

THE BLACK RANGERS

VOL. XVI.

CLORIDA TERRA COUNTY, N. M., JULY 30, 1897.

NO. 17.

The Scenic Line of America

THE

Denver and Rio Grande

RAILWAY.

—IN—

Colorado,

New Mexico

and Utah.

The scenic route to

UTAH, MONTANA,

PACIFIC COAST

Will be opened by the completion of the Trunk Line early in the spring.

The Most Convenient.

The Most Picturesque

The Most Direct

Opening of the ranchman over a million acres of fertile land, to the stock-raiser vast ranges yet uncolonized, and to the mine regions rich in the precious metals.

THE

Denver and Rio Grande

It is the Favorite Route for

PASSENGERS AND FREIGHT

Between all the most important cities and mining camps is Colorado. Over 150 miles of standard and narrow gauge, splendidly equipped and carefully managed.

The Denver & Rio Grande Express

Operated in connection with the railway and guarantee prompt and efficient service at reasonable rates.

DODGE, F. C. NIMS
Gen'l Manager. Gen'l Pass. Agt.
Denver, Colorado.

WORK FOR US

A few days, and you will be startled at the unexpected success that will reward your efforts. We positively have the best business to offer an agent that can be found on the face of this earth. \$45.00 profit on \$75.00 worth of business is being easily and honorably made by and paid to hundreds of men, women, boys, and girls in our employ. You can make money faster at work for us than you have any idea of. The business is so easy to learn, and instructions so simple and plain, that all succeed from the start. Those who take hold of the business reap the advantage that accrues from the sound reputation of one of the oldest, most successful, and largest publishing houses in America. Secure for yourself the profits that the business so readily and handsomely yields. All beginners succeed grandly, and more than realize their greatest expectations. Those who try to find exactly as we tell them. There is plenty of room for a few more workers, and we urge them to begin at once. If you are already employed, but have a few spare moments, and wish to use them to advantage, then write us at once for this is your grand opportunity, and receive particulars by return mail. Address: BUNN & CO., Box 2, 400, Augusta, Me.

HER FATHER'S VICTIM

A Story of Western Life.

By THOMAS B. MONROE.

[Copyright, 1891, A. N. Kellogg & Co.]
would have been better. I don't see why you didn't attend to that while you were about it, Markham."

"But, gentlemen," said Paul, "we have no time to lose; we must act and not talk."

"That's so," replied the doctor; "we must act—we must do something. Seraggs, what do you suggest?"

"I am lost," and Seraggs shook his head doubtfully. "I don't know what to do. We could save the girl by force, but we can't do it without putting Green in for it. I wish old Blatchford was here. That would settle the business in short order."

"Perhaps he will come this evening," the doctor suggested.

"Perhaps," replied Seraggs, "but I hardly dare hope for such good fortune."

"Then I'll tell you what," said the doctor; "we'll wait until the train comes in. It will be there in an hour now, and if Blatchford happens to come, we've done it. If he doesn't come, by George we'll need against Pearson by force, and I don't want to shoot or hang him if he doesn't leave the country inside of six weeks."

"We'll do it, doctor!" Seraggs exclaimed, "and well mean business, too. I can get up a dozen men on five minutes' notice to go with us, and you may bet your boots we'll not be slow about giving the dented scamp a dose of western law and justice if he don't come to time in a hurry."

"I'm afraid," said Paul, "that wouldn't save John Green from Mills' vengeance."

"Yes, it would," promptly replied the old doctor. "It wouldn't take us long to serve Mills with a dose of the same kind of medicine if he got to cutting around too much."

"That's what it wouldn't," said Seraggs. "The country wouldn't be any the worse off if it was rid of both of them."

"Not a bit," said the doctor. "We'll wait for the train, and if Blatchford don't come, we'll take the matter in our own hands."

CHAPTER XXVI THE SERPENT IS THWARTED.

As Pearson rode into town on his return from Green's, he saw the train from the east approaching, and he also saw Seraggs and Doctor Bascom walking down in the direction of the depot. He did not attach any importance to the fact of these men being together, but when a moment later they were joined by Paul Markham, he began to suspect that something was wrong, and he was seized with fear.

"They're plotting against me," he mused, "and like as not old Seraggs has telegraphed for Blatchford, and they are going to the train to meet him. By George, I believe that old doctor is in Seraggs' employ, and his keeping me in bed all those days was a put up job to gain time on me. I was a fool not to know that sooner. Well, if Blatchford is coming I've got to be going. This town ain't big enough to hold us both."

With that Pearson quickly dismounted and running down through the stable turned down an alley and crossed the railroad track just before the train passed. Taking a position on the opposite side from the depot he watched the passengers as they left the cars. First a traveling man came out, then a woman and two children, and it seemed that that was all, and Pearson began to congratulate himself again. But his congratulations were short lived; for directly another passenger emerged, and Pearson knew only too well who it was. There was no mistaking Blatchford, although he was so aged and bent and so woefully changed from what he had been when Pearson saw him last.

"Curse the luck," Pearson muttered, "and old Seraggs and Bascom. The jig is up for me. I've got to fly from here, and I've lost Louise; but I've got Blatchford's money."

So saying he slipped on board the train as it moved out, and was whirled away from Magic City forever. Blatchford was conducted without delay to Seraggs' office where everything was explained to him. He listened quietly to the whole story, but as Seraggs revealed to him the sufferings of John Green's family and the villainy of Harry Pearson, the old man's face grew ashy and his gray head dropped low on his breast, while ever and anon a heartrending groan escaped him. It was a minute or two after Seraggs finished his hurried account before the old man moved or spoke, but at last he raised his head and cried:

"My God! my God!"

dinned. My child dying of want, and the viper I have warned to my ruin, betraying my child's child to ruin. It is more than I can stand, man; I can not bear it another instant. Show me this scoundrel, and I'll put a bullet through his black, villainous heart. Come, I must see him."

It was all Seraggs and the doctor could do to get the old man quieted down, but at last they succeeded in inducing him to listen to reason, and Seraggs unfolded his plan of procedure.

"Pearson is going to Green's to-night after the girl, and we must arrange to get there before him. We can never see him here, for he will be in hiding, but we can head him off there. For fear he may get there before us and miss us on the road, I will have men on the watch for him at the depot with instructions to detain him if he comes back there. In that way everything will be safe, and we'll catch him somewhere in the round."

This proposition was readily agreed to by all, and then Seraggs continued:

"We want to get away from here without attracting attention, so while Dr. Bascom contacts Mr. Blatchford to his house to await us, Paul will secure a carriage and driver, and that way—From the doctor's house we will proceed to Green's. Now let's get out of here and begin to move."

Within a surprisingly short time Seraggs had completed all his arrangements, and with his companions was



A LITTLE TOO EARLY.

moving rapidly in the direction of John Green's place.

It lacked but a few minutes of eight o'clock when the carriage rolled down the long slope in front of the cabin, and Louise from her position at the window looking the rumble of the vehicle and the snort of the horses' feet, felt that a startling moment of her life was at hand. She had no other thought than that Pearson was coming, and as she saw the approach of the climax of her sorrow she found herself unable to keep up her wail. Her fortitude forsook her, and she hid her head down on the window sill and wept. But quickly recovering she left the house and ran to the place of meeting Pearson had mentioned, and there waited for the carriage.

A moment later it drew up, stopped, and a man sprang out. He was Louise's side in an instant and had his arms about her, and she felt her senses receding when a well-known voice spoke her name.

"Oh, Paul, Paul!" she cried, "is it you?"

"It is, darling," Paul replied, "and you are safe, thank God," and again and again he strained her to his breast and kissed her.

"See here," cried the old doctor as he came tumbling out of the carriage, "it seems to me like that is a little too one sided. You have no right to monopolize things, Markham, and by your leave I'll take one or two of those kisses."

"Take them and welcome, doctor, if Louise is willing, for you saved her for me."

"Ah, you blessed old doctor," Louise cried as she flew into his arms. "How much I have to thank you for."

"Tut, tut, child," the old man said, "quickly, as he drew his hand across his eyes. 'Let's not be foolish, here, Markham, she's yours; take her, and run out. Here, Louise, come back here. There's another here who wants to see you. Here's your grandfather, Blatchford. And here's Seraggs. Come, let's all go."

found it all. Seraggs is the man I want to thank. It was him that saved me from Pearson; but you mustn't let Seraggs go for his bashful."

"An' I really free of that man? The is asked as the bested in her group in the house."

"I'll be right here," the doctor repeated, "reason you see. Just let me go to-night and we'll make a world of money, too."

"I'll be right here," the doctor repeated, "reason you see. Just let me go to-night and we'll make a world of money, too."

"I'll be right here," the doctor repeated, "reason you see. Just let me go to-night and we'll make a world of money, too."

his daughter. Come, let's go to the house."

He was talking away as he walked, and as a boy over a girl, the old doctor led the way to the house, while Seraggs and Blatchford followed after him, and Paul and Louise followed a little further behind in the rear, as happy as ever in their souls.



"GOOD EVENING TO BOTH."

were. When they approached the door the old doctor stopped, saying:

"We must be careful not to excite Mrs. Green, so if you folks will wait outside here just a minute I'll go in and break the news to her."

"I'll be right here," the doctor said, "I'll be right here, and I must see her first."

"All right, all right," replied the doctor as he hustled away. "I'll not lose a second."

Coming into the room he tried to hide his joy and assume a grave air, but the great happiness that filled his kind old heart to overflowing surged up to the surface and showed itself in his eyes and face in spite of him. John and Mary both saw at once that the doctor was overjoyed, but never dreamed of its cause being any relation to them, so they said nothing. The doctor approached Mary's bed, saying:

"Well, how is my patient to-night?"

"Some better than when you were last here," Mary replied.

"Hum, glad to hear it. Guess your

father will be glad to know it, too. Don't you think so?"

"I don't know, doctor. He seems to have got on me entirely."

"No, he hasn't, though I've heard from him since I was here."

"Have you? What did you hear?"

"That he was well, and that he was glad to hear from you."

"Well, that's good. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

you, you'll be glad to hear it. Guess your father will be glad to know it, too. Don't you think so?"

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."

"I don't know, doctor. He is very thoughtful, as well as ever, and I think will get him and Louise before long."