

VICTIM OF ROCKEFELLER

Mel Hossler's oil wagon has stopped!

The Standard Oil company has won one of the most bitter fights of its career of over a quarter of a century. That career has been punctured by broken hearts. Along the way of the huge corporation wounded people are lying.

When agents of the Standard Oil company approached Hossler with golden offers, he drew himself up, curled his lip in scorn and turned from the polished lawyer who called to see him, in disgust. Then he paused and sang out over his shoulder:

"Go back and tell John Rockefeller that all the wealth he has would not tempt me to give up to him."

Then the assault began afresh, but Hossler's townsmen rallied to his assistance and bought his oil at the market price when the Standard Oil company offered oil free.

For two years the Standard has kept agents in Chardon trying to drive Hossler out of business. He was at-

tacked in every conceivable way. He was harrassed all day, night was made hideous for him, and the sanctity of his home was invaded, and not even was he allowed to mutter his evening prayer in quietude.

Yet Mel Hossler would not give up. Doggedly he held to his determination to live in spite of the Standard.

But last night under the awful attack which never stopped the end came.

Mel Hossler's mind snapped.

It came after business reverses. Winter came on and food for his family and his horses was high. Then sickness came and medicine and doctor bills were higher. Finally his daughter, 16 years old, his inspiration in the fight, fell ill. That blow was the last.

He went to the jail last night and gave himself up. He said brokenly: "I have lost."

His friends say he wanted to be locked up.—Special dispatch from Chardon, O., to the Cleveland Press of January 30.

How Long Will it Last?

The "City of Celibates" is to be founded within a few miles of Provo, Utah, and the foundation will be laid within the next few days. That at least is the impression of attaches of the American house, who were on duty early this morning when a picturesque party of foreigners arrived and registered. These men, eight in number, are looked upon as the founders of this new city, which will allow no woman within its walls.

About 2 o'clock this morning a party of men, much resembling Italian brigands as portrayed in comic opera, entered the American house. They had gold rings in their ears, wore shirts of a spectacular hue, corduroy suits and wide trimmed hats. One man, who was civilized up to the chin—that is, clad in modern American fashion—appeared to be in charge. He put the following names on the register, his own being first:

John Bubalo, Peter Yovanovich, Luka Tomasovich, Luke Yocaceric, Luke Yovanovich, Vaso Yovaceric, Miter Luksick and another that was illegible. Bubalo did not say whence the party came, but it was gleaned from his conversation that all had just come from Ellis Island under his guidance.

Bubalo was not inclined to be com-

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municative, but he said enough to foster the impression that he headed a little colony that was going to locate near Provo. The sturdy sons of sunny Italy with him would form the bone and sinew of the colony, and there would be no women allowed within its purlieus. One of the Yovanovich brothers, it seems, had been deceived by a woman back in Italy, and, drawing a number of his friends and relatives about him, decided to go to the new world and found a microcosm where the foot of woman would never be allowed. Nothing was said directly about naming a city of celibates, but from the conversation of the party that was the inference.—Denver Post.

The Old Japan and the New.

In old in Japan there were few violent contrasts between rich and poor, and, in fact, the industrial plutocrat was unknown. The nobly born were rich, if rich at all, only in land and rice, and they were not envied, as they seem to belong to the natural order of creation. But today the tradesman and the manufacturer, who were once almost the lowest of mankind, infinitely below the tillers of the soil, are becoming insolently rich and are the real lords of Japan, while the children of Samurai are glad to get small clerkships from those whom their fathers despised.

I have been spending much time in Darkest Tokio of late, and the microscopic misery to be found there would make a story appalling to those who fancy that Japan is nothing but swaying lanterns and softly falling cherry blossoms. Buying and selling is conducted on such an infinitesimal scale among these submerged wretches that the sum of sixpence will provide a handsome stock for a hawker in popular lines of food.

Among these unfortunates who often walk the streets at night for the want of a half-penny to engage lodgings on a damp floor swarming with vermin, one bears the doctrines of Proudhon and Ferdinand Lassalle discussed volubly. Their works have been translated into little pamphlets and read to the illiterate by the occasional scholar who carries a few thousand ideographs in his brain.

"Japan has come so far," they all say; "why will it not be well to go

the entire route, or at least so far as the ideal state?"

Poor, hungry, bedraggled dreamers! But they are not alone, for the Japanese of all ranks outside of the bourgeoisie and the great nobles are asking the same thing. With eminent practicality they ask: Why is it not as easy to get a government that represents the best conception of man as to worry along with a makeshift that is manifestly imperfect?

Before Japan lies the sinister shadow of an irresistible conflict.—London Mail.

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