



A ROMANCE OF MANY LIVES' ERRORS.

BY ERNEST DE LANCEY PIERSON.

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CHAPTER IX—Continued.

"What do you mean?" Job told him of his meeting with the constable and how he had sent that worthy off on the trail of another man. "Well, you are a wonder," replied Dick at the same time puzzled that the stranger had twice that day put him under obligations. "Still the poor man might as well have taken me now as later."

paid. It will brace him up, that stolen visit, for all that he may have to go through. Approaching the front of the constable's house, he found a venerable man whittling a stick on the steps—a gaunt personage, whose garments seemed to have partaken of the earthy color of the land in which he worked. As Job came up the aged loafer expected with deadly precision at a passing bug on the steps, and said, without waiting for the other to begin: "Ef yer waitin' to see Plevina, he hain't in."

CHAPTER X.

Job Hendricks passed an uneasy night, for he constantly was haunted by the belief that there was some one in the corridor moving back and forth, and occasionally pausing to take a look at him as he lay there in the moonlight. Once or twice he had risen and gone to the door to peer out, but found no one, and then stumbled back to bed, blaming himself for an old fool to be in such a constant state of fear over nothing.

Job, who had noticed this, smiled quietly. "If I suppose he thinks I am not a stylish enough visitor to enter by the principal road to the house," He had no hesitation in going up to the great stone steps of the front entrance as bravely as if attired for a gorgeous function. His loud ring brought a man in livery to the door, who gave him a cold stare and did not attempt to answer when he asked if Mr. Ellison was at home.

with the color scheme of his round face. This person was evidently the butler of the establishment, or an upper servant. "You wished to see Mr. Ellison?" "Exactly." "Gone away bag and baggage this morning." Hendricks looked to see if the man were telling the truth, and then, having satisfied him that such was the case, said: "Then you can give me his address, I presume?" "Don't know it—he left none."

It was a peculiar handwriting, with certain features that made it distinctly original. Job Hendricks seemed to be intensely interested and sat down on a bank at the edge of the road to study the paper. "Then out of an inner pocket of his coat he took another piece of paper, and placing it alongside of the other examined them for some minutes with deep attention. "The same writing exactly—a little changed by time, but the same man wrote them both." He thrust the papers back in his pocket and brought the pen of his hand down on his knee with a resounding slap as if to express the exultation he felt over the discovery he had made.

(To be continued.)

ROCKEFELLER'S START.

How the Standard Oil Magnate Routed Amasa Stone. In the early days of the Standard Oil company one of the heaviest stockholders was the late Amasa Stone of Cleveland, whose daughter Clara is now Mrs. John Hay. Mr. Stone was at that time reputed to be the wealthiest man in Northern Ohio, figuring in the directorate boards not only of the Standard Oil company, but of banks and railroads and rolling mills, and in everything having the name of being a very "masterful" man. It was due to this last trait in the capitalist's character that he left the best "money-maker" with which he was ever associated—the oil company—whose president, John D. Rockefeller, was in those days scarcely known outside of a narrow circle of Cleveland friends.

COAL TRADE BATTLE.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. SAWARD OF COAL TRADE JOURNAL.

Some Opinions Gathered During the Heat of the Great Struggle—Opinion Against Strike.

New York letter: An interesting light is thrown upon the present situation in the coal industry by an interview which I was given by Editor Saward of the Coal Trade Journal, one of the best posted men on the present situation. "During my intimate connection with the coal industry for the past 40 years," said Mr. Saward, "I have never seen less justification for the ordering of a strike than exists in the case of the present one. I do not believe the majority of the level-headed miners were in favor of the step. The action was forced up from the bottom by the working element of foreign birth, which is beginning to feel its oats and wants to push its way too fast. From conversations that I have held with him I should believe that Senator Hanna was entirely sincere in his efforts to avert a strike. From others held with Mr. Mitchell I feel positive that the action he took in trying to avert a strike was the result of his honest convictions that the time for such action would not be well taken now. I believe Mr. Mitchell felt that the move contemplated by the miners was most inopportune as the operators are in a better position than if the season was further advanced. Mr. Mitchell is a man of principle and I fear that hotheads in the organization have been planning his downfall in order to bring the strike, his has, nevertheless, shown great coolness and good judgment in abiding by their decision, so that when the time comes for reaching a wiser one he may be of use in securing the most advantageous terms under the circumstances for the men. I am loath to believe that a strike of the soft coal miners will be ordered. An understanding exists between the operators and the bituminous miners that the latter shall bind themselves by yearly contracts in order to allow the operators a chance to make their contracts safely. The yearly contracts between the bituminous miners and the operators were renewed recently and it would be clearly a violation of principle on the part of the unions to repudiate them. I scarcely think they will go to this length, as it would place them in an unreasonable position and alienate many of their best friends."

"One of the reasons that make me say the present strike has the least justification of any I have known is that among other things the miners claim that the union is not recognized. How can this be the case? There have been many conferences between representatives of the miners and the operators recently, although members of the Civic Federation have generally been present. But at the last meeting, held in Liberty street, only representatives of the miners and operators were present and these dealt directly with one another. What more recognition could be given the miners?" "Senator Hanna once told me he would rather deal with one man representing a thousand than he would with a thousand men. Eliminate the demagogues from the labor unions and I believe that the majority of the coal operators respect and wish to recognize the principles of labor unionism—provided, however, that contracts entered into by labor unions, be lived up to as are any other contracts. The right to ask for an advance of wages belongs to any man, but I fail to see how he can benefit by making such a demand when circumstances do not favor his getting it. In my opinion he only weakens his case. The most important demand made by the miners, however, is that for a reduction of working hours, which would make a decidedly bigger item in forcing up the prices of coal to the consumer than a sliding scale advance of wages. The question is, have we arrived at that point of prosperity in the coal industry where we can afford to make such a radical innovation as the cutting of the working hours down 20 per cent?" "The present downward tendency of Great Britain in manufacturing and finance commenced with the arbitrary strikes of the coal miners for conditions superior to which none had ever prevailed upon earth for the workingman. Are we, therefore, in the face of the approaching zenith of our commercial and manufacturing supremacy, to be thwarted by such a foolish and mischievous initiation on the part of labor? I hope not and therefore expect to see the present strike assume a less serious aspect than the present alarmist reports would indicate."

TO FISH BY ELECTRICITY.

One of the oddest crafts ever built in this country is being completed in Norfolk, Va. The vessel is the invention of a Norfolk man, Capt. William E. Cole, who has, he claims, an invention which will revolutionize the present methods of catching fish. Captain Cole's vessel is intended and equipped for the purpose of catching fish by means of powerful submarine lights, with which the Atlantic is equipped. Captain Cole became imbued with the idea of decoying fish by means of artificial light a number of years ago, and, after making a number of preliminary tests, decided to build the boat, which he is now completing, after months of labor. He expects to show that he has developed one of the greatest schemes for catching fish, especially the deep water species, ever known. The Asiatic is a queer looking craft, modeled very much after the houseboat patterns. She is 65 feet long, 16 feet beam, and has a draught of about four feet. She will be driven by twin screws, operated by 16-horsepower electric engines, and is provided with an auxiliary engine for the purpose of generating electricity for her 2,000 candle power searchlight and the six submarine lights. These will be attached to booms over the vessel's side and lowered into the water for the purpose of attracting fish, which will be landed in nets placed directly below the lights. The vessel cost about \$8,000. Prof. Frederick Hirth of the University of Michigan, who is to be the first professor of the department of Chinese in Columbia university, will be inaugurated next fall, has lived in China for 27 years. For several years he was identified with the Chinese customs service.

AIRSHIPS COMING FAD.

BALLOON NOW MAY SUPPLANT THE AUTOMOBILE.

German Kaiser is An Enthusiast on the Question and Many of His Royal Relatives, Are Setting the Pace.

Berlin letter: The growing use of balloons by people of wealth in Europe is leading to a consideration of the question of their general adoption for transportation purposes and I understand a company is being formed here with several million dollars capital to exploit schemes for internal navigation by means of balloons. The suggestion is voiced that the government may be interested more or less in the schemes, as Emperor William is a firm believer in the ultimate success of aeronautics. The repeated experiments made with balloons on a small magnitude have led wealthy people to consider the possibility of a balloon for light voyages and an investigation of the question in general has set in. The probability is that our millionaires will soon use balloons instead of express trains and automobiles. The manufacturing cost will be reduced to a minimum, the fuel question having been solved, an advance point which is not generally understood. The new fuel consists of a mixture of crude or ordinary petroleum and compressed air, the patents for which discovery are held by Chas. H. Kuenzle, of Hoboken, formerly connected with the War Department here. The motive power thus furnished is cheap, absolutely safe, as the product resolves itself into a dry gas, and is also very volatile. This scientific solution of the fuel matter having been arrived at, the question of manufacturing cost for the vehicles has been reduced to a minimum and a particularly happy and inexpensive means of locomotion found. The lesson taught by the use of the balloon in the beleaguered city of Paris has not been lost on the military powers of Europe and it is probable that whenever it does come a general war breaks out again perfect machines for the demoralization of the enemy will be utilized. In the meantime, the partially successful work of Santos-Dumont and Count Zeppelin have led to the conclusion on the part of society people that the balloon will be a very much more desirable means of locomotion than the automobile. The old dream about balloon ascensions has vanished since the discovery was made that at a certain altitude above the earth's surface in place of a frozen atmosphere there exists a strata of heat. One of the pioneers in this movement for the utilization of the air route is the Archduke Salvator of Austria-Hungary, who recently made a remarkable journey across the Alps in his balloon, the Meteor. The Archduke is so pleased with his own personal experiences that he has had three special balloons made for the convenience of his wife and children with whom he makes frequent trips in them. There are several members of other reigning houses who are utilizing aerial machines. The king of Italy's two cousins, the Count of Turin and the Duke of Abruzzi have been enthusiastic exploiters of the idea. The duke made a particular point of investigating the matter with the hope that he would be able to utilize it as a means of conveyance in the polar regions. The widowed Duchess of Aosta and the young Duchess of Genoa have taken advantage of these ascents, although enjoined not to do so by their friends. The only ascent which it is known that the Kaiser made was with his eldest sister, Princess Charlotte of Saxe-Meningen, which took place at the International exhibition of 1878 when, it should be remembered, the most gigantic balloon ever produced used to ascend daily from the Place des Tuilleries to a height so great as to almost admit of its disappearance from sight, then to be drawn back to earth by means of a couple of powerful stationary steam engines. At the time this exploit of the Kaiser took place he was in Paris incognito, a guest of Lord Lyons, the British ambassador. With him, when he made the ascent, were the Princess Charlotte, and her husband, Prince Bernhard, Count Leckendorf, grand master of the household to Empress Frederick, and one or two others. Among those who have made ascents are King Edward, Queen Alexandra and many others closely allied to the crowned heads of Europe. One of the most daring followers of the aerial dream is Frederick Leopold of Prussia, who has ascended many times in the military balloon on the Tempelhof manoeuvre grounds near Berlin. He communicates all his experiences to the Kaiser, who since his coming to the throne of Germany has not been permitted by his advisers to risk his life by making an ascension. Archduke Leopold of Austria is continually making ascents and with his experiences the Kaiser is closely in touch. The Archduke expresses his belief that there is no more danger in ballooning than in automobiling at a breakneck speed. VALERIE DELAMOUR.

OLIVER OPTIC SURPRISED.

A Stranger Told Him of Sol Smith Russell's Power as Card Player.

The late Sol Smith Russell married a daughter of William T. Adams, more familiarly known to the American public as "Oliver Optic." The author was very fond of his talented son-in-law. Eugene Field used to tell a good story about this feeling on the part of Adams. As Field described it, a modest, quiet and benevolent-looking man was sitting one day in the rotunda of the Palmer house, Chicago, when a stranger near him made the remark that he believed he would see Sol Smith Russell in the evening. "Excuse me, sir," said the old gentleman to the stranger, "but that is a wise determination. Mr. Russell is the greatest comedian we have on the stage today. He possesses remarkable histrionic talents." "Yes," interjected the stranger, with a smile. "He does, indeed," replied the old gentleman warmly, "and what is more, I assure you that he is as clever personally as he is professionally. In fact, you would not take Mr. Russell for an actor, as he is entirely free from those habits that are not infrequently the result of the exciting life behind the footlights. He does not play cards, and is exceedingly temperate in all things. You have seen him act, I suppose?" "Oh, yes," replied the stranger. "May I ask you where you saw him last?" "In Milwaukee," said the stranger, "and he was sitting behind three of the biggest jacks ever laid down." "I don't believe that I quite catch your meaning," murmured the old gentleman. "What was the play?" "Three of a kind," was the laconic answer. "It was a very good play, too." "Amely?" asked the old gentleman. "It was a tragedy," answered the stranger, simply. "Sol raked in the pot." "Horror!" exclaimed the old gentleman. "You don't mean to tell me that Sol was playing cards?" "You catch my drift," replied the stranger, "but what has that to do with you anyway?" "Why, it has everything to do with me. Sol told me he never played cards." "Told you?" persisted the stranger; "who are you?" "Who am I?" repeated the old gentleman, "why, I'm W. T. Adams, Sol's father-in-law."

NATIONAL GAMES CLASHED.

Washington Post: The other afternoon Representative Shattuck of Ohio left his seat on the Republican side of the house and walked slowly over to the Democratic side to Representative Sulzer's desk. The member from New York was busily engaged in writing a letter. "Wowdy do, general," said Mr. Sulzer, looking up, "what can I do for you?" "Why, I came over to ask you if you did not want to go with me to see the ball game," said General Shattuck. "Sorry, but I can't go," was the reply; "I'm too busy playing the national game," and Mr. Sulzer resumed his writing. The late Paul Sorg, of Middleton, O., made his first money by peddling flowers and doing chores in Cincinnati. After working hours he went to a night school. When he was a little older he worked in a cheese factory and then in an iron mill. He saved \$3,000, went into the tobacco business and became one of the very rich men of the state. Eight years ago he went to congress, defeating Estes G. Rathbone. The Ohio papers think he has left an estate of \$7,000,000 to \$15,000,000.

OTENTATION.

"Yes," said the woman with sharp eyes, "those people who moved in next door are inclined to make an ostentatious display of their wealth."

PUT YOUR MONEY ON THE HORSE.

There are now 27 automobiles in daily use in Des Moines, and a local dealer said yesterday that before the summer is over the number will be doubled. In the meantime, the market for good horses was never better, and horses were never in such demand. The automobile is all right, but the horse is better.—Des Moines Register.

A GREAT THING.

A debate has been pulled off at an Indiana college between the young women and young men on the subject "Resolved, That pie is not of greater service to mankind than ice cream," the girls taking the ice cream side of the question. Higher education is a great thing.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW JERSEY IS PREPARING TO DECLARE WAR ON MOSQUITOES.

The festive warbler of summer ere should organize a trust, incorporate at home and save its hide.

ALSON S. SHERMAN, THE OLDEST SURVIVING MAYOR OF CHICAGO, CELEBRATED HIS 91ST BIRTHDAY THE OTHER DAY.

Of the 53 mayors of Chicago, only seven are living. Walter S. Gurnee, who now lives in New York city, was mayor in 1861 and 1862.