

THE TRAMPS ROMANCE

HE store porch was well filled. The chronic loafer was there as usual, lounging upon the bench, hacking away at the hard oak with his heavy jackknife. Seated by him were the Grand Army of the Republic man, the tinsmith and the miller. The Pennsylvania Dutchman leaned stupidly against the doorpost, while the tramp was stretched easily across the floor. A light summer shower had driven the wanderer into the shelter of the porch roof for a few hours.

"Was you ever disappointed in love?" inquired the chronic loaferocularly of the traveler, at which the rest of the party laughed heartily.

The tramp brought the butt of his heavy hickory stick down upon the floor with such vigor as to raise a small crowd of dust from the cracks, and replied: "Wull! Have I? Jest say."

"Come tell us about it, ole feller," cried the tinsmith and the chronic loafer.

"Not muchy, wull I."

"We ain't surprised at yer havin' be' disappointed," said the Grand Army of the Republic man. "But it's yer presumption ketches me. What's yer name?"

"I called her Emily Kate," replied the tramp, wiping a soiled tear from the corner of one of his eyes with his finger. "She'll allus be Emily Kate to me, though to other folks she ain't nothin'."

"Where does she live?" interrogated the miller skeptically.

"Ef youse gentlemen keeps quiet an' don't ask so many questions," said the tramp, "I tell yer all 'bout et. Yer see, et come like this. 'Bout three years ago I was workin' through this valley towards Snyder county, in one fine day—et was one of them days when yer feels like settin' down an' jest doin' nothin'—I come through this here town an' went up the main road about two miles tell I come ter Red hill. I never knowed jest why I done et—et must a be' fat. But I switched off onter th' by road, stead of stickin' ter th' pike. I went bout a mile an' didn't meet no one nor pass no houses, tell at las' I come to a farm what has an orchard on th' sout' side th' barn."

"They was a nice grassy place on th' other side th' road under an apple tree, an' ez it was one of them waru,azy summer days, I made up mē mind ter rest, an' lay down in th' grass. Yer kin laugh at folks who allus talks weather, but I tell yer et does a powerful sight wit' a man. I know ef that he'd had a be' n rainy day I'd never had that fairy-corn—ez, th' French calls et—the hit me then an' played th' dielkens wit' me fortunes."

"I was layin' there watchin' the clouds overhead, an' listenin' ter th' clover whistlin' out in th' fiel', an' ter th' tree-frawg bellerin' up in th' leaves, when all 'uv a sudden I seen a blue gleam in the apple tree in th' orchard crost th' way. I watched an' pretty soon I made out that et was a woman. She was settin' there quiet an' still, like she was readin':

th' weemen is uv us men. But I sid enter me ole place, an' jest lay there watchin' her blu' dress wavin' in th' breeze; an' then when I seen as how she'd changed trees, I begin ter think may be she'd seen me an' moved up one tree nearer th' road, kinder so as we'd be closer."

The tramp's voice broke. He placed one hand upon his ragged breast and gazed over the valley through tear-filled eyes.

"Now quit your blubberin', trampy," cried the loafer, "an' git ter the en' of this 'ere yarn."

The traveler wiped his eyes upon his coat sleeve and continued:

"Wull, as I lay there watchin' her so still and quiet I began to think. I wondered what her name must hev been an' lowed et or ter be' a pretty one. Then I kinder thought bein' ez I didn't know her name I might give her one—th' prettiest I could git up. I racked my brain an' finally set on Emily Kate—that sounded high-toned. Then I begin ter wonder who hev be' so fortin' as ter git Emily, an' cuss' myself fer bein', sich a bum. I kin' thought I might reform, but Ima lowed of she'd take me without me havin' ter reform et 'ud be a sight pleasanter all 'round. I see how she'd moved up a tree, an' kinder wondered if she'd seen me. Th' more I thought on th' th' worse I got. I begin ter think mebbe I cleaned up I wouldn't be so bad—in fact, a heap better than lots of folks I know. By th' time et come sunset I coincided ter risk it, an' begin ter think uv crawlin' th' fence an' interdicin' meself; but then me heart failed me. I put et off tell th' next day, an' slid over the fiel' ter a barn an' spent the night."

"I didn't eat no breakfas'. I couldn't. But when et come sun-up I went down ter th' spring an' washed up. Then I cut th' orchard, tend' er wait 'till she come. I expected she wouldn't be there so airy, since he'd lik'ly do up th' breakfas' dishes.

"I shinin' th' fence inter th' road an' then what a sight I seen. I near yelled. They was a big feller hed his arm right aroun' her waist. She was layin' all limp-like, wit' her head pitched forward, so I couldn't see et, an' her feet was dragging through th' timothy, fer th' feller was pullin' her along down th' orchard. Et first I was fer running to her rescue, but I thought mebbe I'd better wait till I see what com' uv it."

"Th' big feller he pulled her, all limp, down for th' other side, an' then leaned her up agin' a tree an' hit her a punch wit' his fist. I seen th' he'd a' cuilker snubbonet droop. Then he jumped th' fence, an' started down over th' meddy."

"Me heart was a-thumpin' awful: I waite'd tell he was outta sight, an' he'd clumb th' fence an' slipped down through th' long grass ter where Emily Kate lay, half dead, agin' the tree. I seen a chickin' coop there an' heard th' ole hen chukkin'; an' I stepped up an' raise th' girl's droopin' head. She had a striw face, an' was sleepin' th' hawkis' of them chukkers. My Emily Kate was a scare—"

The tramp's voice grew husky, and he faltered.

—HER "LIFTER."

The Clever Contrivance Used by a Female Thief

"Professional shoplifter," continued the watcher as he glanced quickly up and down the aisle, "are hard to catch. They have all sorts of contrivances to assist them in making away with plunder. But a woman who lives right here was caught in our store last week with an arrangement which beats them all. It was so simple, too. Just a box, about the size of a shoe box, wrapped in paper and tied with string. It looked for all the world like an ordinary package from some store."

"The woman had been coming often to our store, and I noticed that something was generally missing from the counter at which she stopped, though I never saw her take a thing before. I became convinced that she was a thief."

"I watched her. She would up to a counter, lay her box down, and when she would pick it up, something would be gone. Says I to myself, 'Fake box.' So I walked over to the back of the counter, where she was standing, reached forward and picked up the box, saying:

"Excuse me, ma'am, but I believe that this is my box."

"Now, if I had made a mistake, I knew that she would simply explain that it was her picture, but instead she made a will clutch for it and out rolled a package of gold linin' handkerchiefs. Her plan was to cover the article she wanted with the box, which had a false bottom, and then draw it slowly toward the edge of the counter. Then she would place her hand under it to hide the stolen article away."

At noon's hour, rock.

It is settled that the Stadium, the old race course at Athens, will be the site of the first contests of the new international Olympic games, arranged by the International Association last June. The games will be contests for the championship of the world in all sports and forms of physical exercise, limited to adult amateurs. The first meeting will take place in 1896 in Athens, the second in 1900 in Paris and after that meeting will be held every four years in some capital city.

No More Slates in Boston Schools.

Slate and slate pencils have been banished from Boston schools by official edict. The light-gray mark on the only slightly darkened slate surface is pronounced; very trying to the eye, and the operation of erasing, as most often practiced by children, is not only uncleanly, but unwholesome as well. So the slates have gone, and paper and pencils have come.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Suit has been begun at Pittsburgh for the recovery of property worth several millions and occupied by the Pennsylvania and the Fort Wayne roads.

The famous Lyons county, Iowa, bond case was decided by the United States Supreme court in favor of the county.

Charles E. Helliher was appointed administrator of the Davis estate in Massachusetts and it will be divided without regard to the will.

Judge Otis of St. Paul decided that under the Minnesota law husbands were liable for slanderous remarks by their wives.

Miners of the Massillon district decided by a vote of 854 to 531 to stick to their national organization.

Owing to the strike of the tonnage men the Illinois Steel company has ordered its Joliet mills shut down.

The Brooklyn board of aldermen revoked the grants to the trolley road companies. The demonstration planned to strike leaders was prevented.

Adoption of the official classification of an Illinois will forward the movement for a uniform classification on all roads.

Five railroad officials were placed on trial at St. Louis, charged with violating the interstate commerce act by granting rebates.

Chicago Great Western & Eastern Illinois employees have been notified that they must not drink or gamble or board at places to which a bar is attached.

Trinity Methodist church of Lafayette, Ind., has appointed a committee to entertain the babes of mothers who wish to attend the services.

Bursting of the natural gas main at Shelbyville, Ind., deprived the residents of heat with the temperature at zero.

Influential members of Holy Trinity Catholic church at Bucyrus, Ohio, refuse to obey the mandate to withdraw from secret societies.

Maurice Daly's and George Slesson's billiard room in New York was raided Sunday and the managers placed under arrest.

The Jewish orders of B'nai B'rith and B'rith Abraham are holding their annual sessions in Omaha and New York, respectively.

Railway conductors adopted a resolution recommending expulsion of members who refuse to renounce allegiance to the A. R. U.

Workingmen of Brooklyn will march to the city hall and present a petition for forfeiture of trolley road franchises.

A loss of about \$100,000 was caused by a fire in the Minneapolis branch of the Moline plow works.

Steamship Kingdom, forty-two days out from Shields, for Charleston, S. C., is thought to be lost with her crew of thirty-five.

Steamer Ludington, which made a search for the wreck of the Chicora, returned to St. Joseph, Mich., after a fruitless trip.

It is considered probable that the Illinois legislature will appropriate funds providing for a state exhibit at Atlanta.

Brooklyn strikers are seeking federal aid in punishing street car companies for carrying mail signs unlawfully.

Women's Christian Temperance Union of Rockford has decided to establish a free institution for curing drunkards.

Priests of the South Dakota diocese are moving to secure the appointment of Dr. De Paradis of Coal City, Ill., as Bishop Marty's successor.

Gov. Altgeld says it is not the intention to give instructions free in the College of Physicians and Surgeons if it should become part of the State University.

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THE PUBLIC DEBT.

A MOST STUPENDOUS FRAUD AND SWINDLE.

The American People Have Drank Too Deep at the Fount of Liberty to Submit to Enslavement by the Bond Schemes of Europe.

The interest bearing public debt is a burden which never ought to have been imposed upon the nation. It is the most stupendous fraud and swindle ever perpetrated upon a free people. It was conceived in fraud, and brought fourth in iniquity. It was a scheme to rob 40,000,000 of people after they had emancipated 4,000,000 at the sacrifice of rivers of blood and millions of treasure.

Before the legal tender act had passed the threshold of legislation, it was met by the money sharks of Wall street. * * * We will show you how and why they opposed it. We are told that on the 11th of January, only four days after the introduction of the bill, the wolf-howl that had during the time, echoed from bank to bank, called to Washington a convention of the money power, consisting of four delegates from New York banks, three from Philadelphia and three from Boston. * * * What arguments were used, or what undue influences were brought to bear upon the law-makers of the government will probably never be known. Every greenback that went out to fight the nation's battles was accompanied by a bond shark, to gobble it up, as soon as it had performed its service. The act of 1862, authorizing the issue of the first \$150,000,000 of greenbacks, authorized \$300,000,000 of bonds to absorb them.

There was never a dry day, after the passage of the first legal tender act, but what the government was in possession of all the money it needed, of its own creation without borrowing a dollar or selling a bond.

The only object of the bond was to enable the money sharks again to get control of the money of the country, which they never could do without the bond. The government established the fact that it could meet all its obligations, purchase all its supplies and defray every expense by its own legal tender; and if so, what what was the necessity of borrowing?

You answer that the bonds were necessary to absorb the excess, occasioned by the extraordinary demands of war.

I deny that there was an excess. Let only him dare assert it who had more than he had use for.

Even if there was an excess, the bonds did not diminish it. The excess has only been transferred from the pockets of laborers and wealth producers to those of usurers, importers and international dealers.

Every bond is used as money. They are used by English capitalists to buy American cotton and bread stuffs, and by American dealers to purchase imports.

Just in the proportion as the people's money has been contracted, that of the money king has been inflated.

That their inflated paper bond money may be current all over the world, they require it to draw interest, and that they may be relieved of the burden of such interest they compel labor and its producers to pay all the taxes.

The difference to the people of America between the greenbacks before they were converted into bonds and the bonds, is as follows:

The fifteen billion dollars of greenbacks earned their owners nothing while living.

In bonds they earn their owners fully as much, while resting in their safes.

The people and taxpayers got tired of the burden of the debt; but when such bonds are given, to absorb and destroy the people's money, thus creating new burdens, by destroying the very means necessary to bear those already existing, the sufferers will refuse to submit to the outrage. It matters not what the result might be, the American people have drunk too deep at the fount of liberty, to submit to be enslaved by bond fraud schemes of Europe.—Labor and Finance Revolution

Give the people a vote on the destruction of greenbacks and they will not be destroyed.

Typewriters Like to Be Petted.

Typewriter girls are said to be attached to their machines, and to regard them almost as much in the light of living creatures to be petted and managed and judiciously disciplined as the traditional railroad engineers of fiction do their locomotives, to which they invariably refer with the personal feminine pronoun. The typewriting young women declare that their machines are as sensitive and subject to caprice, and that they know who is operating them as well as a dog knows its master, that they will talk, and perhaps flare up and refuse to work at all, under unskilled manipulation, and that they can be soothed into a complacent and obliging frame of mind again simply by the return of their usual manipulator.

Trotting stock sold for old time prices at Lexington, W. Va., bringing \$12,000, and the sixty-two head averaging \$713.

Farragher of Youngstown, Ohio, and Gallagher of Pittsburgh fought at Homestead, the former winning on a foul.

Champion Corbett discussed sparring matches before a committee of the Minnesota legislature defending his profession.

At Fresno, Calif. Directly, the 3-year-old son of Director, p. 207, cut the heavy track in 20:74, cutting the record.

Nat Harreshoff has agreed to take command of the Iselin syndicate cup defender in her early race.

Weights for the Brooklyn handies have been announced, Ramapo carrying the heaviest load.

E. W. Kibbe captured the point medal in the individual contest of the Chicago Curling club.

Monita, against whose chances as high as 50 to 1 was laid, won a six-furlong race at San Francisco.

FOREIGN.

Kaffirs attacked the Portuguese camp at Maraqueen, killing seven or more whites, but losing 200 men themselves.

While miners were fighting