

Barton County Democrat.

STOKE AND FEDER, PUBL. AND PROP.
WILL E. STOKER, EDITOR AND MANAGER
GREAT BEND, KANSAS

THE LOST.

Down in the crowded, busy street
A little child was lost;
He ran with weary little feet
Where hurrying hundreds crossed;
From those who stopped he turned aside,
And, filled with sudden fear,
He wildly, pitifully cried
For one who did not hear.

His anxious father came at last
And clasped the weeping boy,
And many a one who hurried past
Concealed a tear of joy.
The father kissed the little face
With all the stains it bore,
And blissful trust was in the place
Where fear had been before.

I am but a child that's lost;
By dreadful doubts oppressed
I think of gulfs that must be crossed,
And fear is in my breast.
O, will my faith return to me,
Will He come back some day
To where I linger doubtfully,
And lead me on the way?
—S. E. Kiser, in Chicago Record-Herald.

The KIDNAPPED MILLIONAIRES

A Tale of Wall Street and the Tropics

By FREDERICK U. ADAMS

Copyright, 1901, by Lothrop Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

CHAPTER II.—CONTINUED.

"Certainly he proposed a remedy," said Hestor, rallying to the support of the editorial staff. "He demands the enforcement of the anti-trust law which, if put into operation, will result in the disintegration of criminal trusts."

"You talk like a political platform, Walter," replied Hammond. "You believe nothing of the kind. You are perfectly well aware that no effective anti-trust law will be affirmed by the courts. Every time a test is made, the various courts pronounce such laws unconstitutional. Twenty states have passed anti-trust enactments, and all have met the same fate. I do not believe it is possible by law to prevent any two men, 20 men or 100 men from consolidating their interests and thereby saving and increasing their profits. The trust is the inevitable result of revolutionary forces. It possesses certain advantages. These must be conserved. On the other hand, the trust of to-day possesses certain features which menace our very existence as a people. A remedy must be found; but it must be a natural remedy. You know my views on this subject, and I do not propose to abuse your hospitality by inflicting anew on you the details of my pet theory, which may or may not be worthy of consideration."

"If we could but devise some plan to bring about a national or international congress of such men," said Hestor, taking out his pencil and jotting down a list he had in mind. "I can imagine the headlines, 'College of Financial Giants,' 'Millionaires as Reformers,' 'Syndicates to the Rescue,' 'Trusts Tremble,' 'Wealth Willing to Compromise.' It would be great! If we could get some foreign financiers with titles to stand sponsor for the idea, our home product would be more likely to follow their lead. It is worth thinking about. I am going to cable Van Horne and suggest it to him."

"No, I do not think it possible to bring such a body of men into a conference," continued Hammond, as Hestor remained silent, with a far-away expression in his eyes. "In the first place they would not meet; in the second place, they would not talk. They are not willing even to defend their methods, to say nothing of taking the initiative towards reforming them. We must possess our souls in patience; do the best we can, and let the sequence of events work out its destiny. It is our good fortune that we can better afford to wait than most of those who think they have reason to complain. A millionaire lawyer with a good practice, and the millionaire correspondent and special envoy of a newspaper, should be able to withstand the onslaughts of trust magnates for a considerable period."

"I am going to form a trust," said Hestor suddenly.

"Yes?"

"You need not laugh. I am. I am going to form a newspaper trust."

"All right, Walter," rejoined Hammond, who was familiar with Hestor's moods. "It is too late for you to begin to-night. Let me know when you are ready to draw up the papers and I will render you my best services as your attorney. Thus far I have been more successful in organizing trusts than fighting them."

"I will need your services in a short time," said Hestor, with some excitement, which Hammond attributed to the wine. "I am not jesting. Of course this is confidential."

"Certainly. I am going to Chicago to-morrow, and will be back in about a week."

"Let me see you when you get back. I shall wish to talk with you."

"I will do so. Olive, by dear," said Hammond, addressing his sister. "It is time your aged brother was on his way home. I shall ask the permission of the ladies, and of our excellent host to depart, as I have a long journey ahead of me to-morrow—or more properly to-day—it now being past two o'clock."

"You and Walter are as gallant as you can be," pouted Miss Le Roy, as Mr. Hestor gave the signal for the

party to disperse. "Just because you have talked all you wish, we must all run along home like good little girls. I am going to give a supper party soon, and it will last until everybody has talked as much as they care to." And with this awful threat Miss Le Roy was captured by Mr. Hestor and led away to her carriage, nor did her smiling face show that her resentment was deep or lasting.

CHAPTER III. MR. HECTOR PLANS A NEWSPAPER TRUST.

The morning after the supper Hestor appeared at the Record office at an early hour. He looked over his mail, and then wrote a note to Palmer J. Morton, the great financier and railroad magnate, requesting an early interview on a matter of some importance. This off his mind, Hestor made the rounds of the office. He chatted awhile with Mr. Chalmers, and then drifted into the art department. He was in effervescent spirits, and seemed highly satisfied with all the world. Finally he returned to his room and proceeded to work off the exuberance of his animal spirits by performing a clog step to a lively tune, the words of which he sang with more regard for speed and exact time than for expression:

"There was an old geezer, and he had a wooden leg,
No tobacco could he borrow, no tobacco could he beg;
Another old geezer was as cunning as a fox,
And he always had tobacco in his old tobacco box."
(Spirited breakdown and repeat—)
"Yes, he always had tobacco in his old tobacco box."

As the versatile Mr. Hestor paused to contemplate with much satisfaction, the success which had been attained in this terpsichorean diversion Mr. Chalmers, the managing editor, entered the room.

"By the way, Chalmers," said Hestor, as he paced up and down the room, "why wouldn't it be a good scheme to let the women of New York assume entire charge of the Record for a week. Get some well-known society woman to act as editor-in-chief, and advertise for women writers of all kinds. Of course you will have to look after the mechanical and routine part of the paper, but let them collect and write all the stuff. Select young women to report the horse races, prize fights, the police news, the courts and to handle all departments of the paper. They could run just as much or as little foreign and out-of-town stuff as they pleased. They would write all of the editorials and draw all of the pictures. Great scheme—don't you think so?"

Mr. Chalmers said it would probably drive him into an insane asylum, but that it was nothing short of an inspiration. He agreed to outline a plan and to confer with some progressive women he had in mind.

While they were discussing this project, word was received from Mr. Palmer J. Morton that though very busy he would be pleased to see Mr. Hestor about four o'clock that afternoon. The financier was not unacquainted with the erratic correspondent of The Record, and while not in sympathy with the aims or methods of that paper was not inclined to incur hostility by refusing the request made by Hestor.

At four o'clock the Hestor automobile wheeled in front of a Broadway office building, and a few minutes later the famous correspondent was ushered into the magnate's private office. This apartment was severely plain.

Mr. Morton was a large, broad-shouldered man, with a close-cropped beard which must have once been black or dark brown. Shaggy grey eyebrows stood guard over eyes of steel blue-grey; eyes which looked you full in the face as if to bid you tell your innermost thoughts; and to tell them quickly. Enormous hands were knotted with muscles of which the foreman of a railroad section gang might be proud. A dark suit of blue; a scarf of the same color, without any pin; and a modest watch chain, were features of apparel which distinguished Mr. Morton from the well-dressed attendants who ushered Hestor into this office.

"I am glad to see you again, Mr. Hestor. Take a chair. You will find that one more comfortable. I trust you do not intend to interview me. You know my rule." Mr. Morton looked sternly at Hestor, who smiled and replied that he had long ago abandoned that enterprise as a vain pursuit.

"I have called on a matter of business," said Mr. Hestor, briskly, as he removed his gloves, and leaned slightly forward in his chair. "You are a busy man and I will attempt to state my proposition as concisely as possible. According to popular report and to general knowledge you have been kept the moving spirit in those great financial undertakings which have resulted in the reorganization of various industries. Your standing is such that your name is sufficient to guarantee the success of any undertaking of this character. Did it ever occur to you that there is one great industry which never yet has tested the benefits which come from a community of ownership? In other words, have you considered the possibilities of a newspaper trust?"

Mr. Hestor paused. The stern old millionaire did not answer for a moment, and seemed to be waiting for the editor to continue. Hestor was content to wait.

"I have thought of it, but I did not imagine the first suggestion would come from a representative of The Record," said Mr. Morton. Hestor was not the least abashed.

"I am not responsible for what appears in The Record, and you know

enough about newspapers, and especially metropolitan papers, to understand the exigencies of politics," he said. "You will concede that our criticism of trusts has not seriously interfered with your plans. In any—"

"I do not concede that," interrupted Mr. Morton. "That, however, has nothing to do with your proposition. State your plan. I am willing to listen to it."

"There is no industry in the country offering so great an opportunity for trust management as that of the newspaper press," said Mr. Hestor, with earnestness. "It is true that we have the Associated Press service, which is a co-operative affair, but this, while an invulnerable adjunct, is really a small item in the total expense of a great paper. It simply does on a small scale what can and should be done on a large scale."

"You would have a syndicate of papers—one paper in each of the large cities," suggested Mr. Morton.

"I would have a syndicate which would own two papers in all cities having populations in excess of 100,000," replied Mr. Hestor.

"Yes, I see. One republican and one democratic paper in each city. Ah-um-m. That would be quite a



"I HAVE THOUGHT OF IT," SAID MR. HESTOR.

plan," said Mr. Morton, drawing his hand slowly over his stubbled chin. "Both under one general management, I suppose?"

"Certainly."

"Have you made any general estimates of the expense of such a plan, or prepared any synopsis of the way in which it could be executed?" asked Mr. Morton, with the first manifestation of real interest.

"I did not care to go to the trouble and expense of doing so until I had a conference with you," replied Hestor, who guarded himself against over-enthusiasm when he saw that he had made some progress. "It will require considerable capital, much work, and good judgment in the execution of the plans; and more than all, the most rigid secrecy must be maintained. You are the only man to whom this subject has been broached, and I need not ask you to regard this matter as strictly confidential in case you should decide to do nothing in the way of its advancement."

Mr. Morton nodded his head and growled a consent to this injunction, which he evidently regarded as unnecessary.

"I would start this syndicate in a chain of 30 cities, with two papers in each," continued Mr. Hestor, who rapidly noted a list. "Here are the cities I have in mind: New York, Brooklyn, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Rochester, Buffalo, Atlanta, New Orleans, Louisville, Cincinnati, Pittsburg, Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis, Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul or Minneapolis, St. Louis, Omaha, Galveston, Kansas City, Denver, Helena, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, San Francisco and Los Angeles."

Mr. Hestor then entered into a detailed and comprehensive explanation of the proposed newspaper trust. He submitted figures showing that 60 papers could be purchased for less than \$115,000,000, and proved that these papers were then earning \$7,500,000 a year, or more than five per cent. on the required investment. Hestor proposed retrenchment in three important departments, viz.: the Sunday papers, the editorial staffs, and the abolition of the advertising agency. Instead of preparing 60 Sunday papers, the syndicate would print four, each of surpassing excellence. These four papers would give all syndicate papers in contiguous territory a distinct Sunday paper. Each of these four Sunday papers would have a marked specialty, and each would strongly appeal to a certain class of readers. One would make a specialty of amusements; another of literature; the third of fiction, and the fourth of science and art—but each would be a complete magazine. Hestor showed that four such Sunday magazines could afford to employ the highest literary and artistic genius of the world, and proved that no competition with them would be possible. The saving would amount to not less than \$4,000,000 a year, in the single item of Sunday papers.

The editorial department would be conducted on a similar plan. Instead of 400 editorial writers—as at present—he would have a staff of 20; acknowledged authorities in their respective specialties. The editor-in-chief would keep in touch with the owners of the syndicate, who would thus be able to dictate the thought of the country in the leading republican and democratic papers.

"The reduced expenses of the editor's department will be about \$700,000," said Mr. Hestor. "You can place your own estimate on the financial benefits your syndicate will receive from being able to inspire and regulate the thought of a nation."

Hestor then explained how millions

could be saved by dealing direct with advertisers without the intervention of the advertising agency, which he characterized as the "most stupid survival of the middle-man system." He explained that the agency levied tribute on advertiser and newspaper, and that an enormous percentage was absorbed by a worthless parasite. Hestor said that a staff of ten men could do the work now performed by several thousand.

"The expense of securing advertising will be practically nothing," concluded Hestor; "the average rates will be doubled, and we will receive all of the enormous fund which now goes to the agencies. This will be of benefit to all concerned, except to the useless and decadent advertising middle-man. I would not dare place any estimate on the added revenues from this much-needed reform. It certainly will far exceed any other item of saving."

"You make out a strong case," said Mr. Morton, after an interval, in which both gentlemen said nothing. "This is too important a matter to decide off-hand. I should not care to go into it without consulting with some of my associates. What financial interests have you in mind in this connection?"

"I propose to leave that matter entirely in your hands," replied Mr. Hestor promptly. "I do not know that I am an unfriendly terms with any of the men who are reported to be your associates in similar organizations. I stand ready to invest \$10,000,000, provided a company is financed for a total of \$125,000,000 or \$150,000,000. I have talked this matter over with Mr. Van Horne, and you can count on his co-operation."

"You have the proper confidence in your plans," said Mr. Morton. "I will discuss this project with some of my associates. If I find they deem it worthy of more careful examination, it might be well to arrange a conference and settle on some definite mode of procedure. Mind you, I am not holding out any promises. If these gentlemen evince a decided interest in the matter I will communicate with you. The secrecy of the plan will not leak out through the men I have in mind."

"When can I reasonably expect to hear from you?"

"Four of the gentlemen I have in mind meet here to-morrow afternoon at a director's meeting," said Mr. Morton, consulting a memorandum. "Later they dine with me at an uptown club. I will see what they think about it and send you word when I can see you. In the mean time it will be a good idea to reduce your plans to writing. If possible, make an estimate of the amount annually expended by your 60 papers for commissions paid to advertising agencies. Make your report as comprehensive as possible. I can give this no more time to-day. I have an engagement at five o'clock."

Mr. Morton arose, closed his desk, and shook hands with Mr. Hestor. That gentleman joined the crowd of clerks who had finished their day's work, descended the marble stairs and stepped into his automobile.

[To Be Continued.]

RUINED HIS REPUTATION.

How an African Fetish Man Ousted an English Doctor Who Had Supplanted Him.

A hunter and explorer who has sojourne'd for years among the African natives tells the following amusing story, says Cassell's Journal.

"One day an English doctor, a young fellow of roving disposition like myself, appeared in the native village, where he stayed as my guest for some months. His medical skill soon gained him a great reputation as a medicine man, and the native fetish man soon found his occupation gone and his own healing powers utterly discredited, for his patients all flocked to the white doctor.

"One day the fetish man was found in a trance, but everybody, myself and the white doctor included, believed him dead. The natives proceeded to bury him, when he suddenly came to himself and naturally vigorously resisted burial. But his frantic assertion that he was not dead was emphatically negated by his would-be undertakers.

"You dead, sure 'nuff! they insisted. 'White doctor say so. White doctor know best. You know nothing.'"

"And they would actually have buried the unfortunate wretch alive had not the white doctor got wind of the proceedings and come running up. Of course he at once endorsed the fetish man's frantic statement that the latter was alive, but by doing so he ruined his own reputation in the natives' eyes, for they thereafter looked upon him as a blunderer and an ignorant impostor, while the fetish man was raised to high honor as a mighty magician who could die and come alive again whenever he pleased."

A Schoolboy's Logic.

Indifferent correspondents will sympathize with the lad, who, after he had been at a boarding-school for a week without writing to his parents, penned the following letter: "Dear people—I am afraid I shall not be able to write often to you, because you see when anything is happening I haven't time to write, and when nothing is happening there's nothing to write about. So now, goody-by, from your Georgie."—Liverpool Post.

Proof Positive.

Little Mabel—Ethan must think you're lots better than any of her other beaux.

Mr. Spoonaway (gratified and blushing)—Why, dear?

Little Mabel—Because she let me stay in the room when you call, and she don't when the others call.—Stray Stories.

MEDICAL EXAMINER

Of the United States Treasury Recommends Pe-ru-na.

Other Prominent Physicians Use and Endorse Pe-ru-na.

DR. LLEWELLYN Jordan, Medical Examiner of the U. S. Treasury Department, graduate of Columbia College, and who served three years at West Point has the following to say of Peruna:

"Allow me to express my gratitude to you for the benefit derived from your wonderful remedy. One short month has brought forth a vast change and I now consider myself a well man after months of suffering. Fellow sufferers, Peruna will cure you."

A constantly increasing number of physicians prescribe Peruna in their practice. It has proven its merits so thoroughly that even the doctors have overcome their prejudice against so-called patent medicines and recommend it to their patients.

Peruna occupies a unique position in medical science. It is the only internal systemic catarrh remedy known to the medical profession to-day. Catarrh, as everyone will admit, is the cause of one-half the disease which afflicts mankind, and catarrh and catarrhal diseases afflict one-half of the people of United States.

Robert R. Roberts, M. D., Washington, D. C., writes:

"Through my own experience as well as that of many of my friends and acquaintances who have been cured or relieved of catarrh by the use of Hartman's Peruna, I can confidently recommend it to those suffering from such disorders, and have no hesitation in prescribing it to my patients."—Robert R. Roberts.

Dr. R. Robbins, Muskogee, I. T., writes:

"Peruna is the best medicine I know of for coughs and to strengthen a weak stomach and to give appetite. Besides prescribing it for catarrh, I have ordered it for weak and debilitated people, and have not had a patient but who it helped him. It is an excellent medicine and it fits so many cases.

"I have a large practice, and have a chance to prescribe your Peruna. I hope you may live long to do good to the sick and the suffering."

Dr. M. C. Gee, writes from 515 Jones St., San Francisco, Cal., and says:

"Peruna has performed so many wonderful cures in San Francisco that I am convinced that it is a valuable remedy. I have frequently advised its use for

Not Without Distinction.

A note of family pride was struck in the conversation between three small leading boys the other day. The parts played by their respective grandfathers in the civil war were being depicted by two of the boys in vivid colors. The career of each, it seemed, had been halted by confinement in southern prisons, and it was on the latter fact that the lads laid particular stress. The third youth, unable to match these recitals with any military achievement of his own forefathers, preserved an envious silence for a while, and then, not to be outdone, said, disparagingly: "Why, that's not so much. My Uncle Bill was in jail a long time, and he was never in the army at all."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Thought It Was Solled.

They were a party of people from "up state," and nothing in the big city interested them so much as the great ships at the docks. They had been wandering fully over the deck of a four-master just about to clear with coal for an eastern port, and after awhile one of the women found in open hatch.

"Come here!" she called excitedly to her nearest companion, with the air of one who has made a discovery. "Look! Look! Just think! She's holler!"—Youth's Companion.

Billion Dollar Grass and Alfalfa.

When we introduced this remarkable grass three years ago, little did we dream it would be the most talked of grass in America, the biggest, quick, hay producer on earth, but this has come to pass.

Agr. Editors wrote about it, Agr. College Professors lectured about it, while in the farm house by the quiet fireside, in the corner grocery, in the village post-office, at the creamery, at the depot, in fact wherever farmers gathered, Salzer's Billion Dollar Grass, that wonderful grass, good for 5 to 14 tons per acre, and lots of pasture besides, is always a theme worthy of the farmer's voice.

A. Walford, Westlore Farms, Pa., writes: "I have 60 acres in Salzer's Alfalfa Clover. It is immense. I cut three crops this season and have lots of pasture besides."

JUST SEND 10C IN STAMPS and this notice to John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., for their big catalog and farm seed samples. [K. L.]

"Sometimes," said Uncle Eben, "a fair-er kind o' overburdens a boy by 'spectin' him to be good an' smart enough to erect default of all de res' of de family."—Washington Star.

Stops the Cough and works off the cold. Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. Price 25 cents

It may be but a small matter even if a man doesn't know his own mind.—Chicago Daily News.

Do not believe Piao's Cure for Consumption has an equal for coughs and colds.—J. F. Boyer, Trinity Springs, Ind., Feb. 15, 1900.

Most of the disappointments of life are due to expecting more than you deserve.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

If you want creamery prices do as the creameries do, use June Tint Butter Color.

The coming man is usually one who has already arrived.

A RARE INVESTMENT WE OFFER SUBJECT TO SALE

A small remainder of absolutely secured 6 per cent. first mortgage gold bonds, issued for development purposes by A. STRONG, CONSERVATIVE MINING COMPANY, working in great variety for sale at the lowest prices by ARBUCKLE-GOODE COMMISSION CO., N. E. Corner Fourth and Olive DEPT. K. ST. LOUIS, MO.



Dr. Llewellyn Jordan, Medical Examiner United States Treasury.

women, as I find it insures regular and painless menstruation, cures leucorrhoea and ovarian troubles, and builds up the entire system. I also consider it one of the finest catarrh remedies I know of."

—M. C. Gee, M. D.

Catarrh is a systemic disease curable only by systemic treatment. A remedy that cures catarrh must aim directly at the depressed nerve centers. This is what Peruna does.

Peruna immediately invigorates the nerve-centers which give vitality to the mucous membranes. Then catarrh disappears. Then catarrh is permanently cured.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case, and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, Ohio.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

Genuine Carter's Little Liver Pills.

Must Bear Signature of *Wm. Wood*

See Fac-Simile Wrapper Below.

Very small and as easy to take as sugar.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

FOR HEADACHE, FOR DIZZINESS, FOR BILIOUSNESS, FOR TORPID LIVER, FOR CONSTIPATION, FOR SALLOW SKIN, FOR THE COMPLEXION.

Price 25 cents. GENUINE MUST BEAR SIGNATURE. Made of Purely Vegetable Matter.

CURE SICK HEADACHE.

The FREE Homestead

Lands of

WESTERN CANADA are the Star Attractions for 1904

Millions of acres of magnificent Grain and Grazing Lands to be had as a free gift, or by purchase from Railway Companies, Land Corporations, etc.

The Great Attractions

Good crops, delightful climate, splendid school systems, perfect social conditions, exceptional railway advantages, and wealth and affluence acquired easily.

The population of WESTERN CANADA increased 25,000 by land grant during the past year, over 100,000 being Americans.

Write to the nearest authorized Canadian Government Agent for Canadian Atlas and other information of interest. **STURTEVANT'S BUILDING, 710, OTTAWA, CANADA.**

J. S. CLAWFORD, 124 West Third Street, Kansas City, Mo.

Live Stock and **ELECTROTYPES** Miscellaneous

In great variety for sale at the lowest prices by A. J. Keller, Newspaper Co., 415 E. Douglas Ave., Wichita.

MEXICAN Mustang Liniment cures Cuts, Burns, Bruises.

MEXICAN Mustang Liniment cures Cuts, Burns, Bruises.