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RUBBER STAMPS
ARE PROMPTLY FURNISHED AT **THE PLANET OFFICE**

Tom Matthews' Decision
By CYRUS DERICKSON
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His name was Thomas Matthews, but everybody around the store called him Tom. He had come to the business of Haines & Co. when a boy ten years old, and in fourteen years he had gained the position of bookkeeper and cashier. At every stage he had been complimented on his honesty and fidelity, and the day he took charge of the books and the cash Harris, the active partner, said to one of the "Co."
"Well, Johnson, I feel a load off my mind. Tom is as straight as a string, and we need not worry about him. I don't believe that he could be tempted to do a crooked thing."
Never did a young man carry a cleaner record into an office. There had been a thousand chances for peculation, but Tom had not been tempted. If any one had whispered in his ear that temptation was going to get the best of him he would have smiled at the idea. He had put in another year when it came and during that year the firm had made him a liberal present in cash, and up to the hour of his temptation, had his books been examined and his cash counted, they would have been found correct to a dot.
To oblige a friend he took \$50 from the cash account for three or four days. The friend repaid the loan and put Tom on to a "sure thing" in the stock market. Tom invested his week's salary and made \$200. It was his first speculation, and the thing seemed so easy that he gave it a whirl a month later and came out several hundred dollars to the good.
The man who wants to speculate can run across "sure things" every hour in the day. Tom had known of scores of men in trusted positions going wrong through speculation, but his name should never be added to the list. He would make or lose with his own money, and not a penny belonging to Haines & Co. should be put in peril.
That was the policy he pursued for six months, sometimes gaining and sometimes losing; but, of course, there



"WHAT AM I TO DO?" WAILED TOM.
came a day when the market was up-set, and he found himself on the wrong side of it and had to "borrow" from the firm to make good his margins. Such a step is always called "borrowing," and the man who takes it always feels himself thoroughly honest. The market continued to drop, and in four or five days Tom was closed out and owed the firm \$500 besides. He could have raised that through friends and squared things up, but he had lost by the market and he meant to make good by the market.
There must be cashiers who borrow the firm's money and are lucky enough to return it, but no one ever hears of them. It is of those who would return it if they could, but find it impossible, that are held up to public gaze and sent to prison. The \$500 became \$1,000 and then had \$500 added to it before Tom let go of stocks. That was a larger sum than he could raise outside. The end of the year was drawing near, and if his books were overhauled he must surely be branded as an embezzler. He had "covered" the shortage in a way, but an expert would uncover it in half an hour.
"The trusted cashier who goes wrong has a choice to make. He can face the music and take his punishment or he can flee the country or commit suicide. He puts off his decision to the very last hour, hoping he knows not what, but the hour comes at last when he must make it. That hour came to Tom Matthews, and he remained behind in the office to decide what step he should take. He fully realized that he must choose between the three evils, but the hours went by and he could not make up his mind. He should have left the store at 6 o'clock, but he was still there at 9 and at 9 was yet undecided. As he sat with his face in his hands and the office only dimly illuminated by a single gas jet something touched him on the arm, and he lifted his head to find a stranger standing beside him.
"You must excuse me for calling so late," observed the man, "but the fact

is I had some difficulty in getting into the store."
"Who are you, and what do you want?" asked Tom, more puzzled than startled.
"Oh, as to my name, you can pick out any old thing, but as to what I want, I dropped in to do a little business with you."
"But the store is closed."
"Yes, I know, and that's my best time for doing business. Don't you say?"
"You don't mean that you are a burglar—a robber?" queried Tom, after looking the man over for a moment and wondering if it was a real live man who stood before him.
"That's pretty close to it," laughed the man as he sat down on the nearest chair and brought out a cigar and lighted it. When he had taken a few puffs he resumed:
"I've had my eye on this plant for some time, and when I got in tonight I didn't expect to have your company. How does it come that you are here, and what's the matter that you look so seedy? I'd been spying on you for half an hour before I entered the office, and I think you've got a peck of trouble on your mind. Let's hear what it is."
It was a strange situation, but the cashier was in a strange mood. The caller had come with designs, but yet there was a touch of sympathy in his tones. Tom hesitated for a moment and then told him all. The man listened, nodding or shaking his head now and then, and when he had heard all he said:
"Look here, my boy, there's only one way in this thing. You've got to be either all good or all bad. You can't be half and half and make a go of it. I'm all bad, and I get along very well. What are you going to do?"
"For God's sake, what am I to do?" wailed Tom.
"Want to turn bad?"
"No."
"Is there money enough in the safe to take you out of the country?"
"There's about \$800 in there, but I wouldn't touch a penny of it. I've yielded to temptation, but I'm no thief."
"And if you were given a chance?" queried the burglar after awhile.
"A chance? Why, man, I'd live on crusts before I'd put myself in this position again. Think of my fourteen years' record! Think of my wife and relatives!"
"Yes. The game wasn't worth the candle. Suppose you give me your home address."
"What for?" as he wrote it down.
"Just to know where you live. Suppose that we also go out now."
"Yes, but—but—"
"Just to get out, you know. I'd like that \$800 in the safe, but to get it I'd have to crack you on the head and add to your troubles. If I were you I'd go home and make up a few things to myself for a day or two longer. Come, let's walk out together. Your way is up the street, and mine is down. So long to you."
Before Tom left his house next morning a messenger brought a package containing \$1,500 addressed to him. An hour after the package had been delivered the senior partner of the firm was saying to the burglar of the night before:
"Well, I'm glad he took it that way, and he shall have his chance. Tom's honest, and we have got to have honest men about us. I don't think he'll meddle with stocks again, and on Thursday when his books are overhauled they will be found all O. K. All right, Simpson; all right. You worked it beautifully."

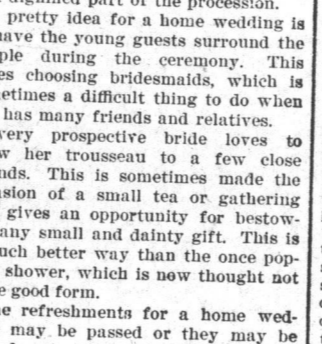
Weather Instincts.
From olden times weather wisdom has been attributed to many animals. Thus in Virgil's First Georgic we find:
Looking to the sky
A heifer snuffed the air with nostrils wide,
Or chattering swallows flew around the lake,
Or the frogs croaked in mud their ancient plaint.
The ant from secret cell her egg had borne;
An army large of rooks, with clamor hoarse,
Their crowded pennons flapped. . . .
Then, too, the unlucky crow, with a full voice,
Calls for the shower.
This for the most part is in singular accord with modern observation. Among other popularly accepted indications of rain are pigs that are restless or carry straws, cats that wash their faces, colts that roll upon the grass, donkeys that bray, toads that crawl at evening, sheep and cattle that huddle together before a storm, black slugs that venture into the open, bees that stay at home, fish that bite readily and peacocks that scream.—London Standard.

Stopped a Leak With Sawdust.
To stop the leakage of a boat by the use of sawdust appears at the first suggestion ridiculous. It is a method, however, employed by backwoodsmen of the Adirondack region.
One day a party having considerable baggage discovered upon loading it into a scow at the end of one of the regular "carries" that the boat leaked badly. To delay for repairs would occasion considerable annoyance, and without repairs to proceed seemed impossible.
At this juncture one of the guides said: "I think I can fix it. Just unload the boat again." This was done, and then the guide brought from a sawmill near the spot a quantity of sawdust. This he sprinkled thickly upon the water on either side of the boat.
"Now," continued he, "load up again." This was done, and when the weight again sank the boat the influx of water through the sides and bottom sucked in the sawdust, which finally accumulated in the crevices, swelled, under the action of the water and actually stopped the leakage.

Summer Whooping Cough
The children seem to catch whooping cough easily in the summer time when it is always so much harder to get rid of.
Shiloh's Consumption Cure
The Lung Tonic
will cure them quickly. There is no injurious drug in it and it is pleasant to take.
At all druggists, 25c, 50c, and \$1.00 a bottle.

WEDDING TALK.
Some Happy Notices About Various Points of the Home Welfare.
For a home wedding, especially if the bride wears a white gown, a green and white color scheme is charming and not difficult to arrange. However, some brunettes, to whom white is not becoming and who wish to look their best on their wedding day, have chosen a pink setting for their bridal, says the Boston Cooking School Magazine in a short chat on wedding matters.
For an early June wedding, in localities where it is abundant, the wild pink azalea makes a most effective decoration. Garden roses are seldom available until the very last of the month, but when they are plentiful nothing finer can be desired. A bride may now wear or carry any favorite flower, the old time prestige of the orange blossom having in some measure departed.
It was a happy thought which gave mothers a place in the bridal procession. Fathers, sisters and brothers all had their duties in connection with the event, but oftentimes the mother was left alone during the ceremony. Now one or both mothers form a graceful and dignified part of the procession.
A pretty idea for a home wedding is to have the young guests surround the couple during the ceremony. This saves choosing bridesmaids, which is sometimes a difficult thing to do when one has many friends and relatives.
Every prospective bride loves to show her friends to a few close friends. This is sometimes made the occasion of a small tea or gathering and gives an opportunity for bestowing any small and dainty gift. This is a much better way than the once popular shower, which is now thought not quite good form.
The refreshments for a home wedding may be passed or they may be served at small tables scattered through the house, and this is by far the most comfortable way. If convenient, tables with twenty-four inch tops may be hired for the occasion. These may be covered with large napkins of dinner size if the hostess has not a sufficient number of embroidered or drawn work cloths.
For the wedding reception in summer nothing more is required than ice cool drinks, small cakes and sandwiches. Of course if one chooses a salad may be added, accompanied with thin cut bread and butter or wafers. Careful attention to all the small details will mark the perfection of the entertainment and add much to the comfort of the guests.

A Hat For Youthful Charms.
The rustic straw hat illustrated calls for youthful freshness and charms in its wearer. A bandeau of biscuit tulle raises it off the face. Delicate pastel tinted ribbon, blue, pink and biscuit, lies in soft folds about the crown, together with a cluster of beautiful pink roses and accompanying foliage.



Whitaker Wright's Palace.
The palace which the late Whitaker Wright reared him at Lea Park, and the estate on which it stands, are to be put up for auction, by order of Mrs. Wright, the executrix of the dead financier.
This wonderful country retreat, cost Whitaker Wright some three-quarters of a million sterling, and on it he lavished all that money could buy or a particular sprightly fancy could suggest.
The estate comprises 1,450 acres of freehold land, as well as 1,350 acres of open heath, part of which is the celebrated tract of Hindhead, including the section of country known as the Devil's Punchbowl. The park is surrounded by a great wall, which cost a small fortune. It is entered by five fine gates with lodges, and is covered with timber.
Three lakes, bathhouses, terrace walks, Italian gardens, and beautiful statuary are some of the features of this palace. The upper one of the lakes is built a tea room with a glass top, through which the water can be seen. The mansion itself, with its great staircase and immense ballroom, its electric light, and stables, is an exquisite building.
Who is going to purchase this extraordinary legacy of the sky-rocked financier? The inquiries are already many, and the offers not a few. Some have come from members of the aristocracy. "Perhaps another financier may enter into the wonderful inheritance."
Penniless London.
London, says Mr. Sydney Brooks in a recent magazine article, is very hard up just now. The shopkeepers are complaining that business was never so slack, that people are spending nothing on luxuries and that they are overwhelmed with demands for extended credit—a woman who pays her dressmaker within twelve months thinks herself a model of punctuality. The same depression is felt by the theatres, restaurants, booksellers, art dealers and business houses. The cause of all this, says Mr. Brooks, is chiefly South Africa. The fiscal issue has probably been a contributive cause, and the Russo-Japanese war has also done much to unshackle things.
"Gotta's Saturday Night."
The original manuscript of "The Cottar's Saturday Night"—which Burns himself thought his finest poem—was sold at Sotheby's for £600. Curiously enough, this is just the sum with which Burns returned to Ayrshire from Edinburgh as the net proceeds of the first edition of his poems, after he had been honored by all the men of light and leading in modern Athens, and now the manuscript of only one of his effusions has fetched as much. Burns wrote a fine, bold hand—full of character and force—and as big as Cromwell's or Bismarck's—what is called in Scotland "half-text."

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Don't experiment with new and untried remedies, but procure that which has stood the test of time.
We have yet to receive a complaint as to its efficacy.
Refuse Substitutes. They're Dangerous.
Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.



NAME OF "THE KNAVE BIBLE."
Some Errors in Early Editions Not All by Accident.

"The British Diamond Bible" was printed in Bristol in 1774 by W. Pine, and published with notes, as a commentary, to evade the King's printer's monopoly. The notes were spaced off from the foot of the page and cut away when the book was bound. It was a cunning way of evading the law as it then existed and of affording a profit to the publisher.
"The Pearl Bible" was issued in 1658, and the edition, so called on account of the diminutive type was printed in London by John Field, and is noted for its wonderful typographical blunders. Field was an unscrupulous forger, and it is said of him that he received £1,500 from the Independents for corrupting the text of Acts vi. 3, by substituting "ye" for "we," in the caution of the people to appeal to the right of a clergy. Among other errors in this version may be mentioned "unrighteousness" for "righteousness" in Romans vi. 13, and in I. Cor. xiv. 9, the text read, "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall inherit the kingdom of God?"
"The Religious Bible" was published in Edinburgh during the year 1627, and the line in Jeremiah iv. 17, which refers to the commonwealth of Judah, instead of "Be-cause she hath been religious against me, saith the Lord," was printed, "Because she hath been religious against me."
All Scriptural misprints are not the result of accident. It was the design of a printer's widow in Germany to upset the whole system of domestic economy. A new edition of the Bible was being printed in her house, and one night, when all the workmen were absent, she rose from her bed and proceeded to the printing room, there to tamper with the type and falsify a text that had caused her much trouble. Her better half had, without doubt, given her frequent cause to protest in her heart against that sentence of woman's subjection which is pronounced upon Eve in the third chapter of Genesis. To rescue her sex from this false position, she resolved to alter the relative situations of the parties, and, taking out the first two letters of the word "Herr," cunningly replaced them by "Nar." By this means the decree ran: "And he shall be thy (Nar) fool," instead of "he shall be thy (Herr) lord." This substitution, though submitted to in domestic life—as, perhaps, was the case—was not suffered to pass by those who were in authority without punishment, and the widow was burned for heresy.
Even the writers of the Scriptures were not always at their best, for in the thirty-seventh chapter of Isaiah it is written: "Then the angel of the Lord went forth and smote in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred and fourscore and five thousand, and when they arose in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses," which the revised version makes "dead bodies."

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