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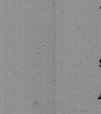

Snug little fortunes have been made at work for us, by Anna Page, Austin, Texas, and Jno. Bonn, Toledo, Ohio. See out. Others are doing as well. Why not you? Some earn over $500.00 a month. You can do the work and live at home. You need no capital, as we are the partners and supply everything. From $5 to $10 a day. All ages. We show you how and start you. Can work in spare time of all the time. Big money for workers. Failure unknown among them. NEW and wonderful. Particulars free. H. Hallett & Co., Box 880 Portland, Maine.

TWO SOLDIERS,

—BY—

CAPTAIN CHARLES KING,

UNITED STATES ARMY.

Author of Dunraven Ranch, The Colonel's Daughter, From the Ranks, the Deserter, An Army Portia, etc., etc.

SYNOPSIS.

Captain Fred Lane, who has just received this rank and who is appointed to the command of (Troop D) Eleventh Cavalry is introduced to the reader, with a short sketch of his previous life and surroundings. His parents are dead. He is respected by all the men of his troop. A Mrs. Judson, who is the wife of the Captain of B troop, is reported to be "down on Lane." Mrs. Judson's youngest sister Emmy and a Mrs. Loring's pretty neice Fanny Fletcher came from the East some time before the story opens and the latter fell in love with a handsome, reckless and impecunious young dragoon, for which Mrs. Loring blamed Lane. Mrs. Judson is about to essay a matrimonial alliance between her sister and Lieut. Lane when the latter was wounded in the capture of some stage robbers. He subsequently in an Indian fight was again wounded. He meets a friend and former schoolmate named Warden who is showing Lane how he might have succeeded in business and finds fault with him for having gone into the army.

In compliance with the wishes of his friend, Lane enters society which welcomed him, some lucky investments he had made not lessening the warmth of his reception. He becomes sardonic until he meets Mabel Vincent, with whom he falls in love at first sight. He is reading in his office a note addressed him by her by his new title when a congratulatory telegram is received which also names his successor to be Gordon Noel of the Eleventh Cavalry. Lieut. Noel is described as a cheerful, jolly fellow who manages to secure consideration from his Colonel through the favoritism of the Colonel's wife, but his comrades are rather disposed to question his courage and the fact that during the Modoc troubles he applied for leave because of ill health is instanced unfavorably. He soon a society favorite and he is now in the club room of the Eleventh alone, although he has just been surrounded by a number of his comrades.

Lane's devotion to Miss Vincent becomes the subject of social discussion among the younger ladies, one of whom was unavailingly interested in Mr. Lane, during his first six months in society. This lady, Miss Fanny Holton, tells her female friends in strictest confidence that Miss Vincent "doesn't know her own mind." Capt. Lane, in response to Miss Vincent's letter, does his neat fatigue uniform and prepares to answer it in person.

Captain directs his sergeant to give the reports to his troop officers again and after "First Lieutenant to Captain" where ever it occurs, and as he is engrossed with thoughts of sweet Mabel Vincent, he fails to notice that his clerk Taintor does not appear for nearly fifteen minutes and that his face is ashen gray and his hand shakes as if palsied. The sergeant finds Taintor in his office very soon after, asks what is wrong and reminds him of his promise to stop drinking. He says it is not drink it is opium, and gets the sergeant's permission to procure some quinine at the drug store. The sergeant is suspicious that there is something behind it all. Lane's successor Noel, accompanied by his friend Amos Withers, calls on Lane, who arranges to hand over the property with the recruiting position on the following day, the clothing is to be counted and the moneys are all in the bank he informs Noel. He declines for the present an invitation to join his visitors in a drive and a visit to Mr. Withers' foundries.

Mr. Withers and Noel, who endeavors to create the impression that Lane is his bosom friend, also visit the Chamber of Commerce where they meet Mr. Vincent who has just time to ask Noel if he knew Captain Lane and to express his pleasure in hearing that Lane is "one of the best men that ever lived," because Lane is, he says, a constant visitor at his house. Meanwhile, Captain Lane in the recruiting office has discovered evidences of carelessness on the part of the clerk and sends for Taintor. Presently report that Taintor is not at his desk. The sergeant then goes in person for him and reports that Taintor has not been to dinner and the door of his room is locked. He expresses his fears that Taintor is drinking again and explains having allowed him away in the morning. The sergeant and two men are detailed to search for Taintor who is still missing at night fall and Captain Lane has despatched a hurried note to Miss Vincent making his excuses to her mother for his inability to come to dinner because of a strange case of desertion which compels his spending some time with the Chief of Police. In a postscript he mentions that his successor Gordon Noel has arrived. Miss Vincent asks herself where she has heard that name? Captain Lane has completed a letter to Mr. Vincent asking permission to pay his addresses to his daughter Mabel, and now asks the sergeant for news of the disaster. Not a single word has been heard, and the sergeant after asking if the check books are all right, calls that one of the men—Strauss, had picked up a scrap of paper that Taintor had not completely destroyed and the writing did not resemble Taintor's at all. Strauss said it looked more like the Captain's and it made the sergeant suspicious.

Continued.

A sudden thought occurred to Lane. Taking out his check-book, he carefully counted the checks remaining and compared them with the number of stubbs, and found, to his surprise and much to his dismay, that at least five or six checks were missing.

"Send for a cab at once. I must go down to the bank. You stay here, and when Lieutenant Noel comes, give him my compliments, and ask him to sit down and wait awhile and read the morning paper. I'll be back in a very short time."

Following the custom established by his predecessor, Captain Lane had always kept the recruiting-funds in the First National Bank. His own private funds he preferred to keep in an entirely different establishment,—the Merchants' Exchange.

The cab whirled him rapidly to the building indicated, and, although it lacked half an hour of the time of opening, he made his way into the office and asked to see the paying teller.

"Will you kindly tell me if any checks on the recruiting-fund have lately been presented for payment? he eagerly asked.

The captain was referred to the bookkeeper, and that official called him within the railing.

"No less than four checks were brought here yesterday for payment, and they came between half-past two and three o'clock in the afternoon," was the bookkeeper's report. "There seemed to us something wrong in the simultaneous presentation of the four, and I was on the point of addressing a note this morning to ask you to come down to the bank. Everything about it appears in proper shape and form, except that three of the checks have been endorsed payable to our clerk, William Taintor, who came in person and drew the money."

"Let me see the checks, if you please," said the captain.

They were speedily produced. Lane took them to the window and closely examined them.

"I could not tell them," he said· "from my own handwriting; and yet those three checks are forgeries. I believe that the endorsements on the back are equally forgeries. Now, can I take these with me to the office of the Chief of Police? or do you desire that the detectives should be sent here? Taintor deserted last night and all traces have been lost. What is the amount he has drawn?"

"One check, payable to the order of William Hayden for board furnished to the recruiting party, is to the amount of forty-five dollars and fifty cents. The second, payable to James Freeman, and endorsed by him to William Taintor, as was the first, is for rent of the building occupied by the recruiting rendezvous, precisely similar in form and amount to the previous checks, for the sum of sixty dollars, The third check is payable to William Taintor himself, marked 'for extra-duty pay as clerk at the recruiting office for the past six months.' The fourth is made payable to the order of Sergeant James Burns, 'extra-duty pay as noncommissioned officer in charge of the party for the six months beginning January 1 and ending June 30.'"

This check, too, had been endorsed payable to the order of William Taintor. All four checks, amounting in all to the sum of about one hundred and sixty dollars, had been paid to the deserting clerk during the afternoon of the previous day.

"Had you no suspicion of anything wrong?" said Lane.

"I knew nothing about it," said the book-keeper. "They were presented to the paying teller at the desk, and it was not until after bank was closed, when we came to balance up cash, that the matter excited comment and then suspicion. Taintor has frequently come here before with drafts and checks; and if you remember, sir, on one or two occasions he has been sent for new check-books when the old ones had run out,"

"That's very true," said Lane. "He has been employed here in this rendezvous for the last ten years, and has borne, up to within my knowledge of him an unimpeachable character. If any more checks come in, stop payment on them until you see me, and, if possible, detain the person who presents them."

Half an hour afterwards the captain was back in his office, and there, true to his appointment, was Lieutenant Noel.

"I have had a strange and unpleasant experience, Noel," said Lane. "Most of my papers have faultily been made out. My clerk deserted last night and has turned out to be a most expert forger. He has stolen half a dozen checks from my book, made them out to the order of various parties, forged the endorsement himself, got the money yesterday afternoon, and cleared out, no one knows where."

"Great Scott, old man! that is hard luck! How much has he let you in for?" asked Noel, in the slang of the period.

"Only a hundred and sixty dollars, fortunately; and I have made that good this morning,—placed my own check to credit of the recruiting-fund in the First National Bank, so that in turning over the funds to you there will be no loss. We have to make new papers for the clothing account; but as quickly as possible I will have them ready for your signature and mine."

"There is no hurry whatever, old fellow," answered Noel, cheerily. "I've come back from the regiment a little short of money, and I want to have a nest-egg in the bank to begin with. Its a good thing to have a fat cousin, isn't it? He has always been very liberal and kind to me, and, luckily, I've only drawn on him twice. So I'll hurry along."

Five minutes after Noel left, a district messenger entered with a note for Captain Lane. It was addressed to him in the handwriting of Mr. Vincent. He opened it with a trembling hand. It contained merely these words:

"I am obliged to leave for New York this afternoon. Can you come to my office at one o'clock? We can then talk without interruption; and I much desire to see you.

"T. L. V."

As the big bell on the city hall had struck one, Captain Lane appeared at the office of Vincent, Clarke & Co., and was shown without delay into the private room of the senior partner. Mr. Vincent, looking even older and grayer in the wan light at the rear of the massive building, was seated at his desk and busily occupied with a book of memoranda and figures. He pushed back his chair and came forward at once at sight of Lane, and motioned to the clerk to retire. The cavalryman's heart was beating harder than he had any recollection of its ever doing before, except in her presence, and he felt that his knees were trembling. But the old gentleman's greeting gave him instant hope:

"I am glad you have come, my dear sir; I am glad to know a man who has been taught as I was taught. Young people nowadays seem to rush into matrimony without the faintest reference to their parents, and your letter was a surprise to me,—a surprise, that is, in the fact that you should have sought my permission at all.

"Take this chair, captain," he continued, as he returned to his desk. "I have much to say to you," he added, with a sigh. "Let me say at once that from what I know and have heard of you there is no man of my aquaintance to whom I could intrust my daughter's future with more implicit confidence. It is true that both her mother and I had at one time other hopes and views for her, and that we wish your profession was not that of arms. And now I beg you to be patient with me, and to pardon my alluding to matters which you yourself broach in this—this most manful letter. You tell me that you are not dependent on your pay alone, but that from investments in real estate in growing cities in the West and in mines in New Mexico your present income is some five thousand dollars. As I understand you, the property is steadily increasing in value?"

"It has steadily increased thus far, sir, and I think it will continue to do so for several years to come,—in the real estate investments at least."

"I am glad of this, on your account as well as hers, for Mabel has been reared in comparative luxury. She has never known what it was to want anything very much or very long. She has been educated on the supposition that her whole life would be one equally free from care or stint; and if I were to die to-morrow, sir, she would be a beggar."

And here in great agitation, the old gentleman rose from his chair and began nervously pacing up and down the little room, wringing his white, tremulous hands, and turning his face away from the silent soldier, that he might not see the tears that hung to the lashes, or the piteous quivering of the sensitive lips. For a moment or two nothing more was said. Then, as though in surprise, Mr. Vincent stopped short.

"Did you understand me, Captain Lane? I do not exaggerate the situation in the least. I do not know how soon the axe will fall. We are safe for to-day, but know not what the morrow may bring forth. I may be met en route by telegram saying that the journey is useless,—that we are ruined,—and the money I hope to get in New York to tide us over would come only to late. Next month at this time the house in which Mabel was born and reared may be sold over her head, with every scrap and atom of furniture, and we be driven into exile. Do you realize this, sir? Do you understand that if you win her affection and she become your wife I have not a penny with which to bless her?"

"Mr. Vincent," answered Lane, "I would hold myself richer than any man in this world if I could know that your daughter cared for me and would be my wife. Do you think that I fail to sympathize and feel for you and all who are dear to you in your distress and anxiety, but I am almost glad to hear that she is not the heiress people said she was. It is Mabel I want,"—and here his voice trembled almost as much as the old man's, and his honest gray eyes filled up with tears he could not down,—"and with her for my own I could ask nothing of any man. I have your consent to see her, then, at once if need be? You know I am relieved from duty here and must rejoin my regiment within ten days."

"My full consent, and my best wishes, captain," said Mr. Vincent, grasping the outstretched hand in both his own. "You have not spoken to her at all?"

"Not a word, Mr. Vincent; and I can form no idea what her answer will be. Pardon me, sir, but has she or has Mrs. Vincent any knowledge of your business troubles?"

"My wife knows, of course, that everything is going wrong and that I am desperately harassed; Mabel, too, knows that I have lost much money—very much—in the last two years; but neither of them knows the real truth,—that even my life-insurance is gone. A year ago I strove to obtain additional amounts in the three companies in which I had taken out policies years ago. Of course a rigid examination had to be made by the medical advisers, and the result was the total rejection of my applications, and in two cases an offer to return with interest all the premiums hitherto paid. The physicians had all discovered serious trouble with my heart. Last winter our business was at its lowest ebb. I had been fortunate in some speculations on 'Change in the past, and I strove to restore our failing fortunes in that way. My margins were swept away like chaff, and I have been vainly striving to regain them for the last three months, until now the last cent that I could raise is waiting the result of this week's deal.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Miss Bessie H. Bedloe, of Burlington, Vt., had a disease of the scalp which caused her hair to become very harsh and dry and to fall so freely she scarcely dared comb it. Ayer's Hair Vigor gave her a healthy scalp, and made the hair beautifully thick and glossy.

Soon or Never.

Bulfinch—Hello, old fellow: I haven't seen you for a long time; let me congratulate you.

Jenks—Congratulate me?

Bulfinch—Yes; I hear you're married.

Jenks—Well, that was six weeks ago.

Bulfinch—But it is not too late, is it, to congratulate you on it?

Jenks—Well, you just take my advice, and when you congratulate a man on getting married, do it within two weeks, or not at all.

MESSRS. C. C. RICHARDS & Co.,

Gentlemen,—About three years ago I was taken very ill with what the doctor called diphtheria. After trying every remedy I could get and finding no relief I thought that death would soon end my sufferings, but a friend advised me to try your liniment. After using one bottle I was able to go out the same as ever. Again this winter I had another attack of the same complaint, but after using your MINARD'S LINIMENT a few times I was perfectly cured. I consider it the best remedy for sore throat ever offered to the public. Yours,

Antigonish, N. S, JOHN A. TOREY

Mount Carmel, Pa., shaft colliery, one of the largest in that region, suspended indefinitely last evening, owing to the depressed condition of the coal trade. A thousand hands are out of employment. Other operators have but enough orders to work two or three days. Unless trade brightens thousands of other hands will lose work in this valley. The Alaska shaft, Back Ridge and Bear Valley collieries at Shamokin, owned by the Reading company, have shut down for an indefinite period for the same reason.

"Don't feel well," and yet you are not sick enough to consult a doctor,—we will tell you just what you need. It is Hood's Sarsaparilla, which will lift you out of that uncertain, uncomfortable, dangerous condition, into a state of good health, confidence and cheerfulness.

The condenser used in the manufacture of ammonia at Dixon's iron works Glasgow, exploded yesterday. Three mangled bodies have been recovered from the ruins, while four other bodies including that of Manager Milne, are still buried in the debris.

For Over Fifty Years

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used for over fifty years, by millions of mothers for their children while teething, with perfect success. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for Diarrhœa. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind.

Thirty-three striking spinners at the Robeson & Slade mills at Fall River, Mass., yesterday afternoon voted to return to work to-morrow morning. In both cases the treasurers promised to remedy the grievances. The men complained the mills were run at too high speed.

Nasal Balm has cured the worst cases of catarrh after all other remedies have failed. Give it a trial and be convinced that it will cure you. Sold by all dealers.

The steamer Bostonian, at Boston yesterday from Liverpool, reports that on March 7, lat. 35,10, north lon. 48,24 west; she passed an iceberg apparently 300 feet high and 400 feet long.

That tired feeling and dull, oppressive headache that so frequently accompany catarrh can be instantly removed by the use of Nasal Balm. Sold by all dealers.

A special London cable says the reports of the Farmer delegates, are now in circulation and their general tenor is favorable to Canada.

A GREAT SPELLING MATCH—The greatest spelling match on record is that offered by Our Homes Publishing Co., in which they will award the following magnificent CASH PRIZES:—One prize of $300; one prize of $200; two prizes of $100; four prizes of $50; eight prizes of $25; twenty prizes of $10; forty prizes of $5; one hundred prizes of $2; and two hundred of $1. These prizes will be awarded to the persons sending in the largest number of correctly spelled words found in the advertising pages of the February number of Our Homes, in which no letters occur but those found in the sentence: *Our Homes a Periodical as a Home Magazine.* Special cash prizes will be given away each day and each week during this competition, which closes April 25th, 1891. Send 10 cents in stamps or silver, for a sample copy of the February number, with rules and regulations governing the competition. Address, OUR HOMES Pub. Co., Brockville, Ont.

It Had the Desired Effect.

"You have seen the advertisement of my Universal Panacea, I suppose," said the patent-medicine proprietor.

"Yes," replied his victim, ungraciously; "I've seen it until I'm sick of it."

"Good! Now take a couple of bottles of it, and you'll be all right."

Dark and Sluggish.

Dark and sluggish describes the condition of bad blood. Healthy blood is ruddy and bright. To cure bad blood and its consequences, and to secure good blood and its benefits in the safest, surest and best way use Burdock Blood Bitters, strongly recommended by all who use it as the best blood purifier.

Knights of Labor.

The Knights of Labor aim to protect their members against the financial difficulties, etc., Hagyard's Yellow Oil protects all who use it from the effects of cold and exposure, such as rheumatism, neuralgia, lumbago, sore throat and all inflammatory pain. Nothing compares with it as a handy pain cure for man and beast.

Napoleon's Head.

Napoleon's head was of peculiar shape, but that did not protect him against headache. Sick headache is a common and very disagreeable affection which may be quickly removed, together with this cause, by the use of Burdock Blood Bitters, the never-failing medicine for all kinds of headaches.

Editorial Evidence.

Gentlemen,—Your Hagyard's Yellow Oil is worth its weight in gold for both internal and external use. During the late La Grippe epidemic we found it a most excellent preventive, and for sprained limbs, etc., there is nothing to equal it. WM. PEMBERTON, Editor Delhi Reporter.

A Natural Filter.

The liver acts as a filter to remove impurities from the blood. To keep it in perfect working order use B. B. B., the great liver regulator.

I used two bottles of Burdock Blood Bitters for liver complaint, and can clearly see I am a well woman to-day. MRS. C. P. WILEY, Upper Ottashee, N. B.

Stanley Books.

Stanley books are now as common as coughs and colds. To get rid of the latter use Hagyard's Pectoral Balsam, the best Canadian cough cure for children or adults. It cures by its soothing, healing and exectorant properties, every form of throat and lung trouble, pulmonary complaints, etc.

Talk's cheap, but when it's backed up by a pledge of the hard cash of a financially responsible firm, or company, of world-wide reputation for fair and honorable dealing, it means business.

Now there are scores of sarsaparillas and other blood-purifiers, all cracked up to be the best, purest, most peculiar and wonderful, but bear in mind (for your own sake), there's only one guaranteed blood-purifier and remedy for torpid liver and all diseases that come from bad blood.

That one—standing solitary and alone—sold on trial, is Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery.

If it doesn't do good to skin, scalp and scrofulous diseases—and pulmonary consumption is only lung-scrofula—just let its makers know and get your money back.

Talk's cheap, but to back a poor medicine, or a common one, by selling it on trial, as "Golden Medical Discovery" is sold, would bankrupt the largest fortune.

Talk's cheap, but only "Discovery" is guaranteed.

A Good Place to Fast.

"I should be pleased to have you recommend my house," remarked Mrs. Perkins to the new boarder.

"Thanks," he replied, "I will speak to Signor Succi about it."

Oh, What a Cough.

Will you heed the warning. The signal perhaps of the sure approach of that more terrible disease Consumption. Ask yourselves if you can afford for the sake of saving 50c., to run the risk and do nothing for it. We know from experience that Shiloh's Cure will cure your cough, if it never fails. This explains why more than a Million Bottles were sold the past year. It relieves croup and whooping cough at once. Mothers, do not be without it. Sold by Parker Bros., Market Square, G. W. Hoben, North End, S. Watters, West End.

The Magee Furnace company's establishment at Chelsea, Mass., consisting of machine shop, foundry, pattern and moulding rooms, etc., was damaged $60,000 by fire last night.

Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint.

Is it not worth the small price of 75c. to free yourself of every symptom of these distressing complaints, if you think so call at our store and get a bottle of Shiloh's Vitalizer, every bottle has a printed guarantee on it, one dose relishes and if it does you no good it will cost you nothing. Sold by Parker Bros, Market Square, G. W. Hoben, North End, S. Waters, West End.

The Temps (Paris) says negotiations between France and England on the Newfoundland question have resulted in an agreement to be submitted to the French and English parliaments by the end of the week.

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NOTICE. By order of the Common Council of the City of St. John: PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Bill will be presented at the next session of the Provincial Legislature for enactment to authorize the City of St. John to grant annual subsidy payable upon the construction of certain wharves and other harbor improvements at Carleton on the western side of the harbor of Saint John. The objects desired to be attained by this Bill are: 1. To empower the City of Saint John to enter into a contract with James D. Leary for the construction by him at his own cost of wharves, warehouses, grain elevator and other works of harbor improvement at Carleton, according to plans and specifications and upon such terms and conditions as shall be approved by the Common Council; and to agree to pay a subsidy of *five thousand dollars* a year for *twenty years* from the completion of the works. 2. To authorize an annual assessment upon the City of St. John to raise such sum of five thousand dollars to provide for the payment of such subsidy in each year. March 3, 1891.

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