A TERRIBLE EXPERIENCE.

A True Story by one of Baltimore's Best Detectives.

From the Baltimore American.

It was just ten days before Christmas, a few years ago, that I was assigned to work up one of the most infamous robberies on record. An old lady, living near Baltimore, had her trunk rifled of all its contents, which included $2000 in small bills, a gold watch and several gold trinkets. She suspected a man-servant named Job Latimer, to whom she had given employment a few months before, and who disappeared at the same time as the money. A description of the party showed him to be a man of gigantic strength, with a repulsive countenance and close-cropped hair, which gave the impression that he had recently been confined in a prison. I reported the case to my chief, who gave me full power to work it up as I thought best. Information of the robbery, together with a description of the suspected party, was telegraphed all over the country, but nothing was heard in reply for several days. Then a dispatch came from Kansas City stating that a man answering the description of the Baltimore robber had been arrested the night before in that city, charged with being drunk and disorderly. I packed my valise and at once started for the west, where I arrived in due time and was introduced to the prisoner.

Sure enough, it was my man, if the description the old lady gave me went for anything. He at first pretended to know nothing about the robbery, said he had never been in Baltimore, and did not know where the place was. When I pinned him down with the facts in my possession and told him that I knew all about the large sum of money which had been taken from him when he was arrested the night before, he owned up and seemed to express genuine regret for what he had done.

Here I left him to consult with the chief as to the trains, etc.

"You'd better keep a sharp lookout for your man," said that official; "he looks like a desperate fellow."

I thanked him, of course, but I already knew that I had a dangerous job ahead of me. The next morning I called at the jail bright and early, and had another talk with Latimer. He said he felt unwell, and desired a glass of brandy. I told him he could have a drink later on. While on the way to the depot we stopped in a saloon and got a drink. It seemed to revive the prisoner, and put him in good spirits. We boarded the train and took seats in the smoking car. Soon after we were whirling away in the direction of home, and I felt that the worst part of my job was over, but it was not so, by a large majority.

Latimer was seized with a violent thirst soon after we left Kansas City, which water was unable to quench.

At first I accompanied him to the ice-cooler each time he wanted a drink, fearing he meant mischief; but afterwards I became convinced that his thirst was real, and allowed him to leave me unattended. I always watched him, however, ready to spring upon him if he attempted to escape.

During one of his trips to the water cooler I took occasion to place my revolver in a little valise, in which I had some legal papers and a change of linen, as it was becoming very uncomfortable in my pocket.

This was Latimer's chance, he availed himself of it. Just as I turned to look for him I saw him on the platform of the car in the act of jumping off. I rushed to the bell rope and pulled it, but before the gong sounded in the engine room Latimer had jumped off and was rapidly disappearing in the mountains. As the train was running on express time, I knew it must be some little time before it could come to a standstill, so I, too, jumped off and started in pursuit of the fugitive.

When I had gotten well up to the spot where Latimer got off I looked back and saw the express come to a halt and then start off again, the conductor evidently thinking I would not return.

When the train was winding around the mountain out of sight, I suddenly discovered that I had left my valise, containing my revolver and some important papers, in the car.

I realized my position at once. There I was alone in a wild woods, probably inhabited by bears and other unfriendly animals, and, worst of all, with a dangerous man. I could not turn my back. My reputation was at stake; so I determined to make the best of it.

When I got on top of the mountain, I looked for a house of some kind, but in vain, I walked through bushes and over rocks until I came to a path. This I followed, and discovered that it led into a hut. The only occupant of the hut was an old man, probably 70 years old, of whom I asked information concerning the whereabouts of the fugitive. He was dressed in an old sack, with a blanket for covering, and had rags wrapped around his feet. He could not understand a word I said.

When I attempted to explain I spoke in rather a loud tone, which frightened him so that he ran off and hid in the woods. I then followed the path leading from the hut, until I came to the railroad track.

A short distance up the track I met several railroad men, whom I also questioned about Latimer. They had not seen him. Very much discouraged I kept on until I reached a house kept by a section boss of the railroad company.

"Yes," said a young girl in charge of the house, in answer to my question, "there was a strange man here a little while ago who asked for a drink of water but I don't know which way he went after leaving here."

It was growing dark and I hardly knew what to do, but as I thought it was kill or cure, I would keep on to the end. After receiving certain information I left the house and proceeded up the yard. I had not gone fifty yards when I saw lying in the road a copy of the American containing several pencil memorandums made by me, and which I remembered having bought in Kansas City the day we left.

This was a great clue; I was on the track of my man.

With renewed hope I kept on and on, until I came to a little bridge. Thinking Latimer might be hiding under it I looked, but found no one there. I started off again and planned my movements for that night. I stopped to rest for a moment, when I heard a noise among the shrubbery which lined both sides of the road. It was worth investigating, I looked in every direction, and could see nothing wrong.

No sooner had I returned to the road than I came face to face with Latimer.

He was prepared for a struggle, and made a lunge for me at once.

I jumped aside and his blow missed its mark.

Then he rushed in upon me and struck me a powerful blow in the face which almost stunned me. We next clinched, and by an almost superhuman effort I threw my man, and struck him full in the face as hard as I could, until he called out for mercy.

Then I let up on him, and led him like a child to the house of the section boss, where I obtained ropes with which I bound his hands and arms. His bleeding face was washed and dressed and some food was given him to eat. I inquired about the trains. There would not be a train along which stopped at that station until the next morning, so we were obliged to remain at the house all night.

I placed Latimer in one of the upper rooms of the house, still bound with the ropes, and seated myself beside him with a revolver, which I had borrowed, in my hand. I did not intend to close my eyes. The prisoner, who was worn out after the long tramp, fell asleep and was soon snoring. At last daylight dawned, with the prisoner still sleeping. About 7 o'clock the section boss brought us up a good breakfast, which, it is needless to say, we both enjoyed.

The train was due at 7.45 and preparations were begun for the departure. As I was without funds I was offered all the money the section boss had—a small sum—but I declined to take it feeling sure I would have no trouble with the conductor of the train when I explained my position to him. In this I was mistaken as the following will show:

No sooner were we seated in the car than the conductor came along for the fares. I told him briefly what had happened to me, but he only laughed and said the story was too thin. I argued with him but to no purpose.

"Well," said I at last, "if you will not stop long enough at the next station for me to wire to police headquarters in Baltimore, I will convince you by the time we get to Cumberland that I am all right."

His answer was the same—"pay your fare, or get off." At this point a gentleman in the forward part of the car, who had been intently watching the colloquy between the conductor and myself, came over to me and asked:

"Are you Detective —— of Baltimore?"

I replied that I was, whereupon he drew out a wallet filled with notes and handed it to me, saying:

"Here, take this money and use it as you like. You can settle with me after you reach Baltimore."

At the same time he handed me his card, which bore the name of a well known merchant belonging in Baltimore, and a man whom I had known by reputation for a long time. The conductor after this was convinced that I had told the truth, and was very willing that I should ride free with my prisoner. I, therefore, declined the generous offer of the merchant, and came on to the city without any other incident worth recording. From Camden station we went direct to the Central station house, where Latimer was locked up. The next day he had a hearing, and was committed for court. In due time he was tried, convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary for a long term.

The Brand on Cain

was not more fearful than are the marks of skin diseases, and yet Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" is a certain cure for all of them. Blotches, pimples, eruptions, pustules, scaly incrustations, lumps, inflamed patches, salt-rheum, tetter, boils, carbuncles, ulcers, old sores, are by its use healed quickly and permanently.

HE SEIZED A BABY.

An Amusing Incident in the Experience of a Canadian Customs Officer.

"One of the most thoroughly amusing incidents that ever came under my notice during my many years in the service," said a veteran Canadian customs official to a Detroit Free Press reporter a few days since, "occurred away back in the '40s, at Prescott. As you know, Prescott is opposite Ogdensburg, with the St. Lawrence River flowing between. During the severe winters common in that region the river freezes solidly, and there is any amount of annoying, petty smuggling going on, very largely the work of women, who cross the ice on foot. There was then stationed at Prescott a zealous and efficient officer named Jessop, who determined to endeavor to check the abuse by giving it his personal attention, catching one of the offenders in the act and making an example of her. With this in view he watched until he saw a woman setting out just before dusk to cross the river, some distance below the town. He could see by aid of his glass, that she carried a large parcel, and so set out in such a way that he intercepted her before she had quite reached the Canadian side.

"'Madam, what have you in the parcel?' he asked, severely.

"'Nothing dutiable, sir, I assure you' answered the woman, with great apparent agitation.

"'That won't do,' said Jessop. 'You must either tell me what is in the parcel or open it and show me.'

"'I decline to do either,' growing indignant, 'I have given you my word that its contents are not dutiable, and if you were a gentleman fit to serve the Queen you would not pry into a parcel carried by a lady.'

"'Come, come! No more of this. Open that package, or I shall be obliged to take it from you and examine it.'

"'Take it yourself, then. I shall never open it,' said the woman, placing it in his arms. No sooner had she done so than she was off like a bird for the American shore at such a gait that Jessop, who was rather fat, could not have hoped to overtake her, even if he had the presence of mind to follow.

"When he recovered sufficiently from his surprise he appreciated that there was something warm in the parcel, and that this something kicked. Pursuing the investigation he removed the covering and found himself in possession of a fine boy baby about two weeks old. Making his way to the custom house, in great consternation he laid the case and the baby before his associates. The child was well dressed, and pinned to its gown was a slip of paper bearing these words, written in a handsome feminine hand:

"'Please care for my boy, and when he grows up make a customs officer of him—if he isn't too smart.'"

$1000 Forfeit!

—Having the utmost confidence in its superiority over all others, and after thousands of tests of the most complicated and severest cases we could find, we feel justified in offering to forfeit One Thousand Dollars for any case of cough, cold, sore throat, influenza, hoarseness, bronchitis, consumption in its early stages, whooping-cough and all diseases of throat and lungs, except asthma, for which we only claim relief, that we can't cure with West's Cough Syrup, when taken according to directions. Sample bottles 25c and 50c. Large bottles $1. Genuine wrapped only in blue Sold by all druggists, or sent by express on receipt of price. John C. West & Co., Toronto. ed

—Stop that cough, by the use of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral—the best specific for all throat and lung diseases. It will allay inflammation, aid respiration, and strengthen the vocal organs. Ayer's Almanacs are free to all. Ask for one. d

Brother Gardner On a Dead Member.

From the Detroit Free Press.

"It am my painful duty to inform dis club dat Brudder Arbustus Jenkins has passed from airth away," said Brother Gardner when the triangle had ceased to toll. "He was an honorary member of dis club, libin' in de Stait ob North Caroliny, an' he was only 15 cents behind on his dues. It kin not be said o' Arbustus dat he was either a statesman, poet, philosopher, philanthropist or scholar. He was simply an eberyday man, who did not shrink eandwise when he got wet.

"As a citizen of de United Staits he did not go braggin' aroun' about our bein' de greatest nashun on airth, but he had a hickory club laid away fur any country which might knock de chip off our shoulder.

"As an elector, he went to de polls ebery time dar' was a chance to wote, an' sometimes when deir wasn't, an' if he split his ticket it was bekase he was deeply interested in de matter of honest guv'ment.

"As a laborer he was worthy of his hire. When he wasn't workin' he was thinkin' fur de benefit of his boss. If de boss didn't know dis it was his own fault.

"As a naybor, he neber borrowed coffee an' sugar w'dout makin' a mark on de tin cup, so he could return good measure.

"As a member of de community in which he dwelt he upheld de law in de daytime and stole wateymeylons under kiver of darkness, hereby settin' a good example for de young.'

"As a church member he prayed soft an' low, an' he was half a lnè behind all de rest in de singin.' In case he happened to be cotched wid a ham belonging to somebody else no refleckshuns could be cast on de church.

"As a husband he bossed de cabin, an' as a father he brung his chill'en up to fear de jaw and respect old aige.

"We shall hang de usual emblem of mourn-in' on de outer doah, and we shall feel a bit sorry dat a fair to medium man has passed away. Dat will be all. We shan't pass no resolushuns to send to his wife, who knowed him better dan anybody else, nor will we claim dat our heartfelt sympathies go out fur de chill'en, who am probably no better dan anybody else's. It am 'nuff fur us dat we kin say Arbustus was up to the average, an' dat death could have tooken a wusser man an' not half tried."

$500 Reward!

—We will pay the above reward for any case of liver complaint, dyspepsia, sick headache, indigestion, constipation or costiveness we cannot cure with West's Vegetable Liver Pills, when the directions are strictly complied with. They are purely vegetable, and never fail to give satisfaction. Large boxes containing 30 sugar-coated pills, 25c. For sale by all druggists. Beware of counterfeits and imitations. The genuine manufactured only by John C. West & Co., Toronto. ed

Keep Off the Grass.

From the Burlington Free Press.

We have a little piece of advice to offer gratis: Don't sit down on a toboggan slide unless there is a toboggan under you.

—No sufferer from any scrofulous disease, who will fairly try Ayer's Sarsaparilla, need despair of a cure. This remedy purges the blood of all impurities, destroys the germs of scrofula, and infuses new life and vigor throughout the physical organization. d

His Last Resort.

—Mr. Richard Rowe of Harley, Ont., was afflicted for four years with dyspepsia. Two experienced doctors treated him. Getting discouraged, he tried Burdock Blood Bitters. He states that two bottles cured him. He is now doing heavy work and as well as ever. 246

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