

THE ST. JOHN EVENING TIMES, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14 1904.

Two Blooming

The Adventures of Two Criminals.

BY DOUGLAS WINTON.

"I have seen the wicked... spreading himself like a green bay-tree."—Psalm, xxvii, v. 35.

(Continued.) "Wal, sergeant, or whatever you are, I guess yes," replied the little Yankee, who, now that the time of trial had come, did not want for pluck. "I don't say I saw through you, was't pretend to be more clever than I am; still, there was a sort of feeling, deep down in my little Mary somewhere, that this crook-catching business was requiring rather too many letters, and cheques, and stamps, and so on, to be quite natural; so I just took an opportunity to change them two letters when you wasn't looking; it came easy, as they were both addressed to the same place. If you had any crooked game on, I reckoned you'd a just given that last one a lick and posted it, then guess ahead to cash your cheque bright an' early in the morning and got landed in jail. Wal, I've missed getting you, but you ain't got the bundle neither."

"No," said Piggy decisively. "With one slight alteration, the plan stands as it did before. I'm giving up bad practices, and I'll have no hand in torturing this poor little devil. Don't you, Childs-Gordon, you will get your half of the hundred thousand all right. There will be a slight increase of risk, but it is I who take that. Tell me, you are sure there is nothing against you?" "Morally, everything—frauds, sins, enough to sink a battleship; but, as far as the authorities are concerned, nothing at all. My ward, whose trustee I was, would not prosecute; and my debts, legitimate and otherwise, an old Quixotic fool of an uncle, who had hated me all his life, went and paid, or arranged somehow for the honour of the family name. If he'd given me a quarter of the cash to use myself, I need never have come a cropper at all, and, by this time, would have been at the top of the tree. But didn't we go into all this before deciding that the cheque should be made out in my real name?" "Yes," replied Piggy, "but this new development makes the matter more delicate; it is necessary to be doubly sure. Now tell me, do you think the clerk, or any of them at this bank, the—er—Anglo-Canadian, will know you by sight?" "Does that matter?" said Childs-Gordon. "I am afraid that there is pretty sure to be some one there who will know me by sight; it's not long since I was a pretty familiar figure in town, both City and West End, you know."

Van Coortvelt groaned, he was "There will only be a housemaid to fear," continued Piggy; "and it would be only great bad luck that would send her to the jail during the very few seconds that I shall be passing through it; but, if I do meet her, I think you may trust me to bluff her. Yes—that's an idea—I will provide myself with one of our friend's cards, and a line scribbled on it—I can forge all right in pencil—and then tell some mixed-up tale—anyway, it can't be very difficult, however it turns out; three minutes, and the trick is done, and I am in a hansom speeding away to meet you and divide the swag."

Childs-Gordon looked at him in admiration. "I wish I had your nerve," he sighed. "But why go to the house at all? Why not telephone from somewhere else, in Van Coortvelt's name, to the bank manager to honour the cheque?" "Too thin, my boy," replied Piggy, shaking his head. "That dodge worked when the telephone first appeared, but it won't work now, not in a matter of a hundred thousand pounds. A bank manager who gets a telephone of that kind from Jones, says yes; then waits a minute or two and calls up Jones, and asks him about some little detail he's forgotten; then he soon finds out if the message really came from Jones or not. No, if a thing is worth doing at all, it is worth doing properly; I must go to the house. But cheer up, I don't fail."

"On the contrary," said Piggy, "they will get an answer, an answer to go ahead and pay and that he will be round that afternoon to arrange about covering the overdraft. Turn him over, and see if you can find a lark."

"But there was no lark on Van Coortvelt. The little man grinned, or tried to, but, with the gag, the result was ghastly. "Never mind," said Piggy, "I have one. It may need a little coaxing, but it will open the door all right."

"Took an impression the night that he was my host and didn't know it. Now listen. At eleven o'clock to the minute, you will enter the bank and present your cheque. I will give five minutes for you to have your palaver with the manager; and, in five minutes past eleven, to the second, I will march into Van Coortvelt's house and up to his telephone. Unless I am greatly mistaken, it will ring just as I get there."

Many Women Suffer Untold Agony From Kidney Trouble

Very often they think it is from so-called "female disease." There is less female trouble than they think. Women suffer from backache, sleeplessness, nervousness, irritability, and a dragging-down feeling in the loins. So do men, and they do not have "female trouble." Why, then, blame all your trouble to female disease? With healthy kidneys, few women will ever have "female disorders." The kidneys are so closely connected with all the internal organs, that when the kidneys go wrong, everything goes wrong. Much distress would be saved if women would only take

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at stated intervals. Miss Nellie Clark, Lambeth, Ont., tells of her cure in the following words:—"I suffered for about two years with kidney trouble. I ached all over, especially in the small of my back; not being able to sleep well, no appetite, monstrous irregular, nervous irritability, and brick-dust deposit in urine, were some of my symptoms. I took Doan's Kidney Pills. The pain in my back gradually left me, my appetite returned, I slept well, and am effectively cured. I can highly recommend Doan's Kidney Pills to all sufferers from kidney trouble." Price 50 cents per box, or 3 for \$1.25. All dealers, or Doan Kidney Pill Co., Toronto, Ont.

THE LITTLE OLD MAN OF THE SNOW

The little old man of the snow—He stands in the loneliness night When the wind blows chill and the clouds hang low. And the daisies fall ghostly white. And the little fellows who sleep up stairs. And go to bed without saying their prayers. He dies their dreams with fears and tears—The little old man of the snow! The little old man of the snow—He knows each little fellow in town; He watches and waits at bad boys' gates To catch 'em an' swallow 'em down. He knows when they anger their mothers so. And he chuckles and says to himself, "Oh! no! I'll open my mouth and down they'll go! This little old man of the snow!"

When the Liver Gets Torpid

You want a mild stimulant like Dr. Hamilton's Pills of Mandrake and Butternut which cure inactive liver, relieve constipation and sick headache at once. The only Dr. Hamilton's Pills. Price 25c.

THE COST OF A GREAT CITY. New York Spends Over \$10,000,000 to Keep Going.

(Wall Street Journal, New York.) The following compares the city budget of 1905 with the city budget in 1901: 1901..... \$ 98,100,418 1905..... 110,524,209 Increase..... \$12,423,846 This is an increase of 12.5 per cent in four years. This seems large, and it is large, but New York is a great city and is fast now in a state of transition, and reconstruction which inevitably calls for increased expenditures, to be met mostly by issuing bonds, but involving also increased taxation. In the four years from 1900 to 1904 the expenditure of the Federal government increased 5.1 per cent, but in this computation the payment for the Panama canal was deducted. Still that was responsible for purposes of comparison as the Panama canal payment was of the same nature as the payments for the subway. The nation made the former by taking the money for its surplus of previous years, while the city paid for the latter by increasing its indebtedness.

Table comparing city budgets and expenditures for various departments like Education, Fire, Police, etc.

It has been said that the city is in a state of transition and reconstruction. This has necessitated vast expenditures for new public works, such as the subway, bridges, etc. This sort of reconstruction is by no means completed. The future growth and commercial supremacy of the city depend on a continued policy of liberal expenditures for public improvements. At present the city has an apparent margin of new indebtedness of more than \$100,000,000 but a very large proportion is already funded for works approved or authorized. The necessities of the not far distant future will have to be met by an increase in real estate valuations or else a change in the constitutional debt limitations.

MINARD'S "KING OF PAIN" LINIMENT

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