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been utterly impossible, owing to constant safeguards in use at my office to cover similar cases.

But his intention was just as determined, notwithstanding all this, of which he, of course, was not aware.

My son re-entered the room slowly—feeling that there might be danger, and knowing his man—with the grim muzzle of a splendid English "Trauter" revolver in front of him; and Sheridan, seeing that his captor was as wary as he was, daring and inventive, resumed his seat with the manner of a French courtier, took a pinch of snuff, as he replaced the box, and with airy politeness remarked:

"Billy, that snuff of your father's is a d—d fine article!"

"For the eyes?" asked William quietly.

"Eyes or nose," he retorted. "But I'm very sorry to say that the nose has it this time!"

I succeeded in having the man safely conveyed to Springfield; but Sheridan made his money count in another way than upon my detectives. He had the case fought on every legal technicality which could be brought forward, secured a postponement of trial for nearly a year, and finally a change of venue to the city of Decatur, where, after retaining the very best lawyers in the State of Illinois, and—what was quite as useful—a portion of the jury, he was eventually acquitted, expending altogether for this manner of acquiring liberty the snug little sum of twenty thousand dollars, as he subsequently admitted.

After this affair, Sheridan, who was inordinately ambitious to become noted as one of the most successful thieves in America, went East, and organised a party of "bank-bursters," or bank-robbers, consisting of Frank McCoy, *alias* "Big Frank," James Brady, James Hope, Ike Marsh, and others, the crowd becoming a terror to the East, until so closely hunted there that its members were compelled to disband; when he assisted at a robbery of a Cleveland bank, where forty thousand dollars were taken. This was followed by a raid upon the Mechanics' (Hawley's) Bank, of Scranton, Pennsylvania, where Sheridan and "Little George" Corson appropriated thirty thousand dollars' worth of negotiable bonds.

His next exploit of note, and one which struck a very tender chord in the hearts of several citizens of Louisville, Kentucky, was his planning of and participation in the Falls City