

always went into

ganash," I said,

musingly.

ended on," I re-
ord "know."

e counterfeiter ;
t of a man too.
hicago." And
he eyes : "Did

n I could get a
stuff in paying
gh the country
e all confidence
or the State of
he genuine ar-
" I concluded,

ger, quietly.

" I thought

you're a good,
sell to you as

indifferently.
noon now, it
time you can

you've got a

making any
e spring and

down beside

. Here are
dollar bills,

counterfeits on the Wisconsin Marine and Fire Insurance Com-
pany's money.

I looked at them very, very wisely. As I have already said,
I had never seen a ten-dollar bill in my life ; but I examined them
as critically as though I had assisted in making the genuine
bills, and after a little expressed myself as very much pleased
with them.

They were indeed " beauties," as the old rascal had said, and
in all my subsequent detective experience I have hardly seen
their equal in point of execution and general appearance. There
was not a flaw in them. To show how nearly perfect they had been
made, it is only necessary to state that it was subsequently
learned that several thousand dollars in these spurious bills
had been received unhesitatingly at the bank and its different
agencies, and actually paid out and received the second time,
without detection.

" Come, now, Pinkerton, I'll tell you what I'll do," continued
Craig, earnestly ; " if you'll take enough of this, I'll give you
the entire field out here. The fact is, Crane's getting old ; he
isn't as active as he used to be ; he's careless also, and, besides
all this, he's too well known."

" Well," said I thoughtfully, " how much would I have to
take ?"

" Only five hundred or a thousand," he replied, airily.

" On what terms ?" I asked.

" Twenty-five per cent. cash."

" I cannot possibly do it now," I replied, as though there was
no use of any further conference. " I haven't anywhere near
the amount necessary with me. I *want* to do it like thunder,
but when a man can't do a thing he can't, and that's all there
is about it."

" Not so fast, my man ; not so fast," answered the old rogue
reassuringly. " Now, you say these lubberheads of merchants
down at the village trust you ?"

" Yes, for anything."

" Then can't you make a raise from them somehow ? You'll
never get such another chance to do business with a square man
in your life ; and you can make more money with this in one
year than any one of them can in ten. Now, what can you do,
Pinkerton ?"