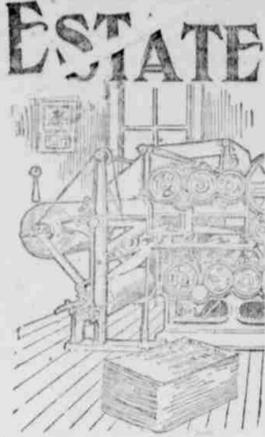


THE FOURTH ESTATE

Novelized by FREDERICK R. TOOMBS

From the Great Play of the Same Name by Joseph Medill Patterson and Harriet Ford.

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In "The Fourth Estate" the effectiveness of newspapers in fearlessly exposing political and judicial corruption and the safeguard they are to the public are interestingly and convincingly set forth.

Miss Stovel! Get me Mr. Michael Nolan—on the wire, please.

McHenry turned to the telephone. "Hello! Who's this?"

McHenry rang for the boy, Durkin, and on his belated arrival sent him to summon the city editor.

"Yes," answered McHenry. "I wish an apology for it."

"I don't want to disturb you," said the city editor.

CHAPTER I. There said there were three editors in parliament, but in the reporter's gallery there sat a fourth editor more important far than they all—McHenry.

THE silence in the managing editor's room of the Daily Advance was abruptly broken by the entrance of Ross McHenry through a private door.

"Any one here while I was gone?" McHenry queried sharply as the boy entered.

"Yes, sir. Woman whose boy was pinched wants to keep it out of the paper. Been outside two hours. She's sittin' outside an' bawlin' an' bawlin' an' bawlin'."

"What'd you tell him?"



McHenry turned to the telephone. "Hello! Who's this?"

"The managing editor was disgusted. 'Pshaw!' he exclaimed. 'I'll bet the old codger dies for the afternoon papers. We're having rotten luck lately.'"

"Hello! Who's this?" cried McHenry savagely. But his voice changed abruptly to his most sugary tones.

"I wonder if that means more changes?" observed the night editor as he filled his pipe.

"The Sarrup divorce is up again. Two new correspondents named." He pointed them out among the photos.

"Yes," responded the city editor. "I don't think your father will be so pleased to see me."

"We never tell the name of our writers," answered the managing editor.

"High society all there as usual, I suppose?" mused McHenry. "The Bartelmys are an old family, and they're held on to some of their money. Here, Downs, he went on."

"The new boss, Nolan, is coming down to look us over tonight," added McHenry.

with him to hand such a roast to his prospective father-in-law. McHenry turned abruptly to one side and reached for his coat, which he quickly donned.

"I desire to complain about the article attacking my father this morning," the girl began.

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to understand what he meant by seeking out her father's knowledge of her present mission, one which was to her decidedly unpleasant.

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could do what you have done against my father, against my family—her voice began to break again—against me. I would not have believed it. And you have not told me that you will sense your attack."

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"I wrote it, Judith," he announced.

CHAPTER II. WHEELER BRAND gazed at the girl, and above his own misery rose his sympathy and thought for her whom he longed to comfort.

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