CLEVER WOMEN CHEATS.

PRETTY, WELL-MANNERED AND EXCEEDINGLY HARD TO DETECT

Children's Hospitals, Day Nurseries and Orphan Asylums the Favorite Sources of Heartless Frauds—Known Men of Honored the Neediest Victims—Method Exactly Pursued by These Female Sharpers

"Women are the curse of the world."

The man whose business [illegible] about taking [illegible] kins from women [illegible] other garb [illegible] outlined as one who [illegible] as he must be if he [illegible]

"One would think [illegible] men a thing [illegible] on reflection [illegible] other man [illegible] fellow. He has [illegible] experience of the [illegible] and even then there are [illegible] varieties of fake that [illegible] new war each day of his life [illegible] through with the [illegible] fakirs half the time [illegible] against them. I could not be [illegible] to keep Wall Street [illegible] wheat market or [illegible] to pig iron, but [illegible] good clothes [illegible] invertebrate as a jellyfish. [illegible] hands. He buys anything [illegible] him; and, if she tells him [illegible] Sheba and has [illegible] by Cecil Rhodes [illegible] mines to sell, he [illegible] mar. Talk about [illegible] about twenty-four hours [illegible] to come out of the [illegible] around for accurate information [illegible] location of Sheba.

"There are gangs of women [illegible] headquarters are here in New York [illegible] operate throughout the [illegible] doesn't do for them to [illegible] because they would [illegible] and their confederates [illegible] they turn up in New York [illegible] year, carry through [illegible] go on to fresh fields [illegible] plan of campaign [illegible] They are only [illegible] chosen because of [illegible] nese and partners [illegible] hand. They are [illegible] their profession, and [illegible] keep track of the [illegible] They have counsel [illegible] rical managers and [illegible] can tell, on [illegible] woman they [illegible] York or San Francisco.

"I think that [illegible] met almost every [illegible] I'm willing to [illegible] of women so attractive [illegible] You see they [illegible] their stock in trade. [illegible] respectable, fairly educated, good looking, refined and travelled and [illegible] proachably good [illegible] they look common and [illegible] manners, their flesh of neediness is [illegible] They must be able to improve upon shrewd and cultured men as well as upon men with more money than refinement. That is why they must be able, when the occasion [illegible] their way with women and [illegible] in decent society. [illegible] ing dollars out of a [illegible]

"Until very recently [illegible] a gang of twenty [illegible] New York. That [illegible] and sent them around through [illegible] Her standing was excellent [illegible] entrée into many good houses and was [illegible] speaking terms with half a dozen women of New York. Philadelphia, Boston and two smaller towns. Then [illegible]

"Charitable entertainments were her great field. She started [illegible] enough to arranging and conducting concerts and that sort of thing for charitable purposes. That is, the patrons of such affairs would engage her to get up the entertainment and would pay her for her services. She was agreeable, handsome, tactful and moderately successful in the work. She formed a valuable acquaintance among wealthy people, and she engineered many fashionable charity entertainments in this city. But the legitimate was too slow for her. She wanted to get rich fast, and a fine opportunity to do so had been worked in that way. Women offered her inducements to her. She went in for the charity entertainment fake.

"This is the way it is worked. A woman goes to the lady patroness of every board of some charitable institution that isn't on Easy street financially, and need money, she says. She wants to help that they do. She offers to give an entertainment for them, says she has a corps of capable musicians and entertainers. She will assume all the work and responsibility and will pay them, well, say $50. If they will allow her the use of their house, she explains that, allowing for expenses of a good hall, performers and all that, she will be able to clear just about $500 for herself, a fair 50 per cent. She is plausible, charming and has satisfactory references. The thing looks to the Executive Board like a snap and they agree. Then the fakir turns her women solicitors loose in the business district. She has circulars and programmes printed, giving the names of the prominent women connected with the charity, and saying nothing about the terms of the contract. The agent calls on a wealthy man at his office, explains the pressing needs of the charitable institution, which is usually a day nursery or children's hospital. Men will give more readily to children's institutions than to anything else. The man is smoothed into amiability by the ingratiating agent, and he sees on the programme and circular the names of women who are on his wife's visiting list, so he thinks the thing is all right and buys the tickets seldom less than $10 each. The entertainment is usually a poor one, with cheap talent. The fakir pockets the cash. This woman I wanted to tell you about made $4,500 on one of her deals, after paying the day nursery $500. The charitable men downtown thought they were helping along the poor little children, and never dreamed they were buying sealskin jackets and diamonds and keeping up swell apartments for the wearers of the furs and jewelry. This particular woman had a big advantage because she had made a valuable reputation while she was on the square, and she coined money while it lasted. But at last she overreached herself. She pocketed in several cases, and, finally, was literally driven out of town, though there was no hold upon her that the law could get. She went to Chicago and took twenty of her women with her, and sister cities of there have had warnings, so she will be probably soon find Chicago as hot for her as New York was.

"You really ought to hear some of these women talk the charity for which they are canvassing. Two of them tried to sell me tickets for an infants' hospital entertainment. I knew all about the institution and met them purposely, but they did not know they were nurses in the hospital, and the way they went on about the suffering and needs of those poor infants almost brought tears to my eyes. After they had gone I told them who they were, and that caused great tears to flow from their eyes. The reason that these women fakirs put themselves in a position where they can be recognized in the hospital if a business man says that the agent assured him his money would go directly to the charity, and that all the profits would be devoted to the purpose specified, they denies it, and there is no way of proving it here. That will be left to the adjusting the fact that [illegible] prefers keeping still and letting the woman go her way. You need [illegible] how many advertisements are [illegible] society here and [illegible] acquaintance with the [illegible] to run down a [illegible] woman is [illegible] Mrs. A. [illegible] her at Mrs. B's. [illegible] and so it goes. Nobody [illegible] thing about her, but [illegible] circle of some good [illegible] and she was [illegible]

"Fully [illegible] that are outside the [illegible] run by women [illegible] living by doing the [illegible] Representative [illegible] as profitable [illegible] and [illegible] has its [illegible] body except [illegible] shrewd [illegible] would [illegible] business [illegible] brought [illegible] Wise [illegible] Training [illegible] them. Several [illegible] ing $400 [illegible] good will so [illegible] ing that he [illegible] thing [illegible] member of the brotherhood. He was present when this affair was discussed, turned fakir later. He and another fellow started a fake advertising game. They published a souvenir pamphlet in the name of the brotherhood, history of the organization and all that sort of thing, and then went around getting business men to contribute funds. They didn't ask for big sums in the beginning. They would have made them bigger in the long run if they had done so, but they were afraid the game would be found out before they had got much money. They worked for prominent men, who they knew would be willing to pay a little money to get rid of the fellows, and these men gave them a good deal of money. The fellows made a good thing out of it, and then they went to other men who had made early and improvident marriages and, after resorting to blackmail, married girls and were living happily with their husbands, and threatened that they would expose the fact to their husbands unless they paid them a sum of money. In this way they got hold of a good deal of money.

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