

JOHN BURT

By FREDERICK UPHAM ADAMS

Author of "The Elongated Millionaire," "Colonel Benson's Daughter," "Etc."
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CHAPTER XX—Continued.
"You remember that I was speaking of the remarkable success of a western man, named Blake? Well, here is a letter from him! This is what he writes:"

"New York, June 2.
"Dear Sir—I am informed that you hold an equity in ten thousand shares of the L. & O. railroad company. I have customers who are interested in this property, and represent them in negotiations now pending. It is possible your interests may be conserved by conferring with me on this matter. I shall be pleased to meet you at your earliest convenience. To a gentleman of your experience an injunction to secrecy is unnecessary. Awaiting the pleasure of a conference in my office, and trusting that it may result to our mutual advantage, I remain,
"Very truly yours,
"JAMES BLAKE,
"President, James Blake & Co."

"That is odd, isn't it?" said Jesse. The general's face glowed with pleasure. "Do you own ten thousand shares of stock in a railroad, papa?"
"I own an equity in that amount of stock in an alleged railroad," he said, with a grin smile. "An equity is something you think you own, and hope to realize on, but do not expect to. Do not bother your head about it. Get from whom in your opinion you wish to call some evening this week."
"Ah, um—?" The general cleared his throat and appeared to be concerned only indirectly. "Suppose you invite Mr. Morris to take dinner with us Wednesday evening."
"I have no objection for Wednesday evening," said Jesse, carelessly. "I will write and ask him to call at that time."
"I have not told you of the change in Mr. Morris's affairs," said General

Carden, "the money to exercise your option, on the condition that you do not sell when it drops to 25. You will deposit the stock with me and place it in a pool to be handled at my discretion. As an evidence of my good faith I now offer you 25 for your stock—eight points more than the market price. After meeting the Morris claim this will leave you a balance of \$100,000."

General Carden looked into the handsome face of the young man who calmly made this proposition. For some moments he was silent, but the old hopes and wishes and the courage of youth came back.
"I will follow your advice, Mr. Blake," he said, firmly. "My one ambition is to insure the happiness of my daughter. You must be sure of your ground, and I am content to rely on your judgment. I therefore accept your original offer, Mr. Blake, and will sign an agreement to that effect."

Blake called a legal subordinate and, in General Carden's presence, dictated the terms of the contract, duplicate copies of which were signed and witnessed.
"I should be pleased and honored," said General Carden, as he arose to go, "to have you accept the humble hospitality of my temporary home. If you have no other engagement, dine from whom in your opinion you wish to call some evening this week."
"I have none, and shall do myself that pleasure. Until then, adieu, General Carden."
"I have no objection for Wednesday evening," said Jesse, carelessly. "I will write and ask him to call at that time."
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a jump of eight or ten points. Take my word for it, old chap!"
"Much obliged," replied Morris. Blake took out his memorandum book and carefully made a note of the proffered advice. "I imagine you've got control of the stock. You needn't tell me, old man. I'll do as you're suggesting. You Yankees are great on guessing."

Blake ordered his coachman to drive to the Bishop residence. He lay back on the cushioned seat and laughed softly. "To think that such a bound is engaged to Jesse Carden! I fear it is too good to be true. Money, well, money's a good thing, but if I were a woman I wouldn't marry Morris if he had a billion. And John's got enough to buy and sell him."

The carriage drew up at the Bishop residence. General Carden greeted Blake in the drawing-room. It was restless to contemplate this abode, to breathe the air of domestic luxury, and to contrast it with the frigid elegance of the bachelor apartments where his recent years had been spent. Blake's eyes wandered along the walls until they rested on a portrait— that of Jesse Carden. He passed in the corridor of a moment, his eyes riveted on the canvas.

"A portrait of my daughter, Jessie— one of Steinbach's best productions," exclaimed General Carden, with a fair cry, mistaking Blake's amazement for polite admiration. "She returned from abroad only a few days ago. Ah, here she is!"
As he spoke Blake heard the faint rustle of silk and the music of laughing voices. The portieres parted, and Mrs. Bishop entered with Jesse and her cousin, Edith Hazrook. With old-school dignity, General Carden presented James Blake.

"There is born in every man's brain the idea of an ideal woman," said the general, with a fervor that was the sign of his fervent faith in the efficacy of advertising. "The following is a list of the names of the members of the committee on arrangements."
"Who got up the programme?" asked the young man.
"I did," replied the chairman. "I suppose you think that your part of the performance was not given sufficient prominence."
"I don't see that you ought to say anything about the way in which we called attention to you. The audience didn't seem to know you were there."

"On the contrary, the number of my friends told me I was first-rate, especially when I sang that comic song." "I didn't hear anybody laughing."
"Of course not. The crowd where I say you are to blame. How could you expect them to laugh? You didn't state in the programme that it was a comic song."

The Limit Reached.
Dr. W. H. Tolman, director of the American Institute of the Blind, has issued the following story the other day as an unconscious illustration of the prevailing sentiment in regard to the "race suicide" problem:
"A family of my acquaintance has a certain pouter pup which has been the property of five children in succession, at the period when they first begin to outgrow their mother's care. One of the older children, a small boy, was discussing the propriety of bestowing the pup upon some poor child in the street."
"Why, no, we'll keep it for the next baby."

"Well, said the brother, I shouldn't think God would have made enough to know that five babies in one family was enough."—New York Times.

ILLINOIS NEWS

NEGROES FIGHT WITH PISTOLS
Wounded Man Asks Another Chance on the Field of Honor.

Albert Hardy was wounded in a pistol duel in Fall Bluff. A few farmers have already harvested this crop. The recent rains have greatly helped the late planting and the average yield in the central Illinois belt will be much greater than was anticipated a few weeks ago, though the tangled condition of the brush, caused by wind and rain, will cause extra expense in harvesting. The towns are filled with men and boys looking for work as cutters. Many of these come a distance of fifty miles, and the farmers come in with a two-horse wagon and "hay ladders" and haul them out by the hundreds. There has been no scarcity of help this year, and wages range about as usual. The market will be governed largely by the way the Oklahoma crop, now being cut, turns out. If the brush there should prove good, it will cause the price to be lower than for several years. The prevailing opinion seems to be that the new crop will start at \$80. The little old brush there in the farmers' hands is selling from \$75 to \$90.

CENSURE ROAD FOR ACCIDENT
Claim Is Made That Engineer Failed to Blow the Whistle.

The coroner's jury which held an inquest over the body of William Banger, killed at Nashville while crossing the Washburn track with a load of potatoes, returned a verdict censuring the Washburn engineer and fixing the responsibility upon the railroad company. It was testified by witnesses that the engine whistle was not blown for the crossing. Banger was thrown sixty feet in the air when the train struck him. One mule was killed and the other badly hurt. The wagon was demolished and so deeply were the potatoes imbedded in the wreckage that it was necessary to use a shovel to dig them out.

Sabbath School Vice-Presidents.
The following vice-presidents were elected at the recent session of the Washington County Sabbath School association: Ashley, Miss Ada Geiger; Beaupré, J. L. Gaudin; Frank Kelsey; Hoytson, William Peithman; Irvington, B. F. Gilliam; Lively Grove, Archie McAuley; Nashville, W. B. Anderson; Oakdale, James W. Torrey; Oakville, A. N. McKew; Pilot Knob, William Parlier; Richview, Raymond Courtney; recording secretary, Miss Jennie Poole of Oakdale; assistant, the normal department, R. A. McAuley of Oakdale; superintendent primary department, Mrs. H. J. Schmidt of Nashville; superintendent home department, Mrs. H. J. Crow of Ashley; J. E. Haun of Beaupré and R. A. McAuley of Oakdale.

Prefers Penitentiary to Jail.
John Van Gordon of Centralia, who was arrested in that city, pleaded guilty in the United States circuit court at Springfield on August 12. He was sentenced to one year's imprisonment in the Sangamon county jail. Van Gordon confessed to firing on a train of miners who were en route to Zeigler, and to blowing a switch at Duquoin with the intention of wrecking a train of strike breakers. Van Gordon turned to Judge Humphreys and exclaimed: "Judge, won't you please send me to the penitentiary at Chester for a year instead of the county jail in Springfield? I can't get enough to eat here." "How would you like to go to the penitentiary?" queried the judge. "I prefer the penitentiary," answered the prisoner.

Fayette County Institute.
The executive committee of the Fayette county farmers' institute has fixed Nov. 9, 10 and 11 as the dates for holding the annual institute in Streator. The following names will read papers before the institute: Dr. Cyril Hopkins of University of Illinois; Prof. H. W. Mumford of University of Illinois; Frank H. Hall, superintendent of institute; L. A. Richardson, J. C. Moore of Champaign and Robert M. Miller of Metropolis.

Falling Wall Injures Workman.
William Michael was caught under a falling wall at the Swift packing plant in East St. Louis and remained there for two days. He was taken to the Henrietta hospital. He was found that his left leg had been broken and that he was suffering from internal injuries. A score or more of workmen had narrow escapes from flying bricks.

Employment for 1,000 Men.
The management of the Leighton Howard plant at East St. Louis, formerly the Blische-Howard iron and steel company, have announced they will reopen the plant Oct. 1. The plant has been idle for the past year. The plant gave employment to nearly 1,000 skilled mechanics.

Volunteers Elect New Officers.
The thirty-ninth reunion of the 100th Illinois volunteer infantry was held at Springfield. The following officers were elected: President, Henry Myers; secretary and treasurer, W. H. Luther. The fortyeth reunion will be held at Glenview, Ill., Oct. 22.

To Restore Log Courthouse.
An effort is being made by the old Sangamon county farmers' institute to restore the log courthouse, the first used by the county, now on exhibition at Fairview park, Decatur.

BROOM CORN HARVEST BEGINS
Crop Exceeds Expectation, Though Brush is Considerably Tangled.

The broomcorn harvest in Coles county is full blast. A few farmers have already harvested this crop. The recent rains have greatly helped the late planting and the average yield in the central Illinois belt will be much greater than was anticipated a few weeks ago, though the tangled condition of the brush, caused by wind and rain, will cause extra expense in harvesting. The towns are filled with men and boys looking for work as cutters. Many of these come a distance of fifty miles, and the farmers come in with a two-horse wagon and "hay ladders" and haul them out by the hundreds. There has been no scarcity of help this year, and wages range about as usual. The market will be governed largely by the way the Oklahoma crop, now being cut, turns out. If the brush there should prove good, it will cause the price to be lower than for several years. The prevailing opinion seems to be that the new crop will start at \$80. The little old brush there in the farmers' hands is selling from \$75 to \$90.

Deaths at Quincy Home.
The following deaths occurred at the Quincy hospital during the month of August: James K. Leech, company K, 29th Illinois infantry; Charles M. Stillwood, company F, 9th Illinois infantry; Spanish-American war; Stephen K. Loebe, company A, 173d New York infantry; Nicholas Mitchell, company A, 101st Illinois infantry; James W. Barrett, company B, 4th Iowa cavalry; Benjamin Bratton, company F, 150th Ohio infantry; Ephraim McKimay, company I, 5th Illinois infantry; John Globe, company K, 7th Illinois infantry; Adam Schmitt, company K, 148th Illinois infantry; Emory S. Ball, company H, 2d Illinois artillery; William Thorp, company H, 17th United States cavalry; Barnabas G. Alden, company H, 92d Ohio infantry; John Sweeney, company K, 84th Illinois infantry; John Dietrich, company I, 45th Pennsylvania infantry; J. Milton Warner, company H, 133d Illinois infantry. Present aggregate membership, 2,033.

Falling Scaffold Injured Workman.
John Howard sustained probably fatal injuries by falling twenty-five feet from a collapsing scaffold at the Illinois box factory of George Groshen in the wall which he and Howard were building when the scaffold gave away. Howard was on his back, suffering internal injuries and a broken ankle.

Seek to Merge Phone Lines.
Efforts are being made, it is said, by the Bell Telephone company to consolidate the farmers' system of telephones in Madison county with its own. The farmers claim to have 1,300 telephones in use, and it is proposed to establish an exchange in Bethalto, where connection could be made between the two systems.

Sangamon County Teachers.
The Sangamon county teachers' institute adjourned. After electing the following: President, Prof. Edward Jerry Springfield; vice president, Prof. E. C. Pruitt, Springfield; secretary, Prof. H. S. Menard, Berlin; treasurer, Miss Nellie Peterson of Murphysboro. The annual report shows 85 Sunday schools in Jackson county, a loss of six during the year.

Teach Agriculture in Roumania.
Manual Wild, a Peoria newsboy, will go to Philadelphia soon to begin his studies at the national Jewish farmers' school and later will go to Roumania where he is to teach agriculture to the Hebrews, as a beneficiary of the Baron Hirsch fund of \$6,000,000. The Peoria Hebrew societies are sponsors for the boy.

Pays for His Ride.
George J. Charlton of the Chicago & Alton at Springfield, has received a letter signed "Clear Conscience," in which was inclosed \$22.28 for a "ride" stolen from Olawson to Kansas City. The letter was dated "Irene, Ill."

Apple Growers to Meet.
A called meeting of the Mississippi Valley Apple Growers' association will be held at Springfield on Thursday, Sept. 22.

Visitors to Lincoln's Tomb.
During the month of August 1,557 visitors registered at Lincoln's monument at Springfield. Nearly every state in the Union is represented.

Scholarship Is Awarded.
Curtis Lohman of Reno has been awarded a scholarship from Bond county in the agricultural college of the state university at Champaign. The appointment was made by Director E. W. Burroughs of Edwardsville.

To Sell Chester Plant.
An order of the United States circuit court for the district of Missouri has been granted by Receiver Don E. Detrich for the public sale of the plant of the Chester Light, water and ice company. The sale will take place Oct. 1.

Choice items from over the state, specially selected for our readers

TAKES KANGAROO COURT CASE
Treasurer of Jail Organization Secures \$25 and Leaves Prison.

It has developed that Harry Worcester, the prisoner who escaped from the workhouse in Belleville, was the treasurer of what is known as the jail as "the kangaroo court" and that his object in making his escape when he had but two more days to serve was to take with him the contents of the treasury, amounting to \$25. The "kangaroo court" is maintained by prisoners with the consent of Sheriff Thompson, for the purpose of compelling them to keep their cells clean, and to bring about a condition of order. There is a judge, clerk and treasurer of the court, and when a prisoner violates the rules he is fined a small sum and this money is expended for tobacco and refreshments. When it became known to the jail inmates that Worcester had taken the funds of the court, a sum was assessed against all the prisoners, which will offer a reward for his capture. A warrant was also taken but before a justice, charging Worcester with embezzlement.

Disclaims Reward for Triplets.
Several weeks ago three daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. James Hall of Belle street in Alton, and the father, it is claimed was told that President Roosevelt would pay a reward of \$500 to the parents of triplets. Mr. Hall wrote to the president, and asked whether or not he entitled to such a reward. He received a letter from Secretary Loeb saying that there is no appropriation to pay a bonus to the parents of triplets, but that he conveyed the sincere congratulations of President Roosevelt, to whom, he wrote, the letter had been shown.

Fortune in Missouri Land.
Robert Criswell, a 10-year-old lad of Quincy, is heir to a fortune as a result of the death of his grandfather, the millionaire John W. Criswell of Baltimore. Information was received soon after the death of the Baltimore man. A portion of the estate is located in Madison county, Missouri, some 500 acres of land in that county being inherited by Criswell. There is also a large tract near Martinsburg, W. Va. Mr. Criswell has a sister, Miss Quinley, a sister of the legatee and will also inherit a large sum. The estate is to be divided in January.

Boys Find Indian Mounds.
Great interest was aroused at Plaza Chautauqua by the discovery of mounds in Sherman's hollow, in which some of the boys of the Chautauqua cottages were digging. The boys returned loaded with relics and started out again equipped with picks and spades with which to conduct an exhaustive search of the mounds. The mounds will yield some good specimens of Indian pottery or relics of the skill of the mound builders.

Sunday School Election.
The annual Jackson county Sunday school convention closed in Carbondale after electing the following officers for the ensuing year: President, E. J. Klemme of Murphysboro; vice president, W. A. Schwartz of Carbondale; secretary, Miss Chrisy Halda-man of Pontiac; corresponding secretary, C. H. S. Ross; recording secretary, Ella Foley; conductor, Joseph Taylor; warden, Herin Summers; treasurer, J. Edgar Thomas Cook and Joshua Carvin.

Asks \$10,000 for Death.
Mrs. Corneilia G. Gannon, administrator of the estate of Edgar D. Gannon of East St. Louis, has filed a suit in the circuit court against the Citizens' Electric Light and Power company, East St. Louis, for \$10,000 damages. Gannon, a fireman for the Bell Telephone company, while repairing a wire in East St. Louis Aug. 31 came in contact with a live wire, it is alleged, of the defendant company and was killed.

Literary Woman Dies.
Mrs. Emily P. Schenck, wife of Dr. William E. Schenck, the pioneer physician of Pekin, is dead. She was a literary woman of marked ability and was the first charter member of the federation of women's clubs. Among her surviving brothers and sisters are Benjamin B. Prettymann of Chicago and Mrs. Hattie Murray of St. Louis.

Mortgages on Tax Schedule.
The Bond county board of review of assessments has discovered more than \$25,000 which was not given in to the assessors. The amount represents money loaned on mortgages.



"HE IS ALIVE AND WELL," HE SAID DELIGHTEDLY.

Carden, with some eagerness, "nor have I mentioned my good fortune in consequence of that change."
"And your good fortune is what, papa?" asked Jesse, without lifting her eyes.
"A much more important position has been awarded to me, with a corresponding increase in emolument," replied General Carden with more of dignity than of pride. Jesse threw her arms around her father's neck and spoke tender words of congratulation.
"We will talk no more of money and other gloomy things," she declared with a laugh which brought the roses to her cheeks. "I am going for you."
"Listen to this, papa!" She ran her fingers over the keys of the piano. The liquid notes swelled into the intoxicating melody of a waltz dance and quivered with the trilling of birds among the trees for half an hour Jesse played. Then she began a spirited recital of her exercises abroad. She mimicked the staid old German professors, and the general laughed until the tears coursed down his cheeks.

General Carden made an early appointment with James Blake and was promptly admitted to the private office of the famous operator.
"If you have no objection, general," said James Blake, after the usual commonplace remarks which preface business transactions, "explain the exact status of this block of L. & O. stock."
"There is no secret about it," replied the former. "A number of years ago I became convinced that the L. & O. railroad had a brilliant future. I purchased fifteen thousand shares on speculation. Then the general swept the country. Not dreaming that my bank would be involved, I decided to protect my L. & O. stock and accordingly bought. For at fifty pay the sum of \$500,000 in cash. Then the crash came and my bank went under with the others. Randolph Morris was my principal creditor. Mr. Arthur Morris, however, as a personal favor, to lend me two hundred thousand dollars on the stock. Interest and other charges have accumulated until Mr. Morris has now a claim of \$248,000 against the stock."
"At what price does Mr. Morris propose to sacrifice the stock?" asked Blake.
"At twenty-six."

James Blake made a rapid calculation on a writing pad.
"I have a proposition to make you, General Carden," he said. "I will ad-

vance you the money to exercise your option, on the condition that you do not sell when it drops to 25. You will deposit the stock with me and place it in a pool to be handled at my discretion. As an evidence of my good faith I now offer you 25 for your stock—eight points more than the market price. After meeting the Morris claim this will leave you a balance of \$100,000."

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