had been gone through, Mr. Goodwin said quietly:

"I should like to ask, inspector, if you know Sir Horace Burroughs, of 'The Firs,' a house not far from here, I believe?"

"Yes, I should think we do," replied the inspector.

"Ah! Then will you kindly send some one to him at once with this card, and say I should be extremely grateful if he would come here immediately?"

Evidently impressed by the request, the inspector dispatched the messenger, and then turned to me.

"This appears to be rather a strange affair," he remarked in an official manner.

"I—I think so, too," I stammered. "I—I believe it's all a mistake."

"A mistake!" repeated the inspector. "Kindly explain."

"Well, you know, there have been some impostors calling at houses about here lately, pretending to have come from abroad, and—and aunt thought tone. "I think I'm beginning to see daylight now!"

"Why, it's like this," I continued, eager to get through the explanation. "Aunt Mildred was swindled only a few days ago, and, as you had no letter of introduction, she concluded that you were a—a sort of second attempt." And I related the story of the so-called Mr. Stewartson's visit, and the loss of the £7.

"By Jove!" ejaculated the Australian, as soon as I had finished. "It seems it's little more than a joke after all."

A telephone bell rang briskly in the adjoining room, and the inspector went to answer the summons.

A few minutes later the inspector returned.

"Here is Sir Horace, I believe!" he remarked to Mr. Goodwin, and a minute later the baronet entered the room.

"Why, Jim, my boy!" he exclaimed, seizing the Australian's hand and shaking it heartily, "what's the trouble? You're not in any scrape, surely?"

"No, no, Sir Horace! It's only a misunderstanding, and a word or two from you will clear it all up, no doubt."

The position was quickly explained by the inspector, Mr. Goodwin putting in a sentence here and there.

"Pooh! Ridiculous!" commented the baronet, when the explanation was finished. "Look here, inspector, you know me. I tell you, it's preposterous! Bless my soul, I've known Mr. Goodwin since he was a boy—stayed at his house, too, when I was out in Sydney last year! It's absurd to suppose he's trying to defraud anyone of a few pounds—absolutely absurd! Of course, it's all a mistake!"

"That's just what I thought myself, sir," observed the inspector meekly; "and, after what you've told us, I should not, of course, think of detaining Mr. Goodwin any longer."

"Then, that's settled!" said Sir Horace cheerfully. "Come along, Jim, my boy, you've got to have dinner with me tonight—I'll take no refusal, so come along!" And the genial baronet made his way to the door.

Mr. Goodwin came over to where I was standing.

"Goodby, Miss Macqueen," he said in a low voice, "at least—not goodby, only au revoir, for I mean to call on your aunt tomorrow and apologize for all the trouble I've caused. Do you think she'll see me?"

"I've already told you that it's we who ought to apologize," I answered; "and I'm sure aunt will be more than glad to have an opportunity of doing so—if you—if you would really care to call again."

"I should like to come very, very much," he said earnestly.

It certainly seemed so, for he called, not once, but many times. And one day he—— But that is another story.

Mr. Burbank's Latest Miracle.

Hamilton Wright, in the World Today for April: The spineless cactus, the latest plant marvel originated by Mr. Burbank, probably gives greater promise of usefulness to man than any other of Mr. Burbank's creations. The spineless cactus in an improved variety of the ordinary wild cactus known as the prickly pear, of which there are numerous species and more than a thousand varieties. Bulk for bulk, spineless is about half as nutritous as alfalfa, which has been pronounced by the United States department of agriculture to be probably the best all around of known forage plants. But, acre for acre, the yield of spineless cactus will be far greater than the yield of alfalfa. An agricultural expert of national reputation asserts that the spineless will make it possible to double the present population of the globe through the peopling of the deserts. The spineless cactus is relished by all kinds of stock. Horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, chickens, geese and other animals thrive on it. When fed with cotton seed or other hydrocarbons, it will make a complete ration in fattening stock for market. In one respect it is superior to alfalfa, as damage often comes to stock by allowing them to run free in a green alfalfa field.

As a commercial proposition it will cost from $10 to $25 per acre to plant spineless when once it is generally grown. It can be produced just as readily as the spiny cactus, and with a great deal less profanity. It will, of course, be raised from cuttings, and these need merely be scattered over the earth. Should a cactus be tipped over and the top touch the ground that portion will immediately send out roots exceedingly long and slender. An adverse season will not destroy the cuttings which have been scattered over the soil to grow. If the plant is wounded it will immediately seal itself up so that no moisture escapes and remain in a hibernating condition until a rain comes, after which its leaves are three or four times as large as they were before. Like the camel, the cactus stores water, chews its cud and digests it food at leisure.

Indian Voters in Oklahoma.

Kansas City Journal: At the last election in Oklahoma three tribes of Indians voted. These tribes are the Poncas, Kaws and Otoes. Since the election four years ago these tribes have treated with the government and have allowed their lands to be allotted. With this the members of the tribes became citizens, with the full power to vote.

The Kaws took the liveliest interest in the election. There are forty-five members of the tribe who are entitled to vote, and twenty-three of this number are full bloods. Everyone of the forty-five, without exception, voted. The Kaws are nearly all republican. Each Indian who could not read English was allowed two interpreters, a republican and a democrat, who went with him into the booth and assisted him in voting his ticket. With the Ponca tribe the election was somewhat different. They had no fixed ideas, and they wanted to vote as their friends desired. The judges and clerks worked hard until noon, and succeeded in getting only ten of the hundred eligible voters of the tribe to cast their ballots.

Pat Gibney and Judge Fox.

Boston Herald: Every spring Pat Gibney, a well known Taunton character, goes over to East Taunton to see the herring run. He hasn't missed seeing this sight any year since he arrived from Ireland thirty-nine years ago.

Last spring, after watching the herrings for half an hour or more, Pat's curiosity was satisfied, and he started for home. Not having much money, he decided to walk home and save the fare. He was trudging along the road, with his "T. D." pipe in his mouth and blackthorn stick in hand, when an automobile came up behind him. Turning, Pat saw the familiar face of Judge Fox.

"Good morning, Pat," said the judge.

"Morning, your honor," said Pat.

"Jump in, Pat, and I'll give you a ride to the green," said the judge.

They had not gone far when Judge Fox turned to Gibney and said:

"Well, Pat, you would be a long time in Ireland before the judge of the town would give you a ride in his automobile."

"Faith, an' I would, your honor," said Pat, "and you'd be a great deal longer over there before they'd make the likes of you judge of a town."

Varieties of Insurance.

Insurance Press: "How many kinds of insurance are there?" asks a correspondent of the Insurance Press. By a coincidence we received in the same mail the business card of an enterprising local insurance agency in a western city which claims to have on sale "all kinds of insurance and bonds." Here is the western agency's list: Fire, life, safe, rents, theft, credit, patent, marine, tornado, accident, burglary, sprinkler, lightning, plate glass, transportation, tourists' baggage, bank and messenger robbery, tailors' and furniture floaters', physicians' and druggists' liability; travelers' samples, fidelity, official, guaranteed attorney's department, contract, judicial and court bonds, teams, health, postal, elevator, casualty, flywheel, leaseholds, automobile, contingent, steam boiler, landlord's liability, workmen's collective, liquor dealers' license, general liability, hold-up insurance, bank accounts.

According to the late returns, there are 1,756 distinct trades being carried on in London and its suburbs.

A SENSATION IN MILWAUKEE

President of the First National of That City Got Away With $1,500,000.

DIRECTORS MAKE IT GOOD

Immediately Deposit Funds to Secure the Bank in Perfect Solvency.

NO ARREST MADE AS YET

Frank C. Bigelow, Former President of the American Bankers' Association, Is the Defaulting Official of Institution.

Milwaukee, April 26.—Frank G. Bigelow, president of the First National bank of this city, and former president of the American Bankers' association, has defaulted with the bank's funds to the extent of $1,500,000. The directors of the bank have deposited in the bank a sum sufficient to make the institution perfectly solid. Bigelow has not yet been arrested.

Bank Is Very Rich.

The capital of the bank was $1,500,000; surplus $1,250,000. Bigelow has signed over property to the bank amounting to $300,000, making the net defalcation $1,200,000. Aside from the surplus, the sum of $1,635,000 has been subscribed by the directors to meet any demands which may be made on the bank. The comptroller of the currency has been notified and asked to make an immediate examination.

Bigelow's defalcation became known to the directors of the bank on Saturday night. He admitted today that the amount had been lost in speculation, and that he had falsified the books to cover up the defalcation.

Another in the Affair.

Henry G. Goll, assistant cashier of the bank, has been removed, charged with having been a party to the falsification of the books.

Notice has been issued by the directors announcing that a sum has been subscribed sufficient to protect the depositors. Bigelow was in his office at the bank as usual up to noon looking over books and papers. His manner was greatly agitated.

Arrangements are being made for the arrest of Bigelow, and probably Goll, this afternoon. Bigelow has long occupied a foremost place in financial transactions in Milwaukee. Only last year he was president of the American Bankers' association.

He was also prominent in Milwaukee's social set. While the news of the defalcation is likely to create consternation among depositors, ample provision has been made to more than meet any emergency.

Chicago Was Called On.

Several prominent bankers of Chicago were called to Milwaukee in conference with the directors of the First National bank, and promised to lend any assistance which might be needed. A million and a half dollars was received from Chicago at 1 o'clock. At that hour the news of the defalcation had spread to such an extent as to cause a run on the institution. The crowd which gathered numbered about 200.

Wheat Corner Did It.

Those who sought to withdraw their funds were small depositors, and they are being paid off rapidly. There has been no great demonstration, and the depositors are acting calmly. There has been no excitement at any other bank.

An intimate friend of Bigelow's said this afternoon that wheat speculation was the cause of the downfall of President Bigelow and his son Gordon, both of whom were caught heavily in the Armour-Gates battle in May wheat.

Chicago, April 24.—The brokerage firm of Macy & Co., of which Gordon Bigelow, son of the president of the First National bank of Milwaukee, was a member, was dissolved today.

SHOT IN A RIOT.

Congressman John M. Pinckney, of Texas, and Two Others Slain at Hempstead.

Hempstead, Tex., April 26.—At a mass meeting here called for the purpose of petitioning the governor to send rangers here to enforce the local option law, J. N. Brown, a leading lawyer and a stanch anti-prohibitionist, began shooting, which became general in an instant. Three men were killed, one man was fatally and two others seriously injured.

The dead:

J. N. BROWN.

CONGRESSMAN JOHN M. PINCKNEY.

TOM PINCKNEY, brother of the congressman.

John Mills, a leading prohibitionist, it is feared cannot survive the night; Doc Tompkins, private secretary to Congressman Pinckney, and Rollin Brown, son of J. N. Brown, are badly wounded, but just how seriously cannot now be determined. There are many armed men on the streets, but it is not believed there will be any more trouble.

The governor has been informed and will send rangers here.

COLLEGE MAN'S VALUE

Judge Holds That in Killing One the Railroad Relieved His Folks of a Burden.

Bloomington, Ill., April 26.—A unique point in a damage suit has been brought out by a decision of Judge Wright in the Champaign county court. Last fall a railroad dining car was derailed and Ralph Roberts, a student of the University of Illinois, was killed. The defendant's attorney moved that the suit be dismissed on the plea that the plaintiff has not introduced evidence to show that any person was depending upon Roberts for support, and that being a college man he really was an expense to his parents during that period of life. The judge decided that the point was well taken and dismissed the case. An appeal will be taken.

WILL HELP ROADS.

Federal Government Will Back Funds for a $30,000,000 System in the Philippines.

Chicago, April 26.—Active railroad construction in the Philippine islands will begin within a year. Bonds to the approximate amount of $30,000,000 are to be issued by the syndicate which contracts for the building of the lines and 4 per cent. interest on the bonds will be guaranteed by the government.

The construction will approximate 1,000 miles. Seven hundred miles will be built on the island of Luzon, the largest of the Philippine archipelago, and the remainder is to be divided between the islands of Panay, Negros, Cebu, Leyte and Samar in short lines of from 40 to 100 miles each.

While no definite announcements have been made by the government concerning the plans, the information has been given by a person intimately associated with the work that the Philippine commission now is considering the installation of a railway system in the islands. Within a week or ten days the outlines being prepared by a Chicago engineer will be completed and will be forwarded to the Philippine government. As soon as the plans are approved bids will be advertised for along the lines embodied in the prospectus.

Is to Be an Up-to-Date System.

The advertisement will call for bids for constructing a comprehensive railway system for the Philippines with broad guage track and first class modern equipment in every detail, based upon American standards. The line to be built is intended to be the finest in any country in the orient.

The basis for the new railway system for the Philippines is the bill passed by congress last February. This provides that for the purpose of aiding in the construction of such lines in the islands as the insular government may specifically authorize the commission is empowered to enter into a contract with any railroad company. It further is provided that the total liability of the government shall not exceed an annual amount of $1,200,000 and the guarantee of interest is limited to thirty years.

F. A. Delano Working on Prospectus

F. A. Delano, recently elected vice president of the Wabash railroad and formerly general manager of the Burlington system, has been at work during the past two months drawing up the prospectus which will govern the bidding for the government contract. His preliminary work is nearly completed.

The government has not gone ahead with this preliminary work without first being assurred that there would be plenty of capital forthcoming to build the railroads. It is expected eighteen or twenty syndicates will submit bids for the work. Assurances have been received from financiers and capitalists.

It was argued by the advocates of the new railroads that they will save the government much money by lessening the cost of transporting troops and supplies. It was said the annual decrease in expenses on this score will more than equal the amount guaranteed as interest should the lines be unable to earn a cent beyond enough to pay the expenses of operating.

Supplies Must Be Imported.

Mr. Delano explained yesterday that the cost of building the Philippine roads would not exceed $30,000 a mile. It would not reach this figure were it not necessary to import most of the supplies from the United States. Even timber must be transported across the Pacific and be cresoted in order to save it from the white ants which infest the islands. As an offset to the expense of transporting supplies is the cheapness of labor in the islands.

ANOTHER STOCK FLURRY

Market Again Had a Little Panic of the Lawson Kind—Was General Weakness.

New York, April 26.—Violent and feverish fluctuations in the prices of stocks this morning indicated an unsettled state of speculation. The operators were confused in the interpretation of the acute weakness with which the market closed on Thursday last, before the Easter holidays. The return to the stock exchange list of Northern Pacific was another confusing element. To these were added the slump in wheat Saturday, indicating the collapse of the corner, and the flurry in the call money market on Thursday.

To add to the uncertainty, the London stock market was closed today. Efforts were manifest to control the market by supporting special stocks, which had the effect of steadying the market. Within fifteen minutes after the opening Northern Pacific sold at 167½. This stock has been nominally quoted at 180. During the first hour Union Pacific sold off some 3½ and a number of other leading stocks a point or more. The bear operators were very active on the short side, and they oversold the market and were driven to cover during the second hour. This caused some vigorous rallies, but the recovery was checked before reaching last Thursday's closing level, and the market became very dull and uncertain.

WHEAT STILL TUMBLING.

More Liquidation Carries Cereal Stil Lower in Chicago.

Chicago, April 26.—The price of May wheat continued on a wild downward plunge here today, sales being made at one time at 6½ cents per bushel below Saturday's closing figures. General liquidation was again the feature of an extremely exciting session. Before the first hour of trading had elapsed May had fallen to 93½ cents, a sheer drop of 17½ cents from Saturday's high point. At the opening the prices were off 2 to 4 cents, at 96 to 98 cents.

Buying by Armour & Co. caused a temporary check to the decline, prices hovering around 97¾ cents. Another break soon occurred, the price dropping to 93¼ cents. Distant deliveries were weak, although July was supported quite vigorously by Armour & Co.

Heavy rains over the entire winter wheat belt from Nebraska south to the gulf created bearish sentiment in the distant futures.

Improved demand was manifested during the last hour of trading, and the market became quite steady, May closing 7 cents lower, at 93 cents, and July down 2 cents, at 84¾@84⅞ cents.

Corn became quite demoralized and the close was near the lowest point of the day. May was down 1½@1⅝ cents, at 46 cents, and July at 46½ cents, the net loss being 1¼ cents.

N. P. AT HIGH POINT.

The Stock Released by Northern Securities Dissolution Is Quoted Up to 168.

New York, April 26.—The Northern Pacific railroad stock, which has been released by the distribuation of holdings of the Northern Securities company, was traded in on the stock exchange today for the first time in four years. It was quoted at $1.68@1.67½.

LAWSON GOT AWAY WITH A MILLION

Boston Man Sold Short, Advertised for a Bear Market, and Promptly Got It.

THEN HE BOUGHT STOCKS

When It Was Over He Put the Million in His Pocket and Started for Boston, Giving Wall Street the Merry Ha Ha.

New York, April 25.—Thomas W. Lawson took advantage yesterday of the psychological moment in the history of Wall street for a bear raid, and carried off profits amounting to almost a million dollars, according to the statement of brokers who claimed to know of his transactions. Seldom if ever, in the history of the street have conditions been more propitious than yesterday. The signing of the stock tax bill by Governor Higgins; the near approach of a decisive battle in the far east; the closing of the stock exchange Friday and Saturday; the possibility of trouble over neutrality between Japan and France, which might draw England; the marvelously high prices of stocks—all these things contributed to the opportunity which Lawson was shrewd enough to turn to his advantage.

Brokers all over the street who were heavy losers were indignantly protesting against the action of the board of governors yesterday in voting to close the stock exchange for a three days' holiday in times when conditions are so unsettled. Many brokers in their anger openly charged that certain members of the governing committee were in league with the bear operators.

Prices Took Tumble.

Prices of all stocks broke on an average of about four points and Wall street, which since the memorable day in December when Lawson made his first bear raid, had laughed and joked about the Bostonian, went to bed tonight trembling under the blow which he struck and feeling that he had made good his threats. The results today showed that Lawson has been preparing for weeks for this raid. One story in the street was that James R. Keene was the man who had helped him to engineer the deal. Keene's friends denied this.

Lawson's first move was to announce in an advertisement that a panic was at hand. He addressed to bank and trust company managers an appeal beginning thus:

You are loaning hundreds of millions of your deposits to stock gamblers upon stocks and bonds at prices which in a panic can decline 70 to 80 per cent. more than those at which you have taken them.

This will mean failure to many institutions which hold the people's savings.

The American people are in no mood at present to have their savings sacrificed to stock gamblers.

Therefore

It behooves you to heed when your attention is called to present conditions.

This is the purpose and only purpose of this advertisement—that you cannot plead ignorance when too late.

The Insurance Fight.

And to policyholders of the big insurance companies he offered some suggestions, opening up thus:

When my story, "Frenzied Finance," began, I said, "The 'System's' votaries who run your companies are using your funds for their personal enrichment." I said nothing stronger than this.

A howl of "Liar!" went up throughout the country.

Today the highest officers in these companies are accusing each other of almost every crime in the calendar outside of murder, and proving it. The president of the Equitable says its vice president and owner has looted the treasury. The vice president answers by giving back what he admits he has secured, and charges that where he took tens of thousands, the other directors and officers took millions.

Made a Huge Cleanup.

This announcement he followed later in the day with a telegram which was sent to all the brokers in the country. Some brokers claimed that Lawson was shot 300,000 shares of stock at one time. Lawson, in his rush to sell stocks short, even employed Rockefeller's own brokers.

It has been known in Wall street, and, in fact, was publicly announced by Lawson himself that he has been short of stocks. Toward the close of the day it was learned that Lawson was buying stocks to cover his short sales. This buying by Lawson kept the market somewhat steady toward the close, and it is reported that Lawson succeeded in covering the greater part of his shorts for the day, as well as the short interest which he has been carrying for weeks. By way of comment on his day's work. Mr. Lawson sent out the following telegram:

A desperate attempt was made with Louisville and Nashville to stay the general decline. One of the most desperate attempts to hold to an artificially built structure Wall street has ever witnessed was tried today. Poor Wall street! It refuses to see the hand writing on the ceiling. Wall street is probably permanently missing its opportunity, for the ceiling may not be there Monday."

WAS A DRY DAY.

St. Louis Saloon and Barber Shops Were Closed.

St. Louis, Mo., April 25.—In response to the orders of the police department that the Sunday closing law must be obeyed, saloons and barber shops were closed here so tight that there were no back doors open and the front curtains were drawn, revealing the interiors of the rooms.

In East St. Louis the saloons were permitted to be open, but Mayor Cook had issued a statement to the effect that all saloons that became disorderly would be closed instantly.

In St. Louis county notification was issued several days ago by Sheriff Herpel that he would enforce the Sunday closing law yesterday. Several fights were reported as resulting from efforts of the authorities to enforce the closing. At Wellston one man, whose name as not learned, was stabbed and seriously injured in a saloon fight.

Kansas City, April 24.—With less than half a dozen exceptions the saloons in Kansas City, Mo., and Kansas City, Kan., and wine gardens in the suburbs were closed again. There were a few arrests for direct violation of the Sunday closing law.

GOULD BACK OF IT.

Announced in San Francisco That the New York Financier Is Promoting the Western Pacific.

San Francisco, April 25.—Local promoters of the Western Pacific Railway company make a formal announcement today that George J. Gould and his overland railroad system are behind the road which will be constructed without delay from Salt Lake City to San Francisco.