

UNCLE SIDNEY'S VIEWS.

I hold that the true age of wisdom is when we are boys and girls and not women and men. When, as credulous children, we know things...

A Bit of New York Police History.

A group of gentlemen were chatting after dinner in one of the leading hotels the other day, and the conversation eventually drifted to the subject of compounding felonies...

"Gentlemen, your conversation about this matter, and especially the relation by the gentlemen on my left of the recovery of the goods stolen from my firm by burglars, reminds me of an occurrence of several years ago in which a friend of mine was intimately concerned, and it will tend to show you how systematically the upper graduates of the criminal classes pursue their calling.

"My friend was at that time treasurer of a small city in New Jersey not far from New York. He had retired from business with a fair-sized fortune, but, being an influential local politician and desiring to be without occupation of some kind accepted the position of city clerk with a nominal salary at the earnest solicitation of his personal and political friends.

"Upon going to his office one Monday morning he found to his utter astonishment that it had been burglariously entered and the entire records of the office, with the exception of a few unimportant papers, had disappeared. After notifying the police he consulted with the city fathers, and upon investigation it was found that vouchers in his favor were on file in the office of the other departments of the city which covered all his official pecuniary responsibility except an insignificant amount of less than \$300.

"To replace the books of the office would cost but about \$50, for the treasurer's accounts were not very elaborately recorded at that time. He therefore congratulated himself upon the auspicious time, for him, selected by the burglars, whereas it might have taken place when to adjust his accounts with the city would have invited an outlay from his personal funds of many hundreds of dollars.

"Despite this cheering reflection, he realized that the loss of all his office books would prove to be considerable annoyance and with the hope of avoiding this he inserted an advertisement in the personal column of the New York Herald offering a reward of \$250 for their return.

"The day after his advertisement appeared he received a business like note from New York requesting him to call at a certain number on Wall street in reference to the matter. In the meantime the chief of the local police claimed to have got a clue to the burglars and had several parties shadowed.

"The following day the treasurer went over to New York to interview his correspondent. He found him to be a smart, dapper, good looking individual with a decidedly business like air occupying a snug little office in one of the large business blocks on Wall street, and, upon revealing his identity, was invited by the proprietor to be seated; the latter candidly announcing himself as the author of the note and his profession as that of a middleman for the restoration of stolen property.

"I fail to recall his full name; his Christian name was Isaac, and he was commonly known to the police and the criminal classes by the cognomen of 'Pretty Ike.' 'I have been retained by representatives of the parties interested in your little matter, Mr. Treasurer,' said Pretty Ike, 'and hope to be able to adjust matters to the entire satisfaction of all concerned, but to avoid uselessly occupying your valuable time, let me assure you that your proffered reward of \$250 is not enough. My clients instruct me to state that they will cause your records to be returned to you within 24 hours after you have complied with their terms, which are that you cause the police to drop the case at once and for all, and that you pay a reward of \$1,000 for the restoration of the records.'

"But, said my friend, 'I can replace my record books and square my accounts with the city for something less than the \$250 I have offered as a reward. That is my limit.'

"Very well, rejoined Pretty Ike, 'then we can make no arrangement. The terms I have offered are final, but I am authorized to give you 48 hours for reflection, after which, failing to hear from you, I fear the safety of the records cannot be depended upon.'

"Upon further questioning Pretty Ike stated that he was as ignorant as my friend of the identity of the burglars or the whereabouts of the records. 'Even the parties who engaged my services to adjust the matter may be quite as ignorant,' he declared, 'for there may be other middlemen acting between them and the possessors of your records.'

"Well, gentlemen, to cut my tale as short as may be, my friend returned home fully determined to check no further with Pretty Ike, nor permit one penny of his to reach that worthy's clients. He resolved to put up with such annoyance as the loss of the records might cause, refill his office with new books and offer a substantial reward for the apprehension and conviction of the burglars. He did not anticipate, however, other important features of the case which speedily developed.

"Before night had fallen the city was full of rumors, significant remarks and innuendoes about the mysterious burglary and disappearance of the city treasurer's records. Whether these whisperings originated with the clients of Pretty Ike or my friend's political opponents was never known but doubtless the former were at the bottom of the matter. In a few hours people grew bolder in discussing the affair and the lavish style in which he lived, his fondness for champagne, the opera, fast horses and other costly luxuries were dilated upon as contrasted with his moderate salary from the city, without taking into consideration his ample private fortune by his political enemies and others as well.

"These malicious remarks were not long reaching his ears and drove him wild. He was extremely sensitive to the most ordinary criticism, and anything reflecting upon his probity was more than he could bear. Next day the rumors and scandalous surmises grew thicker still, and that night found him completely demoralized. The next day he hastened to Pretty Ike's office, and intimated his willingness to pay the \$1,000 blood money as demanded.

"Very well, sir," said Pretty Ike, 'you are within the limits as to time, but what about the police? Are you ready to withdraw them from the case, and pledge your word that they shall never resume it?'

"This was agreed to. All that now remained undone on my friend's part was to pay over the money. It was with a severe mental struggle that he agreed to do so, but the thought of paralyzing the venomous tongues which were spreading calumnies as to his official integrity determined him. With ordinary business caution he inquired: 'How is this money to be paid over, and what security shall I have that it will cause the return of my records?'

"Well, Mr. Treasurer," replied Pretty Ike, 'the money is to be paid to me, in this office, no one besides you and myself being present at the time. I shall give you no receipt for it, but will, if you desire, furnish you with the addresses of several business men, near at hand, of undoubted commercial repute, for whom I have been instrumental in securing the return of bonds, etc., to large amounts, and who dealt with me in the same manner. You may consult them if you choose, but you will be simply losing time. As for the return of the records, I shall not allow a penny of the reward to leave my possession until I am assured that my clients have fulfilled their part of the agreement to the letter. In a word, you must rely upon my honor as a man of business.'

"This, my friend thought, was pretty rich, considering the nature of the business, but, harassed as he was, he felt he could only agree to the terms, and so he took from his pocket \$1,000 in bills and paid them over with a long and deeply drawn sigh. Having calmly verified the amount, Pretty Ike assured him that by noon of the following day the records should be delivered at his house, cautioning him not to forget about withdrawing the police from the case. Upon returning he saw the chief of police and told him he had concluded to dispense with the services of the force in the matter. The chief demurred and finally convinced him that he could shadow the suspected parties without its being known, and so, in the hope of getting both rewards and thieves, the treasurer at last consented that the police should continue their watch, but with the utmost caution.

"Next day came and passed, but no records arrived. My friend's wife had in the meantime heard of the scandalous rumors about her husband and was prostrated with nervousness and grief. Another visit was made on the following morning to Pretty Ike, who greeted my friend as he entered with: 'Well, Mr. Treasurer, your neglect to carry out your agreement as to the police obliges me to present new terms to you. My clients' time being rather precious just now, they demand a forfeiture of \$300 in addition to your reward. You may pay that amount, carry out your agreement this day and receive your records to-morrow; or, here are the \$1,000 which I will return to you and the records will possibly fall into a bonfire before night.'

"Writhing out with sleepless nights and brooding about the spot upon his hitherto spotless reputation for integrity, his loving wife keenly suffering also, he planked down \$300 more of his good money, hastened back to the chief of police and emphatically requested him to drop the case at once and forever. As he was able to bring certain pressure to bear in that quarter he was assured that his request would be complied with.

"The next day, gentlemen, between 11 and 12 o'clock in the forenoon an express man delivered at the treasurer's house the entire lot of lost records, packed neatly in boxes and barrels, and he assured me that, so far as he could discover, not even a scrap of paper was missing.

"He was the happiest man I ever saw, and whatever may have been his secret thoughts afterwards about having paid through the nose \$1,300 for \$250 worth of his own records, he failed to repine any, as he opened numerous bottles of Heidsieck at the club that night, and I dimly remember that just before we adjourned to go to our homes he insisted upon our joining him in quaffing a bumper to the health of Pretty Ike.'—Denver News.

"The following day the treasurer went over to New York to interview his correspondent. He found him to be a smart, dapper, good looking individual with a decidedly business like air occupying a snug little office in one of the large business blocks on Wall street, and, upon revealing his identity, was invited by the proprietor to be seated; the latter candidly announcing himself as the author of the note and his profession as that of a middleman for the restoration of stolen property.

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CHEAP ADVERTISEMENTS.

Advertisements under this head one cent per word each insertion; special rates on contracts for definite periods. No advertisement accepted for less than 25 cents.

FOR RENT. WANTED-To rent a large unfurnished lodging house. Address J. M. Cooper, Standard office.

MISCELLANEOUS. DRPSS MAKING made easy by the new Taylor system. Miss Kate Hill, 23 Wyoming street.

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WANTED-To trade for city property, a farm of 288 acres, 3 miles east of Marion, Illinois. FitzPatrick & Strickfaden.

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WANTED-SITUATIONS. Advertisements will be inserted under this head three times free of charge. Copy for the advertisements may be left at either the Butte or Anaconda offices of the Standard.

WANTED-Young man having had experience, wishes situation as assistant book keeper; first-class reference. Address box 33, Standard office, Butte.

WANTED-By a mining engineer of 14 years' experience, with the best of references, a position as surveyor; has his own instruments, and will make himself generally useful. Address Geo. Balderston, Butte City.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD Judicial District in and for the County of Deer Lodge and State of Montana.

Order to show cause on sale of mines and personal property. Fridge higher the administratrix of the estate of James Gallagher, deceased, having filed her petition herein, duly verified, praying for an order of sale of certain real estate, mines, mining claims and interest in mines of said decedent and the personal property of said estate for the purposes therein set forth.

NOTICE-Bids will be received by the Board of Trustees of School District No. 1 Silver Bow County, Montana, up to and including Monday, August 11th, 1906, at 6 p. m., for the erection of three school houses in said district.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS-Bids will be received at the office of the Anaconda Mining Company up to noon of Saturday, August 3, for the erection of a frame boarding house on the Blackfoot addition. Plans and specifications can be seen at the company's office, at the Anaconda mine.

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THE ANACONDA STANDARD

The Official Paper of Deer Lodge County. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING IN THE YEAR.

A Paper for the Banker. A Paper for the Merchant. A Paper for the Mechanic. A Paper for the Fireside.

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