

THE COTTONWOOD FALLS COURANT. W. E. TIMMONS, Publisher.

COTTONWOOD FALLS, - - KANSAS.

A CITY THOROUGHFARE.

The flags are hot beneath my feet. And up and down the roaring street...

I know a bank where ferns are wet With morning balm, where mosses grow...

INTO THE HIGHWAYS.

BY JOHN PRESTON TRUE.

HEARTY laugh came ringing in at the windows. Just the merriest, mirthful laughter...

were all joyous with laughter, too. Yet that outburst of fun brought a quick response...

Perhaps it was unfortunate that that particular mossy spring welled up just there beneath the forked roots of a giant beech...

The bell in the church had already ceased tolling, the air was no longer vibrant with the resonant hum of the reverberating mass of iron in the tower...

Deacon Endicott—an Endicott, he, with a generation or two of duty-bound Endicotts at his inherited back—Deacon Endicott sat up briskly, glanced across at his colleagues among the elders...

The pastor is a younger man than his deacons, but there is something wonderfully compelling in his wise, penetrating eye, and the congregation, now fully aroused and eager, was not surprised to see first one and then another of the elders rise from his seat...

There were others who were disposed to anathematize the organist for selecting that moment to burst forth with one of his beautiful voluntaries, which entrancingly throbbed and sang through the pointed arches overhead...

bound to be blamed if the assault was a failure, bound to succeed, if he succeeded at all, through no earthly power whatever.

There were fully thirty-five wheelmen in a close group around that spring, sprawled at ease upon the turf, and enjoying the light-hearted breeze...

"Here comes the enemy!" said one, jocularly, and instinctively a mullish feeling of resistance settled over them all.

"Gentlemen, we are just about to begin divine service in our little church. Will you not join us? We should be very pleased indeed to have you!"

Just before church time on the following Sabbath a number of wheelmen whizzed up and dismounted at the spring, coming from different directions.

"Hello, Billy!" "How are yer, Sam!" "So you hain't thought better of it?" "Ain't ya better!" but under the chaff was a strained feeling of wonder as to what they had better do about it.

Then, without waiting for any reply, he instantly opened it, and as quickly stepped into the room and shut the door after him again.

"GENTLEMEN, WE ARE JUST ABOUT TO BEGIN DIVINE SERVICE."

would meet the eyes of one who was likely to be halting for a drink. On the board was painted a hand and the following inscription:

"HERE WE REST." All Wheelmen are invited to join us in DIVINE SERVICES THIS DAY. Wheels checked in the vestry, and pews reserved.

The Englishman. It was well known that the Briton's appreciation of American humor is not marked by any great amount of keenness, a case in point occurring at the Rittenhouse club the other day.

these pews are equally at your service. It is my hope to see all of you again and often."

"That portion of the congregation that came in carriages or on foot went home in a very conversational mood. That portion that stayed at home was for the rest of the day quite regretful.

"I don't mind sayin' that I had a good time. And what's more—I'm going again!" And he sat up with an air of "there! put that in your pipe and smoke it!"

Neither of the detectives scarce ventured to breathe as they anxiously waited to see the result of his hazardous remark.

"Oh, I took you for Dr. Dalton himself, sir! Yes, second floor. It's rather dark, but I dare say you can find your way up. Lord! I never knewed before as how the doctor had a partner."

Leaving his subordinate, who had previously received careful instructions, Arnold Bond, with heart beating a little faster than usual, cautiously mounted the dark, narrow staircase and tapped at a closed door facing him.

"Surrender yourself my prisoner, Michael Vaughan, alias Ralph Sutton," he said, sternly, as a tall, bearded man sprang hastily to his feet with a startled exclamation and confronted him.

"Trapped!" he ejaculated, savagely, glaring at the officer. "And in this tom-fool fashion, too. But there's treachery here," he added, fiercely, "and if I—"

"Michael, Michael," interposed a woman's voice, in pleading tones, "you're forgetting poor little Jess. You know the doctor said she must be kept perfectly quiet."

"Let's clear out before you frighten my young 'un to death," said the coiner, in a quieter voice. "Never mind, Jess," he went on, turning to the child and speaking in such a tender and soothing tone that Bond stared with astonishment.

A Good Definition. "Pa," said Benny Bloobumper, "what does the word sophistry mean?" "Sophistry, Benny," replied Mr. Bloobumper, "is the other fellow's argument."—Judge.

ON EVEN TERMS.

"You appear to forget that this fellow Vaughan has the reputation of being one of the most desperate criminals that ever stepped. King of the Coiners' he is rightly named; but it is chiefly because he is at the head of a dangerous gang. And because, by a lucky chance, you have found out that he is living in private lodgings under an assumed name, makes it none the less risky for us two alone to attempt his capture."

It was in a decidedly dissatisfied tone that Mr. Roche, the detective, urged upon his superior officer the hazardous nature of the business they were upon; but Arnold Bond merely smiled good humoredly as he responded.

"Ah, sir, I don't believe they expected you again to-night; but it's well you've come, for the poor mite is very bad, they say."

"Indeed, I am sorry to hear that. Our usual friend could not come himself, but as his partner, I thought it advisable to look in again. Let me see—Mrs. Sutton, second floor, is it not?"

"Oh, I took you for Dr. Dalton himself, sir! Yes, second floor. It's rather dark, but I dare say you can find your way up. Lord! I never knewed before as how the doctor had a partner."

A momentary pause, then, with an oath, the coiner snatched up a chair and raising it above his head was about to hurl it at the detective, but as quickly dropped it, as his eye rested on the service revolver steadily leveled at him.

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mean life or death. More'n anything, she's got to be kept particular quiet, so let's clear out and leave 'em; and, please God, I'll see her again yet. Yes, my prince of traps, you can see what makes me such a miserable coward, eh?"

As if ashamed of the tremor in his speech, the coiner turned, and, taking down his hat, crushed it upon his head and approached the door with a rigid countenance and twitching lips.

"Stay, Vaughan; I cannot do it after all. I can't take such a cruel advantage of even you at a time like this! That's all, and good night."

"Bond! Bond!" cried the king of the coiners, springing forward as he recovered from his momentary stupefaction: "Heaven prosper you for this! Bad as I am I hope I'll be able to give you your reward for this if it's years to come!"

"Joke!" repeated one of the coiners, with a fierce laugh. "Well, we'll see. What say you, boys? What says our oath?"

"Death to the trap who bowls us out!" answered a burly, villainous-looking fellow. "Surrounded we may be, but what of that? Haven't we means for getting away through the burrow at the first alarm?"

"Aye, but not if we stand chucking precious minutes away in empty talk," interrupted another of the gang. "Quick, pals! Here is an end to our snug little business, and so let's make an end of this interfering sneak before we cut. The traps outside may smell a rat if he doesn't soon give 'em the cue."

Without another word one of the coiners stepped up to the prostrate officer and, with a savage exclamation, slipped the noose of a rope over Bond's head and drew it uncomfortably tight round his neck.

"I'm with you, Mr. Bond," ejaculated Vaughan, with grim determination stamped upon his white face. "Ah! see how my mutinous crew sink back from your bulldog! And, by all that's lucky for us both, here comes your men. Another minute's delay and I reckon it would have gone a bit hard for us both."

Almost before he had finished speaking the long cellarlike room became for a short space a scene of desperate struggling, the walls echoing a chorus of savage cries and shouts.

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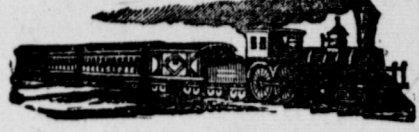
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TIME TABLE.

Table with columns for time and routes: EAST. A.L.C. Col.L. Ch.L. Ch.L. K.C. x.

Table with columns for time and routes: WEST. Mex. Cal. Col.L. Kan. Tex. x.

Table with columns for time and routes: O. K. & W. R. R.

COUNTY OFFICERS: Representative—R. H. Chandler; Treasurer—David Griffiths; Clerk—M. K. Harman; Sheriff—Dennis Madden; Probate Judge—John Frew; Register of Deeds—Aron Jones; Commissioners—C. I. Maule, N. E. Sidner.

SOCIETIES: A. F. & A. M., No. 80—Meets first and third Friday evenings of each month; J. H. Doolittle, W. M.; N. G. Newton, Secy.

LOCAL SHORT STOPS.

Fresh oysters at Bauerle's. J. E. Duchonais is again at home, from Thatcher, Col. Oysters, stewed, fried or raw, at Bauerle's restaurant. Wm. Hillert was down to Emporia, Mo., on business.

Guy Sackett, stenographer of our District Court, has been appointed stenographer of the Federal Court of Oklahoma. The Poor Farm plaid ye editor under many obligations for a large selection of products therefrom, shown at the Fair, last week.

There's a report about town that we have the largest, finest and best assorted stock of Staple and Fancy groceries in the county and that we are selling them at the lowest prices. This report was started by some one who had investigated, and no one seems disposed to contradict it.

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