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SYNOPSIS.

Cattle thieves despoiling ranches of South Dakota. George Williston, small ranchman, runs into rendezvous of thieves on Island in Missouri river. They have stolen cattle from Three Bar ranch. Langford visits Williston and his daughter and Williston reports what he has seen to Langford, who determines to rid country of thieves. Jesse Black heads outlaws. Langford falls in love with Williston's daughter, but does not tell her so. Louise Dale, court stenographer, and ton's daughter, but does not tell her so.
Louise Dale, court stenographer, and
niece of Judge Dale, visits Kemah at request of county attorney, Gordon, to take
testimony in preliminary hearing. Gordon
falls in love with her. After preliminary
examination Williston's home is attacked
and defended by his daughter and himself. Outlaws fire building just as Langford and his cowboys arrive. Outlaws
carry off Williston but Langford rescues
the daughter. Without Williston evidence
against Black is menger, and case seems
to be going against the state. Gordon
takes a night ride and finds Williston,
who has escaped from captors. The
courthouse at Kemah burns at night.
Williston holds a tea party in his room
following court house fire, and Mary Williston and Louise Dale attend. Court convenes in the church, and Williston's testimony is introduced by Gordon.

CHAPTER XIX .- Continued.

It was a straight story, and apparently damaging for the prosecution. It corroborated the attestations of other witnesses-many others. It had a plausible ring to it. Two bills of sale radiated atmospheric legality. If there had been dirty work it must have originted with that renegade half-breed, Yellow Wolf. And Yellow Wolf was dead. He had died while serving a term in the penitentiary for cattle rustling. Uncle Sam himself had set the seal upon him-and now he was dead. This insinuated charge he could not answer. The finality of it seemed to set its stamp upon the people gathered there-upon the 12 good men and true, as well as upon others. Yellow Wolf was dead. George Williston was dead. Their secrets had died with them. An inscrutable fate had lowered the veil. Who could pierce it? One might believe, but who could know? And the law required knowledge.

"We will call Charlie Nightbird." said Small, complacently. There was a little waiting silence-

breathless, palpitating silence "Is Charlie Nightbird present?" asked Small, casting rather auxious eyes over the packed, intent faces, Charlie Nightbird was not present. At least he made no sign of coming forward. The face of the young counsel for the state was immobile during the brief time they waited for Charlie Nightbird-whose dark, frozen face at that moment turned toward the cold, sparkling sky, and who would never come, not if they waited for him till the last dread trump of the last dread day.

There was some mistake. Counsel had been misinformed. Nightbird was an important witness. He had been reported present. Never mind. He was probably unavoidably detained by the storm. They would call Jesse Big Cloud and others to corroborate the defendant's statements - which they did, and the story was sustained in all its parts, major and minor. Then the defense rested.

Richard Gordon arose from his chair. His face was white. His lean jaws were set. His eyes were steel. He was anything but a lover now, this man Gordon. Yet the slim little court reporter with dark circles of homesickness under her eyes had never loved him half so well as at this moment. His voice was clear and de-

"Your honor, I ask permission of the court to call a witness in direct testimony. I assure your honor that the state had used all efforts in its power to obtain the presence of this witness before resting its case, but had falled and believed at the time that he could not be produced. The witness is now here and I consider his testimony of the utmost importance in this case."

Counsel for the defendant objected strenuously, but the court granted the petition. He wanted to hear everything that might throw some light on the dark places in the evidence.

"I call Mr. George Williston," said Gordon.

Had the strain crazed him? Louise covered her eyes with her hands. Men sat is if dazed. And thus, the synosure of all eyes-stupefied eyes-Williston of the ravaged Lazy S, thin and worn but calm, natural and scholarly-looking as of old-walked from the little ante-room at the side into the light and knowledge of men once more and raised his hand for the oath. Not until this was taken and he had sat quietly down in the witness chair did the tension snap. Even then men found it difficult to focus their attention on the enormous difference this new witness must make in the case

a look of pure gladness.

Small's face was ludicrous in its drop-jawed astonishment. The little lawyer's face was a study. A look of defiance had crept into the defend- not answered to his call? ant's countenance.

The preliminary questions were asked and answered.

"Mr. Williston, you may state where you were and what you saw on the 14th day of July last."

Williston, the unfortunate gentleman and scholar, the vanquished cowman, for a brief while the most important man in the county, perhaps, was about to uncover to men's understanding the dark secret hitherto obscured by a cloud of supposition and hearsay. He told the story of his visit to the island, and he told it well. It was enough. Gordon asked no further questions regarding that event.

"And now, Mr. Williston, you may tell what happened to you on the night of the 30th of last August?"

Williston began to tell the story of the night attack upon the Lazy S, when the galvanic Small jumped to his feet. The little lawyer touched him with a light hand.

"Your honor," he said, smoothly, "I object to that as incompetent, irrelevant and immaterial, and not binding on the defendant."

"Your honor," interrupted Gordon, with great calmness, "we intend to show you before we get through that this testimony is competent, and that it is binding upon the defendant."

"Was the defendant there?" "The defendant was there."

The objection was overruled. So Williston told briefly but to the point the story of the night attack

upon his his home, of the defence by himself and daughter, and of the burning of his house and sheds. Then he proceeded: "Suddenly, some one caught me

from behind, my arms were pinloned to my sides, something was clapped over my mouth. I was flung over a horse and strapped to the saddle all in less time that it takes to tell it, and was borne away in company with the man who had overpowered me."

He paused a moment in his recital. Faces strained with expectancy devoured him-his every look and word and action. Mary was very pale, carried thus back to the dread realities of that night in August, and shuddered, remembering that ghastly galloping. Langford could scarce re-



Williston of the Ravaged Lazy S.

strain himself. He wanted to rin out a blood-curdling Sioux war-whoop on the spot. "Who was this man, Mr. Williston?"

"Jesse Black." Small was on his feet again, gesticu-

lating wildly.

asked Gordon.

"I object! This is all a fabrication, put in here to prejudice the minds of the jury against this defendant. It is a pack of lies, and I move that it be stricken from the record."

The little lawyer bowed his head to the storm and shrugged up his shoulders. Perhaps he wished that he, or his associates-one of the unholy alliance at least-was where the wicked cease from troubling, on the far-away islands of the deep seas, possibly, or home on the farm. But his expression told nothing.

"Gentlemen! gentlemen!" expostulated Judge Dale, "Gentlemen! I insist. This is all out of order." Only one gentleman was out of order, but that was the judge's way. Gordon had remained provokingly cool under the tirade.

Again the soft touch. Small fell into his chair. He poured himself a glass of water from the pitcher standing on the attorneys' table and drank

a little of it nervously. "I move," said the little lawyer, "that all this touching upon the personal matter of this witness and having to do with his private quarrels be stricken out of the evidence as not

bearing on the case in question." All in vain. The judge ruled that it did bear on the case, and Williston

picked up the thread of his story. "We rode and rode hard-it must have been hours; daylight was coming before we stopped. Our horses were his sobs echoed pitifully through the spent. I had no idea where we were. From the formation of the land, I board of health and have it stopped. judged we were not far from the river. There's a limit to everything." "Why We were surrounded by bluffs. I can the board of health?" asked her friend. hardly make you see how clearly this "I should think you would apply to little retreat had been planned. It the Society for the Prevention of was in a valley-one of a hundred Cruelty to Children." "I am not similar in all essential respects. The thinking so much of him," acknowlgulch at the bottom of the valley was edged the flat dweller contritely, "as I heavily wooded with scrub-oak, cot am of my own health. His constant and lumber interests would undoubtthat a few moments before seemed tonwood, woodbine and plum trees, sobbing is getting on my nerves so and this tangle of foliage extended for that I can't sleep."

Mary sat with shining eyes in the some distance up the sides of the front row of wooden chairs. It was bills. In the midst of this underno wonder she had laughed and been | brush-a most excellent screen-was so gay all the dreary yesterday and a tiny cabin. In this tiny cabin I all the worse to-day. Louise shot her have lived, a closely watched prisoner, from that day until I escaped."

The defendant stirred a little uneasily. Was he thinking of Nightbird with the dark, frozen face-who had

"Black left me soon after. He did not unbind me, rather bound me the tighter. There was no one then to watch me. He deigned to inform me that he had found it rather inconvenient to kill me after the relief party rode up, as then there was no abso lute surety of his making a clean get away, and being caught in the act would be bound to be unpleasant, very unpleasant just then, so he had altered his plans a little-for the present. He gave me no hint either that time, nor either of the two times I saw him subsequently, as to what was to be his ultimate disposal of me. I could only suppose that after this trial was well over in his favor, and fear of indictment for arson and murder had blown over-if blow over it did-he would then quietly put an end to me. Dead ager J. A. Munroe of the Union Pacimen tell no tales. The shanty in the gulch did not seem to be much of a rendezvous for secret meetings. I led a lonely existence. My jailers were mostly half-breeds-usually Charlie Nightbird. Two or three times Jake Sanderson was my guard."

Then from the doorway came a voice, a voice whose tones fairly oozed rapture. "Hellity damn! The Three Bars 's

gettin' busy, Mouse-hair!" Judge Dale started. He glared

angrily in that direction. "Remove that man!" he ordered, curtly. He liked Jim, but he could not brook this crying contempt of court. Jim was removed. He went

fully. "I never would 'a' thought it o' the jedge," he murmured, disconsolately. "I never would 'a' thought it."

quietly, but shaking his head reproach-

There was a movement in the back of the room. A man was making his way out, slipping along, cat-like, trying to evade attention. Quietly Gorslipped a paper into his hand.

"Look sharp," he whispered, his steady eyes on the shifty ones of the not blame the shippers of Nebraska sheriff. "If you let him get away, just for comparing Nebraska and Iowa remember the handwriting on the wall. It's our turn now."

Presently there was a slight scuffle by the door and two men quietly left the improvised court-room.

"Day before yesterday, in the afternoon," continued Williston, "I manthreshold as he was about to enter. I had secretly worked a cross-beam was nothing else in the room I might honor and gentlemen of the jury. I me a shake-down. I lay there, nearly dead, until this morning."

He leaned back wearily. Black stood up. He was not lank

nor lazy now, nor shuffling. His body was drawn to its full height. In the instant before the spring, Mary, who was sitting close to the attorneys' table, met his glance squarely. She read there what he was about to do. swift message of understanding, of from the accusing brown eyes to the

cruel ones of the defendant. Quick as a flash Black seized the chair upon which he had been sitting, sprang clear of the table and his lawyers, and landed close to Mary's side. With his chair as a weapon, he meant to force his way to the nearest window. -Mary's dilated. Unhesitatingly she seized the half-emptied glass on the table and dashed the contents full into the prisoner's face. Blinded, he halted a moment in his mad rush. Mary's quick maneuver made Langford's opportunity. He grappled with Black. The crowd went mad with ex-

citement. The prisoner still retained his chair. When Langford grappled with him, he attempted to bring it down upon the fair head of his antagonist. Mary gasped with dread, but Langford grasped the chair with one muscular hand, wrested it from the desperado's hold and threw it to the floor. The two men locked in a close embrace. Langford's great strength was more than sufficient to hold the outlaw until the dazed officers could do their duty -had he been let alone; but two men, who had been standing near the door when the prisoner made his unexpected leap for liberty, had succeeded in worming their way through the excited crowd, and now suddenly threw themselves upon the ranchman, dragging him back.

"Stand aside or I'll shoot!" (TO BE CONTINUED.)

Where the Shoe Pinched. "If they don't quit making that child cry," sighed the flat dweller as court, "I am going to apply to the

THE STATE CAPITAL

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO ALL CITIZENS.

WINDUP OF RATE HEARINGS

No Further Presentation Unless Railway Commission Ask for a Supplemental Hearing.

Reduction of Freights. The general hearing on the proposition of a reduction of freight rates in Nebraska has closed and no further presentation will take place unless the rallway commission asks for a supplemental hearing. The railway employes are yet to be heard. Talks were made by C. E. Spens, general freight agent of the Burlington lines west, General Solicitor J. E. Kelby of the same road, Freight Traffic Manfic, and General Solicitor N. H. Loomis of the Union Pacific. The road men allege that the commission must base rates in Nebraska only on business beginning and ending in the state, and must not consider traffic through the state, beginning in the state and ending outside, or originatloud, clear, resonant voice, a joyful ing outside the state and terminating within the state. After this is done, according to the railway attorneys, wao quote the Wisconsin Railway commission as authority, 80 per cent of the value of the lines and equipment in the state must be taken as the basis for dividend earning, 80 per cent of the equipment having been found necessary to carry purely state traffic. Mr. Kelby said the Burlington earns only 2 per cent on its taxable value in Nebraska on state business, and Mr. Munroe said the Union Pacific earns only 1 per cent on Nebraska business.

General Freight Agent Spens confined his talk to the difference in conditions between Iowa and Nebraska is about 50 per cent of the density don motioned to the sheriff and of traffic in Iowa, and that the cost of carrying decreases with the increase of density of traffic. He said he did rates, but he thought when they understood the conditions they would understand the matter.

Light on Railroad Values.

T. A. Polleys, tax commissioner of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & aged to knock Nightbird down at the Omaha railway company who spoke before the State Board of assessment, appeared to be boosting for a raise from the low, unfinished ceiling. There in the assessed valuation of other railroads in Nebraska or to be looking out use for a weapon. They were very for an assessed valuation that may be careful. I think I killed him, your used before the railway commission as an argument for leave to increase am not sorry. There was no other freight rates. He showed the board way. But I would rather it had been how it might increase the valuation the maker, not the tool. By the time of his own road from \$42,500 a mile I had made my way back to the Lazy in Nebraska to \$47,000, and then he S I was too exhausted to go further; talked an hour or two to show the so I crawled over to my neighbors, board that really \$35,000 was about the Whites, and Mother White made right. The board of assessment last year valued all railroads in the state at an average of \$44,440 a mile, but Mr. Polleys gave a computation showing how it might be \$46,000 a mile.

Corn for Omaha Show. The National Corn commission which is planning for a large representation of Nebraska corn at the show to be held at Omaha, December Only a moment their eyes held each 10 to 19, met here last week to comother's but it was time enough for a plete arrangements for the growing and exhibition of corn. William utter dislike, and of a determined will Ernst of Tecumseh, Dean Burnett of to defeat the man's purpose, to pass the agricultural college, Secretary W. R. Mellor of the state board of agriculture, and members of the committes were present. Secretary E. G. Montgomery of the national exhibition and William James of Dorchester were in attendance.

> State University Commencement. Members of the senior class of the state university have chosen Charles A. Towne of New York as their commencement orator, and he has accepted the invitation. The alumni orator is to be G. W. Gerwig of Allegheny, Pa. The annual concert of the school of music will be held on the evening of June 6. On Sunday, June 7, Chancellor E. Benjamin Andrews will deliver the baccalaureate sermon. The Phi Beta Kappa orator will be Chancellor G. E. McLean of the University of Iowa. As the class play, the senior class will present "The Three Musketeers" on June 9. June 10 will be alumni day.

> Objection to Cut in Rates. E. C. Wright of the Northwestern spoke before the railway commission and asserted that his road could not stand a reduction of class rates; that it is now making only 2.2 per cent on its valuation, and during the nine months of the enforcement of the Aldrich bill made only 4.4 per cent on all business in Nebraska, and for the banner year ending June, 1907, made 6.07 per cent on state and interstate business,

> > Board of Trade.

A quiet effort is now being made to revive the project of forming a board of trade or commercial exchange in Lincoln and there is talk of erecting a large office building to serve as a board of trade, a club house and an office building. The Commercial club has now about \$7,000 subscribed on a building fund, for which at least \$25 .-000 will be needed. If the board of trade project is successful the grain edly join the Commercial club in erecting the building.

NEBRASKA NEWS AND NOTES.

Items of Greater or Lesser Importance Over the State. Douglas county pioneers will picnic

The Wymore State bank has opened

for business. Holdrege schools closed with twentyone graduates.

Ashland citizens sent \$100 to Louisville tornado sufferers. Early planted corn has come up

well and is doing nicely. A Fourth of July celebration has

been arranged for West Point, Four prisoners broke jail at Fremont, making good their escape. The Standard Oil agent at Tecum-

Farmers about Murray have taken initiatory steps toward building an elevator.

seh, after service of six years, has re-

A number of farmers about Murray were worked on an insurance swindte by a man who is now not to be found. In both Omaha and Nebraska City there is a disposition to hold down automobilists who persist in traveling at dangerous speed.

Mrs. J. F. Sapp of eKarney committed suicide at her home by hanging. She had been in poor heaith for some time and was despondent.

The Wymore State bank has opened for business. The officers of the new institution are the same as those who were connected with the State bank. McCook has already passed the \$25, 000 mark in her subscriptions of stock for her new Masonic temple and opera

000 or \$40,000 when completed. Mrs. Clara Dawson Bailey (colored) of Hastings, celebrated her 108th birthday anniversary. She was born in slavery at Richmond, Va., during the

house, which is expected to cost \$35,-

administration of John Adams. The members of the St. Anthony Catholic church at Cedar Rapids are building a farge addition to their church, which for some time past has been too small to accommodate the congregations,

A reception was tendered to Miss M. Ella Tucker by the citizens of Tekamah at the home of Dr. and Mrs. A. B. Nesbit in recognition of her earnest work for the city schools during the last twenty-five years.

The Chicago & Northwestern railroad has resumed running the Saturday and Sunday freight trains from Oakdale to Fremont, which they took off some time ago and which caused considerable discussion.

Charles Smith became entangled in the tumbling shaft of a corn sheller near Edgar, and has it not been for the quick action of his son, who was drivin the horses on the power, he no doubt would have met death. George Warren of Hct Springs, S.

D., formerly a resident of Hastings, who was reported dead in a hospital at Hot Springs, S. D., on February 15 last, surprised his friends by appearing before them the other day. Brandishing a revolver and threaten-

ing to kill his mother, Bert Gue, a young man who escaped from the asyhim at Lincoln last February, was taken in custody at Beatrice by the of-

Suit has been commenced against Sarpy county by Mrs. Martin Teig for damages. Mr. Teig and son, Arthur, were drowned May 12, during the tornado and it is claimed that the read where the accident occurred was unsafe for travel.

The corner-stone of the new brack Catholic church of Shelton was laid last week. The ceremony was witnessed by a large crowd. Rev. Father Wolfe of Grand Island, assisted by Father Lynch of Wood River, was in charge of the ceremonies,

At the annual encampment of the Grand Army at Hastings the veterans of the Nebraska department denounced what they term de , paying politiclans, who in positions of public trust ignore the rights and wishes of the old soldiers in making appointments. Dr. Wilson of Lincoln, state board

of health inspector, arrived in Beemer to decide a dispute between two dcctors in regard to an epidemic among the school children. Several families had been quarantined for smallpox, but it was found to be chicken pox.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Keens of Kearney came in from the west over the Union Pacific last week, having completed their second trip around the world after an absence of just twenty weeks. Mr. and Mrs. Keens kept out of the beaten path of tourists, and after visiting France went to India by way of the Mediterranean and the Suez canal, and traveled about 5,000 miles in India.

Frank Harkins, Las Vegas, N. M. sustained injuries under the wheels of the Burlington fast train at Minden which probably will prove fatal. His arm was badly smashed and was amputated at the shoulder; his face was cut, scalp cut open and body bruised.

Thousands of citizens of York and vicinity and hundreds of visiters witnessed York's first public school May festival. The flower parade was a gorgeous spectacle, with nearly 1,500 happy children in costumes participat-

Secretary F. L. Rain of the Fairbury chautauqua has issued the pregram for the fourth aunual meeting, which will be held at the chautaugus ground, August 14 to 23, inclusive. The list of talent engaged embraces the best obtainable and covers a wide range of topics and attractions.

George Finley, engineer of a Burlings ton passenger train, was killed, Daniel Be Hollinger, mail clerk, and John O'Donnell, engineer and John Storm. fireman, respectively, of a freight train, were hadly hurt in a head-on collision between a Hurlington passenger and freight train, near Wymore, I WRITER OF REAL TALENT.

Evidently the Bushby Clarion Had a Genius on Its Staff.

The editor of the Bushby Clarion leaned back in his chair and surveyed his visitor with a solemn and unwinking gaze. "You want to know if there's any good reporter in this town?" he said, impressively. "Well, there is. There's Gid Hobart."

"What sort of work can he do?" asked the visitor.

"His capabilities haven't had their full chance yet," said the editor, slowly, "but he's getting on, and I'm afraid we shall lose him before long. Why, last week that fellow wrote a twocolumn account of a fire that was thrilling, I tell you!"

"Farmhouse, old mother, grandfather born there, and so forth, I suppose?" said the visitor.

"No, sir!" said the editor. "It was a deserted hen-house, that's what it was. I can tell you, that takes talent! We can't expect to keep Gid with us always."-Youth's Companion.

NO SKIN LEFT ON BODY.

For Six Months Baby Was Expected to Die with Eczema-Now Well -Doctor Said to Use Cuticura.

"Six months after birth my little girl broke out with eczema and I had two doctors in attendance. There was not a particle of skin left on her body, the blood oozed out just anywhere, and we had to wrap her in silk and carry her on a pillow for ten weeks. She was the most terrible sight I ever saw, and for six months I looked for her to die. I used every known remedy to alleviate her suffering, for it was terrible to witness, Dr. C- gave her up. Dr. - recommended the Cuticura Remedies. She will soon be three years old and has never had a sign of the dread trouble since. We used about eight cakes of Cuticura Soap and three boxes of Cuticura Ointment. James J. Smith, Durmid, Va., Oct. 14 and 22, 1906."

WAIT TILL HE SEES THE BILL.



"My husband has promised to allow me to choose what I want for my birthday."

this year. "Won't there! I'll bet you there is,

only he'll get it instead of me." The Soft Answer.

Senator Tillman at a banquet in Washington said in humorous defense of outspoken and frank methods:

"These people who always keep calm fill me with mistrust. Those that never lose their temper I suspect. He who wears under abuse an angelic smile is apt to be a hypocrite.

"An old South Carolina deacon once said to me with a chuckle:

"'Keep yo' tempah, son. Don't yo' quarrel with no angry pusson. A soft answah am allus best. Hit's commanded an', furthermo', sonny, hit makes 'em maddah'n anything else yo' could say.' "

The Little Things.

"You-shouldn't," the doctor advised, "permit yourself to be worried ... by little things."

"Good heavens," replied the patient, "I wouldn't if I could help it, but how is a man who has married a widow with six children going to get around it?"

DR. TALKS OF FOOD

Pres. of Board of Health.

"What shall I eat?" is the daily inquiry the physician is met with. I do not hesitate to say that in my judgment a large percentage of disease is caused by poorly selected and improperly prepared food. My personal experience with the fully cooked food, known as Grape-Nuts, enables me to speak freely of its merits.

"From overwork, I suffered several years with malnutrition, palpitation of the heart and loss of sleep. Last summer I was led to experiment personally with the new food, which I used in conjunction with good rich cow's milk. In a short time after I commenced its use, the disagreeable symptoms disappeared, my heart's action became steady and normal, the functions of the stomach were properly carried out and I again slept as soundly and as well as in my youth.

"I look upon Grape-Nuts as a perfect food, and no one can gainsay but that It has a most prominent place in a rational, scientific system of feeding. Any one who uses this food will soon be convinced of the soundness of the principle upon which it is manufactured and may thereby know the facts as to its true worth." Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's

a Reason." Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.