

THE GREAT K & A TRAIN ROBBERY

BY PAUL LEXSTEED FORD, Author of 'The Pink Palace Mystery'.

CHAPTER VI.—Continued.

"Miss Cullen," I said, gravely, "you have those letters, and must give them to me."

"But I told you," she began.

To spare her a second untruth, I interrupted her by saying, "I trapped your brother into acknowledging that you have them."

"You must have misanderstood him," she replied, calmly, "or else he didn't know that the arrangement was changed."

Her steadiness rather shocked my conviction, but I said, "You must give me those letters, or I must search you."

"You never would!" she cried, rising and looking me in the face.

On impulse I tried a big bluff. I took hold of the lapel of her waist, intending to undo just one button. It let go in fright when I found there was no button—only an awful complication of hooks or some other feminine method of keeping things together—and I grew red and trembled, thinking what might have happened had I by bad luck, made anything come undone. If Miss Cullen had been noticing me, she would have seen a terribly scared man.

But she was not looking at me. Her hand touched her dress, and before she could realize that I had snatched it away, she collapsed on the rock, and burst into tears.

"Oh! oh!" she sobbed. "I begged papa not to, but he insisted they were safest with me. I'll give them to you, if you'll only go away and not—" Her tears made her inarticulate, and without waiting for more I ran into the hut, feeling as near like a murderer as a guiltless man could.

Lord Railes by this time was making as much noise as an engine pulling a heavy freight up grade under forced draft, swearing over his trousers, and was offering the cowboy and Hance money to recover them. When they told him this was impossible he tried to get them to sell or hire a pair, but they didn't like the idea of riding into camp minus those essentials any better than he did.

While I waited they settled the difficulty by strapping a blanket around him, and by splitting it up the middle and using plenty of cord they rigged him out after a fashion; but I think he would have given an opinion if he would have preferred to wait till it was dark enough to creep into camp unnoticed.

Before long Miss Cullen called, and when I went to her she handed me without a word, three letters. As she did so she crimsoned violently, and looked down in her mortification. I was so sorry for her that, though a mortally, I now couldn't help saying: "Our positions have been difficult, Miss Cullen, that I don't think either of us is quite responsible for our actions."

She said nothing, and after a pause, I continued: "I hope you'll think as leniently of my conduct as you can, for I can't tell you how grieved I am to have pained you."

Cullen joined us at this point, and, knowing that every moment we remained would be distressing to his sister, I announced that we would start up the trail. I hadn't the heart to offer to help her to mount, and after Frederic had put her up we fell into single file behind Hance, Lord Railes coming last.

As soon as we started I took a look at the three letters. They were all addressed to Theodore K. Camp, Esq., Ash Forks, Arizona,—one of the di-

her sake, I'll pull the Cullens out of this scrape, if it costs me my position."

CHAPTER VII.

A Change of Base.

We did not reach Flagstaff till seven, and I told the stage-load to take possession of their car, while I went to my own. It took me some time to get freshened up, and then I ate my breakfast; for after riding seventy-two miles in one night even the most heroic purposes have to take the side-track. I think, as it was, I proved my devotion pretty well by not going to sleep, since I had been up three nights, with only such naps as I could steal in the saddle, and had ridden over a hundred and fifty miles to boot. But I couldn't bear to think of Miss Cullen's anxiety, and the moment I had made myself decent, and finished eating, I went into it.

The party were all in the dining-room, but it was a very different-looking crowd from the one with which that first breakfast had been eaten, and they all looked at me as if I were "Mr. Cullen." I began, "I've been forced to do a lot of things that weren't pleasant, but I don't want to do more than I need. You're not the ordinary kind of road agent, are you? I presume your address is known, I



She was breathing gently.

don't see any need of arresting one of our own directors as yet. All I ask is that you give me your word, for the party, that none of you will try to leave the country."

"Certainly, Mr. Gordon," he responded. "And I thank you for your great consideration."

"I shall have to report the case to our president, and I suggest that you do so either. What will he do, I can't say. Probably you know how far you can keep them quiet."

"I think the local authorities are all I have to fear, provided time is given me." (To be continued.)

Making Sure of Their Shoes.

They were on a stunning expedition. Two chop suey establishments had been graced by their presence and they thought they were seeing much of the under world. They had drifted down State street and had the boldness to enter a saloon that is much frequented by negroes of slender means. And the sight which met their gaze was a regular one. They were sitting in chairs and the chairs leaned against the wall. But the peculiar fact was that all were without shoes. In a moment they saw a chair stool in each.

"How peculiar!" queried one.

"Yep," was the short answer of one of the proprietors. "Why do they place their chair legs in their shoes?"

"Very simple. If they didn't they wouldn't have any shoes. We don't guarantee the honesty of our customers."

"And if they slept with their shoes on?"

"Some man with a poorer pair than them off."

"And if they stood them near the chair?"

"Some evildoer man would take would exchange."—Chicago Chronicle.

An Old-School Head.

Capt. Ryan, the new British naval attaché, said at a dinner in Washington: "The strength of the heads of some of our old-school farmers is quite incredible."

"At a harvest supper, a 'vest similar in its way to your Thanksgiving dinner, there was an old farmer who drank a good deal of champagne. The moment his glass was filled he would toss it off, and then, of course, it would be filled again."

"But the old fellow grew quieter and quieter, the more champagne he drank. A frown settled on his forehead. His eyes flashed angrily under his heavy gray brows."

"Finally when the waiter filled his glass for the twelfth or thirteenth time, he shook his head and said: 'James, when are you going to put the whisky on the table? These ministrals are getting tedious!'"

Criticism.

"What is your favorite poem?" "I haven't any," answered Mr. Cumrox. "Poetry always strikes me as showing off more than the author's part to show off how much he knows about capital letters and punctuation marks."

Evidence of Reckless Bravery.

"Sho—Do you believe men are as brave now as they used to be?" "He—Sure! Just see the poetry some men write now."

ILLINOIS STATE NEWS

FIND NEW CLEW IN POISON CASE

Inane Man is Wanted by Officials in St. Charles Mystery.

A new turn was taken in the poison mystery which caused the death of Mrs. Anderson when a Chicago office at St. Charles wired Chief Collins of Chicago to help locate a certain man said to be inane and who is alleged to have stolen the Anderson's food from the kitchen at St. Charles. It is believed, though no statement has been given out, that the inane man is suspected of having some knowledge of the affair. H. M. Gordon of the Northwestern Pharmacy school reported to Acting Coroner Hempstead that he had discovered traces of strychnine poisoning in Mrs. Anderson's stomach and suggested that collections be made of once. The chemists declare there was no strychnine in the fluid used by them and the state's attorney has ordered a post mortem be made at once.

ORGANIZE ROCKFORD CITY CLUB

Chicago Sons of Enterprising Town Launch Social Society.

Sons of Rockford have effected the permanent organization of the Rockford Club of Chicago. Although the club has been in existence for almost ten years, its organization was of an informal nature. Charles E. Herrick, secretary of the Rockford Club of Chicago, was elected president of the permanent organization. Edward B. Wimer was elected vice president and treasurer. H. C. Kellogg, the former secretary and treasurer, was nominated and elected to succeed himself, but declined to serve and his resignation was accepted. The following are the members of the executive committee: J. E. St. John, William McKee, R. P. Mansard.

BANKERS' RULE TO BE TESTED

Court to Pass on Charge Made for Collecting Out of Town Checks.

The Illinois Manufacturers' association, through its secretary, J. M. Glenn, has notified the Chicago clearing house committee that legal proceedings will be begun without delay to test the bankers' rule of charging for collection of out of town checks. The association rejected the clearing house offer of a one-third reduction in the check collection rates, and drew up resolutions specifying that the clearing house committee would be instructed immediately to proceed with the institution of a test case. The case will be a friendly suit, it is said, and will be brought to a court of resolutions was sent to James B. Forgan, president of the First National bank, chairman of the clearing house committee, which has the collection matter in hand.

ENGLISH NOBLEMAN ENDS LIFE

George Barton, Semi-Recluse, Found Dead, Rifle in Hand.

George Barton, an English nobleman who came to Winnebago county in the '90s, and who has since led the life of a semi-recluse, was found dead in a feed lot with a bullet hole in his head and a rifle clamped in his fingers. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of suicide. Letters bearing out the theory of suicide. One of them gives instructions to his attorney to have the local authorities arrested if his property, valued at \$50,000 to \$100,000. Stories often repeated that Barton was an English lord, and had come here because of an unfortunate marriage. In a moment after his death, and it is believed that sorrow, long borne in silence, finally induced the man to take his own life. Several years ago it was established by the will of a large estate in England and a peer of that realm.

Class of Forty to Graduate.

The graduating exercises of the Paris high school will be held Monday evening, June 11, the speaker to be Dr. George E. Vincent of the University of Chicago. Class day exercises will be held June 12, the program comprising an original play, the translation of the Shakespearean drama. The class is the largest ever graduated from the high school, comprising twenty-two girls and eighteen boys.

Slayer is Released.

Harry Haaran, the slayer of Meent De Vries, was released by the police of Peoria Monday after the coroner's jury had returned a verdict justifying the homicide. The coroner had corroborated the story told by Haaran that at the time of the shooting De Vries was choking Catherine Haaran with one hand and she had held her head with the other. Ann Haaran with a hatchet. De Vries left an estate of \$10,000.

Secures Supreme Court Site.

The condemnation proceedings brought by Gov. Deenen to secure a site for the new Supreme Court building at Springfield have all been disposed of, with the exception of the one against the 'Eddie Stuart' estate. The case against Mrs. Van Dyun has been dismissed and the case of Mrs. Marie Unterzagt has been compromised. The estimates on the institute property vary from \$25,000 to \$30,000.

Mistake Man for Goose.

Mistaking the form of Charles Neal of North Chicago, partly hidden behind a fence near Five Points, near Chicago, for a goose, William Loedike fired two charges of bird shot into the former's body. Though severely wounded, it is believed that Neal will recover.

Raise Price for Hauling Coal.

Because of the condition of the Springfield streets that are not paved, haulers have raised the price of coal on a semaphore while passing Plano. The freeman discovered him unconscious soon afterward and brought the train safely to Aurora.

Trustee of Southern Normal.

Gov. Deenen has appointed J. M. Burkhardt of Marion, Williamson county, trustee of the Southern Illinois Normal school at Carbondale, vice Samuel P. Wheeler of Springfield, resigned.

Engineer is Fatally Hurt.

Engineer Potts, running Burlington express train No. 6, struck his head on a semaphore while passing Plano. The freeman discovered him unconscious soon afterward and brought the train safely to Aurora.

BROUGHT HIM DOWN TO EARTH.

Public Printer Stillings' Encounter With Senator Dick.

It is getting to be almost as difficult to reach the Public Printer Stillings in Washington as it is to get speech with the president. The Boston man has given strict orders to hold up all who would intrude upon his privacy, even if they come on public business. The other day a man got into the sacred presence unannounced and Mr. Stillings roared at him: "How did you get in here?" The visitor did not seem to be much alarmed and instead of replying asked another question: "Are you the public printer?" Mr. Stillings again demanded: "I want to know how you got in here." The caller replied calmly: "If you are the public printer I would like to introduce myself and possibly make a few remarks about how to act like a gentleman. My name is Dick. I am from Ohio and happen to be a senator with business here." Whereupon the public printer lost all of his anger and most of his dignity.

FOUNDER OF RED CROSS DYING.

Henri Dunant One of the Greatest Benefactors of Humanity.

Henri Dunant, founder of the Red Cross societies, is dying at his home near Lake Constance, Switzerland. Dunant spent his entire fortune on the Red Cross.

The Red Cross societies are the result of an agitation begun by M. Jean Henri Dunant, after he had engaged to witness the battle of Solferino, on June 24, 1859.

The great suffering of the wounded soldiers and the inability of the surgeons to care for the thousands who lay helpless on the field, greatly affected this philanthropist, and he published a book which vividly described the horrors of war and suggested the formation of societies to tend the wounded on the battle-fields and in military hospitals.

An agitation was immediately begun, and at the international conference in Geneva in August, 1864, the Geneva convention was indorsed and



Henri Dunant

Tack Causes Explosion.

A carpet tack, caught between cog wheels, caused a spark that resulted in the blowing up of the works of the Phoenix Powder Works, eight miles from East St. Louis, Saturday afternoon. John Nash, 58 years old, and Edward Higginbotham, 24 years old, were killed, and Thomas J. Tolfar fatally hurt. The building was razed, parts being scattered all over the surrounding country. Nash was running the machine which caused the igniting spark. After the accident a tack was found in the core of the demolished machine and experts at the factory said there was no doubt but that it caused the explosion.

Must Name Delegates April 28.

Attorney General Stead has rendered an opinion that delegates to county conventions and primary committees can only be chosen at the primary election. This was in answer to a letter of inquiry from Kinderhook, where republican voters of Kinderhook township, at a caucus held March 17, 1906, elected delegates to the county convention and primary committees.

Charleston Coal Famine.

The people of Charleston and many smaller towns that locality are facing a coal famine that promises to be serious. Coal receipts from the mines have practically stopped, the railroad companies have ordered the mines closed and started. Dealers are ordered and refused to sell any customer more than a half ton, and nearly every bin in town is empty or soon will be.

Telephone Exchanges Consolidate.

A deal has been closed whereby the independent telephone exchanges of Redmon, Horton and Kansas have been consolidated under the name of the Embarras Telephone company. The principal stockholders are John Henn of Redmon, E. N. Blair of Horton and C. I. Arterburg of Kansas. The latter is the general manager of the consolidation.

Coloring Matter in Water.

Prof. Constantia of Belgium who has been studying the causes of color in water, under various conditions, says that if water otherwise entirely pure contains one part in every one million of ferric chloride, iron compound, it will appear green, where the depth is considerable. With less than one part of ferric hydrate in every twenty million it will be blue. But that is the case with the water of the Seine. The presence of a few million or human matter in every forty million will make the blue tint of water disappear.



Crimsoned violently and looked down in her mortification.

rectors of the K. & A. and also of the Great Southern. With those parties in the first time things began to clear up to me, and when the trail broadened enough to permit it, I pushed my mule up alongside of Cullen and asked: "The letters contain proxies for the K. & A. election next Friday?" He nodded his head. "The Missouri Western and the Great Southern are fighting for control," he explained, "and we should have won but for three blocks of Eastern stock that had promised their proxies to the O. S. Rather than lose the fight, we arranged to learn when those proxies were made—that was what kept me behind—and then to hold up the train that carried them."