

A GIRL IN A THOUSAND

Always providing that the special net with no accident, Rex shrugged his shoulders at the thought of a broken rail. Well, it was no consolation to feel that he would hardly know what had happened; a crash, a plunge, a shock, a cry—then eternally.

Phew! What was the use of worrying—this was the time to be philosophical, to conjure up something of the Oriental's belief in fate, and take what was meted out to him.

The grimy driver evidently intended to earn those napoleons, or know the reason why.

Once they stopped for water. Rex took advantage of the opportunity to call the guard, who was in another compartment of the carriage, have him unlock the door, and then step down for a few words with the driver.

Twenty minutes gained! It was a triumph that thrilled him. A few more like it would nullify the advantage with which the express had started.

Already, in imagination, as they jumped forward again, like a hound slipping the leash, Rex pictured the look of pleased surprise on the face of Miss Madge when he coolly saluted her at some mountain station, and the black scowl that must indicate the gloom of the count. Oh! it would be balm to his soul and amply repay him for all the journey had cost.

Count Rudolf would have another reason to think his western rival a man of extraordinary ability, since it lay in his power to annihilate even time itself. All of which played its various changes through the mind of our lachrymose who sprawled out along the wide-cushioned seat and enjoying a cigar.

When the first hundred miles had been covered, and a new engine was attached, Rex began to realize something of the immensity of the game he was playing, and to feel that the high price demanded for his freak was not so near the border of robbery after all.

When a second century had been completed in great shape, and they began to draw near the mountains along the Swiss border, Rex had come to the conclusion that five napoleons was, after all, a miserable pittance when he considered what the successful issue of the mad race might mean to him.

Accordingly, when he ran forward to see his faithful French driver mount the fresh engine, he caught his eye and shouted, so as to be heard above the hiss of escaping steam.

"Double that five napoleons if we succeed." "They're mine," calmly replied the confident man at the throttle. "Step aboard, monsieur, and hold your breath."

Rex was charmed with the daredevil. He tossed some cigars into the cab of the motor for those who labored, that he might indulge in a little whiff, then ran back and plunged into his car, just as, with a shrill whistle, they were started upon the third stage of their eccentric journey.

It was broad day. The fields, and woods, and gardens were fair to look upon in the bright October sunshine.

Despite the fact of his late having been broken and enjoying a cigar, Rex was feeling in prime condition, for excitement is, after all, what buys one up and causes fatigue to lose its sting.

He discovered that his guard had carefully obeyed his injunctions, using the telegraph to order a breakfast at this place for all on board.

The hamper for Rex individually had been stowed in his car, and when his eyes discovered it he began to realize that hunger may even assail a man who pursues phantoms.

So he opened the basket. Considering the conditions under which breakfast was served, Rex was pleased to commend the bill of fare—even to a pot of hot coffee, it was all there, and very appetizing at that.

"This is something like," he laughed, as he ate, and surveyed the panorama constantly shifting past his windows on either side; "the acme of luxury—a whole train subject to my command, a clear track ahead, and running seventy miles an hour!"

The morning was wearing on, and it was easy to see that the mountain barrier separating France from her little neighbor across the rugged Alps, the home of the valiant Swiss, long unsullied.

All the while they had been gaining on the express, and might reasonably expect to overtake that flyer by the time the station figured on by Rex and the engine driver was reached.

The road grew rougher, and progress more labored, but our friend knew full well they made better time than the regular. Now the mountains looked up around them, with towering peaks, snow capped, the sides covered with forests, and a grey sky overhead, that seemed to promise rain.

It was at the next stop that Rex had something of a shock—something that cast cold water on his high spirits, and aroused again the demon of jealousy in his breast.

He had taken a short and brisk walk up and down the station platform, while the necessary operations were under way, partly to stretch his legs, stiff from the long confinement, and, to his surprise, he discovered that the guard was not alone in his apartment. Lying at full length upon one of the seats, and evidently enjoying things hugely, was a gentleman whom Rex remembered to have seen at the hotel in Paris; at least, his face was quite Rex was amusement, because the tricky familiar.

The first things that occurred to guard had stolen a march upon him, and doubtless collected a steep toll from this second party, who desired to make haste in travelling, without the expense of hiring a special. Then he wondered if the joke had gone further, and the breakfast ordered by wire also satisfied the hunger of this uninvited passenger.

with a rush and a roar, an irresistible cyclone of steam and power. Rex had something to think about now, and the more he considered the matter, the greater his suspicions became—evidently this charming fellow of stupendous nerve had a deep motive in thus bribing the guard to carry him, knowing, as he must, that the law of the road looked upon this train de luxe as the individual property of the party who had planked down the coin of the realm for the privilege of overtaking the express—and Rex would, under the circumstances, have been a very dull fellow indeed if he had not been able to discover the truth.

She fled—he followed—that was the affair in a nutshell; but what bothered Rex more than all else was the secret cause of this flight—what might Chauncey Odell be to Miss Madge?

As he pondered, his indignation arose—the sublime nerve of the fellow had appealed to his admiration at first, but this soon gave way to indignation at the thought of being so coolly made a vehicle by means of which this chap pursued his pretty quarry—Rex paid the freight, and the other profited thereby. It was enough to make a saint swear, and he did not profess to have any great claims for a halo just yet.

And yet, it had been a bit of extremely clever work on the part of Mr. C. O., that was bound to arouse the admiration of anyone who could appreciate assurance—he looked so comfortable, sprawled out there, as if he owned the whole outfit, and Rex, whose gold paid the bills, was only a passenger on sufferance. Confound his impudence, anyway!

What might be done? Rex felt as though he held a mortgage on that limited train, and no party had the ghost of a claim to a passage without his free consent; consequently he had the power to demand that the breezy gentleman descend from his perch and vacate the premises forthwith, continuing his journey by the next regular express, or chartering a "special" for himself, since he seemed to have fancy for that mode of traveling—lots of people do, when some one else pays the freight.

How had it happened? Did the friendly hotel clerk give the story away to his other guest immediately after Rex left the caravansary, allowing that industrious worthy an opportunity to get another cab, reach the station in time to cultivate the acquaintance of the slippery guard, and arrange for a free passage in the latter's van?

Well, it was lucky he discovered the play before it had become too late, since he was given a chance to do some thinking with a view to blocking the ultimate success of the smart game.

It was for Madge; that gave him more zeal than he might have shown for himself; for the dainty little lady of the sky-blue orbs, who seemed to be in great need of the friendship he had so joyfully bestowed her at the time they made their contract.

There could be no denying the fact that the fellow was very good looking. Strange that this fact should cause Rex to feel even more bitter against him; sometimes it may be unpardonable to possess a handsome man, at least, when one uses his physical perfections to annoy a young and charming lady.

Sometimes Rex laughed, and then again he said words not to be found in the lexicon of any self-respecting person, but which it is to be feared, served as a vent to his overwrought feelings, at least, he seemed to appear better afterward.

They were now far up the mountains, and crossing upon the express at a rapid rate, according to his time-card as arranged by the guard. Presently he would know just what he might expect, as a result of his excessive venting, and all the while that internal sound—he not apparently arranged the status of one unawakened passenger to his satisfaction—was enjoying the hurricane flight of the chartered special with little regard to his equal after the "play," at least, such a cheaply to his French railway acquaintance, and son, than to charter an entire train for a three or four hundred-mile run.

Rex had no fault to find, save that he was being hoodwinked by the rascally guard, who not only reaped his nest egg, but actually earned Miss Madge's company on to give her further annoyance.

That was the kindest out of all. He could have forgiven the fellow had his passenger been a stranger, one who had nothing to do with his fortunes; but to drag Odell along was an injury that rankled.

So Rex nursed his wrath, and amused himself in making ready his writ of ejectment.

There was a grim earnestness in the manner of his turning back the sleeves of his coat, after the style of one who has an unpleasant duty to perform which cannot be neglected.

A whistle. Ah! their speed was slackening at last, and evidently they had arrived at that station where, according to telegraphic advice, a fresh engine would be in readiness to take the place of the one just exhausted.

Mr. Odell's time was at hand. Rex had not allowed the guard to lock the door of his compartment after that first time, since valuable seconds were lost in awaiting his lordly pleasure.

Accordingly, the train had hardly ceased to move ere he was out upon the platform and at the door of the guard's compartment.

That worthy had issued forth, but something in the look Rex gave him caused his face to pale and his knees to show a decided inclination to knock together.

A guilty conscience makes cowards of the best of men. Rex stood at the door, and glared in. Mr. Chauncey Odell was seated at his ease, his feet thrown up at an angle of forty-five degrees, after the usual American manner, and he smoked a weed that Rex thought very much resembled the prime ones he had cast into the cab of the engine with such a lavish hand.

(To be continued.)

PILES CURED IN 6 TO 14 DAYS. PAZO OINTMENT is guaranteed to cure Hemorrhoids, Bleeding or Protruding Piles in 6 to 14 days or money refunded. 50c.

Notice to Housekeepers. When buying house supplies do not forget to order Gerrie's Perfection Baking Powder. It is the strongest, purest and highest grade powder sold. 2,500 of Hamilton's best housekeepers use it. Try it and you will use no other. Price, 30c per lb.—Gerrie's Drug Store, 32 James street north.

GASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Hutchins. In Use For Over Thirty Years GASTORIA THE DANFORTH COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

TIMES PATTERNS. BRANDY CHOCOLATE THIRTY MONTREAL DEALERS MUST APPEAR IN COURT. Sale and Manufacture of the Article Said to Have Reached Large Proportions—Half a Pound of Candy Contains Enough Spirit to Intoxicate a Youth.

ONE OF THE NEWEST SKIRT MODELS. No. 8256.—Ladies' Skirt. Cut in sizes 22 to 32 inches waist. Size 28 will require 5 yards of 44-inch material. In this design the top is given close adjustment, while extra fullness is provided by pleated gored inserts in each of the side seams. Cloth covered buttons for a smart and effective trimming. Broadcloth, panama, serge and linen will all develop successfully.

DRUGGED--ROBBED. Lindsay Man Fell in With Thieves in Minneapolis. Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 18.—The senseless body of James M. Mansont, of Lindsay, Ont., was found early on Sunday morning in a dark corner of a hallway in the basement of the City Hall. Mansont had been drugged, slugged and robbed, and then dragged into the corridor not two hundred feet from the police station. The robbers took his watch, his fur overcoat and \$15.

DEAL IS OFF. Winnipeg Council Rejects Street Railway Offer. Winnipeg, Jan. 18.—Negotiations between the city and the street railway came to an abrupt and somewhat unsatisfactory ending this afternoon, when, after hearing Mr. Mann present the final offering of the company regarding prices for power and commercial lighting, and his alternative for the sale of the enterprises to the city on a basis to be fixed by arbitration, the Council decided to reject these proposals.

MICHAEL CARNEY KILLED. Switchman Almost Cut in Two by an Engine. Toronto, Jan. 19.—Michael Carney was instantly killed in the C. P. R. yards, West Toronto, last night. He was a night switchman in the employ of the railway and was 25 years of age. At midnight while working in the yards Carney endeavored to board a moving switch engine, missed his footing and fell beneath the wheels, being practically cut in two.

Advantages of High Licenses. London, Jan. 18.—The doctrine that temperance is the foundation of national prosperity and efficiency was enforced by Sir Victor Horsley, speaking at Whitefields Tabernacle yesterday. He asserted the desirability and practicality of high license, which would most certainly reduce the number of public houses, as he had seen in Canada.

Only One "BROMO QUININE" that is Laxative Bromo Quinine & Co. on every box. 25c. Cures a Cold in One Day, Grip in 2 Days.

AT R. MCKAY & CO'S. WEDNESDAY, JAN. 20, 1909. The January Clearing Sale. Extra Special Values for Wednesday.

A Big Offer from the Dress Goods Section. 12 Only Exclusive Costume Lengths at Half Price. Sharp at 8.30 to-morrow morning we place on sale 12 only exclusive suiting lengths. No two alike at a most ridiculous price reduction for high-class up-to-date goods.

New Torchon Laces 3 Yds. for 10c. Very pretty new Torchon Laces in a rush-out sale to-morrow, from 1 to 3 inches wide. It's just your chance to secure Laces at less than half regular.

Women's Tailored Suits, Dresses, Skirts and Fur Garments of Every Description. A number of new lines have been added for this week's selling, and the prices we have made are so phenomenally low that the department will be crowded every day.

January Bargains in Blankets and Comforters. 35 pairs large size best White Wool Blankets, slightly soiled, price \$3.90 pair. 50 pairs fine fleece Wool White Blankets, new, good large size, price \$4.95 pair.

January White Sale. Interesting Values in Household Needs. Longcloth 10c. Soft finish English Longcloth, launders smooth and clean, a splendid Underwear quality, worth 12 1/2c, for 10c.

R. MCKAY & CO. BEAUTY DOCTOR. MANY SUICIDES. J. H. Woodbury Ends His Life in Hotel at Coney Island. Cleveland, Jan. 18.—"Opium causes half a million suicides a year," declared the Rev. A. S. Gregg, of the International Reform Bureau, to-day, with reference to the opium conference which begins its session at Shanghai February 1.

DOMINION LINE ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS. From Portland for Liverpool. *Welshman Jan. 21 Feb. 7. *Ordnian Jan. 29 Mar. 6. *Haverford Feb. 6 Mar. 13. *Cornishman Feb. 13 Mar. 20. *Dominion Feb. 20 Mar. 27. *No passengers carried.

WESTERN ASSURANCE Co. FIRE AND MARINE. Phone 2584. W. O. TIDSWELL, Agent. 25 James Street South.

Plumbing and Heating Contractor. GEORGE C. ELLICOTT. Phone 2068 119 King W.

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Through Ottawa Sleeper. Will leave Toronto 10.15 p. m. daily on and after Jan. 17th. For full information and tickets apply to Chas. E. Morgan, city passenger agent, or W. G. Webster, depot agent.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY. NORTH-WEST TOURIST SLEEPERS. Running through without change to Winnipeg, Northwest points and Vancouver, are carried on the C. P. R. express leaving Toronto at 10.15 every night. They afford the ONLY THROUGH CAR SERVICE to Western Canada, and perfectly combine travelling comfort and economy.

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ROYAL MAIL TRAINS Via INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY. Maritime Express. Famed for excellence of Sleeping and Dining Car Service. Leaves Montreal 12 noon daily, except Saturday for QUEBEC, ST. JOHN, N.B., HALIFAX.

Friday's Maritime Express. Carries the EUROPEAN MAIL and lands passengers and baggage at the side of the steamship at Halifax the following Saturday. Intercolonial Railway uses Bonaventure Union Depot, Montreal, making direct connection with Grand Trunk trains.

STEAMSHIPS. C.P.R. Atlantic Steamers. TO LIVERPOOL. Jan. 22nd, Corfuca (chartered). Jan. 29th, Empress of Britain. Feb. 6th, Lake Champlain. Feb. 12th, Empress of Ireland. Feb. 20th, Empress of Britain. Excellent accommodation now and fast service. Low rates to St. John. Rates and full information on application to nearest agent or S. J. Sharp, 71 Yonge street, Toronto.

INSURANCE. F. W. GATES & BRO. DISTRICT AGENTS. Royal Insurance Co. Assets, including Capital \$45,000,000. OFFICE—39 JAMES STREET SOUTH. Telephone 1,445.

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