******* A DOUBLE CONFESSION

The Singular Case of a Pair of Lovers

By JOHN R. OGELVIE *********

One of the questions as to what is and what is not allowable in the legal profession that laymen are not apt to understand is whether it is honorable for a lawyer to defend a client who has confessed himself guilty of the crime with which he is charged. One of the reasons why this is not only allowable for an attorney, but is his duty, is that the confession may be false. Many persons have labored under a hallucination that they have committed a crime of which they are entirely innocent.

I had a very singular case of this kind when I was practicing, before I went on the bench. A young man was accused of forging his uncle's will. He was beir-at-law to the property involved by reason of relationship to the testator. But several years before the will was drawn one was executed leaving the property to a woman who was his housekeeper. It was this housekeeper, Anna Blake, who accused the beneficiary under the second will with having forged his uncle's name to it.

Arnold Jefferson, my client, when I came to confer with him about his case, asked me whether I would defend a person who confessed himself guilty. I said that I would, whereupon he told me that in order to prevent his uncle's property from going out of the family and secure it for himself he had forged his uncle's name

to the second will. I was somewhat staggered at this, for if I proved him innocent I would divert the property from the channel in which the testator intended it to go and deprive the real owner of it that it might go to a criminal. I plied the young man with questions as to how he had come to perpetrate such a crime, and he told me that he was in love with a girl whom he would like to marry and did not consider himself able to do so without this property. Besides, he believed that his uncle was intending to leave it to him at the time of his death.

If I declined to take the case and he could get no other lawyer to do so the judge would assign him counsel. Therefore I proceeded with it, though reluctantly, for it is not pleasant for a conscientious lawyer to defend a man who has admitted his guilt. I would content myself with trying to get my client off with as light a sentence as possible.

There was a chance for the young man in this-experts in chirography would be called who would compare the signature to the will with Jefferson's handwriting. These experts are apt to differ in such matters. The plaintiff called the most prominent one of the lot who declared that my client must have written the signature to the will. I employed another expert, who testified that he could not have written it. But unfortunately of the five experts called four testified that there were certain strokes in the signature that were to be found in Jefferson's

There were two signatures of witnesses to the will Jefferson was charged with forging. One of these persons. Edward Bronson, was dead; the other. Silas Ormsby, was not to be found They were supposed to be myths, and the plaintiff's attorneys, though they had no proof that the defendant had written their names, threw out a broad hint that he had done so.

The case looked so desperate that I advised my client to produce his confession and throw himself on the mercy of the court. By this means he might secure a light sentence, whereas if he persisted in denying his guilt in the face of such conclusive evidence he would very likely get a heavy one.

He said that he would think the matter over. This was after court adjourned on Saturday, and I feared 1 could not keep the trial in progress more than a day or two longer. And as the case stood Jefferson was sure to be convicted. Sunday evening I received a call from a young lady, Miss Dora Wentworth, who turned all my expectations awry. She told me that it was she, and not Arnold Jefferson, who had committed the forgery.

I felt it incumbent upon me to sub ject her to a searching examination to get at the truth. She said that she was the person whom Jefferson was engaged to marry. He had been all a lover should be until about the time his uncle had died and no will was found leaving the property to him. Then she told him that a will would be found if she had to write one herself. This, she added, she had done.

I asked Miss Wentworth if she would sign a written confession to this effect, and she said she would. So I asked her to write it. Before she could again see Jefferson I went to the fall and, showing him her confession. asked him why he had made a false one himself. He seemed a good deal agitated at seeing the matter laid down in black and white. Then he burst out passionately:

"I didn't believe when she threatened to do this thing that she would be so desperate. Nevertheless when the second will was found I feared she had written and signed it. Preferring to suffer myself rather than that she should suffer for her crime, I have stood in the breach. And I propose before the court and the world to continue to stand in the breach. I

still claim what I have claimed-that I concocted the will, signed my uncle's name to it and put in the names of witnesses who had no existence.'

Here was a mixed up affair, and no mistake. A pair of lovers were each claiming to be guilty, and solely guilty, of a crime. Which was the innocent, which the guilty one? I had nothing by which to decide. I thought of the experts. Should I submit this new feature of the case to them? What would it avail? A preponderance of their evidence had proved Jefferson guilty. They could not be expected to go back on their former evidence by declaring that Miss Wentworth committed the forgery. could get other experts who had not yet been brought into the case, but if they declared that Miss Wentworth had done the writing it would only prove expert testimony to be worth-

Here I paused in my cogitations, for was struck with an idea. I might produce Miss Wentworth's confession in court. It would probably be regarded a ruse to save her lover. But suppose I could get experts to testify that her handwriting had in it the characteristics of the forged signature. I could at least save my client. The same evening I acted on this thought. and, though I had difficulty in finding even one expert who had not been called in the case, he had as good repute for skill in his profession as any of the others. To my surprise, he told

Wentworth was the guilty party. That settled my course for the future. The next day when the court opened I produced the second confession and the affidavit of the expert in chirography that in his opinion the confessors had forged the signature to the will in question.

me there was no doubt that Miss

There was a great deal of confusion in what followed in court. The legal aspect of the case had entirely changed. Two different persons had confessed to have written a signature that could only have been written by one. After consultation with their client the plaintiff's lawyers took the ground that the second will was invalid because there was a confession on the part of the beneficiary under it that he had forged it. Therefore, the property going to Anna Blake under the former will, she had no interest in further criminal prosecution. They asked for an adjournment of the court and proposed to me that if my client would sign away all claim to his uncle's property they would drop the prosecution against him and so far as they were concerned would not prosecute Miss Wentworth.

I declined the proposition on the ground that it was impossible to prove either of the lovers guilty. But they, feeling confident that the chancery court would give their client the property under the earlier will, dropped the matter, and Jefferson went forth a free

My own solution of the problem involved in the two confessions was that Jefferson, being disappointed in inheriting the property, signified that the marriage could not take place. This threw in the way of Miss Wentworth a temptation that she could not resist. She concocted a later will, but her lover in order to save her from the consequences of her crime when criminal proceedings were commenced confessed himself guilty. Nevertheless I was not certain as to this or anything concerning the parties or the affair in which they were concerned. That elther one or the other or both were guilty I did not doubt, but this opinion was rather based on the evidence than on the bearing or appearance of either of them. I could not throw off an impression that Jefferson was a fine fellow and Miss Wentworth was a lovely girl. And had not each attempted to relieve the other of the burden by a confession?

The matter of the inheritance was still in the chancery court when one day I received a letter from a man in Australia. I had that day received an invitation to the wedding of Arnold Jefferson and Dora Wentworth. 1 put the letter in my pocket and said nothing about it till I attended the wedding, which took place in a little church with no attendants except my self. Indeed, it had not been expected that even I would accept. When the clergyman who performed the ceremony came to the words "With all my worldly goods I thee endow" and the groom had repeated them I called a halt and produced the letter I had received from Australia. It read as fol-

mave seen in an American newspaper reference to the case against Arnold Jefferson. I was an intimate friend of the late William Jefferson and was one of the witnesses to a will he made a few weeks before his death. I return to America soon on business and will call upon you not long after you receive this not long after you receive this.

SILAS ORMSBY. Never shall I forget the look that passed between the bride and groom. Each had believed the other guilty of the forgery, but each had forgiven the other on account of the sacrifice involved in the act. A few rapidly spo ken words passed between them, there was a quick embrace, and the ceremony proceeded. But they were both too much affected to make the re-

sponses intelligently.

The same day I stopped all proceedings in the chancery court as to the Jefferson will pending the arrival of the Australian. In due time the confessed forger inherited the property, enjoying it with his confessed

torger wife. If before handling this case I had qualms of conscience in defending a criminal who I had every reason to beleve to be guilty I certainly never had afterward. Our system of jurisprudence is based on hundreds of years' experience and should be followed un-

THE EYE OF GENIUS.

And the Strain of the Nervous System Due to Defective Vision.

Much was made in the newspapers some years ago of the part bad eyes have played in the lives of great musicians and writers. What was called "the eye of genius" was illustrated in many portraits, notably the Lenbach paintings of Richard Wagner, in which one eye droops and is surrounded by concentric wrinkles of pain. The great composer's sick headache and insomnia, his shattered nerves and fits of violent temper, were attributed to eye strain. The diagnosis has since been accepted by his biographer, Ellis, himself a physician. Similar if less con clusive cases have been made out to explain the lifelong suffering of George Eliot, Browning, the Carlyles, Darwin. Huxley, Herbert Spencer, Balzac, Taine. Nietzsche. Tschaikowsky and others.

The straining of the nervous system due to defective vision is to be found among all who use their eyes in work near at hand. "The eye of genius" is as common among typesetters and proofreaders, reporters and typewrit ers, bookkeepers, lathe workers and seamstresses as among the master spirits of music and letters. It is, in fact, more common, for whereas the fortunate few are able to choose their time and place of labor, to find rest and recuperation when they need it. the many are held fast to long hours and endless days, with the result that they become hopeless, nervous wrecks and go blind or mad. - Metropolitan Magazine.

THE ART OF FELTING.

It Was Developed Long Before th Weaver Was First Known.

Felt is a fabric formed without weaving by taking advantage of the tendency of hair and wool to interlace and cling to each other. Antiquarians state that the art of felting was developed long before the weaver was first known. Felting antedates the Chris tian era by many centuries.

Authorities state that the felting quality of hair or wool results from the natural structure of the material. The hair of most animals is noticed to be more or less notched or jagged on its surface. This is the more apparent when an examination of the material is made by the aid of a microscope. In some animals there appears to be a set of barbs on the hair, and these barbs are so placed that the tip of each points to the end of the

It follows that when a number of hairs are pressed together those which lie in the opposite direction to, each other will interlock with the barbs of the hair surface and resist an effort to tear them asunder. When the hair has a natural tendency to curl the interlacing process which is called felting is more easily accomplished.

Although the felting property is pos sessed by wool in a special degree, other animals have it in their covering. This is true of the goat, ox, hare, rabbit and beaver.-New York Sun.

Early Manuscripts.

The type of letters in early manuscript was the same as that of those used on the earlier metal plates and wax tab lets. All letters were capitals. Minuscule, or small lettering, as opposed to the majuscule, was invented in the seventh century. Before its invention words. There was no punctuation unless possibly some mark between sentences. When cursive writing came into general use, about the beginning of the tenth century, the art was prac ticed by only a few highly trained This continued all through the middle ages. The scribes were artists, and they carried their art to a high degree of perfection. Many of the manuscripts of that period are very beautiful specimens of handiwork and as perfect as print.

The First Lesson of an Arab Boy. The very first lesson which an Arab to keep facts to himself. It does not sound very friendly put in that way. but it saves a deal of trouble. Foreigners do not understand Arabs. They ask them pointed questions and receive peculiar answers. They construe the answers to please themselves and come away to tell the world that the Arabs are a nation of liars. They are not a nation of llars. Perhaps if they should tell the foreigners to mind their own affairs and let them and theirs alone the foreigners would understand them better.-Exchange.

Strength. . "Some scientist has declared that there is as much strength in three eggs as there is in a pound of beef-

steak," said the observer. "Well." replied the actor, "I met an egg once that would have eliminated the other two eggs from that proposition."-Exchange.

On Principle.

Bert (nervously)-I heard pa tell ma he was goin' to flog me on principle aft er prayers tonight. What's principle Billy? Billy-I think it's somewhere at the back, Bert. The last time he flogged me on principle I had to sit sideways for more'n a fortnight.-London Tit-Bits.

One Way to Look at It. "A man always gets on easier by taking his wife's advice." "Yes," answered Mr. Meekton. When things turn out badly there

A busybody is always malevolent.

isn't so much said."

PAID ADVERTISMENTS.

The Frontier prints the News.

Subscribe for The Frontier, only work, .50 per year.

Wanted-A girl at McMillin & Marey's bakery. 23-tf. Try our pickels, they are fine .- San-

tary Meat Market. 16-tf Special knee pant suits at \$1.69

at Wysocki's closing out sale. Now is a good time to subscribe for The Frontier, \$1.50 per year.

Rugs, mattings and inlaid linoleum, t-Fisher Furniture & Hardware Co.

Dr. Corbett will be in his O'Neill office as usual beginning September 12-tf. P. J. Biglin can supply you with

any kind of soft coal you want. Prices 14-tf. Just received a barrel of sweet and dill pickels .- Sanitary Meat Market.

16-tf Buy your underwear now at Wysocki's closing out sale, and save

For Sale-Barred Plymouth Rock Cockerels-Mrs. A. L. Souser, route 1, O'Neill. 22-tf

For Sale-New house, barn and fuel house and four lots, east part of town. -David Riser. 23-2pd Fine Candies and Hot Chocolate .-

McMillan & Markley's Bakery and Candy Kitchen. Try Frank and Vince Suchy's tallor shop for French Dry Cleaning. Their

work can't be beat. 1-tf. Special overcoat sale next week at Wysocki's closing out sale. Boys

overcoats at \$2.00. For Sale-House and two lots, with barn, coal house and a cement cave.-Address box 554, O'Neill. 22-7-pd

For Sale-House and lot one block east of the school house. Terms reasonable.-D. W. Cameron. 9-61

Wanted-At Hotel Evans girl for dining room and chamber work. Also a dish washer. Good Wages. 19-tf I have in a car of that best flour made and will sell it dead cheap while it lasts. I need the money.—Con Keys

Wanted-To borrow \$2,000 on real estate, for from two to five years. For particulars enquire at this office.

Don't overlook the bargains at Wysock's closing out sale. Every article in the store at reduced prices.

Big reduction on paint for ithe next thirty days; we sell the best brand of paint sold.—Fisher Furniture & Hardware Co. 20-tf

A good and comfortable four room house with hall and good celler for rent. Enquire of J. J. McCafferty.

At the lowest interest rates, I have plenty of Eastern money to loan on Farms and Ranches-R. H. Parker, O'Neill, Nebr. 46-tf.

23-1-pd

up to \$2.50. Wysocki's closing out sale price 59c.

See Miss Cora Potter for nursing or housework by the day. Can be found at her residence, one door north of Parnell Golden's. 23 2pd

We sell the Buck heating stoves, and we guarantee them to burn hard and soft coal or wood and give satisfaction.-Fisher Furniture & Hardware Co. 20-tf Lost-On Sanday morning, Nov. 17,

between the Catholic church and the west side of town, pair of double lense baby learns when he begins to talk is glasses. Finder please leave at this office and oblige.

We do French Dry Cleaning in our shop of all ladies and gentlemen's garments. Nothing but first class work turned out. At Frank and Vince Suchy's tailor shop. 1-tf

Don't waste your money buying strengthening plasters. Chamberlain's Liniment is cheaper and better. Dampen a piece of flannel with it and bind it over the affected parts and it will relieve the pain and soreness. For sale by all dealers.

Strayed, from my place, 7 miles northeast of Chambers, brown pony with white face, small bunch on knee, weight about 800 pounds. Reward for information leading to its recovery or return to-E. J. Mullally, Chambers, Nebraska. 17-tf.

"It is a pleasure to tell you that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the best cough medicine I have ever used," writes Mrs. Hugh Campbell of Lavonia, Ga. "I have used it with all my children and the results have been highly satisfactory. For sale by all dealers.

Stolen-From my buggy on the streets of O'Neill Monday evening, a gray cloth overcoat and a black horsehide robe lined with green plush. A liberal reward will be given any person giving any information leading to the discovery of these goods .- Joe Mc-Nichols. 23-2

George McCloud, who has been running a blacksmith shop in Page for the past three years has opened

up the old Church shop, north of Fishers Furniture store, and is now prepared to do all kinds of blacksmith-FARM LOANS. SeeR. H. Parker ing. Good work guaranteed. Give Fresh Bread at the O'Neill Bakery. trial. He can please you, in price and 22.3

Is your husband cross? An irritable, fault finding disposition is often due to a disorderd stomach. A man with a good digestion is nearly always good natured. A great many have been permanently cured of stomach trouble by using Chamberlain's Tablets. For sale by all dealers.

The boy's appetite is often the source of amazement. If you would have such an appetite take Chamberlains Tablets. They not only create a healthy appetite, but strengthen the stomach and enable it to do its work naturally. For sale by all dealers.

"There could be no better medicine than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. My children were all sick with whooping cough. One of them was in bed, had a high fever and was coughing up blood. Our doctor gave them Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and the first dose eased them, and three bottles cured them," says Mrs. R. A. Donaldson, of Lexingson, Miss. For sale by all dealers.

Tristan d'Acunha Is a Tiny Oasis In s Wilderness of Water.

When Napoleon was sent to St. Helena it was thought that the loneliest place on earth had been assigned to him as a prison. But St. Helena is 1,400 miles nearer a continent than is Tristan d'Acunha. Many hundred of of miles of ocean lie between this island and its nearest neighbor. Tristan, in short, is a tiny oasis in a boundless wilderness of waters, go from it in which direction you will.

It is a rocky and cliff girt little isle, with a solitary mountain 1,000 feet high rearing itself from the midst. Yet on this lonely speck of rock and earth there lives a community seemingly happy in their isolation from all the rest of the world. They are farmers, cattle raisers and shepherds. In the valleys of the island are fertile fields, where potatoes mainly are grown. The food of the people consists for the most part of beef, mutton, fowls, potatoes and fish.

Tristan used formerly to produce many fruits and vegetables which can no longer be grown there. The reason of this is that the island for a long time was overrun by rats which escaped from a ship that anchored there and which the people have been unable, it is said, ever entirely to exterminate.-Harper's Weekly.

A FORTRESS OF THORNS.

Curious Nest of the Little Brown Wren of Central America.

The little brown wren of Central America builds a nest that should belong to a bird five or six times as large as it is, and, to prevent other birds from disturbing its home while it is away it builds as a protection a fence of thorns leading to it.

When Madam Wren looks for a home site, says a writer in the Ave Maria, she selects a tree where two branches lie parallel about two feet apart. Across these two branches she and her mate lay a little platform about five feet in length. Near the separate the special next week! 1000 pairs of the tree is built a dome children's shoes, all sizes. Worth shaped nest about a foot in height. The sides of this nest are all interwoven with thorns.

Next a covered passageway is built from the nest to the end of the platform in as crooked a manner as possible. Thorns stick out in all direc tions just as in the nest itself, and every few inches on the inside of the tunnel little fences of thorns are placed in such a way that any creature not familiar with the passageway will get badly pricked. Finally acros the outer end of the tunnel is a mov able gateway of thorns.

Bothered by Plurals. The Norwegian waitress who was learning English had more trouble with her plurals than with any other one thing. It seemed impossible for her to acquire the trick of putting on the letter "s" at the right time and leaving it off at others. She would invariably inquire on seeing a first helping disposed of, "Will you have more lambs?" or "Will you eat more chick-When corrected for this she ens?" would take pains to ask, "Will you have one bean?" and "Will you eat one huckleberry?" Finally the constant explanations of an overzealous mistress confused her past straightening out. There were guests staying over the week end, and Inga took the lady's order for a soft boiled egg, then the husband's for another. The girl, after a moment's hesitation, walked to the dumb waiter and said to the kitchen below, "One soft boiled egg for two!"-New York Press.

An Emperor's Strange Fancy.
Strange fancies have taken hold of some men regarding the manner in which their bodies were to be disposed of after death and the ceremonies to be observed at their funerals. The great Emperor Charles V. had the curious idea of celebrating his own funeral. Shortly before his death he caused a tomb to be made in the chapel of the monastery of Estremadura, to which he had retired after his abdication, and on its completion he was carried to it as though dead. Placed in a coffin and accompanied by a procession, he was borne along, while chants were sung, prayers said and tears shed. After the solemn farce was over he was left alone in the chapel, where he

remained a short time before rising

out of the coffin.

GROTESQUE STUPIDITY.

Some of Stanley's Experiences With the African Natives.

The natives of central Africa are described by the late Sir Henry M. Stanley in his autobiography as being incredibly stupid. He tells, for example, of one native who, with another man, was sent in a canoe across a river to fetch a company of men to camp. After waiting an hour Stanley went to the river, where he found the two paddling each in an opposite direction and blaming the other for his stupidity. They were in a passion of excitement and quite unable to hear the advice of the men across the river, who were bawling directions to them how to manage their cance.

Another stupid fellow was generally saved from punishment because his mistakes were so absurd. One day we were floating down the Kongo. Near camping time, as he happened to be bow man, I bade him stand by and when I called out seize the grass on the bank to stop the boat. In a little while we came to a fit place, and I cried, "Hold hard, Kirango!"

"Please God, master," he replied and forthwith sprang on shore and seized the grass with both hands while we, of course, were rapidly swept on down stream.

The boat's crew roared at the ridiculous sight. Nevertheless his stupidity cost the tired men a hard pull up river, for not every place was available for a

ICEBOUND ANTARCTICA.

Twice as Large as All Europe is the South Polar Continent.

The antarctic continent has been estimated to be at least twice as large as Europe. The evidence of paleomtology is to the effect that Antarctica was once connected with the more northern lands, at least with South America, and that in prehistoric ages some tremendous convulsion of the earth's crust resulted in the sinking of the "submarine" floor, until in some places ait is now 4,000 fathoms, or more than four miles below the sur-

All around the great land mass of this confinent there is a deep ocean bed cutting it off from every other land of the earth and setting it apart as a region more unlike the rest of the globe than any other continent or Island.

Explorations have proved that in times before the advent of man upon the earth this most southern land had a temperate or even a warmer climate. There are fossils, both animal and vegetable, which indicate this. The formation of the rocks in Antarctica also is of volcanic origin and volcanic activity, notably in the case of Mount Erebus, which is not yet extinct. A vast mountain range, perhaps at one time a continuation of the Andes, exists in Antarctica.—American Review of Reviews.

Long In the Public Eye, Opinions regarding what constitutes being before the public may vary, but one Kansas City negro who presides over the buffet in a certain Kansas City club has an opinion which is

original, to say the least. The negro and a customer were engaged in a friendly debate regarding the former's age a few days ago. Their respective opinions varied about twenty years. the negro holding out for the smaller

"You've been around Kansas City wenty years, and you can't make me believe you're young," the customer

"Ah knows Ah've been in business here for a great many years," was the reply, "but that's not saying Ah'm old. You see, Ah's been befoh de public so long people jest natchly thinks Ah'm older than Ah am." - Kansas City Journal.

Night Light Machines. Though the first match appeared in England as late as 1827, the idea seized a genius years before that date. This advertisement in a London Post of 1788 gives evidence: "For travelers, mariners, etc. Promethean fire and phosphorus: G. Watts respectfully acquaints the public that he has prep ed a large quantity of machines of a portable and durable kind, with promethean fire, paper and match inclosed, most admirably calculated to prevent those disagreeable sensations which most frequently arise in the dreary hour of midnight, from sudden alarms, thieves, fire or sickness."

Difference In Speech. Polly-You can never tell much about a man from his speech. Belle—That's right. There's Chollie, for instance. who stutters terribly. He proposed to me five minutes after we met, and it took Jack, who is the most voluble fellow in the world, three years.-Phildelphia Record.

Spoiled the Game. "We made a rule in our card club that no member should be allowed to win more than two prizes during the eason.

"Was it a success?" "Not exactly. As soon as a lady won two prizes she dropped out."-Detroit

Free Press. This Life of Ours.

At the end of life we discover that we have passed nearly one-half of it in being happy without realizing it and the other in imagining that we were miserable.

Couldn't See Them. Joke Seller-Did you receive my letter and that batch of jokes? Edito I received the letter, but I didn't see