

Red Cloud Chief.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

RED CLOUD, NEBRASKA

Bulgaria needs a little cracked tea.

Alas for Canada, no Alaska for Canada.

Some married couples live happy ever after they are divorced.

Men who sue for divorce and wives who invite it should never write letters.

Japan is apparently tired of speaking softly and is nervously fumbling the big stick.

Life's fitful fever over, the Georgia negro woman who twisted the mule's tail sleeps well.

The sultan is all ready to reform, but he doesn't seem to be able to find any good place to begin.

Extravagant New Jersey has been filling railroad washouts with pea coal. How different from 1902!

The successful poet is the one who curbs his fine frenzy and earns a good salary keeping books in a bank.

Unfortunately for individual humanity, no one knows his best days until they have been added to the past.

"A nursery thermometer costs 20 cents," says the New York Times. But alas, that is not the sole expense!

One of the universities has established a chair of dressmaking. Excellent! Now for a chair of dishwashing.

And when the 8th of October was duly past the Bear rolled over for another hibernation—with one eye open.

Dr. Robert Collyer says a man's best friends are his ten fingers. We always thought two of them were simply his thumbs.

A woman never goes traveling without dressing in such a way that in case of an accident her clothes would be a credit to her.

Japan insists that Russia shall leave Manchuria. When Russia does Manchuria will know how it feels to be a squeezed lemon.

The Sultan of Turkey has levied a heavy war tax. Thought the old bird hadn't even a pluckable pin feather; but Abdul knows how to use tweezers.

When magnates get to quarreling over their stock the public is permitted to find out how it is called upon to transfer its cash for their green paper.

An albino deer and a five-legged deer have been shot in Maine this fall, but prizes of this kind cannot be promised to every buyer of a \$15 license.

If the Yankee lake fishermen are wise they will give the Canadian shore a wide berth until the men across the border have had a chance to cool off.

If the improvement of great guns and smokeless powder continues the navy that wins the next great battle on the sea will be the one that doesn't sink itself.

The announcement that the backbone of the Macedonian rebellion is broken would be all right if the rebellion didn't get along just as well with out a backbone.

With southern California turning out more than a million gallons of wine in a single season, there should be no continued scarcity of "rare vintages from France."

The Boston Globe has decided that an angora goat is worth more than an angora cat. Well, while admitting that there is a strong argument in favor of the goat, most women prefer to carry the cat.

The Toledo lover who cried fire and secured a promise of marriage in the midst of the excitement might have known that the girl would suffer a revulsion of feeling after the all-out signal was sounded.

The Minnesota dog who has been appraised at five dollars by the board of equalization must feel quite superior when he meets up with a horde of men who are not down on the tax rolls for even a dollar.

After eating four beefsteaks at a meal, a man in Ansonia, Conn., became despondent and cut his throat. He probably concluded that it was hopeless for one man to try to knock out the beef trust all alone.

The Ancient and Honorable artillery company of Boston has given the Honorable artillery company of London a banquet that cost the snug sum of \$60,000. We didn't suppose that there were that many beans in the world.

A man in the Adirondacks, mistaken for a deer and shot in the thigh, made bandages and stopped the flow of blood. Then he started to crawl out of the woods, and had gone two miles when he fainted, where he was found. Now he has some idea how a wounded deer must feel.

IT LOOKS LIKE IT

War in the Far East Drawing Dangerously Near.

TO COME SOONER OR LATER

China Casts Shy Glances at the United States, But Uncle Sam Will Only Protect His Family Interests.

Cablings from Che Foo, the correspondent of the Morning Post, London, says the majority of Russian warships in Chinese waters are between Tallensan and Hayangton. Three Chinese cruisers have left Che Foo for the north of the Yalu river. This constitutes an infringement of Korean rights.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Mail says the Russian government does not expect war with Japan, in any event before next spring, even should the negotiations fail.

The correspondent at Sanghai of the Daily Telegraph says from a reliable source in Tokio that although the negotiations between Russia and Japan continue, Japan is inflexible and a combat sooner or later is regarded as inevitable.

The Tokio correspondent of the London Daily Mail reports a serious fray at Chemulpo, Korea, between Russian blue jackets belonging to the gunboat Bohr and Japanese blue jackets from the cruiser Chiyoda and a number of Japanese residents of Chemulpo. Ten Japanese and several Russians were injured.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Mail says the Russian government has decided to expel all Japanese living along the route of the Manchurian railroad, having discovered, it is alleged, that many of them were spies.

A conference of high officials with the dowager empress at Peking concerning the reoccupation of Mukden by Russian troops was held at the summer palace. Yuan Shi Kai, governor general of Chihli province, was summoned hastily from Tien Tsin and proceeded directly to the palace. The Russians have the Tartar general of Mukden province in custody in his yamane.

It is officially reported at Tokio from Wiju, via Seoul, that the Russians are withdrawing from Yongampo, on the Yalu river, and dismantling their fortifications there, leaving only a small guard. The reoccupation of Mukden by the Russians is officially confirmed at Tokio, where it has created great consternation. Eighteen warships representing various nations are now gathered at Yokohama, in anticipation of the anniversary of the Japanese emperor's birth, which will be celebrated soon.

Sir Chengtung Liang Cheng, the Chinese minister at Washington, acting under instructions from his government recently in the effort to interest the United States government in China's behalf in her Manchurian troubles. He was at the state department in pursuit of that object, the direct purpose being to see if any way can be found by which the United States government may be able to serve China in this emergency. It appears, however, that Secretary Hay has not been cabled to hit upon any plan of action that would promise to serve China in this matter. There is no question that the events reported as having happened at Mukden regarding the reoccupation of that town are not looked upon by friendly eyes by the officials at Washington, but so long as the United States government secures and retains trade in Manchuria it will not be drawn into the political complications of the present situation.

FRAUD IS CHARGED

Trouble Ahead for the United Ship Building Company.

Sensational allegation of willful misstatements, falsification, swindling and fraud in the organization of flotation of the United States Shipbuilding company, of attempts to mislead and deceive the investigating public by erroneous prospectus statements and of a deliberate plan to wreck the company by withholding the earnings of the Bethlehem Steel company are contained in the report of Receiver James Smith, jr., of the United States Shipbuilding company, made public in New York. The report concludes with the recommendation that suit be brought against all persons who received stock of the company without paying full value therefor, including the promoters of the consolidation, the vendors of the constituent plants and Charles M. Schwab to recover from them such amount as is necessary to pay the debts of the company in full.

Receiver Smith also recommends the sale of the Crescent ship yard plant in New Jersey and the Harlan & Hollingsworth plant at Wilmington, Del., subsidiary plants in partial operation, to avoid further loss by depreciation, and the enforcement of a receivership for the Bethlehem Steel company to insure the payment of dividends in the Bethlehem stock held by the United States Shipbuilding company.

In the words of the report, the organization of the company is characterized as an "artistic swindle." Receiver Smith stating that the value of the plants, their earnings and working capital, given in alleged thorough reports of accountants vary so much from the actual figures "as to impel the belief that the figures were willfully misstated," that it is extremely doubtful if such accountants' reports were submitted at the reorganization of the company; that the organization was affected by "dummy" stockholders, di-

A Big Steal Suspected.

A sensational trial is pending at St. Petersburg as a result of an investigation into the engineers who built the Southern Manchuria railroad. The investigation has revealed the defalcation of several million roubles.

Andrew Carnegie Declined It.

Lord Strathcona, of London, has accepted the nomination of the chancellorship of Aberdeen university. The nomination was offered to Andrew Carnegie, who declined it in favor of Lord Strathcona.

rectors and officers; that statements in the prospectus issued on June 4, 1902, were incorrect; that for property worth \$12,441,516 the shipbuilding company paid in stock and bonds \$67,997,000; that "the accommodating director of the United States Shipbuilding company, in acquiring these companies, deliberately gave away millions of dollars in the stock and bonds of their company," "wholesale plunder," the receiver terms it, to a few persons, and that so far as the Bethlehem Steel company is concerned, "its earnings have been withheld in a deliberate attempt to wreck the United States Shipbuilding company."

The report deals fully with the name of Charles M. Schwab and the nature of the Bethlehem transaction says Mr. Smith "is such as to justify him (Mr. Schwab) in saying that he did not sell the Bethlehem Steel company, but took over the United States Shipbuilding, the directors of that company giving him \$30,000,000 in stock and bonds for taking it off their hands."

OUR MINERAL WEALTH

The United States Ranks Among the World's Producers.

Following is the approximate distribution by producing states and territories of the product of gold and silver in the United States for the calendar year 1902, as estimated by the director of the mint:

| State or Territory. | Gold Value. | Silver Coining Value. |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Alabama..... | 2,500 | 129 |
| Alaska..... | 8,345,800 | 118,513 |
| Arizona..... | 4,112,300 | 3,934,513 |
| California..... | 16,792,100 | 1,164,671 |
| Colorado..... | 28,467,700 | 20,267,960 |
| Georgia..... | 97,800 | 517 |
| Idaho..... | 1,475,000 | 7,569,842 |
| Maryland..... | 2,500 | ..... |
| Montana..... | 4,373,600 | 17,123,297 |
| Michigan..... | ..... | 257 |
| Nevada..... | 2,895,300 | 4,843,572 |
| New Mexico..... | 531,100 | 591,127 |
| North Carolina..... | 90,700 | 27,022 |
| Oregon..... | 1,816,700 | 120,630 |
| South Carolina..... | 121,900 | 388 |
| South Dakota..... | 6,965,400 | 439,855 |
| Tennessee..... | ..... | 15,903 |
| Texas..... | ..... | 576,905 |
| Utah..... | 3,594,500 | 14,004,622 |
| Virginia..... | 3,100 | 728 |
| Washington..... | 272,200 | 800,323 |
| Wyoming..... | 38,800 | 6,400 |

Totals.....\$80,000,000 \$71,757,575
Number of fine ounces of gold is given as 3,870,000, and of silver, 55,500,000. This is an increase of 64,500 ounces of gold, as compared with 1901, and an increase of 286,000 ounces of silver. The commercial value of the silver product is \$29,415,000, as against \$71,757,575, as coining value.

Following is the estimate of the director of the mint of the world's production of gold and silver for the calendar year 1902:

| | Gold Value. | Silver Coin Value. |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| United States..... | \$80,000,000 | \$71,757,575 |
| Mexico..... | 10,153,100 | 77,804,100 |
| Canada..... | 20,741,200 | 5,564,500 |
| Africa..... | 39,023,700 | ..... |
| Australia..... | \$1,578,800 | 10,377,100 |
| Russia..... | 22,533,400 | 205,200 |
| Austria-Hungary..... | 2,171,300 | 2,432,200 |
| Germany..... | 62,500 | 7,399,000 |
| Norway..... | 2,900 | 266,900 |
| Sweden..... | 62,500 | 59,500 |
| Italy..... | 5,300 | 1,246,800 |
| Spain..... | 10,100 | 4,784,100 |
| Portugal..... | 1,304,900 | ..... |
| Greece..... | ..... | 1,409,000 |
| Turkey..... | 20,600 | 621,300 |
| Finland..... | 1,300 | 11,200 |
| France..... | ..... | 496,000 |
| Great Britain..... | 116,300 | 223,900 |
| Argentina..... | 20,000 | 48,800 |
| Bolivia..... | 4,700 | 16,798,600 |
| Chile..... | 575,200 | 4,611,600 |
| Colombia..... | 2,522,600 | 2,297,000 |
| Ecuador..... | 20,600 | 10,900 |
| Brazil..... | 1,994,000 | ..... |
| Venezuela..... | 433,800 | 2,400 |
| Guiana (Brit.)..... | 1,808,400 | ..... |
| Guiana (Dutch)..... | 422,000 | ..... |
| Guiana (Fren.)..... | 2,420,200 | ..... |
| Peru..... | 2,236,100 | 5,313,700 |
| Central Amer..... | 32,001,900 | 1,255,800 |
| Japan..... | 1,287,000 | 505,500 |
| China..... | \$731,800 | ..... |
| Corea..... | 3,500,000 | ..... |
| British India..... | 9,588,100 | ..... |
| East Ind. (B'h)..... | 1,027,100 | ..... |
| East Ind. (D'h)..... | 564,600 | 152,900 |

Totals.....\$295,880,600 \$215,861,800
As compared with 1901 these figures show an increase in the production of gold of 1,722,414 ounces and a decrease of 8,042,934 ounces in the production of silver. During the year Africa increased its gold production from 439,704 ounces to 1,887,773 ounces and Australia increased its gold production to \$1,578,800, which is over \$1,500,000 in excess of the production of the United States, which again takes second place.

THEY ARE PUSHING IT.

The University Temple Fund Committee Working Hard.

The committee in charge of the work of raising the balance of the University Temple Fund have begun work in earnest. Circulars have been prepared setting forth the need and advantages of such a building and they will shortly be sent out to the business and professional men of the state. Altogether it is expected that 40,000 people will be reached by correspondence. The committee has been very busy in preparing plans, but now that all is ready they expect to push the undertaking to success. The sum already raised has mounted up to \$12,000. Of this amount the faculty has contributed upwards of \$5,000, a sum which bids fair to become nearer to \$4,000. Some of the alumni have responded liberally, sending in sums ranging from \$5 to \$50.

The building will contain reception and rest rooms and will be built strictly for the convenience and accommodation of the University public. It will be built on the same plan as the Lincoln library building and will be an ornament to the campus and a source of pride to all who have come into contact with the influences of the institution.

Finally Finished His Job.

Jas. J. Rogers, an attorney of Boise, Idaho, shot and killed himself. About a year ago Rogers attempted to drown himself in Chicago, jumping into the Chicago river.

THE FATAL REQUEST OR FROUDOIT

By A. L. Harris Author of "Mine Own Familiar Friend," etc.
Copyright, 1891, by Cassell Publishing Company.
Copyright, 1902, by Street & Smith.

CHAPTER I.

"We Shall Find It Out Some Day." About the beginning of the month of April, 1884, the family of Mr. Silas Burritt observed a certain alteration in that gentleman's habits and demeanor.

It appeared to those who studied him that he became imbued with an air of anticipation—that he started when a knock was heard at the door, and that the advent of the postman was awaited by him, if not with anxiety, at any rate with an amount of eager expectancy which was, in a general way, quite foreign to him.

It was also observed that the nearer they drew to the end of the month, the more these symptoms became exaggerated; and, as day after day went by unmarked by an unusual occurrence, he was observed to shake his head with a half-smile and a half-sigh, and mutter, as he thought to himself, "Dead or forgotten?" After which, he remained plunged in reflection for a considerable time.

It was his son Edward—more generally known as "Ted"—who happened to overhear these words, and they caused him no small amount of bewilderment. He stood with his sister May in the hall of Mr. Burritt's large, old-fashioned house at Dulwich. It was about seven o'clock in the evening, that, as the brother and sister were talking in low voices, the former was interrupted by the sound of an abrupt, loud, double knock.

"There's the seven o'clock post," said the girl. "I wonder if there's anything for father this time? If there is, I'll—"

But as she turned towards the direction of the letter box, the study door was thrown hurriedly open and an elderly gentleman rushed across the hall, and extricated from its receptacle one letter in a thin, foreign looking envelope, the direction on which was written in a large, scrawling hand,



He recrossed the hall.

which barely left room for the stamp. There was a singular look upon his face, on which astonishment seemed struggling with some other emotion. Then he drew a long breath. "After all these years!" he said to himself. "So he has kept his word, after all!"

He recrossed the hall, re-entered his study and closed the door. As he did so both the young people heard the key turn in the lock. Evidently their father was anxious not to be disturbed in the perusal of the mysterious missive, whatever it might be. Neither of them said any more on the subject at the time, but their minds were full of it as they each turned to go their different ways; the one to the billiard room for a little private practice, the other to the drawing room to try over the last new song.

"I wonder what it was?" soliloquized the former, "and what made the gov'nor so queer and unlike himself at the sight of it? However, it's no good troubling myself about it."

Mr. Silas Burritt remained shut up in his study all the remainder of the evening, and only encountered his son and daughter at breakfast the next morning—being Thursday—when he appeared to have regained his ordinary manner; notwithstanding to two pairs of inquisitive young eyes there still seemed to be a certain absent expression—the expression of a man (not that they described it to themselves in any such words) who has been reviewing the past, and whose thoughts still linger behind him among the years that have gone by. There was also a slight suspicion of nervousness about him, and several times he seemed on the point of saying something, which he put off from one moment to another. At last he made up his mind to speak.

"My dear," he said, addressing his wife, "I am thinking—that is, I have made up my mind—at any rate, I am going away for a day or so. At least—"

Here he found that he had by no means miscalculated the effect of the announcement, for his voice at this juncture was drowned by a family trio—

The last words came after a barely perceptible pause.

"Oh, then, it is business, after all!" broke in his daughter May, with an air of hardly repressed triumph. "I knew it was. I said so directly I saw the letter—didn't I Ted?"

Her father turned round upon her, rather sharply. "What letter?" "The—the letter that came last night," she stammered, disconcerted by the unusual tone. Then, reasserting herself, "I was in the hall, you know, when it came, and I thought it looked like business."

Her father's frown relaxed as he patted her on the shoulder.

"Inquisitive little girl," he said; "what does it matter to you what my letters are about?"

"But it was business, wasn't it?" she persisted, secure in her position of spoilt child.

"Well—yes—that is, partly so," he answered. "At least, it was from an old—"

He seemed to remember something and stopped short. "At any rate," he continued, "I have to go to Dover."

"Dover!" re-echoed the family.

"Yes," he said, rumpling his hair, and apparently taking some care in the choice of his words; "I find I shall have to go there. It is rather inconvenient just now, but it can't be helped; though it will not be more than a couple of days at the outside. By-the-by," turning towards his helpmate, "it is not unlikely that I may bring a friend back with me. No; it's no one you know," responding to the question he saw trembling on more than one pair of lips. "At any rate you had better have a room prepared in case of that event."

Half an hour later Mr. Burritt took a hasty but affectionate farewell of his family, who as they watched his departure and waved their hands to him, said to themselves that he would soon be back again among them. In spite of this belief, however, they craned

cried, "At last!"—and the men grasped hands.

Then followed a brief and impressive silence, during which each eagerly scanned the features of the other and which Mr. Burritt was the first to break.

"James," he said, and there were traces of considerable emotion in his voice, "you are much changed. I should hardly have known you."

"Changed," exclaimed the other, somewhat bitterly; "and in twenty years! Is it to be wondered at? Then, with an alteration of tone, "But I should have known you anywhere, Silas."

"Twenty years!" repeated his friend. "Ah, well, so it is! How quickly the years have flown. It seems nothing like that to me."

"It is that, all the same," said the other. "It is twenty years to the very day. This is the 24th of April, 1884. It was the 24th of April, 1864, when you said 'good-bye' to me on board the vessel in which I was to sail to a new country."

"It is a long time to remain an exile—a voluntary exile," said Mr. Burritt; "you might have returned years ago, had you chosen."

The other man shook his head gloomily. "I have kept my word," he said. "You remember my last speech to you? I said, 'I am going to begin a new life—to make my fortune. In twenty years, if I have gone so, I shall return. By that time I may hope that my crime will have been forgotten. It may be that in twenty years some of those who know my wretched story will be dead—I may even be dead myself; but, if not, I shall return to the country I am now about to leave behind; for surely in twenty years the disgrace which now tarnishes my name will be blotted out and forgotten. Until then, farewell!' And now," he continued, "the term of my self-imposed banishment is at an end. I have kept my word and I have returned."

Mr. Burritt laid his hand upon his friend's shoulder.

"You judge yourself too harshly," he said; "the word crime is too severe a one to apply to that youthful indiscretion—sin, if you will—repented of as soon as committed."

"Repentance!" cried the other, impatiently; "what is the good of repentance? Will it recover a lost reputation and wipe out a stain upon the past? The fortune I went to seek is mine, but I would give it all for an unblemished record, so that I might not be ashamed to look any man in the face. Ah, Silas! it is a terrible thing to think that a child of mine should ever blush for her father!"

"You are married, then?" inquired Mr. Burritt, gladly seizing the opportunity thus offered of changing the dismal subject. "Is your wife with you?"

"I am a widower," was the reply. "My wife died twelve years ago, leaving me with one child—a daughter."

"Tell me all about your daughter," said Mr. Burritt, "and how you came to make up your mind to part with her for so long? I have a daughter of my own—as well as the son who was born before you left England—and though I have been threatening to pack her off to boarding school for the last four or five years, I never could reconcile myself to the idea of the separation. And now she's too old—nineteen last birthday," and her father shook his head over his own weakness and smiled, an indulgent, parental smile.

"That's the age of my Agnes within a year," said the other; "strange that we should have daughters so nearly the same age!"

He looked at his companion strangely.

"I am in your hands, Silas," he said; "you can ruin me in my child's eyes, as well as in the eyes of the world, whenever you please."

(To be continued.)

CHAPTER II.

"After All These Years."

Mr. Burritt arrived at his destination between six and seven. Alighting, he gave a hasty and comprehensive glance round; as though he thought it half possible that he might be met by someone. Then he left the station and proceeded in the direction of the "Lord Warden."

Arriving at that famous hostelry he made a certain inquiry of the waiter who came forward to meet him. To which the reply was, that the gentleman referred to had crossed by the boat that morning and had engaged a private sitting room, leaving word that he expected a friend from town, who was to be shown up immediately on giving his name.

"My name is Burritt," was the reply. "Then please to walk this way, sir." The man ushered him up a flight of stairs and along a corridor, then, indicating a particular door, said: "This is the room the gentleman has taken."

"I will announce myself," said Mr. Burritt, and the man withdrew.

Then, after a pause of a few seconds, he tapped lightly at the door. A voice from within cried: "Come in!" and answering the summons he turned the handle and entered. The occupant of the apartment, a tall, lean, elderly man, who was looking out of the window, turned round sharply and confronted the visitor. A look—a strange, wondering, intent look—passed between them. Then, the stranger, made a step forward. "Silas!" he

"But why didn't you have it extracted?"

"Just as soon as Brown could get to the dentist's he—"

"Great Scott, man! Wasn't it your tooth?"

"No; it was Brown's."

Floored the Englishman.

At a dinner party in London Miss Beatrice Herford was taken down by an Englishman whom she discovered to be a fellow of the Royal Geographic society and who professed to know by name all the places on the map of England. Miss Herford had long struggled with such names as Cholmondeley (Chumley), Crichton, (Cryton), and the rest, and this struck her as an opportunity.

"As a geographer, and especially as a Royal Geographer," she said, "you will be able to tell me where Winkle is."

The Royal Geographer was puzzled, and asked if she was sure she had pronounced it properly, and how it was spelled.

"I pronounced it in the most English way I could," said Miss Herford. "It is spelled W-in-d-s-o-r-C-a-s-t-l-e."—New York Times.