SENATE PROCEEDINGS

WORK ACCOMPLISHED BY THE UPPER BRANCH.

A Condensed and Concise Non-Partisan Report of the Labors of the Nebraska Senate for the Past Week--Action Taken on the Various Measures.

Wednesday, March 10.

In the senate a dispute arose as to the time set for the consideration of the Lincoln charter bill. From the record it appeared that the time was 2 p. m. This was disputed and a motion prevailed to correct the record to 10 a. m.

After hearing several petitions on various subjects the senate went into committee of the whole on the charter. with Senator Howell in the chair.

Senator Talbot moved to so amend section 6 that while seven councilmen were elected at large they should reside in distinct wards, one from each ward. Mr. Talbot said that under the ward representation it would be impossible for the bad element to control the city. Agreed to.

When section 7 was reached Senator Talbot moved to change the bill so as to allow the city attorney and water commissioner to remain elective. Not agreed to. He then wanted the water commissioner's duties placed in the hands of the city engineer. Not agreed to. The noon hour interrupted and the committee arose with leave to sit again at 2 p. m.

On motion of Senator Ransom, 100 additional copies of S. F 15, the Omaha charter, were ordered printed for the use of members of the house.

Recess.

At the afternoon session consideration of the Lincoln charter bill was resumed in committee of the whole and occupied the attention of the senate the balance of the afternoon.

Senator Talbot made the principal fight against it, while Senator's McGann and Gondring were the principal fighters for the measure.

The committee did not finish consideration before adjourning, and it will be taken up tomorrow.

A motion by Senator Schaal to appoint a committee to investigate D. E. Thompson's charge that lobbyists claimed they could have the Lincoln charter bill killed for money, was tabled, the lieutenant-governor casting the deciding vote.

Thursday March 11.

There was little business done in the senate today outside the Lincoln charter. The exposition bill was advanced and made the special order to follow the state vault bill which will be considered tomorrow forenoon. If the vault bill is disposed of the exposition appropriation bill will probably be passed in the senate. An attempt will be made to increase the appropriation, which now stands at $100,000.

The sifting committee recommended the passage of Beal's bill abolishing deficiency judgments and a bill providing for public scales for weighing stock.

The senate put in the entire day on the Lincoln charter, making the second day devoted to that measure. The bill was finally adopted and recommended for passage. Only two important amendments were made to the original bill. An amendment providing for the submission of a prohibitory amendment at every municipal election on petition ot 300 electors. Whether it was advisable to vote on the license question at the municipal election or the general election was freely discussed. The municipal election was fixed as the time.

Senator Talbot of Lancaster made a manly fight against the fire and police commission and for submission of the charter to a vote of the people, but failed to move the majority. After the battle was over Senator Talbot was congratulated by friends and senators from the opposition for his straightforward manner of fighting.

One important amendment offered by Senator Talbot was adopted. It increases the proposed number of coun- [illegible] men from five to seven, all to be [illegible] ted at large, one from each ward.

Friday, March 12.

Bills on third reading was the first order this morning. The following were read and passed:

Joint resolution 25, fixing a Friday in the middle of the month of May as bird day, when children in public schools are to be taught the importance of preserving bird life; S. F. 40, providing for the organization of mutual hail insurance companies by owners and cultivators of land.

The senate went into committee of the whole for consideration of Senator Dundas' treasury vault bill.

A motion to make the bill a special order for Monday was amended by a [illegible] to recommend the bill to pass. [illegible] tor Murphy declared the bill [illegible] To lock up the money and with- [illegible] from circulation would precip- [illegible] other panic. The state had lost [illegible] individuals had lost. When a [illegible] any citizens of a state stood [illegible] e margin of bankruptcy the [illegible] ust also lose.

[illegible] or Gondring opposed the count- [illegible] money and allowing members [illegible] board of public lands and build- [illegible] cess to the vault and holding [illegible] urer responsible.

[illegible] Mutz favored the bill. It [illegible] the state treasury was di- [illegible] from the banking business of [illegible] ate. The people deserved some [illegible] ction. No precedent was neces- [illegible] Nebraska should lead in reforms. [illegible] argued at considerable length and [illegible] great earnestness.

[illegible] ator Lee practically endorsed the [illegible] ion of Senator Mutz. He thought [illegible] anic in this state had only com- [illegible] ed. It was time the banks ceased [illegible] do business on state money.

At the close of his argument the [illegible] committee arose. The bill was made a [illegible] pecial order for 2 p. m. Monday, and [illegible] senate took a recess.

The trans-Mississippi exposition bill was considered by the senate immediately after the noon recess in committee of the whole. As the bill passed the house it appropriates $100,000 in aid of the exposition.

Senator Murphy moved to increase the amount to $150,000. Senator Canaday moved to amend the amendment by reducing the amount to $50,000. Debate was indulged in at some length.

Senator Canaday's amendment was lost, being supported only by himself and Messrs. Dundas and Osborn. The amendment to increase was lost also. The house amendment requiring $200,000 of the Omaha subscription to be collected before the state's appropriation should be available was reduced to $100,000, and an amendment was adopted limiting the expense and salary of directors to $50 a month.

The committee then arose and reported the bill for passage.

Saturday, March 13.

A part of the forenoon was consumed in a discussion on indefinitely postponing H. R. 70, the bill raising the age of consent to eighteen years. A vote was taken and the bill was killed. This action leaves the present age of consent law unchanged.

The exposition bill was read a third time and passed by a vote of 24 to 4.

In committee of the whole the senate discussed S. F. 108, relating to deficiency judgments. Without action the committe arose and the senate took a recess.

Before adjournment for the noon recess Senator Ransom called attention to the fact that amendments to the trans-Mississippi exposition bill had not been returned from the printer, and therefore its passage was irregular. On motion of Senator Ransom the secretary was instructed to recall the bill from the house for correction. This was done and then on motion of Senator Ransom the vote whereby the bill was passed was reconsidered. All this precaution was taken in order to have printed amendments to the bill on senators' desks.

Immediately after the noon recess the senate went into committee of the whole with Senator Graham in the chair and took up H. R. 69, an act to provide for public scales and the appointment of a weighmaster. After discussion it was recommended for passage.

Senator Ransom called for the exposition bill and it was again read the third time. The printed amendments had been received and the bill was passed by a vote of 22 to 1. Owing to the absence of several senators a call of the house would have been necessary to secure enough votes to pass the bill had not Senator Dundas, who opposed the bill, voted for it. He explained that he voted for it to save time, as a call of the house would be necessary to bring in friends of the bill.

Senator Ritchie remained firm and was the only senator who voted against the bill. Those absent and not voting were Senator Beal, Farrell, Grothan, Haller, Mutz, Osborn, Spencer and Watson. Senator Canaday, who opposed the bill, announced that he had paired with Senator Fritz, who favored it.

The senate adjourned till 2 p. m. Monday.

Monday, March 15.

The senate convened today at 2 p. m. and put in a good half day on the state vault bill. The measure was taken up in committee of the whole immediately after a flood of petitions relating to the continuance of the soldiers' home at Milford were read.

The bill was read in full. It provides that the state board of public lands and buildings shall construct a fire proof and burglar proof vault at the capitol, equipped with electrical devices which will light up the dome of the capitol and turn in an alarm at the police station whenever the vault is touched by any metallic substance. It shall be so constructed as to be self-setting at p p. m. It shall be the duty of the state board to inspect the money and count the same every month or oftener and to appoint three watchmen, one of whom shall be continually on guard. All money held by the state treasurer or other state officer and all securities in which moneys are invested, shall be deposited in such vault, and in no other place, and it shall be a felony for any state officer to deposit money in any other place or to loan public moneys in their hands to any person. Failure of the state treasurer to comply with this provision is punishable by a sentence of three to twenty-five years in the penitentiary. Failure of any state officer to deposit every evening the funds coming into his hands during the day, is declared a felony, punishable by imprisonment of from three to ten years in the penitentiary, but nothing in the act shall prohibit the investment of public moneys in United States securities, state securities or warrants and bonds of counties or school districts, as the law may direct.

One or two amendments were offered after which a motion was made to report for indefinite postponement and one to recommend for passage. Debate on the measure was indulged in, many of the senators disapproving of the plan and giving their reasons therefor. Several contended that the bill was defective and impracticable. Senator Murphy of Gage said its effect would be harmful to the best interests of the state; that the calling in of money now in state depositories would create a panic or prolong a panic. Senator Mutz said it was necessary that the state treasury be divorced from the banks.

The bill was recommended for passage, and the senate adopted the report of the committee.

Late in the evening the Lincoln charter bill was ordered to a third reading, and the clerk began. At 6 o'clock the senate took a recess till 8, when it again met and at 9:15 the bill was passed with the emergency clause by a strict party vote. The vote in detail being:

YEAS—23.

Beal	Gondring	Lee	Ritchie
Canaday	Graham	McGann	Schall
Dearing	Grothan	Miller	Sykes
Dundas	Heapy	Muffly	Watson
Feltz	Jeffcoat	Mutz	Weller
Fritz	Johnson	Ransom	

NAYS—6.

Conoway	Haller	Steele	Talbot
	Murphy	Spencer	

ABSENT AND NOT VOTING—3

Caldwell	Farrell	Osborn

EXCUSED—1

Howell

Senator Mutz of Keya Paha, chairman of the committee on enrolled and engrossed bills, reported the Omaha charter correctly enrolled. It was signed by the lieutenant-governor, the speaker having signed it a few moments before. Senator Mutz and a party of friends of the bill carried it at once to Governor Holcomb's residence for the purpose of having him approve it and make it a law.

Tuesday, March 16.

In the senate this morning, after a flood of petitions had been disposed of, the medical committee recommended the passage of S. F. 351, relating to the disposition of unclaimed dead bodies.

Senator Gondring succeeded in having his bill, S. F. 330, an anti-trust bill, made the special order for Thursday at 2 p. m.

On recommendation of the judiciary committee S. F. 210 was advanced to third reading. It provides that the territory embraced in the corporate limits of towns of 1,500 inhabitants shall constitute one school district, but the district may include territory not within the city limits.

The senate then resolved itself into committee of the whole for the consideration of S. F. 108, to abolish deficiency judgments.

Its introducer, Senator Beal offered a new section which would have the tendency to hold the surety for the deficiency. Senator Beal said he considered this a concession, as it left ample protection for the mortgagee. In repfy to a question from Senator Gondring he said he desired to make the bill apply to existing contracts.

Senator Ransom interpreted the amendment to mean that the man who got the money and promised to pay is to be released after the property is sold, but that the man who befriended his neighbor and signed a note on which the mortgage is based is to be sued and the deficiency judgment wrung from him. If passed it would brand those voting for it as repudiators.

Senator Farrell said he was opposed to deficiency judgments, but was not in favor of impairing existing contracts.

Senator Mutz argued that if the amendment was repudiation then the present law was repudiation. He did not understand that the amendment made any change in the present law. As it now stands the mortgagee can recover from the surety and the surety can sue and recover from the mortgagor.

Senator Murphy declared that the amendment did not make a change in the present law, as it released the mortgagor from liability under a deficiency. He said the amendment was the only redeeming feature of the bill. It was right to hold the surety for a deficiency judgment, but wrong to release the man who obtained the money, the man who received the consideration. If his legal liability is wiped out his moral liability remained.

Senator Lee said he favored the bill, that its passage would put all senators right before their constituents.

Senator Jeffcoat opposed the amendment but favored the bill. He said the people did not want to repudiate debts, but that they were forced to do so by the Shylocks who had contracted the volume of money and for that reason they should stand the loss of the consequent depreciation.

When a vote was being taken Senator Beal admitted that his amendment was offered at the suggestion of Senator Murphy of Gage; that he did not care particularly about its adoption since they had failed to convert the senator from Gage.

The amendment was defeated by a vote of 15 to 9.

Senator Murphy then moved to amend so as to prevent the act from being applicable to existing contracts.

Here again argument was had, the position of the senators being reversed.

Those who favored the amendment made their argument along the line that existing contracts should not be impaired, but should be held sacred, and quoted Senator Allen on the subject. Some expressed themselves as favorable to abolishing deficiency judgments, and would vote for the bill if that part affecting existing contracts were stricken out. But as it was the bill was for repudiation.

Those opposed to the amendment argued that the measure contained no element of repudiation, that a mortgage under the present law placed a value on property mortgaged and that the loaner of money ought to be bound by the contract. It gave to the money loaner exactly what the contract called for, possession of the property mortgaged; that under the present law men were slaves, in as much as they were pursued to the grave by deficiency judgment, and their children after them. Senator Beal branded the present law as a relic of barbarism that ought to be wiped out. He closed by quoting the Mosiac law relating to usury and repeated phrases from Abraham Lincoln's speeches.

Senator Murphy closed the argument. He said that existing contracts ought not to be impaired, and called on the members to remember the divine injunction, "Pay what thou owest."

The amendment was defeated by a vote of 13 to 11 and the bill recommended for passage by 16 to 11.

At the close of the day McGann of Boone called for bills on third reading. His bill, senate file 210, providing that school districts in towns of 1,500 inhabitants shall be co-extensive with the city limits, was read the third time and passed with the emergency clause.

On motion of Ransom of Douglas the chair was authorized to appoint a committee to confer with a like committee from the house on the exposition bill.

Adjourned.

TROUBLE FOR OMAHA.

The Police Commission Fight Reopened —New General Election Provided.

OMAHA, Neb., March 17.—Two minutes before midnight, last night, a bill which had been passed under party pressure was filed with the secretary of state, giving Omaha a new charter. It turned out the board of fire and police commissioners, concerning the appointment of which there was such a turmoil two years ago, and gave Governor Holcomb the right to name the new board.

This right was promptly exercised this morning, when Governor Holcomb named as the four appointive members of the board George P. Bemis, W. C. Bullard, Lee Hardman and Elmer E. Thomas. These, with Mayor Broatch as ex-officio chairman, constitute the new board. The old board which was organized under the A. P. A. law of two years ago, has decided to resist, and the old fight will probably be renewed.

Missouri Appropriations.

JEFFERSON CITY, MO., March 15.—The House this morning passed the general appropriation bill, which was the subject of an all-day quarrel Thursday. It will probably pass the Senate without amendment. It gives the militia $20,000 and makes the usual appropriations for state departments except that the governor's office and the fish commission are scaled down.

MR. WICKS.

CHAPTER I.

THE COMING.

"Sylvia, dear, the arrival of Mr. Wicks bids fair to amuse me more than I anticipated. As soon as Jack comes in I am going to mystify him and make him guess who Mr. Wicks is and all about him. It will be delightful to see him puzzled, and I don't think he is likely to find out, unless, of course, a certain little chatterbox tells him."

The speaker, Miss Matilda Cherryton, a round faced, smiling old lady, who seemed to find life very smooth and pleasant, looked across the luncheon table at her charge, a pretty girl of 17, whose father, her only relation, was absent in India.

To make mysteries out of everyday occurrences was a little weakness of Miss Cherryton's, and the present opportunity seemed to her too good to be lost.

"Do you think Mr. Wicks will have changed much?" asked Sylvia. "But of course he won't. It's only a month since I last saw him. It seemed so much longer."

"Do you find it so very dull, Sylvia, in this rambling old place?" asked Miss Cherryton anxiously.

"No, no. How thoughtless of me to have made you think that! Why, it's delightful here, and I am perfectly happy."

And Sylvia laughed—a joyous little laugh.

"What time does Mr. Wicks come, Miss Cherryton?" she presently asked.

"At 5 o'clock, just in time for tea. But here comes Jack, and I give you full leave, Sylvia, to puzzle him about Mr. Wicks to your heart's content."

Jack strolled in to luncheon full of apologies and golf records, and after he had expatiated for a considerable time on the virtues of his club and the condition of the ground Miss Cherryton broached the subject of Mr. Wicks.

"Sylvia has a friend coming here," she began. "He is also a friend of mine, and I think you will like him."

"Who is he?" asked Jack, not feeling particularly pleased to hear of this friend.

"He is a Mr. Wicks," replied Miss Cherryton.

"And," added Sylvia, "he is extremely amusing."

Jack became thoughtful at this moment and looked out of the window and presently asked:

"What is he like, aunt, and what does he do to be so amusing? I don't remember the name at all."

"You mustn't be too inquisitive, Jack, but this much I will tell you, he is young and handsome."

"Oh, indeed; young and handsome and extremely amusing. What an enviable young man," and Jack's lip curled slightly.

"Miss Cherryton and I were going to meet him at the station," said Sylvia, blushing a little—Jack noticed the blush—"but, after all, we are going to stay at home. You know, Mr. Wicks is rather an important personage, and Miss Cherryton thought she would rather be here to receive him."

"Does he hunt, play golf or shoot?" asked Jack, hoping that these accomplishments did not belong to Mr. Wicks.

"None of them," replied Sylvia, with a gay little shake of her head. "He has lived in town most of his life, but he is quite clever enough to have learned them all," and Sylvia blushed again.

Jack began quite to dislike this unknown Mr. Wicks. It was an unreasoning, indescribable antipathy, but it existed nevertheless, and during the rest of luncheon he was very silent and monosyllabic.

But Miss Cherryton and Sylvia kept up a lively conversation between themselves.

"Jack, I've addressed you twice. Where are your thoughts, my boy?"

"I do believe he was thinking of Mr. Wicks," suggested Sylvia.

"Exactly," said Jack, waking from his reverie with a start.

"I asked you if it would be safe to let James fetch my jewels from the bank," continued Miss Cherryton.

"Perfectly," replied Jack, and then, asking to be excused, left the table.

Miss Cherryton was disappointed. She would have liked Jack to have asked a host of questions about Mr. Wicks.

"Jack, Jack," she called after him, "you have not asked where Mr. Wicks lives."

Jack turned around, tugged at his mustache and said, "No, aunt," then said something beneath his breath, and, striding out of the house, he sought refuge at the golf links.

He drew out from his golf bag the heaviest driver he possessed and drove the ball as it had never been driven before. He vented all his ill feeling upon that ball, and between the hits burst out into short sentences;

"Wicks. What a name! Why didn't Aunt Matilda tell me more? Pooh, can't play golf; handsome, don't believe it," and again the ball shot across the fields.

"Now I'll go home," he exclaimed almost savagely, "and see this fellow Wicks."

He was just passing the stables when there was a sound of carriage wheels and a clatter of hoofs, and then the dogcart dashed around the corner into the stable yard at a hard gallop, and the horse, finding itself at home, stopped as suddenly as it had arrived, causing sparks to fly from the cobblestones, the dogs from their kennels and the grooms from the stables. There was a general uproar.

But the dogcart was quite empty.

It is the unexpected that always takes place, and Jack was so completely surprised at seeing no figures in the carriage that he stared again at the empty seats, but he saw only the two blue cushions bobbing up and down as the terrified horse, with a couple of grooms at her head, plunged from side to side.

Then Jack grasped the situation.

"By Jove, both thrown out, or mare bolted at the station." Running across the yard, he jumped into the dogcart, seized the reins and drove rapidly along the road to the station. While he spun along he kept wondering to himself what had happened, what he should find on the road, how he should find the stranger, Mr. Wicks; would he be safe at the station, would he be injured by the roadside or—or would he be dead? As this last horrible conjecture flashed across Jack's mind he recalled his wish of only an hour ago—that Mr. Wicks might never come to the house. At the thought he drew up the horse with a sudden jerk, then shook the reins, and with a stern face drove faster than before.

It was a lonely road, and for some distance Jack drove without seeing a soul. Then at a sharp turn of the road he suddenly came upon James, the coachman, sitting on a heap of stones.

At first Jack felt inclined to laugh. The effect of the man, in his long light brown livery coat, seated on the top of a heap of stones and mopping his head with a red handkerchief, bordered on the ludicrous, but almost at the same time he saw that it was indeed no laughing matter, for blood was flowing from a deep gash in the man's forehead.

"The box has gone, sir. You've been robbed," said James faintly.

"What box?" asked Jack, jumping down from the dogcart. "But never mind the box now; we'll tie this handkerchief around your head and get you home."

"It's the box from the bank, sir," continued James.

Jack gave a long whistle of astonishment. All his aunt's jewels gone at one swoop, but he said nothing and tied a second handkerchief around James' head. For the moment he had quite forgotten Mr. Wicks.

"Now see if you can't get into the dogcart. Take hold of my arm. That's it." Then he asked, "But what happened to Mr. Wicks?"

No answer.

"You know the gentleman you had to meet?"

Still no answer, for James had fainted.

Jack was up on the box seat like a shot. He loosened the man's collar. There was no time to think of Mr. Wicks or thieves. He whipped up the mare, and the dust rose in clouds behind them.

Passing through the air so rapidly brought James gradually back to consciousness, but so feeble was his condition that Jack refrained from asking questions. He drove straight into the stables, saw the unfortunate James well cared for, sent a message for the doctor, and then, turning to the coachman, asked again the question, "What happened to Mr. Wicks?"

James thought for a moment. Then he said:

"He was in the dogcart when the mare bolted, and the tramp didn't get hold of him."

Then Jack ran to the house, hoping that Mr. Wicks had arrived.

At the front door Miss Cherryton and Sylvia met him.

"Where is Mr. Wicks?" they both cried in the same breath.

"That's what I want to know," replied Jack. "Mr. Wicks has disappeared. There has been a chapter of accidents, consisting of robbery, injury and mystery. All your jewels have been stolen, aunt; that's the robbery. James has been badly hurt by the thieves, and Mr. Wicks has disappeared."

Miss Cherryton was ruffled out of her complacency into saying:

"This is most unfortunate. James ought not to have gone. There never was a time when he didn't bungle, but I do trust nothing serious has happened to Mr. Wicks."

"I hope not, indeed," said Sylvia. "What a dreadful afternoon this has been. Can't we do something? Mr. Wicks may be hurt, and it seems so wrong to be standing here doing nothing." She spoke impetuously and gazed along the avenue of trees that led to the house.

Jack noticed all Sylvia's movements, and her great anxiety for Mr. Wicks' safety aroused all the bitter feelings he had experienced when told of Mr. Wicks' coming, and there was just a shade of coldness in his voice when he said:

"I am going to walk into town to make inquiries, and I hope to goodness that we shall find Mr. Wicks safe and sound somewhere."

All this time Sylvia had been leaning against the doorpost with her hands behind her back, but at this moment she suddenly ran forward, with a little cry of joy.

"Oh, Mr. Wicks, my sweet little Mr. Wicks, you are safe after all."

Very slowly and with extreme dignity a small fox terrier walked beneath the tall trees toward the house. With head erect he looked from side to side, but no sooner did he hear Sylvia's voice, that well known voice, than his whole attitude changed in the twinkling of an eye. His ears sank down flat; his little stump of a tail wagged frantically. He gave one sharp, delighted bark, and then flew toward Sylvia and positively wriggled with glee.

"Well, Mr. Wicks, here you are at last," cried Sylvia, taking the puppy up in her arms and caressing him. "You've grown a little, I think," she remarked thoughtfully, "and you are just as beautiful as ever; but, dear Mr. Wicks, how did you get here all alone without the carriage?"

And Mr. Wicks tried hard to explain in his own peculiar way all about his strange journey.

Jack gave a deep sigh of relief. So this was Mr. Wicks.

"Now, Mr. Cherryton, you must acknowledge that all we said was true. Isn't he handsome? And he proves himself clever to have found his way here," and Sylvia looked up at Jack with large, wide open blue eyes.

"You and my aunt will both be glad to hear that I have been completely taken in," said Jack, laughing. He was so delighted to find that Mr. Wicks was not a man that he felt pleased with everybody and everything. "And," he continued, "I think Mr. Wicks is perfectly beautiful."

"There, do you hear that, Mr. Wicks?" said Sylvia.

Mr. Wicks evidently saw that Jack was speaking of him, and he wrinkled up his little nose, no doubt to acknowledge the compliment.

"Don't you admit his lovely dark eyes?" asked Sylvia.

"Very much indeed," was the reply, but Jack was thinking that he infinitely preferred blue.

"Have you ever beaten him, Miss Druce?" There was a slight twinkle in Jack's eye.

"Beaten him? Of course not. I have brought him up by kindness. When he's naughty, I talk to him seriously and caress him."

"Lucky dog," thought Jack, and he did not again refer to the beatings.

Then he hurried away toward the town to report the robbery of his aunt's jewels to the police.

* * * * * *

The following day Mr. Wicks was missing.

He had risen early before breakfast and had been enjoying all by himself the delights of amateur poaching. He never remembered having such fun before. He had chased cats in town, but never rabbits, and now as he returned home panting and with his tongue hanging out he suddenly saw just in front of him little brown things running among the grass. These were Jack's young pheasants.

Mr. Wicks stood still, with ears erect. Then there, and there, and there, and in a moment six little corpses lay in the grass, and it was at this juncture that Mr. Wicks was discovered.

Jack looked sorrowfully at his dead pheasants that he had so carefully nurtured and fed upon eggs and other luxuries, then wrathfully at their destroyer.

"Come here!" cried Jack, who was really angry. "Come here, sir!"

Mr. Wicks rolled over on his back and looked up pathetically with his great brown eyes. This attitude of penitence had always touched Sylvia's heart, but to his horror it had no softening effect upon Jack, for he was seized by the scruff of the neck and flogged—flogged until he howled at this untoward treatment. Sylvia, also in search for Mr. Wicks, heard his cries and arrived on the scene just in time to see the chastisement.

"Mr. Cherryton, Mr. Cherryton! How dare you?" she cried in a choking voice. "Oh, my sweet Mr. Wicks, what have you been doing?" Then, turning to Jack: "How could you beat him? How could you be so cruel? You should have asked my leave first." And with the most charming little pout imaginable she picked up Mr. Wicks, tucked him under her arm and walked sedately back to the house.

Jack followed humbly.

"I'm most awfully sorry, Miss Druce," he began.

"Poor Mr. Wicks!" said Sylvia, hardly noticing the apology. "I could hear his cries a mile off."

"A mile, Miss Druce?"

"Yes, quite a mile," maintained Sylvia, not caring how much she exaggerated on Mr. Wicks' behalf.

"Won't you allow me to carry him?" asked Jack. "He's not very light."

"No, thank you," Sylvia answered, with a very decided tilt of her chin.

Then Jack turned away and went back to his pheasants.

"The coming of Mr. Wicks," he said sadly in a voice that was full of despondency, "has been a huge mistake. Sylvia hates me for beating him, and I—well, I am the most wretched of mortals."

(Concluded next week.)

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Pardon for Thomas Winbourne.

JEFFERSON CITY, MO., March 17.—The governor this morning granted a pardon to Thomas Winbourne, who was sentenced to the penitentiary in April, 1894, to five years on the charge of robbery in Jackson county. The governor was requested to issue the pardon by the judge who presided at the trial and a number of good citizens of Lee's Summit.

A New Law Partnership of Note.

TOPEKA, Kan., March 17.—Ex-Chief Justice David Martin, Attorney General L. C. Boyle and E. C. Little, Governor Leedy's private secretary, have formed a law partnership under a style of Martin, Little & Boyle.

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Ripans Tabules: for sour stomach.