

Fable of Hiram's Family

Once there was a staid business man who was hooked up with a hoop-ladder. It was often remarked that Hiram's wife seemed to take it for granted that treasury notes grew on trees. She wore those long lozenge-shaped rings that blind the spectator, and she had a different sunburst for every day in the week and a diamond tanzanite that made the other women sizzle with envy. She wore a trailing Worth gown that kept coming in to the room long after she had entered.

Now and then she would give a party at which \$50 worth of spinach would be hung on the chandeliers. The highest-priced caterer in town would deal out the sparkling conversation water as if brut and butter-milk cost about the same.

She was an very shrew, among the highest of the rollers, but Hiram stood for the bills with nary a whimper. He was proud to be the husband of the Lady Kibosh of the Local Knickerbockers.

He never pranced into the ring himself for fear that he might interfere or throw a shoe, but he sat back in section A and rooted for the missus. Every time she was awarded a blue ribbon for another social triumph he was pleased beyond compare.

Hiram was a child of nature, and he never had been able to outgrow his birthright. Even when he was attired in his \$135 evening clothes, one could tell by looking at him that he knew how to milk a cow.

Hiram could not comb his hair so that it would stay, and although he had been in the city 30 years he never contrived to get the hang of a tie-knot. He was even said to have a little trouble in putting the studs in his shirt without getting finger marks on the bosom. Hiram's wife or daughter, Jessie, always had to go to his room and look him over and turn him around a couple of times before they dared to lead him out where the company could see him.

And yet, withal, Hiram was a man of sterling worth and many admirable qualities. He was the family Gibraltar, while his wife and Jessie were supposed to be mere floral ornaments. Best of all, Hiram was known to be a star at getting the coin. The fact that the family put up such a tall front in the society column helped the public to believe that Hiram was as good as old wheat and as prosperous as a Kansas farmer. And he was supposed to be long on business integrity. It was argued that one so happy would have to be correspondingly honest.

Hiram was so severe and puritanical and had so much clinging agricultural simplicity that no one dreamed of the truth about him. In reality, his arteries were surcharged with sporting blood. When no one suspected it, he liked to put on a mask and sneak out and hold up the stock market. That is what he did until one sad day in May the stock market up and did him. He got it right where the hired girl wears the rucking.

Hiram came home as pale as a ghost and broke the news that he was in the hole. He hesitated to tell the wife, for she was a fragile being, unaccustomed to the rude buffets of the

streptuous life, and he feared that such a cruel blow might crush her. But he finally divulged the frightful truth and then flopped to the settee and began to bluff about killing himself so that she could get the insurance money. She told him to behave and then she went out and made a cup of strong tea for him.

Hiram had been an imposing figure so long as he had his financial underpinning, but when they yanked away his supports, he got the horrible collapse. When he got the swig in the plexus and toppled over, he proved to be a sorry quitter. He lay on his back and claimed a foul, while his wife and Jessie hustled around to save some of the wreckage.

They gave up the servants and soaked the jewels and moved into a smaller house. It was a rapid come-down, but even while they were doing the parachute they continued to look pleasant and be game. Although their female friends came around to express sympathy and stick pins in them they forced the angelic smile and did not act a bit like heavy losers.

They had to take in roomers and give lessons in china painting in order to save Hiram from the poorhouse, and yet with all their skimping and economizing they never pretended to know poverty.

When a man loses his money he goes to his bedroom to drink himself into a trance. A woman lights the house from cellar to garret and sends out invitations for a party.

On an income of about \$3 a week, Hiram's wife and daughter managed to keep up appearances and occasionally have some of their old friends to dinner. Hiram never understood how they managed it. When he looked at his empty bank book and then out at the cold world, he was for giving up and disappearing beneath the waves. His wife braced him and told him to think of Jessie. Hiram wept and said there was no hope for the child of a pauper. Notwithstanding which, Hiram's wife kept the family right along in the swim and married Jessie to a desirable catch. It is true that she starved the household for six months in order to give the young couple a daisy send-off.

And all this time, Hiram, the astute business manager, was standing around on one foot like a town sipleton at a kissing bee.

Hiram had learned how to do things with money, but he had to turn to his frivolous wife to find out how to manage it when there is no money.

In other words, Hiram discovered that cash had been the essence of his existence while it had been the mere accidental adjunct to his wife's social campaigns.

Without a big reserve, he was a smoke. She, minus her check book, rose to greater heights of diplomacy. In time she succeeded in resuscitating her groggy husband and putting him back on the track, but he had lost his ginger. He was stoop-shouldered and gray as a bat.

She turned up at the club meetings just as chipper as of yore, only she came by trolley instead of coupe.

Moral: It is the upheaval of tough luck that causes a transfer of the family scepter.

GEORGE ADE.

city has suffered deterioration, it is declared, through long suffering in office without personal examination as to their fitness for the important duties to which they were assigned. It is, moreover, stated that there will soon be an overhauling of the service for the public good and that the well-known convictions of President Roosevelt will prompt him to enforce more rigidly the civil service rules, which declare for men "appointed for merit and fitness only, ascertained so far as possible by competitive examination." This indeed would seem to be demanded in view of the lamentable happening at Buffalo, when a dangerous anarchist was permitted to approach the president with his hand concealed in a handkerchief after one of his accomplices had also successfully run his gauntlet which was supposed to guard the approaches to the executive presence. This fact alone shows an almost criminal laxity of effort, a sense of security arising from lack of discipline and a false dependence upon an unassailable official position. There is but one remedy, and that cannot be applied too soon. That is a radical reorganizing of the system—an establishment of the service upon an entirely new basis.

Three men were detailed by the secret service head at Washington, says ex-Chief Hazen, "to watch over the safety of the chief executive; the largest 'plain clothes' bodyguard that any president of this country has ever had. They had their instructions or should have had, and were responsible for the president's life. Under the discipline as it should have existed they would have taken their orders from no one but their chief, and never would have given up their positions of vantage where they could command a view of each person approaching and be near enough to stop any one."

Seattle, Jan. 18.—Thomas Howard, a 19-year-old boy of South Park, a former inmate of the reform school at Chehalis, was arrested yesterday by Deputy Sheriff Bevan charged with making threats against his father's life.

It appears that the boy has long been considered as incorrigible, but recently, on the representations of the reform school management that he had reformed, Rev. Mr. Hughes, of South Park, was induced to secure his release on parole. Hardly had he returned home than the boy began to abuse his father, who is an elderly man, with the result that his would-be benefactor yesterday invoked the aid of the law to have the boy re-committed to the school. Justice Cannon remanded him to the county jail pending the drawing of the order for commitment.

Oxford, Miss., Jan. 15.—The jury in the second trial of Whit Owens for the murder of Hugh Montgomery today returned a verdict of guilty, and he was sentenced to be hanged on Friday, February 14, the same date fixed for the hanging of Will Mathias and Orlando Lester. Will Mathias has requested Judge Lowery to have his hanging at a different hour from the time at which the negro, Orlando Lester, will be hanged and has asked that he be hanged from a different gallows. He says he is opposed to social equality and that is why the request is made.

It's GOOD TEA.
You will say so after trying it—"Schilling's Best"—sold by F. S. Dunham, The Family Grocer, corner Second avenue and Albert street.

A more serious crime still is reported from Metlakatla, where a Jap named Nece has been murdered. The Jap was a newcomer at the village, and had been living with one of the Indians there named Henry Prevost. On the afternoon of the 6th he took his rifle and went hunting on the reservation, and on the 7th his dead body was found on the beach. Two tides had evidently washed over it after death. Examination of the body disclosed the presence of three bullet holes, one in the right arm, another in the back and out through the right side, and another under the chin and out through the right cheek. His empty rifle, with which the deed, it is believed, was performed, lay at his side. His canoe was also found. Government Agent Flewin has the matter in hand, and with Dr. Bolton was about to hold a post mortem on the remains when the Tees left. Dr. Wilson, of Port Essington, had been sent for to hold a corner's inquest. Constables have also been detailed to obtain a clue, if possible, to the crime.

New York, Jan. 18.—A dispatch to the Herald from Nantucket lightship off the coast of Massachusetts gives an account of the manner in which Capt. Jorgensen of the lightship received the illness and death of his daughter through his wireless telegraph system. Says the dispatch: "Informed by wireless telegraphy of the illness and death of his daughter on the mainland and yet kept an unwilling prisoner for seven days because of the extremely rough sea, which prevented incoming steamers from taking him off, Capt. Jorgensen of the lightship, finally succeeded in getting on board the steamship Astoria, which will carry him ashore. Life on the storm swept lightship has been almost unbearable for Captain Jorgensen since the receipt of the first news of his daughter's illness. The girl, who was only 19 years of age, had been ill from the effects of vaccination at her home in Braintree, Mass. News of her condition since she was first taken ill had been daily flashed to her father at his lonely

South ALASKA
Has Been Scenes of Several Crimes Lately.

Victoria, Jan. 17.—The principal news brought by the steamer Tees this morning from the North related to the administration of justice in the ports at which she calls. On board the vessel and brought down on her for trial, for which she was committed by the magistrate at Port Simpson, was a half-breed named Jeff Nibby, who was convicted of breaking into the house of an Indian named Guk Guk, of the village of Gitalakamiks, and stealing therefrom \$237. The Indian left his home to go fishing, and returning early in November, found that the place had been entered, and the box in which he kept his money depleted of money to the extent named. A roll of greenbacks had, in some way, escaped the notice of the thief, and was not touched. Nibby, who was suspected, owing to the lavish way in which he had been spending money, had gone to the Skeena, and was overtaken and arrested at Hazelton on the 19th of November by an Indian constable, Stephen Grandison, who was dispatched after him. Over \$100 was found on him, while it was learned that he had lent small sums. He was brought back, and pleaded guilty to stealing \$139. He was committed for trial, and brought down by Special Officer J. T. Swanson on the Tees.

But Little is Made Public Regarding the Latter.

Which is One of the Most Important of Uncle Sam's Numerous Departments Skilled Men.

The secret service bureau of the United States has its offices in the treasury building at Washington with John E. Wilkie as chief and W. H. Moran as chief clerk. More than that does not appear in the official congressional directory, and the general public is left in the dark as to its personnel and the work it performs, except for occasional newspaper and magazine articles, usually "inspired," and the revelations of some ex-chief or former employee.

According to a statement recently published by a former expert of the secret service, this governmental bureau, which has been so often lauded and has existed so long as an adjunct of the treasury department, "is really used for only one thing—chasing counterfeits." The custom of drawing upon the secret service bureau for men to guard the president is of comparatively recent origin and is not sanctioned by precedent of long standing.

These remarks were called forth by the apparent failures of secret service men in affording protection to the national executives they should have more effectually guarded and the death by an assassin's bullets of one high in station whom they were supposed to protect, President McKinley.

The fact that the murderer of our beloved president accomplished his purpose notwithstanding that three secret service men had been detailed to guard him is its own commentary upon the inefficiency of that service which opens the way to an investigation which doubtless will be one of the things ordered by the next

congress. It is alleged that the faults and weaknesses of the secret service are owing to the fact that it has not been placed under civil service rules and that, in the language of an ex-chief of prominence who is supposed to know whereof he speaks, "the bars have been taken down, and all sorts and conditions of men out of a job have been appointed to places as detectives. There are men in the division who would have to think well before they put their past history in black and white—men whose careers would not look well in cold printers' ink."

This statement is a criticism of the vaunted secret service which had its origin in the dark days of the civil war, forty years ago last June, when Lafayette C. Baker tendered his services to Secretary Seward as a sort of police scout to gather information of affairs in the Confederacy. The work he initiated was so successful that it was placed under the control of the war department, which directed it until after the death of President Lincoln. After the war was over the reorganized force known as the secret service was directed to use its powers for the suppression of counterfeiting, and congress appropriated \$300,000 for the purpose, the sum of \$150,000 being annually devoted to that end for many years. At present the amount does not much exceed \$60,000 annually, except for special appropriations, and probably not more than fifty men are carried on the pay roll. And yet these men have worked hard for the suppression of counterfeiting and have been a terror to evil-doers of certain sorts for many years. Their deeds of valor, their determined still hunts lasting through years until the quarry was captured, their special information transmitted from one to another through various administrations have won for them a prestige as wonderful as it is deserved.

But, while the secret service men have proved excellent watchdogs of the treasury, it is now charged that they have notably failed when on detail for the protection of lives entrusted to their care. Their perspic-

acity has suffered deterioration, it is declared, through long suffering in office without personal examination as to their fitness for the important duties to which they were assigned. It is, moreover, stated that there will soon be an overhauling of the service for the public good and that the well-known convictions of President Roosevelt will prompt him to enforce more rigidly the civil service rules, which declare for men "appointed for merit and fitness only, ascertained so far as possible by competitive examination." This indeed would seem to be demanded in view of the lamentable happening at Buffalo, when a dangerous anarchist was permitted to approach the president with his hand concealed in a handkerchief after one of his accomplices had also successfully run his gauntlet which was supposed to guard the approaches to the executive presence. This fact alone shows an almost criminal laxity of effort, a sense of security arising from lack of discipline and a false dependence upon an unassailable official position. There is but one remedy, and that cannot be applied too soon. That is a radical reorganizing of the system—an establishment of the service upon an entirely new basis.

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post by means of the Marconi system. As the daily bulletins told of her rapid loss of strength and the premonitory symptoms of lockjaw, which finally developed, Capt. Jorgensen's distress of mind became greater day by day. At last a dispatch announcing her death on December 30.

Although the seas rolled nearly as high as ever on January 3, he resolved to make a desperate effort to get ashore. Almost a hurricane was blowing at the time, but a message was flashed to the shore for the light-house tender Azalea to take him off. She approached to within a few hundred yards of the lightship, but the tremendous force of the seas finally prevented her getting near enough to take the captain off.

Messages were sent to Capt. Jorgensen's family to delay the funeral as long as possible, although he had almost given up hope of getting ashore in time to attend it. Not until this week was it possible for any of the incoming steamers to get on the lightship to enable Captain Jorgensen to make the perilous journey from the lightship to the steamer in a small boat.

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C. R. WILKENS
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..HICKS & THOMPSON..
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One 16 c. p. Light \$5 per Month
Additional Lights \$3 per Month
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FOR GOLD RUN AND CARIBOU via Carmack and Dome
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FOR BELOW LOWER DOMINION, Chehalis, Hunker Creek, F.M. M.
FOR QUARTY CREEK—3 a. m. every other day, Sundays excepted.
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Seattle, Wash.

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For Mayor: HENRY C. MACAULAY.

FOR ALDERMEN

CHAS. BOSSUYT
GEO. MURPHY
H. C. NORQUAY

H. E. A. ROBERTSON
F. M. SHEPARD
PETER VACHON

THE PLATFORM

1. An honest administration; economy consistent with progression.
2. The general improvement of the city streets, lighting, sidewalks, etc., consistent with a reasonable expenditure.
3. No salaries for aldermen.
4. Civic control of saloon licenses.
5. Civic control of franchises of the Telephone Co., Electric Light Co., Water Co. and all similar franchises.
6. The proper carrying out of the health ordinance.
7. Proper regulations regarding taxation, thereby securing the equal distribution of taxes.
8. A complete and thorough system of fire inspection.
9. The appointment of all city officials and the awarding of all contracts in the best interests of Dawson, regardless of political or other influences; and that all contracts be let by tender to the lowest responsible bidder and a bond taken for the due performance of same.
10. Absolute control of all affairs which should properly come under city government.
11. That we will request the Government at Ottawa that the saloon-keepers of Dawson have the same commercial privileges as are accorded other lines of business.