

PAUL'S AWAKENING.

"Mr. Williams, one moment, please." "What is it, sir?" "Mr. Williams, with another slight touch, we have decided, owing to the roughness of which you are probably so well aware as we, that we will not need you any longer. As soon as you can secure employment elsewhere we shall expect you to resign your position with us."

"I really don't—don't understand you," was the reply. "Have you discovered any errors in the books?" "None at all—none at all. We would be perfectly willing to indorse a certificate of your honesty and proficiency as an accountant. What I refer to is an entirely different thing."

"The fact is, we have found that you are heavily indebted in various parts of the city, much more than we desire any one in our employ to be. Several firms where you have considerable accounts standing for some time have applied to us to secure them. This we cannot do."

"I think that this thing has—has been exaggerated," stated the young man. "But as you may have other reasons for wishing to discharge me I will go at once." And then Paul Williams, feeling, as people always do who meet with the penalty of their indiscretion, that he had been dealt with unjustly, walked away.

A almost unaccountable beat his steps toward a distant hill, whereon lay the city cemetery, and half an hour later he was walking up the hill with long, sweeping strides, totally indifferent to the fact that the dust of the road was destroying the polish of his shapely shoes which that very morning he had put on with so much care.

Paul Williams was a man of five and twenty, and for four years had held the position from which he had now been so suddenly dismissed. Though he had no habits which could have been called really bad, he unfortunately possessed traits of character which kept him from succeeding in his friends' had just reasons to expect. He was one of the members of a band of young men who, though not dissipated, had formed the dangerous habit of spending money as fast or faster than they earned it.

Some two years before he had begun to pay his attentions to a young lady, who was not his betrothed, and as he was not of any new to appear in the eyes of the woman he loved he had often made presents and spent money upon her when she would have respected him just as much, perhaps more, if he had kept his purse closed.

The young man might not have come to grief had it not been for another habit more seductive and infinitely more dangerous than all the others—the practice of running into debt heedlessly and without thought. It had always been a failing with him, but within a year it had grown stronger than ever.

All these things presented themselves to Paul Williams in their true light for the first time as he sat alone in the silent cemetery. After a time he came to feel that the action of his employers, harsh as it might seem, was not without cause.

First of all he would draw what money he had in the bank, and as he was not to pay that money he owed, and then he would go away from John's and try to find something to do which would enable him to pay the debt.

Two hours later Paul Williams sat in his room with a package of bills, on each of which was the amount of a large debt on one hand and on the other a roll of banknotes. All told, he was in debt \$700.

Then he turned and counted the bills before him. There was less than \$400, a little more than half what he owed. After a hasty dinner he once more sallied out on the street, and visiting each of his creditors paid what he could, until not a dollar remained in his pocket.

"Paul," said the junior member of the firm as he handed him a check, "I'm confoundedly sorry about this thing. It's a wretched business from beginning to end, and if I could have had any way about it, old boy, I would have done it for you. I would a friend up in Wisconsin, who wrote me some time since that he wanted a good bookkeeper, that if the place was not already filled I could find a capital man for him. I have just received an answer, which says, 'Let him come at once.' So if you want to go you are not out all around. What say you?"

"I will go at once—tonight," was the prompt reply. Paul's hardest task still lay before him—to see his intended wife and to tell her all the young man told his story openly and frankly, emitting nothing and concealing nothing.

He told of the opportunities that lay before him and of the sacrifices he was determined to make until he had paid every cent, but there would be a stain upon his name, and if she wished she was free to break the engagement between them at once.

But if he had thought that she would take such a step he was destined to be happily disappointed, for her reply was: "Paul, although I have feared for a long time that something like this was going to happen, I don't want to be free from you, because—because I love you. Go away, do the best you can, and, even though I may, know that there is one who trusts you and is waiting for you."

When a year had passed, he had paid everything and was beginning to save. Besides he had dropped all of his foolish airs and habits and become in every way more manly and independent.

One day near the close of his second year the young bookkeeper and his employer were talking together when the latter said: "Paul, I am thinking of taking in a partner. My business is growing so fast that it needs two to attend to it, and I want some one that thoroughly understands it. Have you been here? You must, for you haven't any expensive habits."

At first the young man blushed and seemed slightly confused, but recovering himself he told his employer in a few words how he had come to love John's part and in what way the most of his money had been spent since that time.

"This is a surprise to me," was the reply, "yet I am not sorry to hear it, for it shows that you have the right stuff in you." Paul Williams is now the master of a pleasant home and far on the road to wealth, but he has not forgotten the bitter experience of the past and often affirms that never, never again will he be the debtor of any one.—Exchange.

"A fat hog tied to a tree never failed to collect a pack. The trouble was that it drew too many. The wolves would gather to the number of 200 or 300 and devour the pig. Then we could dash upon the scene, and the fun would commence. They are as fleet as a deer. To say that they are as fleet as wolves would be more like it. They can outrun the horses every time, and if they are not picked off as fast as they come up you might as well give up the fight and permit yourself to be devoured. Imagine yourself making a running fight with a band of 300 hungry, maddened wolves, and with the knowledge that if one of the fleet little brutes reaches your horses you are a dead man, and you can possibly imagine what a nerve sport it is. It requires a cool head and a good eye. If you miss your mark, you're gone. Your only chance of safety is in keeping your horses up. It is generally a long fight. You look back and see the carcasses of the animals dotting the snow for a mile or two in your wake, and still they pile up in great numbers. Slowly the pack thins out. Many have dropped bleeding to the ground. Others stop to devour the carcasses. The more that fall the more timid the rest become. When you finally outdistance the pack, you have been through the most trying ordeal that the most ardent sportsman could wish. I consider the hunting the most dangerous sport there is. Tiger hunting in India is tame beside it. If you go into the jungles of India to shoot a tiger, you are accompanied by a long retinue. You shoot your prey from the bowhead of an elephant. If you miss your victim, there are 20 bullets ready for him before he springs. A person might as well go tiger hunting in a menagerie. The only unsatisfactory part of the sport which wolves afford is that after you are all through you haven't anything to show for your efforts. But it is great sport."—Boston Transcript.

On Pike's Peak. Sergeant O'Keefe, who spent five years on Pike's peak in charge of the signal station, says that the lowest temperature he ever recorded was 50 degrees below zero and the highest 62 degrees above. The wind often blows with a velocity of 135 miles an hour.—St. Louis Republic.

Roman swords, recovered from tombs, weigh six to ten pounds, and battles are fought 20, showing the great strength of Roman soldiers.

DR. C. C. FURLEY, Office 351 E. Douglas Ave., cor. Topoka. Residence 1929 N. Lawrence ave. Telephone No. 92.

A. M. HOWE, M. D., Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat Office, 402 East Douglas Ave.

DR. HAZELTON, DISPENSING PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON Office—113 West Second St. Residence—409 Campbell Ave., West Side. WOMEN AND MEN visiting the city for special treatment should consult Dr. Hazelton. Special attention given Obstetrical practice.

L. J. JONES, M. D., East Douglas and Topoka Avenues. P. O. Box 336, Wichita, Kan. Hours, Sunday Excepted: 8 to 10 a. m. and 2 to 4 p. m.

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W. D. McCLEES, M. D., Office and residence over 561-603 East Douglas Avenue. Office hours 9 to 11 a. m., 1:30 to 4:30 and 7 to 8 p. m. Phone 293. Any one desiring information after my office hours will please inquire of day or night clerk at Hotel Carey.

DR. D. A. WILLIAMS Has moved his office to room 9, over 142 N. Main St. He has for sale the Fuller Electric Belt and Batteries for the cure of diseases. Call and see him.

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IDEAL STOVES, WICHITA STOVE AND IRON WORKS, Manufacturers of Ideal Cook and Heating Stoves And Adjustable Stove Repairs. Architectural Iron Work, Sash Weights, Grate Bars, Post Masts and Castings of All Kinds. MOORE BROS., Proprietors, WICHITA

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