# FRAUDS EXPOSED;

OR,

## HOW THE PEOPLE ARE DECEIVED AND ROBBED, AND YOUTH CORRUPTED.

Being a Full Exposure of Various Schemes operated through the Mails, and unearthed by the Author in a Seven Years' Service as a Special Agent of the POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT and Secretary and Chief Agent of the NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF VICE.

BY

ANTHONY COMSTOCK.

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RECEIVING HIS MAIL.

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# PREFACE.

Before my readers turn to the contents of this book, they are respectfully requested to first carefully consider the objects and aims of the writer, as well as the peculiar circumstances under which this book has been prepared.

I make no pretensions to literary excellence. My object is to expose the multitudinous schemes and devices of the sharper to deceive and rob the unwary and credulous through the mails; to warn honest and simple-minded persons; to shield our youth from debauching and corrupting influences; to arouse a public sentiment against the vampires who are casting deadly poison into the fountain of moral purity in the children; and at the same time expose to public indignation the infidels and liberals who defend these moral cancer-planters. With malice toward none, but with unbounded sympathy and charity toward the multitudes who each year are defrauded through the mails, or cursed in mind, body and soul by obscene matter, I present some of the devices to plunder, ruin, and debauch, which it has been my privilege and duty to overthrow and stop, during a seven years' experience as a Special Agent of the Post-Office Department of the United States, and Chief Agent and Secretary of the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice. Let it be remembered, that these facts have been gathered in the discharge of my duty under my solemn oaths of office. Many of these are the evidences upon which juries have convicted and courts sentenced.

Another object is self-defence. Defence of my cause, first; and then of my own good name. It is important that a man should be right in all he does. It is almost equally important, that he seem to be right when he is right. Many a time I have discharged my duty faithfully, accomplishing some very important object, or securing some notorious criminal dealing in vilest mat-

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ters, and yet I have received nothing but misrepresentation, odium and abuse. One great difficulty that surrounds our work, is that we cannot publicly defend it with the facts. The facts cannot be published. Many persons sympathize with and defend those guilty of gravest crimes, simply through ignorance of facts, and condemn me because they are deceived by the prisoner's story; whereas, if they would but take one look at what we have seized in that very man's possession, they would ostracise the criminal. Prejudices have grown up, because of libels and slanders that have been printed in newspapers. I therefore, at the close, have presented one chapter where I put the truth beside the published slanders, and I ask a careful perusal of that chapter. I withhold the name of my defamer. I simply defend my cause, and my own good name, which is important to the successful prosecution of my official duties, by the presentation of the truth.

I first present "Bogus Bankers and Brokers," because they are the most respectable in appearance, and by their deceptive presence defraud more honest and reputable people, than any of the others, and in larger sums. I have used the right names of the principal men. Not because I have any personal feeling, for I have none; but because they are the head and front of these infamous plots to rob and defraud. Thousands have been robbed and know nothing about who has their money.

I pay attention to lotteries, as they are spreading themselves all over our land, in contempt of State and United States laws. They each claim to be legal, fair, and run by respectable men. The whole thing is a lie. They are odious gambling schemes, designed to enrich a few at the expense of the many who are deluded into buying tickets. They are corrupters of youth; they beggar wives and children; they breed the spirit of gambling, and ruin and destruction follow in their wake. They are rightfully regarded as public foes.

With them, we find other beasts of prey of the same breed, differing only in name, to-wit: "Skin," or bogus, and "counterfeit" lotteries, and the lottery parasite.

The watch and jewelry frauds rank next in infamy and power to deceive and defraud. Some of these are founded on the lot-

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tery, and are operated by circulars being sent to those who have once purchased lottery tickets. For variety, we present a few insignificant devices that use the mails for success; in other words, we fill in the chinks with "sawdust."

But no part of this book can be of greater interest, than those chapters that expose the Liberal Fraud, and the infamous conspiracies entered into by the Liberals, to repeal the laws against obscene literature. I regret it becomes necessary to refer to some of these creatures. But when a body of men unite to advance a cause, which promises a morality better than that offered by the Word of God, a system of government better than the grand institutions of Free America, a religion purer and nobler than that of our Lord Jesus Christ, a hereafter more glorious than the eternal heavens, it is well for the public to know their true character. "By their fruits ye shall know them." I have presented facts; I have drawn an indictment against this horde of blasphemers and revilers of the ever-living God, and I submit my evidence to sustain this indictment. Let every decent man read, and see what we have in our land, and then say if they will consent that our youth shall be inoculated with this virus. Let youth read it, and then say if, in all this ranting mob, there is a character worthy to be placed before that of our blessed Saviour as an exemplar for them. Some have said: "You will be attacked by these fellows." My reply is, I cannot expect to have better treatment than our blessed Master. I stand by the record. In reading this book, read carefully, and you will see each scheme presenting a new phase of rascality. You will see plots deep-laid, and devices to rob that will surprise and astonish you. Copies of circulars and letters are presented, the better to disclose the fraud, and will require careful reading to clearly comprehend the scheme.

The circumstances, under which the book has been prepared, are not such as most conduce to freedom of thought nor connected story. Up to January last, I had not thought of writing a book. What first suggested it was the examination of about 40,000 letters from the victims of Lawrence & Co. and others, seized in the possession of the bogus bankers and brokers. Since then, I have prepared this work at odd hours, by piece-

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meal, at night after the weary cares of the day were over, and while traveling over the country on the railroads. I have had no quiet study to work in, no opportunity for continuous thought, but amid the bustle and care of every-day life I have compiled this work. *It is a faithful record*, written to head off the secret devices of the sharper—a shield to the poor, and a defence of the right. I have tried to avoid personalities, but oftentimes my indignation would get the better of me, and I have used strong words of condemnation against the scheme or conspiracy which I have been exposing. I have visited the offices and dens of these men. I am familiar with the manner in which their nefarious business has been conducted, and the extent of robberies thus perpetrated. I have had thousands of letters of their victims, which have been seized in the possession of the criminal, as well as hundreds of complaints from all classes, sent to me direct, showing youth debauched and ruined, and base wrongs perpetrated; and the reader must remember all these sad stories come back and ring their appeals anew in my ears, while they lay a heavy burden on my heart. I have again and again said these people shall not be robbed if I can prevent it; and by a seven years' conflict I have endeavored to raise a legal barrier between the youth and this hydra-headed monster of Obscenity. I have enforced the laws, by bringing many of these scoundrels to justice, and by laying before the Post-Office Department evidence of their nefarious traffic; and now, with all these facts refreshing memory, I have fought these battles over again. By a careful study of all the facts, I have concentrated the stories of some of the principal schemes between the covers of this book, in the hope of accomplishing a most needed object—*arouse an enlightened public sentiment to sustain the enforcement of laws*, and at the same time to warn the unwary.

I therefore place this book in the hands of the public, and appeal to them to extend a fair charity over its defects, while I *vouch for its absolute and positive truthfulness as a record of facts.*

ANTHONY COMSTOCK.

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# FRAUDS EXPOSED;

OR,

## HOW THE PEOPLE ARE DECEIVED AND ROBBED, AND YOUTH CORRUPTED.

## BOGUS BANKERS AND BROKERS.

### CHAPTER I.

"THE FOOLS ARE NOT ALL DEAD YET!"

This is the almost universal exclamation of those who have studied the swindling schemes successfully carried on of late in New York and elsewhere. It is hardly correct, however. The expression, indeed, seems warranted in the large number of credulous people who permit themselves to be imposed upon over and over again, by the same trick, until their funds are exhausted and they are cast aside ruthlessly by the rogue that has duped them. Such are fools. But this book is not written for the fools; I do not hope to teach them wisdom. Their race will never perish from the face of the earth, so long as there are knaves to prey upon them. Like certain species of fishes, they fill their place in nature as sustenance for the sharks.

But there are also many respectable persons and as the world goes accounted sensible and shrewd, who regard stock speculations as a legitimate means of increasing their scanty savings. Such people sometimes fall a prey to swindlers. Yet it would be a harsh judgment to class them with the great multitude of incurable fools. They are not idiots, and for them, therefore,

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these pages are written. If these revelations prove an effective warning against farther loss, the aim of the writer will be accomplished.

I propose here to set forth the simple story of one of the greatest frauds of the day. It is the record of my own personal knowledge, and amply attested by the documentary evidence now in my possession.

All the more important swindling schemes of the time, which are intended to reach the mass of the people, depend upon two mighty agencies of our present civilization, the Newspaper and the United States Mail. By means of these two instruments for good or evil, it is possible to reach every household in the land. The advertising sheet and the postal service are the recognized mediums of legitimate business. Through them millions of dollars annually change hands. To them, therefore, the rogue naturally turns.

The first essential in the business is a taking advertisement which will at once catch the attention. This is illustrated in the case of the bogus firm of rascals styling themselves

LAWRENCE & CO.

As the first step in their angling for dupes these men cast a lure as follows:

**A GOOD PLAN.**

Anybody can learn to make money rapidly operating in Stocks, by the "Two Unerring Rules for Success," in Messrs. Lawrence & Co.'s new circular. The combination method, which this firm has made so successful, enables people with large or small means to reap all the benefits of largest capital and best skill. Thousands of orders, in various sums, are pooled into one vast amount and *co-operated* as a *mighty whole*, thus securing to each shareholder all the advantages of the largest operator. Immense profits are divided monthly. Any amount, from $5 to $5,000, or more, can be used successfully. N. Y. *Baptist Weekly*, September 26th, 1878, says: "By the combination system $15 would make $75, or 5 per cent.; $50 pays $350, or 7 per cent.; $100 makes $1,000, or 10 per cent. on the stock, during the month, according to the market." *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 29th: "The combination method of operating stocks is the most successful ever adopted." *New York Independent*, Sept. 12th: "The combination system is founded upon correct business principles, and no person need be without an income while it is kept working by Messrs. Lawrence & Co." *Brooklyn Journal*, April 29th: "Our editor made a net profit of $101.25 from $20 in one of Messrs. Lawrence & Co.'s combinations." New circular (mailed free) explains everything. Stocks and bonds wanted. Government bonds supplied.

Lawrence & Co., Bankers, 57 Exchange Place, N. Y.

This advertisement, and others of similar character, appeared in hundreds of newspapers throughout the country; and in most

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instances was accompanied by a series of reading notices, or strong editorial endorsements, like the following, which were prepared by Lawrence & Co., and sent out to the newspaper publishers in slips of six each. We give three of the six, together with the instructions given to the compositors of the newspapers:

## READING NOTICES

OF

# LAWRENCE & CO. BANKERS, N. Y.

DIRECTIONS FOR THE COMPOSITOR.—*Lawrence & Co.'s Reading Notices* are to be set in the ordinary style and reading type of the paper, and all advertising marks to be left off. They are to be run "*every other day*," in rotation as numbered—number of times according to contract.

☞ No. 2.

### JUST YOUR TIME

to make money safely, easily, and rapidly, is now, while the stock market offers so many splendid opportunities. The combination system has had unprecedented success, and brings good fortune to thousands of shareholders in this and other countries. Investments of from $25 to $10,000 are thus consolidated into one vast capital, and operated by the best skill and experience, result in heavy profits, which are divided among shareholders every month. A New Orleans cotton dealer made $27,649 18 in two months. A Baltimore merchant received an aggregate profit of $9,642 01 from three combinations. A San Francisco mining agent made $32,438 16 from four combinations, his first investment having been $100. Others have been equally fortunate. Every day there are new and grand opportunities. New explanatory circular, with "unerring rules for success," mailed by Messrs. Lawrence & Co., Bankers, 57 Exchange Place, New York City.

☞ No. 4.

### WEALTH EASILY OBTAINED.

Jay Gould, combining vast amounts of money with several great capitalists, has frequently made colossal profits in stock speculations, paying millions to each shareholder. The new combination plan of Messrs. Lawrence & Co. confers similar benefits on the shareholders who invest small and large amounts from $25 to $10,000. The money of thousands of customers is thus massed in one mighty sum, and operated with the ripest experience and best skill, has secured the most brilliant successes. A hotel keeper in Ohio invested $100 in a combination, which netted $478. Three reinvestments resulted in a total profit of $13,801.18. A Boston gentleman invested $500 in a combination, which yielded a profit of $2,817.04; two reinvestments netted him $3,644.31. A Chicago merchant made $43,210.41 in four months of combination investments. New explanatory circular with "rules for unerring success." Apply to Messrs. Lawrence & Co., Bankers, 57 Exchange Place, New York City.

☞ No. 5.

### MONEY RAPIDLY MADE.

Small and large investments (from $25 to $10,000), in the combinations of Messrs. Lawrence & Co., pay large profits. This new and successful system unites thousands of orders from customers into one immense capital, and is managed with the best skill and experience in the stock market. Profits are shared pro rata by customers every month. Shareholders thus obtain all the advantages of large capitalists. Thousands are rapidly making money, and many have acquired handsome fortunes by this safe and legitimate method, which has been among the most successful of the movements of the Stock Exchange. $25 will make $125, or 5 per cent.; $100 will return $500, $500 will net $3,000, etc., according to the state of the market. New explanatory circular, with "unerring rules for success," mailed to all applicants by Messrs. Lawrence & Co., Bankers, 57 Exchange Place, New York City.

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We need not add that these positive endorsements, which appear as the editorial utterance of the paper, are always the most effective baits. The newspaper reader may take an advertisement for what it is worth; but when the Reverend Doctor Subtle, editor of the *Zion's Watchword*, or Mr. John Typo, editor of the *Daily Morning Standard*, says that this banking system "has secured the most brilliant successes," and characterizes the method as "safe, legitimate, and among the most successful of the movements of the Stock Exchange,' the merchant, clergyman, teacher, seamstress, and, perhaps, even the poor woman who can ill afford to invest in insecureties, accept the word of the editor. He appears as voucher for the fraudulent banking establishment advertised in his paper; and straightway these readers invest their capital and savings. This trust is reposed especially in the word of the editor of a religious journal or of a reputable secular paper, which has been for years a companion in the household; whatever of this character appears on the editorial page and is ostensibly the opinion of the editor himself, is unquestioned. If, as in this case, there be a striking resemblance in the assumed name to that of some reputable firm, the danger of deception is increased.

Now, who is responsible for the fraud in such an advertisement as this? Is the editor any the less to blame because he knows nothing whatever of "Lawrence & Co.," so called, whom he practically vouches for, being paid at so much a line for "editorial notices?" Is it not his business to find out something of them before misleading his readers by asserting that he does know them to be responsible parties? Or is he any the less guilty because they pay handsomely for the publication of the fraudulent personal endorsement? To the credit of journalism in our land let it be said, scores of publishers refused to insert either the advertisement of this scheme, or the reading notices prepared as editorial endorsements. This is proved by the returned letters and checks which afterwards fell into the writer's hands.

Having thus presented themselves to the public, and having been "endorsed by the press" of the land, Lawrence & Co. im-

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mediately receive scores, hundreds, and thousands of responses, and put into action

THE NEXT WHEEL

of their system, which was a voluminous circular, prepared with consummate skill, and well calculated to impress the recipient with the high standing and integrity of the firm. If any are disposed to condemn all the victims of this fraud without a hearing, we can only ask that they carefully read the plausible paragraphs of this voluminous circular, which was introduced to the inquirer with this letter:

LAWRENCE & CO., BANKERS AND BROKERS,
19 and 21 Broad Street, and 55 and 57 Exchange Place, New York City.

*Dear Sir*—Your favor is before us. Enclosed please find circular, which explains the safest and most successful plan ever introduced for operating in stocks, viz.: that of forming combinations of capital in various sums, and operating them as one great whole.

The advantages of this mutual system must be plainly apparent to all. Our market is in very favorable condition for profitable investment, and, should you feel so disposed to send us your order for as many shares as you can control, we will do all in our power to return you a handsome profit; from which we may naturally expect a renewal of orders, thereby increasing our already large commission business.

Yours respectfully,

LAWRENCE & CO.

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## LAWRENCE AND CO.'S CIRCULAR.

### COMBINING CAPITAL FOR OPERATING IN STOCKS AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

To "make money," and make it as rapidly as can be done, safely and legitimately, is the laudable ambition of every business man. The desire for gain is the strongest impulse of the human heart, and the great stimulus that drives the wheels of business with ceaseless activity. To secure an ample income and accumulate a fortune, is the problem that presses for solution upon all. How to do this successfully is the absorbing question.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MAKING MONEY.

Thousands are prejudiced against buying or selling, or trading in stocks and money securities, or similar transactions, simply because they really know



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but little about the business, while their minds are burdened with some undefined fear of "speculation" or a like feeling. When properly understood, the business of Wall street is as simple as any other, possessing many advantages over all, and affording opportunities for money making nowhere else presented. *Any one* can participate in the business of the street *at any time*, as convenience or inclination may suggest, no matter how far he may be from the scene of action. Wall street, with its ever-increasing volume of business, and thousands of opportunities daily occurring for *some one* to make a profit, is a permanent institution, and will be while time and the country shall last. Of what other business can these things be truthfully said? Stocks, bonds, and other money securities are tokens of the accumulated "wealth" or surplus of the country, and Wall street is simply the *channel* through which they pass in the ebb and flow of fluctuating circumstances. The altered conditions of men make it necessary for the holders of stocks and bonds to sell to-day that to which they clung tenaciously yesterday, while others have ready money, which they seek to invest, perhaps, in the very securities that are for sale. The *existence* of large quantities of money securities carries with it the perpetual necessity of buying, selling, and transferring them.

### STOCK BROKERS NECESSARY.

It is this constantly recurring crisis in the affairs of men that has brought into existence the "Stock Broker," whose special business is to know how the market stands. As in nature there is a mighty force which draws all bodies towards one common centre, so in business there is an irresistible law that causes all transactions in the financial world to gravitate to one point. Nine-tenths of all the great monied or bonded corporations in the United States have their head-quarters in New York city, where transfers of stock and bonds are made, and interest or dividends are paid. This is the financial centre of America.

### BANKS FURNISH MONEY FOR THE BUSINESS.

It was learned, as the business of Wall street grew to vast dimensions, that the Banks and Bankers were always ready and anxious to loan money on all saleable securities, up to a narrow margin of the market price, which margin was reserved to cover any fluctuations that might occur. This was soon discovered to be *the opportunity* for a third person not interested in the final disposition of the securities, to step in and cover the marginal fluctuations, and thus secure whatever benefit accrued from the transfers. As may be supposed, it did not take long for the progressive mind to appreciate the opportunities thus constantly occurring for making money. From its earliest incipiency to the present hour, the business of assuming risks on the margin of transfer sales has increased to an immense volume, until now the number of marginal operators greatly exceeds those who purchase for investment, or sell to realize funds. The business of stock brokerage has attracted to its ranks some of the shrewdest and most talented men in the country. The

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brains of these busy brokers have been taxed to their utmost to devise ways of operating in the market for the benefit of their customers.

### VAST PROFITS ALREADY PAID.

During an extended career in the Street we have operated by all the approved systems, and have succeeded in making large amounts of money for the numerous customers on our books, the commissions on which have aggregated a handsome sum, to which fact we may point with pardonable pride. To systems heretofore in use, there has always seemed to be some serious objection, and this has led us to devote much close study to the subject, which, together with our many years' experience in the Street, has enabled us to perfect and put into practice for the benefit of our customers a plan that has the combined merit of all others, with none of their defects. This system we have had in use for some time, and the results obtained far surpass our most sanguine expectations. It is almost invariably successful, and by it we have secured for our customers more than four times the profit paid by operating in the old ways.

### COMBINATION PLAN OF OPERATING IN STOCKS.

This is known as the *combination method*—our own specialty—which we most cordially recommend above all others to patrons. The probabilities of profit are far greater by this system than by any other, while the risk is diminished to the very lowest point and limited to the amount invested. Each customer has exact justice, and at the same time obtains all the advantages of the largest capitalist—be the sum used $50 or $50,000. By the *combination method* we *pool* or *combine* the orders of thousands of customers and operate them as one *immense whole*. The advantages of this can be seen at a glance. By the combined system we *concentrate* our whole energies and capital on the most active stocks; keep the market well in hand; buy and sell at any hour; make quick turns; cover sales; and above all, SUCCEED where others fail from force of circumstances.

### HOW PROFITS ARE FIGURED.

In estimating the profits on any operation in Stock dealing, it should always be remembered that, by common usage, all shares dealt in at the New York Stock Exchange are reckoned as having a par value of $100, without regard to the market price or even the original denomination of the shares if they differ from $100. Thus, 100 shares of Western Union stock would be figured as amounting to $10,000 in computing all percentages of profit or commissions, although the actual selling price might be only $7,500, or 75 per cent. of $100 per share. If these 100 shares were bought at 75, the commission for buying would be $12.50, or ⅛ of 1 per cent. on $10,000, instead of $7,500, the actual price paid—if the same stock was sold at 77 the profit would be 2 per cent. on $10,000, or $200—less commissions for buying and selling—instead of 2 per cent. on $7,700, the price at which it was really sold. The same thing is true

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of all stocks, no matter how much the market price may vary from a par value of $100 per share, whether it be Harlem at 130, N. Y. Central at 105, Union Pacific at 65, N. J. Central at 37, Hannibal & St. Joseph at 23, Erie at 18, Pacific Mail at 15, Wabash at 12, Ohio & Mississippi at 8, or N. J. Southern at 1. A movement of 1 per cent. either way on any or all of these stocks would be $100 per 100 shares every time. If this important fact is kept in mind and thoroughly understood, every transaction in stocks becomes perfectly simple and as easily comprehended by those who never invested a dollar in the business of the street as by the most experienced operator. We emphasize this point in order that all customers may save themselves the annoyance and vexation of getting "mixed" in their calculations and casting hasty reflections, of which they become heartily ashamed when they properly understand the subject.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE OF PROFITS.

Now suppose our customers in this city, and scattered by thousands throughout the country, pay in or remit to our cashier various sums:—in one case it may be $25; another, $100; another, $500; another, $1,000; another, $2,500, and so on until the aggregate reaches say $50,000, at which point the combination is closed and each customer receives a certificate, entitling them to *one share* in the combination for *every dollar* paid in by them.

[FAC SIMILE OF BLANK CERTIFICATE.]

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.—To prevent confusion or mistakes in our extensive business, all balances to the credit of any shareholder are remitted by check immediately, on the close of every combination, thus enabling each one to return a part or the whole for reinvestment, as may suit their convenience.

Requests to hold a portion of profits for reinvestment cannot, therefore, be complied with.

_____SHARES.

**For Value Received,** *This is to Certify,*

that_____is the holder of

_____shares in a combination, formed to operate in stocks or other cash securities. Statements of transactions will be mailed all shareholders, weekly, and at the expiration of one month from date, this combination will be closed, and profits divided pro rata among shareholders, in the proportion that the number of shares held by each one shall bear to the whole number interested. No part of profits or original capital to be withdrawn until close of combination. All operations to be carried on at the direction of the undersigned, who shall be entitled to regular commissions charged at the New York Stock Exchange, viz.: one-eighth, which is $12.50 per one hundred shares, for buying and the same for selling, and in addition thereto, one per cent. of the net profits on final settlement. Profits and original investment to be used as working capital until close of combination. The holder of this certificate is not liable in any event for more than the original price paid for shares and profits.

_____187 *Lawience & Co.*

This $50,000 cash used as a whole will buy on a margin of one per cent. $5,000,000 worth of stocks. Operating in the most active stocks on the list, so that we can make quick turns and realize gains in the shortest time—bear in

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mind it is *profits* we are after in all cases, both for our customers and ourselves —for our customers in the *percentage of gain* on sales made, and for ourselves in *commissions* on the business done. Suppose we buy for the combination 20,000 shares of Western Union at 71; 20,000 shares Northwestern at 35; 5,000 shares Ohio & Mississippi at 10. Within a week Western Union advances to 74, and we sell out, realizing a profit of 3 per cent. for the combination on the par value of $2,000,000 worth of stock, which is $60,000, less commissions. Northwestern advances also to 37, and we sell, making $40,000 profit, less commissions. Ohio & Mississippi moves in the wrong direction, and drops ⅛, and then another ⅛, two points against us, and so we close it out at once, sustaining a loss of ¼ per cent., or $1,250, besides commissions; this deducted from the profits on other stocks, still leaves us $99,275 ahead, less commissions, a very handsome figure for one week's warfare. The next week opens auspiciously, and we find Union Pacific, perhaps, leading the list. We buy 15,000 shares at once. Delaware & Lackawanna also shows unusual signs of life, and we buy 10,000 shares of that too. We also take 10,000 shares of Morris & Essex. Day by day we watch the market keenly, and have the satisfaction of seeing Union Pacific walk steadily up step by step until it has reached an advance of 3½ per cent., at which we are well satisfied to sell. 3½ per cent. on the par value of $1,500,000 worth of stock held for the combination is $52,500, a very snug sum to credit on the profits. Delaware & Lackawanna scores a profit of 2 per cent. also, making $20,000 more, and Morris & Essex 1 per cent., making $10,000, or an aggregate of $181,000 for the week, less commissions of buying and selling. The third week, it may be, opens "flat," and the market continues "stale," so we buy light or stay out, which makes the profit small. The fourth week opens again with a buoyant market and all signs favorable, so we repeat the former successful tactics. So it goes during the entire month, at the end of which gains and losses and commissions are figured up and balanced, often showing a profit of three, four, or five, and sometimes as high as eight per cent. on the business done during the month, placing to the credit of the combination $400,000, $500,000, or $750,000, a clear gain of 500 or 600 per cent. on the $50,000 capital used. This is placed pro rata to the account of the various members of the pool, who are at liberty to withdraw their deposits or leave them for future operations, as may suit their convenience. This illustration shows the practical working of one combination. Others are conducted on the same principles, and with as satisfactory results.

### HOW COMBINATIONS ARE FORMED.

A combination of $50,000 capital controlling millions of dollars worth of stocks, doubtless seems large to many who are unacquainted with the magnitude of Wall street transactions and the extensive business done by our house. The daily business of Wall street varies in amount from $100,000,000 to $300,000,000, of which ours, although enormous, is of course but a small part. Aside from regular city business, our immense advertising brings a vast patronage from all parts of the country. The Post Office makes eight or

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ten mail deliveries during business hours, and single mails have brought us remittances of $3,500 to $5,000, in checks and drafts of $100, $300, $500, and $1,000 each, to say nothing of numerous sums smaller than $100, in P. O. orders, registered letters, and money packages and bonds, delivered by the different Express companies. Could any doubter see our mail and express receipts for one day, all skepticism as to our ability to form large combinations in rapid succession would immediately vanish, while the number and nature of our patrons would astonish him beyond measure, including Presidents and Cashiers of Banks and Insurance Companies, Merchants, Lawyers, Newspaper Editors and Publishers (in great numbers), Doctors, Manufacturers and Farmers, and in fact every class of people.

### UNERRING RULES FOR SUCCESS.

Two rules for operating in stocks will bring success, as sure as the rising and setting of the sun, viz.: 1st—Always go with the tide, instead of against it, no matter what your personal opinion may be as to the merits of the stocks bought and sold; and, 2d—Never buy stocks immediately after a strong "bull" campaign, nor sell them just after a sharp "bear" movement, as a large proportion of operators on the old single margin plan have done. The combination system enables us to carry out these rules in a way not possible by any other method. Every stock operator knows that opportunities to make successful turns often appear and disappear with the rapidity of lightning flashes, and must be taken advantage of by some one on the spot, at the moment, or they are gone forever. Although the telegraph be used with the utmost dispatch, a customer in Chicago, New Orleans, St. Louis, or San Francisco, is just as likely to send instructions exactly the opposite of what he should, as any other, the *opportunity* for success having *already passed away*. We aim to treat all our customers fairly and frankly, and keep our circulars free from any statements calculated to mislead. By our system we reduce the risk to the lowest possible limit, much less than has ever before been achieved, but we do not profess to be infallible, and would not guarantee profit in every case, any more than we would guarantee a farmer prolific harvests simply because he sowed his lands. We would, however, guarantee that he *would not* reap harvests *unless* he did *sow* and *cultivate* his fields. In like manner it is impossible for any one to participate in the benefits of our combinations unless they take the proper steps to do so.

### WHY COMBINATIONS PAY LARGE PROFITS.

An old adage teaches, "united we stand, divided we fall." In no business is this more emphatically true than in stock dealing. If one thousand persons are operating in stocks, and their orders are executed each one by itself according to the one thousand different shades of opinion the operators may have concerning the market, this very diversity of ideas causes confusion and weakness, and results in loss to all; while, if a community of interest could have been created among the entire one thousand, all would have

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made satisfactory gains. A wholesale merchant whose entire business was with five customers would be rated as in a very critical condition of credit; for, if one or two of his customers were to fail, the disaster would be so great that he could not recover from it, but if he had five hundred customers the failure of a few would not ruin him, as the percentage of loss compared to the whole number would be slight. An insurance company that took a *few risks* in any one line would be regarded by experts as doing a very hazardous business, but if the number of risks were sufficient for the premiums to overbalance the general average of losses, the business would be profitable and safe. It is these same principles applied to stock operations that enable us to reap large gains for our customers by the combination system, where all other plans fail.

### REASONS OF SINGLE HANDED FAILURES.

The reason why men so often fail of success in their small single handed ventures in Wall street, is because there are others so much stronger, with sufficient means to hold out, who fall on them with crushing weight, and grind them as between the upper and nether millstone. Our combination system overcomes this fatal objection and gives to our patrons all the advantages of the largest capital united with the shrewdest skill and widest experience. Did space allow we could enumerate hundreds of the most powerful reasons why our combined method excels all others. We state boldly, and are in a condition to prove, that money cannot be made so certainly and rapidly in any other business, in proportion to capital used.

### HISTORY OF JAY GOULD'S FORTUNE.

Without dispute, it is universally conceded in stock circles that Mr. Jay Gould can command a greater *combination* of ready *cash capital* than any other living American. This is the sole secret of his success, the brief history of his colossal fortune. Like thousands of others he commenced life with little or nothing, but early learned this one principle—the keynote of unerring success—COMBINATION OF CAPITAL. All his skill in manipulation would have availed nothing had he not first combined capital sufficient to carry his ventures through. Take a single instance in his remarkable career. About February 20th, 1875, Mr. Gould formed a strong pool of New York and Boston capitalists on Union Pacific stock. At that time the stock was selling at about 37 "flat." He assured members of the combination that the stock would go to 80 before the close of the year. In the succeeding month of March the combination forced the price from 40⅜ to 68¼, in April to 78¼, in June to 79¼, and in November of the same year the famous bull movement culminated and the combination sold out at 82⅜, realizing millions of dollars for the pool, and making the various members "millionaires." This is a matter of fact, as shown by the official records of the Exchange. Of course Mr. Gould admits only a "favored few" to his combinations—such as can furnish capital by hundreds of thousands of dollars. We are the only house

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of Bankers and Brokers who offer the same advantages to all in large and small amounts. It should also be remembered that Mr. Gould is one of the largest operators in the world, and executes all his plans through various brokers—the same as the smallest customer who buys and sells in Wall Street is obliged to do.

### OUR PROSPERITY DEPENDS UPON THE SUCCESS OF OUR CUSTOMERS.

The combination system enables us to work for the interest of our patrons, far more efficiently than any other plan. Any candid mind can readily see that the profits of our business depend upon the prosperity of our customers. To become permanent, all business relations must be of mutual and reciprocal interest. Unless our customers made money they would soon leave us, and unless we had customers who were constantly buying and selling stocks through us, we, of course, could make no commissions. Our pooling system stimulates us to force every circumstance the market affords, to contribute to the success of our wide-spread constituency. By the single handed style of operating, people are apt to fail of success, and in so doing, immediately look around for something to satisfy their disappointed hopes. From the day when Adam endeavored to persuade his Maker that the "woman was to blame," until the present moment, human nature has been the same—and when men meet reverses in stock operations, through *their own short sightedness* or *perversity*, they cast about for *some one else to blame*. In such cases the broker, being nearest to the transaction and the most convenient object of reproach, is unjustly credited with that for which the principal alone is at fault. By our pooling process, those interested in the combination are relieved of further care or anxiety in watching the market from day to day, on any particular stock, as we take all that burden on our own shoulders and endeavor not only to make stock dealing profitable, but pleasurable.

### A CUSTOMER'S EXPERIENCE.

Take an instance from our books. In January last Mr. B——, of New Orleans, one of our most esteemed patrons, remitted to us the sum of $100, for investment by our new system. Investing this $100 together with other money, in one of our combinations, we bought Western Union stock. Our commission for buying on the 100 shares for Mr. B—— was $12.50. The stock advanced in a few days ⅛ per cent. and we sold, making for Mr. B—— in the transaction $75, and another commission of $12.50 for ourselves for selling. At this point we had earned $25 commission, and our customer $50 net profit. The same week we sold for the combination in which he was interested, St. Paul stock, which, declining ¼ per cent., enabled us to buy and cover the contract at a gross profit of $50 on the 100 shares of Mr. B——. For selling and buying our commission was of course $12.50 each time, or on this transaction we had made $25 net for Mr. B—— and earned $25 for ourselves. The footing up of profits for the week showed that we had gained $50 commissions and Mr. B—— made $75 net. The next week we bought and sold Erie and

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Northwestern stocks, making four turns altogether and an aggregate profit of 2 per cent. on Mr. B——'s business, which was $200, less our commission of $50, placing to his credit $150 and our own $50. The third week his profits were $40 and our commissions $37.50. The fourth week his profits were $175 and our commissions $62.50. Adding his profits, they amounted to $440, which we remitted him, while our own commissions footed up $199. But this is not all. The next month we received a much larger order from Mr. B——, and have had constant business from him ever since. Our commissions on his business alone up to the present time amount to over $850, while through his friendship and good will three of his associates have become our customers, whose business has been equally profitable.

### CAUTIONS AGAINST GAMBLING IN STOCKS.

The blind way in which a large portion of the public take "Flyers" in stocks is for them but little better than gambling, and it is notorious that people who do business in this chance manner often lose their whole ventures, which is the natural result of such a proceeding; while a larger proportion of the men who make dealing in stocks a business, to which they apply sound principles, acquire greater wealth, than in any other occupation. Witness, for instance, the Vanderbilts, Clarks, Goulds, Mortons, Jeromes, Travers, Keeps, Keenes, and scores of other less prominent names. Our idea is to unite the means of the public in such combinations as will secure all the advantages of the largest capital and operate it under the direction of a man who, in experience and skill, is second to no one in Wall Street, thus divesting the business of anything like gambling features, and making it as desirable for all classes to take an interest in stock dealing, as in a manufacturing corporation, or bank, or mine, or any enterprise where money is confided to the ability and integrity of others. These operations will be conducted by a member of our firm who has been constantly in Wall Street for many years, and has peculiarly good facilities for knowing the inside workings of the great combinations in the stock market, from his business and social relations, and has repeatedly made very large amounts by the employment of combined capital.

### RATE OF COMMISSION CHARGED.

Our commissions are in all cases the regular rates established at the N. Y. Stock Exchange, viz., ⅛, or $12.50 per 100 shares for buying, and the same for selling, and in addition thereto one (1) per cent. of the net profits made by the combinations. Whenever we make a turn on any stock, each member of the combination interested is notified and kept posted as to all movements for their benefit.

### CLASSIFICATION OF SHARES.

The demand for shares has become so great, requiring the employment of a large clerical force, that we have consolidated our combinations into larger sums and classified them as follows:

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**CLASS A.—50,000 Shares.** No certificates issued in this combination for less than 1,000 shares, costing **$1,000.**

**CLASS B.—40,000 Shares.** No certificates issued in this combination for less than 500 shares, costing **$500.**

**CLASS C.—35,000 Shares.** No certificates issued in this combination for less than 300 shares, costing **$300.**

**CLASS D.—25,000 Shares.** No certificates issued in this combination for less than 100 shares, costing **$100.**

**CLASS E.—20,000 Shares.** No certificates issued in this combination for less than 50 shares, costing **$50.**

**CLASS F.—15,000 Shares.** No certificates issued in this combination for less than 25 shares, costing **$25.**

**CLASS G.—10,000 Shares.** No certificates issued in this combination for less than 10 shares, costing **$10.**

**CLASS H.—5,000 Shares.** No certificates issued in this combination for less than 5 shares, costing **$5.**

The activity of the stock market during the present season, and our perfected experience make our next combinations still more promising than those which have paid such handsome profits heretofore; although we do not claim to be infallible nor assert that every turn we make will prove a certain success. We simply point to past experience as a guide to future probabilities. Parties wishing to join any of these Combinations should forward their orders promptly by mail or telegraph, with funds to cover the number of shares desired. We have endeavored to explain fully the nature and practical workings of our system of operations, and shall at all times esteem it a favor if our customers will treat us with equal frankness and make themselves familiar with the details of our office, to which they are at all times cordially welcome. During a long career in Wall street we have never seen any of that "mystery" with which many seek to surround it. The business of the street is as useful and legitimate as any other, and we know of no sound reason why any one, whose circumstances permit, should not participate in its benefits.

### OFFICIAL RECORDS OF COMBINATION PROFITS.

To illustrate the advantages accruing to shareholders in our Combinations, we give a brief table of a few stocks taken from the official records of the Stock Exchange, showing the actual difference in dollars and the per cent. of profits in regular purchases and sales:

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| Name of Stock. | Purchase and Sale. | Per cent. | Diff. in Dols., on each turn made, showing the profits on each $100 invested. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Western Union | For 1 day | 1 | $100 00 |
| Lake Shore | For 2 days | 1¼ | 125 00 |
| North West | For ¾ day | ¾ | 75 00 |
| Del., Lack. & West | For 2 days | ⅞ | 87 50 |
| | For 5¼ days | 3⅞ | $387 50 |
| N. Y. C. & H. R. | For 5 days | 1½ | $150 00 |
| St. Paul | For 2 days | ⅞ | 87 50 |
| Morris & Essex | For 3 days | ⅝ | 62 50 |
| Del. & Hudson | For 4 days | 2⅜ | 237 50 |
| Erie | For 2 days | ¼ | 25 00 |
| | For 16 days | 5⅝ | $562 50 |

Thus it will be seen by these facts, shown from the official records, that an investment of $50 would pay $250 and upwards; $100 invested would pay $1,000 profit, or ten times the amount invested; $1,000 would pay $7,500 less commissions, or 7½ times the capital used, according to the movement of the stocks bought and sold within the number of days specified.

### EVERY DAY QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

Nearly every mail brings us letters in which some one of the following questions are asked, and as it will save correspondents and ourselves much time and trouble, we answer them categorically. Before writing us on any subject connected with our business, read the list over carefully and see if your question is not fully answered in that.

Q. When does your next combination begin?

A. We are forming from one to four weekly, and at any time a remittance reaches us it will be in time any week in the year.

Q. What average of your combinations are successful?

A. About eight out of ten have been successful.

Q. Do you deal in one stock only?

A. No; we can operate in a dozen or more; are guided in this by judgment and experience, dealing in different stocks during the 30 days that in our judgment will pay the largest profits with the least risk.

Q. Can you secure greater advantages by this combination system than any other?

A. Yes. It would be impossible to purchase stocks on margin in small lots with the same advantages we secure by combining the capital. Large amounts of money always carry more weight and secure more gains than small sums. (See article on page 3, "Why Combinations Pay Large Profits.")

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Q. How can one per cent. pay a profit of $100 on each one hundred shares?

A. Read carefully the article on page 2 of this circular headed, "How Profits are Figured."

Q. How can you make greater profits by your system than by others?

A. In many ways, and especially by our combination of capital; our large purchases and sales affect the market on certain stocks by an advance or decline, as the case may be.

Q. Do you operate more than one combination at a time?

A. Yes. By having five to eight combinations working at a time it makes a large capital, and each shareholder is more secure, and the profits of all are increased.

Q. In case I remit for shares, shall I be required to come to New York at any time?

A. No; unless you choose to. By our combination system you can speculate to the same advantage at a distance from the city as you could if here personally; you have no care or further responsibility.

Q. Shall I be held liable in any way for more than the amount I invest?

A. No; in no event can shareholders be called upon for "additional margins." This is one of the superior advantages of the combination method over the old systems.

Q. Are profits and original investment both used as working capital during the 30 days?

A. Yes. The object is to make the ultimate amount aggregate as large as possible.

Q. How do I realize my profits?

A. They are paid at the expiration of 30 days.

Q. What are the usual number of shares ordered?

A. They vary; from *five* shares, costing $5, to 1,000 shares, costing $1,000 and upwards. The average orders run from $100 to $500.

Q. Do you ever deal in "Puts," "Calls," "Straddles," or buy single lots on a margin?

A. Yes, when specially requested, and have facilities for buying at the very lowest market rates from responsible parties, for individual accounts.

Q. Do your customers ever acknowledge receiving the profits made by them?

A. Read the following.

### ACTUAL RESULTS OF THE COMBINATION SYSTEM.

Wherever our patrons have made their experience with us known among their friends and acquaintances, we have no difficulty in obtaining new customers by scores; but it is a fact, curious as it would seem, that men who have made money in a quiet little venture in Wall street, are almost invariably reluctant to let even their most intimate friends know the source of their good fortune. The confidential relations between us and our customers and professional honor alike debar us from disclosing any of their

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secrets, without previously obtaining their full consent. We publish herewith a few letters from a small number of our patrons whose consent we have secured.

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*San Francisco, Cal., November 26th, 1877.*

*Messrs. Lawrence & Co., of the City of New York:*

*Gentlemen.—Yours is received. It gives me pleasure to endorse your firm, as I never have made so much money in the same time as I have by your new combination system. I enclose you post-office order for $50, in addition to $150 contributed by three of my friends.*

*Truly yours,*

*S. Y. SANGER.*

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*Buffalo, N. Y., November 28th, 1877.*

*Messrs. Lawrence & Co., New York City:*

*Gentlemen.—The letter containing your remittance for my last month's profits, $393.75, is received, for which I again most heartily thank you. I shall make you a larger remittance on Monday next.*

*Yours, with thanks,*

*T. D. BYSHOOPE.*

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*Louisville, Ky., October 12th, 1877.*

*Messrs. Lawrence & Co., New York:*

*Gentlemen.—The combination in which Mrs. J. A. Alexander and myself were interested having turned out so satisfactorily, we have decided to take fifty shares each in your next combination, and enclose you $100 for certificates. We have recommended the manner of doing business by your firm to several of our friends, and have no doubt you will hear from them also. Trusting this combination will be as successful as the last, I remain,*

*Your obedient servant,*

*MRS. E. D. WARNER.*

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*St. Louis, Mo., October 24th, 1877.*

*Messrs. Lawrence & Co.:*

*Dear Sirs.—I take pleasure in recommending your firm to all those desiring to speculate in stocks. I have induced four of my friends to each invest $100 with me, and I remit draft by this mail for $500 for your next combination.*

*Yours truly,*

*E. D. BURRELL.*

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*Savannah, Ga., July 19th, 1877.*

*Messrs. Lawrence & Co.:*

*Gentlemen.—The profits on my share in your last combination were very satisfactory. I remit by this mail $100 for 100 shares. Trusting for a continuance of my success, I am, yours respectfully,*

*I. S. PHILLIPS.*

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*Montreal, Canada, November 13th, 1877.*

*Messrs. Lawrence & Co.:*

*Gents.—Your favor at hand containing check for $308.70, amount of profit on my last investment, for which please accept my thanks. You ask permission to use my name in your circular: I willingly grant your request, as I candidly recommend your straightforward and prompt manner of doing business, and can safely say to all desiring to speculate in stocks, to give you a trial, as I firmly believe they will not be disappointed in the result.*

*Yours respectfully,*

*S. M. PEEL.*

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[Then follow a long series of highly commendatory and extended "editorial notices," ostensibly quoted from influential papers, and the circular closes with the following instructions.]

HOW TO ORDER SHARES.

*First*—Direct your envelope *plainly* LAWRENCE & CO., BANKERS, 19 & 21 BROAD ST. AND 55 & 57 EXCHANGE PLACE, NEW YORK, or use the inclosed ready directed envelope. Use one or all of the street numbers as preferred—but be sure to use *some one* of them, as there are other Lawrences doing business in the city, and letters intended for us have gone astray. We have had letters sent us by careless correspondents, directed Lawrence & Co., Bond St.; Lawrence & Co., Wall St., and Lawrence & Co., New York, without any street number at all on them, all of which are as likely to fall into the hands of others as ourselves. After directing your envelope carefully to the correct street and number, write your order *briefly*. For your convenience we inclose blanks which you may fill out. State exactly what you want and inclose drafts on New York payable to our order, post office money order, or send currency by express or in registered letters. Customers can also order by telegraph and remit by first mail or express. Orders for less than 10 shares, costing $10, should be accompanied by postage for return certificates, notices, etc.

Never send personal checks, as we return them to the sender for a draft, or currency, and in no case credit any account until the money is actually received, according to above directions.

☞Customers changing their address, either temporarily or permanently, should notify us at once.

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RAILROAD AND OTHER BONDS WANTED.

Parties having either Railroad Stocks or Bonds, Government or State Bonds, or City or County Securities, whether interest paying or defaulted, can obtain the highest market prices for them through our house if sent for sale. Stocks and Bonds should be forwarded only by express.

BANKING FACILITIES.

In addition to our brokerage business, we transact a regular Banking business in all its branches. Interest allowed on daily balances, and accounts received from Banks, Bankers, Legal Corporations and individuals generally, subject to check at sight.

LAWRENCE & CO., BANKERS AND BROKERS,
19 & 21 Broad Street, and 55 & 57 Exchange Place,
NEW YORK CITY.

It will not now take us long to describe the way in which this firm did their business. Their method of robbery was not a complicated one.

The blank referred to in the circular, and accompanying it, was as follows. It is a contract so binding that no sane man would sign it, even were he dealing with a house which he knew to be honorable.

OFFICE ORDER TO LAWRENCE & CO.,
19 BROAD ST., N. Y.,____ __ ____187

*Gentlemen*—I herewith pay to you_____dollars for SPECULATION, with authority to use your own judgment in the transaction, entrusting it wholly to you, and agreeing to abide by the result, whatever it may be.

(*Signed*),
*Address*,

These circulars brought the first installment of money. If a small remittance was received, the following letter would usually be returned, to secure a larger sum: Bait No. 2.

LAWRENCE & CO., BANKERS AND BROKERS,
19 & 21 Broad Street and 55 & 57 Exchange Place,
NEW YORK,__ _____187

*Dear Sir*—Your favor of_____ _____, enclosing $10, received, for which please accept our thanks. We will not send you a certificate to-day, as the combination in which we would like to have you interested is not yet filled. This is a special combination, in which we would like to have you

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control 50 shares in class E, as per our circular, as there is going to be a decided move in a stock that we know of that must show a large profit alone. So sure are we that this special combination will return a handsome profit to those interested, that we will make you the following liberal offer. Now, Mr. Hamilton, if you will send us your order for 50 shares, with $20 addition to the $10 you now have with us, making $30, we will mail you a certificate for 50 shares, and give you credit for 20 shares, and deduct the $20 with 7 per cent. interest from your profits at the close of the combination, giving you full benefit of all profits on the 50 shares. Please let us hear from you by return mail and oblige Yours respectfully,

LAWRENCE & CO.

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This brought the victim's second installment. The next thing was to inspire confidence in his mind, by making him feel that he was on the high road to fortune. This was done by circulars of information, like the following, often showing a pretended profit of 1, 2, and even 5 per cent.:

OFFICE OF LAWRENCE & COMPANY,
NEW YORK,_____187

*Dear Sir*—We take pleasure in informing you that we made a turn on Lake Shore, buying at 69 and selling at 69¼, realizing a profit of ¼ per cent., being equivalent to $50.00 profit on each 100 shares of stock.

Yours respectfully,
LAWRENCE & CO.

N.B.—Profits and original capital to be used as working capital until the close.

Then, after a suitable lapse of time, followed bait No. 3:

LAWRENCE & CO., BANKERS AND BROKERS,
19 & 21 Broad Street and 55 & 57 Exchange Place,
NEW YORK, March 17, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—We have closed the special combination in which your investment was placed, realizing a net profit of 1 per cent., being equivalent to $100 per 100 shares. The proportion due to your 50 shares is $50, which, added to your original investment, makes $100 to your credit on our books, for which we hand you, in accordance with your request, certificate in new combination for 100 shares.

We trust the result may prove satisfactory, and shall be pleased to receive your future patronage, with any suggestions you may wish to offer.

As we find frequently that shareholders prefer to enter larger combinations, because of their being proportionately more profitable, and we are always prepared to facilitate them, we will do so for you, by offering to

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issue a certificate for 200 shares on your returning this certificate with $50, the balance due, $50, to be deducted, with 7 per cent. interest, from your profits at the close of this combination. Be kind enough to acknowledge receipt, and reply to this offer by return mail, and oblige,

Respectfully yours,

LAWRENCE & CO.

And a few days afterwards would come something like the following:

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

OFFICE OF LAWRENCE & CO., BANKERS AND BROKERS,
19 & 21 Broad Street and 55 & 57 Exchange Place,
NEW YORK, November 24, 1879.

As we had anticipated, and according to our predictions repeated at intervals recently, the upward rush of prices in the stock market has experienced a sudden and powerful check.

A decided break, and a strong and rapid decline in rates, came no sooner than might have been expected by the average sagacious operator. The extreme excitement consequent in Wall Street has in no sense assumed the phase of a panic. On the contrary, circumstances are vastly more favorable to healthy and conservative speculation, and the situation constitutes the best proof of the sound condition of business, and the growing prosperity of the country.

In times of real prosperity, like the present period, the stock market is governed by laws as certain and reliable as the rise and fall of the tides of the sea. Our long experience in the stock business assures us of an early reaction in prices, and a new upward movement in all good securities, which will afford an excellent opportunity for the most profitable operations. Stocks that are now depressed below their actual value—especially those with good dividends and increasing earnings, as in the case of many of the railroads—must inevitably rebound to their natural level. The field will present brilliant opportunities for new movements, and we have the very best of reasons to expect the handsomest profits known in the records of the street.

We are now forming new combinations of the $25, $50, $100 and $500 classes for this purpose, which we confidently recommend to our old customers and friends. While all of these combinations afford equal privileges and prospects, we would remind our friends that experience has proved that the larger amounts, having the greatest power, usually yield the greatest profits.

In order that the proper number of shares may be reserved for the numerous applicants from distant places, we advise that you notify us by telegraph, or by first mail as soon as you remit.

We shall be pleased to execute your orders at any time, and will give them prompt attention. Respectfully,

LAWRENCE & CO., Bankers and Brokers,
19 Broad Street, New York, N. Y.



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This, it must be remembered, is strictly in accordance with Lawrence & Co.'s plan of operations, as set forth in their circular; the customer's money was wanted; an ostensible profit made, and original capital and profits again invested, together with the additional funds sent by the sanguine customer. It was a scheme of consummate ingenuity. How successfully it worked will be shown further on. Suffice it now to say, that, by means of these and similar glowing statements of gains, the victim was bled of every dollar that could be possibly squeezed out of him; and when at length he could not, or would not, remit more, Lawrence & Co. sent him this or a similar letter, thereby giving him what they used to call

THE ROYAL BOUNCE.

OFFICE OF LAWRENCE & CO., BANKERS AND BROKERS,
19 & 21 Broad Street and 55 & 57 Exchange Place,
NEW YORK, November 22, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—We regret to have to inform you that, owing to the terrible fluctuations in the stock market during the week, and the great demands upon us for money, together with the unusual stringency of the money market, we have been forced to close out all the stocks we have been carrying, with our own capital, and have had to do so at a great loss to us. Feeling that we have done all that we could, even to inflicting additional heavy loss upon ourselves, we can only hope to be able to retrieve our losses, as well as to help you recover your losses, by new ventures, where, with a brighter outlook in the stock market and renewed efforts, the losses may be soon forgotten in the larger gains. Respectfully,

LAWRENCE & CO.

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## CHAPTER II.

### WHO WAS LAWRENCE & CO.

Who and where was the firm of Lawrence and Co., to which the mails were weekly bringing in drafts, checks, and money orders?

### THE FIRM AND THE OFFICE.

Seeking out their office, we should have found it, not as represented in their letter headings, occupying the elegant white marble building of Drexel, Morgan & Co., and including the whole block between Wall Street and Exchange Place, but instead, in two small rooms in the second story of a building around the corner, and facing on Exchange Place. [See page 69.]

The firm in September last was Benjamin R. Buckwalter, a man who has for years perpetrated different money-making rascalities. But little is known of Buckwalter's early life. He came from Newark, Ohio, where he was in the Sewing Machine business, and afterwards in the same business in Newark, N. J. Later he is found dealing in the manufacture of quack medicines. Buckwalter was the "Dr. Gounod, Paris et New York," of Sandaline notoriety. Those who know say that the portrait of the benevolent old gentleman, which formed so striking a feature of the advertisements of this Sandaline, was originally a likeness of a celebrated Union general, to which the fertile Buckwalter added a pair of spectacles. [See page 36.] This venture, however, was not profitable but, one of his former clerks reported, resulted in a loss of $35,000.

Buckwalter's first appearance in Wall Street was about 1875, when he established the firm of Buckwalter & Co., which was followed by Bradley & Co., and afterwards by Lawrence & Co. This last concern evidently gave Buckwalter much anxiety; he was continually putting new men in charge, and assigning it first to one and then to another under some bill of sale or agreement. In order to protect himself, in case his swindling was detected, he

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# Dr. Gounod's

**Paris et New York.**



# SANDALINE

**(Compound Fluid Extract Sandalwood.) Price, $1.00.**

The **Great Remedy** for all **local** and **chronic complaints** of whatever nature, no matter of how long standing or how deeply seated. This remarkable specific contains the **original juices** of the **Sandal Tree,** extracted by the most costly and delicate process known to chemistry, discovered during long professional service in India. The effects are quick, positive, **sure,** and it is prescribed by the **best physicians** in the **most complicated cases.** Disease is a tree that has many branches and much foliage, but all proceed from **one trunk** and tap root. **Sandaline** strikes at the **original source** and thus **eradicates all disease** from the system. This is the secret of its great success. My aim is to furnish the American public a Remedy that is both **speedy** and **economical.** No one can afford to let ill health run its course, when **help is within reach.** I will deposit **$10,000** with any responsible bank, for a case that **Sandaline** will not **radically cure,** used as I prescribe. Supplied through Druggists or direct. Thousands of written testimonials on record of truly wonderful cures, open to inspection of all. Correspondence or personal calls receive prompt attention at our parlor offices,

E. J. Gounod & Co

**No. 5 West 14th Street, NEW YORK CITY.**


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usually made out these papers and sometimes had them filed at the County Clerk's Office, so that a suit to recover money or a judgment in a civil suit only would lie against an irresponsible clerk, while he himself, who took all the proceeds, could escape. Indeed, he was always sure to doubly intrench himself behind the protection of these bills of sale. We find that on September 1st, 1879, a certificate was on file in the County Clerk's Office, to the effect that one party had the sole right and control of Lawrence & Co., while at the very same time Buckwalter executed another bill of sale to another individual. This last bill of sale under the celebrated articles of agreement, which is a most extraordinary document, is given further on.

In 1878, Buckwalter employed a man, whom we call John Doe in the following agreement, to conduct this business for him, giving him authority and sole right to the name of Lawrence & Co. This individual in the spring of 1878, one morning was found missing, having drawn the funds in the bank, and taken with him such papers and documents as he saw fit, leaving an authorization to one Benedict to carry on the business for him.

Benedict assigned his powers and rights to one Dibble, and then the "Dibble" was to pay for about 10 days, when Dibble assigned to Buckwalter again.

Buckwalter by a series of threats and terrorisms forced this former clerk back into his service.

Opposition concerns sprang up about Lawrence & Co. like mushrooms.

Benedict started the firm of Benedict & Co. with John Doe.

Dibble and one Sniffen started Adams, Brown & Co., and then Dibble sold out to Buckwalter for $5,000—and Sniffin remained awhile. Then Dibble started the firm of Dibbell & Co. (Broad st.,) with Buckwalter as partner with a half interest. After a little, Dibble bought out Buckwalter and then started another firm of Dibbell, Morgan & Hatch.

Then Benedict started Allen, Jordan & Co., and sold out afterwards to Buckwalter with one of his former clerks (John Doe) as partner.

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Then Buckwalter buys out the half interest of Doe in each Barnes, Garrison & Co. and Allen, Jordan & Co. for $2,000, and yet in the agreement Doe is represented as owning a half interest in each.

Later, one Clarkson, a former clerk in Adams, Brown & Co. starts another concern as E. W. Ward & Co. Evarts, Barnes & Co. springs into existence and copies Lawrence & Co's. circulars almost verbatim, as did Simpson & Co.

Through information gathered in the main from Buckwalter's runaway assistant, Thatcher, Belmont & Co. was foisted on the community by one Chandler of Philadelphia and Weed of Connecticut.

The above are a few of the "*celebrated Banking houses*" of the great metropolis, if their circulars and advertisements are to be believed. Verily, it was a "wheel within a wheel," or "diamond cut diamond." The clerk learns the business, starts for himself, doubtless with the names collected by Buckwalter's schemes, and then forces Buckwalter to buy him out. Who would not deal in stocks—"combinations," "syndicates," "mutual capitalization plan," "guarantee system," etc.?

About the time that "Sandaline" proved such an utter failure, Buckwalter transferred certain of his clerks down to the office of Lawrence & Co.

Indeed, while the machinery by which the swindling of Lawrence & Co. was practiced upon the public was, as we have seen, very simple, that of the office itself was very complex, in order to secure to Buckwalter the funds which were received by his clerks and tools. As a legal curiosity we give in full the voluminous articles of agreement between Buckwalter and his clerks.

**Memorandum of Agreement**—Made at the city of New York, this first day of September, A.D., 1879, between BENJAMIN R. BUCKWALTER, of the city of New York, of the first part, and *JOHN DOE and RICHARD ROE, of

*These being young men, whose peculiar circumstances Buckwalter took advantage of, we omit their names for their friends' sake, while, at the same time, we condemn their acts, and their connection with this disreputable business.

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the same place, of the second part, WITNESSETH, That, whereas the said party of the first part is the sole owner and proprietor of the concern and business established and conducted under the firm name of LAWRENCE & CO., at No. 19 Broad street, in the said city, as Bankers and Brokers, and on the system of combining capital or pooling orders for stocks, and is also the sole owner and proprietor of the similar concern and business, established and conducted under the firm name of ADAMS, BROWN & CO., at No. 28 Broad street, in said city, all his interest in which he has agreed to sell and convey to the parties hereto of the second part for the consideration, and coupled with the conditions hereinafter expressed.

AND WHEREAS, the said party of the first part is joint owner and proprietor with JOHN DOE, one of the parties hereto of the second part, of the similar concern and business established and conducted under the firm name of BARNES, GARRISON & CO., at No. 11 Broad street, in the said city, and of the similar concern and business established and conducted under the firm name of ALLEN, JORDAN & CO., at No. 54 Wall street, in the said city, all his interest in which he has agreed to sell and convey to RICHARD ROE, one of the parties hereto of the second part, by and with the consent of the said JOHN DOE, the other party herein of the second part, for the consideration and coupled with the conditions hereinafter expressed.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and of the promises, agreements, and conditions hereinafter expressed, and of the sum of one dollar each to the other in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, the said parties to these presents have agreed, and do hereby agree, as follows, that is to say:

*First* The said party of the first part hereby sells, assigns, transfers, and sets over unto the parties of the second part and their legal representatives all his right, title, and interest of, in, and to said concern and business established and conducted under the said firm name of LAWRENCE & CO., and of, in, and to all the property, fixtures, lease of office, business, and good will of the business, and the sole and exclusive right to use the said firm name of LAWRENCE & CO., and also to execute and deliver herewith, or on demand when requested, a further and formal *bill of sale* of all said interests and property to said firm, to one or both of said parties of the second part, but for the joint interest and to be the joint property of both of said parties hereto of the second part, and the said party of the first part shall also on demand execute any further paper writing which may be deemed necessary in the opinion of HORATIO F. AVERILL, Counsellor at Law, to more effectually convey the title of said interests and property.

*Second.* The said parties of the second part, as part consideration of said sale and transfer, shall, on the delivery of this agreement, make and deliver to the said party of the first part the sixty promissory notes of said firm of LAWRENCE & CO., bearing even date herewith for the sum of twelve thousand five hundred dollars each, with interest, and without grace, to the order of and endorsed by the said parties of the second part respectively, and payable one on the first day of each and every month hereafter during the

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ensuing term of five years, commencing on the day of the date hereof, and also the sixty other promissory notes of the said firm of LAWRENCE & CO. bearing even date herewith for the sum of five thousand dollars, each with interest, and without grace, to the order of and indorsed by the said parties of the second part respectively, and payable one on the first day of each and every month during the term of five years next ensuing after and commencing to fall due on the first day of September, 1884.

*Third.* The said party of the first part hereby sells, transfers, and sets over unto the parties of the second part and their legal representatives all his right, title, and interest of, in, and to said concern and business established and conducted under the said firm name of ADAMS, BROWN & CO., and of, in, and to all the property, fixtures, lease of office, business, and good will of the business, and the sole and exclusive right to use the said firm name of ADAMS, BROWN & CO., and also to execute and deliver herewith, or on demand when requested, a further and formal bill of sale of all of said last named interests and property to one or both of said parties of the second part, as they may elect, but for the joint interest and to be the joint property of both said parties of the second part, and the said party of the first part shall also on demand execute any further paper writing which may be deemed necessary in the opinion of HORATIO F. AVERILL, Counsellor at Law, to more effectually convey the title of said last mentioned interests and property.

*Fourth.* The said parties of the second part, as part consideration of said sale and transfer, shall, on the delivery of this agreement, make and deliver to the said party of the first part the sixty promissory notes of said firm of ADAMS, BROWN & CO., bearing even date herewith, for the sum of eight thousand three hundred and thirty-three $\frac{33}{100}$ dollars, each with interest and without grace, to the order of and endorsed by the said parties of the second part respectively, and payable one on the first day of each and every month hereafter during the ensuing term of five years, commencing on the day of the date hereof, and also the sixty other promissory notes of the said firm of ADAMS, BROWN & CO., bearing even date herewith, for the sum of three thousand three hundred and thirty-three $\frac{33}{100}$ dollars each with interest and without grace, to the order of, and endorsed by, the said parties of the second part respectively and payable, one on the first day of each and every month during the term of five years next ensuing after and commencing to fall due on the first day of September, 1884.

*Fifth.* The said party of the first part hereby sells, assigns, transfers, and sets over to RICHARD ROE, one of the parties hereto of the second part, and his legal representatives, all his right, title and interest, of, in and to said concerns and business established and conducted under said firm name of BARNES, GARRISON & CO. and ALLEN, JORDAN & CO. and of, in, and to all the property, fixtures, lease of office, business and good will of the business, and the sole and exclusive right to use the said firm names respectively, and also to execute and deliver herewith or on demand when requested a further and formal bill of sale of all of said last mentioned interests and

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property to one or more of said parties of the second part as they may elect, but for the individual interest of said RICHARD ROE, one of the said parties of the second part, and the said party of the first part shall and will also on demand execute any further paper writing which may be deemed necessary in the opinion of said HORATIO F. AVERILL to more effectually convey the title of said last mentioned interest and property, it being understood and agreed that the interests of said party of the first part in and to the said concerns of BARNES, GARRISON & CO. and ALLEN, JORDAN & CO. is an undivided one-half interest with said JOHN DOE, and he hereby assents to this transfer to the said RICHARD ROE, and to become a partner and associated with him in said last mentioned firms in the place and stead of said party of the first part from and after the date thereof.

*Sixth.* The said DOE and ROE as part consideration of said sale and transfer to said ROE of the interest of said party of the first part in and to the concerns of BARNES, GARRISON & CO., and ALLEN, JORDAN & Co., and also in consideration of the sum of three thousand dollars paid to the said DOE, by the said party of the first part, shall, on the delivery of this agreement, make and deliver to the said party of the first part, the one hundred and twenty promissory notes of BARNES, GARRISON & CO., and ALLEN, JORDAN & CO., respectively bearing even date herewith for the sum of one thousand dollars each with interest and without grace to the order of and endorsed by the said parties of the second part respectively, and payable two, that is to say, one of each concern on the first day of each and every month hereafter during the ensuing term of five years, commencing on the day of the date hereof. And for the purpose of more effectually securing the payment of all of the said several last mentioned one hundred and twenty promissory notes, the said parties of the second part hereby pledge to the said party of the first part, the entire receipts of the business of the said firms of BARNES, GARRISON & CO. and ALLEN, JORDAN & CO., save and except only the regular legitimate necessary current expenses of the Business of said firms respectively, and any and all surplus arising from the business of said firms respectively, and any and all surplus arising from the business of said firms last mentioned shall be paid over to the said party of the first part on Saturday of each week, and be by him endorsed on the first notes falling due of the said several one hundred and twenty promissory notes last mentioned until the same are fully paid, and, in case the receipts of said business after making the aforesaid deductions shall be in excess of the sum required to pay said notes in full as they mature respectively, all such excess beyond the sum of one thousand dollars to remain in bank as a balance shall on each Saturday be paid over to said party of the first part, and be by him endorsed on the promissory note or notes next falling due with proper allowance or credit for interest for any advance payment notwithstanding such note by its terms is not yet due, and payable.

*Seventh.* The parties hereto of the second part may deposit money to the credit of the said party hereto of the first part in the Fourth National Bank in the city of New York, or in any other place designated by said party of

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the first part in writing, and credit themselves therewith in the weekly statement provided for in this agreement.

*Eighth.* And for the purpose of more effectually securing the payment of all of the said several promissory notes in the second and fourth clauses of this agreement mentioned, the said parties of the second part hereby pledge to the said party of the first part the entire receipts of the business of the said firms of LAWRENCE & CO. and ADAMS, BROWN & CO., save and except only the regular legitimate necessary current expenses of the business of said firms respectively, and also the sum of one hundred dollars per week to be drawn by each of the parties hereto of the second part for his personal expenses, and to be chargeable to said firms in such proportion as the parties of the second part may see fit, any and all surplus arising from the business of said firms shall be paid over to the said party of the first part on Saturday of each week, and be by him endorsed on the said several promissory notes until the same are fully paid, and, in case the receipts of said business after making the aforesaid deductions shall be in excess of the sum required to pay said notes in full as they mature respectively, all such excess beyond the sum of one thousand dollars to remain in bank as a balance, shall on each Saturday be paid over to said party of the first part, and be by him endorsed on the promissory note next falling due, with proper allowance or credit for interest for any advance payment, notwithstanding such note by its terms is not yet due and payable.

*Ninth.* A separate bank account shall be kept by each of the said firms of LAWRENCE & CO., ADAMS, BROWN & CO., BARNES, GARRISON & CO., and ALLEN, JORDAN & CO., and all the moneys, checks, drafts, and other bankable receipts shall be daily deposited in bank to the credit of said firms respectively, and shall not be withdrawn except in the manner and for the purposes hereinafter mentioned.

*Tenth.* In case of the non-payment of the said one hundred and twenty notes in the sixth clause of this agreement mentioned, or of any or either of them, or of any part thereof at maturity, by reason of the falling off in the receipts of the business of BARNES, GARRISON & CO., or ALLEN, JORDAN & CO., or for any other reason, and such notes or any of them, or any part thereof, should remain unpaid for the space of thirty days after the maturity thereof, then each and all of the other notes in said sixth clause mentioned, although by the terms thereof they are not yet due, shall at the option of the said party of the first part become immediately due and payable, or in case the party of the first part shall so require, the said parties of the second part and each of them shall on demand surrender, reassign, and convey to the party of the first part all their rights, interests, and property in said concerns of BARNES, GARRISON & CO. andALLEN, JORDAN & CO. heretofore existing or growing out of this conveyance and agreement, but in such event the party of the first part shall return to the said parties of the second part any and all of the one hundred and twenty notes given by said firms and endorsed by them under this agreement which may be unpaid, the said party of the first part being first entitled to have and receive all the net

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receipts of said last mentioned firms in the payment and reduction of said notes as hereinbefore provided up to the time of such surrender and conveyance.

*Eleventh.* In case of the non-payment of the notes mentioned in second and fourth clauses of this agreement or of any or either of them or of any part thereof at maturity by reason of the falling off in the receipts of the business of LAWRENCE & CO. or ADAMS, BROWN & CO., or for any other reason and such notes or any of them, or any part thereof should remain unpaid for the space of thirty days after the maturity thereof, then each and all of the other notes given by the said firms of LAWRENCE & CO. and ADAMS, BROWN & CO., and endorsed by the said parties of the second part, although by the terms thereof they are not yet due, shall at the option of the said party of the first part, become immediately due and payable, or in case the party of the first part, shall so require the said parties of the second part, shall on demand surrender, reassign and convey to the party of the first part, all the rights, interests and property hereby conveyed to them jointly in said concerns of LAWRENCE & CO. and ADAMS, BROWN & CO., or growing out of such conveyance, but in such event the party of the first part shall return to the said parties of the second part, any and all of the unpaid notes given under the second and fourth clauses of this agreement, the said party of the first part being first entitled to have and receive all the receipts of said last-mentioned firms except as herein before mentioned in the payment and reduction of said notes up to the time of such surrender and re-conveyance.

*Twelfth.* The interests hereby conveyed in the said four firms shall be transferred pursuant to the statute for perpetuating the names of firms as heretofore done in the case of LAWRENCE & CO. as soon as the same can conveniently be done considering the best interests of all parties which shall be left to the discretion of the said HORATIO F. AVERILL, and neither of the same shall afterwards be changed without the written consent of the party hereto of the first part until all the notes relating to said respective firms shall be fully paid.

*Thirteenth.* Neither of the parties of the second part shall transfer to, or place in the name of his wife, or of any other person directly or indirectly any of the property, interests or rights hereby conveyed, or any of the receipts of the business of said four firms, or either of them until the notes relating to said firms are fully paid, and in case of a violation of this provision this agreement shall from the happening of such event at the option of the party of the first part become null and void as to the rights and interests acquired by the parties of the second part respectively who shall violate this said provision, and as to his interest the said party of the first part shall be entitled to have demand and receive a retransfer and assignment of all the interests, rights and property hereby conveyed to such party or heretofore held by him.

*Fourteenth.* Neither George Garrett nor Herman Kerr now in the employ of LAWRENCE & CO., nor Charles Clarkson now in the employ of ADAMS,

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BROWN & CO. shall be discharged, nor their salaries decreased or increased without the written consent of the party of the first part.

*Fifteenth.* The said parties of the second part shall until all the notes given under this agreement are fully paid, make out on Saturday of each week sworn statements verified by the parties and also by the Bookkeeper, Cashier, Secretary, or Clerk having immediate charge of the business to which such statement relates, showing the actual receipts and disbursements of the Business of said four concerns for said week, and deliver such sworn statements to said party of the first part, or to such persons as he may direct in writing, such statements to be sufficiently full as to detail so that the said party of the first part can fully understand the condition of the business of said concerns and for the purpose of verifying the said statements the said party of the first part, or any person authorized by him in writing, may have full and free access to all the books and papers of said parties of the second part at all times during business hours, and that with said statements the said parties of the second part shall make and deliver to the said party of the first part a check for the amount coming to him under the provisions of this agreement.

*Sixteenth.* For the purpose of more effectually securing the payment of all of the said several promissory notes in the second and fourth clauses of this agreement mentioned, the said parties of the second part shall immediately on the delivery of this agreement execute and deliver to the party of the first part a confession of judgment for the amount of all of the notes in said clauses mentioned which the said party of the first part shall be at liberty to place on record at any time and in case of the non-payment of any of the notes mentioned in said second and fourth clauses according to the tenor and effect of this agreement, the said party of the first part may issue execution for the amount of such note or notes due at the time of issuing such execution with costs and expenses.

*Seventeenth.* For the purpose of more effectually securing the payment of all of the said one hundred and twenty several promissory notes in the sixth clause of this agreement mentioned and delivered to the party of the first part, the said parties of the second part shall immediately on the delivery of this agreement execute and deliver to the party of the first part a confession of judgment for the amount of all of the said one hundred and twenty notes which the said party of the first part shall be at liberty to place on record at any time, and, in case of the non-payment of any of the said one hundred and twenty notes according to the tenor and effect of this agreement, the said party of the first part may issue execution for the amount of such note or notes due at the time of issuing such execution with costs and expenses.

*Eighteenth.* A separate mail-box for the reception of all the mail of the said four concerns respectively which shall be delivered into the said mail-box by the government's carrier, shall be provided by said parties of the second part in the office of each concern, with two separate and different locks and keys, one of which shall be held by the parties hereto of the second part or one of

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them, and the other by a person selected and designated in writing by the party of the first part, and neither of said boxes or their contents shall be opened except in the presence of such two persons holding the said keys thereof, but such persons shall attend to the opening of said boxes and mail as often as twice during each business day, and oftener if they see fit.

*Nineteenth.* All checks drawn against the accounts of said concerns respectively shall be signed by one of the parties hereto of the second part, and countersigned in writing or with some peculiar device by another person, to be selected by the party hereto of the first part, and each of the banks holding deposits of said firm shall be notified not to pay any check unless so signed and countersigned.

*Twentieth.* The said party of the first part shall aid and assist the parties of the second part with his advice and experience, when needed in carrying on the business of said concerns.

*Twenty-first.* The said party of the first part shall not begin or conduct or carry on during the continuance of this agreement any business of combining capital or pooling orders for stocks, such as is carried on by either of the said four concerns hereinbefore mentioned, either in his own name or in the name of or in connection with any other person or persons without the written agreement of the parties of the second part.

*Twenty-second.* The said parties of the second part shall conduct the business of the said four concerns faithfully, and use their and each of their best endeavors for the advancement thereof, and they shall not, nor shall either of them embark in or carry on any similar business such as is carried on by said four concerns, either in their own name or names or directly or indirectly in the name or names of any other person, and in case any other new concern shall start a similar business the said parties of the second part shall immediately communicate such fact to the said party of the first part with a view to oppose the same.

*Twenty-third.* In case of a disagreement between the parties hereto as to the interpretation or effect of any of the provisions of this agreement, the same shall be referred to the said Horatio F. Averill, who is hereby appointed arbitrator in such contingency, and his decision shall be final and binding upon the respective parties hereto.

*Twenty-fourth.* The said parties hereto of the second part shall immediately on the execution and delivery of this agreement form a copartnership, for the purpose of carrying on the business of the said four concerns on the basis of this agreement, and in and by their copartnership agreement they shall provide for the continuance of the business of said concerns and partnership in case of the death of either partner, by allowing the capital of such deceased partner to remain in the business until the end of ten years from the date hereof, or until all the notes hereinbefore mentioned shall be fully paid, the surviving partner allowing and paying weekly to the legal representatives of his deceased partner the sum of fifty dollars, until the final determination and distribution of the assets of said copartnership when a final accounting shall

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be made, and all things truly adjusted between the said copartners or their legal representatives.

*In Witness Whereof*, the said parties hereto have hereunto set their hands and seals, the day and year first above written.

*Sealed and delivered in presence of* WM. J. CANNON. } B. R. BUCKWALTER, [SEAL]. JOHN DOE, [SEAL]. RICHARD ROE. [SEAL].

It will thus be seen that the actual income of this man Buckwalter was $22,833.33 per month, secured by the gross receipts of all monies coming to the four firms mentioned in the above agreement. According to this agreement, also, a certain amount was to be set aside each day for the running expenses of the office. These expenses consisted of clerk hire, rent, advertisements, printing circulars, stationery and postage stamps. The head clerks received $100 per week; others in the office received from $9 to $18 a week.

It will also be observed that the Government letter carrier was expected to play his part, by putting all mail matter into a large receptacle, placed in each one of these offices, Buckwalter not being willing to trust either the head of the firm, as represented under this agreement, or his own confidential clerk employed in each of these offices.

Now what became of the money? As each letter was received, it was opened in the presence of two persons, as stipulated, and the amount entered in a book. The only transaction in stock, however, is what appears on this book, the above letters and circulars and in the following defence.

### A DEFENCE.

The clerk who managed this office, had a private office adjoining. The following blank pretends to be Stock bought by him, as an individual Broker for Lawrence & Co. In other words this was a blind. He was buying stock for himself.

The whole thing was to be a defence in case of inquiry by an outsider. It was designed to make a showing of stocks dealt in, in case of troublesome visitors.

The extent of stock bought, according to the testimony of

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this clerk, was the filling up of one or more of these blanks daily.

RICHARD ROE,

19 Broad Street, New York,

STOCKS AND BONDS, GOVERNMENT AND RAILWAY SECURITIES,

Bought and Sold on Commission.

Member of the New York Open Board of Stock Brokers.

NEW YORK, November 17th, 1879.

MESSRS. LAWRENCE & CO.

*Dear Sirs:* I have bought for your account and risk this day:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1000 Lake Shore *a* 104¼. | 1000 Ohio & Miss. *a* 33. |
| 1500 M. Kansas & T. *a* 33⅛. | 1500 Phil. & Reading *a* 74⅛. |
| 1000 N. J. Central *a* 88. | 400 " " *a* 74¼. |
| 700 " " *a* 87½. | 700 St. Louis, I. Mt. & So. *a* 55¼. |
| 1500 Erie *a* 47¼. | 500 Han. & St. Joe *a* 41. |

Yours respectfully,

RICHARD ROE.

This business is styled: "Put and call brokerage." It is more properly "Call and put robbery." The operators calling the money from the pocket of the customer, and putting it into their own without any return whatever.

On the following page is shown the weekly sworn statement, made Buckwalter under this agreement, for the week ending October 18, 1879, as found among the papers seized:

A word of explanation will show where the money went to in this one week. "Paid on A/c" means deposited to Buckwalter's account in Fourth National Bank.

The word "Profits" means deposited in Lawrence & Co.'s bank and paid out for expenses; and "Paid to date," that there had been $10,375.69 paid Buckwalter during October.

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# WEEKLY STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

Lawrence & Co-

For Week ending Saturday, Oct^br 18^th 1879

| | Date. | Total Receipts. Paid | Profits. | Salaries. | Postage. | Printing. | Advertis'g. | Rent. | Legal. | Sundries, &c. | Total Payments. | Bank Balance. | Paid on A/c. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Monday, | 13 | 1581.28 | 1681.14 | | 75. | | | | | | 1756.14 | Short | 772. |
| Tuesday, | 14 | 1892.87 | 125. | | | | | | | | 125. | 963.27 | 485.50 |
| Wednesday, | 15 | 658.25 | 37.50 | | | | | | | | 37.50 | 1250.77 | 323. |
| Thursday, | 16 | 1119. | 500. | | | | | | | | 500. | 1086.33 | 783.44 |
| Friday, | 17 | 1256.87 | | | | | 328.70 | | | 7.30 | 336. | 1517.10 | 490.10 |
| Saturday, | 18 | 1446.15 | 31.25 | 200. | | 60- | | | 98.25 | | 389.50 | 878.52 | 1712.60 |
| Totals, | | 7954.42 | 2374.89 | 200- | 75- | 60- | 328.70 | | 98.25 | 7.30 | 3144.14 | | 4576.54 |

No. of Applications during Week, 900-

City County and State of New York, ss.

and G N Garrett bookkeeper, being severally duly sworn, depose and say, that the above is a correct and true statement, and that the mails were opened in our presence and that of a third person.

PAID TO DATE.

During Month, $ 10,375-69

Altogether, $

Sworn to, before me, this ____ day of ____ 18

Signed. G N Garrett

The annexed form had to be filled out each day, for Buckwalter, by his confidential clerks in Lawrence & Co. and similar ones in each office.

## LAWRENCE & CO.,

# Bookkeeper's Daily Report,

*For____day _____ 187*

**RECEIVED AND DISBURSED AS FOLLOWS:**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Drafts and Checks..... | | | | |
| Post Office Money Orders..... | | | | |
| Currency..... | | | | |
| " Registered..... | | | | |
| " Express..... | | | | |
| " Office..... | | | | |
| Deposited H. & Co..... | | | | |
| " F. N. B..... | | | | |
| Our Checks Returned..... | | | | |
| Cash in Drawer..... | | | | |
| Daily Expenses Paid..... | | | | |
| Advertising Checks Sent..... | | | | |
| " " Returned.. | | | | |
| Balance in Bank..... | | | | |
| " " F. N. B..... | | | | |
| Applications for Circulars..... | | | | |

Ad's Rec'd. Receipts. | Disb.

(Signed) _____ *Bookkeeper.*

Average on_____ Remittances.

$_____

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The following table shows the receipts, expenses, and what was paid to Buckwalter during the month of October, 1879:

*Statement of Monies received by Lawrence & Co. during October, 1879. Showing the Daily Expenses and the Amount deposited to Credit of Buckwalter in his Bank.*

| Date. | Received. | Expenses. | Deposited for Buckwalter. |
|---|---|---|---|
| October 1 | $835.54 | $1,739.59 | |
| " 2 | 986.50 | 905.30 | |
| " 3 | 1,183.63 | 544.38 | $675.00 |
| " 4 | 503.50 | 358.00 | 50.00 |
| " 6 | 1,671.71 | 411.06 | 983.00 |
| " 7 | 1,168.50 | 898.17 | 700.00 |
| " 8 | 1,047.00 | 365.26 | 500.00 |
| " 9 | 1,174.00 | 387.50 | 776.00 |
| " 10 | 2,337.03 | 100.00 | 1,845.15 |
| " 11 | 720.00 | 792.27 | 270.00 |
| " 13 | 1,584.28 | 1,756.14 | 772.00 |
| " 14 | 1,892.87 | 125.00 | 485.51 |
| " 15 | 658.25 | 37.50 | 333.00 |
| " 16 | 1,119.00 | 500.00 | 783.44 |
| " 17 | 1,256.89 | 336.00 | 490.00 |
| " 18 | 1,446.15 | 389.50 | 4,576.54 |
| " 20 | 1,095.75 | 2,238.37 | 525.00 |
| " 21 | 628.00 | 104.81 | |
| " 22 | 470.00 | 332.95 | |
| " 23 | 685.25 | 25.00 | 4.87 |
| " 24 | 436.07 | | 159.50 |
| " 25 | 613.73 | 859.45 | |
| " 27 | 1,661.83 | 76.45 | 955.00 |
| " 28 | 1,275.02 | 1,658.15 | 675.00 |
| " 29 | 1,369.92 | 50.00 | 877.42 |
| " 30 | 730.50 | 697.50 | 350.00 |
| " 31 | 1,128.13 | 218.07 | 665.00 |
| | $29,484.03 | $15,996.42 | $17,451.43 |

The difference between the expenses and Buckwalter's account and receipts is explained by the fact that the clerks were not allowed to keep more than a certain amount in Lawrence & Co.'s expense account in Howe & Co.'s bank, and when it exceeded this amount they were obliged to check it out to Buckwalter.

The following exhibit, taken from the books of Lawrence & Co., shows the number of applicants for their stock certificates per month, during 1879:

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| January | 812 | August | 2129 |
| February | 1023 | September | 1543 |
| March | 1170 | October | 1432 |
| April | 484 | November | 1318 |
| May | 1154 | December | 1509 |
| June | 1984 | | |
| July | 1897 | Total | 16551 |

Below is the statement of the monthly receipts of Lawrence & Co. for nine months of 1879:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| March | $20,985 57 | September | $26,726 85 |
| April | 17,994 18 | October | 29,484 03 |
| May | 22,048 28 | November | 18,676 69 |
| June | 18,777 00 | | |
| July | 27,493 77 | Total | $206,189 90 |
| August | 23,903 53 | | |

With the exception of a few returns made for the purpose of still farther entrapping their victims, and of the restitution of their investments to a few spunky individuals, who would not be robbed, the only return to the investors individually and collectively, for the $206,189.90 was the "Royal Bounce." And a pretty dear Royal Bounce it was! We have now shown as concisely as possible the manner in which the public was fleeced, the magnitude of the fraud, and how this Buckwalter managed to secure all the booty for his own pocket. We add the following examples of the heartlessness of the man as exhibited in a few cases, gathered from the scores of complaints which were received by myself:

SOME OF THE VICTIMS.

A soldier's widow, in Maine, being sick and confined to her room, happened to see in a newspaper one of the lying "endorsements" of the firm of Lawrence & Co. She had saved about $200, which, except her pension money from the Government, was all she possessed, or had to live upon. She sent down a letter to these men, stating her circumstances, and telling them how anxious she was to increase this sum which she had taken out of the bank where it was earning 6 per cent.; for she was very desirous of obtaining enough money to pay her doctor's bill,

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and at the same time to buy the necessaries of life. She was buoyed up in a few days by receiving the usual notification that she had earned 1 per cent. or $200.00 in addition to the money she had sent. As was natural under such circumstances, she was delighted, and anticipated being able in a few days to pay off her little bills, and secure many things to add to her comfort. This hope, however, was like the flash of the meteor that lights up the heavens at night, only to disappear, leaving the darkness all the more intense. Hopes aroused, were dashed to the ground, and instead of comforts, followed keen anguish and disappointment when the "Royal Bounce" came, announcing that an unfortunate turn in the market had swept away both capital and profit. The fact was, as the reader knows, that no stock had been bought, no investment made, nothing but a barefaced robbery committed.

A gentleman in ill health sent down a $1,000 bond, upon which there was a premium of about $150. This bond went direct in the pockets of Benjamin R. Buckwalter, and the clerk was instructed to write a letter, asking the gentleman to call at the office. He called the next day, and was persuaded to allow the balance to be invested, making in all about 1,150 shares of stock. In a few days afterwards he received the "Royal Bounce." This gentleman was troubled with the form of heart disease that made it dangerous for him to undergo any excitement, and rather than have any publicity to his loss, and fearful of the excitement if the matter was brought into court, he had to give up the entire amount.

A poor widow, whose husband had been killed in a railroad accident, had a few dollars left her. She was anxious to increase it to a sum sufficient to enable her to pay off a small mortgage on her little home. She sent her money to Lawrence & Co., stating her sad case. It availed nothing; but these wretches, or rather this wretch Buckwalter, appropriated the livelihood of this widow in the most heartless manner.

A man out West, a poor man with a large family of children dependent upon him for support, owning a little house and farm, read one of these newspaper advertisements, sent for their

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circular, received it, and became so carried away by what he read, that he borrowed $200 and sent it on to be invested. In a few days he was led to believe that he had made a handsome thing by this investment, then notified, as usual, that principal and profit had all been swept away. Recently he has written a most heartrending letter, begging that something might be done to recover his money, otherwise he must sell his home in order to pay this $200. He says, "I can scarcely support my family even with this little house over their heads, and what will become of me if my home is taken away, I cannot tell."

A lady, old and infirm, having saved up a few dollars for her old age, read these newspaper statements, and forwarded her little earnings of about $100 only to be robbed in the same heartless manner. Her daughter writes me a most pitiful letter, praying that I will do something to recover back this money, and saying that if she had the money herself she would restore it and never have troubled me with this letter of appeal; but being very poor and seeing her aged mother mourning over her loss day after day, she had hoped perhaps something might be done towards recovering this sum.

One man sent 525 shares of mining and other stocks and never heard from it afterwards. A casual examination of the forty thousand letters, seized by the writer in the office of this concern, show that a vast majority of those who lost their money were in moderate circumstances, and many of them, indeed, very poor. The thousands of dollars that went into the pockets of this man Buckwalter, were drawn principally from the savings of the industrious classes. Teachers, seamstresses, clerks and servants are largely represented, while the higher classes of the professions, mercantile life and government departments, contributed their full quota.

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## CHAPTER III.

We publish herewith a few sample letters, taken at random from the thousands before us. These communications are published *verbatim et literatim.*

### A CONGRESSIONAL SPECULATOR.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S CHAMBER, WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 28th, 1879.

*Gentlemen.*—Yours of yesterday at hand. I have concluded to accept your proposition. Enclosed find Certificate for 100 shares that you sent last week. I have sent you $100,$^{00}/_{100}$ by Adams Express. Please send me your certificate for 300 shares.

I hope this may prove a successful venture and the begining of long business relations between us. In corresponding with you would not it be advantageous to both parties if I should write to an individual member of your firm. If so please send me the address.

Very truly yours, C.
Box Senate P. O.

MESSRS. LAWRENCE & CO., New York.

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### Probably has his thirst for knowledge quenched in due time.

TREMONT, May 8th, 1878.

Your favor of 7th inst. received and contents noted, you certainly make a very liberal offer, at the same time would it not hold me responsible for the $400 you would credit my account in case no profit would be realized? As I have already informed you, I am responsible for the $200 sent you the other day, and that I done in order to make a start, will you please, and give me full explanation, at the same time inform me how long time I will have to raise the additional sum of $300 and would you think me safe to promise or guarantee the $300, in case I can get a party to take the shares, I am willing to do all in my power. But at the same time, I would not like to lose anything myself. I have all the confidence in your house, as this is a new thing to me, I am anxious to know all about it; any information you can give me will cheerfully be accepted; what do you think can be realized if it is increased to the 1000 shares, as per your letter I merely ask to have your idea: and what would be my gain. Please answer by return of mail.

Yours respectfully,

THEO. B.

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A CONFIDING VICTIM.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 19th, 1879.

MESSRS. LAWRENCE & CO.:

*Gents.*—Yours of the 15th inst. recd, announcing the combination in which my investment was placed closed; and incloseing new certificate for 470 shares in a new combination commencing with date Sept. 15. I hope the new combination will work out hansomly; I am sorry my finances are not in a condition at present to avail myself of your kind offer to put me in a $1,000 combination, by my remitting you $250, I will say however, I hope before any great time, to get working capital up to $2,000 in your hands; and keep it to that amount; and above all the time; I think your plan a good one, for opperating in stocks; and as I am inexperienced in stock speculations; It certainly would be safer for me to opperate through you, than to risk my own judgment;

Yours very respectfully,

A. M. H.

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A FEMALE SPECULATOR.

Wants to be insured not to lose.

EWING, IND., Dec. the 22, 1878.

*Dear Friend Larrence & Co.* i have sold my 2 houses and lotts and wish to in Vestigate in your combination the First of january i have 7 hundred and 1st dollars to put in if you will in shore me to knott loose the principal i know that the brokers have good luck some times in Baxters & Co Bankers 17 Wall Streete New York there Book sent Free tells of what sucess tha have i want to Ilee one in the luckey number So lett me heare amediatly for New-years is close i hope you will register my ten back or give me teun Shares in another chance if knott i will try the Baxter one i will knott try un tell you lett me heare your Friend as ever.

to Larrence and Co. A. U.

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Another Female Speculator with a limited capital wants a little certificate for a dollar. Womanlike she adds a postscript.

NEW MILFORD, July 29, 1878.

*Dear Sir*—Dond you remember that I sent you 1.00 for a certificate and you did not send me one, but you sent instead a offer of more for 10.00 or 11.00 the one I sent, then I wrote you a NOTHER letter and told you that I was not able to take more on account of sickness just now but I sent you a nother dolar wich made 2.00 I had sent you, you said in the next letter that you was sorry I could not take in the combination so was I, but you sent me only one certificate for 1.00 and I am entitled to 2 cerfificate. Now send me my other

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one as I dont like to lose my other now you received it because I have both of your letters to that effect but probily you forgot will take in your combination if I am lucky in this.

Yours truly,

MRS. A. E. P.

P. S.—Should have written before but have been out of tŏwn.

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A cripple rolls around the streets in a chair, distributing circulars, and then is fleeced:

ROCHESTER, Aug. 6, 1878.

LAWRENCE & CO.—I Rec'd Yours of Yesterday With Regrets this does Not Look Like 8 Out of 10—Makes instead of Loses. Now the first $25 I sent you why did you hold out the Inducement if I would Send $25 More was it because $25 was Not Enough to Take at one Time—You promise in Your Circular that when Ever You Commence a Combination You will Notyfy all those Conserned—After being to the Trouble of Talking You up to a Good Many and Sending Round your Circulars—that I must be Ketched Twice in the Same Trap it Looks to Me Like the Blackest Fraud I have herd of in Some Time Now thare is one Way You can Get out of this—I want You to Send Me My Money and the Note or You will have to Come to Our Place to See if it is Fraud or Not. I Regret to have any such Trouble as I am sick and have no Money to be Frauded out of and if thare is no Law to Protect me I can Write a Tolerable Fair article for the News Papers and I will Publish you all over Evry State in the Union if You do Not Send Me My Money and Note Yours

F. J. A.

I Never will Pay one cent on the Note and you cant Collect a Cent you have the Cheek to Ask Me to Go in again I might better Throw My Money in the Fire if I had any and if thare any way to Collect that $50 back I will take all the chances to do it you Talk in your circular about Puts and Calls and Lottery Tickets thay are Kings to your way of Doing Business. Let Me hear from you or the first thing you will here from me to your disadvantage.

F. J. A.

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ROCHESTER, Aug. 22, 1878.

Messrs. LAWRENCE & CO.—I rec'd yours and My Note Enclosed which I was Very Glad to Get—I will Say to you that it is 12 years the 8th day of april Since I have walked a Step and after I Rec'd Your Notice of your making the Last $50 on Lake Shore and by your circular, which Says after the first Month All Depositors Can With draw them Depoits or profits after the first month I after I Recd the Last Circular that you had made $50 on Lake Shore, I Wrote to You I would Go any Father in the Speculation and I wrote you to Send Me My Note and Fifty after Takeing out the pr Centage, as I thought I had Got Even all but My Trouble in Circulating your Circulars I

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Rolled Round the Street in my Chair and Tryed to do you Good and I am acquainted with as many as any Other Man in Rochester, for I have kept 5 Hotells in this place and I have owned Two, but my Long Sickness has made me poore & when I sent you the first $25 I thought by Looking over the Brooklyn paper and your circular it was almost a shure thing 8 out of Ten to win and a Hundred out of $20 the Brooklyn man Got. I think as all things has Turned out I have circulated all of your circulars and if all had have Turned Out Right you would have Got a pretty Good Business from my circulation. I think You minte Put Me in to a Good Combination and Get Me a Little Start for God Knows I Kneed it. I have Made a Little out of Watches this Sumer and Dickering Round, and you have the Whole of it So I have not Much to buy Cole with for Winter. I thought the Chances was Good to Make and instead of Loosing all I had I am always thankful for Small Favors Yours Truly. I am Takeing the Galvanic Batteries and I hope they will do Me Good and I Can Get on to Feet again.

F. J. A.

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A SUPERSTITIOUS SPECULATOR.

He risks Adams, Brown & Co. a second time, but not on Friday.

BALTO, June 10-79.

D SIRS:—Your Encourageing letter of 9th inst. at hand, and again being controlled by your advice—will remit you $50 more to-morrow, which will reach you on Thursday morning—making $100, in all now invested, and desire that in consideration of the confidence now placed in you, that you will use your utmost Endeavors to realize something handsome from it, and thereby make me a regular patron of your firm—I might suggest however,—that in deference to my wishes, I trust that you will not put my money in any deal that begins operations on a *Friday*, for although superstitious as it might seem—I can truthfully say I was never (not even *hardly ever*) concerned in anything on that day but what it proved ill-advised,—still all I ask, is to use your best judgement & discretion—hoping the result may invariably be favorable I remain

Very truly Yours

H. G. W.

---

A Postmaster is on his muscle. He wants his money:

POST-OFFICE,

E., HARTFORD CO., CONN., June 3d, 1878.

F. P. P., P.M. L. M. P., Ass't P.M.

LAWRENCE & CO.—Enclosed find Circular letter rec'd from you.

In reply would say that it is altogether a too *barefaced swindle*, and I hereby inform you that if the $100.00 I sent you is not *forthcoming immediately*, I shall

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[illegible] EXPOSED.

[illegible] York Post-office stopped;—this I [illegible] Department when *swindling is carried*

[illegible] and keep still about it, and [illegible] Springfield, and other papers as former- [illegible] and "showing up" myself, as [illegible] effectually too.

[illegible] in payment—nothing short of the [illegible]—I am not as "green" as you may

Yours,

F. P. P., P.M.

[illegible] by reporting the "barefaced [illegible]

—

[illegible] to make money easy, and lays [illegible] that this fellow himself got bit.

B., Nov. 21, 1878.

[illegible] your circular carefully; and though I do not fully [illegible] and methods, *yet I* BELIEVE YOU; and this [illegible] I believed myself and doubted you.

[illegible] to you, & therefore wish to state the follow- [illegible] my plans:

[illegible] Presbyterian church here, consisting of 75 members: [illegible] but close, avaricious and parsimonious. [illegible] hard work & the sweat of their brow.

[illegible] them that I had sent you say $20, and at the [illegible] this would be the first proof. Next if, in the be- [illegible] I send you $50, and at its close, receive your [illegible] another proof and as much stronger than the [illegible] larger than two. Then last if in the beginning [illegible] $100, and you at the end of 30 days send me [illegible] be evidence so persuasive that I believe I [illegible] months' close, to invest several thousands of [illegible] management of their speculations.

[illegible] & honestly made my statements and told [illegible] make a little money easily, I wish the same [illegible] the affair will have your commission &

[illegible] possibility of misapprehension I will state my

[illegible] will you in 30 days send me your check for $40? [illegible] operation $50, will you send me in 30 days

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Next, if I send you as a third operation $100, will you send me in the end of 30 days, $200?

If you will do this, I can have sufficient ground to go upon, in my efforts to arouse some of my rich farmers who would not listen unless the evidence was perfectly satisfactory and sure while they were yet ignorant of the method and details.

I believe this method which I have suggested will be beneficial to all concerned.

Please write by return of mail.

Address Rev. J. D., B., Columbia Co., Penna.

Awaiting your reply and hoping my plan will meet your approval,

I am, gentlemen, yours respectfully, J. D.

---

Called to account by one who watches the market closely and has an eye to business. He does not "make friends with the dog that bites him."

MT. PLEASANT, PA., Nov. 19.

Yours of 14th inst. rec'd stating that you had lost my money. It is just what I expected. I lost confidence in you and expected to be "euchered," when you sent me the certificate and I saw that you kept my money 10 days before putting it into use for *me*. Squarely contradicting the answer to first question in your circular.—I would like to know what you were doing with the money during that time, while Western Union advanced about 13 per cent. And what was you doing with the combination from Oct. 29th to Nov. 6th, when you must have bought N. W. at 42⅛ & sold on the 7th, the date of your first notice. During all this time the stock market was active, and several Stocks on the list advanced 1 to 3 per cent. Even N. W. advanced about 2 per cent. in this time.

And again what was you doing from the 7th, when Western Union Sold at 93¼, to the 14th, when you must have sold *a* 97⅛ as it closed on the 13th *a* 96¼. And in the same time there were others on the list in which money was being made by some person. And why did you put all the money into only one stock, when there were others just as good as what you dealt in, and you might have made on those; and why you was only able to make one turn each six days and that only on date of your report) would be interesting to know. I suppose you made sure of your comi'sn, or would you like to have us make that up to you. If the market had been dull during the run of the combination, I should have thought nothing of your losing, but with an active market and a wide fluctuation in prices of stocks, the case looks to me as one of downright fraud *or damnable stupidity*. And still you have the consummate "cheek" to want us to send more money, "when you will do all in your power to retrieve the loss to us"—As *you* would make over $6000 in a full combination, in one turn, and if you saved your comis'n on the last turn, (as you would likely

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do) you would be very well paid for your *trouble*. Besides the number of ½ per cent. turns you might make and we know nothing of, in which you would cover your commission.

*I am much obliged* to you for the offer of your services but as I never make friends with the dog that bites me, I shall decline. I think an analysis of the "Combination Stock plan" should be written up, as a warning to those who might be drawn into it. And I believe I can do your business as much harm as my $100 will do you good.

Yours &c. P. H. L.

---

HE FREES HIS MIND.

NEWELL, Dec. 27, 1879.

*Gents:* I wish to say to you that you may go to Hell and be Damned which you richly deserve. But if you had been smart and made a good showing for me this month you could have Duped oure Town out of $200 Dollars next Month. But I am glad it turned as it did. I shall spend money on advertising you now and your Business free of charge, and have mailed several other letters for that purpose.

Yours over the left, O. O.

---

A RICH LETTER FROM A POOR MAN.

CLEVELAND, O., Oct. 14, 1878.

*Gentlemen:* I received your leter and was not agreeble suprise by the Loss. The money in question, was bored money, and bored from a Widoed mother in hopes that I might make more for her but the Loss has just about skined her of all.

Now if you will allow me 25 shares in combination F, (wich was the one that I wished to be conected with before you advised me otherwise) and charge me interest on the same so as to give me a start agin, and you will not be Lossers by it.

Will you pleas answer this leter and let me know your desision.

Yours truly, F. A. G.

---

A sarcastic victim pours out the vials of his wrath. He waxes eloquent, but fails to get his money.

HARTFORD, Dec. 24, 1878.

MESSRS. LAWRENCE & CO.

*Gents:* Your favor of 23d is received and contents noted. We had supposed that the *vast combination* we were interested in would have moved on for

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thirty long dayes, but *Lo* the supreme skill and mighty wisdom of Lawrence & Co. are brought in to play, and this immense combination is brought to a *glorious & triumphant* close (to L. & Co.) in the space of 2 short weeks. We do not propose to pry in to the mysteries of your movements in Stock matters, but suppose in our case you used those two unering rules of success you sent us in Pamphlet, we know not whether the Bulls or Bears were predominant in our case, but would just suggest that the Bulls were a little ahead, and just now the thought came in to our mind that likely as not the success of these *mighty* Combinations (to L. & Co.) were affected by the buying and selling especially the *Sell* part.

When we look forward to the near future and see the results of these *almighty* and *majestic* Combinations revolving on their axis once a week and crushing out in their movements all pauperism and distress from the land, we are struck with amazement but what gets us and takes our breath from us as it were, is the to us liberal and munificent offer or rather gift of 100 Shares for the paltry sum of $50.00. This Princely offer was never before exceled and never equaled except by your last royal offer of retrieving our fortunes by kindly letting us invest again. *Ye Gods* think of it. $50.00 profit on 100 shares in one week. You say in Circular sent us that your patrons don't even let their friends and acquaintances know the result of their investment in your *huge* and *all absorbing* Combination. I don't know as we blame them, but as for us we are no such Men. *No Sir ee* we give you full liberty to use our names and give to the World at large, the result of our venture, in fact for a small compensation we would ourselves make known the result by publishing it in a few of the leading Papers of the day.

Yours,

J. B. B.

N B. So sure are we of the success of your prodigeous Combination we would like 50 more Shares on the same terms and conditions we received the last 50 on, you furnish the capital the profits to come to us the same as in the other case precisely. We havent figured yet the exact length of time it will take us to become immensely rich, by sending our spare change to you, but will in a few days and send the result.

---

## A loving spouse treading on dangerous ground.

DUNCANNON, PA., Nov. 28, 1878.

Yours with Certificate for Five Shares came to hand in due time and thanks for the same. I am just as much obliged to you for your offer presented to me as if I could have sent you the $50. My wife has in her own name Registered Bonds to am't $700 00. I shall try and get her to invest in your Combination if you will insure a return of $3000, to $3500, and should I prevail upon her investing could you get her Coupon Bonds in place of the Registered Bonds?

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I would accept your kind offer but it was out of the question for me to do so. Please answer the above in all of the particulars if I *cannot* get my wife up to invest the $700, I will try hard for her to try $50 anyhow.

Yours with kind regards,

P. F. M.

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A WRATHFUL EPISTLE.

CANTON, O., Nov. 24, 1879.

MESSRS. LAWRENCE & CO.

*Sirs.*—I received your answer to my former letter saying you never paid any attention to such letters as I had written you, but one thing and that is this before two months go round I will get an answer of you that will be worth more to me and the country at large than the Five Dollars. I have made arrangements with several Firms and allso written to the Mercantile agency for terms for Advertising your rascally piece of buisness, and further have written to a Friend in New York to look this up for me. You will see by an enclosed letter what one Firm says of you and I can give other proofs of your doings and as I don't care if I ever here of you again you may bet your life you are going to hear frome me and that when you will least expect it. Such men as you should be entirely cleaned out of good society the same as they are now doing in Leadville and if I am not badly mistaken I think it will come soone. I remain

Yours Resp't,

JNO. McF.

---

D. P. HERRICK. FRANK A. EGAN.

OFFICE OF D. P. HERRICK & CO., BANKERS AND BROKERS,
43 NEW STREET, NEW YORK, Nov. 22, 1879.

J. McF., ESQ.

*Dear Sir*—Yours of 20th to hand. The set of swindlers who do business under the name of Lawrence & Co. are to well known to need any further explanation from us. We do not know the agency through which they advertise.

Respectfully Yours,

D. P. HERRICK & CO.

Of course, the clerks had a laugh over this, and the pith of the joke was that Egan had formerly been a clerk of Buckwalter. Subsequently this firm, who are filled with such righteous indignation, were themselves compelled to abandon their fraudulent business.

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**A Letter Carrier wants to make money out of his companions, and asks for more "material evidence" than printed circulars.**

CHICAGO POST OFFICE.
OFFICE OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT OF LETTER CARRIERS.
Box and General Delivery Department.

May 28, 1878.

MESSRS. LAWRENCE & CO., BANKERS, &c., 19 Broad St., New York.

*Gentlemen*—I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of Circulars &c. and intend to canvass in a few days. Like most men, when entering upon a new enterprise, I desire to put in "telling licks," and thereby make it interesting for all parties concerned. To accomplish this, or rather to insure successful results in the undertaking, beside using a good deal of talk and references to successful operations by other parties, it would help the matter along far better, if material evidence could be produced, to back up the illustrative talk on the subject.

Why not then for once deviate a little from the usual course of doing business, and act upon the sugestions hereinafter proposed.

The class of my patrons as I have stated before are among the 500 Post-office employees of this city and a much lesser number among the clerks of commissioners in every Carrier's District and on my route. All of these receive their respective salaries about once a month; (either the last or first of each month, and they are *rich* only about that time for a *few days*. Now to the point: If I had for instance a communication from you, stating "that *my* investment, *personally* or as *Agent*, of a privious date, had secured me a gain of a certain sum," and the same were really accompanied by a check of fifty or more dollars, my being able to show that would have a telling effect, and would enable me at the proper time to establish a provitable business first for you and me, and later (with good luck), for our patrons.

I know from experience, that it is a hard matter to break the "Ice" to begin with, if your artillery used in battering down the outerworks, are not a little more convincing than Circulars and statements. But if you can show in addition to those the muzle of a "60 pounder" in the shape of a check as above suggested, the victory is yours invereably.

Of course to act upon my sugestion you would have to trust an entire stranger to you, and that would seem to be reason sufficient not to enter into the plan, even if you should decide on deviating from your regular course of doing business.

But I don't care which way you decide, only I know, that if I could enter into such an arrangement with you, you would be no looser by the confidence placed in me, and I would be enabled to add a desirable item to my future income, and perhaps more than that, pave the first stepping stones to pleasant and profitable employment in the future.

Whatever your decission may be, I desire that you take my proposition as

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offered in good faith and with the firm believe that it would benefit *you no less* than it would me.

The sugestion will undoubtedly prove a novel one to you, but I believe should be worthy of consideratiou.

Awaiting your reply I am

Yours Very Respectfully, S.

---

## HE MUST BE A QUAKER.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR OF THE TREASURY,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 30, 1879.

MESSRS. LAWRENCE & CO.

I am anxious to have a peaceful and amicable arrangement of our business relations. I feel that I have been wronged—and all I ask is my rights, as an American citizen.

I have placed my interests in the hands of Hon. S. L. Woodford, U. States District Attorney. He will communicate with you at the proper time. Please be good enough to pay to Mr. Woodford for me, $50—that being the amount in your hands, belonging to me—and his receipt, will be in full satisfaction of all claims against you, by me. If I were a man of wealth, I would make up my mind to lose it, and let it pass, without litigation, or further trouble. But I am not able to lose it. You know, that I claim nothing more than I am entitled to.

Two days ago I received a detailed report, containing minute particulars, that would surprise you. I do not wish to make it public, if I can avoid it. I mean nothing in the way of *threat*. I do not deal in threats. I do not propose to assert my rights, in that way. When I intimate a vindication of my rights, by appealing to the law, and failing in that, by appealing to public opinion, over my own name, through the public press—so far from indulging in a menace, I merely mean to convince you, that I am laboring under the conviction of having been wronged, and that I ask for nothing but *justice*. In the name of justice, I ask you, in all mildness and gentleness—please pay to Mr. Woodford U. States District Attorney $50 for me. I mean nothing offensive or harsh. I repeat, that in order to make myself understood, I have been compelled to say, what I would prefer not to have said. Please pay to Mr. Woodford $50 for me—and let there be an amicable conclusion to our business affairs.

*You are not aware of what is going on.* I have no wish, of course, to see any injury done to others, who are willing to deal fairly and justly with me. *For the present*, I will merely say, that through the machinery of a certain Department of the Government, results may be reached, which the ingenuity of *well paid* counsel (as explained in the *report* I have alluded to) can not possibly contravene.

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In conclusion, for the present, I appeal to you, in the name of *justice*, and request you to pay to Hon. S. L. Woodford fifty dollars for me.

Respectfully,

Two other parties, to whom I sent $50 each, to invest for me in stock operations, on my application to them, and my appeal to their *justice*, have remitted to me the $50 I sent them.

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A PROPOSITION FROM A "SIMPLE SIMON."

CANASERAGA, Dec. 26th, 1878.

MESSRS. LAWRENCE & Co.

Your circular informing me of the loss of the entire combination that I was intrested was duly received. You ask for another "remittance" promising to return the loss, &c. Now if I had the money I should try you again on 50 shares more, but what to do now I do not know. When I made you my first remittance I intended to keep some money invested all the time—the year-round; in short I expected to be so successful in that combination (as everything was *so sure*) as to get started so that I could withdraw the Original Capital and still have enough to controll a 100 shares in another combination. But let bygones go—the question is what is to be done in the living present? Times are tight—I cannot raise any money now beyond, what current expenses consume. What can I do? How can I get a *start on this* road to fortune? Can you make any suggestion or proposition? I had thought of this—you are Bankers you have money to let any time on interest if well secured. Now if you consider it security enough suppose you purchase me 50 shares in a combination that you know will pay a profit and are willing to risk it and charge me interest for the 30 days and so take interest and principal from my share of profits at the close of combination. If you will do this I am your life-long customer and will procure you many others too. Please do this and give me a start—but be sure that there is going to be a profit.

Hoping to hear a favorable answer from you, that you have made me a purchase I remain yours Truly

A. S. H.

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A clerk in the Bureau of Education gets bit, and tries again:

U. S. BUREAU OF EDUCATION,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 25, 1878.

MESSRS. LAWRENCE & Co.

DEAR GENTS: I received the letter of the 23rd stating that you had made an unlucky turn with the combination in which I was interested. I must say that I am exceedingly disappointed. I was in hopes that I had put my money



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to a profitable use. As I informed you when I made the investment that it was all that (it was) that I could appropriate at the time, nevertheless I trust that you may meet with better success in the future. Please let me know by return mail if you can make me another offer like the one you made me during the latter part of August. Which was, that if I would send you an order for 50 shares, accompanied by $20 dollars besides the ten already invested, that you would credit me for 20 shares, making a deduction of 7 per cent. and allow me benefit, and profit of the 50 shares at the end of the combination? If so please answer at once, and I will if possible send you 20 dollars at the first of next month. Unless you are positive that it would be a success I cannot do otherwise that withdraw the amount already invested. I cannot afford to squander my small earnings, as my wages are but $1 per day. Trusting to your honor and hoping to hear from you at once, I remain

Yours Respectfully, J. J. C.

P. S. Instead of directing my letters to H. St. you may send them to Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C.

This letter is endorsed "Yes;" and so our friend learned more wisdom at these rather high rates of education, $20 per lesson, while earning but one dollar a day.

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A speculator who lives in Utah, but denies that he is a "Saint."

Nov. 22d, 1878.

GENTLEMEN:—

Your notice dated Nov. 14th is recd. I regret exceedingly the unlucky turn it reports as it was my first venture. In my firm confidence in its success and in the honesty of the Firm—which is still unshaken—I have diligently advocated your claims to reliability among all my friends and acquaintances here who are waiting to see the results of my venture before they invested for shares in your combinations. As it is I shall be exposed to their pity, and your firm to unmerited abuse.

However I shall try to retrieve my loss by make another small venture in time for the operations of next month.

I cannot understand after selling at 97½ how the rapid advancement of the Stock should cause our loss. Will you be so kind as to explain this to me in a few words.

One of your clerks in adressing notices to me writes my name as followes, "Geo. D. ST. W. If this "St." is intended for *Saint* it is a petty slur, under the supposition, probably, because I live in Utah I belong to the Mormon Church, *which is not the case.* I am satisfied that the Firm of Lawrence & Co. do not tolerate such invidious distinctions.

Very respectfully, your Friend,

Kaysville, Davis Co., Utah. GEO. D. W.

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A MODEST SPECULATOR QUOTES NURSERY RHYMES.

WASHINGTON C. H. OHIO, Nov. 21, 1879.

*Gents.*—After a careful perusal of your system of stock operations I must say that I am well pleased with the same, and herewith forward, you P. O. order for Ten dollars (Ten shares) this is a very small beginning, but tis said tall oaks from little acors grow.

And trusting to your long experience and good judgement I hope this "widows mite," may take root and spread its branches untill it becomes a hercules in your hands: I made an investment a short time since and lost all, and under the present depressed state of the market it may not be a favorable time to invest, but a downard market is as good as an upward one so exercise your own good judgement and I will be satisfied, you send weekly reports do you not; hoping to hear from you soon I am Yours Truly,

H. R.

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This letter shows that a fool and his money are soon parted, and what a person ignorant of stock speculation has to pay for experience.

PRINCETON, N. J., March 15th, 1880.

MR. ANTHONY COMSTOCK.

I see in the Sunday *Times* of January 25th, 1880, of your forcing the firm of Lawrence & Co. in seven cases. I hold their receipt for money invested as per advertisements to make so much. I am poor, and he is a swindle. He has promised me, and said when I was there to see, that he had sent me a Check for a 1000 he has of mine. (profits 500) I borrowed the money to use in stocks and did not know a man could *lie* so.

Have had a bad spell of sickness because of my losses and could not afford the losses been sick ever since. I seen the notice in the *Times* which I cut out, and this is the first day I been able to sit up and write or inquire about it. Please send me an answer, stating what are your charges and if it is possible to get anything from them and other swindlers in New York. I have a claim against Taylor & Co., 43 Exchange Place for $235 cash. Peck & Harris, over Lawrence & Co. $150 unsettled. D. P. Herrick & Co. 43 New Street, about $1100. Cash put in their hands and swindle me out of all, and Smalley & Gale, Broadway, sent a letter of inquiry to them about $100, I sent to them in December last. If you can collect these, I will send you about $350 against H. P Gilbert & Co. 17 Broad Street,—or was there before they ran away or failed October 1st 1879 and made assignment to his head Clerk. He took all of them. What a set of swindlers they be in New York! Lawrence & Co. lied as he cheated me. I had some money then, and it and me parted. L. & Co. fixed me on by first time paying 50 per cent profit, and when they got a chance to steal a thousand did it and lied about it.

Yours unfortunate

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Before dropping this precious rascal let us refer to one incident in his career. Buckwalter by his plausible manner and gentlemanly bearing, and with the connivance of others who were partly living off his plunder, managed to ingratiate himself into respectable society. He was a guest in honored circles and while living in fine style contracted for the erection of a palatial residence. Just then the news was brought to him that proceedings had been begun against Lawrence & Co. He was at once greatly distressed, but concocted plausible stories and so evaded the inquiries of his solicitous friends. But when, in the last week in December, the papers one morning came out with the account of my work in exposing him, and the gentleman of the house where he was staying read the facts, this Prince of swindlers himself received a truly "Royal Bounce." He had not time even to pack his trunk. Benjamin F. Buckwalter, "four-in-hand, tandum" and all decamped in the night and disappeared. The thousands of his victims who may read these pages, will learn with satisfaction that while at the time of this seizure in December, 1879, his income was at the rate of $22,833.33 *per month*, on New Year's Day, 1880, not a single cent reached him from these sources, as all the mail matter addressed to him had been stopped, his place seized and closed. From the four concerns mentioned in the agreement as controlled by Buckwalter, over 500,000 names and post office addresses were seized, besides about 40,000 old letters and a large amount of papers. There were 22 cases, 2 trunks and 10 mail bags with matter in the same seized.

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### A CLIENT AND HIS LAWYER.

While it was very easy putting money into Benjamin R. Buckwalter's pockets, it was quite another thing to get any out, as those who tried to collect honest bills found. A circumstance that will illustrate both his greedy nature and the extent to which his willing tool could be used, is illustrated by the following correspondence.

A stationer furnished Buckwalter & Co. in 1876 stationery

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amounting to a little over $300. This bill remained unpaid during the following years of Buckwalter's prosperity, and after his lawyer had drawn the papers and with a full knowledge of the large amounts that Buckwalter was to receive each month, and with Buckwalter's receiving from the first of September to the time the business was stopped, over $57,000; notwithstanding all this, the despicable attempt was made by these two men to defraud this creditor out of his just dues. The reader now may judge between a client and his lawyer, and brand whichever he pleases as guilty of a contemptible fraud, by the following letters, which speak for themselves:

NEW YORK, Nov. 12, 1879.

Messrs. —— & ——.

*Gents:* Yours of 6th inst. to Mr. Buckwalter has been sent to me by him from the country. If you will send me an itemized bill, it may perhaps facilitate a settlement if you are prepared to make it the same as the other creditors. Yours truly,

Mr. Buckwalter was, thereafter, found cutting a heavy swell at Montrose, N. J. (Orange Mountain Station), with dog cart, horses, dogs, grooms, etc.—fine house, grounds, and reputation. An itemized bill was sent, when the following reply was made:

NEW YORK, Nov. 24, 1879.

Messrs. ——————.

*Gents:* I have seen Mr. Buckwalter and told him what you said respecting his prosperity, etc. He says it is a mistake—that he is boarding with a gentleman who has all the fine things for his own pleasure, and that he, Mr. B., is simply paying $10 a week for his board. He says: "Let them sue unless they will accept 25%, which would be about $75." All I can say is, "Give him a shot," if you think best. Yours truly,

A nice question comes up here: How far may a lawyer go, and not violate the law himself by conspiracy with a criminal? Is a lawyer an officer of the Court? Yes. Has the law any restraint upon his conduct and acts? Is he bound to respect the laws of the land? Certainly! the same as any citizen.

This same man, it is said, secured all the funds for Buckwalter, which were in the Fourth National Bank at the time that the business of Lawrence & Co. was broken up—money, be it remembered, belonging to hundreds of victims who had been

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robbed through the mails. And also, that he received from Buckwalter an annual salary of several hundred dollars.

It has been seen that this man was the arbitrator in the "Agreement." He settled all claims and troubles. This was, doubtless, to prevent the clerks from consulting any other lawyer, or exposing the "Agreement" to view of any one else.

"You pays your money and takes your choice" between the two.

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## CHAPTER IV.

### MARGINAL AND SYNDICATE OPERATORS.

#### "ON A MARGIN."

There is another plan or scheme called the 1 per cent. margin plan. This is equally as fraudulent as the above, as it was conducted by some.

A word will show any thoughtful mind the true nature of this plan. The same method of advertising exists. In addition, circulars were sent to parties whose addresses could be secured. The money comes by letter, say in the morning mail. In this scheme it is pretended to buy a share of stock for every dollar sent. One hundred dollars buys 100 shares. But how? In answering this question, the public, who are tempted to send small sums to New York to be invested in stocks, will see how very easy it is to lose their money; and may be warned to send to none but those of known honesty and honor.

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#### THE "ONE-PER-CENT MARGIN" SWINDLE.

The following circular will illustrate the inducements of some of these operators:

OUR STOCK INDICATOR, No. ——, DEC. 8-9-10-11-12-13. SUPPLEMENT.

SKIN, GRAB-EM & CO., BANKERS AND STOCK BROKERS,
No. —, Broadway, New York City, N. Y.,
Purchase and sell on commission Stocks, Bonds and Exchange.
*Dealers in Stock Privileges and United States Bonds.*
Interest allowed on balances according to the nature of the account.

MARGINAL OPERATIONS AND THEIR ADVANTAGES.

1st. You are risking nothing beyond the amount invested. Although your profits are practically unlimited, you can in no case be called upon to pay more than the 1 per cent. margin invested.

2d. You control very large amounts by investing very small sums. An investment of $100 gives you the control of the stock of the par value of $10,000, enabling you to make large profits.

3d. You can make money faster in this than in any other way. By the

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exercise of a careful judgment in the selection of stocks, and with ordinary good fortune, you can invest a small amount and keep on reinvesting until your accumulated profits are sufficient to give you control of immense sums.

4th. You can speculate to the same advantage at a distance from the city as you could if here personally. As your risk is limited, you are not liable to be called upon for more margin.

5th. By our system you get right at the market price of the stock the day the order is received.

In addition to the above, other circulars and papers, containing the fluctuations of the stock market, during a certain period, are also sent. The following note to correspondents also appears in the circular:

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The following plan will recommend itself; and we know from years' experience in the business of the "Stock Exchange," that loss in the long run can only arise by forsaking the plan we now explain. To be successful, one must be prompt, active and decisive—seize opportunities at the right moment and *go with the tide*. Slow and doubting characters will never make money in this or any other business. These we do not want. Our list of patrons includes every profession and occupation, and numbers of people in every grade and every walk of life.

The large operations we are now projecting are of such magnitude as will yield larger profits to our customers, we hope, than any we have yet made, and it is probable that our operations during the next few months will overshadow anything which has heretofore occurred in this market.

This table shows the cost of privileged contracts, as pretended to be operated by them:

PRICES OF STOCK MARGINAL PRIVILEGES FOR 30 DAYS.

The following table shows the cost of Privilege contracts. It will be seen that our commissions are not charged until the close of the contract.

$10 will buy a Put or Call on 10 shares of stock.
$20 will buy a Double Privilege on 10 shares of stock.
$25 will buy a Put or Call on 25 shares of stock.
$50 will buy a Double Privilege on 25 shares of stock.
$50 will buy a Put or Call on 50 shares of stock.
$100 will buy a Double Privilege on 50 shares of stock.
$100 will buy a Put or Call on 100 shares of stock.
$200 will buy a Double Privilege on 100 shares of stock.

And in proportion for any greater number of shares.

Privileges for 60 days can sometimes be procured, but only by special agreement.

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**This plan is practiced by the cliques whose workings we are familiar with, and gives the customer a much better chance of making money. It is our greatest benefit to put our customers in the right stock, and make as much as possible for them.**

**If you can use the care and prudence necessary in managing any business whatever, there is no easier and pleasanter path to fortune than that opened by the judicious purchase of *Margin Privileges*.**

These great inducements deceived many people into sending their money to these men. Once there, it went into the pockets of the rascals who pretended to operate, never to be heard from again, except that the sender would receive a letter, or printed circular, notifying him that so many shares of stock had been purchased, at such a price. For instance, if he sent $100 to be invested in Erie, the operators would certify that they had bought 100 shares of Erie at, say .55. This letter would be sent after 3 o'clock, the hour at which the New York Stock Exchange closes, and the figure .55, at which it was alleged to have been bought, would be the highest reached by the stock that day. The next advice, sent upon the following day, would be a notification that they had sold out his stock for him at, perhaps, .54 or .53, the lowest point marked on the Stock Indicator of the same day.

Now, instead of any legitimate operation whatever, in fact no stock had been purchased at all, and the only transaction had been, that the Stock Indicator had been consulted as to the fluctuation of stock on this particular day, and the certificates filled out of purchase and sale as above.

It will thus be seen that a person sending money to a one per cent. margin operator has no recourse, but is absolutely at the mercy of the party to whom he shall have sent it.

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### THE "THREE-PER-CENT. MARGIN" PLAN.

There are other operators who have operated in the same way on the three-per-cent margin plan.

In each case brought under the writer's notice, stock was bought at the highest possible point, and sold at the very lowest.

The following letter is the story as told by the victim himself,

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and shows how a young man was defrauded out of several hundred dollars by one of these parties:

NEW YORK, Feb. 3, 1880.

SIR—On or about or between the 23d & 28th Aug. 1877, I bought of Messrs. D. D. & Co., No. — Wall st., N. Y. City, on their advice, one hundred (100) shares St. Paul R. R. at .66; and being obliged to leave the city for two or three days, I gave instructions to the said firm "should the said St. Paul R. R. stock, during my absence suffer a further decline, then to purchase one hundred shares more of said St. Paul stock at .63. To secure these two orders, I deposited in cash with said firm, as margin, one thousand dollars ($1000). The said firm, at the time said deposit was made, positively assured me that said margin was ample, in fact, more than sufficient to secure me against any loss, and that I need have no fears of the market during my absence going against me to an extent that would necessitate the said firm closing me out. After leaving further instructions that they would hold on as long as they could, I left and was absent two days.

On my return, I immediately called on the aforesaid firm and then learned for the first time that the said firm had bought one hundred (100) shares St. Paul R. R., at 63 per cent., as per my order, and I also learned that, contrary to my order, the said firm had entirely closed me out at 61¼ per cent., the lowest point the market had declined to during my absence, thereby causing to me a loss of say five hundred and twenty-five dollars ($525). St. Paul R. R. stock had not reached a lower point than 61¼ per cent. during my transaction with said firm, and at the time of my return the afore-mentioned stock was quoted at 65 per cent. firm, active and steadily advancing. During my absence, when said firm closed me out, I had in their hands, solely to secure said two hundred shares St. Paul R. R., as margin, one thousand dollars ($1000) and there remained a balance over and above all broker's charges and dues, in their hands, to my credit, say over four hundred dollars ($400), which amount was sufficient to secure me against loss had the stock reached nearly two per cent. lower than the lowest price the market had touched, and had said firm held on to my purchases as per my order a profit would have resulted instead of a loss. I traded with said D. D. & Co. under the impression that they were honest and trustworthy. I take this course to recover the actual loss of margin, though I had a profit in said stock on my return, and I would have made considerable had said firm held on to my purchases as long as they were secured by margin.

Respectfully submitted,

H. R. R.

TO MR. ANTHONY COMSTOCK, Nassau street, City.

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And this firm in question advertised extensively in more than three hundred different newspapers, under a fictitious name. The details of a large number of their fraudulent transactions

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have come to the writer's notice; but enough has been said to warn and prevent any sensible, intelligent person from being robbed or swindled; if not, then why waste ink and time over such stupidity?

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## SYNDICATE OPERATIONS.

### THATCHER, BELMONT & CO.

Reference has already been made to these parties, and we now advert to them to show the extent to which a single individual may be duped. This firm was managed by George Chandler, a former manufacturer of camomile pills in Philadelphia; a man named Edward Weed, formerly of Greenwich, Conn.; and another man named Childs. Their circulars were similar to those of Lawrence & Co., setting forth the system of "stocks bought and sold on 1 per cent. margin;" and also a "combination of capital for operating in stocks at the New York Stock Exchange."

The victim in the present case was a widow lady of means, certain of whose friends and relatives happened to be known to Weed. He sent to her, Nov. 19th, 1879, one of the firm's circulars, specially marking for her attention a section headed, CLASSIFICATION OF SHARES.

*Classification of* 50,000 *Shares.*—No certificates issued in this combination for less than 1,000 shares, costing $1,000.

*Combination of* 40,000 *Shares.*—No certificates issued in this combination for less than 500 shares, costing $500; and so on down to "5,000 shares, no certificate issued for less than 10 shares, costing $10."

This firm, by letter, adds:

**We mark in red ink on the enclosed circular the combination which we would most like to have you interested in, $1,000 being the amount of each certificate; and from our relations with the operations in the stock in which this particular concentration of capital will be operated, we feel every confidence in advising you to forward to us $700, and to let us issue to you a**

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$1,000 share certificate, out of which, we trust, you will realize a profit that will satisfy you.

The market, for a few days to come now, will be most favorable to our plans in securing our stocks. An early reply is requested.

Yours truly,

THATCHER, BELMONT & Co.

In this letter, the swindlers also refer to the mother and a friend of the lady, than whom none stand higher in respectability and character.

The letter secured the $700, which was forwarded on the 20th of November. In reply, they issued a $1000 certificate in what they chose to call "a syndicate for operating in stocks."

With this certificate came also a letter, in which they said:

We enclose herewith certificate for 1000 shares in syndicate 583, the result of which we feel confident in believing will be satisfactory to you as well as to ourselves.

They also show themselves exceedingly obliging by saying in the same letter:

We shall be pleased to advise you of any important movement, if you advise us that you would like us to do so.

In a few days they announce to this lady "a very handsome turn for account of syndicate 583."

Then they reinvest it to be operated during the next thirty days. They then notify her as follows:

We shall form a new combination to operate specially in some stocks, the transaction will be on a grand scale next week, and which we shall anticipate, and would be glad if you avail yourself of the opportunity, to come into the new concentration of capital, and share any results of the speculation.

Yours truly,

THATCHER, BELMONT & Co.

This lady, being cautious, writes to know if she is to be held in any way liable. They assure her, three days later (November 28th), that she is not liable for anything beyond the amount sent them. They then say in the same letter:

Your understanding is correct, in that we charge ⅛ of 1 per cent. for buying and the same for selling, and 1 per cent. of the net profits. There is no such thing in our business as an assessment. Lake Shore will probably be a divi-

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dend paying stock in the future, and, as you have probably noticed in the newspapers, Mr. Vanderbilt has recently sold $25,000,000 of New York Central R. R. stock, it naturally suggests to one's mind that the feeders to that Road like Lake Shore will be taken care of, and we are of the opinion that this great transfer of stock presages great undertakings of many men from all the financial centres of the world, London, Paris, Frankford and California bonanza kings, and our great financiers, which in the very near future will change the features of our whole railroad system, and to those who are in the ring, greater fortunes will be made than any one now living has ever before seen. Our position, we feel confident, will benefit those who rely on our judgment and knowledge in the investment of their money. We shall be pleased to have you interest yourself to the extent that you are in condition to do; and we believe you will realize a satisfactory recompense in the result of our operations.

The combination which we wrote about will embrace subscriptions of from $3,000 *a* $10,000, and Mr. J., of whom you speak in your letter, is now in for $12,000 on that combination.

Hoping that you will decide as early as Monday next and advise us by telegraph, we remain, Yours truly,

THATCHER, BELMONT & Co.

It will be seen from this letter that the parties knew that this lady had money and were now going for a big strike.

On the first of December a lithographic letter is sent, announcing that Syndicate 583 shows an increase of capital of 3½ per cent., and advises subscriptions to the new syndicates.

It will be remembered, in reading these letters and going over these facts, that not a single dollar is invested in stocks. Therefore whatever is said is said with the idea of swindling the victim for the benefit of the heartless operators. Viewed in this light, the following letter, sent on the 6th of December, 1879, will be read with interest:

Our operations are cautious, and whilst awaiting the coming event for which we are preparing our great combination of capital, the small increase of 3½ per cent. was hardly worth reporting; but, according to our custom, we notify our patrons, at stated times during the operations of our syndicates. The 3½ per cent. is in the amount invested, and was made really before the combination was completed in its subscription. There is a further profit on that same syndicate, all of which can go to your credit in the new grand concentration, the operations of which we are withholding for a certain event to transpire, which will more than double all capital in our hands in a short space of time, as we confidently believe.

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Then came out the fact that they had discovered that this lady had just received something over $60,000 in cash from certain stocks that had been sold. Then they go on and say, and this is evidently what they believed in a short space of time they would realize:

We think you could employ $10,000, and your mother a like sum, to a very great advantage, by taking a thirty day venture in our great pool; and we feel confident that you will regard our system of employing money more preferable than saving banks, or of stocks which pay no more than 10 per cent. per annum. Certain stocks we believe will within a few weeks rise 20 per cent., and our main object is to get that 20 per cent. for our patrons; and on our system 20 per cent. on $10,000 will show a net profit of about $10,000, or double the amount invested in a short time.

We telegraphed you that we had placed to your credit $3,000, which was duly received.

It will thus be seen that they had secured $3,000 more from their victim.

During the month of December they continued to advise her of the transactions, which they pretended to be operating, and on December 22 they sent official quotations of the N. Y. Stock Exchange for that day, marked in red ink, where N. Y. and Erie advances from 114⅛ to 120 and Hannibal and St. Joseph from 107¾ to 108, at the same time marking other railroad stocks that had advanced or that were above par on that day. They also sent a letter, saying,

We don't like to advise the investment of money for a permanent thing in stocks above par.

They dissuade her from buying N. Y. Central or Erie R. R. stocks, and enclose a list of bonds, which they claim are undoubtedly secured by mortgages on good railroad property.

In this letter, the thought that this lady should invest permanently, seems to distress them. So for fear that she shall make a permanent investment, thus putting her funds beyond their reach, they sent a letter the next day, in which they report as follows:

We enclose a statement of operation of Syndicate 583, in which you hold certificate for $1,000, showing a profit of $520.00, a balance to your credit of $1,520.09, subject to your order, as to whether we shall reinvest the same for

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**you or remit for your account. * * * * We look for more favorable opportunities during the next 90 days than since the panic of last month.**

This matter must evidently have weighed upon the minds of both members of the firm, as two letters enclosing duplicate statements were sent on the same day by each of them, showing that one must have acted without the knowledge of the other, or else it was done to blind the eyes of their correspondent. Suffice it to say that two days after the mail brought them a draft of $5,500. In reply to this they sent a $5,000 share certificate in Syndicate No. 630, also another certificate for 500 shares in the same syndicate. They also received, in a day or two afterwards, orders to reinvest the $1,520, and to forward certificates for the same. This was shortly followed by $300 which had been placed in this lady's hands by a friend, making a total of $10,300 that these plunderers had stolen from her alone, and for which they made no return whatever. Indeed, the very day that this last amount of $5,500 was received, Chandler, of this firm, signed an order, doubtless against his will, requesting the Postmaster-General to deliver no more letters addressed to any member of the firm, but to return all the letters to the Dead Letter Office. And yet, after signing this order, and before it went into force, this concern received $5,800 from this one lady, owing to the delay of the order from the Postmaster-General.

### ANOTHER SCHEME.

Another scheme to defraud is to secure small sums of money, and issue what purports to be a certificate of stock, upon which a monthly dividend is declared. These dividends amount to sometimes 75 per cent. a month, always followed by a reinvestment and a demand for more money. Very few will withdraw capital invested when it pays such a large percentage. Consequently these parties are safe. If the reader will stop a moment, and think, he will see that these parties can afford to pay whatever demands are made upon them.

First, because they have a large sum in their possession.

Second, because but a very small number demand their divi-

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dends, and these are paid out of the deposits of others, while what remains is the net profits of parties operating these rascally schemes. Several schemes of this character exist to-day.

### FOREIGN BONDS.

Others again deal in certificates of foreign bonds. They pretend to issue certificates that you own a certain bond, and this bond is represented as liable to draw a prize in certain drawings that take place on stated occasions. They allow you to buy this bond on the installment plan, and pay $5 per month. They say, that after the first installment the bond is yours. But, the inducement to invest in this manner is that the bond is sure to draw a prize, and that the owner thereof is sure to win. These men know very well, that any person whose mind is full of drawing a prize, will not, if they fail after the first few months, continue to pay out $5 or $10 per month after they fail to win. Here is where these parties make. The moment a default is made in payment, they confiscate whatever has been paid in, and they are enriched to the extent of the victim's loss. I have several instances where poor women have been induced to invest in these bonds, only to lose all they put in.

Advice: Give these fellows a wide berth.

### GUARANTEE BROKERS.

Before dismissing the subject of stock swindlers there is still another form of fraud that invites attention, namely, the guarantee brokerage system. In this case the circular assures you that

> There is no risk beyond the sum invested. You can speculate to the same advantage at a distance as if here personally.
>
> A certain length of time is specified for contracts to run, during which period, should a downward movement occur it cannot affect the validity of the privilege. You can use the contract as an inexhaustible margin for turns in the stock.
>
> The amount paid for the contract in the first place is all that is required, while large profits may be realized in an active market.

In this scheme they guarantee for 12½ per cent. to secure the sender against loss. A circular setting forth the special advan-

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tages of this plan is mailed to any address which these men may have. The circular describes the system as an "Investment in Stocks by Insurance Plan, Secures Safety, Profit and Prompt Payments." Monthly Stock Syndicate, commencing on the first of each month. Subscriptions of $20 upwards received, and guaranteed against loss on 12½ per cent. premium.

This plan, following in the wake of the gross swindles before described, and brought to the attention of parties known to have been swindled (one of the firm was formerly a clerk of Buckwalter), would, at the first blush, commend itself to the party desiring to speculate in stocks. Here is a guarantee that the money sent shall surely be returned, less the commission for guaranteeing the same, backed by the endorsement that money *may* be made in the stock operation.

This system, as operated by some, was really as follows:

By sending out thousands of circulars through the mail, the firm induced numerous persons to send money to them. This money the recipients would employ in whatever stock transaction they chose to carry on *for their own benefit;* and, at the end of thirty days, they would return the same, less the 12½ per cent. In other words, they would have the use of thousands of dollars sent to them each month and be paid for the privilege of using it for their own interest and profit. From every thousand dollars sent to them, after using it for 30 days, they deducted $125, and returned $875 to the sender.

Printed copies of stock privileges and stock operations, as sold by respectable firms, would be sent, to induce the belief in the mind of the victim that his money had really been used for his own benefit.

It will be seen that by this plan the person who sent money to them, had really no redress, nor would they really know that they had actually been swindled out of 12½ per cent.

It will also be seen that these sharpers made a very handsome income; for on every $100,000 passing through their hands they not only had the use of the money, but also $12,500 into the bargain, as their net profits.

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It will also be seen how very easy it is for a person sending money into Wall Street to be fleeced out of it, especially if it shall fall into the hands of unprincipled men. We read of great fortunes made by skillful operators. Does it never occur to the mind of our reader that, in order that one man shall make a large fortune, somebody else must necessarily lose their investments? The charge for buying and selling stock by some of these parties is ⅛ of 1 per cent., while the regular charge of the New York Stock Exchange is ½ of 1 per cent.

As a sequel to this fraud, it may be interesting to consider the method by which this man sought to meet the guaranteed amounts in his hands at the time of the stopping of this business, by the interference of the United States Postal authorities. These parties were situated differently, as regards their position with their customers, from all others. Though they operated in stock for their own benefit, and though they had large sums of money belonging to other people in their possession, yet when they were forced to give up this fraudulent business through the mail, they found themselves obliged by their guarantees to return all sums intrusted to them, less 12½ per cent.

About the day the order went into effect stopping their mails, they sent all their customers a letter, as follows.

DEAR SIR:

We, the undersigned, have this day dissolved partnership, and withdrawn from business by mutual consent.

All claims referred to ——— ——— Att'y at law, —— Broadway, New York.

In about a week, the following letter was sent out, in a handwriting which, to say the least, very strongly resembles the writer of the above letters. The Attorney's name was, however, signed to it. The recipient of this letter was one who had sent $10 to be invested in one of their syndicates. He had received a receipt in the usual form of a receipt for money paid, and on the back was the following endorsement, signed by the firm, to wit:

"The within investment is guaranteed to the amount of $8.75."

The letter of the Attorney above referred to, said:



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NEW YORK, March 5th, 1880.

*Sir*—I am requested by Messrs. Deceive & Robem to state that just previous to the dissolution of their firm, intercourse between their customers and themselves was shut off by Government authority, thereby entailing great losses and complications, which will prevent their being able to make any immediate settlement. They state their books show the balance to your credit to be $8.75. * * * * They offer in settlement of the above amount their notes each for a half thereof, payable in 3 and 6 months respectively, from their date. If you accept this offer please notify me.

Very respectfully yours,

_____

Attorney.

Who would not take the notes of this wonderful banking house in settlement of claims due? They guaranteed their customers to return all the money they should send them for the handsome percentage of 12½ per cent. a month. Just think of investing money at the rate of 12½ per cent. a month to be deducted from the amount, instead of anything to be added to it. But they say, we guaranteed to return $8,750.00 out of every $10,000 sent us. We only asked $1,250.00 a month for the privilege of receiving this money through the mail, and having it to use in our business for 30 days. We are "Bankers and Brokers."

Usually in depositing in a bank, interest is allowed on deposits. But it can never be expected that a syndicate broker would ever condescend to pay interest! Not much. Send them $1,000 and at the end of thirty days they agree to take out $125, and kindly return the balance to you. In the mean time, if they conclude to dissolve by mutual consent, why they will settle with you through their lawyer with their notes!

Query. How much will the note of one of Buckwalter's clerks be worth on the street? What banking house will discount or "shave" these notes?

Another view: By this means of settlement they have not only their guarantee fee, but they have the entire use of the whole amount for 3 months, and then the use of half of the amount for 3 months longer, even if the first notes are paid.

The writer happens to know that before the Government interfered to stop the mails, this dissolution of partnership had been

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acted upon, as one of the firm admitted, before he signed a request that all letters to his firm be sent to the dead letter office, or returned to the writers.

The statement of "great losses and complications" may be true from their side of the question, while it is undoubtedly true that it was the saving of money for thousands of those, who might have sent money, if the unlawful business of sending out their circulars through the mails had continued.

What was their loss was gain to all those dealing with them.

One of this firm admitted that after this concern was wound up he personally lost $2,500 in the gambling hells of this city. Was this the principal sent there for investments, and was the Faro bank the bank where their customers' money was deposited? Is this the reason why they must give two notes for three and six months in order to pay back $8.75, the amount they guaranteed on $10 sent them for investment?

Let the victims answer these questions.

### THE TRIBULATIONS OF A WESTERN SPECULATOR.

During the summer of 1879, a gentleman doing business in Evansville, Indiana, was swindled by Lawrence & Co. out of $50,

This gentleman, being a sharp business man, was not to be bitten the second time, although they offered most remarkable inducements for him to reinvest.

In the first place, he sent Lawrence & Co. $50 to be invested in one of their combinations; this was in July. A few days afterwards they sent him the usual printed circular, informing him that he had realized a net profit of ¾ per cent., being equivalent to $75 per 100 shares, making a proportion due on his 50 shares $37.50, which, added to his original investment, made $87.50. They then reinvest this in a new combination for 100 shares, send a due bill for $12.50. At the same time they propose to issue a certificate, on the return of the one he holds, for 200 shares, provided he would send $50 extra, leaving the balance due of $50 to be deducted with 7 per cent. interest from the profits at the close of this combination.

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This gentleman, before making his investment, demanded their references. They referred him to the Grocers' Bank. He accordingly wrote the Grocers' Bank, and received the following letter from Mr. Joseph Periam, cashier:

NEW YORK, July 19, '79.

*Dear Sir:* The firm in question was favorably introduced to us by a highly respectable party, and they keep a good balance with this bank.

Very respectfully,

JOSEPH PERIAM,
*Cashier.*

This gentleman received repeated circulars, showing where this new investment had made profits, sometimes ½ per cent. or $50 on the 100 shares, and again ⅝ per cent. or $62.50 on the 100 shares.

In the mean time he had learned in reference to Buckwalter and his connection with this concern. He therefore writes to the cashier of the Fourth National Bank, where all Buckwalter's thousands were kept, saying,

I would like some information concerning the responsibility of Mr. B. R. Buckwalter. Have been told he does business with your bank. A reply will very much oblige.

He receives back this same letter with the following endorsement upon it:

He keeps an account with us, but we can give no information about him.

He also wrote Lawrence & Co., the same day, making inquiries about Buckwalter, and receive the following reply:

The gentleman you inquire about is a private speculator in Wall street, from whom we occasionally buy stocks and also sell. We shall do our best for you, and hope to be able to show you that we can, and do make money for a majority of our customers.

At this very time let it be remembered that Buckwalter was receiving $12,500 each month out of Lawrence & Co., and over $22,000 per month was to have been deposited to his credit in the Fourth National Bank, according to the agreement.

After a month had gone by, this gentleman, failing to recover

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his money, wrote a letter to Lawrence & Co., demanding his money, and calling them swindlers.

Previous to this he had seen an article published in the New York Times of August 22, exposing Lawrence & Co., (and it was this exposure that led him to inquire so specially after Buckwalter's standing.)

This letter of his evidently wounded these sensitive fellows, as they wrote back, saying:

When you apply the term swindler, you are no gentleman, as a gentleman does not make false statements. The combination you speak of as about to enter, is one called blackmail here and punishable by law. The pen picture as you call it is as untruthful as the rest of your letter. Unless you write us a decent business letter you will have no further attention paid you.

This gentleman seems to have determined to ascertain from the different ones that had victimized him, or attempted to do so, the true character of their operations.

In his dealings with Adams, Brown & Co. he met with the same success as with Lawrence & Co., and he writes back to them, calling them swindlers and partners of Buckwalter.

He had learned from Bradstreet's Mercantile Agency that Buckwalter was a partner or connected with this concern.

As late as December 20th, 1879, Adams, Brown & Co. wrote him:

In reply to your favor of 15th inst., we beg to say that, notwithstanding Bradstreet, B. R. Buckwalter has no connection with this firm. We don't know anything about the matter you refer to.

Yet at this same time Buckwalter was receiving $8,333.33 a month from this firm.

This same gentleman had received Foxwell & Co.'s weekly paper, called "The Indicator," and he addressed a communication to them demanding that they should cease to send it to him; and in reply, received about the middle of December last, a short time before their business was stopped, a letter from which we make the following extract, as showing the cunning and pretentious dignity of Foxwell & Co.:

It is rarely our privilege to be in receipt of so scurrilous a missive as yours

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of the 11th. The class of people you refer to (Lawrence & Co.), we know nothing of. Possibly, from the familiar manner in which you speak of them, you do. We are members of the Board of Produce [this was evidently written for effect, as over the word Produce in red ink was written the word "Brokers"], which establishes two facts—first, above all, respectability; secondly, financial power to do the best which we undertake. We shall continue sending the "Indicator" until the month is past, as your name is on our mailing list, after which time, you having had time to consider the harshness of your note, we will discontinue if you so order.

Your obedient servants,

FOXWELL & Co.

This man, Foxwell, is the "elegant gentleman" with whom Buckwalter boarded at $10 a week, and who had "all the fine things for his own use."

We give a cut of his *banking* establishment as represented on his circular. [See page 89.]

It will be enough to say that while the picture represents fairly the large and commodious building on Broadway where his office was, it was not owned by *Foxwell & Co.;* their sign was not up as represented, and this man, an intimate friend of Buckwalter, and living in and keeping Buckwalter's house out near Orange, N. J., occupied a small office, and there conducted a business of such a questionable character that he came voluntarily to my office, and signed an order to have the mail going to this concern sent back to the writers.

It is not remarkable that this man should thus have charged them with being swindlers, and should have been annoyed at the receipt of the circulars and letters from these different parties. He seems to have been a target at which these fellows shot their circulars.

In addition to those already named, judging from the amount of correspondence he has sent the writer, for some two or three months he must have received almost daily circulars from some of these parties.

He received a letter from Peabody, Chase & Co., 67 Wall street. Upon writing back to know how they got his name, they informed him

That it was handed us by some friend or acquaintance of yours, who had

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No. 115 BROADWAY,



NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

One Block from the New York Stock Exchange.

# CHAS. FOXWELL & CO.,

# Bankers and Stock Brokers.

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tried our system to operate in the stock market, and having been successful, was so satisfied with the working of it that he gave us the names of several parties in your vicinity, who would be likely to invest.

Then they solicited a sum for investment.

Evarts, Barnes & Co. was started by one of Buckwalter's clerks, who printed Lawrence & Co.'s circulars almost in duplicate. During October and November they constantly urged upon this gentleman the propriety of entrusting his money to them for investment, promising large profits. In one of their circulars they say:

Many stocks have fluctuated fully 25 per cent. in one week, paying profits of $2,500 on each 100 shares; while profits of from $500 to $1,000 on a week's investment of $100 are common occurrences.

Then, thinking to bait a trap with a more tempting morsel still, they say:

If you are an old customer, we do not need to remind you of the great success we have had in operating our Syndicates, or the large profits we have paid you.

This concern struck high; it did not propose working for small lots, but offered their shares in sums of from 100 to 500 shares of $1 each, only.

As a pleasant sequel to Lawrence & Co.'s indignation, it will interest the reader to know that, after their business was stopped, they were obliged to return to this gentleman the money they had received from him.

Attention has been called to the number of circulars received by this one man, and, as showing a link in the chain that binds men in the advertising by mail business together, we give a list of firms who persistently fired their paper missiles at him.

In addition to those already mentioned we add Benedict & Co., Alexander Frothingham & Co., Ithamar Dibbell & Co., and Smalley & Gale.

It was not an unusual thing for similar quantities of this matter to be forwarded to parties who had dealings with any one of these concerns.

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# CHAPTER V.

## THE LEECHES.

### BAXTER & CO.

We now come to perhaps one of the meanest varieties of this entire set of stock swindlers.

Some have called them the Leeches, because they hang on and suck out the very life blood of the victim. In other words, having once got hold of part of a man's money, they keep on until by threat or otherwise, they have extorted from him the last penny.

Out of a large number of cases that have been brought to my notice, the following is a specimen of the manner in which Baxter & Co. drained their victims.

On page 92 is a copy of the first page of a circular, of some thirty-one pages, which they sent out gratuitously in answer to their newspaper advertisement. The circular continues as follows:

SAFE INVESTMENTS.

By the aid of this Pamphlet all may have an equal chance of reaping a golden harvest, and we shall show that men of small means may do a large business in stocks without incurring the usual risks, and yet succeed in a comparatively short time in making a fortune.

We propose to exhibit a method of dealing in stocks which is fast growing in favor, and which is destined to be the plan followed by all prudent operators. This is the Privilege system of Puts, Calls, Spreads, and Straddles, as these contracts are technically called.

A successful man in trade, or one in receipt of an income beyond his present expenses, often desires to invest his surplus, and so increase his means as to enable him to take a higher step in life.

For the same reason those who have been disappointed in mercantile speculations turn their eyes to the mart where money and its values in the close form of stocks and bonds is easily turned, and the result more speedily known.

Money gravitates to a centre. In this country its centre is Wall Street, and from that seething whirlpool are thrown up the greatest fortunes.

All knowledge, of whatever kind, is best gained by the one who has an interest in his studies. In following this out, the method of doing a business in stocks is easily learned. If you have a 100 share Spread on Western Union,

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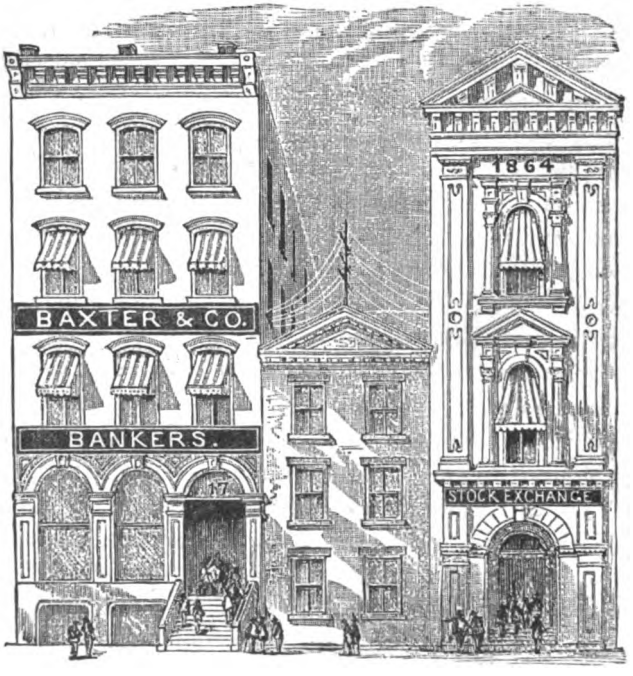
Established 1850.

REMOVED TO No. 7 WALL STREET.

# BAXTER & CO.

## BANKERS AND STOCK BROKERS,




**No. 17 Wall Street,**

(NEXT DOOR TO NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE,)

**NEW YORK.**

DEALERS IN STOCK PRIVILEGES and UNITED STATES BONDS.

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you are going to watch the market reports, will compare its movements with those of other stocks, will read about them all, and in a short time will be master of the theory. The practice, of course, you leave to your broker, who is on the spot, and will look after your interests as after his own. They are, in fact, identical, as his business is supplied by his customers, and he will not lose them if he can help it. He is, moreover, bound by the stringent rules of the Stock Exchange, where millions of values change owners by a nod, and where less than a word is better than many bonds.

It would be inferred from this cut that Baxter & Co. were prominent bankers, connected with the New York Stock Exchange by telegraph wires running from that building into their office; while the fact is, that this concern when suppressed occupied two dirty rooms on the third floor of No. 7 Wall Street, on the opposite side of New Street, and west instead of east of the Stock Exchange.

Had you entered this office you would have found the only aperture, in the high partition that enclosed their private office from the door, a little hole about high enough to admit the flat of a man's hand, or, in other words, about the size of the aperture of a drop letter box in the post office. Once inside of the private office, where the correspondence was carried on, you would also have discovered a board, fixed up as a screen, so that no person entering the outer office, which consisted of a space about six feet square, could see the inmates of the office through the opening before referred to.

This office, in January last, was occupied by two men, one calling himself James Brown, manager, and the other, Richard Baxter, Jr., proprietor. The latter was a beardless youth, the former a gray-haired and bearded man. Besides these two men, there was one clerk employed to send out circulars, and answer correspondence.

On my calling to investigate this concern, I asked for their books, bank ledgers, stock books, etc.; but failed to see either any books or any place where they could be kept in this office. The business of the concern was done exclusively, as the manager informed me, through the mails.

The following advertisement appeared weekly in hundreds of newspapers, and will no doubt be familiar to many readers:

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**$10 to $1,000 invested in Wall Street stocks makes fortunes every month. Book sent free explaining everything. Address BAXTER & CO., Bankers, 17 Wall street, New York.**

A letter written in answer to this advertisement, asking for particulars, would bring back the thirty-page circular before referred to.

This circular is essentially similar to that of Lawrence & Co., which has already been described, and in it every inducement is offered the recipient to entrust his money to this firm. A single case will serve to illustrate the precise methods of the concern, and it is one of the cases where Baxter & Co. have been obliged, since they were closed up, to refund the money to the man, from whom they had stolen it.

In response to the circular, a sum of money was forwarded, which was acknowledged as follows:

OFFICE OF BAXTER & CO., BANKERS AND BROKERS,
17 Wall Street (next door to Stock and Gold Exchanges),
P. O. Box 1431. (removed to No. 7 Wall Street),

NEW YORK, June 26, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—Your favor of 24th instant is to hand with $21.50 in payment of privilege as per certificate herewith. Will manage it for you as you desire, and in our present active market have no doubt we will soon have a good profit to report.

We have an excellent 25 share spread or double privilege on St. Paul we would like you to have as well, for it is taken at such favorable terms as must leave a large profit now that there is sure to be so much speculation in the stock, and being the double privilege it will make whichever way the market may go. Will hold the contract for your reply with remittce per $53.13, and advise you by all means to secure it. Yours truly,

BAXTER & CO.

It will be observed that at the start, Baxter & Co. say, "We will manage it for you as you desire," and that they at once also manifest a very lively interest in this new customer, and would like him to take an "excellent" 25 share spread, promising "it must leave a large profit."

This bait, however, did not take; the party refusing to send $53.13 more, as requested in their letter. Therefore, on the 7th of July, the following letter announces that they had made a mistake:

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P. O. Box 1431. BAXTER & COMPANY,
BANKERS AND BROKERS IN STOCK PRIVILEGES, STOCKS, BONDS AND GOLD,
No. 17 WALL STREET,
(Next door to Stock and Gold Exchanges.)
REMOVED TO No. 7 WALL STREET.

NEW YORK, July 7, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—Your favor of 5th inst. is to hand. But we find that our letter to you of the 3d was all a mistake as we were there referring to the contracts of a different person altogether, and therefore we do not wonder that you did not understand the figures. Pray excuse the blunder, but we had so many contracts to close and advise on that day that it is perhaps excusable. What you should have been advised of was the following. We changed your Call on Lackawanna to a Put on St. Paul but it was 20 shares & not 10. The following was the return:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Put 20 shares | *a* 54 | |
| Closed " | 52 | |
| | 2 per cent | $40 |
| | Less com closing | 2.50 |
| | Net | $37.50 |

And this we reinvested for you in 75 shares costing $79.70 leaving a balance due by you of $42.20, which please remit when we will send you the new contract.

The return of $37.50 is the amount you get by the Privilege and we think you should consider it a very good return in so short a time as 8 days. You ask what became of your $21.50. We reply—$21.25 was paid for the contract & the remaining 25c we have here so that all you need remit for the new privilege is $41.95. The privilege on 20 shares cost you $21.25. It returns $37.50 or a clear profit of $16.25 in eight days time. We hope to do still better with the new one & build up an active and profitable account for you.

Please remit as soon as possible. Yours truly,

BAXTER & Co.
M.

[See "Privilege" on p. 96.]

The party rebels against this procedure, and will have none of it; they had been instructed to close it out, and to return to the investor, and he writes them accordingly. He receives the following letter, announcing that the investment has been made in 75 shares and threatens, that unless the balance due on the contract be paid, the whole will be lost. Note the plausible manner in which the writer in this following letter winds it up.

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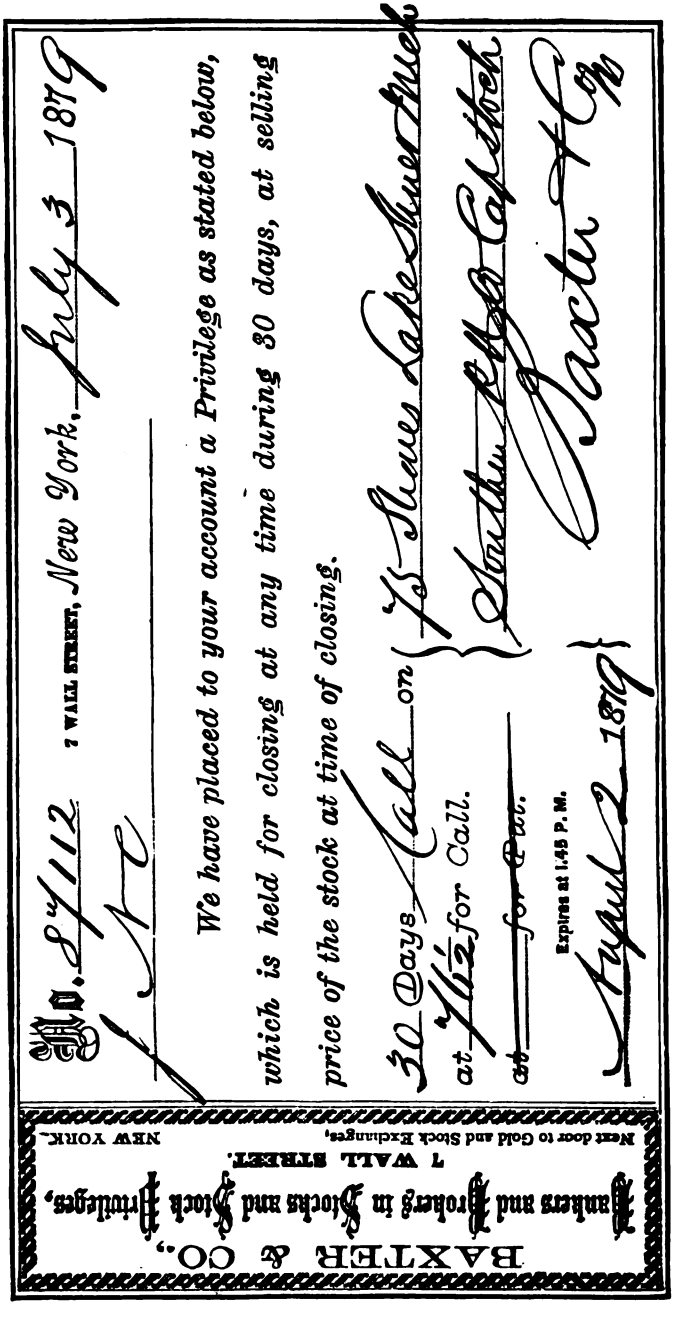

No. 87112 7 WALL STREET, New York, July 3 1879

J. N. C.

We have placed to your account a Privilege as stated below, which is held for closing at any time during 30 days, at selling price of the stock at time of closing.

30 Days Call on 75 Shares Lake Shore Mich

at 7 1/2 for Call. Southern R.R. Co. Cap Stock

at ___ for Put.

Expires at 1.45 P. M.

August 2 1879

Baxter & Co.

BAXTER & CO.,

Bankers and Brokers in Stocks and Stock Privileges,

7 WALL STREET.

Next door to Gold and Stock Exchanges, NEW YORK.

THREAT NO. 1.

[*Same Heading.*]

NEW YORK, July 11, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—Your favor of 9th inst. is to hand. The investment however has been made in 75 shares, as advised you & it cannot be recalled, nor indeed would you desire it, but the balance due on the contract *has to be paid otherwise the whole will be lost* which we trust you will not permit. If you cannot send all at once remit part now and the remainder after and we will hold the contract for you. When the new privilege is closed, we can then limit the reinvestment to the actual proceeds or make such other disposition of them as you may desire. Yours truly,

BAXTER & Co.

The party to whom this letter was sent then demands their references.

The following letter received in reply, will show still further the cunning craftiness and deceit of these knaves.

[*Same Heading.*]

NEW YORK, July 17, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—Your favor of 14th inst. is to hand. We are holding the contract for you and trust you will soon remit the balce due on it.

We have *many customers* in *your section* but as they would not like that every one should now that they are operating in Wall Street, it would never do for us to *give their names*. *A Broker* and his clients must be strictly *confidential with each other*. Yours truly,

BAXTER & Co.
M.

For fear of losing his $37.50 the dupe at last forwards the balance of $41.95. In reply he receives the following letter, which announces that his privilege runs out on the 2d of August.

[*Same Heading.*]

NEW YORK, July 26, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—Your favor of 24th inst. is to hand with $41.95 balance in payment of your new contract as per certif herewith, and on which we hope soon to report another good profit. This privilege runs out on the 2d of August.

Yours truly,
BAXTER & Co.
M.

It will be seen that this turn reported a very large profit, to



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wit: $243.75 net on an investment of $79.70 as shown by the following letter:

BAIT NO. 2.

[*Same Heading.*]

NEW YORK, July 31, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—We have now to report the closing of your Lake Shore stock as under:

Closed 75 shares *a* 79¼
Call " 76¼
3¼ per cent. $253.12
Less com closing 9.37
Net $243.75

And this we have reinvested for you in a spread on 150 shares costing $318.75 leaving balance due of $75 *which please remit as before, when we will send you the new contract.* We think you told us you could not remit until after the 2nd and we have accordingly arranged to hold over the privilege for you until the 5th.

Awaiting your remittce of $75 by that date we are, Yours truly,
BAXTER & CO.
M.

It will be observed that, notwithstanding the instructions of this customer, to sell out and remit and not reinvest, he is closed out, and immediately another investment made, bringing him further into debt to this concern to the tune of $75.

For an ordinary dealer, unused to the ways of these men, it would be natural, to suppose himself on the high road to speedy fortune, but this particular man had had experience. Having been defrauded before by similar schemes, he was for closing out these contracts, and getting back his money, yet each transaction brought him more and more into the power of these leeches.

He writes on the 1st of August, demanding his money. The following letter was sent to him in reply, and speaks for itself:

[*Same Heading.*]

NEW YORK, Aug. 4, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—Your favors of 1st inst. are to hand. Altho' we named the 5th inst. for your remittce there is no such hard and fast binding for that date, so as to imperil the Contract and in order to oblige you we have had the time extended so that *you can send us by return mail as much as you* then can make it convenient to remit and the balance you may *forward somewhat later.* This

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is the very best arrangement we can make for you, and we trust you will at once act upon it. When the new Contract is closed, we can then make such disposition of the proceeds as you may direct. Yours truly,

BAXTER & Co.
M.

Would any legitimate business man, especially a banker, be so anxious about the small sum of $75, where the profits were to be 75 per cent. on the amount invested, and that too to be returned inside of 30 days?

To this letter the victim writes a sharp reply, and complains of having been unfairly dealt with by others. This oily New York rascal consoles with him, and argues that it is all the more reason why he should complete the payments of this particular case, assuring him that when this is done his express directions will be carried out:

[*Same Heading.*]

NEW YORK, Aug. 19, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—Your favor of 16th inst. is to hand. You must not blame us for making the very best investments we could for you, nor visit upon our heads the offences of others. We can quite understand your feeling *sore over the loss of your other investment* but all the more reason why you should bestir yourself and *complete the payment* of this 150 share spread in order that *we may make up your losses for you*. When this contract is closed, you can *give us* express directions *what to do* with the proceeds. Your instructions will *be strictly carried out*. In order to suit your convenience, we have arranged to hold over the contract till next week, but we trust you will send us much as you can this week so that there may be no delay. This is the best arrangement we can make for you. Yours truly,

BAXTER & Co.
M.

This letter brings on Aug. 19th, $21.85 on account, from the victim. This not satisfying the leeches, the following telegram is sent on the 27th of August:

Blank No. 1. THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

*Dated* NEW YORK, 27, 1879.

It is absolutely necessary that the balance is paid by the twenty-eighth do not fail to remit in time.

BAXTER & Co.

The same night with the telegram, was sent also the following letter:

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[*Same Heading.*]

NEW YORK, Aug. 27, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—Your favor of 25th inst. is to hand, with $21.85 on account, and we trust *you will promptly remit the balance still remaining*, because, until that is *paid*, we can return no profit on the privilege. We shall hold over the contract for your reply, and if you have not already sent off the amount, we trust you will not fail to do so immediately on receipt of this.

Yours truly, BAXTER & Co.
M.

This letter is literally true; for until the remittance came there was no profit on this last venture for Baxter & Co.

Failing to secure more money, Baxter & Co., on the 6th of September send the following letter, showing the total loss to the customer of all moneys that he had invested.

[*Same Heading.*]

NEW YORK, Sept. 6, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—Your favor of 4th inst. is to hand. When we wrote you on the 27 ult. we told you that we would hold over the contract for your reply to that letter, with remittce for the balance due on the 150 share contract. Hence our not writing you since. We now report the expiration of the contract, but as the stock is selling at 67, we can neither put nor call the 150 shares, and consequently the privilege gives *no return, thus ending the investment.*

You must *not however be discouraged* by this, but when you have the funds to spare, take another privilege, and we have no fear but in the end you will come out successful. Yours truly,

BAXTER & Co.
M.

After repeated demands, the victim writes that he sent, in all, $85 in cash to these parties, and he calls for its return. In reply he receives the following sarcastic letter:

[*Same Heading.*]

NEW YORK, Nov. 17, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—Your favor of 13th inst. is to hand. You say you sent $85. Did you send that amount here for the purpose of *our returning it to you?* Did you not send it in payment of the several privileges which you had, *some of which realized excellent profits?* That's what the money was paid for; and now, because the last contract *gave no return*, you think we should be the losers. No, no. When you speculate and win, you get all the profit, and in like manner, when you lose, you must stand the loss—not some one else. *Be reasonable in these matters.* Yours truly,

BAXTER & Co.
M.

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It may be of interest to the reader to learn that the amount lost was subsequently returned to the sender through the interference of the law.

The above practice seems to have been the universal method of this office. In another instance brought to the writer's attention, a clergyman lost over $270 in the same method, by this same concern.

Another instance: A man in New Orleans was forced by these men, in order to secure the little money that he had sent on to them, to go and borrow money. This was during the time of the yellow fever. The poor victim wrote back, telling them how depressed business was, and how very difficult it was to get money, and that he had sent them all he had, and begging them to return it to him. Instead of that, however, they kept at him in a similar manner, until they induced him to go and borrow money. Having done that, they took the entire amount.

The following letter is added as a word of warning; it is precisely as received at this office, and is in the same handwriting as many of the above letters written by Baxter & Co. It speaks for itself, and I believe it to be genuine:

P. O. Box 2758. JAMES BROWN, BANKER AND BROKER,
*Dealer in Stocks and Bonds,*
64 and 66 Broadway and 19 New street.

NEW YORK, July 11, 1880.

*Dear Sir*—I take the liberty of sending you one of my cards to let you know that I am now in business on my own account, and to solicit the favor of any orders you may have in my line in this market. I recal to your recollection the fact of my having been correspondent with Baxter & Co. when you called on that firm some time ago, and it is the frankness of your conversation with me on that occasion which has prompted me to take the liberty I now do. I am not aware if you are still operating in stocks, and, if not, kindly excuse my thus troubling you; but, if you are, and will care to entrust me with any of your orders, I can assure you that it will be my study and desire to give you every satisfaction. I have no connection with any other house, and my endeavor is to execute whatever orders I have to the very best advantage. Mine is essentially a commission business, and therefore the more I can make for my patrons the better I know it will be for me.

The market has been comparatively quiet for some days past, but there are indications of renewed activity in many of the leading stocks, and important changes may soon take place. Respy,

JAMES BROWN.

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It has been already published in the newspapers that the head of this firm, Richard Baxter, went to Europe not a great while ago, taking with him $700,000 worth of Government bonds. I do not vouch for the truth of this; but, that he made thousands of dollars I am fully assured. Upon my demanding references of these men at my first interview, they gave me the name of a prominent banking house, telling me that they bought their bonds there. I went immediately to this house, and learned that on three different occasions a certified check of Richard Baxter had been brought there to pay for $10,000 worth of Government bonds that had been sold him, and not railroad stocks for speculation or syndicate purposes.

It is well to observe here that in every case which the author has investigated, he has found that so long as the party sending the money responded to the Leech's demands for more, just so long did they continue to make profits for the victim—on paper; but when the refusal came, and the victim not only stopped sending more, but demanded his money back, he was closed out under one excuse or another, without the return of a single cent of his money.

And further, in all the cases and all the complaints received and now in hand against this concern, in not one single instance have I known of a dollar of money being returned, except some few hundred dollars, which they have been obliged to restore since the recent exposures.

### SIMPSON & CO.

We cannot bid farewell to the bogus bankers and brokers until we have paid our compliments to the firm of Simpson & Co., which is worthy of consideration here because the principal men in it were notorious characters. It was located at 49 Exchange Place, and was composed of J. M. Pattee and John F. Barrett.

In introducing these two characters, we shall not now tarry over Mr. Pattee, as he will figure conspicuously hereafter. But as we shall have little to say of Mr. Barrett, we desire to dwell a mo-

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ment in order that the public may have a just conception of this "*Old and Reliable Banking House.*"

The writer has a certified copy of an indictment filed April 20th, 1876, in the Superior Criminal Court for the Parish of Orleans, in the State of Louisiana, wherein "John F. Barrett, Jr., is charged that he did, with intent to influence W. L. Evans, second Justice for the Peace of this Parish of Orleans, to issue a marriage license to him, Barrett, the said W. L. Evans being then acting in his official capacity as Justice as aforesaid, offer to the said W. L. Evans as a bribe the sum of $500, to issue said license to said Barrett contrary to the form of the Statute of the said State of Louisiana in such case made and provided."

The writer also has another document filed on the same day in the same court, charging said Barrett with carrying concealed weapons on his person. To which the said Barrett plead guilty.

This man and Pattee published a paper, called "The New York Stock Exchange." In this paper they say:

Messrs. Simpson & Co., Bankers, have met with unexampled success. The probabilities of profit are far greater by their system than any other, while the risk is diminished to the very lowest point, and limited to the amount invested by the combination method with pools, that combine the orders of thousands of customers and operate them as one immense whole. The advantage of this can be seen at a glance.

This reads like irony. They did "combine the orders of thousands of customers," and the entire "immense whole" undoubtedly went into their pockets. The "advantage" to them could undoubtedly be seen at a glance after the letters which they received had been opened, and the contents piled before them on their desk. Again they say:

The confidential relations between us and our customers, and professional brokers alike, debar us from discussing or disclosing any of their secrets without previously obtaining their consent.

This is undoubtedly true, for no one would ever suppose for a moment that having robbed a man, they would publicly announce it, or reveal the fact to any one.

This circular bristles with inducements to the party who shall receive it, to send money to Simpson & Co.

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In one of their circulars they quote from certain newspapers, as containing flattering notices of the transaction, and fortunes made for their customers by the "Celebrated Banking House of Simpson & Co." The writer personally looked up these papers. In one instance they refer to the "New York Mercury" of a certain date; on looking over the file of this paper, we have been unable to find even a line concerning Simpson & Co.

Pattee undoubtedly furnished the money and the names; and how he ever came to fall into the hands of Barrett is a surprise to many.

Simpson & Co.'s business started last summer, yet in their circular they speak of the "established reputation of this firm," and promise their customers the benefit of their "long experience and shrewd judgment." Parties who have business transactions with this honorable house can be certain that their interest is in "safe hands." Then again they speak of the "old and reliable house," and recommend stock operators to make their investments through the careful experience and responsible firm of Simpson & Co.

The following quotation from the "New York Commercial Gazette," to one who knows these two men, is really very funny and amusing.

**During the long and successful experience of Simpson & Co., they have earned for themselves an envious reputation for honesty, integrity, and good faith, and enjoy a business almost colossal in its proportions. These men have long been identified with the history and affairs of Wall Street.**

Well, kind reader, before you finish this book I hope to establish to your entire satisfaction the "envious" reputation of J. M. Pattee, and his long experience, not in Wall Street, but in conducting various schemes through the mail. He is a very active fraud, and an industrious and ingenious one.

The form of certificate sent their customers did not materially differ from Lawrence & Co.'s. Across one end of this certificate of shares in their combination is another amusing thing, viewed in the light of the actual operations carried on by this concern, to wit:

**To prevent confusion or mistake in our business, all balances to the credit of**

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any shareholder are remitted by check immediately on the close of the combination, thus enabling each one to return a part or whole for reinvestment as may suit their convenience.

Requests to hold a portion of profits for reinvestment cannot be therefore complied with.

Why they should have thrown away this amount of printer's ink is hard to discern, especially as it was evidently, in the light of the disclosures of this business, no part of their scheme to return any such amount.

I may say here, in all the different schemes that I have detected J. M. Pattee in, as hereinafter described, and in the hundreds of letters of complaint received, I have yet to find the first person who ever received one dollar from him in return for money sent.

The following letter, addressed to a banking house, is given verbatim, except the name, which is omitted:

PLANE No. 4, Feb. 16, 1880.

—— BANKING HOUSE, New York.

Incloased you will pleas find Simpson & Co. Receipt for $50 he sent me one or two turns and I have never heard from him since, so I supossed he has robed me of my hard earnings for I am a very poore and had to woork hard for what I sent him. I will give you an order for what he may have comeing to me I you can invest for me in what you pleas. Resp., &c.,

—— PLANE No. 4, B. & O. R. R., Maryland.

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Another letter from another victim reads:

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Dec. 31, 1879.

TO THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL:

SIR—Having seen in the Public Ledger of the above date that you have deprived a few firms of the use of the Mail I was sorry of not having seen another one also which I am sure if I was a man of means I should try my best to punish such like thieves has I caunot call them anything else because I have been robbed out of my hard earnings from another Firm just on the same principle has you have in the above paper and I am not afraid of giving their name which I hope they will be punished for it and that his name as Firm of Messrs. Simpson & Co., Stock Brokers, 49 Exchange Place, New York, N. Y. Also I think they have a place in Broadway. I thought has soon has I saw it in the paper I would give you the above information and then you could steer youre coure which ever way you thought best hoping you will excuse me for troubling you with my long letter I remain yours,

T. P.

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As more fully showing the enormous profits made (on paper), the following letter tells the story:

CARTHAGE, TENN., January 6, 1880.

ANTHONY COMSTOCK, ESQ.:

*Sir*—From the Newspapers I find that you have been called on to investigate and bring to light one of the greatest swindles that has cursed our land for a great number of years; I allude to those small *brokers* who pretend to do business on Wall Street; My son without my knowing anything about it until about the winding up, has been made the Dupe of the designing villians. Inclosed you will find nearly all of the papers, at least all I could lay my hands on at this time to show you how they transact their business. You will see by the first dated Oct 9, 1879, there receipt for Ten dollars which they placed to his credit in buying ten shares in a combination then formed and to hold one month.

You will also see by the other certificate dated Nov 1st, 1879, that his ten shares had made him a nett gain of 131.19 shares, or $131.19 dollars. On Nov 17th you will see that the report a nett gain of $87.50 to the 100 shares. On Nov 24th they report $100.00 to the 100 shares nett gain; On Dec 1st, they report a nett gain of $50 to the 100 shares, making in all about $750 or $800 outside of the $10 first put in. You will confer a great favor if you will collect the above off A. Simpson & Co. or Buckwalder who I presume is Good.

They villians have succeeded in drawing into their net a great number of the young men in this State Just as they have my son, and as soon as the wrote for their money to be sent to them that was the last they heard from A. Simpson & Co; As soon as I found out my son's connexion with the matter I told him to order A. Simpson & Co. to send him his money which was some time about the 5th of Dec. he wrote to them to send him a check. Since that time he has not heard one word from them although he has written several times. If you cannot give the above your personal attention will you please put it in the hands of some honest Lawyer, who will collect and return it to me at Carthage less a reasonable fee for his trouble. I would presume there would not be much trouble in making them pay it as the papers inclosed are all in their own figures and I see no chance for them to get out as they cant show any receipt from my son for one cent he ever got from them.

You will please if you should agree to collect the above make the calculation on the amount of shares; the profits I think were to be calculated weekly and the combination to last for three weeks, They have had my son's money since Oct 9, 1879. there is some of the weekly reports missing as you will see by reference to dates For my character and standing where I live I refer you to Post Master Gen Kee and Benton McMillon, congressman from this District. Any further information in regard to the above will be cordially given.

Yours Respectfully, &c.

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It will interest many readers to know something of how the officer of the Law discovers the secret operations of these criminals, and also how this particular firm was peculiarly and completely suppressed in about forty-eight hours.

Having received orders from Washington to investigate this matter, I proceeded personally, accompanied by my assistant, to the office of Simpson & Co.

It was up one flight of stairs, in a room at the end of the hall in the rear. This room was about twelve feet square. As we entered we found a high stained glass partition, fencing off a space about large enough to admit of the person entering, and closing the door after him. A single opening about a foot high had over it the word *Bookkeeper*, behind which was a red-headed clerk in charge. Knowing the peculiar characteristics of Pattee, I kept my eyes behind me while attending to the bookkeeper. I had hardly entered the office, before I was conscious of somebody opening a door on the side of the hall, about half way to the stairs. This door opened into a dark room. I saw a little gray-haired old man with gold spectacles on, bob out, and then instantly dodge back into the dark room, and attempt to quietly close the door, so as to attract no attention. I unceremoniously left the bookkeeper, and quietly stepped back to the door in question, gently pushed it open, as it was being closed, and lo! I stood face to face with J. M. Pattee.

He instantly reached out his hand to shake hands, and becoming very much excited, repeated over and over again, how glad he was to see me, stuttering out, "Well—I—am—devilish—glad to see you."

I then asked him what he was doing down there. He said, "Nothing; he had nothing to do there at all." The following dialogue then took place:

*Q.* "You certainly don't expect me to believe that you have nothing to do with this place?"

*Pattee.* "Well, well, I only have an office room here."

*Q.* "You and Barrett are running this concern?"

*P.* "No, no, Barrett is running it; but I have a desk room here."

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*Q.* "Where are all your clerks, that you have to send out your circulars for you?"

*P.* "We don't send out any more circulars. We are doing a regular banking business here. We are brokers now."

*Q.* "Which is your office?"

*P.* "Oh, I have a desk room in here; would you like to see our office?"

*A.* "Of course I would.'

Upon my expressing a desire to see his office he tried to back down, and immediately turned the conversation, when I opened another door leading into the office in question, without going out into the hall. Here I found a lounge, two or three chairs, table, and a desk. No sign, however, of a bank ledger, stock books, or even a safe to keep them in. Observing a light over a green door leading out of this inner office in which we were, to the left as we entered, I asked Pattee what that was?

"Oh," he said; "that is Barrett's private office."

Knowing Pattee's tricks, I opened the door which stood partly ajar, when lo, six of his confidential clerks sat at their desks with hundreds of envelopes before them, and they were engaged addressing these from his list of names, and folding the circulars of Simpson & Co., preparing the same for the mail. I recognized in this room some of his old stand-bys, those who had been in his employ for years.

This man I know to have had at one time over 300,000 names, and post office addresses, which I seized, and which were placed in the hands of the police of New York City, and afterwards on application of Pattee's counsel these were returned to Pattee by the Police Commissioners.

I made special inquiry of Pattee, for Mr. Simpson. He informed me there was such a person, but he did not know where this man could be found. With the papers and documents in my hands at this time, that night I made a report to the Postmaster General, which resulted in an order being issued, sending back to the writer or sender thereof, all registered letters and money orders addressed to this concern.

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It was then brought to my knowledge that these parties continued their business, and that threats had been made against myself personally by those connected with this firm.

I then resolved to find the man Simpson. Previous experiences had informed me of a Simpson who had been connected with some of Pattee's schemes, and who then was a printer. Application at the New York Post Office disclosed the fact that a prominent criminal lawyer and ex-United States Official had identified Simpson to the postal authorities, but no one at the Post Office knew where this man Simpson could be found. Application made to the gentleman who identified him, disclosed the whereabouts of Simpson. I found him a hard working industrious man, who had been led into this matter on the promise of having all the printing done by this concern, and a certain percentage of the profits. He informed me that he had been given $50 by this firm to go to this lawyer, and have him go and identify him to the Post Office authorities.

This man was in the habit of going to the office of Simpson & Co. once a day, at a certain hour, and signing the firm name for registered letters. Also of drawing the money orders at the Post Office. He, in fact, had placed himself in a position of assuming the responsibility of the acts of Pattee & Barrett, under their firm name. They paying him for the use of his name by giving him their printing at liberal prices. Mr. Simpson, in order to free himself from any complicity in this swindle after it was exposed to him, signed an order directing the Postmaster to send all letters addressed to Simpson & Co. back to the writers, where their addresses appear on the outside of the envelope, and the balance to the dead letter office.

Thus was actually closed up a scheme that was yielding, it is believed, not far from $1,000 a day profit to these parties.

In a few days after this, Pattee called at my office to make, as he said, a friendly call. After exchanging the courtesies of the day, I informed him that I was about calling upon him at the office of

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HEATH & CO.

He seemed very much surprised, and wanted to know what was the matter. I told him the trouble was, that he was swindling people in the same manner that Simpson & Co. had been doing, by getting their money and making no return whatever for it.

This firm had been in existence several months at 1227 Broadway. Their business was almost identical with that of Simpson & Co., the difference being in the name of the firm.

Their method of advertising, however, was quite different, being done on a postal card, which we give below.

Office of HEATH & Co., Bankers and Stock Brokers.

NEW YORK, Nov. 20th, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—Our New Financial Circular, containing a full list of all Counterfeit Bank Bills, will be sent free to any address, on application. It contains "Two Unerring Rules for Making Money Rapidly."

Persons in all parts of the country are realizing large profits on investments of $10 to $1000 in legitimate stock speculations. $300 to $500 are frequently made in a day on one hundred shares of stock. Send for a copy of paper which explains everything. Address HEATH & Co.,

1227 Broadway New York.

This concern, after Simpson & Co. suspended operations, moved down to No. 8 Broad Street, quite near the reputable banking house of Wm. Heath & Co., whose name and reputation they were trading upon.

Before Pattee left the office he had addressed a polite note to the postmaster, directing him to dispose of Heath & Co.'s mail in the same manner in which he had disposed of Simpson & Co.

In concluding what we have to say concerning this class of swindlers, and others advertising schemes of stock operations, it may be interesting to know the names of those who have been advertising and sending out circulars, as well as the particular title of the scheme these parties operated:

ADAMS, BROWN & Co., "Mutual Capitalization."
T. POTTER, WIGHT & Co., "Stock Privileges."
BRADLEY & Co., "Combination of Capital."
SIMPSON & Co., "Special Combinations."
LAWRENCE & Co., "Combination Method."

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EVARTS, BARNES & Co., "The Syndicate System."
D. & Co., "Protective Margin Operations in Stock."
C. & Co., "Mutual Stock Operating Co."
SMALLEY & GALE, "Special Stock Syndicate."
H. & Co., "New York Syndicate."
RAYMOND & Co., "Puts and Calls."
HERRICK & Co., "Pooling of Stocks."
E. W. WARD & Co., "Put, Call, Spread and Double Privilege in Stock."
HECKLING & Co., "Stock Brokers."
CHAS. FOXWELL & Co., "One Per Cent. Margin Syndicate."

In all, twenty-three different concerns have been suppressed, and their business stepped.

We have taken the principal men in this business. There are others that are equally as fraudulent, whose operations have not yet been arrested; but none that are as extensive as those we have named.

From the writer's knowledge of the operations of those who pretend to invest small sums of money in stock operations, he would say to every person who thinks of sending money for that purpose to New York, or any other large city: unless you desire to lose your money, keep it in your own possession! It is extra hazardous to put money for speculation into the hands of a stranger, whom you have never seen.

I look upon any broker, who advertises by circular, in the same manner that I regard the quack, who sends out a medical pamphlet. No reputable physician would recognize such practice as legitimate or professional. So any reputable broker discountenances that kind of advertising.

Many of this class seek to overcome the growing prejudice against all this kind of advertising, by sending personal letters: and these communications, which come unsolicited, are always to be regarded as very suspicious, the same as a printed circular, and should be subjected to a very thorough investigation before any funds are entrusted to them.

Others secure the names of parties and send a night message by telegraph, announcing some very active stock and recommending that money be forwarded them at once to enable them to make up their combination.

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Of all such beware. Do you for one moment suppose that any such person, even if he had made a *bona fide* deal in stock for you, is going to lose by the operation? Not so. He does not go to the expense of telegraphing to two or three hundred persons a week, because he is an unselfish mortal, having a large heart, and desirous of serving his fellow-man. No, not he. He is after other people's money, and out of it he expects to meet the expenses of office rent, clerk hire, stationery, house rent, and live handsomely besides. Your loss is his gain.

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## CHAPTER VI.

### BOGUS MINING COMPANIES.

We now come to a new species of fraud. And in order to present J. M. Pattee and his numerous schemes to deceive and defraud the public, in their regular order, let us go back a few years.

J. M. Pattee is a man of 55 or 60 years of age. His hair and whiskers are gray. He wears eye-glasses, being near-sighted, and when under any pressure or excitement he talks very fast. He is a remarkably nervous man, and seems to be always in fear; having at times a wild, frightened look, as though he expected to be arrested every moment. As illustrating this, an amusing incident may be recited that occurred at Saratoga last summer.

I was called there to address a meeting of the members of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, then in session.

As most of the hotels were closed I joined friends who were stopping at the Everett House. I had no thought of seeing Pattee, not knowing that he was there, but on ascending the steps of the east porch which led to the office of this hotel, my friends and myself were greatly amused to see Pattee jump up, run like a deer, and disappear from sight. He was in the act of drawing a check to pay a woman for vegetables that she had just brought to the hotel, when on looking up he espied me at the further end of the porch, and without any ceremony he darted through the house, and I, seeing his movements, walked in quickly, and out through the office, and arrived on the west porch just in time to see him fleeing down Main Street, as hard as he could run. It required a great deal of persuasion on the part of his partner to induce him to come back to the hotel, and it was not until after his partner had received positive assurances from myself, that I was not after Pattee, that he could be induced to return to the hotel, and to the bosom of his family, who occupied an adjoining



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cottage. Pattee verified the truth that "The wicked flee when no man pursueth."

The plan of this man's operations for the past few years has been to invent different schemes, in which he will send circulars to all the names and addresses in his possession, sending out anywhere from one to five thousand circulars a day, until the entire 300,000 names are exhausted. Then by the time the list has been gone through, or perhaps when the list is half exhausted, he will have another scheme ready to launch, and the same parties will again receive circulars. But in each and every instance he operates under some fictitious or assumed name or company.

Another remarkable feature of his operations, is that he is never personally known. While he furnishes the money and backs the scheme, and pays the bills, yet any person ordinarily seeking to find the principal would never meet Pattee, unless they should happen to catch him on the flight, as I did at 49 Exchange Place.

Pattee is known to have had as many as three or four schemes in operation at once, under his different names.

His usual plan is, to induce his brother-in-law, or confidential clerk, to allow him to use their names.

"THE SILVER MOUNTAIN MINING CO."

was started in 1877, and a certificate of incorporation was filed in the office of the Secretary of State. This certificate of incorporation began:

We, Henry L. Tyler, George J. Chubb, R. P. Vail, A. Simpson, and E. C. Bruen, do by these Presents, pursuant to, and in conformity with an Act of the Legislature of the State of New York, associate ourselves together, and form a corporation, under the name and style of "Silver Mountain Mining Co."

Section II.—The objects for which the said corporation is formed, are as follows:

Mining and manufacturing the production of mines, and doing a general mining business, carrying on some part of its business out of the State of New York, viz., in Wyoming Territory.

Section III.—The capital stock of said corporation shall be $10,000,000, which shall be divided into 100,000 shares of $100 each.

Section IV. provides that the corporation shall exist for the

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term of fifty years from January 19th, 1877. Section V. names as a board of trustees the persons above named in this act.

This certificate of incorporation was printed in pamphlet form, containing the Notary Public's certificate of acknowldgement, also the certificate of the Secretary of State, and the County Clerk's certificate, that the original certificate is on file. Then follows the by-laws of the "Silver Mountain Mining Co.," office, 1197 Broadway, New York. The by-laws were in the usual form, defining the duties of the officers, and concerning certificates of stock and transfers of shares, etc.

The officers elected as printed in this pamphlet were: Wm. R. McCall, President, H. F. Burtnett, Secretary, and W. S. Orville, Treasurer.

Here then we have an incorporation with a capital stock of $10,000,000 to operate the wonderful mine in question.

The map on page 116 was sent out to the correspondents.

It will be of interest to the public to know something of the financial standing of the officers and incorporators of this wonderful Mining Co.

H. L. Tyler resided at No. 92 8th Avenue; while Mr. Simpson was the foreman in a printing establishment in Maiden Lane, where the bulk of Patten's printing was done, including his circulars, and tickets in the various lottery schemes then running.

Messrs. Vail & Bruen were clerks under Mr. Simpson on a salary of from $12 to $15 a week. Mr. Simpson informs the writer that his name was signed to this act of incorporation without his knowledge, and that he did not know of it until informed afterwards by Mr. Vail.

In justice to Mr. Simpson, I desire to state that I have found him an industrious hard working man, and I would not unnecessarily reflect upon his position or standing, because of this use of his name in perpetrating Patten's fraud. He also informs me that out of all the moneys collected, as informed by McCasey, but $300 was sent out to McCasey at the mine. McCasey was the superintendent of the mine.

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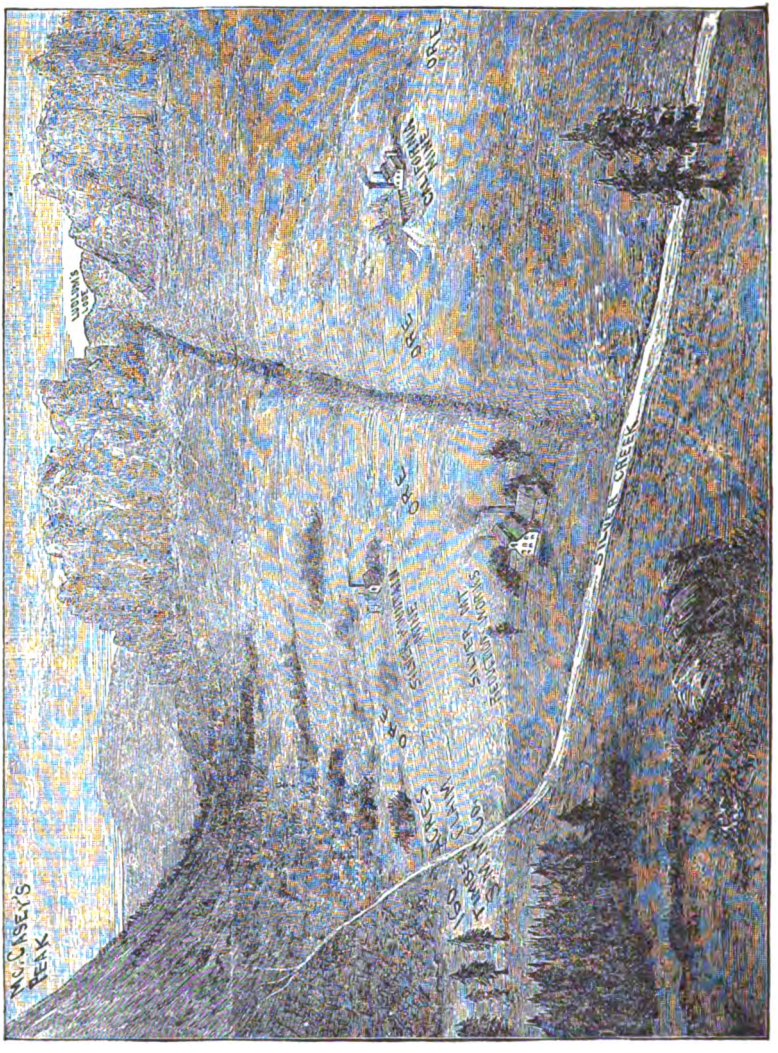
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As for Messrs. McCall, Burtnett & Orville, the first two were clerks of Elias; and the reader is cheerfully referred to the various schemes of this man Elias, as to his position and standing in the community.

Nothwithstanding all this, printer's ink is very powerful for forming and executing the schemes devised by sharpers to swindle the unwary, and perhaps no case more fully illustrates this than the present one.

Having prepared the prospectus and the circular, the next thing was to sell the stock of this mine. It is not here contended that there was not a mine in question, and that McCasey, whose name is mentioned in some of these papers, was there, and that some pretence was made to operate the mine. Of this we do not pretend to know, but we do know that this scheme secured the money of persons through the mail in answer to the advertisements sent out, and then made no return of value therefor. The plan was to send out to the names that either Elias or Pattee had, the circulars advertising the alleged mine, inducing people to send for stock, and then at different periods assessing the stockholders for the benefit of the operators.

This is the only scheme in which it was alleged that there was a partnership between Pattee & Elias. I do not give it as a fact, but it will appear afterwards that Burtnett and McCall were Elias's clerks.

We give below sufficient of the correspondence with one of the victims to show how this thing was done.

We give first the letter from a party who was swindled, and this letter, and all the papers attached were sent to Adams, Brown & Co., and was found in their possession at the time of the seizure of their place in January last.

BELLEVILLE, March 24th 1879.

MESSRS. ADAMS, BROWN & CO., 26 & 28 Broad Street, N. Y.

*Gentlemen*:—Accept my thanks for circular sent me. At present am not prepared to order shares, expect to be by May first. Will make you a proposition. Enclosed please find papers, &c., respecting the same. I was swindled out of $100 by the parties above. I found out their true character. The whole matter was so well gotten up as to deceive almost any person, as you

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will find by the flattering reports, letters, references, &c., which I send you by registered letter. See also letter of J. S. Jones, County Surveyor, in answer to mine of inquiry as to whether they were all right.

I have sufficient grounds for sending the whole batch to the Penitentiary. If you can see any possible way of cornering any of those parties and recover back the money, I will invest at once with you for the term of six months, and allow you one-half of all you can make out of it during that time by investing in your "capitalization" scheme.

Should you have no time to give this your attention, perhaps you can hand it to some responsible party who can. If not, you will please retain the papers subject to my order. Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience, I remain yours truly,

It is often said it takes a thief to catch a thief, but Adams, Brown & Co. were not the rogues who would be likely to trouble themselves about the rascality of other frauds. They were too busy with their own stealing.

It was like jumping from the frying-pan into the fire, for this man to send these papers and documents to Adams, Brown & Co.

The circulars sent out propose the selling of the stock of this company at $1 a share, while the nominal value of the share was $100. In other words, a person sending $5 to this corporation would receive back a certificate for 5 shares of this stock, representing $500, face value. The copy of the by-laws and a map of the mines as above described, were forwarded on application.

The following circular with the by-laws and the map may be called

BAIT NO. 1.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE, SILVER MOUNTAIN MINING COMPANY,
Ferris P. O., Carbon County,

WYOMING, June 9th, 1877.

H. L. TYLER, President.

*Dear Sir:*—Since my last report there has not been much change in the Mine. The ore continues good and we are now down 27 feet, 7 inches. As soon as we are down 50 feet I shall run a cut across the vein and determine its width. The character of the ore we are now in is a rich chloride of carbonates, and has been hard blasting, but it is getting softer as we go down, which will save powder and much hard labor. The Indians made their appearance last week, but have all disappeared. It has been snowing for the last 36 hours. I am pushing the work as fast as our means will allow. From present indications, I am confident our Company will be able to excel the Dividends paid by the Consolidated Virginia Mine in its most prosperous days, and in order to more

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fully satisfy you that my opinion of the great value of our Mine is correct, I herewith enclose the report of three practical miners:

FERRIS P. O., Carbon Co., Wyoming, June 8th, 1877.

We, the undersigned, having examined the Silver Mountain Mine, do unhesitatingly declare it to be a true Fissure Vein, with all its characteristics, and, so far as developed, the ore is fully equal to any mine on this great Mineral Range.

JOHN POPHAM, *Foreman Vulcan S. M. Co.*
J. T. MORGAN, *Miner.*
TERANCE O'CONNER, *Miner.*

This, with other proofs I have given you, cannot fail to satisfy all of its real merit and value. Truly yours,

JOHN MCCASEY, *Superintendent.*

In the case before us the party sent on one day $5, receiving back a receipt for the amount for the first assessment on his certificate. Then followed a certificate elaborately gotten up in green and black. On the left hand corner it contained a vignette of miners at work in a mine, with others at the mouth receiving the ore, as it is drawn up on a windlass in buckets. In the centre another picture represents miners at work with pick and shovel, with another one holding a bag open, into which one of them is shoveling the gold dust, while in the distance a boy is seen leading a mule away, laden with the bags that have been filled. On the right hand side is a miner in costume with the pick and shovel in one hand, and his rifle in the other, representing him as a pioneer. The printer who got up this work of art failed to put his imprint upon it. It is presumed to have been done in the incorporators' own establishment.

This party wrote first in July. In a few days Mr. L——— receives back the following letter, together with a certificate for 20 shares of stock, which was forwarded to him in this letter.

OFFICE OF SILVER MOUNTAIN MINING COMPANY,
No. 1193 Broadway,

NEW YORK, July 2d, 1877.

*Dear Sir.*—Your letter inclosing five dollars is at hand and noted.

We inclose certificates No. 3816 for five shares, and No. 3817 for twenty shares and send receipt for the first assessment on the five shares.

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The certificate you now hold, No. 2094, is the reserve stock and soon as the first assessment is paid on the 20 shares we will send receipt *in full* for the five shares of reserve stock.

We inclose report from the mine with certificate of other miners which will speak for itself. We are yet selling stock in order to keep the work at the mine going on, and will fill any orders you may send us.

Yours, &c.,

C. W. BEAN.

Then, to inspire confidence, and to prepare the victim for submitting to further plunder, the following circular of information was sent:

OFFICE OF SILVER MOUNTAIN MINING COMPANY,
No. 1193 Broadway,
NEW YORK, Sept. 25th, 1877.

We are gratified to be able to furnish you with the favorable reports annexed, which we have received from our Superintendent at the mine, and from Messrs. Ed. Balbach & Son, who have made assays of the ore. Owing to the adverse reports published at the time the levy of first assessment, only a small proportion of stockholders paid, "all giving as an excuse," that they had lost confidence in the Company, after reading the said slanderous articles. We believe the reports annexed will set all slanders at rest, *if lies can be nailed by facts.*

The result of these slanders was to curtail our receipts, to such an extent as to only allow us to do a limited amount of work at the mine. If we had received the first assessment on stock issued up to April, the mine would undoubtedly be paying dividends now. Under the present circumstances, our desire is to pay dividends without issuing more stock, which you will readily perceive is to your advantage, for you will be entitled to a larger proportion of the unsold stock owned by the Company, thus giving you much larger dividends.

In case more money should be required, the present stockholders who have paid three assessments cannot be called upon again, and we would obtain funds by the sale of enough stock to meet our requirements, for machinery, transportation, &c. Believing you sympathize with the management in their efforts in your behalf, we are

Yours very respectfully,

H. L. TYLER, PRESIDENT.

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SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE, SILVER MOUNTAIN MINING COMPANY.
CARBON COUNTY, WYOMING TERRITORY.
FERRIS, Sept. 1st, 1877.

HENRY L. TYLER, Prest., N. Y.:

*Dear Sir*—I have the honor to transmit this my second quarterly report. Our shaft is progressing as rapidly as circumstances will permit; at the depth

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of forty feet the air became so bad that I was forced to suspend operations for four days, owing to the illness of the men from foul air; at the end of that time I commenced running an Adit-Level to cut the vein at a greater depth, thereby hoping to avoid foul air until tunnel and shaft are united; my intention then is to use the Adit-Level for a working tunnel, thereby avoiding the hoisting of the ore by way of the shaft, and economising in my force of men.

I have shipped you a box of very fine ore, which has been pronounced extremely rich in Nickel and Cobalt, as well as in Gold and Silver; in fact, I can truthfully say I believe it to contain a greater percentage of pure Metallic Nickel than any mine in existence. The vein keeps increasing in thickness, and I believe ere long will rank among the first mines on this Continent.

I hope to be able within a short time to give you such information that will warrant you in purchasing all the machinery for the successful reduction of the ores. Enclosed please find vouchers for expenditures during the month of August. Respectfully, &c.,

JOHN MCCASEY, *Superintendent.*

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ASSAY OF ORE AS REPORTED BY ED. BALBACH & SON,
NEWARK SMELTING AND REFINING WORKS,
NEWARK, N. J., Aug. 28th, 1877.

H. L. TYLER, Esq., Pres't:

*Dear Sir*—We have carefully analized the sample of ores you left with us, and find it to contain:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Red Ore No. 1, Gold per ton 2,000 lbs., | | | 33 $\frac{34}{100}$ oz. |
| " " Silver " | | " | 16 $\frac{28}{100}$ oz. |
| Ore No. 2, Gold, | " | " | 0 $\frac{14}{100}$ oz. |
| " " Silver, | " | " | 3 $\frac{68}{100}$ oz. |

Nickel Ore, 5 $\frac{8}{10}$ per cwt. pure.

Yours Respectfully,
ED. BALBACH & SON.

---

N. B.—Average value of Gold per oz. $20.60
" " Silver " " 1.20
" " Nickel " lbs. 2.50

Following this in a few days came a second assessment on the spurious stock.

ASSESSMENT NO. 2.

NOTICE OF 2d ASSESSMENT.

OFFICE OF THE SILVER MOUNTAIN MINING COMPANY.
No. 1193 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY,
OCTOBER 2d, 1877.

MR. ———, Belleville, Ill.

You are hereby notified that pursuant to Article II of the By-Laws, the Board of Directors of this Company have levied the Second Assessment of One

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Dollar per Share on 25 Shares of this Company's Stock, registered in your name on the books of this Company as Certificate No. 3317 and 3316.

Total Amount, $25.

In order to prevent the forfeiture of your shares, please remit at once to H. L. Tyler, by Draft, Registered Letter, or Post Office Money order.

H. L. TYLER, President.
By Order of the Board of Directors.

N. B.—Please return this notice with your remittance.

The recipient of this demand immediately responds, by sending $20, and is assured under the date of October 13th, that,

If our present stockholders do their duty by remitting promptly, we will not sell more stock, as we intend to divide the profits among as few as possible. Yours truly,

HENRY L. TYLER, President.

This was undoubtedly true, as I have been assured by Mr. McCasey that the money was not sent to him to work with, and that he knew nothing of the assessments that were being made in order to enable him to work this mine; but he was left out in the cold.

As an extra inducement to parties to subscribe in large amounts, it was proposed to issue a certificate of 5 shares extra to any person who would send the first assessment on 25 shares of assessable stock.

The $20 and the $5 sent by this man brought back on the 13th of September, 1877, the following certificate:

CERTIFICATE FOR FULL PAID STOCK.

*No. 156.* Office of the Silver Mountain Mining Co.,
No. 1193 BROADWAY,
*New York, October 13th,* 1877.

**This is to Certify** *that in consideration of having received the first assessment on Twenty-five Shares of the assessable stock of this Company, placed by* A. H. L., *that certificate No.* 2094 *for Five Shares of the reserve stock of this Company is registered on the books of the Company in his name as FULL PAID.*

*HENRY L. TYLER, Prest.*

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In April, 1878, a third assessment was levied, and Mr. L. was obliged to send $25 more to this company.

This was done after the receipt of the following very urgent letter, when it was promised that there were to be no more assessments.

It will be seen in the postscript that it was alleged that money was being daily sent to the mines, while Mr. Superintendent McCasey, as I have already explained, has informed me that *money was not sent*, and that he knew nothing of the fact that these men were issuing their assessments upon those who held the shares in this mining stock:

OFFICE OF SILVER MOUNTAIN MINING COMPANY,
No. 1193 BROADWAY.
All Drafts, P. O. Money Orders and Letters should be addressed to Silver Mountain Mining Company.

NEW YORK, March 5, 1878.

*Dear Sir*—Enclosed find our last assessment notice. When this is paid, your stock will stand on the books of the company in your name free and clear.

Since receiving our last and most flattering report from the mine, we are glad to be able to state to our stockholders that further assessment after this will not be necessary and we will be able in a very short time to pay regular monthly dividends by so doing it will place our stock among the highest in the market and rank our mine with the richest on the face of the Globe.

Respectfully,
SILVER MOUNTAIN MINING CO.

P. S. Remit at once as we are now sending money daily to the mine.

Notwithstanding the above announcement we find another assessment levied on the 6th day of April, 1878, of $25, for which a receipt was sent in full for the last assessment on certificate numbers 3,816 and 3,817. (The same being the numbers of certificates held by this man.)

Strange as it may seem, this last receipt is the only one whereon the signature of the treasurer appears.

The first assessment was receipted for by Henry L. Tyler, President; the second and third "Silver Mountain Mining Co;" this last by Mr. W. S. Orville, Treasurer."

Our friend who was thus successively duped is still out of his

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money, and is likely to remain so, while Mr. J. M. Pattee has been indicted for perpetrating this or similar swindles through the mails.

Agencies were established in the following manner:

AGENTS WANTED.
Office of SILVER MOUNTAIN MINING CO.
No. 1193 BROADWAY,

NEW YORK, Feb. 23rd, 1877.

*Dear Sir*—Knowing your commercial standing to be good we make this proposition to you viz., If you will assist us by placing a few shares of this Company's Stock in the hands of reliable persons in your locality we will give to you One Share of the reserved Stock of the Company Free from Assessments for each 5 shares you place. If you are confident you can place 25 Shares we will send you 5 Shares in your name in order that you may have the Certificate of Stock to show. Should you not be able to place 25 Shares you could keep the 5 Shares by getting some one to join you and take 25 Shares or take them yourself. Such an opportunity may never again occur. Hope you will be able to place from 50 to 500 Shares. Since the enclosed book of By-Laws was printed the Directors have ordered the Superintendent to commence work on the Mine the 20th instant with as large a force of men as can work to advantage. Your patrons may ask or desire to know when the assessment will be made. Please state to them, about the middle of March to enable us to continue the work on the Mine. Yours truly,

H. L. TYLER, *President.*

At the same time that we find Pattee operating this mining company, we also find him with his confidential clerks operating another concern called the "Bullion Mining Company."

He was also running a very extensive scheme known as the "Wyoming Lottery."

ANOTHER MINING SCHEME.

The swindles operated upon stock and mining basis, are most dangerous to the public, and successful to the fraud managing them. They are successful, because everybody knows that there has been money made by the judicious investments in mining and other stocks. Just here it is safe to add, that respectable dealers in stocks do not require to become quacks in order to float their shares. If a mine is valuable its shares do not have to go begging, nor tramp over the country by penny post. Neither does the

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owner parcel it out at $5 per share, nor send certificates for a dollar each or gratis, to strangers. The fraud is successful because he takes advantage of the ignorance of the masses in the country, and seizing on the fact that nearly every person regards the investment in mining and railroad stocks as respectable, he waters his paper stock until it is not worth the paper it is printed upon (for where the paper was worth the market price before he printed on it, after he has thus mutilated it, it is not worth more than the price of old paper, say two cents per pound), and then gives it away or sells it at a nominal price, as a bait to lure his victim on to send him money, for his personal benefit. I dwell upon these schemes because they are the means by which many, many innocent and honest people are swindled.

*Beware of all schemes offering promises of a fortune by the investment of a few dollars.*

*Beware of all mining projects advertised by circulars sent gratuitously by mail.*

But there are some projects that are thoroughly fraudulent on their face. They nevertheless deceive and swindle the public.

We give one, to illustrate, which was operated by Pattee and one of his tools. This is one of the wheels within a wheel, where, after he had fleeced the victim by Wyoming Lottery, he again essays to further defraud them, on the pretence, that the ticket which they purchased or received, sent to their names, had drawn a prize; and

THE BULLION MINING CO.

had, in order to "put the necessary machinery on the mine for working the ore * * * * * agreed to give each person who drew small prizes in this lottery stock in this company."

In fine, this means, that every person who ever received a circular or ticket from either of Pattee's schemes (whose names he or his clerks retained), would receive one of these certificates of stocks. Flattered by the appearance of the certificate, which we reproduce [see page 126], and beguiled by the circulars accompanying the certificate, the recipient forwards more money, and thus is swindled and robbed.

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The "President" of this company was the one already referred to in the office of Read & Co., at the time of their arrest.

This scheme came to an inglorious termination, by Pattee being obliged to pay the fines in U. S. Court of his tools, and sending all letters addressed to The Bullion Gold and Silver Mining Co. and Read & Co. back to the writers through the dead letter office.

Leave out the Lottery, (*no, leave it all in,*) and this scheme is *no more disreputable than many much more pretentious ones,* that emanate from other sources. To the farmer and mechanic in the country, and to all persons unacquainted with the operations and details of this business, again, I reiterate, *if you would save your money, do not invest it in* any scheme except you have personal knowledge of its security and reliability.

If you desire to buy stock, go to different reliable brokers, persons familiar with the stocks you want, and get all the information you can. Do not be in a hurry to invest your money, until you first count all your chances of losing it. After you are thoroughly satisfied, then take time to weigh well, whether your money is safer in the hands of a strange speculator, or in your own hands, or placed in some bank, business enterprise, or real estate within your control.

It is not to give advice that I write this book, but to warn people. I can scarcely restrain a word of advice, however, at times, and so I add, if you will invest, go to some *honest* broker or banker and buy your stock outright.

The following circulars speak for themselves. They accompany the certificate of stock:

CIRCULAR NO. 1.

IMPORTANT.

OFFICE OF BULLION MINING CO.,
No. 176 Broadway, N. Y.

*Dear Sir*—Being anxious to obtain agents for this company and to raise the money required to put the necessary machinery on the mine for working the ore at the earliest possible moment, we have made an arrangement with the manager of the Wyoming Lottery (as he has closed business), to secure the names of all his agents, and in order to introduce our shares and induce you to act as agent for our company, we have agreed to give to each person who drew

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small prizes, stock in this company. Enclosed please find stock sent to you in payment of prizes. By our generous treatment we hope you will assist the company in selling shares to raise the amount necessary for machinery.

The only reason we made this arrangement was being confident many who receive stock will increase the number of their shares to ten or fifty, or act as agent for the company, or induce some friend to act for us, as we will allow very liberal commissions. Please write for terms to agents and circulars.

Trusting this will meet with your entire approbation, we hope that you will either accept an agency or secure a good agent for this company, as it is for your interest now to assist the company to get to milling the ore at the earliest possible date. We are, yours truly,

G. H. HILDRETH, *Sec.* ISAAC LUDLAM, *Pres.*

N. B.—Send for private terms and instructions to agents. Large and liberal pay allowed.

CIRCULAR NO. 2.

BULLION GOLD AND SILVER MINING COMPANY,
FERRIS GOLD MINING DISTRICT, CARBON COUNTY, WYOMING.
ISAAC LUDLAM, *President.* G. H. HILDRETH, *Secretary.*
JOHN MCCASEY, *Superintendent of the Mines.*

NEW YORK OFFICE, 176 Broadway, New York.

Perhaps no event could be more opportune, considering the deranged condition of labor and the depression of business throughout the country, than the discovery of the rich gold mines of the Ferris Gold and Silver Mining Districts of Wyoming. It embraces a broad extent of country, and its wonderful richness exceeds anything hitherto discovered on this continent, from which all classes may, for generations to come, draw support.

Meet who you will, ask who you may, and there is but one answer. The Ferris Gold and Silver Mining District surpasses them all. It is the richest gold mining country in the world. For miles away, up in the height of those tremendous elevations of mountain ranges, glisten rich veins of gold quartz, that run in golden ribbons at close intervals across their breasts. Here are mines in this district that will take centuries to exhaust, and so numerous that it will take years of prospecting to locate them all judiciously. Here the field for prospectors is rich and extensive.

A MOUNTAIN OF GOLD AND SILVER ORE.

The first grade ore works $1,090 per ton, in gold and silver.
The poorest grade works $60 per ton, " " " "

It seems as though the Bullion mine is a mountain of rich gold quartz, which, when properly worked, would go far toward paying off the national debt, as will be seen by the official tests made August 12th, 1876, viz.:—Bullion mine first grade ore, $1,060 gold, and $30 silver, per ton; second grade ore, $56 per ton, gold, and $4 per ton, silver. The climate is lovely in summer and moderate in winter, stock being able to get their own living the year round. Now,

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when we consider the high grade of ore in this company's mine, what are we to expect when it is known that even $20 ore will pay immense dividends.

GREAT ADVANTAGES.

The Ferris Mining District being only 35 miles from the Union Pacific R. R., free from Indians, can be worked the year round. There is close by an abundant supply of wood and water, and labor is only about one-half the price paid in California.

The mines of this company consist of 1,500 feet in length on the Bullion and 1,500 feet in length on the California mine, and all tests thus far prove the existence of a large body of ore immense in width, and the croppings are towering over 200 feet in height. From all appearance, it is the largest and richest body of ore ever discovered on this continent. The company own an excellent mill site, with ample water power, and the ore can be mined and dumped in the mill for $1 per ton. Also, adjoining the mine, the company own 160 acres of heavily timbered land, affording all the facilities for reducing the ores at a very trifling expense. These mines are within 35 miles of the Union Pacific R. R., where provisions and all supplies necessary for working can easily be obtained.

THE BULLION GOLD AND SILVER MINING CO.

The Bullion Gold and Silver Mining Company has been organized for the purpose of developing these mines, and, in order to obtain the means for the purchase of the necessary machinery, have concluded to put upon the market a limited number of the shares of the company (which shares, be it remembered, are unassessed) at such a low figure as to induce not only capitalists, but the people at large to invest in them. The owners of these mines not having capital to work them, and not willing to allow grasping men of wealth to control them, prefer to sell a few shares at one-half their par value.

Those who procure shares now, availing themselves of the extraordinary inducements offered, will undoubtedly reap a rich harvest in the enhanced value which must surely follow the working of these mines, as the great probability is that within six months after operations are begun none of this stock can be obtained except at exorbitant prices.

THE TURNING POINT.

There is a turning point in every man's life. One chance in every man's life to make a fortune.

NOW IS YOUR TIME.

Only a few shares will be sold at $5; as the company expect to be able to pay at least $2 per share per month dividends (with proper milling facilities). This would make the shares cheap at $100 each.

Many persons who secured shares on the Comstock Lode when first discovered found themselves in an incredible short space of time independent



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for life. From an investment of $50 to $100, they found themselves worth thousands and thousands of dollars in less than one year. The prospects now of the Bullion Company are even greater than those of the Comstock on the start, and persons who secure a few shares at $5 per share now, may realize even greater profits and in a short time find themselves independent for life. In 1870, the Capital Stock of the Consolidated Virginia Mine was only $50,000. Now its par value is over $63,000,000. Sixty-three millions! and yielding over two millions per month. In the Bullion Mine there are immense quantities of rich ore in sight, ready to be milled as soon as sufficient money is raised to build mills, and reduction works; and bids fair to yield even better than Consolidated Virginia.

These facts prove that a small amount invested in a good mining company, on the start, is the surest and safest method of becoming suddenly rich. With a small investment a person may any morning wake up and find himself independent for life. In one instance a boarding-house keeper—a poor woman—was obliged to take some mining stock, or nothing, in payment of a board bill. Imagine her surprise one day when she was offered $75,000 for her stock, which she had even forgotten she owned.

A few shares (par value $10). If applied for soon can be had at ($5) five dollars per share.

For special terms to agents, certificates of stock, or further particulars, address the company's branch office in New York, and thereby save from eight to ten days' time.

AGENTS WANTED, LIBERAL PAY ALLOWED.

Any person or club sending $25 will receive by return of mail, six shares, par value $60, which may soon be worth many thousands.

References as to the richness of the company's mines, furnished to all who desire, on application.

Money may be sent by Post-Office Order, registered letter, draft, or express.

Address, ISAAC LUDLAM,
176 Broadway, New York.

I. LUDLAM, *President.*
G. H. HILDRETH, *Secretary.*

CLARK & CO. AGAIN.

Any person who ever wrote a letter to a lottery, or other advertised scheme, is liable to have a large circle of correspondents. The name once obtained must go the round of the fraternity, and, when thus used, is either kept for a new scheme by the same fraud or else sold to another one of the brotherhood. The following letters illustrate

ANOTHER DODGE

to place mining stocks, as well as the fertility of the minds of

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those who live by their wits by inventing devices to impose upon the credulous ones.

There is nothing in this cunning of these rascals to excite any other feeling than one of disgust and indignation.

The annexed letters were sent to persons whose old letters fell into the hands of these parties. The signature would be cut from the letter, and then enclosed to the party addressed. Of course the party addressed would recognize his own name and signature, and would respond acknowledging the same. Then followed number two letter, and then comes assessments for "working capital," or some other similar device to extort money from the party.

No. 1.

CLARK & CO.,
ADJUSTERS OF CLAIMS IN THE U. S. AND EUROPE,
No. 1267 Broadway,
NEW YORK, February 28, 1878.

Miss MOLLIE H.:

*Madame*—Is this your signature on the enclosed slip of paper? If so, you are entitled to a certificate of gold mining stock, valued at five hundred dollars. The money you sent in the letter, from which the enclosed slip was clipped, was invested on the general margin principle, which resulted in lawfully securing for you the certificate of stock referred to above.

Now, if you will write to us, and return the enclosed slip so that we can compare it with your signature, then we shall be sure that the proper party will receive the stock. Respectfully,

CLARK & CO.

P. S.—State whether you wish the stock sent by registered letter or by express.

C. & CO.

No. 2.

CLARK & CO.,
ADJUSTERS OF CLAIMS IN THE U. S. AND EUROPE,
No. 1267 Broadway,
NEW YORK, May 17, 1878.

Miss M. H.:

Your letter received. We found, by comparing your signature with that on the slip of paper, that it was genuine, and reported so to the company.

They promised to send the stock to you to-morrow.

Respectfully,

CLARK & CO.

Query. Are the fools all dead yet?

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## CHAPTER VII.

### THE BOGUS LOTTERIES.

#### J. M. PATTEE.

In 1877, J. M. Pattee may be said to have been at the very zenith of his ill-bought prosperity. He was reaping a rich harvest from the proceeds of the stealings from the Cheyenne Lottery.

His plan at this time was, to open an office, in which he would place as stool-pigeons, some of his old clerks. While he furnished the money and the brains necessary to form these schemes, and get them started, he had a corps of willing confederates, who did the office work, and shared the profits. They were to take the chances of arrest, and prosecution, and screen Pattee, while he was to take the money and pay the bills, and their salaries, and provide bondsmen and counsel for them, in case of an arrest.

At that time, there seemed very little danger of any interference from any source. Even the denunciations, and exposures of these different schemes through the daily press, seemed to have no terror for the men engaged in them, but rather to advertise their unlawful business.

This wonderful lottery, that offered such great inducements, was operated in New York City, and the circulars and tickets were printed in Maiden Lane, by a printer, who at that time, probably did all of Pattee's work.

#### READ & CO.

We take here the firm known as Read & Co., Brokers, 79 Nassau Street.

Just before the arrest of these parties, they had moved to 21 Park Place, and had hardly fitted up their office, when the hand of the law was laid upon them, and Read, and a man named Ludlam, were obliged to close up their unlawful business. Ludlam occupied a part of the office with N. Sherman Read, one of

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Pattee's brothers-in-law. He was one of Pattee's former clerks out in Wyoming or Kansas, and was at this time "President" of the "Bullion Gold and Silver Mining Co.," as described in this book. A very remarkable thing, about the circular of this firm, which we print, and one which would mark it as a fraud, is this sentence:

"Tickets $2 each or Ten for $10! leaving balance to be deducted from prizes drawn by the tickets!"

---

FOURTH QUARTERLY EXTRAORDINARY DRAWING!

All Prizes! No Blanks!! Every Ticket Wins a Prize!!!

The immense popularity and satisfaction which these all prize Drawings have met with has induced the manager to have an Extraordinary all prize Drawing, which will take place at

CHEYENNE, WY., MARCH 26, 1877,

In public and superintended by sworn Commissioners under the management of Marshall S. Pike.

STATE LOTTERY!

Legalized by Authority of an Act of the Legislature! These Single Number Drawings are never postponed!!

CAPITAL PRIZE, - $100,000.

Tickets, $2 each, or Ten for $10!

Leaving balance to be deducted from Prizes drawn by the Tickets!

$722,268.00 IN CASH PRIZES!

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Grand Cash Prize | | | $100,000 |
| 1 | Grand Cash Prize | | | 50,000 |
| 1 | Grand Cash Prize | | | 25,000 |
| 1 | Grand Cash Prize | | | 20,000 |
| 1 | Grand Cash Prize | | | 10,000 |
| 1 | Grand Cash Prize | | | 10,000 |
| 1 | Grand Cash Prize | | | 5,000 |
| 1 | Grand Cash Prize | | | 5,000 |
| 1 | Grand Cash Prize | | | 5,000 |
| 1 | Grand Cash Prize | | | 5,000 |
| 1 | Grand Cash Prize | | | 3,000 |
| 1 | Grand Cash Prize | | | 3,000 |
| 1 | Grand Cash Prize | | | 3,000 |
| 1 | Grand Cash Prize | | | 3,000 |
| 25 | Cash Prizes of | 2,000 | each | 50,000 |
| 75 | " | 1,000 | " | 75,000 |
| 50 | " | 250 | " | 12,000 |
| 100 | " | 100 | " | 10,000 |
| 100 | " | 20 | " | 2,000 |

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 100 | Cash Prizes of | 10 each | 1,000 |
| 50,000 | " | 2 " | 100,000 |
| 449,536 | " | | 224,768 |
| 500,000 | Prizes, amounting to | | $722,268 |

WITHIN THE REACH OF ANY ONE TO GAIN A FORTUNE!

The $2 prizes are determined by the last figure on the ticket drawing the Capital Prize. All tickets having none of the drawn numbers on them are entitled to 50 cents each! We will send an assorted package of 20 tickets, worth $40, for $20, and the other $20 to be deducted only from the prizes after the drawings; this is the best way to secure a good prize! At the urgent request of the manager of these cash distributions, we have accepted the Agency, and shall promptly acknowledge and fill all orders sent to us!

EVERY TICKET DRAWS A PRIZE!

Probably you have invested in other lotteries and have been unsuccessful, and we want a fair trial to see if we cannot succeed in selling a handsome prize to you; try it, and trust to our selection of tickets for you. ☞Prompt in giving information and filling orders and remitting the Official Drawings, and in payment of prizes. The drawing of the above prizes will be made in Public, and conducted by sworn Commissioners. These great Public Drawings being conducted legally, persons at a distance can rest assured that their interests are as well protected in their absence as though they were present and personally superintended the Drawing. Official lists of the drawn numbers will be sent to each Ticket-holder immediately after the Drawing, and Prize Tickets cashed at this office on sight and no discount. Persons purchasing Tickets or winning Prizes need not be known. In the above scheme there are 500,000 tickets, numbered from 1 to 500,000, and $722,268 in cash distributed among the ticket holders. All letters come safe to hand, and orders filled punctually, and lists of drawings sent immediately after drawing. Order early and secure a Fortune for Life. In writing to us do not use postal cards, as they will not be answered. The limited number of Tickets now on hand will be furnished to those who first apply for them. N. B.—The great demand for Tickets, owing to the low price and the great popularity of these Drawings, makes it absolutely necessary for persons desiring to secure Tickets to remit without delay. Large Prizes will be sent to parties winning them by Express or Draft on New York. Money can be sent by Mail, Registered Letter, P. O. Money Order, or Draft on any bank.

☞We will send 11 Tickets for $10, and leave the balance of $10 to be deducted from the Prizes drawn by the Tickets, or a package of 22 Tickets for $20, leaving the other $20, to be deducted (only) from the prizes. This is the most successful way to purchase, as it gives you 22 chances of winning $100,000 for $20.

Address READ & CO., Brokers, 79 Nassau St., N. Y.

But lest the inducements in this circular should not be decided

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enough, they purpose to turn every purchaser of tickets into an agent.

All that was necessary to become an agent, was to buy $10 worth of tickets. In doing this the purchaser would receive a ticket sure to draw a prize. In this grand scheme, there was no prize less than a cash prize of $10. "Therefore," the verdant victim would reason: "I will send and get ten tickets, and secure my agent's ticket, and then I will sell the ten tickets for $1 each, get my money back, and I am then sure of my money, whether I get a prize or not. I am also sure of getting a prize, because Read & Co. say, that every one of these tickets draw, a prize. Yes, my simple friend, and if they said the moon was made of green cheese, you would swallow that, too.

Then, again, as the purchaser looks over the circular, he says, "I have ten chances here of drawing $100,000;" so the majority of investors will not only send the $10 and get the ten tickets, and their agent's ticket, but will also keep all the tickets, so as to secure if possible one of the large prizes. From the moment these tickets are received by him, this poor fool is delighted over his prospective fortune. He builds castles in the air; he plans out to buy a farm, or to build some house, or go in some extensive business on the net proceeds of this grand investment—never for a moment dreaming that his investment is simply a deposit in the pocket of one of the meanest and most contemptible frauds that ever operated through the mails.

A special circular to agents was sent as follows:

AGENTS' PRIZE TICKETS FREE OF COST!
EVERY TICKET A PRIZE!
NO BLANKS! NO BLANKS!!

**A Fortune within your reach without cost or risk. Any person can easily sell 10 dollars' worth of tickets in the enclosed Monthly all Prize Scheme among personal friends, and**

SECURE ONE OF THE AGENTS' PRIZE TICKETS FREE OF COST.
CAPITAL PRIZE $5,000.00.
EVERY TICKET WINS A PRIZE!
THERE ARE 10,000 PRIZES AND ONLY 10,000 TICKETS IN ALL.

**Our sole object in making you this great offer, is to get up a sale of tickets in our Great Monthly All Prize Drawings in your locality.**

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No tickets sold in this the Agents' Great Special Prize Drawing.

These Tickets are given in place of Cash Commissions.

Enclosed we send you a Grand Scheme of the Monthly State Drawing, the grandest and best scheme ever offered to the public, and if you make up a club and forward $10 we will send to you by return of mail ten two dollar tickets and leave the balance of $10 due on them to be deducted from the prizes after the drawing and also send you free of cost, one of the monthly tickets and also one of these Agents' Prize Tickets. Every ticket wins a prize and your name will be registered on the Agents' Great Prize Register, which will insure you a prize *Free of Cost.*

THIS GIVES YOU A TICKET IN EACH DRAWING FREE OF COST.
DRAWS MARCH 26.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 Grand Cash Prize of | $5,000 |
| 1 Grand Cash Prize of | 3,000 |
| 1 Grand Cash Prize of | 2,000 |
| 1 Grand Cash Prize of | 1,500 |
| 1 Grand Cash Prize of | 1,000 |
| 1 Grand Cash Prize of | 1,000 |
| 1 Grand Cash Prize of | 1,000 |
| 1 Grand Cash Prize of | 1,000 |
| 1 Grand Cash Prize of | 1,000 |
| 1 Grand Cash Prize of | 1,000 |
| 1 Grand Cash Prize of | 1,000 |
| 1 Grand Cash Prize of | 1,000 |
| 1 Grand Cash Prize of | 1,000 |
| 8,566 Grand Cash Prizes | 8,566 |
| 20 Grand Cash Prizes of $500 each | 10,000 |
| 100 Grand Cash Prizes of $250 each | 25,000 |
| 100 Grand Cash Prizes of $100 each | 10,000 |
| 200 Grand Cash Prizes of $50 each | 10,000 |
| 500 Grand Cash Prizes of $25 each | 12,500 |
| 500 Grand Cash Prizes of $10 each | 5,000 |
| 10,000 Cash Prizes, amounting to | $102,566 |

NOW IS YOUR TIME.

Form a club at once; remit $10 for 10 of the Monthly Tickets, and secure one of these Agents' Prize Tickets, before it is too late. If you cannot remit at once, inform us how soon you can, and we will lay aside one of the Agents' Prize Tickets for you.

HOW TO REMIT.

The best way is, write your letter and carefully fold the money in it and direct plainly and send by Registered Letter.

No notice will be taken of postal cards. Address

READ & CO., *Brokers*, 79 Nassau street, New York.

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In case these circulars do not bring the money, in due course of time the following circular will be enclosed, with ten tickets, on credit:







OFFICE OF READ & CO., BROKERS,
79 Nassau street, New York.

*Dear Sir*—Enclosed, we send 10 Tickets in the 4th Great Quarterly Drawing, and by remitting $10, we will leave the balance of $10, due on them to be deducted from the prizes after the drawing.

We will allow you 1 ticket free for every 10 tickets you sell, and on receipt of $10 we will send you by return of mail, one ticket free of cost. Remember every ticket wins a prize. Being only agents for these State Drawings, it is to our interest to have you draw a large prize. Give us one trial.

If you have been unlucky in other drawings, we hope you will try the State Lottery and win a large prize.

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☞Send Money in Registered Letters or Money Orders.
Fold your money carefully in this sheet, and direct *plain* to
READ & Co., 79 Nassau street, New York.

Follow these instructions and it will come safe.

In remitting, here sign your Name, Town, County, and State, and forward the money, in this sheet, by mail, and it will come safe; remember and register your letter or send money postal order. Direct plain, to
READ & Co., 79 Nassau street, New York.

N.B.—If you do not desire to keep these tickets, be so good as to return them. For every 10 tickets you sell, you get one ticket free by return mail, as soon as the money is received by us.

In order to help along the fraud, they sent a lithograph letter which we print verbatim:

OFFICE OF READ & Co., BANKERS,
79 Nassau st.

NEW YORK, February, 1877.

*Dear Sir*—Knowing that many persons who have bought tickets in other Lotteries, conducted by private individuals have been unsuccessful in the several schemes of the past year and being desirous of sending a prize on a *Grand Scale* to your locality we make you this liberal offer, to see if we cannot succeed in selling you a prize of at least $1,000. which would be of great importance to us as it would largely increase our future sales.

We herewith enclose to you a carefully selected pack, and the Grand Scheme of the Great Quarterly Drawing of March 26th. By remitting $10, you get 11 Quarterly tickets worth $20. and also an Agents Special Prize Ticket. Should you conclude to accept this offer, you can remit $10. at your earliest convenience. If you do not care to try them yourself some of your friends may accept of this chance. We are exceedingly anxious to have you give the *State Lottery one trial* and this *one* may be the turning point in your life. Take our advice this time and not lose the opportunity. So confident are we, that we guarantee, in case you fail to draw a prize of at least $100, we will present you with a package of tickets in the next drawing—free of cost.

We get many enquiries regarding the Wyoming Lottery at Laramie City—and would here say that we never had any connection with that Lottery.

Truly Yours,
READ & Co.

HORACE J. LONG & CO.

In order to further help forward this swindle, various inducements were offered under different names.

Another one of his clerks was started in business by Pattee,

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and issued the following circular, which needs no word of comment to show its true character:

OFFICE OF HORACE J. LONG & CO.
No. 1212 Broadway, New York
Feb. 15th, 1877.

*Dear Sir.*—Enclosed we send you the Grandest Scheme ever offered to the Public and if you will introduce our Sales in your County we will give you a Gold Watch worth from $30 to $100. as we want to open the way for our future Sales and to give an impetus which money could *not* do in any way of Advertising. We have kept a margin of $125,000 in addition to the profits on the watches which pays for the 3100. Gold Watches to be given on Commission Tickets. We shall send to one person in every County a Commission Ticket which will draw a Gold Watch worth from $30 to $100. 18 K. fine Gold cases. If you will introduce this our first Scheme in your County and Sell 10. Tickets we will send you by return of Mail 10 Tickets in the Grand Sale and also one of the Commission Tickets which must draw a Gold Watch worth from 30. to $100. with the privilege that we may refer to you in our next drawing as being one of the fortunate ones who drew a Gold Watch in the first Grand Legal Drawing and that you will answer Enquiries regarding the Watch drawn by you. If you accept this proposition make up a Pool and forward $10 as soon as possible and the Tickets will be sent you by return of Mail. There will be one hundred Gold Watches at $100. each One Thousand (1000) at $50. each one Thousand (1000) at $35 each and one thousand (1000) at $30. each given away in this special Commission Drawing. Every Ticket draws a Gold Watch. You will readily see that the $10 forwarded to us will not renumerate for the Gold Watch we send you in the first drawing, but your name as a reference will pay us ten fold in our future drawing. If you do not wish to use your own name you can use any other providing you will answer the Enquries yourself regarding the quality and value of the Gold Watch drawn by you.

Hoping to hear from you soon, we are very truly yours,

HORACE J. LONG & CO.,
1212 Broadway, N. Y.

EMERY & CO.

At the same time Pattee was running these offices, he also had another clerk named E. N. Carr alias Henry Carson, alias Emery & Co., at 31 Park Row, where we arrested him and seized 5,000 tickets, 1,500 circulars, 25,500 addressed envelopes and 6,000 old letters; also seized at Read & Co.'s 3,000 addressed envelopes, 18,150 tickets and about 14,000 circulars.

Both of these men were convicted and sentenced in the United

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States Courts for violation of Postal Laws in sending their circulars through the mails.

In addition to this, they were obliged to abandon their business, and return all letters and mail matter coming to them, back to the sender thereof.

### H. H. PENN & CO.

Another brother-in-law of Pattee carried on another office, with a similar scheme, under the name of H. H. Penn & Co., 73 Nassau Street, New York.

Recently E. N. Carr has brought himself before the public again, by conducting a fraudulent scheme similar to some of Pattee's, where he represents himself as agent for the Royal Havana Lottery, and sends out circulars advertising assorted packages of tickets, and after getting the money sent him in answer to the circulars, he then returns a piece of paper, which he would have the dupe feel is a lottery ticket. It is not worth the paper it is printed on. It does not even rise to the dignity of a counterfeit. It is a certificate pretending to entitle the holder to a prize. [See p. 141.]

He has lately been very much exercised because his mail was stopped (registered letters and money orders) by the Postmaster-General and has been at work to secure the services of certain Congressmen to interest themselves in his behalf and secure for him the privilege of robbing the people through the mails. A grosser fraud does not exist than some of the schemes he has been conducting. He kept his son at work addressing envelopes and sending out his circulars and schemes from 31 Park Row, and after Carr had been arrested several times in the U. S. Courts and held for trial, this son moves down to 142 Fulton street, as Nelson & Co., where recently both father and son were arrested and [illegible] held for trial.

### [illegible] AND PUBLIC CASH DISTRIBUTION.—ANOTHER SCHEME OF PATTEE'S.

Of [illegible] frauds none excelled some of these schemes of [illegible] brothers-in-law Read.—Read by name, they were [illegible] upon for any return of money sent them.

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[COUNTERFEIT TICKET.]




On the back of the ticket is the following:

## EXTRACTO

### DE LAS LEYES DE LA ORDENANZA DE LOTERÍAS.

El BILLETE es un pagaré AL PORTADOR que no puede ser reemplazado por otro de modo alguno.

El derecho de percibir los premios caduca á los dos años de verificarse los sorteos correspondientes.

Todo billete que carezca de los escudos de armas, contenga la indicacion de pagado, esté roto ó deteriorado en términos que no sea posible conocer su identidad, se considerará sin valor alguno

Los premios ó ganancias á los jugadores, solo se satisfarán por la lista oficial que publica la Administracion.

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These schemes are all characterized by one principle, "get all you can, and keep all you get."

After the "Wyoming," "Laramie City," and "Cheyenne" lotteries had failed, or run out, and after mining schemes had begun to be dangerous matters to deal in, they launched a foreign enterprise upon the community, called "The First Grand Public Cash Distribution, for Educational Purposes, etc.," which was to take place at Victoria, Can. Most extraordinary inducements were offered. There were "100,410 Cash Prizes amounting to $278,500," with a capital prize of $50,000, and 500,000 tickets at $1 each. The prospectus said:

TIFFANY & READ.

"This being the First Distribution of a series of three, the management have appointed Tiffany & Read (being centrally located) the agents for the United States, for the sale of tickets and the payment of prizes."

Tiffany & Read were located at Riverside, N. J. This is a very small town, consisting of a fruit canning establishment, two or three very small stores, and a few dwellings. The post office was located in a drug store and tailoring establishment, with an average daily mail of perhaps 50 letters, until these frauds started, when it run the receipts up to between one hundred and four or five hundred letters daily. They issued a three page circular, on the first page of which was given a list of prizes to be distributed among ticket holders:

1 cash prize of $50,000, $50,000; 5 $10,000, $50,000; 10 $5,000, $50,000; down to 50,000 cash prizes $1, $50,000, and 50,000 50c., $25,000.

On the second page, they urge the recipient to order in quantities, and offer extra inducements to each party they send to, to become their agents.

This page was printed in large letters and represented 10,000 cash prizes amounting to $100,066, which was to go especially to their agents, to *nobody else;* and yet every person ordering five tickets got one of these agents' tickets, that was sure to draw a

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prize, and if ten tickets were ordered, the purchaser would get *two agents' prize tickets.* These were:

"*Free of cost!* Every ticket a prize, no blanks! no blanks! You can easily sell $5 worth of tickets in the accompanying *Grand Drawing of March 15th* among personal friends, or buy them for yourself, and secure one of the agents' prize tickets, free of cost. Capital prize, $5,000. Every ticket wins a prize. There are 10,000 prizes and only 10,000 tickets in all. No tickets sold in this *agents' great special* prize drawing, *all given away* as aforesaid."

If you will make up a club and forward $5, we will send to you, by return of mail, 3 more tickets, and also send you, free of cost, one of these *agents' prize tickets.*

Form a club at once; remit $5 and get three more tickets and one agents' prize ticket; or $10, and get eight more tickets and two agents' prize tickets.

It will thus be seen how very anxious and solicitous these swindlers were to induce their victim to secure an agents' ticket. Then, as though the above argument were not sufficient to ensnare any person indulging in this disreputable way of making money, they further say:

If you cannot remit at once, inform us how soon you can, and we will lay aside the Agent's Prize Ticket for you.

Half a loaf is better than no bread at all. I hear some reader ask, "Why are they so anxious to send the agent's ticket?" They are not. Their anxiety is to get hold of $5 or $10 of good money, and to send in return a little piece of printed paper, not worth the time it took to print it.

Now, pause a moment. You must get inside the ring if you would understand the full import of this swindle. First, let me tell you that Pattee, who operated this scheme at Victoria, Ca., had over 300,000 names and addresses. You ask me how I know this. I reply, because I seized them. Now reflect that to each one of these names they sent three tickets with their circular—900,000 tickets used up and distributed, or more than 400,000 more tickets than they declared on their prospectus. You say, this is watered stock. Not so fast. Add to this three more tickets sent to each party who returns $5; and an agent's ticket besides, and you have 1,200,000 more tickets. In other words, your water is expanded into vapor. But what does the fraud care, so long as he gets your money?

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Now it must not be supposed that every person who receives these tickets is foolish enough to be caught. It would not be true, for there are many persons who had been bitten by former schemes, and they did not bite again, any more than a fish bites the second time, after he has been hooked, nearly landed, and then falls back into the water.

We give one of the tickets, and one of the agent's prize tickets, so that the reader may fully understand the scheme of these and similar scoundrels:

No. 269379 TICKETS $1 EACH.

FIRST

**Grand Public Cash Distribution**

AT VICTORIA, CAN.

**MARCH 15th, 1877.**

This Ticket entitles the bearer to such prize as may be drawn by its number, payable on presentation.

TIFFANY & READ, Agts. DANIEL R. McDONALD, Manager.

No. 7582 FIRST

**GRAND PUBLIC CASH DISTRIBUTION.**

**AGENTS' PRIZE TICKET.**

This Ticket entitles the holder to such prize as may be drawn by its number.

*MARCH* 15, 1877. DANIEL R. McDONALD, Manager.

The circular, above referred to, proposes to secure "*A fortune for a small outlay*," and represents that there is to be a series of

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three drawings, and the managers are particularly anxious that each ticket holder shall draw a prize in this first distribution, so as to recommend the scheme to others.

Now suppose they really desired, or intended to have a drawing. It will be seen at a glance, that it would be an impossibility to do so, from the fact that so many hundreds of thousands of tickets were out that no one would know at all who had paid for tickets or not. One thing, they did not demand the return of these tickets. No; what they were after was the money, or if there was a demand, it was to secure not so much the tickets, but remind the receiver that the money had not been sent. In other words, this demand was a gentle hint for them to send the money in payment. This they got, and Pattee took good care to have it placed where it was secure, and where no creditors could get their hands upon it.

But there is necessarily a considerable expense attending the starting of one of these schemes. There is the printing of the circulars and tickets, office rent and clerk hire of four to six persons to address envelopes, then the envelope and the letter postage on each.

About the only way to circumvent this villainy is to wait till the scheme is launched, and at that moment pounce upon them, before there are many returns through the mail.

You ask, how did you get these names? What became of these frauds?

Read, of this concern, was too sick to arrest, and having Pattee in hand, with various others of his clerks, for other matters, we were content in this instance to send back letters addressed to Tiffany & Read to the writer thereof, through the Dead Letter Office, where they were sent under the rule.

The 300,000 names were on the stubs of the tickets (for the tickets were printed like check books, with a stub where the name and address was entered) and were found at 5 Beekman street, N. Y. city, under rather peculiar circumstances.



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## CHAPTER VIII.

### HAVANA AND NEW BRUNSWICK LOTTERIES.

#### READ & CO., NEW HAVEN, CONN.

The deputy postmaster of New Haven, Conn., one day came to my office and complained of a little short man who was receiving hundreds of letters daily through his office, addressed Read & Co., and it was further explained that each day this man sent a letter to some party at No. 5 Beekman street, New York. This little fellow was none other than a small specimen of a man—and the right bower of Pattee in his swindling schemes—N. Sherman Read.

They were trading on the known reputation of what was *once* considered a respectable lottery, but now strange rumors are afloat against the good faith of even the Royal Havana Lottery; and from my knowledge of its operations and of the known characters of its agents here, I say in most positive terms, I would not invest one dollar in it, even if I had more money than I knew what to do with and had no scruples as to this form of gambling.

The only redeeming quality about this fraud was that it served to check the Havana lottery, that pretended to be fair and honorable, and yet while so purporting swallowed up thousands of dollars of money belonging to poor people.

Many people cannot conceive it possible that persons can be so foolish as to invest money in lottery schemes, while others ignore all laws or morals and defend the practice. But if the reader will consider what is presented, under the head of "Lotteries," he will, I think, see good and sufficient reasons why these institutions should not exist.

The poor are infatuated with the promises held out in advertisements put forth in the newspaper and in their circulars. They struggle with poverty. They hear of some person who has drawn a prize. They are needy and destitute; their children are poorly

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clothed and worse fed; their earnings are scarce enough to fill the mouths of their little ones with bread. Something must be done. They dream over what they would do if they should draw a prize. To them $500 would be a fortune. They dream over this till they are goaded on to risk a chance or two. So at last they decide to try just one ticket. The scanty store of food and fuel is cut down, the wail of the hungry child grows feebler, as for lack of food it grows weaker and weaker. The heart of the parent is deluded by the foolish anticipation that perchance he shall win a prize of some sort or other at the next drawing, and then he will make amends.

Thus with eyes blinded, conscience seared and affection smothered, by this will-o'-the-wisp in this vast forest of fraud, they are led on to their own ruin, their families beggared, and all to enrich a few men. Volumes might be written on this point. While a few men thus grow richer each year, hundreds and thousands grow poorer and poorer. The widow's mite goes to fill the coffers of these few men who keep elegant houses, dashing teams of horses, and squander magnificent wealth upon themselves and companions.

There are laws in every State in the Union but one against this abominable traffic, yet this unlawful business is foisted upon us, and sworn officials continually violate their oath of office and allow it to exist.

But to return to the facts, after learning the story of the New Haven Deputy Postmaster, we visited immediately No. 5 Beekman street, and found located in a little back room up some three flights of winding stairs, the office of Read & Co., of New Haven, Conn.

This office was in charge of two young ladies, who were hired to answer letters and send tickets and circulars to customers.

Read was located at New Haven, where he, after receiving the mail each day, took the money out, and then sent a list of names, and the number of tickets to be sent to each party to these young ladies, and they mailed the tickets in reply. Each of these young ladies represented themselves as hired by Read and Pattee, and stated they received their pay from the latter. Pattee, it must be

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considered, is the unknown factor in all his schemes. The only persons who ever know him, are those whom he hires to do his printing for him. He pays good prices, as do all these frauds, as they pay not only for the work done, but also for the man. The printer sells his manhood, when he, for the sake of the little he can make off these jobs, becomes party to the unlawful traffic, and encourages it by his silence.

Placing a police officer in charge of this office, we secured a warrant and seized the list of names and addresses already referred to as used in his "Grand Cash Distribution Co.," of Victoria Can., and also as follows: 15,000 old letters, mostly to the Grand Cash Dis. Co.; 10,000 circulars of this counterfeit lottery; 500 1-40 tickets; two reams of water-marked paper for printing these tickets; and full sets of dies, stamps, type, &c., for making tickets. The circulars sent out from New York all bore the address of Read & Co., New Haven, Conn., where the replies were to be sent.

These circulars were mailed from this office, these young ladies writing the addresses on about a thousand envelopes daily. The envelopes were received by them sealed, with the circulars all folded within, and they had nothing to do but address them and place a three-cent stamp on each, and then one of Pattee's clerks called in the evening and conveyed the same to the post office.

This scheme, as has already been stated, consisted in counterfeiting Havana Lottery tickets. We give their circulars simply to show how infamous a story these men are capable of printing in order to deceive and defraud the public. [See page 149.]

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

NEXT DRAWINGS JUNE 15th AND JUNE 28th.

**1st.—The Royal Havana Lottery is conducted by the SPANISH GOVERNMENT on the same honorable principles as our NATIONAL BONDS.**

**2d.—The fairness and strict integrity of the Drawings have never been doubted or questioned, and the scheme of this lottery and the honorable management make it a favorite investment with the Public, as the amount is but a trifle compared to the magnificent Prices to be drawn.**

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Office of READ & CO., Real Estate Dealers, - - - - - - - New Haven, Conn.

# ROYAL HAVANA LOTTERY



To be drawn June 15th & 28th, 1878.

AT HAVANA, CUBA,
Under the Supervision of the
Capt. General of Havana.

CONDUCTED BY THE
SPANISH GOVERNMENT.

To be drawn June 15th & 28th, 1878.

These Drawings take place every 17 days.

## THE NEXT DRAWINGS will take place JUNE 15th & 28th, 1878.

Also JULY 13 & 30, AUG. 10, SEPT. 4 & 19, OCT. 4 & 19, NOV. 5 & 21, DEC. 6 & 24.

THE PRIZES IN THESE DRAWINGS WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Grand Capital Prize of | | $200,000 |
| 1 | " " " | | 50,000 |
| 1 | Prize of | | 25,000 |
| 2 | Prizes of $10,000 each | | 20,000 |
| 10 | " 5,000 " | | 50,000 |
| 115 | " 1,000 " | | 115,000 |
| 680 | " 500 " | | 340,000 |
| 9 | Approximations of $1,000 to the 9 remaining units of the same 10 as the one drawing the $200,000, | | 9,000 |
| 2 | Approximations of $500 to the number preceding and following the one drawing the $0,000, | | 1,000 |
| 821 | Prizes, amounting in | Spanish Dollars, | $810,000 |

All the Prizes above stated are drawn, Positively.

Some persons write and ask "how is it we have received a circular from another party, claiming to be the agents of the Havana Lottery?" Our answer is, there are other agents in all large cities.

## Capital Prize, $200,000 in Spanish Dollars.

TICKETS $1 EACH (40ths) A PACKAGE OF FIVE FOR $5

## Within the reach of any one to gain a Fortune.

PRICE OF TICKETS IN UNITED STATES CURRENCY:

Whole Tickets, $40. Halves, $20. Quarters, $10. Fifths, $8. Tenths, $4. Twentieths, $2. Fortieths, $1.

THE MOST SUCCESSFUL WAY IS TO TRY A PACKAGE OF 10 TICKETS FOR $10.

☞ We will issue assorted packages of 10 Tickets, every number different (fortieths), for $10. The Safest and Surest way to win a large Prize is to buy a Package of 10 Tickets. PRICE ONLY TEN DOLLARS.

Single Tickets, One Dollar Each (Fortieths.)

### IN LUCK.

The following extract from a letter received by us May 18th, 1878, speaks for itself:

Messrs. READ & CO., New Haven.

Gentlemen: Yours of the 17th instant, enclosing draft for $200, is received. Please [illegible] Tickets. It is the best prize ever drawn by me. I have tried all other Lotteries, and always got nothing but blanks. Enclosed find $40. Send me one assorted ticket for May 28th.

And greatly oblige

P. S.—I do not desire my name made public, on account of certain surroundings.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The names of persons winning Prizes are never made known without a written consent from them.

### PAYMENT OF PRIZES.

Prize Tickets are cashed on sight by READ & CO., New Haven, Conn. This Lottery is known all over the world for fairness, and its operations in paying Prizes. Whole Tickets are sends up to twenty-five and fortieths. Twenty remember twenty-five Whole Tickets, and also forty fortieths make one Whole Ticket. A package containing five different numbers can be had by remitting $5 to

READ & CO., New Haven, Conn.

### ROYAL HAVANA LOTTERY.

Unlike the Lotteries of our country, the Royal Havana Lottery is conducted by the Spanish Government, on the same [illegible] Lotteries, and is a permanent branch of a [illegible] system [illegible] and drawn every seventeen days, at Havana, [illegible] and known, has we have sold more large Prizes in the last year than any four Agencies in the United States.

### TRY THE PACKAGE SYSTEM.

This is the most successful way to secure a large Prize, as they will consist of all different numbers. Tickets will be issued as the following rates, in United States currency:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 Whole Ticket | $40 |
| 1 Half Ticket | 20 |
| 1 Quarter Ticket | 10 |
| 10 [illegible] of Tickets | 10 |
| 5 Fortieths of Tickets | 5 |

We always send [illegible] drawn numbers, and prompt [illegible] it is in about eight days after the draw[illegible] post as soon as [illegible] and pay Prizes immediately after [illegible] presentation of our tickets. [illegible] Tickets to

READ & CO.,
New Haven, Conn.

[FOR COUNTERFEIT TICKETS, SEE PAGE 141.]

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3d.—We advise parties who have tried their luck in other Lotteries and been unsuccessful, to give the

**Royal Havana Lottery a Fair Trial.**

It is known all over the world for its fairness and promptness in paying Prizes. It is a Government Lottery, and we pay its Prizes on demand at our office in United States Currency.

**Single Tickets $1 Each.**

(Fortieths.)

4th.—The most successful way to purchase is to buy a Package. We will, on receipt of $5, send by return Mail a Package of five Tickets (40ths) or ten Tickets for $10. You will receive all different numbers, and every Ticket may draw a Prize; it is worth the risk. Always remit the money when you order.

5th.—Please *state* to us when you remit for a Package whether or not we may refer to you in case you draw a Prize of $1,000 or more, and whether you will answer all enquiries promptly concerning the same, as we are anxious to extend our sales.

6th.—We enclose this printed form so that in sending your order there can be no mistake in your name and address.

*Money received too late will be invested in next Drawing. Draws every 17 days.*

Agents Wanted. Send for Particulars.

*Enclose the Money in this Sheet and write your*

*Name*
*Town*
*County*
*State*

And forward to us by Mail in registered letter, plainly addressed.

Address all letters to READ & CO.,

New Haven, Conn.

HUGH M'KAY & CO.

After the 300,000 names and addresses and the paraphernalia of the counterfeit lottery schemes had been seized and placed in the hands of the property clerk at police headquarters, for safe keeping as evidence, the Police Commissioners ordered it delivered back to J. M. Pattee, as he has since boasted. Immediately on receipt of these names, papers, documents, etc., Pattee shipped them to St. Stephens, N. B., where shortly afterwards was launched another swindle, the last end of which still lingers in the land. As this is now in operation, we give a full set of circulars as sent out. Let it be remembered that this scheme

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is beyond the reach of the United States authorities. The McKay in it is said to be an ex-chief of police. Of him I cannot speak. But I have it from Pattee's own lips that he started it, and that "Nate" Read (N. Sherman Read) was there running it. It is the safest plan for this precious fraud to remain a respectable distance from New York.

*Later.*—While the above was in the hands of the printer, on Sept. 22, 1880, while passing down Nassau street I discovered this gent paying a flying visit to New York. I accompanied him to the General Sessions Court, where he was committed in default of bail, and on the 28th September he was sentenced to ninety days in the Penitentiary. It's a long lane that has no turn.

A former partner of this man says: "Pattee deposited his moneys in a bank in Nassau street, New York, as Hugh McKay & Co., and whenever he paid a bill he drew a check in this name to his own order, and then endorses it, with his right name on the back, over to order of the party he was paying." This is doubtless to prevent people from knowing where his money is, and so that those he swindles, if they sue him, can find nothing.

The five circulars following were all sent in one envelope to each customer. They were usually enclosed in a light buff envelope, with a printed notice that, "If not delivered in 20 days, return to Box 290, St. Stephens, N. B." The object of this is to perfect their list, and check off those who do not receive these epistles, so that they need not waste their documents in future enterprises:

---

AGENTS' SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION!

IMPORTANT!

EVERY TICKET WINS A PRIZE.

CONFIDENTIAL TO AGENTS.

*Dear Sir.*—We are satisfied that unless some extraordinary measures are taken to get up an interest, the sale of tickets cannot be increased. Therefore we have determined to distribute a number of large gifts, varying in value—some $100, some $500, some $1,000, &c.—in all of the different States and Provinces, selecting such localities as are deemed best, and to do so in equity and justice to all we have decided to have a separate and special dis-

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tribution. No tickets will be sold in it. But each agent who remits $10 for tickets in either the Monthly or Quarterly Gift Soiree will receive one of these special prize tickets, and a prize will be awarded to its number. These prize tickets will be evenly distributed in the different States and Provinces among our agents free of charge, and by publishing their names and amount in some of the leading papers will have a telling effect—more than $100,000 spent in advertising. We would like to have you act as agent in your locality. By remitting $10 you can secure 10 tickets in the Monthly or 20 in the Quarterly, and the prize ticket by return of mail; or we will send the tickets on commission, with the privilege of returning what you fail to sell, but the prize ticket will not be sent until the tickets are paid for, as every agent's ticket wins a prize, varying in value, from $1 to $1000. In remitting say, "*Send Prize Ticket.*"

Address all orders to HUGH McKAY & Co.,
St. Stephen, N. B., Canada.

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AGENTS WANTED.

**By a little exertion a Fortune may be secured Free of Cost.**

ROYAL GIFT SOIREE.

HUGH McKAY & CO., MANAGERS, ST. STEPHEN, N. B.

EXTRAORDINARY INDUCEMENTS! TEN TICKETS FOR $5.

*Dear Sir*—We would like to have you accept an Agency. Tickets in the quarterly will be sent on commission, with the privilege of returning all you fail to sell at any time previous to the drawing. The Coupon-Tickets are $1 each, but we will allow you to sell ten for $5, and leave $5 due on them, to be deducted from the ticket winning by Approximation. This gives 10 chances to win ten prizes for the small outlay of only $5, either of which may be the highest Prize. We will allow you one ticket free in the monthly as commission, which gives you a chance to win $25,000, free of cost. By remitting $5 yourself you secure 10 chances in the Quarterly and one in the Monthly. The surest way to win a large prize is to remit $10, and secure 20 Coupon-Tickets in the Quarterly, and also an Agent's Special Prize Ticket as commission, free of cost. This gives you 21 chances to secure a fortune for the small sum of $10. The best plan is to sell 10 Coupon-Tickets to one Person or Club for $5. But you can sell single tickets at 50 cents each. If you accept an Agency here sign your *Name*,
*Post Office*,
*County*,
*State*,
and forward this sheet to us plainly directed to HUGH McKAY & Co.,
St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Canada.
and the tickets will be sent you by return mail.
20 per cent. will be allowed to Agents, if desired, as Commission, instead of Extra Tickets. N. B.—Postage is only three cents.

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20 FOR $10! EXTRAORDINARY INDUCEMENTS!!

We will issue Club Packages of Twenty Coupon Tickets (50th), in the Royal Quarterly, for Ten Dollars, and leave the balance of Ten Dollars due on them to be deducted from the Prizes after the Drawing. We can do this and give you twenty chances to win Twenty Prizes for $10, as every Ten Tickets must draw one of the Approximation Prizes. For instance, if 2357 wins the highest Prize, all tickets ending with figure seven (7) are entitled to one of the Approximation Prizes. Therefore, there must be two Prizes at least in each Package of Twenty Tickets. With a Package of Twenty Tickets you stand a chance of winning Twenty Prizes—either of which may be the Capital Prize. We will issue the tickets in two separate Packages of Ten Coupon Tickets each. In this way the Agent can make up two separate Clubs. Send your orders for Tickets at once before it is too late. Address all orders to

HUGH McKAY & Co.,
St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Canada.

TERMS TO AGENTS.

Each Agent shall receive by return of mail, on receipt of $10, Twenty Coupon Tickets, and also one "Agent's Prize Ticket," free of charge, as commission. Any person remitting $10 for himself will be entitled to the Agent's Prize Ticket the same as though he acted as Agent.

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

1st. These Grand Soirées and Distribution of Cash Gifts are under the management of Hugh McKay, late Chief of Police. Therefore, from the start, honesty of management and success were assured.

2d. The next Soiree and Distribution of Gifts will take place on the 31st of March, and the 30th of each month, unless it falls on Sunday, in which case it will be on the following day, viz., March 31st, April 30th, May 30th, and so on, each month. The fairness and strict integrity of these Gift Soirees, under the management of Hugh McKay & Co., cannot be doubted or questioned, and the magnificent Schedule of Gifts and honorable management make it a favorite investment with the public, as the amount is but a trifle compared to the Gifts. Every one has confidence in the integrity of the management.

3d. We advise persons who have invested in lotteries, and been unsuccessful, to give this Enterprise one trial.

4th. The best way for success is to purchase a package of 12 coupon tickets, all different numbers. On receipt of $10, we will send 12 coupon tickets, or 6 for $5.

5th. Tickets in the Quarterly will be sent to agents for sale, and no money required until after they are sold.

6th. Persons desiring tickets in the Monthly must remit the money when they order the tickets, as the time is too short to send tickets on commission and get returns; the best way to secure a large gift is to buy a package of 12 assorted numbers. Price, $10.

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7th. Please state to us when you remit for a package of 12 assorted tickets, whether or not we may refer to you in case you get a gift of $500 or upwards, and whether you will answer all inquiries promptly concerning the same, as we are anxious to enlarge our business. No names are ever given without permission.

8th. We inclose this printed form so that in sending your orders there can be no mistake in your name and address. Money received too late will be invested in the next nearest date.

Agents wanted. Send for tickets; no money required until after they are sold.

Enclose the money in this sheet, and write your

*Name,*
*Town,*
*County,*
*State,*

And forward to us by mail, in registered letter, plainly addressed to

HUGH MCKAY & CO.,
St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Canada.

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ROYAL GIFT SOIREE,
HUGH MCKAY & CO., Managers, St. Stephen, New Brunswick.

Success and honesty of management assured. Hugh McKay, commissionaire and manager, refers with pride to the entire community as to his past record and the honorable manner in which he has discharged his official duties while in public office.

ROYAL MONTHLY GIFT SOIREE.

These monthly gift soirees are given at St. Stephen, N. B., Canada,
On the 30th of each month.

WHOLE TICKETS $1 EACH. 1 GIFT IN 9.

The surest way to secure a large prize is to remit $10 and secure 12 tickets, all different numbers.

$25,000 for $1.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 Grand Gift | $25,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | 15,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | 10,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | 8,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | 6,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | 5,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | 4,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | 3,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | 2,000 |
| 5 Gifts of $1,000 each | 5,000 |
| 5 Gifts of 500 each | 2,500 |
| 10 Gifts of 200 each | 2,000 |

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 10 Gifts of | 100 each | | 1,000 |
| 20 Gifts of | 50 each | | 1,000 |
| 2,000 Gifts of | 2 each | (Approximations,) | 4,000 |
| 20,000 Cash Gifts | | (Approximations,) | 10,000 |
| 22,059 Cash Gifts | | | amounting to $103,500 |

These grand disbursements of gifts are never postponed. Prizes paid in full in gold.

Prize tickets cashed on sight. Prize money will be sent by express or bank draft to any part of the world. These drawings are made every thirty days, and never postponed, and conducted on the same honorable principles as banking institutions. There are only 200,000 tickets at $1 each.

How to be successful.—We will send a package of six tickets in the monthly on receipt of $5—all different numbers. The surest way to win a large prize is to remit $10 and secure twelve different numbers. There is a chance in every man's life to make a fortune; this may be your last chance. There is everything in buying from a responsible and lucky house. If you desire to win a large prize remit at once. Direct plainly to

HUGH McKAY & Co.,
St. Stephen, New Brunswick.

Always state whether you desire monthly or quarterly tickets.

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ROYAL QUARTERLY GIFT SOIREE.

The next Royal Quarterly Gift Soiree will be given at St. Stephen, N. B., Canada, April 28, 1879.

COUPON TICKETS, $1 EACH.

By remitting $10 we will send a club package of 20 coupon tickets and leave the balance of ten dollars to be deducted from the prizes after the drawing, thus giving you a chance to draw 20 prizes for $10.

GRAND SCHEDULE OF GIFTS.

(Averaging one to every ten tickets.)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Grand Gift | | | $200,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | | | 50,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | | | 25,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | | | 10,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | | | 5,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | | | 5,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | | | 5,000 |
| 1 Grand Gift | | | 5,000 |
| 50 Gifts of | $1,000 | each | 50,000 |
| 50 Gifts of | 500 | each | 25,000 |
| 200 Gifts of | 100 | each | 20,000 |
| 200 Gifts of | 50 | each | 10,000 |
| 5,000 approximation Gifts of | $250 | each | 1,250,000 |
| 5,505 Gifts | | | amounting to $1,665,000 |

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PRIZES PAID IN FULL IN GOLD. NO DISCOUNT.

Official lists of the gifts awarded will be sent to each ticket holder immediately after the distribution, and the gifts paid in full. In ordering tickets write your name and post office address plainly. Agents wanted. No money required until after the tickets are sold in the quarterly; but all orders for tickets in the monthly must be accompanied by the money as the time is too short to send out tickets on commission. Liberal pay allowed our agents. Write immediately for terms and an agency, tickets, etc. The names of persons buying tickets or winning gifts are never made known without their consent. Persons at a distance can rest assured their interests are as well protected as though they were present. All communications strictly confidential. The tickets are printed in the following style: They are divided into fiftieths and designated by the figure 50 on the face of each coupon ticket—fifty of these bearing the same number constitute one whole ticket, price $50, and each coupon $1, price $1, admits one person. There are only 50,000 tickets in the quarterly.

Read the following flattering notices. These soirees and distribution of cash gifts enjoy the confidence of all, and we assure our readers that they can rely on being dealt with honestly, whether absent or present.

"We have yet to learn of an instance where gift enterprises were not conducted honestly and fairly in the Dominion of Canada."—*Manchester Journal, Vt.*

"Most lotteries have fallen into disrepute on account of bad management, but we have never known of a single instance in the Dominion of Canada where a Gift Enterprise was not conducted honestly. Who is there among us that would not invest one dollar in an honest enterprise, conducted on business principles like the one at St. Stephen, where the honesty and integrity of the management is beyond question or doubt?"—*Commercial Gazette.*

The fairness and integrity of the drawings cannot be doubted. Persons who have invested in lotteries and been unsuccessful should not fail to invest ten dollars and secure twenty chances to win the capital prize. Club packages of ten tickets for five dollars. But the surest way to win a large prize is to remit ten dollars and secure twenty different numbers.

References: DAVID MAIN, Justice of the Peace; D. W. MCCORMICK, esquire. Inspector, S. F. NESBIT, Deputy Sheriff of St. Stephen.
Supervisor, G. W. FOSTER, Esquire, St. Stephen, N. B., Canada.

HOW TO REMIT MONEY.—Send bank bills in registered letters, post office money orders, or bank draft.

AGENTS WANTED. Send for particulars, conditions, &c. No money required until after tickets are sold. Address all orders to

HUGH MCKAY & CO.
St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Canada.

Any person ordering tickets would receive back a letter acknowledging receipt of money; and offering *extra inducements*

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to order more tickets at once. A person sending $3 for tickets would receive back their tickets, as advertised on the circulars, and this inducement to order more:

As you have sent us $3, and as there is yet time before the drawng, we will send you 6 more tickets, and another prize ticket for $2 more, thus giving you the benefit of agents' rates.

The agent's ticket, with the English Coat of Arms, was printed on white paper in bright red, as follows:




The ordinary ticket, on cheap pink paper, as follows on the front, while on the back it contained the list of prizes.




The essence of their business is shown in the letter from a lady, as follows:

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INDIANOLA, June 1, 1880.

*Dear Sir.*—I enclose you some lottery directions. Those fellows are doubtless a band of swindlers. They sent me some tickets and wanted me to sell them, and I did so on the good honest promise and directions for doing right. I sold the tickets to two ladies; ladies who never touched a lottery ticket before in their lives, and always thought they never would. I think this thing ought to be advertised all over our United States, to save our States from the swindle. Those ladies sent their money by me, and when he sent me the receipt for the money, he wanted me to send the receipt back, and wanted me sell five dollars' worth more tickets for him, which tickets he had not sent. I think likely they work under fictitious names.

A. D.

Then to quicken those who had received tickets on sale, and those also who might receive the circulars, into ordering tickets or sending money, they also sent each party a copy of the following:

OFFICE OF HUGH MCKAY & CO.,
ST. STEPHEN, N. B., March 22, 1879.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT.

Our agents and patrons are now notified that all accounts must be closed and settled before April 28th, which day has been decided upon for the final settling up and distribution of gifts in "The Royal Quarterly Gift Soiree." This decision is unchangeable, and positively not a day longer will be granted to any of our agents. The official list will be sent out immediately after April 28th, and all prize tickets cashed after that date.

Yours truly, &c.,
HUGH MCKAY & CO.

Having made diligent search for more than three years for a prize ever paid by one of these schemes of Pattee, I have yet to learn of a single person anywhere who has ever drawn a prize to the value of one dollar.

After this was started and well under way, Pattee returned to New York and started the bogus "Banker and Broker" office of Simpson & Co., as has already been described, also Heath & Co. After these were closed up, those who had been made the recipients of circulars about once a month, for the past year or more, from Hugh McKay & Co., began to receive another circular from another concern equally fraudulent, sent out from Montreal, Canada, under name and address of "Thomas L. Davis, Post Office Box 1966." The writer has received numerous complaints from

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various persons, and some were accompanied by envelopes and circulars from both the Montreal and St. Stephen frauds, and on some of these envelopes the address was in identically the same hand writing.

The last dodge of the St. Stephen fraud, is to send gratuitously ten tickets, offering to accept half payment or $5, and credit the balance, to be deducted from prizes drawn. As apparent as this old and transparent fraud is, yet there are hundreds who fall into the trap and send their money, only to lose it all, without any return whatever.

In order to help along this St. Stephen scheme still further, there was another dodge resorted to, in New York City. A letter was sent to all the addresses that could be procured, enclosing 6 tickets for sale, together with a lithographic letter.

We give the two letters, as sent:

OFFICE OF M. DOOLIN,
BANKER AND BROKER, No. 1469 Broadway,
NEW YORK, Feb. 26, 1879.

MR.——

*Dear Sir*—Enclosed find six Tickets for sale on commission. Remit as soon as you can, and on receipt of the money, we will forward the Prize Ticket to you.

For every 6 sold by you, you can receive one prize ticket also.

Yours,
(Signed) M. DOOLIN.

These were exactly the same tickets as before described.

LETTER NO. 2.

OFFICE ROYAL NEW BRUNSWICK GIFT SOIREE.

*Dear Sir*—The Managers are satisfied some extra inducement must be given in order to increase the sale of tickets.

Therefore they have decided to have a separate drawing, and distribute a large number of Prizes among their Agents in different localities, some of $100, some $250, some $500, some $1000, etc. Every ticket in this Special drawing for the benefit of Agents will win a prize; none of these tickets will be sold, but if you will introduce their new and popular 50 cent tickets in your locality, by selling six tickets in the regular drawing of March 10th, Capital Prize $10,000, and remit $3, we will send by return of mail six tickets, and also one of the special prize tickets free of cost, which insures you a prize, or we will send the tickets and you remit when sold.

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When you remit state if you will allow us to publish your name and the amount of Prize drawn by you as it might benefit our sales more than $5,000 spent in advertising.

Write immediately if you desire to win a prize. For full particulars, Tickets &c., address our authorized Agent,

M. DOOLIN, ESQ.,
No. 1469 Broadway, New York.

This last letter certainly contained flattering inducements, to one who, on reading it, had not brains enough to see "Fraud" written all over it.

Only think, for selling 6 tickets, or for the small sum of $3, you can secure a ticket that *surely draws a prize*, and these prizes all run from $100 to $10,000 cash. "What a fraud!" every one exclaims as they read this, and yet, reader, enough persons bite at this bait, to enrich the scoundrels who perpetrate such swindles, unless they are watched and checked by the post office officials at the start.

It is better than a play to head off one of these sharpers, and bring him to justice. There is a pleasure in stretching a strong arm between them and their victims.

"O," but you say, "what fools people are to send money to such schemes! They ought to be swindled." Not so fast. All are not so wise as you. Many a person brought up in the country, surrounded with pure influences in the home, is thoroughly honest, and believes others are too. Besides, many a one honestly does not see any wrong in a lottery; and many a weak one is tempted, while multitudes of thoughtless ones believe everything they see in print, and never stop to ask a question.

There is not a lottery in existence I would invest one dollar in, because there is not one chance in 10,000 of my drawing a prize. Still, I presume, after reading this book many persons will be just as susceptible to any new dodge or scheme as though they had not read this.

Do not charge it to me. *I reiterate, do not send your money to any person who offers more than* 100 *cents in value for a dollar.* It cannot be done. No business can be honestly conducted on any such basis.

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As a proof that Davis, of Montreal, is a Yankee fraud, read the first "Important Notice," in the circular below:

☞Read This Carefully.☜

☞The Three most reliable Lotteries in the World!☜

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

To the Public:

In view of certain new and recent regulations by which the United States Postal Authorities assume to supervise and decide what class of mail matter shall be sent to the citizen, thereby arrogating to themselves a right to interfere with the private correspondence of American freemen which would not be tolerated by any monarchy in Europe, we have established a General Agency for the sale of tickets in all legalized and reliable Lotteries outside of their jurisdiction.

EXTRAORDINARY OFFER.

On receipt of $10, we will send you a certificate of an

ASSORTED PACKAGE

of 20 tickets, all different numbers representing, to wit:

| | |
|---|---|
| 10 Half tickets in the Louisiana State Lottery | $10 |
| 6 Fortieths in the Royal Havana Lottery | 6 |
| 4 Whole tickets in the Kentucky State Lottery | 4 |
| Making a total in value of | $20 |

and leave $10 due on them to be deducted from the prizes drawn by you. Your chances to win a large prize are three times greater than ever before offered and the outlay only one half.

BY THIS PLAN

you have 20 chances to win large prizes in three of the most reliable and best Lotteries in the known world, which include three capital prizes. Persons who have been unfortunate heretofore should not fail to embrace this, and perhaps their last opportunity to secure a fortune. The amount is small and your chance to win the best ever offered.

PRIZES CASHED ON SIGHT.

All prizes will be cashed by us on sight or sent by Draft or Express to the persons winning them in any part of the world.

HOW TO REMIT MONEY.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Do not fail to follow these instructions and your money will come to us safely.

Send Bank draft on New York or Montreal, or fold the money carefully in your letter, so it cannot be seen by holding up to a light, and forward it by mail, same as any ordinary letter and it will come safe. *Postage only* 3 *cents.*



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**Should any money be received too late for this drawing it will be placed in the first drawing after this.**

**Persons desiring to avail themselves of our liberal offer should not fail to remit as soon as possible.**

**Order received for single tickes, but persons should avail themselves of the above liberal terms, and remit at least $5, which will secure 10 tickets.**

**Address all Orders plainly to**

**THOMAS L. DAVIS,**
**Post Office Box 1966, Montreal, Canada.**

**☞20 Tickets for $10!☜**
**☞ They Never Postpone. They Pay their Prizes Promptly! ☜**

That they "never postpone," is true. There is no drawing to postpone. If no drawing, then consequently *no prizes.* The prize the purchaser secures is the ticket he receives. The prize the fraud secures is the money the deluded fool sends.

This last scheme has but just started. Before it had been out two weeks, I reported the same to the Post Office Department, with a request that the matter be referred to the Canadian Government, and steps are now being taken to nip it in the bud.

*Later.*—It has been squelched.

The last effort of Pattee was the running of a bucket shop, as Montgomery Perry & Co., in Exchange Place.

I hope none of our readers think or suppose for one moment we have described all of Pattee's fraudulent schemes. We have not. He has been engaged in many others, but space will not admit of any further attention to this sly, sneaking old fraud, who to-day is rich from the moneys he has swindled innocent people out of.

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## CHAPTER IX.

### WATCH AND JEWELRY SWINDLERS.

While Buckwalter and Baxter may be considered as the head of the stock swindlers, and Pattee the principal in bogus lottery and fraudulent mining enterprises, it remains for Elias to carry off the honors as the prince of swindlers in the watch and jewelry line. With this man plan followed plan in rapid succession, and frequently he was conducting two or three at the same time.

Elias and his brother acquired considerable notoriety as the original "Dollar Store" men, on Broadway. For years this store was operated with great success, and being extensively advertised, was thronged by thousands of purchasers. His plan there, was to scour the market for goods that were a little out of style, and for odd lots that he could buy below the market price. He filled his shelves with "Yankee notions" of all descriptions, that he could purchase so as to sell for a dollar. There is no question that when this store first opened, he oftentimes offered to the public, goods cheaper than they could be purchased at wholesale. But while he was running this enterprise, he was also engaged in other operations through the mail.

One peculiarity about this man was that he managed to obtain almost absolute control over his clerks. It is supposed that this was done by paying them liberal salaries. He also was remarkable for securing immunity from arrest and prosecution by the police authorities. It was only when the laws of the United States in reference to swindling operations carried on through the mails were set in motion, that he met with serious embarrassment in his swindling operations.

His various schemes were usually conducted through the agency of the clerks in his employ, who always seemed willing to stand between their employer and any trouble, even submitting to arrest and exposure, rather than to disclose their principal and backer.

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While we shall not charge Mr. Elias with being the responsible manager of the following scheme, yet from his application to the postal authorities concerning the mail involved in the case, it is well known that he was interested in it.

### J. WRIGHT & CO.

This jewelry scheme is that which was advertised as the "PARISIAN AND GENEVA WATCH CO."

Advertisements of this concern were published in nearly all of the so-called sporting papers, and more especially in such publications as the "Waverly Magazine."

A description of this single scheme will be sufficient to enlighten the public as to the method of operation pursued in all. A letter written in answer to the advertisement would bring back a circular. In this circular, which we give on page 165, it will be seen that most extravagant statements are made concerning the Geneva Watch Co. It is represented as having supplied the greater part of the civilized world, for over two hundred years, with about two-thirds of the timepieces that have been in use, and that now it has turned all of its capital and machinery to the manufacture of the $4.00 watch.

A careful reading of this circular will disclose a fraud upon its face, notwithstanding which, thousands of those who received it, eager to secure a watch and chain for the small sum of $5, did not stop to carefully examine, but rashly forwarded their money, simply to lose it.

Instead of having an office at 609 Broadway, this concern received their mail in a small room, similar to a hall bedroom, in the third story of No. 599 Broadway.

A person sending $4 for this watch would receive back a notification that his name had been placed upon the list, and that when his turn came he would receive his watch. Any person, however, who should order a chain, sending $1 as payment, would receive back a printed circular or notice, informing him that owing to the great pressure of business, the firm were unable to fill so small an order, but that if he would send $4 for a watch,

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# Accomplished at Last!

## THE ENTIRE WORKS OF A WATCH MADE BY MACHINERY!

The Geneva Watch Company's

# $4.00 WATCH!

**Over 6,000 Watches Manufactured Daily.**

**A Watch that is Endorsed by all the leading Jewelers in Europe and America.**

The great Geneva Watch Company which have supplied the greatest part of the civilized world for over two hundred years with about two-thirds of the time pieces that have been in use, have at last turned their sole attention, including all of their capital and machinery, to the manufacturing of the

**FOUR DOLLAR GENEVA WATCH,**

which is now so widely and so favorably known in Europe as being the best time keeper that has yet been manufactured. These Watches are now sold by all the leading Jewelers of Europe. The movements are encased in Almonian Gold, which was invented by Thomas T. Efendolph, one of the largest stockholders in the Geneva Watch Company. Mr. Efendolph, who is a wonderful alchemist, worked for years endeavoring to make a discovery of a composition that would take the place of gold, and stand the tests of the strongest acids, and **always retains its color and brilliancy and wear the same as virgin gold itself.** In May, 1871, his years of laborious toil were rewarded by the discovery of this material, which even the expert Jewelers cannot detect from Jeweler's Gold in any other way except by weight. The discovery of this compound was characterized by the Geneva Watch Company, and also by all of the Jewelers of Europe as being invaluable, for the reason that millions worth of gold was annually worked into Jewelry and Watch cases, thereby taking from circulation that immense amount of money, which always kept the European and American Money Market cramped for coin. The importance of the discovery of Almonian Gold can be seen at a glance by all sensible people as it will in every case answer the purposes of Virgin Gold, except for the coining of money—for that of course it will not answer—for the reason that Virgin Gold is the basis of all values, and this being a composition has no standard value; in fact it can be produced very cheap, or the Geneva Watch Company could not afford to encase their Movements with Almonian Gold, and sell the Watches complete so low.

The complete works of the $4.00 Geneva Watch are manufactured by machinery, while only about one half of the works of the American Watch is made that way, the balance being made by hand. The result is that the Geneva Watch is acknowledged by all Jewelers to be a better and more perfect time-keeper than the American Watch. When the movements of a Watch are made entirely by machinery there is no deviation in any piece, so when it is put together every part is a complete fit, so that the Watch will always keep correct time, unless it receives a severe fall that would break some part of it. The Geneva Watch Company guarantees that their $4.00 Watch

**LOOKS AS WELL AS A WATCH THAT COST TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS.**

No Jeweler can tell them from gold except by weight. They are about one-sixth lighter than a Jeweler's Gold Watch of the same size. The Geneva Watch Company are also manufacturing Ladies and Gent's chains of all the latest patterns, out of Almonian Gold. They look and wear as well as a chain that costs $50.00 or $75.00—they are not quite as heavy—that is all the difference. They will wear the same as the Watch Cases, and stand the test of acids, and always retain their color and brilliancy the same as Virgin Gold. The price of the chains are one dollar each.

The Geneva Watch Company have appointed the well-known Jewelry House of J. Wright & Co., sole agents in the United States for the sale of the $4.00 Geneva Watch, and also for the sale of their Almonian Gold Chains. Messrs. Wright & Co. are now ready to ship these Watches to all parts of the United States. Parties ordering should state whether they wish a Ladies or a Gent's Watch. Also, whether they wish a hunting-case, or open-face, and whether they prefer an engraved, engine-turned or a chased case. When Chains are ordered, state which you wish, a Ladies' or Gent's Chain.

This is to Certify that we have this day appointed Messrs. J. Wright & Co., Jewelers, our Sole Agents in the United States of America for the sale of our $4.00 Geneva Watches, and our Almonian Gold Chains. We also do hereby authorize them to guarantee in writing our $4.00 Watches to keep correct time for 5 years. We further authorize them to state and guarantee that the Almonian Gold Watch Cases and Chains will always retain the same color and brilliancy and be in appearance and wear the same as Jeweler's Gold.

Signed by the Geneva Watch Co., at Geneva, Switzerland.

November 15, 1871.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Single Watches | $4 00 | Prices of Chains—1 | Chain | $1 00 |
| " " | 7 80 | " " | " | 1 80 |
| " " | 11 60 | " " | " | 2 60 |
| " " | 15 50 | " " | " | 3 50 |
| " " | 19 40 | " " | " | 4 70 |
| " " | 23 00 | " " | " | 5 70 |

No greater discount than the above will be made except to Jewelers purchasing by the Dozen. Parties wishing to order only a single Watch and Chain, Messrs. Wright & Co. will pack it safely in a small box and ship it by mail or express on receipt of $5.00. Parties ordering should always send the name of the express if they wish their Watch sent this way. All money must be sent by Draft, Post Office Money Order, or in a Registered Letter. Address all orders to

**J. WRIGHT & CO., Jewelers,**
**609 BROADWAY, New York.**

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the order would be immediately attended to. On sending the $4, the victim would be notified of the receipt of his money, and that his name had been placed on the list, as already described—and these replies were all that we ever knew any one to have received.

It will interest many to learn how this party was at last detected and arrested; and perhaps no better description can be given of the extensive business house of

"MESSRS. WRIGHT & COMPANY,

Wholesale Dealers in Diamonds and Jewelry, and Agents for this great Geneva Watch Co.," than to describe exactly the manner in which the man Wright was found.

Frequent complaints having been received concerning the swindling operations of these parties, a visit was made to No. 609 Broadway. No one there knew anything of J. Wright & Co. No office nor other trace of them could be found. Application was then made at Station A Post Office, where it was discovered that the carrier had instructions to deliver all letters for this firm at 599 Broadway, and that there was a small room on the third floor of this building that was occupied by J. Wright & Co., or rather by a well dressed young man, who came there once a day to receive his mail, usually a few minutes after 12 o'clock. This room was kept darkened, except while the young man was there waiting for the carrier.

It was evidently no bed of roses that this swindler rested upon. The first day that the writer visited this place, he found that the individual whom he was looking for, did not put in an appearance. The reason was, as discovered afterwards, that, while I was standing in front of a store nearly opposite No. 599, one of the persons that this man employed discovered me. Each day about half an hour before the carrier would be expected several young men might be seen coming down Broadway from toward the dollar store, and arranging themselves along the block in front of this office.

The second time I went up to this place, I was more cautious, having profited by the first experience.

Going into a store opposite, I took off my hat and making myself at home as if belonging there, comfortably seated myself in

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front of a window that commanded a full view of the entrance of 599 Broadway. I was thus enabled, unobserved, to watch the entire movements of the gang. First a rough looking fellow (the one who had "spotted" me the day before), came and stood directly at the entrance of 599 Broadway, then a young boy went up into the hall, taking a position on the second flight of stairs. Then two other young men came sauntering down one a little behind the other and paced up and down like sentries, carefully scrutinizing all persons on either side of the street. On seeing the carrier enter adjoining stores, one of the men who seemed to be in charge, immediately started up towards the "Dollar Store." He had hardly gone half a block before he was met by a very elegantly dressed young man about 35 years of age, wearing a dress suit, with a high silk hat, and in fashionable attire. Stopping to exchange a few words, the well dressed young man evidently received a report that the coast was clear, as he walked quickly down, and entered the hallway leading up stairs to his office.

In a few moments the letter carrier went in, and after delivering mail to various parties in this building, came down and passed out. In a few moments Mr. Swindler, having lighted a fresh cigar, comes down too, and quickly walks up Broadway, followed about twenty feet behind by the small boy, who has the letters tucked under his coat. All this was necessary to prevent a surprise, and to screen this fellow in case any detective should be on his track; because even if he should be arrested on coming out, no letters would be found upon him, and nothing to identify him as in any way connected with this fraud. But on the first approach of danger, this boy was to take to his heels and disappear. Giving this man and his boy a liberal start, I followed him up Broadway until he came to Amity street. Turning down this street he walked some three or four blocks and then suddenly turned a corner, receiving a nod from another picket, who was posted opposite his house, and who afterwards proved to be a pimp connected with the house of ill fame, into the basement door of which this man suddenly turned, followed by the boy with the letters.

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Having already secured, by correspondence, the evidence of this man's swindles through the mails, and having now fully identified him by aid of the letter carrier, I took with me the next day a Deputy U. S. Marshal, armed with a warrant for his arrest. We secreted ourselves, as on the previous occasion, having gone there about an hour before it was time for the carrier, and in order to locate ourselves before the guard should be mounted on the other side. The same programme was then again carried out by these men, almost in detail in every respect, save that as he entered the house before referred to by the basement, the officer and myself entered at the front door and arrested this fellow in the room of one of the women, where he was making frantic efforts to hide himself and his correspondence.

On searching the house, we found up in an attic room thousands of circulars, similar to the one set forth in this article, enclosed in buff envelopes, already addressed and stamped. And here, kind reader, was the headquarters of the great "Geneva Watch Co.," that had manufactured two-thirds of all the timepieces used by civilized countries for the past two hundred years!

### RUSSELL & CO.

Another scheme, which turned out as remarkably profitable to the managers in question, under the name of Russell & Co., jewelers, was at 37 Bond street. In this case, also, we illustrate one of many similar plans of operation, of almost precisely the same character. After one had been exhausted another one would follow it, in the same wake. We append a part of their circular, showing a fraud within a fraud.

### A DECISION AT LAST.

CONSOLIDATION OF THE

*TOPEKA, KANSAS, AND LARAMIE CITY, WYOMING TER., LOTTERIES.

SUPPLEMENTARY DRAWING OF $47,000 IN UNCLAIMED PRIZES.

The Managers of the Topeka and Laramie City lotteries, found after their various drawings were concluded, that there remained in the hands of the Finance Committees $47,000 in unclaimed prizes. The Managers jointly brought

* Bogus Lotteries formerly run by Pattee & Co. All pretended Court proceedings a fraud and a lie.

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suit to recover the money, they claiming that all unclaimed prizes belonged to them. The Finance Committee contended that the money belonged jointly to the ticket holders proportionately; according to their investments. After a great delay, and long and tedious arguments, the Supreme Court decided in favor of the Finance Committee, and the Court ordered that the $47,000 be invested in useful prizes, and that a supplementary drawing should take place, in which all the ticket holders in the Topeka and Laramie City lotteries should have an equal chance. The reason why the Court ordered the $47,000 to be invested in prizes was on account of the laws being so amended, since the inauguration of these enterprises, that it made it a criminal offense to have any drawings of numbers or for money. So the committee decided to send J. H. Parker, representing the Laramie City Lottery, and W. S. Watts, representing the Topeka, to New York, to invest the $47,000 in prizes. They bought the following bill of goods from Messrs. Russell & Co., wholesale dealers in Watches and Jewelry, No. 37 Bond St.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 75 | Gold Watches and Chains | at $200 00 | each | $15,000 |
| 100 | " " | at 100 00 | " | 10,000 |
| 150 | Silver " | at 40 00 | " | 6,000 |
| 200 | " " | at 25 00 | " | 5,000 |
| 100 | Sets of Jewelry | at 35 00 | " | 3,500 |
| 75 | Gold Plated Watches | at 8 00 | " | 600 |
| 35 | Ladies' Gold Chains | at 40 00 | " | 1,400 |
| 45 | Gents' " | at 25 00 | " | 1,125 |
| 50 | Pairs of Bracelets | at 50 00 | per pair | 2,500 |
| 25 | Silver Plated Tea Sets | at 75 00 | each | 1,875 |
| | Total | | | $47,000 |

THE PLAN BY WHICH THE DRAWING WAS CONDUCTED.

The names of every ticket holder in the Laramie City and Topeka lotteries were written from the register on a slip of paper and placed in a lottery wheel, after the wheel was revolved so as to thoroughly mix the names, then the drawing began.

The first 75 names drew one each of the 75 Gold Watches and Chains valued at $200. The next 100 names drew each one of the one hundred dollar Watches and so the drawing continued until it was finished. The Court expenses, Attorney's fees, the expenses of Mr. Parker and Mr. Watts to New York and return, and the expense of the supplementary drawing, including printing, amount to about forty-seven hundred dollars.

To meet this outlay, the Finance Committee voted that the drawers of prizes in the supplementary drawing, should be assessed 10 per cent. on the value of such prizes as they drew. The Committee felt satisfied that the lucky names that were drawn from the wheel would not object to paying the 10 per cent. in order to have the matter brought to a close. Mr. Parker and Mr. Watts arranged with Messrs. Russell & Co. to forward the prizes and col-

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lect the 10 per cent. due on them. Most of the ticket holders in the Topeka and Laramie lotteries reside East, so by shipping the prizes from New York, it will be a great saving to them of express charges. Messrs. Russell & Co. agreed when the above mentioned bill of goods was purchased, to exchange any prize that was drawn for any other article in their stock of the same value. We speak of this so that ticket holders will have that advantage when they have drawn articles that they have no use for.

OFFICIAL NOTICE.

LARAMIE CITY, Feb. 8th, 1877.

MR. W. H. EATKINS.

You are hereby notified that your joint interest in the Laramie City and Topeka (Kansas) Lotteries, has resulted in your drawing a Gold Watch and Chain valued at $200.00. The 10 per cent. assessed by the Committee on all prizes makes the amount due on your prize $20.00. You will please send that amount by express, post office money order, or registered letter, to Messrs. Russell & Co., Jewelers, No. 37 Bond St., New York, and they will forward the prize to you by express. If you prefer, they will send it by express, C. O. D., for the amount of percentage. Should you, after examining the article, desire to exchange the prize for any other thing of similar value in Messrs. Russell & Co.'s stock, you can do so.

A duplicate of this notification has been forwarded to Messrs. Russell & Co., No. 37 Bond Street, New York, with instructions to ship the prize drawn by you according to your directions.

A supplementary drawing of 855 prizes, which was purchased with the $47,000 of unclaimed prize money. The following are the names of the persons that drew the prizes.

All prizes not claimed within 30 days will be declared forfeited.

W. S. WATTS, E. JOHNSON, THOS. HILL,
*Financial Committee of the Topeka, Kansas, Lottery.*

E. H. PARKER, E. M. MILLER, H. H. CARTER,
*Financial Committee of the Laramie City Lottery, Wyoming Ter.*

On this circular was printed 855 names and addresses. To each of the 855 names, covering the entire back, and one-half of the front, four columns deep, a circular would be sent. The certificate last named, would be filled out with the name of each person.

It will be observed that the 10 per cent. assessed by the committee on all prizes, was to be collected by Russell & Co.

The writer has seen very many of these notifications sent by various parties through the country, and in no instance has he discovered any of these series that drew anything less than a $200

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gold watch and chain, with a percentage tax of $20. These goods were C. O. D., and C. O. D. in this case meant the sending of the money to Russell & Co. at their office, 37 Bond street.

In some cases a very cheap watch would be sent, while in others no return at all would be made for the money. For instance, one man wrote to them to send on the watch by express; instead of doing so, they write back as follows:

RUSSELL & CO.,
WHOLESALE DEALERS IN WATCHES, JEWELRY AND SILVERWARE,
No. 37 Bond Street,

NEW YORK, Feb. 13, 1877.

WM. H. E.

*Sir:*—Your letter in reference to the Gold Watch and Chain you have drawn received.

Your claim has been entered on our Books, and we have written to the Financial Committee of the Topeka & Laramie City Lotteries for a Certified Certificate to the effect that you had drawn the prize referred to.

We must also have an order from them to ship the package.

As soon as these are received we will send it to you per express, C. O. D. for the amount of percentage due. Respy,

RUSSELL & CO.

Then there would be a period of several weeks before the party would hear anything more from his watch.

On writing again, he would receive the following letter:

[*Same official heading.*]

W. H. E.

*Dear Sir:*—We have received instructions from the "Finance Committee" not to ship the "Gold Watch and Chain" that you have drawn unless you send us the percentage due $20. On receipt of this amount we will forward the "Gold Watch and Chain," safely packed, by mail, registered, or we will send it by Express if you prefer.

We have written several times, and have had considerable trouble about this Prize. Now, if we do not receive the percentage due within 15 days, we will consider your claim to the "Watch and Chain" forfeited, and will turn them over to the Finance Committe.

Send the money by P. O. Money Order, Registered letter, or by Express.

Respectfully,

RUSSELL & CO.

P. S.—The next Drawing will take place July 4th, all orders for Tickets must be in by July 3d.

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The pretence that these goods would be sent C. O. D. in many cases was all a farce. In this case the gentleman in question authorized them to send by express C. O. D.; but they refused to do it, and after several weeks had passed followed up this refusal by the last letter set out above.

The reference to the consulting of the committee at Laramie City is simply subterfuge; as there was no committee of that character to consult. But in this case there seems to be a "wheel within a wheel," or diamond to cut a diamond. Elias had employed at this time in this office a young man named Hopping. This young man, thinking to head off Russell & Co., and, as he admitted, assisted by J. M. Pattee, starts a new scheme out at Riverside, N. J., a little town on the Camden & Amboy road, about 14 miles out of Philadelphia.

This young man organizes the firm of

RUSSELL, HOPPING & CO.,

issuing certificates, accompanied by the letters following, which speak for themselves:

REMOVAL OF RUSSELL, HOPPING & CO.,
LATE OF NEW YORK,
WHOLESALE DEALERS IN WATCHES, JEWELRY AND SILVER PLATED WARE.
REMOVED TO RIVERSIDE, NEW JERSEY.

RIVERSIDE, N. J., May 1st, 1877.

MR. ——:

Some time ago a bill of Goods was bought from us with instructions to forward them to different parties on payment of a small balance due on them, with Express charges and collection fees varying from $5 to $20 on each article. The Gold Watch & Chain ordered to be sent to you, (of which you have received a previous notice,) yet remains on hand, and in order to close up this contract we have received instructions to send you the above Goods on payment of $5, provided you remit the money within 15 days, by mail, registered letter, or bank draft, and thus save the heavy Express charges and collection fees, as we find they have proved the greatest part of the expenses.

Remit promptly and the Goods will be sent to you by mail, thus doing away entirely with the heavy expenses heretofore attending this business.

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*Write Name,*
*Town,*
*County,*
*State,*

plainly, and enclose money in this notice and mail to

RUSSELL, HOPPING & CO.,
Jewelers, Riverside, New Jersey.

N. B.—By this removal and our association with Mr. Hopping, we are enabled to make a specialty of Watches and Chains, and furnish our line of Goods at lower prices than ever before offered the public. Send for Catalogue of Goods at reduced prices.

---

Then, when money is sent comes the following:

RUSSELL, HOPPING & CO.,
(Late of New York,)
WHOLESALE DEALERS IN WATCHES, JEWELRY AND SILVER WARE,
RIVERSIDE, NEW JERSEY.

Sole Agents in the United States for the celebrated Kensington Watch.

RIVERSIDE, N. J., May, 1877.

*Dear Sir*—Yours of the — containing $5 and an order for a Watch and Chain received and placed on file.

We always fill orders in regular routine, and yours shall be attended to in its turn.

We enclose you one of our circulars for future use, and should you favor us with any order the same shall receive our careful attention.

Respectfully, RUSSELL, HOPPING & CO.

This young man's business was stopped on the ground of its being a swindling scheme conducted under a fictitious name.

Under postal laws and regulations, the letters were not deliverable; consequently, Mr. Hopping never received the large profits which he had anticipated. Suffice it to say, that in one week's time he found his mail stopped, and all the registered letters and money orders sent back to the writers, and the balance of his mail to the dead letter office, from thence to be returned to the writer. This case illustrates the beneficial law of Congress which enables the Postmaster-General thus to protect the interest of the unwary from the scheme of the sharper.

Hopping, though a young man, is nevertheless a sharp fellow. He had secured the names of the parties to whom Russell & Co. were sending out these circulars. Then he secured the names of

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those who would not send their money in advance, but wanted their goods C. O. D., and his plan was to secure, as he did in this case, $5, instead of allowing Russell & Co. to secure $20. In the case which we have referred to, he succeeded in getting $5, but Mr. E., his intended victim, writes to us that he recovered this back by writing a letter to R. H. & Co., offering to send $20 on the receipt of the $5.

Hopping informed the writer of this, that Russell & Co. had also written to the postmaster at Riverside, prior to the matter coming into my hands, forbidding him to deliver any letters addressed Russell, Hopping & Co. This was unquestionably a fraud on the Post Office Department, as there was no Russell who had anything to do with this case. Riverside is a kind of summer resort, and Pattee's brothers-in-law formerly run a summer hotel at this place, and Pattee at times has resided here with his family. There accumulated in this office over 1,000 letters in about one week's time. Consider a moment that the sum to be sent was $5, and you see at a glance what a harvest these thieves would have reaped if they had been permitted to receive these letters. The great value of the existing law, that does not permit the use of the mails for such schemes, is clearly illustrated.

One of Pattee's schemes had a short time before been run in this place by one of the Reads, and many say that this attempt of Russell, Hopping & Co. was really an effort on the part of Pattee to outwit Elias. It is also charged that Elias secured from Pattee at one time 140,000 of his names. It was to these names that Pattee had, while he was running these different bogus lotteries, sent his circulars and tickets, and this made it so profitable a field for Russell & Co. to operate.

But for fear that these parties should not be relieved of all their earthly possessions, another scheme was started by

COSGROVE & CO.

whereby they hoped to still further bleed the victim, whom they had attempted to rob of his $20, by getting $3 out of him. They sent the following letter:

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OFFICE OF COSGROVE & CO.,
INVESTIGATORS OF CLAIMS,
MONEY COLLECTED AND ACCOUNTS SETTLED WITH DISPATCH.
NO. 17 PARK PLACE.

**Money Loaned on Bond and Mortgage; Government Bonds Bought and Sold on Commission.**

NEW YORK, 1877.

*Dear Sir*—We have been engaged by some of the Ticket Holders of the Topeka, Kansas, & Laramie City Lotteries to institute suit against Messrs. Russell & Co., of 37 Bond street, this city, for alleged unlawfully demanding $20 upon watches drawn in the Lottery. We find by the circular that you have been notified that you drew a gold watch and chain valued at $200, upon which they demand $20 before delivering the same. We have fully investigated the business and find they had no authority from the courts of Topeka or Laramie, to collect any money upon prizes drawn nor to declare prizes forfeited. Therefore you are entitled to a $200 gold watch and chain free from all assessments. We have in our opinion official information and abundant proof to support our case and doubt not that we can demand and collect your equitable rights at once. We shall give all persons who drew prizes a chance to be represented upon payment of $3, in full payment of all expenses incurred in securing your prize or its value in money. Should you desire to be represented and have us use legal means to secure your gold watch and chain or its value in money, enclose $3 to us by mail and we will endeavor to see that justice is done to you at last.

Yours truly,

COSGROVE & CO.

In this case, this was undoubtedly a clerk who knew the ins and outs of this office and knew the parties whom they had tried to swindle out of the $20. This looks like a "wheel within a wheel" again, while in fact it is a "fraud within a fraud."

The accompanying circular will also disclose another one of Russell & Co.'s schemes, and needs no comment.

OFFICE OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE
LOUISVILLE LOTTERY ASSOCIATION.

**We are pleased to be able to announce, that after our various drawings, that we have fully accomplished the grand object we had in view, and had a surplus of $53,000, which sum has been invested in Diamonds, Watches and Jewelry, purchased of Messrs. Russell & Co., of New York. These goods have all been put into our Supplementary Drawing, in which we have given all of the ticket holders in our previous Drawings an equal chance.**

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We hope that all those that are fortunate enough to draw prizes will give us liberal orders for tickets in our enterprise to establish an Art Gallery in Louisville.

The Drawing will take place July 4th, 1877. Tickets $50.00 each. There will be no fractional tickets sold. Those wishing tickets should order at once, as the entire number of tickets, at the present rate of sale, will be disposed of long before the day of drawing.

Ten per cent. will be assessed on all prizes drawn in our Art Gallery enterprise, in order to defray advertising and office expenses. The same has been charged on all prizes drawn in our Supplementary Drawing.

S. L. STANTON, Secretary pro-tem.

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LOUISVILLE, June 6th, 1877.

JOHN T. LONG.

*Dear Sir*—About 15 days since we officially notified you that the Ticket held by you in our previous drawing, had in our Supplementary Drawing resulted in your being entitled to a "Royal Gold American Watch and Chain" valued at $250. The 10 per cent. due on the Watch and Chain, amounts to $25, which must be paid to Russell & Co., jewelers, No. 37 Bond street, New York, when you receive the "Watch and Chain;" or they will send it to you per Express, and of course, they will instruct the Express Agent to allow you to examine the goods before paying charges.

We hope you will without delay write to Messrs. Russell & Co. at N. Y., and arrange to get the Watch into your hands as soon as possible, as we know by your exhibiting the article it will assist in selling Tickets for our Art Gallery Enterprise. Respectfully,

W. S. WATERMAN, Treasurer.

The stories told by some of the clerks are very amazing, about the manner in which the complaints referred to the police department were investigated. "The officer," he says, "would come and see one of us boys, and then would go 'and get staked,' then go back to headquarters and report that the bird had flown." We do not give this as a fact, but simply as a statement made to the writer by one of the employees of this office.

The same informant also stated that Russell & Co.'s schemes were all sent out from the other office of Elias at 2 East 22d street.

Russell & Co., having exhausted their own schemes for securing other people's money, the following dodge was resorted to, and without comment we give the letter as it was sent, as it speaks for itself:

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HETHERINGTON & CO.,
Manufacturers of FINE GOLD JEWELRY,
AND SETTERS OF DIAMONDS IN EVERY STYLE,
No. 338 Broadway,

NEW YORK, June 18th, 1877.

E. A. W.

*Dear Sir*—Among the goods assigned to us by Messrs. Russell & Co., of No. 37 Bond street, who failed a few days since, we notice a gold watch and chain with your name and address on it, and marked C. O. D. $25.

We consulted Messrs. Russell & Co. in reference to the matter, and they have advised us to send it to you per express C. O. D. for the amount due, $25. We will ship it to-morrow to Chenoa, Ills., per United States Express. Please call at the express office and examine the package and pay charges, as we are anxious to settle up the affairs of Messrs. Russell & Co. as early as possible.

Respectfully,
HETHERINGTON & CO.

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## CHAPTER X.

### THE LOTTERY PRIZE FRAUD.

After Russell & Co. had followed out the Topeka and Laramie City Lottery scheme, sending to the names that J. M. Pattee & Co. formerly had, they undertook another one, after the same plan, in what was called THE LOUISVILLE LOTTERY ASSOCIATION. Their circulars were headed:

OFFICE OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LOUISVILLE LOTTERY ASSOCIATION.

A decision at last. A long litigation ended.
Victory of the Finance Committee over the Managers.
Supplementary Drawing of $94,000 in unclaimed prizes.

In addition to the usual seductive wording of the circular, it contained over 1,700 names and post office addresses of those to whom prizes were alleged to belong, and this circular was sent to each of these names. The circular stated:

"That, after a great delay and long and tedious arguments, the Supreme Court decided in favor of the Finance Committee, and the Court ordered that the $94,000 be invested in prizes, and that a supplementary drawing should take place, in which all the holders in the various drawings of the association should have an equal chance. The reason why the Court ordered the $94,000 to be invested in prizes was, on account of the laws being so amended, that it made it a criminal offence to have any drawing of money without lottery charges, which the State of Kentucky finds this association has not."

All this sounds very large to the recipient, especially if he has ever purchased a ticket in the Kentucky Lottery; but when you understand the fact that there was no such suit, and no such order of the Court, and no such amount of prizes, it then becomes quite a different thing.

Let it be understood here that Russell & Co.'s office consisted of one room at the place designated, and that there were usually three badly frightened clerks in attendance. When I called there to make an examination of this "wholesale dealer in watches and jewelry," I found a quantity of cheap plated ware, and also a

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few cheap and second-hand watches, just about such a stock as a Jew peddler would carry in his pack on his back round the country.

The writers of the circular then certify that the committee had bought the following bill of goods from Messrs. Russell & Co., wholesale dealers in Watches and Jewelry, 37 Bond street:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 240 Gold Watches and Chains | @ | $150 each. |
| 175 " " " | @ | 100 " |
| 250 Silver " " | @ | 40 " |
| 340 " " " | @ | 25 " |
| 200 Lots of Jewelry | @ | 35 " |
| 150 Gold-plated Watches | @ | 8 " |
| 70 Ladies' Gold Chains | @ | 40 " |
| 90 Gents' " " | @ | 25 " |
| 100 Pairs of Bracelets | @ | 150 " |
| 50 Plated Tea Sets | @ | 75 " |
| Total | | $94,000 |

In this instance the association assessed 10 per cent., and out of all the numerous complaints sent back to me as Special Agent of the Post Office Department, I never yet found one in this particular scheme that was not for a gold watch and chain, valued at $150, and the assessment due Russell & Co. of $15. This was operated the same as the scheme already described. In each of these instances if the package was sent at all it would be as C. O. D. A cheap watch and plated chain would be sent, such as then was selling in the trade for from $5 to $8.

In case Hetherington & Co. failed to collect the money after Russell & Co. had also failed, then would be sent a letter by mail from another firm (?) announcing

**that the watch and chain had been shipped C. O. D. for $15, and unless this amount is paid to the express agent within 10 days we will consider your claim to them forfeited, and so report to the committee.**

Signing themselves

CLARK & Co., 1267 Broadway.

### STILL ANOTHER.

After they had exhausted the names in their possession with these schemes, they then had another "decision," in which a grand

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supplementary drawing of all unclaimed and forfeited prizes in the various "legal" lotteries which have been drawn in the United States, within the past ten years, were to be paid by Russell & Co. The accumulation of prizes in this instance was $218,303, and Russell & Co. were to ship them, of course; and they were to collect 10 per cent. on all prizes valued below $250 and 5 per cent. on all prizes valued at over $250. In these cases they sent out, in most instances, one lot of gold jewelry, of about 500 different patterns, valued at $280. And so they would have kept on robbing and fleecing the people only that the Post Office Department enforced the regulations, upon reports that I made to them, and Russell & Co. at last were obliged to close the doors of their wholesale watch and jewelry fraud.

THE PENALTY OF PURCHASING A LOTTERY TICKET

is illustrated by the following letter from one of the victims of Russell & Co. It is a sad illustration of the weakness of poor human nature on one side, and the duplicity and heartlessness of the Fraud on the other. Starving widows even have no rights, sorrows or afflictions, that the Fraud respects. He can rob them with a gusto, rub his hands in delight, and chuckle to himself over the "$14" thus obtained. Further than this, he can also use their widows' substance, and orphans' livelihood, to clothe himself in gorgeous apparel and then cut a swell in society. If he but dresses well and embellishes his good clothes with loud jewelry, the doors of many would-be respectable persons are thrown wide open to receive him without a thought or inquiry of how he obtains these passports to their circle. Such is life in a large city. "Money makes the mare go." This letter was forwarded to me by the gentleman to whom it was sent.

LOUISA C. H., VA. Jan. 31, '78.

DEAR MR. W——

I would be obliged, nay, deeply thankful if you would be so kind as to do me a favor. Ten years ago I bought a Lottery Ticket for $2 (two dollars), and drew a blank. I had forgotten the circumstance, until a few weeks since I received a printed paper from E. D. Fisk, stating that in the last ten years, there were unclaimed prizes amt. "to $218,305. A Committee of 23 was

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called, representing one man from each Lottery. It was decided and carried into effect that the unclaimed prizes should be equally divided between all the Ticket holders in the various drawings. A grand supplementary Drawing should take place in New Orleans, La., under the special supervision of the Committee and that the names of all who had purchased tickets in any of the 23 Lotteries within the past ten years should be put into the wheel and have an equal chance in the drawing of unclaimed prizes. It was also agreed that a percentage of 10 per cent. be assessed on all prizes valued below $250 and 5 per cent. on all above $250 so as to defray the expenses of the drawing. I very unexpectedly received official notice that the interest I held in one of the Lotteries represented by the committee on unclaimed prizes had resulted in my drawing one Lot of Gold Jewelry 105 different patterns and valued at $280, per centage $14. The Jewelry is in possession of Messrs. Russell & Co. (Jewelers) 37 Bond street and that I must notify them by what express I wish the goods sent. Now, kind friend, I have given the whole matter as plainly as I could. I wrote to Fiske & Russell at once begging them to turn the jewelry into money—but have heard nothing from them. Now Mr. W. would you be so very kind as to see the parties and find out if it is all a hoax to get the $14 per centage—or is it true—unless I claim it in 30 days from notice I forfeit it—I got the notice 18 of Jan '78. I would be so truly thankful if you would see into the matter for me, have the jewelry sold for whatever it will bring, take out the percentage and send the rest to me. Poor as I am—a widow with three helpless children—the youngest a babe and the oldest is now very sick—I am almost on the verge of the grave and suffering for the necessaries of life have but little use for Jewelry. I have suffered intensely this winter and would be truly thankful if you would help me in this matter.

Respectfully,

MRS. C.

All who received these circulars were not fools enough to bite at the tempting bait. Many sent on their certificates to personal friends to go and receive the watch and send it on to them. One gentleman in Ohio sent a letter in which he says he had received three certificates from Russell & Co., in each case where he or some member of his family had drawn one of these wonderful prizes. He says:

The first one was addressed to my little girl. The second one was sent to my wife, and the third to me. In order that I might be sure in making the charge of fraud, I wrote to the party to send the watch and chain C. O. D. to my daughter, and had it examined by a jeweler here, who placed the value at nine dollars.

Some of his neighbors had also received these certificates, and were very positive that it could not be a swindle.

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After these parties, under the name of Russell & Co., had sent his watch, and it had been returned, as it was by this gentleman, they sent a second watch and chain, under the name of Messrs. Hethrington & Co., to the same little girl, stating:

That the Finance Committee had appointed them to receive the percentage money, instead of Russell & Co.,

and attempted to make out that Russell & Co. were a swindle and fraud, while Hetherington & Co. were the ones duly authorized to send a watch and chain to them.

Another instance, a lady from Auburn, Ohio, who had been sick for a long time, and under the doctor's care, involving a great expense, had a little home, which was under a mortgage. She says:

Something over two years ago, when nearly desperate with anxiety, fearing a foreclosure of the mortgage, I invested a small sum in lottery tickets, hoping to be favored by fortune in a manner similar to that of others, that the circulars claimed had removed mortgages on their homes once by a lucky investment of a small amount.

She then goes on to say:

That this money had been given her by a lady friend, living some thirty miles away, in order that she might make a friend in that vicinity, a visit whenever her health would permit it.

She invested this money and lost it, and in the mean time the mortgage had changed hands. She says:

I was trying to extract what comfort I could from the thought, may be that I could die before the mortgage expired, and then I would not need a home any more, and this was the state of things, when most unexpectedly I received a letter from New York, announcing that I had drawn a $200 watch and chain, and Russell & Co. had been appointed to collect 10 per cent. for the Finance Committee before this was shipped.

Having learned a lesson from the past, she cautiously wrote a letter of inquiry to Russell & Co., to know if it was a fact, that she had drawn a watch and chain, when

the watch and chain were immediately sent by express, altho' I had given no such instructions.

As there was no express office within seven miles of this lady's

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residence, she could not examine the package herself, so she wrote to the express agent, telling him she was very sick, and very poor, and asked permission to have the watch and chain examined, offering as a security, property at the value of $100 for the safe return of the package, or else the payment of $20 C. O. D. charges.

The express agent would not consent to this, but wrote to Russell & Co., who forthwith ordered the package returned to New York. This lady wrote several times to Russell & Co., demanding her gold watch and chain; but as she says, unable down to the present time to hear any word from them.

This poor, sensitive, sick woman, in closing her letter, says:

I am exceedingly sensitive to ridicule, and some people might think it served me right for being such a fool, as to invest my money in lottery tickets; but if you could only know the horror and dread I have of spending my last days in the Poor House, you would not wonder that I sought to avoid it by risking a little money; more especially when the ill consequences of its loss would fall upon myself individually, and no one suffer for it but myself.

Her tickets were bought in the celebrated "skin lottery" known as the Wyoming lottery.

The following letter, which we give verbatim, except the names, is a specimen of an official correspondence that often accompanies the complaints that are received against these fraudulent schemes:

H———, Ohio, Preble Co.

To the Hon. T. M. J.

Sir—In closed find letter sent to me from a firm in Newyork. I never bought a lotery tickett in my lyfe. I think it is a grand swindel. please send me youre ancer on in closed card. Your servant,

—— ———, P. M.

Similar schemes to the above were run upon the "Wyoming," the "Cheyenne," "Laramie City," the "Kentucky," and then this last scheme upon all the lotteries combined; all this was the work of one or two men, and these schemes brought into their pockets thousands of dollars each week.

What consistency is there in guarding sacredly the letters

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entrusted to the Post Office Department from depredation and robbery, and then in knowingly delivering them to such swindlers as we have described? It is prostituting the entire service of the Post Office Department for the interest of one or two rascals.

Many more of these schemes might be referred to, in which Elias & Co. were the prime movers, but we feel sure that enough has been said to disclose to the public the facts, and to put them on their guard against any similar enterprises.

It has frequently been remarked in these cases that anybody who should send for one of these prizes ought to be swindled, as the property did not belong to them, and it was an act of dishonesty for them to send and take it. Be this as it may, there is certainly no reason why one man should be allowed to rob others by such a process as this, and further, if there was no other reason, this is just ground, why the laws of Congress should prevent these criminals from making the United States mail their most efficient agency to carry on their fraudulent schemes.

The fact that one man may thus rob thousands, by sending out false certificates, with their names not only set out in the certificate, but their name and residence printed in the circular, ought to secure most stringent legislation. As showing the extent to which these frauds may be carried, in one week's time at the little town of Riverside there was received, addressed to Russell, Hopping & Co., more than one thousand letters, besides over one hundred registered letters, and it is notorious that Russell & Co., of New York, received in money orders and registered letters many hundred dollars a week. But the last scheme of any considerable magnitude of this character conducted by Elias & Co., and brought directly home to him, and where the men were arrested in his own office, at No. 2 East 22d Street, was the Bogus Jewelry Distribution Frauds.

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# CHAPTER XI.

## THE BOGUS JEWELRY DISTRIBUTION FRAUDS.

### "THE NEW YORK JEWELERS AND WATCH IMPORTERS' GRAND WEEKLY DISTRIBUTION OF $25,000 WORTH OF DIAMONDS, ETC."

During the winter of 1878–9 thousands of people in various parts of the country were surprised by the announcements made in a circular under the above heading. Still more amazed were they upon receiving a personal letter affirming a relationship between themselves and the manager of this magnificent business enterprise; and this new relation, if his letter was to be believed, manifested his personal interest in a truly generous manner.

#### H. P. JONES & CO.

The principal in this fraud, as has been shown, is said to have secured 140,000 names and post office addresses from a brother Fraud. Besides these he had thousands of names which he had secured in his own business, which has been already enlarged upon in this book. The headquarters of this concern were at the corner of Broadway and East Twenty-second street, New York city. Here E. H. Elias had his office, and employed a large number of men and girls to address envelopes and write deceptive letters, which were sent out to the thousands of names in his possession. The entrance to this place was up one flight of stairs on East Twenty-second street. On two sides of his office ran long tables or desks, forming the shape of the letter L. Seated side by side were the clerks, busily engaged in their writing. Over in one corner was the desk of Elias. He is justly considered one of the shrewdest operators through the mail. Each fall he or some of his friends or assistants would start some new enterprise. The one in question was introduced by a letter, a copy of which we give below:

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HENRY P. JONES,
DEALER IN DIAMONDS, WATCHES AND JEWELRY, No. 868 Broadway.

NEW YORK, March 19, 1879.

C. D. F.

*Dear Sir.*—In looking over the U. S. directory, your name attracted my attention. A cousin of mine bearing the same name as yours, after the war was over, left his Regiment and I have not heard from him since. Now, I do'nt know whether you are the same person or not but you can tell as soon as you see my signature to this letter.

If you are my cousin I can do you a favor and you can help me. I am agent for the Lottery which the within circular describes. I enclose you a ticket that will be good for any of the drawings, with this understanding, if you will agree to act as agent for the sale of tickets, I will arrange it so that you will draw a prize. I am sure that if a large prize was drawn by you and shown around that thousands of tickets could be sold in your County.

If you accept of this proposition, let me know at once and I will arrange so that you will draw the prize in the next week's drawing. Yours Resp'y

HENRY P. JONES.

The "cousin" part of this letter was evidently designed to force the correspondent into a false position, and so prevent him from appearing against these parties, after they had relieved him of his surplus cash. With this, as with a pretended dealer in counterfeit money, they expect immunity from arrest because persons who send criminate themselves, and therefore would not be likely to complain if swindled.

Another view, and doubtless the one uppermost in the mind of these parties, was, that any person receiving such a letter would be very apt to reply one way or the other, which, if at all, was generally favorable to their proposition. On receipt of the reply, followed the prospectus, which is given below in full, in order to bring out plainly the seductive influences of this scheme:

THE NEW YORK JEWELERS AND WATCH IMPORTERS
GRAND WEEKLY DISTRIBUTION OF $25,000 WORTH OF DIAMONDS, WATCHES, JEWELRY & SILVERWARE.

5,000 TICKETS, AT $5 EACH.

**This Drawing will take place weekly, at the Rooms of the Association, on the same plan and under the direction of the same committee as the previous ones, which have been fully advertised.**

PROSPECTUS.

**On the 4th of September, 1878, twenty of the leading Jewelers and Watch Importers of New York formed an Association, now known as the "New York**

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Jewelers and Watch Importers Association," for the purpose of converting One Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars worth of their stock into money. It was decided by the Association to have 52 Weekly Drawings, of $25,000 each, and that they should take place at the rooms of the Association weekly.

Henry P. Jones, Jeweler, No. 868 Broadway, was appointed General Ticket Agent of the Enterprise. Wm. P. McCall, 6 West 3d street, was appointed to deliver and ship prizes when drawn by parties out of the city.

This is the only lottery that is drawn in this State; all others are prohibited by the law on account of their prizes being in money. Our prizes are all merchandize, which the law allows to be drawn the same as at Church Fairs, &c. The drawings which have previously taken place gave universal satisfaction, and they were attended by some of the best citizens of New York. We have not the slightest doubt but what the remaining ones will prove equally successful.

LIST OF PRIZES FOR THE WEEKLY DRAWINGS OF THE NEW YORK JEWELERS AND WATCH IMPORTERS ASSOCIATION.

[Here followed an extensive list of "Diamonds," "Gold Watches and Chains," "Ladies' Gold Chains," "Gent's Gold Chains," "Ladies' Gold Bracelets," "Gold Lockets," "Sets of Ladies' Jewelry," "Gold Sleeve Buttons," "Gold Shirt Studs," "Gold Headed Canes," "Gold Pencils," "Gold Pencil Holders," "Gold Collar Buttons," "Silver Ware," "Silver Plated Ware," aggregating the alleged value of $25,000.]

Many parties who drew prizes in our previous drawings desired to exchange them for other articles. We state here positively that no articles drawn will be exchanged, as it is not practical for us to do so, as it would necessitate the changing of our schedule of prizes in all our other drawings.

The day after each distribution the ticket-holders that have drawn prizes will be notified to that effect by W. P. McCall. Parties living out of the city will receive notice by mail.

When articles are ordered to be sent out of the city one per cent. on their valuation will be charged by W. P. McCall for expense of packing, shipping, postage and registering, which amount must be paid before the goods are shipped.

We are now making Agents in every State in the Union, from whom parties not living in the city can procure tickets on as favorable terms as at the principal office here.

DISCOUNT ON TICKETS TO CLUBS.

1 Ticket, $5. 13 Tickets, $50. 27 Tickets, $100. 83 Tickets, $300. 140 Tickets $500.
6 Tickets, 25. 20 " 75. 55 " 200. 111 " 400. 285 " 1000.

Address all orders and communications in reference to Tickets to

HENRY P. JONES, No. 868 Broadway, N. Y.

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Accompanying the above was the following letter, which was designed to place the correspondent on the level of a confidant and a personal friend in whom Jones had special interest:

[*Same Heading.*]

NEW YORK, March 24th, 1879.

C. D. F.

*Dear Sir*—Your letter received. The drawing takes place to-day, I have so arranged that your ticket will draw a prize. As soon as you receive and exhibit it let me know how many tickets you think you can sell and I will send them to you. Yours Respectfully,

HENRY P. JONES.

P. S. The notice of the drawing will be sent to you by William P. McCall. Should you write to him after you receive your prize, don't mention anything about our understanding. H. P. J.

The first letter enclosed the ticket especially selected by Jones, which was on a cheap pink pasteboard, to wit:

No. 96341 (Tickets, $5.00 each.)

THIS TICKET

ENTITLES THE HOLDER TO ONE CHANCE IN THE

NEW YORK JEWELERS AND WATCH IMPORTERS



**Grand Weekly Distribution of**

**$25,000 worth of Diamonds, Watches and Jewelry.**

HENRY P. JONES, 868 Broadway, New York.

The same mail would bring another envelope containing an announcement or certificate from McCall, of the prize that Jones had secured for his "Cousin." Here is where the call for money first is made. Up to this time there has been no expense, no money has been required. But while "Cousin" Jones will do all he can, we cannot expect Jeweler McCall to spend his time in

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packing and shipping the watch and chain. Then, again, he supplies this celebrated company at such low figures, that he could not afford to pay postage, or register the matter, and so he must have 1 per cent. on cost price, and this must be sent in advance, "before goods are shipped."

CERTIFICATE.

$25,000 WORTH OF DIAMONDS, WATCHES AND JEWELRY,
Drawn Weekly, under the direction of the
NEW YORK JEWELERS AND WATCH IMPORTERS ASSOCIATION.

NEW YORK, March 26th, 1879.

C. D. F.

You are hereby notified that the ticket you hold and is registered on the books of the association in your name, has drawn a gold watch and chain valued at $300. The percentage due for packing, postage, registering and shipping is $3.00, which amount must be paid before the goods are shipped.

WM. P. MCCALL, JEWELER,
6 W. 3rd Street, New York.

N. B.—All communications in reference to prizes must be addressed to Wm. P. McCall.

This certificate was accompanied by an official letter from Mr. McCall:

WM. P. MCCALL,
WATCHES, DIAMONDS, JEWELRY AND SILVERWARE, AT WHOLESALE.
No. 6 W. 3rd Street,

NEW YORK, March 26th, 1879.

C. D. F.

*Dear Sir*—You will see by the enclosed notice that you have drawn a gold watch and chain valued at $300.

I am authorized by the association, when prizes are sent out of the city, to charge one per cent. for packing, postage, registering and shipping, which on your prize amounts to $3.00. Send this amount registered in the enclosed envelope, and upon its receipt, I will send your watch by mail, safely packed and registered. Respectfully,

WM. P. MCCALL.

Any person from the country, who had received these documents, would expect to find a large handsome jewelry establishment at Mr. McCall's place, and of course "Cousin" Jones's place was much larger. Bitter indeed has been the disappointment of many a victim, upon visiting this city in search of the $300 watch

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and chain, to find at McCall's number a lager beer saloon, and no trace whatever, no sign up, even, of Cousin Jones' large establishment. Worse than all, no person can be found who even knows anything about Jones at 868 Broadway. So up and down the block they search and gaze. For fear they are mistaken, they examine Cousin Jones's letter. Yes, there it is, "868 Broadway." They return and renew their search, and at last are convinced that they are out three dollars, and the golden vision of the $300 watch and chain fades from their view, and they return home with new knowledge of the depravity of the human race. But all do not escape with the loss of $3. On the receipt of the cash, Mr. McCall receives a terrible shock. Galvanism and electricity combined could not so shake his manly form, or cause all his nerves such a discordant vibration. He rushes at once to consult the "President" and "Board of Directors," and then he immediately writes a letter to Jones's Cousin, informing him of his terrible predicament, and anxiously waits his reply. The following letter usually produces a shock, of $5 out of pocket, to the country cousin:

W. P. McCALL,
WATCHES, DIAMONDS, JEWELRY AND SILVERWARE AT WHOLESALE,
No. 6 West 3rd Street,

NEW YORK, Nov. 12th, 1878.

C. D. F.

*Dear Sir.*—The gold watch and chain drawn by you was packed and ready to mail, when I received word from Mr. Delafield (H. P. Jones' bookkeeper) that your ticket had not been paid for. I went at once and examined Mr. Jones' books and found it had not. Mr. Jones says he cannot understand how your name was put into the drawing without your ticket being paid for. I next called on Mr. Webster, the president of the association, and explained the matter to him. He said Mr. Jones was the only one to blame in the matter, and that you were certainly entitled to the prize, but that it would be necessary for you to send me the $5 to pay for your ticket. Then he said for me to mail the watch and chain. Send the money registered in the enclosed envelope, then there will be no mistake.

Respectfully,

W. P. McCALL.

P. S.—If you had sent the money for your ticket to H. P. Jones, in a registered letter or a P. O. money order, we would not have had all this trouble.

W. P. McC.

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The $5 comes to McCall. His nerves are quieted and he subsides into exclusive retirement, and retires from active business so far as the victim is concerned.

I have given the scheme as it was operated. It took just the amount of stationery as above exhibited to secure $8 cash.

Now, what about Jones & McCall? As already stated, they were at neither of the places, as represented in their letters and circulars, but at the corner of 22d street and Broadway, in the office of Elias, and clerks for him. How did they get their mail matter? That was easy enough. Both Jones & McCall were former employees in the New York post office.

Elias had learned from past experience in his various other schemes through the mail, that fictitious names were troublesome to handle and that his letters were stopped under postal laws and regulations. Therefore he found two men who were in straightened circumstances, and, taking advantage of their necessities, employs them, and they sell the use of their names, and become his willing tools, for a very small salary.

But these schemes cannot go on always, although Elias feels secure. Headquarters police officers and detectives all know him. He will not be disturbed. He never has been disturbed nor arrested, and why should he fear?

But one very stormy day, a marshal and myself visited Elias's headquarters, and found him there and all his numerous family of clerks. McCall stood at the desk, and received the letters from the letter carrier, and signed for the registered letters. This he did in my presence. After McCall had signed for about 20 letters for his name and address at 6 W. 3d street, the carrier delivered about 50 letters for "H. P. Jones & Co." and "H. P. Jones, 868 Broadway," leaving them tied together on McCall's desk. The marshal then arrested McCall, on a warrant issued by U. S. Commissioner John A. Shields, for sending circulars and letters concerning a scheme to defraud the public through the mails. Just at this point Elias appears. He is greatly surprised.

I asked, "who is H. P. Jones."

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Elias—"I don't know him."

"Is there such a person here?"

Elias—"I don't know of any, there may be."

"What right then has the carrier to deliver letters here for H. P. Jones & Co., of 868 Broadway?"

Elias—"Don't know."

"Well, sir: if there is no Jones in this place, and you say no one owns these letters here, it is evident that the carrier has left the same by mistake, and if so, it is my duty as a special agent of the Post Office Department, to take them and return them to the custody of the Department."

Elias—"Well, there might be some one here by that name."

Just at this point, I discovered that the whole line of clerks on both sides of the room as above described, were looking on and evidently enjoying the scene, save one poor fellow, and he was doing his best to conceal himself from view by getting behind the door of a large safe. Taking the letters in hand, I approached him saying, (I had never seen him before,) "Hallo! Jones, how are you? Are these your letters?"

"Cousin" Jones—"I don't know."

"Well," I said, "look at them, please, and inform me; as, if they are not, they will have to go back to the post office."

This was getting too hot for Elias. If these letters were refused, he would have hard work to get any more. He nodded to "Cousin" Jones, and he then looked at them, and acknowledged that they were his, and that all letters addressed H. P. Jones & Co., 868 Broadway, were his also. I asked who the "Co." was, and he nodded to Elias. This again was too much for Elias; to have one of his clerks expose him, and connect him with one of his swindling schemes, that would never do. He shook his head and "Cousin" Jones said, "O no, I am the whole concern, and am the responsible party."

"O that is it, is it?" I said, and then gave "Cousin" Jones an invitation to accompany me to the Commissioner's office with the celebrated jeweler McCall, where Mr. Elias a few hours later had

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the privilege of giving $1,000 bonds in each case for their appearance for trial.

Subsequently they were indicted by the Grand Jury, pleaded guilty, and were sentenced to pay a fine and costs. McCall was fined twice on two separate indictments. Elias paid it all, and then came whining around to have one fine in McCall's case remitted, as it was a hardship for him. I advised him to go ahead at once and have it done, promising him to immediately rearrest his men on other charges.

"O, if that is the case," said Elias, "I don't say a word, but let the matter drop."

One thing ought to be added here. After these men had been arrested this man called me one side, and in most winning and plausible tones, assured me "I did not know him; that he was always ready to respond and do his duty, and I could go to any of the boys at Headquarters as proof; that if I needed help he was always ready to respond," etc.

There is no question but many schemes of the same base character are shielded in the manner above indicated.

After the arrest of Jones and McCall, their registered letters and money orders were stopped by order of the Postmaster-General. This was a very severe blow to Elias, as it prevented him getting his hands on thousands of dollars belonging to other people. He admitted in my office that this was very hard on him; that, if he could have received his mail, he would not have minded the payment of his fines.

Though the mails were closed to these addresses by Elias, yet he was not to be headed off without another effort.

### H. F. BURTNETT.

In a few weeks complaints began to come about H. F. Burtnett, 519 Sixth avenue, New York. Investigation disclosed the fact that the business of McCall had been transferred to Burtnett by printing Burtnett's name, in place of McCall, on the circular letters sent out. Soon, however, these letters were stopped by the post office authorities, and shortly after this the newspapers reported Elias's failure. Whether these arrests and the stopping



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of the mail had anything to do with the failure, I know not; but this I do positively assert, without fear of contradiction, that thousands of persons were saved from being robbed and swindled.

Elias is an interesting subject—cunning, sharp, and tricky. He can sit down and write out a scheme in a few moments, that others would be hours over.

More of his schemes would be of interest if space would permit. All of them are characteristic of the man.

He is in personal appearance a gentleman; but when you look upon the schemes he has perpetrated to deceive and defraud the public, and consider the thousands he has robbed by these schemes, he looks more like a sharper: and one cannot help feeling a contempt for him.

Here is a man of ability, which, if applied in the direction of an honest calling, would insure him success, and win him a position in the esteem and confidence of the community; but prostituting his ability to the robbery of hundreds whom he knows nothing of, he sinks below the favorable notice of decent people.

These men make money fast, and spend it freely. They buy themselves position in decent society by the lavish expenditure of money. There are plenty of people in society, as it is constituted at the present day, who see nothing wrong if only a man has plenty of money, and is free with it. A truckling sentiment sustains and in a measure covers up the depredations and contemptible methods of gaining a fortune by these parties, instead of entering an indignant protest in the interest of common humanity and honesty, and on the side of morality. Away with such crawling to thieves and swindlers! The man who obtains another's money by means of false pretences, is in the eyes of respectable people on the same plane as a thief. The highwayman who boldly walks up to his victim and demands his money, makes a more manly show than the lying thief, who skulks behind some poor man as a tool, and prints his lies to deceive and defraud the credulous.

People must learn that the circular sent through the mail is sent for the purpose of obtaining money from the recipient for

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the benefit of the sender of the circular. And further, it is clear that no man can afford to advertise in a newspaper, or to pay for printing circulars, hire clerks to write letters, furnish envelopes and postage stamps, and then sell goods for less than market price. Beware of any man who offers to send you more than the value of your money.

In addition to the above expenses, do not forget that it costs something to live, and pay house rent and office rent in a city. The party who sends circulars to you has to pay all these expenses, and he expects to make enough from his correspondents to do it.

A word to those living in the country:

The sharpers who devise the schemes to live without work, do not expect to work. They hire clerks to do their work for them. The Fraud work! preposterous!—not one of them. They are gentlemen of leisure; they drive their fast horses; they frequent summer resorts and cut a dashing figure. Here they live at a first-class hotel, or upon "the avenue." They set society agog with their display. They are "bankers" or "retired merchants," or they "own a mine in California;" and you, poor dupe, help to pay for it. You work hard, early and late, perhaps; you earn your money honestly. They are bound to possess themselves of it if possible, and then laugh at the easy manner in which you have been outwitted.

Put your money in the savings bank, or in improvements about your home, and there will be less ill-gotten wealth in the hands of New York sharpers.

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## CHAPTER XII.

### THE SAW DUST SWINDLERS.

#### PROFESSED DEALERS IN COUNTERFEIT MONEY.

We give below, for the sake of variety, a few of the different circulars, used by the Saw Dust Swindlers, or the pretended dealers in counterfeit money.

The first one was sent out by a concern which operated at 41 Carmine street, at that time a liquor store, kept by a man named Gallagher.

The Superintendent of the Post Office in that locality reported that when the carrier first took letters for Mr. Homan to this place, Mr. Gallagher told him it was all right, that Mr. Homan resided there. Afterwards he told him that, on account of some trouble with his family, Mr. Homan could not have his letters addressed at home, and had requested him (Gallagher) to receive the same for him, to be called for each evening. His circular read:

MR. ————

*Dear Sir*—I will confide to you, through this circular a secret by which you can make a speedy Fortune. I have on hand a large amount of counterfeit notes of the following denominations: One, Two, Five, Ten and Twenty, and also Fifty Cent Fractional Currency notes. I guarantee every note to be perfect, as every note is examined by myself carefully as soon as finished, and if not strictly perfect, is immediately destroyed, of course it would be foolishness for me to send out poor work, as it would not only get my customers in trouble, but would break up my business and ruin me, so for personal safety I am compelled to issue nothing that will not compare with the genuine I furnish you with the goods in any quantity, at the following low prices which will be found as reasonable, as the nature of the business will allow:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| For | $1,200 | in my goods assorted, | I charge, | $100 |
| " | 2,500 | " " | " | 200 |
| " | 5,000 | " " | " | 350 |
| " | 10,000 | " " | " | 600 |

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You can see from the above price list, the advantage of buying largely, you cannot make money as rapidly in any other business, and their is not the slightest danger in using my goods, one of the best proofs being, that, not a single person doing business with me have ever been in any trouble, on the contrary, all making money rapidly. I have no connection with any other firm in this country, and every dollar of my money, is manufactured under my own personal supervision. So in dealing with me, you get the goods from first hands.

Do not call at the address given here, as I do not receive visitors at my office, merely use it to get my letters. Write to me two days before you start to come on here, to New York, saying exactly when you will be here, and tell me what Hotel you will stop at, so I will know where to meet you, I will call on you at your own Room, where we can transact our business without any one knowing anything about it. As soon as you arrive in the city, go straight to the Hotel and register your name, go up to your room and stay in your room, until I call on you. Have nothing to say to any person, who cannot show you, your last letter to me, and when you see your own handwriting, then you will know you are dealing with the right party, should you conclude to send for samples before coming on to New York, I will send you a sample, packed in book form, containing $300, three hundred dollars in assorted sizes, on receipt of $30, thirty dollars. Should you send for goods follow these instructions carefully, send all money in a thick envelope, well sealed with my name and address, plainly written, do not send registered, or express, as they cause suspicion, and I will not receive, or notice them.

Enclosed you will find my name and address with a card of a hotel as convenient as any in New York. Should you order Goods, send your Express address. Yours Confidentially,

J. W. HOMAN,
45 Carmine St., N. Y. City.

About the same time that this concern was running, another one was operated from Park Row:

NEW YORK,——1877.

---

*Dear Sir*—One of our Agents has sent us word that you are a proper man to handle our Stuff, (Counterfeit Money,) and if that is so, you had better come on at once, and make a Personal examination. We have the best Stuff in the market. Our prices are as follows, $100 any kind you wish for $10.00, $500 for $30.00, $1000 for $50.00. If you cannot come we will send the Stuff by mail or express, on receipt of price, but would rather you would come on and see it before engaging in the business. We do not answer Postal Cards. If you send money for the Stuff, send large Bills neatly folded in a plain envelope, do not send it by Express, Registered Letter, or P. O. Order, but in a plain envelope.

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To those who wish to see Samples, we will send by mail postpaid, $30.00 of our Stuff on receipt of $5.00 in a plain envelope.

Yours in silence,

T. LEE,
Room 5, 31 Park Row,
New York City.

In this last case it will be observed, that the money was to be forwarded, and that this fellow actually represented that he had counterfeit money.

Then another party, who wanted an active man with a cash capital, was much more covert, and did not presume to disclose what he had to deal in:

NEW YORK CITY.

*Dear Sir*—I want an active man with a cash capital from Two to Five hundred Dollars to assist me in the disposal of a certain class of goods which are manufactured exclusively by myself.

To the right party I offer very liberal inducements, the profits are very large and in proportion to the capital invested.

The goods are used by every one and the business is *strictly confidential* perhaps you can guess what the goods are.

For full particulars apply to Yours truly,

H. M. W.
149 Fulton Street, New York City.

A circular similar to the above was also sent, replies to go to B. W. Williard, at 212 Broadway, or, in other words, to be left at Spencer's liquor saloon.

Still another fellow, under the name of W. A. Morton, 427 Hudson St., was much more mysterious. He also sent a printed circular couched in barbarous English and worse typography.

READ THIS CAREFULLY.

I Have on hand a large amount of Greenbacks, 1 2 & 5, thay are equal in every respect to the Genuine. These Goods I let no one have without they have been reccommended by Parties, I have business with. I sell them at the following price,

1000 Assorted will cost you 100 One Hundred Dollars,
5000 " " " " " " " 350 Three hundred and fifty,
10.000 "" " " " " " 600 Six hundred dollars.

You see the advantage in buying a large amount. I do not wish

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you to send me any money by Mail or express nor will I send any goods that way. If you wish my goods you must come and see me in Person or send one in your place you can trust, I will show you my goods If you are satisfied with them you can have all you want at the above prices, If not fully SATISFIED I will pay all expence's Bring a bag with you, for you are to carry the goods home yourself If you conclude to come then follow the following Instructions.
Write to me three days before you leave home Register your name at the Hotel card enclosed Go to your room and I will call or you within one hour after you arrive bringing goods with me.
Speak to no one about your Business without he shows you your last letter to me and the other half of this CARD

He writes a letter also, which was sent at same time:

NEW YORK 17th June 78.

M. L.:

*Dear Sir*—I have been requested to write to you by your Friend he says he thinks you would like to have some of my goods. If you do you will find terms in the Circular.

If you do not than burn this and that will End it the Offer will not be made to you a gain.

Read the Circular carefully and if you conclude to come Follow the *Instructions* and I will meet you at the Hotel. I am yours Fraturnally,

W. A. MORTON.

Accompanying this letter was a red card, on one side of which was "*Bowery Hotel, corner of 6th St. and Bowery. 3d avenue cars pass the door;*" and on the other side, "*Direct your letter to D. A. Morton, 427 Hudson Street, New York.*" Besides this was a piece of green pasteboard, about an inch and a half wide and an inch and three-quarters long. This was the card which the victim was to bring with him for identification.

Upon investigation we found that this man Morton was a man said to be connected with the Elias gang of swindlers. The *modus operandi* of these fellows, who invite a personal visit of their victims to New York City, is as follows: If a verdant should respond by going to the particular hotel selected by the fraud as his base of operations, and registering his name, he will be shown to a room to await the appearance of the party to whom he has announced his intention of visiting the city, and who is on the lookout for him. The countryman will then be pumped

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as to his neighborhood, and his friends, and the amount of money he has with him. He will be treated, and perhaps will be taken out to some low dive or theatre, until the sharper gets thoroughly into his confidence.

In some cases the verdant comes to the point of business at once, and the sharper shows him a quantity of new good money, and asks the verdant to go with him and see him pass it. The money being good, it is easily disposed of. Then the verdant is given a quantity with which to try his luck, and as they go from place to place, he passes the money without any difficulty, as it is all genuine. They then go back to their hotel. The verdant goes to his room with the sharper, and discloses the amount of money he has with him to invest. While they are thus engaged discussing the price, etc., two of the sharper's pals knock at the door and enter, proclaiming themselves United States detectives, and arrest or pretend to arrest the sharper and the verdant. The sharper offers $500 or $1,000 to be let off. The bogus detectives demand double the amount, as the risk to them is great. The sharper, in order not to disclose, (as he would have the verdant understand,) dares not show his money, but appeals to Mr. Verdant to put up the money and pay these officers, rather than that both of them shall be arrested and sent to States Prison. The amount demanded is usually sufficiently large enough to take in all that the verdant has. The two pals then clear out, and no sooner have they gone, than the sharper steps out for a moment to see some friend, leaving the verdant to wait and watch in vain for his return. At last the confiding countryman wakes up to the fact that he has been robbed; but it would never do for him to go to the police with a complaint, lest he criminate himself. Nothing is left for him but to get back home as best he may, a sadder and it is hoped a wiser man.

In many instances, however, the money is supposed to be sent by express. Of course the recipient dares not open the package in the express office to examine it, as that would be a sure give away, and lead to his arrest by local authorities.

These packages are sent where the goods are ordered C. O. D.

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The expressman collects $100 or $200 on his package, and the verdant takes it home very secretly, skulks off on the sly and opens it to find the box containing—saw dust.

Any person near enough to see one of these fellows when he is cornered would find a very sickly looking individual.

We could multiply hundreds of these circulars and advertisements were it worth while. The names of L. L. Luddington, — Broadway, and James A. Knox, — West street, are familiar to any one posted on these schemes.

### THE GEORGIA LOTTERY FRAUD.

As variety is the spice of life, and of frauds, we give another scheme something similar in character to the one above, in that the thief tries to make a criminal of his victim.

In this case the party pretended to be in the employ of the Georgia Lottery, and he gives the address of C. L. Evans, 138 Greenwich street, N. Y.

According to the letter which he sent out, he was the manager of the "Georgia Monthly Drawing." Business being dull he had devised a plan to help it along. The real plan, as we shall see, was to get the $10 and make no return for it.

Following is his lure:

C. L. Evans, Broker.
Monies Loaned on Bond and Mortgage, Government Bonds Bought and Sold on Commission.
138 Greenwich Street, N. Y.

*Dear Sir*—Being Manager of the Georgia Lottery for the East and West, I make you the following proposition for our mutual benefit, viz. Send for 12 tickets price $10 and I will alter the number drawn from the wheel to correspond with the number on one of your tickets allowing you to draw a $1000 prize, and trusting to your honesty to devide the same with me. The reason I do not care to make the prize larger is, in order to avoid suspicion, besides we can repeat this every month.

The drawing takes place every month on the 5th, so remit immediately, in order to get tickets for this drawing. Send money in your letter, it will come safely, and don't send by registered letter, money order, or express, as it might create suspicion, and prevent us from making a good sum in a short space of time. Don't fail to remit at once as I must leave in time to superintend the drawing. Yours truly, C. L. Evans.

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This party was a former clerk of the celebrated Elias, and afterwards connected with Mr. J. M. Pattee, in one of his Riverside schemes. He is a young man ready to do almost anything for money.

Just here, a word of advice: whenever you see any scheme, or advertisement, or letter, that requires you *not to register your letter, or send by money order, or express*, mark it at once as a fraud.

In this case the undoubted reason for these instructions was, that if the rascal signed for a registered letter or money order, he had first to be identified before he could get them, or if sent by express, the expressman would have his description, and he would be thus identified. While if neither of these three plans were adopted by the sender of the money, he could have his letters left in some liquor saloon and could receive the same without any fear of identification.

Again, it is never safe to send money, no matter how small the amount is, to one of these advertising frauds without sending it in a registered letter. By so doing the sender receives double security for his letter while in transit in the mails. He has a receipt, which by act of Congress is made *prima facie* evidence of the delivery of the letter to the party addressed. If the party attempts to take it out, it obliges him to make himself known and to be identified to the postal authorities before he can get it.

Aside from the security thus given to sender's letter, under post office rules and regulations, as soon as we discover a fraud of this kind, a report of all the facts is made to the Postmaster-General, and under the law, all registered letters and money orders are sent back direct to the sender thereof; so that if your letter is registered, you insure getting it back again in case the postal authorities shall have discovered the fraud before your letter is delivered. In this way thousands of people every year are saved from being swindled.

This scoundrel was not connected with the Georgia Lottery, but he hoped by this letter to secure several hundred dollars through the mails, and escape detection.

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### RUM-SHOP SKULKERS.

There are another class of frauds who make the liquor saloon their headquarters. Here, under an assumed name, they have their mail delivered. Not feeling secure to have themselves personally known to the postal officials, they arrange with some bar-tender or gin-mill keeper to receive their mail—while they themselves are to be kept in the background and unknown. To any person beside the letter carrier, inquiring for their address, the reply will universally be: "Don't know any such party; has never been here." To the carrier with a letter: "O yes; he belongs here, but has just stepped out;" and if a registered letter shall be taken to this place it will be, "All right; Mr. A. left orders for me to sign for him," and a written order will be produced for the carrier to deliver all registered letters to Mr. B., signed by A.

This is almost the universal method of this particular fraud. They have different schemes of swindling, but the manner of getting their mail is the same.

It is very hard to find who the guilty party is, and yet, now, since the arrest of the party we shall describe further on, it is quite an easy matter to secure a stoppage of their unlawful business through the mail, by simply sending the matter to the general delivery, at the post office, and leaving word for the person addressed to call for his mail. Before he can receive the same he must be identified by some responsible party. This will never do, for it would fix the matter sure upon him, and make him the responsible party. This would in turn enable the officer of the law to discover his man, and would lead to detection and arrest. So for fear of these things he will forfeit his entire mail and lose the benefit of his advertisements, rather than be identified or run the risk of getting caught by even calling at the post office.

The usual effect of this is to drive the fraud to other quarters, and not unfrequently will the same advertisement appear in the same newspaper, with no alteration but the name and address.

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But if the officer does his duty thoroughly, the same tactics will effectually close the business when persevered in.

This fraud cannot bear the light of day. It hides away in dens of infamy, or in the liquor saloon, protected by men who become parties to the robbery or consent to act for the rascal, and shield him from exposure, provided he treats his friends liberally at this bar.

Out upon such men! You ask one of these fellows to assist you to find one of the scamps you are looking for, and mark his manner and his words. He starts back with an indignant look, with a "What do you say? I give that party away! No, sir-ee! He's a good customer, and I ain't the kind to go back on a fellow." No, reader. We have plenty of such creatures here in New York. Help protect the innocent, or enforce the law! Decidedly no. To do anything of that kind is to lose caste. If you will pay them roundly, and not publish their treachery, they will sell out their best friend. But to help an officer capture a thief, that is not to be thought of, unless by so doing their own personal interests may be subserved.

I cannot express my contempt for such crawling creatures. They are utterly devoid of all moral principle, and incapable of appreciating or even believing that any man is governed by any other than a selfish motive in all he does. They utterly abhor a man who does right because it is right.

The party I introduce here, is one of the descendants of Ham. Not Ham of ancient days, but Orville A. Ham. This man made his headquarters in a liquor saloon at the corner of Fulton st. and Broadway. He told so many stories that it is doubtful which of them is true. Still a plain statement of facts will disclose the fraud, which was and is frequently attempted.

### JAMES HUTCHINS.

Many readers will remember seeing this advertisement, which appeared in numerous papers South and West:

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$955,000 IN CASH GIFTS
To be distributed by the
MERCANTILE PRIZE ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK.
DAILY DRAWINGS!
A PRIZE FOR EVERY TICKET.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Cash Gift | $100,000 | | | 75 Cash Gifts, each | $1,000 | | |
| 6 " Gifts, each | 50,000 | | | 300 " " | 500 | | |
| 12 " " " | 25,000 | | | 200 " " | 200 | | |
| 20 " " " | 5,000 | | | 550 " " | 100 | | |
| 400 Gold Watches | $ 75 to 300 | | | | | | |
| 275 Sewing Machines | 60 to 150 | | | | | | |
| 75 Elegant Pianos | 250 to 700 | | | | | | |
| 50 Elegant Melodeons | 50 to 200 | | | | | | |
| Cash Gifts, Silverware, etc., valued at | $1,500,000 | | | | | | |

A chance to draw any of the above prizes for 25 cents. Tickets describing prizes are SEALED in envelopes and well mixed. On receipt of 25 cents a SEALED TICKET is drawn without choice, and sent by mail to any address. The prize named upon it will be delivered to the ticket holder on payment of ONE DOLLAR. Prizes are immediately sent to any address by express or return mail.

You will know what your prize is before you pay for it. No blanks. Our patrons can depend on fair dealing.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.—Fair dealing can be relied on.—*New York Herald*, Aug. 23. A genuine distribution.—*World*, Sept. 9. Not one of the humbugs of the day.—*Weekly Tribune*, July 7. They give general satisfaction.—*Staats Zeitung*, Aug. 5.

REFERENCES.—By kind permission we refer to the following: Franklin S. Lane, Louisville, drew $13,000. Miss Hattie Banker, Charleston, $9,000. Mrs. Louisa T. Blake, St. Paul, Piano, $7,000. Samuel V. Raymond, Boston, $5,500. Eugene P. Brackett, Pittsburgh, Watch, $300. Miss Annie Osgood, New Orleans, $500. Emory L. Pratt, Columbus, Ohio, $7,000.

One Cash Gift in every package of 150 tickets guaranteed. 5 tickets for $1.00; 11 for $2.00; 25 for $5.00; 150 for $15.00.

Send all money exceeding one dollar by express.

Address JAMES HUTCHINS,
212 Broadway.

Inquiry at 212 Broadway, disclosed the fact that no such person was known there, while the carrier stated that some person received their mail in the liquor store, after the method above described.

On sending $1 in an ordinary envelope, a person would receive a circular which promised a wonderful return for 25 cents, or

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five tickets for one dollar. "Every ticket draws a prize; eleven tickets for $2; twenty-five for $3; fifty for $5; 150 for $15."

For cheek these circulars excel even those of Pattee or Buckwalter. The following are represented as extracts from the *Times*, *Herald*, and *Journal*, and nine out of every ten readers, would suppose these were genuine quotations. Yet when their attention is called to it and they read it here, they will say that any fool could see that is a falsehood on its face:

MERCANTILE PRIZE ASSOCIATION.

PUBLIC OPINION.

We have always been prejudiced against Lotteries and Gift Enterprises, considering them out and out swindles, but we are glad to know that there are some carried on honestly and we feel it due to the gentlemen who conduct the "Mercantile Prize Association," to make an exception in their favor. They are all men of business capacity, known and respected by the community at large; with two of them we are personally acquainted and have been for years, they neither pretend to give away Opera Houses nor Thousands of Acres of Land, but the public may be well assured that they will do as they agree.—TIMES, March, 1873.

We have just had our attention called to the "Mercantile Prize Association," by the fact of two of our employees investing, and each securing in return a handsome prize. We had previously known of the existence of such an Association, but had not given it a second thought, feeling a little timid on such subjects; on inquiry, we learn that the Association is a BONA FIDE one—characterized by fair and honorable dealing, and such as all can put confidence in.—HERALD, April, 1873.

In justice to the "Mercantile Prize Association," whom we abused roundly in our columns on Saturday, pronouncing them swindlers and humbugs, we desire to apologize for our hastiness, and we frankly admit that business as conducted by them, will defy the closest scrutiny. They are all fair and honorable business men, and we hope our friends will patronize them largely Are you satisfied, gentlemen?—JOURNAL, April, 1873.

"For an order for fifty tickets we give an elegant gold pen and pencil; for an order of 150 tickets, a silver hunting case watch; for an order of 500 tickets or $50, an elegant gold hunting case watch, or a sewing machine of any desired make."

They then print a list of references where various parties are represented as having drawn prizes, each from $25.00 to $2,500.

The drawings, we are told, "take place daily." The last expression would naturally convey to a stranger, that there was

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to be a daily drawing of these prizes, and announcement made of prizes drawn to the purchaser of tickets. But the practical meaning is—that the thief does actually draw the victim's money out of letters sent each day and—puts the same in his pocket!

As variety is the spice of life, we give the list of prizes in full, in order that the reader may fully understand the extent to which a scheme of this sort may be carried.

A CHANCE TO DRAW ANY OF THE PRIZES ON THIS LIST BY PURCHASING A SEALED TICKET FOR 25 CENTS.

DRAWINGS TAKE PLACE DAILY.

The Article or Prize drawn will be delivered to the Ticket Holder on payment of

ONE DOLLAR.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Cash Gift of | $25,000 | 75 | Cash Gifts of | $750 |
| 5 | " " | 10,000 | 100 | " " | 500 |
| 10 | " " | 5,000 | 200 | " " | 200 |
| 25 | " " | 2,500 | 50 | " " | 100 |
| 50 | " " | 1,000 | 500 | " " | 50 |
| 800 | Cash Gifts of | $50 | | | |
| 50 | Elegant Rosewood Pianos | $300.00 to 700.00 |
| 75 | " " Melodeons | 75.00 to 150.00 |
| 350 | Sewing Machines | 60.00 to 175.00 |
| 200 | Music Boxes | 25.00 to 250.00 |
| 500 | Fine Gold Watches | 75.00 to 300.00 |
| 750 | Fine Silver Watches | 20.00 to 50.00 |
| 250 | Silk Dress Patterns, all colors | 25.00 to 40.00 |
| 150 | Silver Plated Pitchers | 18.00 to 25.00 |
| 2,500 | Photograph Albums | 12.00 to 25.00 |
| 2,500 | Pairs Silver Butter Knives | 5.00 to 10.00 |
| 5,000 | Stone Set and Seal Rings | 2.00 to 10.00 |
| 5,000 | Miniature Lockets, all sizes | 2.50 to 7.00 |
| 4,000 | Watch Charms, each | 3.00 to 5.50 |
| 5,000 | Gold Pens, Silver Extension Cases and Pencils | 4.00 to 7.00 |
| 5,000 | Gents' Breast and Scarf Pins | 3.00 to 20.00 |
| 5,000 | Ladies' New Style Belt Buckles | 3.00 to 8.00 |
| 2,000 | Chatelaine and Guard Chains | 7.50 to 20.00 |
| 2,000 | Gold Thimbles | 8.00 to 15.00 |
| 5,000 | Sets Ladies' Brooch and Ear Drops | 3.00 to 7.00 |
| 7,000 | Gold Crosses | 3.00 to 10.00 |
| 6,000 | Engraved Band Bracelets | 5.00 to 20.00 |
| 2,000 | Heavy Plated Gold Chain Bracelets | 5.00 to 10.00 |
| 2,000 | Ball Ear Drops, all colors | 4.00 to 8.00 |

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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2,000 New Style Jet and Gold Ear Drops | 3.00 to | 9.00 |
| 1,000 Gold Pens, Gold Mounted Ebony Holders | 4.50 to | 7.00 |
| 2,000 Cut Crystal Ear Pendants, new styles | 5.00 to | 10.00 |
| 2,000 " Brooches, " | 4.00 to | 8.00 |
| 1,000 Fine Im. Diamond Cluster Brooches | 5.00 to | 20.00 |
| 1,000 Silver Tea Sets | 25.00 to | 150.00 |
| 1,000 Silver Revolving Patent Castors | 15.00 to | 40.00 |
| 1,000 Silver Cake Baskets | 15.00 to | 30.00 |
| 1,000 Sets Silver Tea and Table Spoons | 50.00 to | 500.00 |
| 1,300 Diamond Rings, Cluster, etc | 15.00 to | 45.00 |
| 1,000 Silver Castors and Wine Holders | 20.00 to | 35.00 |
| 1,000 Children's Sets, Silver Knife and Fork | 5.00 to | 9.00 |
| 2,000 Silver Napkin Rings | 2.50 to | 9.00 |
| 5,000 Sets Brooch and Ear Rings with Pearl Setting | 5.00 to | 20.00 |
| 2,500 Fine French Watch Chains | 5.00 to | 25.00 |
| 3,500 Enameled Vest Chains | 4.00 to | 25.00 |
| 2,500 Bosom Studs Im. Diamond | 5.00 to | 15.00 |
| 2,500 Good Engraved Bosom Studs | 5.00 to | 12.00 |
| 2,000 Pairs Ear Rings, new styles | 1.50 to | 7.00 |
| 2,000 Necklaces | 4.00 to | 7.00 |
| 2,500 Gold Pencils | 3.00 to | 8.00 |
| 3,000 Onyx and Amethyst Brooches | 5.00 to | 10.00 |
| 1,500 Masonic Pins | 4.00 to | 10.00 |
| 1,600 Gold Watch Keys, new pattern | 4.50 to | 9.00 |
| 2,500 Enameled Sleeve Buttons | 3.00 to | 9.00 |
| 5,000 Plain Gold and Chased Rings | 4.50 to | 10.00 |
| 4,000 Ladies' Set Gold Mounted, hard rubber | 5.00 to | 12.00 |
| 1,500 Hard Rubber Neck Chains | 4.00 to | 9.00 |
| 1,000 Fine Wool Shawls | 12.00 to | 30.00 |

3,500 Oil Chromos, 500 Fine Oil Paintings, Framed Engravings, &c.

Money sent by Express is sure to reach us safely.

Still these swindlers did make some return. They sent the correspondent the tickets ordered, and a letter, which we give.

OFFICE OF THE
MERCANTILE PRIZE ASSOCIATION.

In response to your order of you will find herewith enclosed ticket which we have drawn for you, and Circular of Terms, &c.

Having no Agent in your locality, we should be glad to have you act in that capacity for us. If you should be one of the fortunate, and secure a valuable prize, we trust that you will show it to your acquaintances as an inducement for them to favor us with their patronage.

Our stock of Jewelry, Silver Ware, Imported and Domestic Fancy Goods, embraces all the latest patterns and designs, which we should be glad to have you call and examine when in this city.

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Address all orders for Prizes or Tickets to our cashier, and they will meet with prompt attention. Send all money by Post Office money order or registered letter, and it is sure to reach us safely. Recollect in future, address all correspondence to our cashier,

J. G. HUTCHINS,
S. E. Cor. 13th street and 4th avenue.

All prizes drawn, regardless of value, will be promptly sent as directed, by mail or express, on receipt of charges. Soliciting further favors, we remain,

Yours truly,

THE MANAGERS.

BE PARTICULAR TO SEND ALL MONEY LETTERS BY POST OFFICE MONEY ORDER OR REGISTERED LETTER.

All charges for Expressage and Packing must be forwarded with the order for the Prize. No goods sent C. O. D., or exchanged.

It will be seen that on the last circular they say, "the article or prize drawn will be delivered to the ticket holder on payment of $1." We call especial attention to the prize tickets, which are returned in small envelopes, and to the charges named therein in each case, for "expressage and packing."

The design was to bleed the customer as long as they could, and then desert him. This fellow played his points well.

The following tickets are three samples of the Prize Tickets above referred to.

GRAND

**DAILY DISTRIBUTION**

**Mercantile Prize Association.**

***Prize Certificate No. 8262.***

This Certificate, when accompanied by One Dollar (and $6.50 for expressage and packing), entitles the holder to

**MELODEON,**

**VALUED AT $125.**

**Mercantile Prize Association.**



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GRAND
**DAILY DISTRIBUTION**
OF THE
**MERCHANTS & BANKERS ASSOCIATION.**
*Certificate No. 8162.*
This Certificate, when accompanied by One Dollar (and 35 cents for expressage and packing), entitles the holder to
**SEAL RING,**
**VALUED AT $6.**
**Merchants and Bankers Association.**

GRAND
**DAILY DISTRIBUTION**
OF THE
**MERCHANTS AND BANKERS ASSOCIATION.**
*Certificate No. 7851.*
This Certificate, when accompanied by One Dollar (and 75 cents for expressage and packing), entitles the holder to
**LADY'S MINK MUFF,**
**VALUED AT $40.**
**Merchants and Bankers Association.**

In the above letter, the replies are to be sent to J. G. Hutchins, "our Cashier," S. E. Cor. 13th street and 4th avenue. A personal inquiry resulted, as described in the first part of this chapter. While in the particular case this letter directed all replies sent to Hutchins, still in one instance it was J. Hutchins at 212 Broadway, again Thos. Ingate, 102 Nassau street, and in various other places. And this miserable wretch would crawl first into one liquor saloon and then into another, take his letters, and then get out of sight as quickly as possible. He took good care not to go

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for his mail if any stranger was about, nor did he receive it in the presence of any one who could possibly be a detective.

How did you finally catch him? I hear some impatient reader ask. Well, I will tell you. A registered letter was addressed to J. Hutchins, 212 Broadway. A registered letter, according to the regulations, can be delivered only to the party addressed, or to his order. A notice was sent this party that certain registered letters awaited him at the post office, and he was requested to call for them. In a few days some person called, but when asked if he was J. Hutchins, he answered, "O no, sir, I was only requested to call for these letters." In a few days another party called. It went along for nearly a month, until at last one day J. Hutchins himself called. Every other device had failed, and if he got these letters, he must come himself. He was asked if that was his name and he replied it was, and produced other letters addressed J. Hutchins, in proof thereof. After proving positively that he was J. Hutchins and that these letters were his, he was allowed to receive the same by signing receipts therefor. Having done this, he was marching off highly elated with his prize, only to fall into the hands of a United States marshal, who was present with a warrant. He was conveyed to Ludlow street jail in default of bail. The next day was brought before a United States Commissioner and there set up the defence that he was not J. Hutchins, but was sent by J. Hutchins, to get these letters. He could not tell where Hutchins could be found, nor scarcely describe what he looked like. He brought in the man Spencer who kept one of the saloons where he received his letters to prove that his right name was Orville A. Ham. I had been advised of this dodge beforehand, so being forewarned, I was forearmed. I immediately moved to dismiss the complaint, on the ground that he proved his right name was Ham. The Commissioner granted it. He and his lawyer and friends arose to depart in high glee, when I moved his arrest, on the charge of obtaining letters containing articles of value by fraud and deception from the custody of the postmaster of New York city.

This took them aback, and was a surprise. The extreme pen-

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alty under the first charge, on which he had originally been arrested, was, at that time, but $500 fine, while on this last charge the lowest penalty possible was one year's imprisonment.

Suffice it to say, he was committed to jail to await trial, was indicted in the United States Court, tried, convicted, and sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

Thus a sharp rascal was punished. If he had not attempted to be too sharp, he would have escaped with a very much lower penalty.

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### ANOTHER COUNTERFEIT MONEY FRAUD.

Another fraud that is operated in the same manner is that of the dealer in counterfeit money. Here, however, I have little sympathy with the victim, for the man who will send money for such a purpose as is set out in the following scheme, deserves to be swindled. Many weak ones are sorely tempted by these and like schemes, and yet they proclaim their own dishonesty, by engaging in any such enterprise.

This is such a contemptible form of dishonesty that I feel little like giving it even a space in this book. But when I remember the large army of clerks, and young men on farms and scattered throughout the country, I would both warn them and denounce the scheme. The partaker is as bad as the thief; any person who sends money for counterfeit money should lose every cent of it. It is surprising that there are enough people of this character in the country, to make it profitable to men who engage in the traffic. Perhaps in no other scheme, save the lottery, are there so many roughs, sports and fast persons swindled, as by those who send for the "queer."

We give one of their circulars, and a notice cut from a newspaper, or purported to have been. This circular was sent large numbers of people, just the same with one exception, and that was the name and address at the bottom. The clipping from the newspaper is sent with the circular in each case. The names attached to each of these were evidently all written in the same handwriting, and doubtless all belonged to the same person.

The address in each case is a liquor saloon or a thieves' resort.

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CIRCULAR.

*Dear Sir*—My traveling agent, who passed through your section recently, informed me that you were a man of a speculative disposition like myself, and that you were willing to make money rapidly, provided it could be done safely. To come to the point at once,—I am a manufacturer of CIGARS made of Green Tobacco. I am the only person who has been engaged in this business in this vicinity for years. I am not only an expert in the business myself, but I employ none but the best talent in the country to assist me. Everything in connection with my business is as well organized and as well conducted as any business in the land. My CIGARS, though not genuine, are as difficult to detect as anything can be. I presume that you understand me. I do not ask you to send me money in advance, nor will I send my goods on credit, as I can sell all I wish to persons for cash. I will not deal with every person who writes to me. I deal only with those who are properly recommended. As long as you keep your business to yourself you can make money. But when you get too happy and give your business away, others will make the money which you expected for yourself. This is human nature, and you know it.

I desire you to come on to this city and examine my stock at your leisure. You can then take away whatever quantity you bargain for, and you can rest assured if you will act honorably with me I will with you, and when I treat a man true and upright I expect the same in return, and I will prove what I say to your satisfaction when we meet. My prices are as follows:—For $170 I will allow you $1,000; for $250 I will allow you $3,000; for $350 I will allow you $5,000. The sizes of my CIGARS are Nos. 1, 2, 5 and 10. You understand I am willing to allow you $300 in goods for your railroad expenses. You are at liberty to bring a friend with you if he has money. But bring a man who can keep a still tongue. If you make up your mind to come notify me at what hotel you may stop here. If you are not familiar with the name of a suitable hotel here write to me and I will furnish you all the information you desire. Whatever you do answer this at once. There are other men in this business; some of them have been connected with me, and some of them are acting for themselves. It is useless for you to waste your time on them, as I am the only manufacturer, and they are necessarily obliged to buy their goods from me to sell to you. They do not like to own up to this, but they are obliged to do so in the end. The safest plan is to come to headquarters and deal directly with me. To a man of the intelligence you are supposed to possess it is unnecessary for me to go into further details, but any additional information will be furnished when I hear from you. Write short and plain letters and to the point. Do not bother me about small orders or samples which are usually sent by mail. An inquisitive postmaster, or some one who is in the habit of getting your mail for you, may be tempted to open your letters. In case you intend coming on immediately notify me three or four days in advance of your starting, so that I can be prepared for you. Read the printed slip inside very carefully. Remember that this circular is sent to

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very few. My object in having it printed is to avoid saying too much in writing. You will perceive the importance of this. It is printed in my private office. If I have made a mistake by writing to the wrong man please excuse me and do not expose me. Let matters drop.

You may not come on, but if we meet you will find me a sure friend to deal with. When I treat a man truly I expect the same in return. For our first trade you must see me personally. After that we can make other arrangements.

JAMES MULLEN,
In care of M. CLARK, 50 Delancy Street, New York City.

The newspaper clipping said:

A SUPPOSED CASE OF COUNTERFEITING DISMISSED.

Yesterday morning a well-dressed lady reported to Justice Williamson that she had accidentally come into possession of a letter to a gentleman of this city from a wealthy counterfeiter in New York. The letter purported, she said, offering of CIGARS for sale; but that a detached note in the envelope plainly indicated that CIGARS meant counterfeit money of the best quality. Upon these representations the gentleman was arrested at his hotel and brought before His Honor. He gave his name as Robert S. Maxwell. He stated that he got acquainted with the lady on the incoming train and conversed with her for two or three hours. That at the end of the route he missed his pocketbook, containing a small sum of money and some papers of no value. That he was morally convinced that she was the thief, but did not wish to prosecute, and concluded to drop her acquaintance. Upon searching, his valise about $8,000 in new money, but no letters, were found. The cashier of the Third National Bank was sent for, who, after a critical examination of the bills, pronounced them to be genuine. He was, of course, discharged. Maxwell had evidently been drinking, and during a moment of excessive indulgence had given himself away or had entertained his fair acquaintance with some ghost stories.

This fraud used these different addresses. Letters addressed to each of these were sent to the General Delivery and remained unclaimed, for fear, doubtless, of arrest if he showed himself.

COUNTERFEIT MONEY FRAUDS.

James Harris, care of Mr. Grampfe, 523 6th street.
Charles O. Brooks, 128 West street.
William H. Lee, care of Mr. Stephens, 272 East 3d street.
William Lea, care of Mr. Huff, 127 Broome street.
T. Rand, care of Mr. Warner, 78 Christie street.
B. Rand, 62 Harrison street.
George Anderson, 104 Hester street.
James Bell, care of David Bolnet, 133 Division street.

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Thomas Kent, care of A. Lambert, 13 Suffolk street.
James Arnold, care of Andreas Fruiche, 151 Eldridge street.
James Mullen, care of M. Clark, 50 Delancy street.
Thomas Rand, care of L. Muller, 188 Allen street.
James Hudson, care of Mr. Clemens, 1683 1st avenue.
James Bell, care Mr. Muller, 127 Stanton street.
Wm. Gray, care Mr. Sachs, 506 5th street.
W. Slater, care Mr. Silvery, 443 1st avenue.
Howett Perkins, 11 Park row, and 297 Greenwich street.
Wm. Hall, care Mr. Kreatzer, 242 East 30th street.
H. H. Franklin, — West street.

Another scheme, on about the same plan, is where a hektograph copy of a letter was sent out, which we print below:

DEAR SIR—I desire to call your attention to a certain class of money which can be bought at a large discount, and it can readily be exchanged for its face value. Should you be willing to buy some of it, or know some one else who will, please let me know, as I can give you the name of a *Bona Fide dealer*, from whom can be obtained the finest kind on very reasonable terms.—Nothing is asked in advance or C. O. D., but only after the goods are safe in possession of the purchaser. The reason I write to you is because I can get a commission on all the customers whom I may find. If this should suit you, please let me know at once, and I will give your name to the party of whom I speak, so he may send you his terms and full particulars.

I am yours confidentially.

This letter brings a reply in many cases, and is followed up by

LETTER NO. 2.

NEW YORK CITY, 1. 19, 1880.

MY DEAR SIR—In reply to yours will say, I have the goods you want, and guarantee them to be in every respect equal to the *Originals*, and they can be used as such without being detected. They are of the following numbers: Ones, Twos, Fives and Tens. The verry smallest amount I sell, under any circumstances, is one thousand in my goods, price one hundred Doll. cash down, but the larger the amount you purchase the cheaper I sell. Most all my customers take the Agency for one county, which they get by buying five thousand in the Goods, price three hundred and fifty Doll. and by buying Ten thousand, price six hundred Doll. I give the Agency for 2 or 3 or more counties. You can easy see the advantage of buying largely. I hope you fully apreaciate the danger connected with this business, but if you will only be guided by my advice there can be no trouble, for the Goods are fine enough to take care of themselfes. It is best to avoid all unnecessary risk, I therefore never send any Goods by mail or Express, as such letters and Packages have often been intercepted by the Authorities and caused much trouble. I only

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deal *face to face*, as I consider it absolutely necessary to know all those with whom I am to deal personaly, as it establishes the required confidence between us. If you intend to deal with me you must come on here and get the goods yourself, select from my stock what you want, and count them, and take them with you. I will see you safe out of the city. Write soon if you want to come, and I will send you *the necessary instructions* and the name of a Hotel if you wish it. I will call on you at the Hotel *in your Room*, so you will have no trouble in finding me. I dont want you to call at the addr. given here, as I only get my mail there through a friend who knows nothing about our business. I do not send any samples of my Goods, but if you doubt the quality of my goods, you can come at any time to examine them without buying any, or you can deposit your money in a Bank, until after you have done business satisfactory to yourself. I will make you an allowance in the goods for all your expenses. If you want the Agency for your county, let me know, and I will not write to any one else. Please destroy all letters. Hoping to start a trade that will prove mutually profitable, I am yours very truly.

If the money is sent, the Fraud pockets it; but if C. O. D., a box of sawdust is sent, and the amount collected by the express company; and, instead of heading off the express company and preventing the money being paid over, the victim dares not move, for fear of exposing himself as having attempted to deal in counterfeit money.

Thus the scoundrel is protected, and the victim through fear of exposure quietly allows himself to be robbed.

Again I repeat, I have no sympathy with him. The one swindled is a little the meaner of the two. The thief makes no pretension of being honest, or in any legitimate business, while the sender passes himself off as an honest man and a respectable citizen.

A letter from a party who wants to be a rascal and deal in counterfeit money.

WALNUT HILLS, LA FAYETTE CO., ARK., May 10, 1880.

Have a friend and associate who has given me your address, having formerly had dealings with you in connection with the subject in consideration.

What is desired is this: A splendid specimen, say one "I" and a "V" of fac-simile U. S. Currency.

State your prices simply thus:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| For X. | per ct. | 500. |
| " XX. | " " | 1000. |
| " V. | " " | 1500. |

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Am living in a remote section and retired. Splendid field for speculation. Want only the best "style." Strictly confidential. No effort to discover or betray can succeed.

You need feel no uneasiness and though I rely upon you I shall be on my guard and be firm.

Write immediately. Should your sample prove good, will send you funds in "regular style." Simply asking for your "Patent remedy."

Burn this and all other communications you may receive, and I will do the same.

S. H. FROST.

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## CHAPTER XIII.

### BANKING HOUSES.

Another party, arrested for violation of postal laws with his circulars, about the same time as Pattee's men, and whose mail was stopped by order of the Postmaster-General: and who was indicted in the United States Court for violation of postal laws, was H. D. P. Allen. He advertised as follows:

$19,896,748.28. This immense amount is represented to be distributed monthly by the Havana, Louisiana, Kentucky, and German Lotteries, drawing monthly, semi-monthly, and daily. Tickets in any of the above at lowest rates. For further information, address or apply to the National Banking Co., 79 Nassau street, New York.

We give the following extract from the *New York Sun* of Thursday, May 30, 1878.

#### JOHN DALY'S NEW SCHEME.

#### WHAT THE NATIONAL BANKING ASSOCIATION PROPOSES TO DO FOR THE UNWARY.

"Wanted—10,000 letters, recent date, whose authors are of a speculative character; lottery preferred. Called with sample, 79 Nassau street, room 1, after 12 M."

Carpenters, painters, and glaziers were busy making a black walnut partition (out of pine), with wire screens and stained glass windows, in room 1. The reporter recognized the baldheaded, keen-eyed, grey-bearded man in shirt sleeves behind the desk as John Daly, known as the "Post Office Terror."

"I have called to inquire into the meaning of that advertisement."

"It's very plain, I should think," the advertiser said. "Have you any letters of that character for sale? You have? Now, I don't want any twenty-five-cent men, or penny-whistle fellows. I want solid men, who go ten to a thousand."

The reporter was invited to step in.

"The object of this advertisement is to get the names of all speculators we can. This is going to be an immense thing. We call it the National Banking Association, and there is a chance for a fortune to any smart man. You remember they burst up the Industrial Exhibition Scheme, Capital One Million. Well, we now propose to take up the German Lotteries, and if you know any one who wants to sell bonds cheap, bring him along."

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**An aged German of a speculative turn entered and drew a package of old letters from his pocket. What they contained the reporter was not permitted to see.**

**There was not a book, bottle of ink, pen, nor any article in the National Banking Association. The only ornament was a huge canvas transparency with a long list of lotteries.**

The advertisement above is a lie at the start; for it was never pretended by these lotteries that any such sum as that named had ever been drawn monthly.

A circular was also issued of the "National Banking Company," setting forth "the new and original plan of doing business." That plan was, briefly stated, to issue "bonds," bearing the numbers of the tickets in the various lotteries of the day; said bonds to be redeemed with prizes, as determined by the regular drawings of the regular lotteries. For instance, these National Banking Company's "bonds" would be purchased and the prizes decided by the drawing of the Royal Havana Lottery, the "bond" bearing the number of the lottery grand prize, receiving a grand prize from the Banking Company.

More than this. Any one purchasing five chances in the Covington, Ky., drawing for $5, and sending $1 additional, would be insured a prize for one of his five tickets; and the purchasers of ten whole or fractional "risks" in the Royal Havana were in like manner insured for at least one prize, or, as Allen's circular expressed it, in large type and bad grammar, "Any one purchasing 10 Whole or Fractional Numbers in either one of these 4 Lists, and failing to draw ANYTHING, WE WILL RETURN THEIR MONEY."

This circular contained a cut of a five-story building, with a Mansard roof, and from its top, floating over, was a banner or flag bearing the words "National Banking Co." Upon the front of this picture, as though painted on a large sign extending across the three windows of one side, and nearly across the entire half of the third story, was the word "National." Under that, on the second story, the word "Banking." Over the first story and under the second is the word "Company," representing to the reader that this entire half of this immense building was occupied by the "National Banking Co."

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This was a falsehood. The fact was that Allen occupied a single room, fitted up to resemble not a banking house, but a policy shop or place where lottery tickets were sold, and where the only one of the officers that they pretend to name on this circular, that could be found, was this man Allen. His plan is discussed by his circular, and was designed to obtain money from the parties to whom he should send it. Perhaps no better description of the methods of his business and of the operations of this "celebrated banking company" can be given than a simple recital of what occurred in this den when we went in to arrest Allen.

Going in, first I inquired for Mr. Allen, the Secretary and Treasurer of the National Banking Company. A person about fifty-five years of age, responded that that was his name; when a conversation very similar to the following occurred:

C. "Will you explain your scheme, or the plan of your organization?"

A. "What is your name?"

C. "I don't want my name mixed up with any such arrangement as this. What do you want to know it for?"

A. "Are you a correspondent?"

C. "Yes, I have written you."

A. "Well, there is a certain newspaper that is down on me, and often persons come in here to make inquiries, and I like to know why they inquire."

C. "I want to understand your methods and schemes before I invest."

A. "Give me your name so I can see it is all right, and then I will gladly tell you all about it."

I then gave him the address under which I had written to him. He took down a large book where he had arranged the names alphabetically, and said "That is all right; what do you want to know?"

C. "What advantage is it, of buying of you rather than the lottery men direct?"

A. "With us, we pledge that every 10 tickets will draw a prize;

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if not, we forfeit $10. We call them bonds, not tickets. We sell you a bond or ticket in any one of the schemes you like."

C. Are these tickets you sell good in either of the lotteries?

A. No, only in the ones in which you buy.

He then got a circular, and opening it to the Kentucky Combination, informed me the best chance was in this, as there were more prizes.

I then asked again for the difference between the tickets and what he had to sell?

Then came the answer which was the very pith and essence of the whole fraud. He said, "Just here; we'll sell you ten tickets and guarantee you to draw a prize, under forfeit of $10. Our lowest prize is 50c. It is the same as a lottery, only we base our schemes on the drawing of the other lotteries. If we guarantee an amount to any person, and he has ten tickets, he is sure to draw at least 50c, and if he draws 50c, that lets us out, and we can of course afford to do it."

It will be seen here that this man is to get the price of ten tickets out of his customer, and then he guarantees that they shall draw a prize; and observe the coolness of this fellow, when he says "If he draws 50c that lets us out."

In order to further test this matter, and see the character of the business, I asked for a ticket, and received this remarkable reply from the Secretary and Treasurer of this celebrated "Banking Company." "We never deliver tickets till the day of drawing. It would not be safe, if we did. We would be at the mercy of these men. They would manipulate the drawings in such a way as to beat us, or hurt us."

And this, reader, is the remarkable "National Banking Company of the City of New York," with a little dirty room in a building where I have discovered many schemes of a similar character.

Allen, by his advertisement and lying circular, made people believe that there was indeed a "National Banking Company" located at this place, doing a business under the National Bank laws of the country. This is the man who has recently presumed to denounce the Postmaster-General for stopping the mail of this

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fraudulent banking concern, and this man still awaits trial in the United States Court for the offence for which he was then arrested.

I do not know one of the men that I have referred to thus far in this book, for whom I have more thorough contempt than for this man. Pretending to be incorporated, he engages in schemes that are in themselves a violation of the laws of the State and of the United States, in order that he may transfer money from the pockets of other people into his own. And what return does he make? "A guarantee that if they will send him $10, they shall draw a prize of 50 cents," and if they draw a prize of 50 cents, "Don't you see, that lets me out." And if my readers have seen the card which he has published against the Postmaster-General, let them read it, and then see if this man has not added another title, that of blackguard, to those others already earned in his nefarious business.

### THE NEW YORK INDUSTRIAL COMPANY.

We have already referred to the New York Industrial Company, a robbery scheme as audacious and magnificent in character as any ever launched in this city.

The projectors of this company started their plan full-grown, chartered by the State Legislature, equipped with a Board of Directors, which included sundry Generals and Honorables, and in possession of a plot of land valued at over two millions of dollars.

The Company issued one million bonds, of the par value of $20. These were "divided into 10,000 Series of 100 Bonds each; at the Bond drawing so many Series Numbers are drawn—each one represents 100 Bonds; at the Premium Drawing each Bond is represented by the Series and Bond Numbers, and cannot draw less than $21, and as high as $100,000." Surely an excellent investment for Mr. Plethoric-Pocketbook Greenhorn!

There may seem to be a sameness in these schemes, and the reader may tire of such lengthy quotations. But they are necessary. Thousands in the country are totally ignorant of these devices of the sharper.

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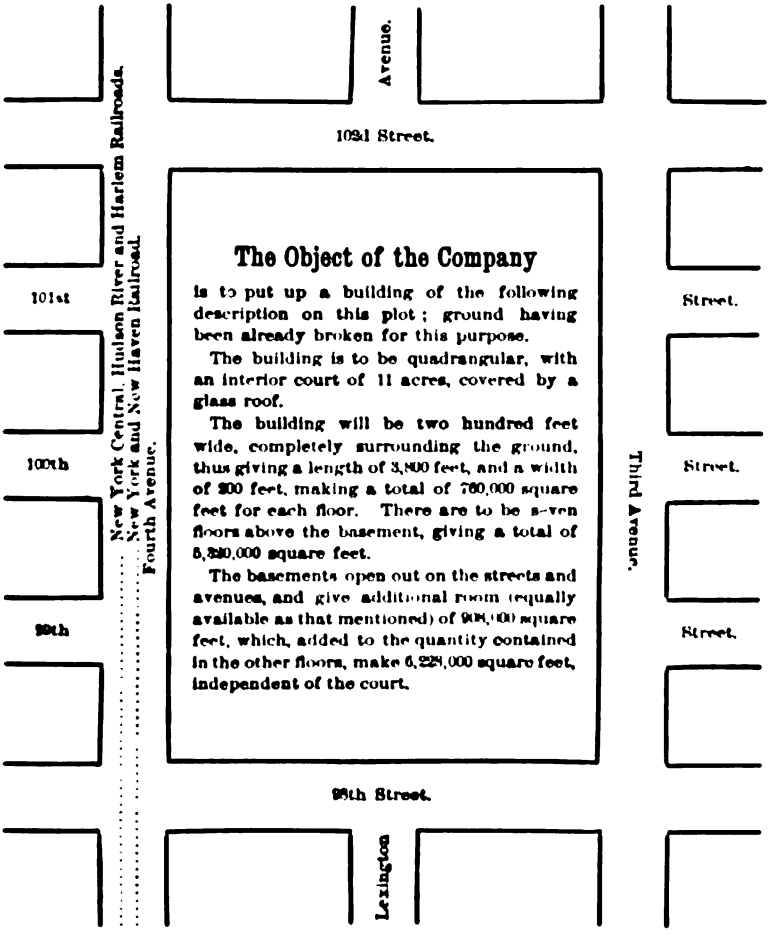
The "Prospectus" informs us that:

The Legislature of the State of New York granted, in 1870, a charter incorporating the Industrial Exhibition Company of New York.

The Company was organized on the 12th day of May, 1870, and 22½ acres of land, situated in the heart of the City of New York, were purchased.

**DIAGRAM OF LAND PURCHASED.**




This land, which the Company contracted for in 1870, at the price of $1,700,000, has been and is steadily increasing in value. Governor Dix appointed a committee in 1872, to appraise this land, and their report was that the land was worth then $2,400,000.

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The Legislature has relieved the Company from [illegible] for the years and exempt the intervening sums and [illegible] thus giving the Company a large body of land enhanced by the sums and premiums.

[illegible] stockholding New Yorkers in this property.

Owing to certain defects in the charter the company has been prevented from selling bonds. On the 2d day of April 1873 these defects were remedied by an act of the Legislature and the company specially authorized to issue the bonds as it is now issuing them as the Premium Loan Bonds.

These bonds are simply a copy of the bonds so popular in Europe, and which have been issued by the [illegible] French, Prussian, and other European Governments. *The peculiarity of these bonds is that instead of the interest on the loan being distributed equally to each bondholder, the interest is annually distributed among a few bondholders, and the whole interest on each bond is paid at one time, namely, at the end of each year, or semi-annually as is necessary in America, in the end of the year.*

*The purchaser of one of these*

**$21 Bonds**

is entitled to have his bond redeemed with interest. There are four distributions of premiums each year. At each distribution there is distributed among the bondholders $[illegible] in cash, or a total of $[illegible] per year. This is 3 per cent. on the whole loan.

Whenever a bondholder has drawn any of the above named premiums, on the surrender of his bond he will receive the premium which he has drawn, and the Company cancels the bond. In this manner it redeems its loan.

Eventually, every bond will be redeemed, and each bondholder be repaid his investment with a small rate of interest, and a very large number will have received fortunes.

In short, the holder of an Industrial Exhibition Bond does not risk his principal—but he speculates with a portion of his interest, and by so doing he may draw a premium varying from $21 to $100,000.

This loan is secured by a mortgage on all the property of the Industrial Exhibition Company—a tract of land situated in the heart of the City of New York, comprising about 22½ acres, the franchises, personal property, and *all the Company has or may become possessed of* until the bonds are all redeemed, at which time, the trust deed terminates.

These bonds have *no coupons*, and there is no interest payable until the bonds are redeemed. A certain number of the one million bonds are redeemed quarterly.

The City of New York is authorized to loan $2,750,000 to the Company as soon as this building is erected.

HOW TO OPERATE SUCCESSFULLY.

Buy as many chances (Whole Bonds or Fractions) as you can buy now, and keep buying. The more you have, the greater your chances for the $100,000. You cannot buy a blank as in a lottery.

Everybody can afford to do this, as they are sure to get more than their

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money back, and are running no greater risk than the delay of their bonds drawing. These drawings are never postponed.

And after more of such glowing castle-building, with the usual flattering press notices and the charter in full, the formidable circular concludes as follows:

# The New York Industrial Company.

**Legalized by Special Act of the Legislature of the State of New York.**

Vice-President, W. L. GRANT, Covington, Ky. — President, JOHN C. ROBINSON, Ex Lieutenant Governor of the State of New York. — Secretary, R. R. FORD, New York City.

The above Company offers special advantages to gain larger sums by chance without the risk of losing your money. Here, if you are lucky, your money returns at once with, perhaps, a sum that makes you independent. At the worst, your money returns with a large or small increase in an indefinite time; this is the risk ONLY that all must take who invest their money in these securities. The Company's Charter is given for fifty years; some four or five years have expired. Every Bond sold is represented in every drawing until drawn, and the question which is asked of us so often is fully answered here. Every Bond is drawn and redeemed with a premium, varying from $21 to $100,000.

| For the year 1877. | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| January | 2d | 1,000 | Bonds | are drawn from the balance remaining on hand. |
| March | 5th | 1,000 | " | " redeemed. |
| April | 2d | 4,000 | " | " drawn from the balance remaining on hand. |
| June | 4th | 4,000 | " | " redeemed. |
| July | 2d | 1,000 | " | " drawn from the balance remaining on hand |
| September | 3d | 1,000 | " | " redeemed. |
| October | 1st | 4,000 | " | " drawn from the balance remaining on hand. |
| December | 3d | 4,000 | " | " redeemed. |
| | | 10,000 | " | amounting to $600,000 Principal and |

Interest, are now redeemed yearly. The number of bonds and amount of principal and interest will gradually increase until the last year, when 45,000 Bonds, amounting to $2,350,000, will be redeemed.

☞ All Bonds bought before the next drawing of Bonds, will, at redemption, receive one of the following sums in United States Currency:

| No. of Bonds | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 45 | each receive | $100,000 | $4,500,000 |
| 20 | " | 80,000 | 1,600,000 |
| 10 | " | 70,000 | 700,000 |
| 20 | " | 60,000 | 1,200,000 |
| 28 | " | 50,000 | 1,400,000 |
| 24 | " | 35,000 | 845,000 |
| 30 | " | 30,000 | 900,000 |
| 10 | " | 25,000 | 250,000 |
| 57 | " | 10,000 | 570,000 |
| 10 | " | 8,000 | 80,000 |
| 10 | " | 6,000 | 60,000 |
| 167 | " | 5,000 | 835,000 |
| 80 | " | 4,000 | 320,000 |
| 137 | " | 3,000 | 411,000 |
| 90 | " | 2,500 | 225,000 |
| 60 | " | 2,000 | 120,000 |
| 20 | " | 1,500 | 30,000 |
| 145 | " | 1,000 | 145,000 |

| No. of Bonds | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1880 | each receive | $500 | $940,000 |
| 2990 | " | 200 | 598,000 |
| 7847 | " | 100 | 784,700 |
| 9020 | " | 50 | 451,000 |
| 201000 | " | 40 | 8,040,000 |
| 148000 | " | 36 | 5,328,000 |
| 98000 | " | 32 | 3,136,000 |
| 98000 | " | 30 | 2,940,000 |
| 98000 | " | 28 | 2,844,000 |
| 98000 | " | 25 | 2,450,000 |
| 144000 | " | 23 | 3,312,000 |
| 48000 | " | 22 | 1,056,000 |
| 18300 | " | 21 | 384,300 |
| 974000 | Bonds [illegible] | | $46,350,000 |
| 26000 | Bonds [illegible] | | 1,650,000 |
| 1000000 | Bonds [illegible] | | 48,000,000 |

## PRICE OF BONDS.

We divide Commissions with our Customers.

**Whole Bonds, 19. Half Bonds, $9.75. Quarter Bonds, $5.**

ALLEN, EDWARDS & FORDHAM, Bankers 79 Nassau Street,
P. O. Box 1028. NEW YORK.



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Now, just imagine it—all this tremendous scheme emanated from an obscure, dingy and dirty little office; a business of $48,000,000 in a closet! And try to conjure up the likeness of a man foolish enough to send his twenty dollars to these frauds.

Yet men did send. No scheme was ever yet so barefaced but that some one would bite at it.

Accompanying this document was a letter from the bankers who controlled the finances. Here it is, in most villainous English too:

NEW YORK, August 15th, 1876.

*Dear Sir*—Enclosed find Prospectus of the New York Industrial Company now *four* years since it obtained its charter and commenced business in this city during which every drawing to elect a certain number of bonds has publicly taken place at the appointed time and all bonds so elected to be redeemed have been as promptly. The Industrial Company's mode of business being comparitively unknown to the majority of the citizens of the United States, hence in introducing this plan of investment we propose to give this time a double chance to a limited number in order if possible to distribute a few elected bonds among them. For $20 we will give you our certificate covering a package of 20 Bonds in the election of Oct. 3d, (4000 bonds to be drawn) if one or more of the bonds are elected, we will deduct $19 on each and hand you the remainder of the sum they shall be entitled to receive. If you do not draw a sum equal twice your investment then we will give you a whole bond *free* which is sure to draw you back $21 and as likely a much larger sum up to $100,000 and participates in every subsequent election until drawn. For $10 we will give you our certificate covering 12 bonds and in like manner as above if they do not draw you twice your money back in the next drawing then for $9 more we will give you a whole bond which is a certainty in being redeemed in the sum of $21 and upwards as per plan on first page of prospectus in this way you have both a sure and a speculative chance. It will be useless to make us a proposition for a more liberal or extended offer than this. We can't afford to carry bonds enough to make this offer to every body and those who pass it, will not have such a chance again.

Yours Respectfully,

ALLEN, EDWARDS & FORDHAM, Bankers,
79 Nassau Street, New York.

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## THE NASSAU BANKING COMPANY.

In place of the National Banking Co. we now find the above at 79 Nassau street. The Postmaster-General had officially treated the National Banking Co. as a fraud; and as Allen was the father of it, he refused to allow either one to use the Money

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Order, or Registered Letter Departments of the Postal service to defraud the people. Hence change of name, and base.

Latterly, there has started up this new concern. It is well to look before you leap. We find gratuitously distributed "The Investors' Guide," which advertises

THE NASSAU BANKING COMPANY.

A glance at the list of officers, will elicit an inquiry, as to whether these officers are the graduates of either the Industrial Bond or National Banking Companies. The names look alike, surely. The handle to Mr. Allen's is a little different. Instead of "H. D. P." it is contracted and mysteriously changed to "N. W." What "N. W." stands for would be difficult to tell. I imagine, however, it might mean *No Worth*. Certain am I, that any business he has any connection with, would be no worth to me as an investment. The Investors' Guide, from which we quote, says, "publication office, 113 Nassau street, N. Y."

We purpose to deal with the Guide, and later on will pay our personal respects to the publishers, and the "Board of Managers for 1880."

The Guide is published in the interest of the Nassau Banking Co. and is to be sent "*free* to all who desire it." In the first column, page one, appears an article,

FINANCIAL REVIEW OF THE STOCK MARKET FOR THE PAST MONTH.

**The Stock Exchange was the centre of great interest. Government securities were very firmly held. * * * * Railroad bonds pushed up very sharply. * * * * The active speculative stocks made a large advance with a slight reaction before the close of the month. * * * The actual situation of stocks was favorable for high prices; the railroad earnings were maintained at remarkably high figures; the freight rates were very firmly held on the trunk lines.**

Then followed a report of transactions of the Stock Exchange and a "glance at the course of business affairs in general." We then come to the meat of the affair. First is an article on "*Arizona*," purporting to be copied from the "Virginia Chronicle" of June 22, saying:

**Ex-Mayor John S. Young returned this morning from a trip to Guaymas,**

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Sonora, and thence through northern Mexico and Arizona. * * * On his return trip Mr. Young passed through Tucson and Tombstone and made some examinations of the mining prospects of Arizona. Both these towns are full of life and activity. The Tombstone district is very rich in minerals, and there is plenty of good silver ore on the surface. * * * * * The main street of Tombstone swarms with Comstockers, and Mr. Young says, he could almost imagine himself on C. street.

Then follows a reference to the richness of all this district in mineral wealth, especial mention being made that

There are plenty of good mines in the district, the Rough Nut, Grand Central and Contention being the best developed, and eastern capitalists are very ready to take hold of claims that show good prospects. * * * * And Mr. Young believes Arizona will prove the great silver producing region of the world.

Then in Italics follows:

*The Clarendon mine and the other lodes of the Clarendon Co. lay not far from the above, and are fully as rich so far as developed.*

Then in heavy type it says:

Investors in the stock of this Company run no risk. Shares are guaranteed to be always worth par, and redeemed on demand. Stock dividends payable in cash. Shares of stock are $100 each. Scrip is issued for any sum less than $100. Scrip is entitled to the same dividend on each dollar as stock, payable in scrip and redeemable in cash in amounts of $100, or exchangeable for stock.

ORDERS EXECUTED ACCORDING TO INSTRUCTIONS.

We are supplied with a gold and stock telegraph indicator and a wire running direct to the Exchange, giving us such facilities as are necessary in immediately executing orders without delay.

Which "exchange?" Stock, Mining, Produce, Cotton, or Coal? "Exchange" is a good word, but, as used here, is celebrated for its indefiniteness. It is designed to be a taking word.

Then appears a remarkable bait. Not only remarkable as such, but, viewed in the light of what follows in this Banking Company's efforts to sell stock, is more astonishing still.

*This Company paid* $61 *on each share of their stocks (sold) on the* 10*th inst. (July). Scrip issued for such amount as investors may desire.*

I would make a remark here, if what follows did not over-lap

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the above. Perhaps, I should anyway, as it will help the reader to see more clearly the absurdity of stock that is earning $61 per share per month, going begging; necessary for the celebrated (?) Nassau Banking Co. whose office is within three blocks of the great money power of Wall street, to issue a circular and send out gratuitously to parties whose names and Post office addresses this concern can secure, in order thereby, to sell their stock, which pays $61 per month; and further that they are obliged to divide these $100 shares up into scrip in order to secure purchasers! Absurd! preposterous! Why, there are men enough within three blocks of this office, standing ready to buy all stock that will guarantee 10 per cent. profit per year, if placed in single file to reach from Battery to Central Park.

The next page of the "Guide" is a "stunner." It over-caps all that has thus far appeared, and we reproduce it intact. [See page 2 of Circular on page 230.]

I have given exact quotations from the first, and the entire second page of this circular. Now, reader, which stock is offered for sale? The Clarendon Mine, or The Nassau Banking Co.? Leaving you to solve this puzzle, we pass on to consider other details of this circular. Do not be carried entirely away by annual profit of $456 5-100 on every share of ($100) stock sold.

This circular is rich reading. It is very funny at times and excites mirth, when one understands its hidden meaning. They are very anxious not to be troubled, and on page three they say:

SCRIP HOLDERS.

**To those that shall decide to invest in scrip instead of stock in the company, let us try and make it so plain that no one will write us asking "full information by letters."**

In other words—or the hidden design is—Do not force us to commit ourselves by writing a letter, where our handwriting may appear against us. We desire to conduct this scheme on the basis of our printed circular which we send gratuitously, and not be obliged to write letters about our schemes, as that is extra-hazardous—rendering us liable to be caught.

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[Specimen of Adv. appearing in THE INVESTORS' GUIDE.]

# THE NASSAU BANKING COMPANY

## WILL ISSUE TO INVESTORS IN LOTS TO SUIT,

## BALANCE OF 10,000 SHARES

## THE CAPITAL STOCK OF THIS COMPANY

## AT PAR $100 EACH SHARE,

## REDEEMABLE AT PAR ON DEMAND.

## FOR SAFETY, SECURITY AND PROFIT THIS STOCK IS SELDOM EVER EQUALLED.

**March Dividend was $56 per Share.**
**June " $61 "**

**Or Compounded $140.59 for Six Months per Share, equal $456.05 CLEAR per Share per Year.**

But with a more favorable market very much more may be expected.

The object in offering this Stock is to combine Capital in the Purchase and Sale of Railroad and Mining Stocks and Bonds in the daily market.

The Profits accruing from such transactions are mutually divided PRO RATA among the Stockholders quarterly or oftener.

In this way there is a very favorable chance for large profits and no chance to LOSE, the Company agreeing to redeem always at par their Stock on demand.

## HEREAFTER EVERYBODY CAN INVEST

**SUCH SUMS AS WILL SUIT THEIR CONVENIENCE.**

Having had to answer numerous enquiries as to whether we would or would not accept less amounts than $100 (the price of each Share of Stock), and returning small sums sent us without consultation until we are tired of it, will hereafter to accommodate all, issue "Scrip" for any sum less than $100, said Scrip entitled to a share of all dividends hereafter declared, PRO RATA payable in Scrip, and redeemable in amounts of $100 in Cash, or exchangeable for Stock, at the holders' option. Dividends remaining in our hands for reinvestment not equalling $100 will be paid in Scrip on the above conditions, thereby avoiding the keeping of open accounts, a saving of much time and labor to us, and giving we trust greater satisfaction to our patrons.

---

**Board of Managers for 1880.**

**J. VANCE. W. H. CHEEVER. N. W. ALLEN.**

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They then say:

**This company will issue what we denominate as scrip (being a receipt for such amount of money as may be sent to us under $100), though we would not advise those having a less sum than $10 to send it; even $25 we think small enough.**

It will be remembered that Allen, in his former scheme, agreed, if they would send $10 for tickets or bonds, to guarantee that they should surely draw a prize—"you see our smallest prize is 50 cents," and "don't you see that lets us out?" Again, he says:

**We are doubling money on the average about every four months in a very dull market.**

That this is true, I have no doubt. If they had said that they were making a personal profit to themselves of one thousand times as much as the amount of their capital invested, I should believe them. Note what they say, "*we* are doubling money." Certainly, that is true, or they would get up some other scheme.

Then comes more "bait" for the simple ones.

**On this basis $10 will make $100 in thirteen months; $25 would make $100 in eight months; $50 would make $100 in four months; *and until you have* $100 *in scrip you cannot exchange it for stock or have it cashed.* In a very active market money may be doubled monthly, or nearly so. We make this offer because we do not wish a large business in small investments, where the trouble is greater than the profit, because we have reduced this down fine; guaranteeing every one against loss and dividing the profit, leaves nothing for the promoters of this company but a fair salary and expenses, the stockholders really being the owners, and in another year will have it in their power to control the entire business. Scrip holders have no voice in the management; but in every other way scrip has equal advantages and is just as profitable as stock.**

All this, to induce large investments of $100 and upwards. On one line he says, "until you have $100 in scrip you cannot exchange it for stock or have it cashed," and ends by saying, "Scrip holders have no voice in the management; but in every other way scrip has equal advantages, and is just as profitable as stock." The idea is to *secure* $100 *from each victim.*

That both these stocks are of equal value there is no doubt, and I think all will agree, neither possesses value of the paper this Guide is printed upon.

The fraud at times is very condescending. This trait is illus-

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trated by their offering to supply their customers with other stocks, than this one that pays $456 5-100 per share annually. They say:

**While we advocate the purchasing of our stock for safety as well as profit, we will fill individual orders for the purchase and sale of any stocks, either wholly for cash on their account or on margin.**

Then follows a list of about 50 stocks after the following form.

PRICES OF STOCKS FOR THE YEAR 1879.

| NAME OF STOCK. | LOWEST. | | HIGHEST. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | DATE. | | DATE. | |
| American Dist. Telegraph | Jan. 8. | 23 | Nov. 17. | 76¼ |
| Atlantic & Pacific Tel. | Jan. 4 | 29 | Nov. 17. | 48¾ |
| Alton & Terre Haute | Jan. 21. | 2¼ | Nov. 12. | 24¼ |

They then do an example in imaginative arithmetic, by taking a few of the stocks referred to and calculating the profits that *might* have been made, provided they had purchased at the bottom figure, and closed out at the highest.

Any school boy, who could not read a "dime novel" and day-dream out a larger and better fortune than they have, without less effort, ought to be thrashed, and made to do sums in simple addition. There is no more argument in what they show, than though they should go to a bank, and watch the cashier or paying teller pay out the funds of the bank, and then say, "to show what might have been made," if we had all the cash that was ever paid out by that cashier or teller. It is to be presumed that "The Board of Managers for 1880," spent many sleepless nights working out the following knotty problem, where they say:

EXAMPLES.

**To show what might have been made in the past year, let us suppose we had bought the following stocks and sold them at current prices:**

*Dr. To Purchaser.*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Apr. 9. | Bought 500 shares C. C. & I. C., at 5 | ..... | $2,500 00 |
| " 9. | " 500 " O. & M. at 12 | ..... | 6,000 00 |
| | * * * * * * * | | |

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*Cr. By Sale.*

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nov. 13. | Sold 500 shares | C. C. & I. C., | at 22..... | $11,000 00 |
| " 13. | " 500 " | O. & M. | at 30..... | 15,000 00 |

* * * * * * *

After this form they figured up $116.462.50 profits. This is taking and dazzling to the simple minded and ignorant.

Another page is devoted to this Banking Co. and then closes with directions how to send money. They say "Postal orders not accepted, too much time is required to collect them."

Address all communications,

Nassau Banking Co., 79 Nassau st., N. Y.

Don't you do it, reader; it will not pay. Two things mark well.

First. *Never send money to any person who is afraid of money orders and registered letters.*

Second. *Always in sending money, send by money order or registered letter.*

Why? Because they cannot get either a money order or registered letter, till they are fully identified; and if frauds, very often they will not run the risk of being known, but will forfeit these orders and letters, rather than come to the front to receive them.

We have thus taken up but four of the eight pages of this circular. The pages are about 12 by 16 inches. The balance is devoted to the

CLARENDON MILL & MINING COMPANY,
of
ARIZONA.

Capital, . . . . . $2,000,000.

Divided into 200,000 shares of $10 per share, full paid and forever unassessable.

Then follows a history of the first discovery of gold and silver in Nevada, and a description of the location of the Company's mills, mines, etc.; then the Company's plan of operation, which concludes as follows:

To supply the means to carry on the above work, the Company offers

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30,000 shares of stock, par value of $10 per share, full paid and unassessable, at the low rate of $1.50 per share, the Company reserving the right to advance the price at any time.

Then in italics:

OUR SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

are to issue stock in such amounts as will accommodate all who apply. * * *

The average assays of ores taken from our mines is $200 per ton bar silver with a percentage of gold. A 10 stamp mill will crush of this ore, per year of 300 working days, 4,500 tons; taking, it will yield one-half the assays in milling, $100 per ton will give us $450,000; deduct $20 per ton for expenses of mining and milling, $90,000, will net the Company per annum $360,000.

All for $1.50 per share! but read on:

From the foregoing it will be seen that from the completion of the first 10 stamp mill the Company will be able to pay 15 per cent. dividend on its whole capital stock of $2,000,000. There would still be surplus of $60,000 for the erection of more stamp mills and the opening of the remaining seven mines of the Company; 70,000 shares of stock would still remain and be owned by the Company, which could be sold for raising more capital if required, or could be distributed among the shareholders as a stock dividend.

They then become very considerate again, and say:

We will not dwell or enlarge upon these figures. We leave the investor to use his own judgment in the matter, but ask him carefully to examine the foregoing statements.

They then seek to warp the judgment of their correspondent, as follows:

☞ P. S.—Remember that the best stock in the market to-day could have been bought at the right time at the price we are asking now for this.

BEAR IN MIND

*That 70,000 shares of this stock has been retained in the Treasury for the benefit of stockholders, so that each purchaser of* TWO *shares is entitled to the benefit of one and seven one thousandths more, which reduces the price below $1 per share at the present time.*

All for $1.50 per share! Again they add:

We particularly call attention to this, as it is, or will produce an *additional 35 per cent. profit* to the investment in the Company's mines.

61 + 35 = 96 per cent. profit, or $96 on every $100, on the shares of stock that cost $1.50 per share.

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Again they say:

**Large operations move slow, but now is your time to get in if you ever wish to on a bed rock foundation, before the mines are any further developed. . . . . .**

**Address all orders for this stock to**

**NASSAU BANKING CO.,**
**Financial Agents, 79 Nassau st., N. Y.**

I have endeavored to point out some of the absurdities, and at the same time show some of the improbabilities of a fortune being made to every person sending $100 or $10 to the above.

What becomes of the other 100,000 shares? They sell 30,000 shares at $1.50 each, distribute 70,000 more among the owners of these 30,000, declare a dividend of 15 per cent. on the entire $2,000,000 capital, besides paying for everything, and yet have not touched but one half of the total number of shares. In other words, 30,000 shares sold at $1.50 per share brings them $45,000; and this buys and pays for the mine, mills, expenses of entire year, and enables them to give away $700,000 of stock, declare a dividend of 15 per cent. on the entire capital of $2,000,000, and leaves a surplus of $60,000 to buy new mills, etc., and all for $1.50 *per share.*

This is no fraud! O no! This is The Nassau Banking Co., of 79 Nassau street, New York, agent for the Clarendon Mining Co. of Arizona.

They have but two stocks to sell, one is "$100 per share, and pays an annual profit of $456.5-100," and the other I have just described, valued at $10—but to induce purchasers, will be sold at $1.50 per share.

### ON PERSONAL INVESTIGATION

At the office of this Banking Co. (?) I find the same little dirty office, and the same occupant as in the case of The National Banking Co. I believe them one and the same. What say you? reader.

Later, September 22, 1880, I personally visited 79 Nassau street. I found the sign of "Nassau Banking Co." on the door of the room already described—and the door locked. The janitor

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informs me the Banking Co., or Mr. H. D. P. N. W. Allen, has moved. On looking in the office, I found it empty. On consulting the papers, in a complaint just received, I find that the *Investors' Guide* for September, says, that they have moved nearer the centre of the money mart, and hereafter are to be located at 35 and 37 Broad street. On visiting that place, I found, after a long search, up on the fourth floor, in a little room, the office paraphernalia of this rich bonanza that pays $456.5-100 on one stock, and 96 per cent. per annum on the other. Allen has just stepped out. One of the parties who is to occupy the office with him, appears and looks in at a rear office, and hurries out. I ask him for the firm. He replies he does not know them. I ask for Cheever and Vance, and he says they will be in in the morning. I then look at the rich and costly furniture of this great banking house, while waiting for Mr. Allen, and make an exact inventory of the same. I found one pine table covered with oilcloth, a small desk, five cheap chairs to correspond, twelve envelope boxes, three boxes such as newspaper penny wrappers come in, and a bundle of old rusty books. Carpenters were erecting a pine partition, similar to the one in the former office, to exclude the public. The result of the presentation of the facts to the Postmaster-General, has been to prohibit the use of the Registered letter and Money order department by this company, by the sending back of all such letters and orders to the senders thereof, marked "Fraudulent." The public must now pass judgment for themselves. I certify to the above facts in the hope that I may save honest, simple-minded ones from being defrauded and swindled.

*One thing I did not find in either office*, a "stock telegraph indicator connecting their office with the Exchange" or any other place. No such thing appears.

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## CHAPTER XIV.

### THE LOTTERY PARASITE.

This insignificant creature lives upon the Lottery. While he does not rise to the dignity of a lottery, he sinks below the level of the ordinary fraud. He pretends, that he is a lottery —legally, a gambling scheme—controls certain interests, or has especial advantages, over all others, to offer to the purchasers of lottery tickets.

"Only buy of me, and you will be sure to draw a prize, or I will guarantee to send you another package of tickets in the next drawings *free*." This is the inducement offered by most of these men. What a condescension! what liberality! what disinterestedness! is manifested. And yet, reader, this would-have-you-believe-me philanthropist (parasite), can well afford to send you another package of tickets. You send him $10, and in return, he sends you ten pieces of paper, that, including the price of printing, mailing, etc., probably costs him, not far from 5 cents. He is to send you another 5 cents worth of these pink papers, if you do not draw a prize. You assuredly will not draw a prize, and if he does as he agrees to, which is decidedly doubtful, all you will have to show for your $10, will be 20 pieces of paper about 2¼x4 inches, while the parasite has a clean profit of $9.90.

J. M. Pattee's schemes were many of them conducted in this manner. But as we have classed him more particularly as bogus lotteries, or commonly and vulgarly speaking "skin-lotteries" (where he fleeces the purchaser out of every cent), we shall illustrate this class, by one of Pattee's former clerks, who, in 1877, was arrested as Henry Carson, alias Emery & Co., for violating postal laws, by the Cheyenne and Wyoming lottery swindles. He was convicted, and his fine was paid in the United States Courts in 1877. Since then he has been obliged to operate under his own name, and more recently as

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E. N. CARR & CO.,

31 Park row, and Nunes & Co., 142 Fulton street, New York. A few of his schemes will illustrate how many of this kind may follow, first one and then another, by the same parties, and continue right on, notwithstanding repeated arrests. There are at this writing not less than four or five complaints and indictments in the courts against this one man, upon which he is held in bail for trial, and yet he continues on. There is some potent power that these men possess, that enables them to defy the laws and continue their robbery of the public.

Another thing, equally surprising to one not posted, is the fact, that circulars of these different schemes are sent to the same parties, and the same persons will be swindled again and again, by the same firm; and yet, they are not aware of being swindled. How is it? I repeat, the purchaser of one of these packages of tickets, is seldom or never aware of being swindled. He draws nothing, of course not, there is nothing to draw. It is like a poultice, the drawing is all on one side. The victim reasons, "my luck is bad," "luck is against me," or "just my luck, I never draw a prize." And instead of perceiving that he has been victimized by a rank swindle, he reasons as does the gambler, and thinks it is his bad luck. And so, he will reinvest in the next scheme the parasite sends, reasoning to himself, that his "luck must turn."

This very thing is the fraud's protection. The gambling spirit of the investor blinds his eyes, and he becomes a victim to the allurements of the printed circular.

And these circulars, with their flattering inducements and false promises, awaken in the mind of the young especially, that lust for gain, that latent disposition or tendency to speculation—that getting something for nothing—that securing wealth and riches without labor, that which leads them on, from the healthy industries of life, toward the gambler's restless, feverish condition of mind that ignores honest toil and business. As nature abhors a vacuum, so the gambler abhors work.

Again, the evil of these crimes is manifold. The victim invests all his savings. He loses and becomes desperate. He

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thinks, I must get my money back at least. I cannot lose that, and so he continues to use his limited income, draws on his savings, borrows or steals to reinvest in the same or in a similar scheme, only to continue to be robbed. And this often preys upon the mind of the loser, until he commits some desperate deed, that brings him within the meshes of the law, and leads him to his ruin or suicide.

Query. Is it not better in every way, and healthier for the community, that the laws of the land be enforced against these criminals, and their devices legally suppressed, rather than they be allowed to continue their schemes of robbery?

Who is responsible to-day for the existence and perpetuity of these schemes?

First, the people who patronize them.

Second, the people who know of these evils and wink at them, but do nothing toward enforcing these laws.

Third, the prosecuting officers in New York City, who allow indictments to remain untried for months against these men, while they continue openly to advertise and defy the laws.

But, some one asks, why does not some one go to these officers and ask to have these men tried? I reply, I have repeatedly arrested these men, and have piled up indictment after indictment, and complaint after complaint against them in the courts, and *there is no excuse.* These laws ought to be rigidly enforced. The party that fosters and screens these scoundrels must take the responsibility before the public. To perpetuate and shield such devices, designed to deceive and rob the people, is a high crime against the people and a misdemeanor under the law.

Philanthropists, honest men, taxpayers, law and order men, to the front! Let our laws be properly enforced, and not allow the courts of justice to be turned into a stench in the nostrils of the people.

How are these schemes executed? There are many tiny creatures that exist and thrive upon the covering nature provides the brute creation. They are warmed, fed, and housed in the fleece of the sheep, the fur of the beaver, the skin of the lion, and the

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feathers of the fowl. The existence of these larger animals is essential to their comfort and life.

So the lottery, that has some pretence—*and it is but a pretence*—to honesty, or show of fair dealing, is absolutely the basis of this fraud. I speak, in what I have said, of this whole class and in general terms, nothing being designed in any way as personal. I shall, however, illustrate how this kind of fraud is operated by taking the case of Carr, as already referred to.

This fraud is one of the kind that hides away in most secret places and travels in most guarded manner. It is not advertised openly in newspapers. No! that would not do, as it would bring the lottery men down on him with a vengeance. They thoroughly condemn these schemes, and despise those who operate them.

*These parties send circulars, under cover of sealed envelopes, to names and addresses they manage to secure.* This was their plan of opening communication and advertising their scheme to defraud, or to obtain money by means of the false pretences in their circular.

It has no doubt been observed in this book, that the Fraud always lays claim to honesty, position, and respectability. He sails under false colors, and decks himself with borrowed plumage.

"E. N. CARR & CO., BANKERS,"

is the style of this man's concern. This is all borrowed, except the E. N. Carr. If he is to be believed, there was no "Co.," as he admitted, when I arrested him the third time, that there was no one in the concern but himself. As to "Bankers," that is too ridiculous! I have legally raided his office several times, and I never found anything but the circulars and paraphernalia of such schemes as the Wyoming and Cheyenne bogus lotteries, or those similar to these I am about to describe.

THE OFFICE of these "BANKERS" was in a little, dirty, grim room, in the rear of, and up two or three flights of stairs, at 31 Park row, New York, which was furnished with a rickety table, a few dilapidated chairs, where the

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"Bank's" president, secretary, cashier, paying teller, receiving teller, messenger, errand boy, etc., were all united in Carr and his son; and the only business transacted in this "Banking House" was the addressing, by Carr's son, of from 100 to 1,000 envelopes per day, with the names they there had.

They did not dare to keep their circulars of their schemes in this office, and so it is presumed they simply addressed their envelopes and answered their correspondence there. And I call particular attention to the fact that, at the time of each of the two last arrests, we found the office in charge of the son alone, and the door locked, to keep out the public.

Imagine a "Banking" house or any mercantile business conducted on the same basis — the door locked to exclude the public!

As the parasite lives on the larger and more respectable appearing beast, so this fraud exists on the plan of the Havana and other Lotteries. The circular is cunningly worded, and well calculated to deceive.

First, they set out the substance of a Havana lottery circular; they, in fact, copy almost verbatim the circulars which this foreign gambling scheme issues. In this circular is printed a list and description of prizes, a list of drawings, the price of tickets, and a plan of the lottery. After thus appropriating the scheme of the lottery, these "Bankers" say:

*Address all orders to E. N. Carr & Co., 31 Park Row, New York City.*

We will send a package of 10 tickets for $10. This is the best way to purchase to secure a good prize. SINGLE TICKETS, $2 EACH.

In the first two paragraphs quoted below appears what may almost be called the stereotyped arguments of the lottery and fraud. We print from his circular as follows:

Probably you have invested in other lotteries and have been unsuccessful, and we want a fair trial to see if we cannot succeed in selling a handsome prize to you; try it, and trust to our selection of a ticket for you!

There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; and it may be your fortune to secure a prize in a lottery ticket or a package from the firm of E. N. Carr & Co. which may prove successful and give you competency for life for only a small outlay.



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E. N. CARR & CO., BANKERS,

is the oldest firm in the United States, having been established since 1837 in the principal cities:—New Orleans, Washington, Baltimore, Wilmington, and New York City, and have sold and cashed more prizes than any other establishment; their name and integrity is a sufficient guaranty for the fulfilment of what they say or do in giving entire satisfaction to their patrons, and persons at a distance can rest assured to have everything done in an honorable manner, just the same as if they were personally present, and prizes payable on demand and without discount.

Being only agents, it is to our interest to sell prizes and not blanks. If we sold you a prize, why, you would make it known to your friends that you drew a prize, and it would encourage them to try their luck, and it would increase our business in your locality, and likewise it gives publicity to the fact that you were successful.

Address all orders to E. N. Carr & Co., Bankers, 31 Park Row, New York City.

☞ Prompt in giving information and filling orders and remitting the official drawings, and in payment of prizes, in cash or draft.

The drawing of the above prizes will be made in public, and conducted by the Captain General of Havana.

These great Havana Public Drawings being conducted legally, persons at a distance can rest assured that their interests are as well protected in their absence as though they were present and personally superintended the drawing.

Official lists of the drawn numbers will be sent to each Ticket-holder immediately after the Drawing, and Prize Tickets cashed at this Office on sight, and no discount. Persons purchasing Tickets or winning prizes need not be known.

All letters come safe to hand, and orders filled punctually, and list of Drawings sent immediately after Drawing. Order early and secure a fortune for life. In writing to us, do not use postal cards, as they will not be answered.

☞ Write your name plain and your Post-office address, to avoid mistakes and miscarriage.

The limited number of tickets now on hand will be furnished to those who first apply for them.

N. B.—The great demand for tickets, owing to the low price and great popularity of these Havana Drawings, makes it absolutely necessary for persons desiring to secure Tickets to remit without delay.

Large prizes will be sent to parties winning them, by express or draft on New York, or any Bank in the U. S.

Money may be sent by Mail, Draft on any Bank, or by Express.

We will send a package of 10 tickets in the above for $10. This is the most successful way to purchase, as it gives you ten chances of drawing the $200,000 for $10. Tickets only $2 each.

Address all orders to E. N. Carr & Co., 31 Park Row, New York City.

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If orders should come too late, we will invest to the best advantage in the next drawing. Agents wanted.

In order to caution earnest, kind-hearted, and charity-loving persons in our churches, who often fall into a fatal mistake in church fairs and festivals by their raffles and games of chance, I beg to present the following extract from this sly swindling circular. And further, I urge it as a reason why we should not violate the law, encourage gambling and create an appetite for it in the young, by thus imitating the various devices of the Fraud and gambler to obtain money for charitable purposes.

SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS.—The American people, above all other nations, are accustomed, as the expression runs, to go in and take the chances. It is true in all departments of American life—in politics, in society, in the church, and, above all, in business. It is either make or lose. And it expresses the venturesome spirit possessed by the people that leads them to run the risk. The hope of success spurs them on, and casting aside the fear of failure, they go in and take their chances.

Far-sighted, keen, and shrewd men among us have read this characteristic of their countrymen and resolved to profit by it, and so they have. One of the shapes it has taken has been the establishment of various lottery schemes —a point well understood at church festivals. Many of these have been prosecuted to most successful results.

The above was followed by the following certificate. An inquiry at the address 1080 Fulton avenue discloses the fact that no such person is known there, and never has resided there. Indeed we could find no one who ever heard of McCluskey.

How easy it is to deceive the public! How easy to throw dust in the eyes of the purchaser of lottery tickets! What wild speculation is started in the mind of lottery gamblers by such certificates!

$200,000 PRIZE GOLD.

The Grand Capital Prize of $200,000 on ticket number 11,944 was sold in the drawing of the Havana Lottery, which took place May 27th, 1879, to Mr. Michael McCluskey, formerly a resident of Pioche City, Nevada, now a resident of Brooklyn, New York.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., June 4th, 1879.

This is to state that I purchased a package of (10) twentieths of tickets in the Royal Havana Lottery in the drawing of May 27th, 1879, for the sum of $20 from the Agents, E. N. Carr & Co., 31 Park Row, New York City, and

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drew the Capital Prize, and the said firm paid me the twentieth part of $200,000 less exchange. MICHAEL MCCLUSKEY,
1080 Fulton Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

To one who knows the history of this man, what we quoted first, about E. N. Carr & Co. being "the oldest firm in the United States," having been established since 1837 in the principal cities," etc., is ridiculously absurd, and ludicrously false. Carr is scarcely as old as that himself. But if we laugh at this base fabrication, we are convulsed at what he says about having "sold and cashed more prizes than any other establishment;" and indeed the whole of that clause right on to the word "discount" is so absurdly false that one can scarcely read it without shouting "What a fraud!"

Carr's cashing a prize, to my mind, after a minute knowledge of his business since 1877, is so improbable that it is classed emphatically among the *improbabilities*. I have already called attention to the fact that he was Emery & Co. in 1877, and so arrested and convicted, and after that started E. N. Carr & Co., and he has always since been known to me as being in a fraudulent and unlawful scheme, to deceive and rob the people. He is not an agent of this lottery as he pretends.

But why dwell or waste words? *Carr did not even do as he offers to do. He did not send a package of tickets, nor a single ticket.* He got the money belonging to other people, and in return sent a little slip of paper worth one cent minus ten mills (1 cent − 10 mills = 0).

This is only one of many similar schemes operated by this swindler, and notwithstanding several indictments and complaints in the courts, he keeps right on.

Another absurdity, offered as a bait to catch simpletons, is in the form of the letter following, which sometimes accompanies these schemes:

NEW YORK, Feb. 8th, 1879.

*Dear Sir*—We have enclosed you a scheme of the Royal Havana Lottery to be drawn Feb. 28, 1879, & we make this liberal offer to you if you will send us $10 we will send you a finely arranged package certificate of (10) tickets all different numbers for $10 & you can draw 10 different prizes, if you do not succeed in drawing a prize of $1,000 we will make you a present of a package

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of tickets in the next drawing Free of Cost. We do this as we know by you drawing a prize of $1,000 it can do us a great deal of good in your locality by letting it be known & it would extend our business to have you draw one. We are only agents & it is more to our advantage to have you draw a prize than a blank. We know that you have been unsuccessful, but it is not to say that you are going to be that way all the time, as we are almost sure to sell you a large prize yet. Send on the $10 & trust to the Fickle Goddess for success & it may bring you in a Competency for life which you may never regret. Please state to us when you remit the $10 whether or not we may use your name as a reference in case you draw a prize of $1,000 & whether you will answer all enquiries promptly concerning the same. Dont forget to answer this enquiry. Send Money Order or get your letter registered.

Hoping to hear from you, we remain, Yours Respectfully,

E. N. CARR & Co.

Is not a man a fool who would bite at such a bait? Are people so simple as to suppose that any sharper would let a ticket sure to draw $1,000 go out of his hands, into that of another, upon the payment of one dollar? No, of course not! you say. And yet enough bite at this hook to support these frauds, paying for office rent, printing circulars, envelopes, postage stamps, and besides maintaining their families. It looks when you read these facts as if "the fools were not all dead." I can explain it only on one ground, that the victim is so eager and anxious to make money that they do not stop to reason or think for themselves. Surely, the law ought to shield such weak-minded and simple ones, and not be administered in the interests of such consummate frauds as this.

After I had stopped Carr, as E. N. Carr & Co., he and his son transferred their business to 142 Fulton street, and there opened another "Bankers' establishment" (?) in a dirty, dark room, as Nunes & Co., after the same pattern as Carr & Co.

All I can say is, steer clear of all similar schemes, and send their circulars and letters to me for investigation, and I promise to bring them into the courts, and, at least, expose their schemes.

Personally, Mr. Carr has always treated me very politely, and he has the appearance of being a gentleman, but his business is simply execrable, and that I attack. It is left for the public to measure this man by the standard of the facts presented. I could greatly enlarge and show many more gross outrages, but surely I

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have told enough to put the public on their guard, and lay bare the plan of deceit and robbery.

Postmaster-General Key stopped the registered letters and money orders of these two addresses. Through some representations made, this order was revoked, on the promise that Carr & Co. and Nunes & Co. would not engage in any further violation of law by sending circulars of Royal Havana lottery. Carr comes home, and is detected at his old business. He then appeals for help and promises not to do so again, and then comes out an admission that "Nunes" is his middle name, and that he has transferred his business of E. N. Carr & Co. to this office.

He promises not to violate the law if the order is rescinded, and then commences the same dodge, only worse. He sends his customers (names he secures) letters as follows. This letter is accompanied by ten of his pink certificates, for which he modestly demands the sum of $20. He strikes high!

OFFICE OF NUNES & CO., BROKERS, No. 142 Fulton Street,
NEW YORK CITY, Aug. 28th.

*Dear Sir.*—Knowing that you have been unsuccessful in trying your luck and wishing to sell you a prize, we make the following liberal offer to you, to see if we cannot succeed in selling you one, as we know by your drawing a good prize, it would extend our business in your locality and be worth more to us than $1,000 spent in advertising. We have enclosed a package of 10 certificates of Twentieths in the scheme to be drawn Sept. 21st, 1880, they come to $20, and should you not succeed in drawing at least $500, we will give you the same chance over again in the next drawing on five tickets *Free of Cost.* Send on the $20 by return mail if you conclude to try your luck, if not send them back to us or keep such as you want, they come to $2 each, and you can return the balance with the funds. I would try the package for once and see if you cannot make a strike this time. Hoping to hear from you, we remain, Yours Respectfully,

NUNES & CO.

Then follows the same "racket" on the Commonwealth Distribution Co.'s fraudulent lottery, and doubtless until this man is put behind the bars, his schemes to rob the public will continue. Arrests will as surely follow every violation of law, as the fact that legal evidence can be obtained. My course is clear, and so much as in me lies, people shall not be robbed, by such devices through the mails.

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# CHAPTER XV.

## SUNDRY FRAUDS.

### A PIOUS FRAUD TO ROB CLERGYMEN.

During 1877, there was an attempt made by some unknown person, to secure money from the clergymen of the land, by appealing to their generosity to buy a book called "Amos' Encyclopedia of the New Testament."

A printed circular was sent out addressed in each instance to clergymen, the first page reading as follows:

He that giveth to the Poor,
Lendeth to the Lord.

*Executive office of the "Relief Association" to assist the Destitute poor and sick of the Protestant Churches of New York City.*

No. 17 UNION SQUARE.

To REV. —— ——

*Dear Christian Brother*—By an arrangement entered into by our Executive Committee with the Publishers of

"AMOS' ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE NEW TESTAMENT,"

the publishers have consented, in view of the Charitable aim of our work, to allow our Association to have the complete control of the sale of this invaluable and much popular book for the period of one month, ending January 5th, 1878.

The net proceeds to go and apply to the immediate relief of the utterly destitute poor and sick of the Protestant Churches of every denomination in this City; when you come to consider the suffering and miserable condition of *these* poor people it must touch the Heart of every true christian. As we have not the space to describe the suffering now existing among such a large class who are in every respect deserving of your charity, we leave you to dwell upon it and to open your true christian heart and assist us in this work.

We simply appeal to your generosity to "BUY THIS BOOK" which we are offering at the low figure of $1.00 per volume, and by so doing you are helping along in the work GOD has entrusted man to do; the same volume cannot be purchased elsewhere for less than $3.50.

CONTENTS OF THE BOOK.

It is a volume devoted to the study of the New Testament, and contains

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many of the choicest thoughts of the foremost scholars and sound thinkers of the theological world.

It has commanded the attention of the most eminent clergymen of this Country and of Great Britain, and was compiled to fill that large space of Theological knowledge which has been so much needed.

It treats briefly, but with soundness of thought, displayed with great ability and talent, explaining original Truths in a thoroughly forcible manner; being the result of years of labor and research by the various writers defining everything in a clear intelligible way which not only combines pleasure and study, but in a manner to impress upon the readers mind; so they will dwell at length and with a deep thoughtfulness, of the great truth portrayed therein, and the ideas and thoughts of the most eminent theologians of the day.

ATTENTION.

The publishers have been exceedingly kind and generous in allowing us the profits on this work for the time.

But we must dispose of a large number of books immediately so as to realize sufficiently to extend our charity to all who deserve it; and as the 5th day of January is only a short time we have to work diligently, and rely upon you Dear Brother to purchase at once; don't delay or the time will expire and the same book cannot then be purchased for less than the regular price, $3.50, and in buying of us it goes to the deserving poor and sick. Relying on your true christian heart and your generous impulses to assist us at once.

I remain sincerely yours,

REV. A. G. S., Treasurer,

No. 17 Union Square, N. Y.

Enclose $1.00 to the above address and the Book will be immediately sent to you.

The circular then gives a description of the contents of the book, representing it as being devoted to the study of the New Testament, and as containing many of the choicest thoughts of former centuries, and of the sound thinkers of the theological world. It then professes to quote from Prof. Wolsey of Yale.

Very timely, full of rich results, of ripe scholarship, deep tone piety, large experience of the pen, and unsurpassed ability, full of rich spiritual views.

Spurgeon of England writes, I have received your Encyclopedia, and find it unsurpassed by any modern work treating on the New Testament, and heartily recommend it.

The book is farther described as being illustrated with thirty beautiful pictures by eminent artists, together with twelve maps. It appeals personally to the recipient of the prospectus to invest on the ground that,

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**Not only would the purchaser secure a valuable compilation of acknowledged value, but he would be helping and assisting the poor, and sick, of this vast metropolis and so contributing in God's charity to them. If they did not require it for themselves, to purchase one for their Son or Daughter, or some friend, teacher or scholar.**

The price of this book, containing 500 pages, gilt edged and elegantly bound in Turkey morocco, was $1.00.

Now think of the absurdity of offering all this mass of thought, and sound theology, with 30 illustrations and 12 maps, a large volume gilt edged and bound in Turkey morocco, for $1.00!

This is the final appeal:

**In order that we may dispose of a large number of books immediately, so as to realize sufficiently to extend our charity to all who deserve it, we rely upon you Dear Brother to purchase at once.**

The fraud signs himself "Sincerely yours, Rev. A. G. S * * * Treasurer, 17 Union Square, N. Y."

How any person of intelligence can be duped by such a scheme as this, seems almost incomprehensible; but "The fools are not all dead." Many gullible people actually bit at this bait. A careful search at 17 Union Square, both by the Police of this city, and the Post office authorities, has failed, down to the present time, to discover the "Reverend A. G. S."

It is of no special importance in this connection, except as showing the extent, and variety of fraudulent operations through the United States Mail, and that there are rogues preying upon all classes of the community.

The man who got up this circular evidently was possessed of much more cunning than piety. He, surely, was but one of thousands who have "stolen the livery of Heaven to serve the Devil in," and who are to-day making use of the tenderest and noblest sympathies of the credulous in prosecuting their most nefarious operations.

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## A LAZY FRAUD.

For several years past business men in New York have been the recipients of a letter written by a female living in North Carolina, appealing to them in "sweet charity's" name to contribute to the immediate relief of herself and her "large family of small children." These letters are written in an exceedingly minute hand, on large half sheets of paper, violet ink, (which from its abundant flow must be cheap down in that country,) and extensively underscored. As specimens of English composition they certainly deserve to rank among the curiosities of literature, and as begging letters they are unique and in their way unapproachable. The following is, with the omission of names, a verbatim copy of one of these appeals:

C., N. CAROLINA, Jan'y 9th, 1880.

*Kind Sir*—I wrote you last fall (& I think once before) but thinking that you surely didn't get my letter, I write again, & will put return request across my envelope, so I may know if this reaches you safely. Somewhere seeing your name, as a quite able business gentleman of your very able city, & which is again returning, thank God, to great prosperity & revival of business, & yours being one of the old & long time prominent names of your city; therefore with, I trust some reasonable hope, I humbly ask if, in mercy, you cannot give at least a little, to your fellow creatures, so very sadly situated as we, and & I trust that as God's promise, to return all mercy and charity—"With whatsoever measure ye mete, pressed down, shaken together, and, running over," warrants your never missing or regretting what little you may give to the help, cheer, gladdening & even grateful love of even so poor & humble, but honest, humanly hearts. I trust, that you'll be truely glad to thus help, cheer & gladden so very sad a situation, even as I, if atall able, poor frail feble woman as I am, would surely, gladly, readily, nay, eagerly help you or any fellow creature of earth, North, South, East or West, under similar trials. We were once comfortable, but much family sickness & the deplorable war, which we no wise aided, took our dear home & every comfort from us—leaving us to drag over the country for years, penniless in affliction, hunting for, & begging shelters, such as, & wherever we could, & our poor little children, very puny and frail naturally & from long very hard & scanty liveing, & my poor dear husband, long with heart, lung & severest rheumatic diseases, the entire family's support, wholy devolves on my perfectly, oh! more than willing, anxious, but too feble hands, for if you'll excuse my unreservedness to express myself, I have over thirteen long weary years, suffered all the living deaths of fallen womb & of general ill health, & in this torturing situation, have long had to expose myself much, summer and winter, working hard in pain for our bread, & liveing too, almost exclusively on plain dry bread alone, it often scanty, & hard, with us, to get atall; & it made up only

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with salt & water (for we've had no lard or meat, for about nine weeks) is very hard, unhealthy & oh! so unpalatable, irrelishable diet, to puny, frail, growing childhood, & to the afflicted. Besides all my other trials, I now have an aged, widowed, long sorely afflicted & entirely blind dear old mother, & hers & my poor dear husband's ills, oft letting them dare not eat even enough of such food, as such poverty & frailty as mine, is only possibly able to get often, as poor, frail woman here now, these still fearfully trying hard times—South, can now get nothing like regular employment, & actually almost, Just nothing for it; & therefore we're all now, this long lasting, bad, cold weather, very sadly needy of food, clothing, bedding, shoes & fire wood (now almost entirely out of wood) to keep us in our affliction's daily & nightly scanty coverings, half comfortably warm) but unable to buy a bit of meat, lard, flour, sugar, coffee, (what liveing in affliction!) soda, pepper, &c.; material for light of nights; a little box or vial of medicine, in sudden & oft recurring necessity, even had to borrow my envelope, postage & paper I now write on, not haveing as much as one cent in the world! Oh! Sir do, oh! will you not indeed pity an afflicted family, at least some, in such affliction, want, & such a daily & nightly anxiously troubled family, without a cent in the world? We now havent an ounce of meat, lard, flour, sugar, coffee, &c, havent had any of these three first named, for over two months, except 8 pounds of flour I borrowed about six weeks ago, yet owe & been asked for it, & excepting a plate of biscuits a kind sympathizing & poor lady, sent us several sabbath morns ago, & a piece of loaf given us by another lady, the evening before; but liveing for two long months in our afflictions, only on plain corn bread almost exclusively, & it, much the time, borrowed. God will fulfil his promised "Reward according as ye sow," & as ye sow to such condition as ours, I do believe, especially as I & mother have long loved & been trying to serve the Lord, and Just whatever it may be your pleasure & convenience to give in such situation, however little it may be, will be some help, & blessing, which will be most gratefully appreciated, & any help, especially to a lady's address, will come as safely, if not safer of late days, than any way I can suggest, heavily, plainly, unassumingly enveloped, but register if you think best & wish, or perhaps a check would be safest way to send, if I could sell it for the necessaries we need. Oh! if possibly you pity & help us none, then please soon return this, so I may submit it to another without rewriting in pain, weariness, &c., but oh! surely you won't turn me away wholy empty, & that too, with God's offered return of it. We, not long liveing here, the people very generally strange, & poor, & the wretchedly impoverished south, especially these hard times, unable to help the more unfortunate many, since the war, I humbly hope able, abler northern friends, to suffering humanity, & more nobly generously merciful people north, anyway, will be truely glad to help so very sadly situated fellow creatures, some! Trusting in God, I am, with much haste,

Very Respectfully & Humbly,

Mrs. S. J., C., Catawba Co., N. C.

[References here followed.]

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The gentleman who received this sent it to a business firm in her town, and received the laconic reply:

You can mark S. J. a fraud. They live as well as any one that lives without work. She has a husband and grown son that dresses well and does nothing.

The matter having been put into my hands, I wrote to her and received this letter:

C——— P. O., N. CAROLINA, March 18th, 1880.

MR. A. COMSTOCK:

*Kind Sir*—A gentleman of your city, to whom I wrote sometime since, writes me that as he could not do anything for myself and family in our afflicted & haplessly very sadly needy situation—of food, clothing, bedding, shoes, wood, &—Just any necessary—to any comfort whatever, that he had spoken to you of our situation, & that "as you were a charitable friend, that you might kindly help us some, if I'd write to you directly." I am suffering considerably in my bad health; & donot feel able to write a full appeal or full statement of our sad situation & trials, & donot see—anyway, the necessity of writing in—my pain & febleness—a full appeal, as I am feeling that you'll do Just as you would, anyway, if you were shown my appeal by your friend, as it contains Just what I would now say. The entire family wholy dependent on my willing—oh! anxious—but too feble hands, these hard times South, so pinching, that I can get nothing like regular employment now, & very meager pay for woman's work at best here now, & the weather so bad & cold, almost constantly raining for last eight or ten days, still pouring down, & I unable to get out to do anything, & now so very sadly needy of food, &c. I know not what in the world we are to do, without kind merciful humanitarians where able (for they are not able in this war-ruined, wretchedly impoverished section South, these hard, hard times, to help the more unfortunate many) will soon kindly help us some, for we even had to borrow a few sticks of wood this a. m. to do us this cold rainy day. God will fulfil his promised "Reward,—according as ye sow,"—even as ye sow—I do believe, as I've long loved & been trying to serve him—to so poor, humble, suffering fellow creatures as we. Any help it may be your convenience & pleasure to give in such situation will be most gratefully appreciated, & will come safely, heavily enveloped, to a lady's address, though send as you may think best, & oh! if you please, soon as possibly convenient. —— ——, of your city, may be able, if you've not seen an appeal, one of my appeals to him, of late date. Excuse paper, as this is all I have. Trusting in the Lord, I am, Kind Sir,

Very Respectfully & Humbly,

MRS. S. J. J.,

C—— P. O., Catawba Co., N. C.

[References here.]

Having written to her references for their views of her charac-

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ter and necessities, I was much surprised to receive the following letter from her, and not a word from the parties written to:

CONOVER, N. C., March 29th, 1880.

MR. COMSTOCK:

*Kind Sir*—In reply to your letter, I will say that I sincerely thank you for your intimated willingness to mercy, kindness, humanity & charity, but sincerely wishing to be honest & right, as I feel I've ever been in God's sight, I will say that I donot ask or want, any charitable mercy extended to our truely sad, afflicted & helplessly needy situation while there is now existing an utterly false idea of my being unneedy & unworthy of help, through false misrepresentations of us by people of this hard-hearted most inconsiderate county, who, being very generally dutch hard working people, really think, & are of natures it seems, to think that any who dont work as hard as a horse, "work hard for their livin, like I has ter work for my livin," woman or man, dead or alive, "aint duin right." Moreover my religious faith, Methodist, not in accord with the very general faith of another denomination of almost this whole section, & which is much prejudiced against Methodists & ridiculive of any experimental religion, & there being no M. E. church here, & I being one of only several Methodists in this locality, I find no sympathy here, but an ever readiness to do almost Just anything against me & family, to misrepresent me or hinder my helping &c, & therefore my references will not say yea nor nay, will do nothing in the way of answering any letters of inquiry, both by will & by my request, until matters are cleared up, & until the world or country is satisfied of my & family's actual sad, yes very sad situation, helplessness, need & worthiness. I claim, do & will ever claim, in the sight & fear of the blessed God & Father who I've long loved & been trying zealously to serve, that I have never claimed anything but what was true to the letter in my appeals to any one, & I conscientiously feel & do believe, nay I know that charity has never given me a cent without God's Mercy & hand was directly the moving power of it—from those whom he hath more abundantly blessed in this worlds goods—towards us in direct answer to my cries & prayers for his mercy, for loveing God, I have all faith, trust & unwavering, abiding conviction in the power of prayer from an humble all trusting heart, & believe & do actually hope & look for his merciful loveing kindnesses to usward, more than if these baseless, inhumanly, unnatural, inconsiderate, may I not say uncivilized, barbarous & brutal, false persecutions, shameful, tremenduously shameful in Man, towards a poor, inoffensive, frail, feble, defenceless woman, lady, wife & mother, only for begging a little mercy & help for her afflicted, helpless, needy, suffering family & poor Old aged entirely blind dear Mother, of those North, where able, & where only I know there are those good enough, highminded, wholesouled & noble heartedly generously merciful to grant it, for most positively in God's hearing, & for which I am willing & know he will Judge me as I & my words may deserve, if there is any true, real, freehearted charity here in this whole

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section at all, I donot know, & would be very much surprised to know it, & sensible, humanly reasonable considerations I feel & think Just as rare towards those in so sad & helpless situations as we. Yes, I do feel, from my unswerveing hope & faith in God, that if all impartially unreasonable & unjust feelings of persecution & prejudices, personal, political, sectional & religious, are laid aside, that God's mercy, wisdom & love will yet work out more for than against me and my family, though I've ever noticed that where one asking aid is written against, whether only a determination to listen to one side, or gladly to find excusers from charity, or what, the asker could never get a hearing again. We're needy, very needy of food, bedding, shoes, wood, under clothing particularly, but any kind, of Just anything for comfort, but I wish nor ask any help, until God's own good time to give or direct it. I am, in honesty & conscientiousness,

Your Grateful Friend, for intimated kindness,

MRS. S. J. J.,
Conover P. O., Catawba Co., N. C.

P. S.—See Editor of The Graphic, 39 & 41 Park Place, your city. I sent him a communication a few days since, and write him again by to-day's mail. He may let you read both, & tell you all he may wish to.

Now, not to put too fine a point upon it, is not one of these letters in itself worth a five dollar bill?

Official inquiry developed the facts that this family live in a nice house, that the children are *all grown up*, and some of them married, and those whom she gives as references are her sons-in-law, and are well-to-do business men, one a professor in a large school.

She has resided in this same place for years, and lives and supports her family by these means. These letters go to merchants principally. The recipient is pressed for time, and feels that he cannot stop to investigate; the easiest and cheapest course is to send a small amount and dismiss the subject. And thus these shiftless men are supported, and in their native town pass for gentlemen. Our fair correspondent's wanting her letter back, is equal to an order received by the firm I was formerly engaged with, where a Southern lady wrote that she had sold her piano, because it was too hard work to play it, and wanted one of "them kind that played themselves"—meaning a music box. Well, well, it takes all kinds of people to make up this world.

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MANY-NAMED FRAUDS; OR, FRAUDS WITH MANY ALIASES.

The newspapers are constantly filled with taking advertisements, offering all sorts of merchandise at wonderful bargains: Books, watches, pictures, knives, revolvers, guns, receipts, medicines—indeed, almost an endless variety of traps are described as going at "less than ten cents on the dollar," inviting persons to invest. But two, of the following owners of many aliases, are peculiar. The first named pretended to sell "rich, rare, and racy" books and pictures in connection with these other things, and got people's money, making no return in many cases, or, if a return, something not ordered by the sender. He united obscene matter and fraudulent schemes. Both of them have been convicted for violation of the laws against obscene publications.

Henry E. Hunter was arrested at Hinsdale, N. H., Sept. 22, 1873, and afterwards plead guilty under an indictment charging violation of what is known as the "Comstock" law. At that time he thought himself perfectly secure under cover of the numerous names, under which he operated.

To show the extent of his business I have but to say that, at the time of arrest, I was informed officially, by the postmaster, that formerly, before Hunter commenced business, the income of that office was but about $400 per annum, while at the time of arrest it was about $1,700. This was when postmasters were paid according to the amount of stamps sold or canceled at their office.

After his arrest his advertisements were very carefully worded, so as to indicate one could secure *anything wanted*, and what purported to be "fancy articles" were advertised extensively by him. One dodge was to advertise "a perfect time-keeper," or "Swiss watch, hunting case," and, when the money was received, to send a round brass box containing a compass, with what appeared to be a sun dial. This man has for years conducted a fraudulent scheme of some kind or other. He advertises in a paper of his own, and my advice is, never send one cent to anything in that direction. He is a notorious blackguard, and amuses himself by hurling his invectives at me. He is utterly

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beneath contempt on that account, and the only reason he is noticed here is to prevent people from being robbed.

I am one of those who can see no justice in a sharp scamp being allowed to deceive and defraud the public. I hold that honest and simple-minded folks have rights that even a thief is bound to respect.

Hunter's mail, at the Hinsdale office alone, amounted sometimes to 400 ordinary and 50 registered letters daily. A fair income, at only 10 cents each!

His aliases were:

**Hunter & Co; Union Book Co.; New England Book Co.; Star Spangled Banner; Eureka Manufacturing Co.; Box 143; H., Banner Office; Magnetic Watch Co.; Ashuelot Sewing Machine Co.; Agency; Five Dollar Greenback; Publisher; Million-Year Almanac; New England Watch Co.; J. G., Box 143; U. S. Book Co.; Monadnock Advertising Agency; Martin & Co.; Union Manufacturing Co. All of Hinsdale.**

Also:

**W. P. King, Box 343; King & Co.; Vermont Novelty Co.; Union Pistol Co.; Vermont Vinegar Co.; W. Y. Perry; R. W. Hilliard. All of Brattleboro, Vt., P. O., seven miles distant from Hinsdale.**

More recently, we find the following aliases used:

**Perry & Co., Brattleboro, Vt.; Surinam Manufacturing Co., Brattleboro, Vt.; Banner Publishing Co., Hinsdale, N. H.; Biblio, Box 143, Hinsdale, N. H.; Dr. Vaille & Co., Brattleboro, Vt., supposed to be name of one of his clerks.**

His Brattleboro mail, through the wonderful good nature (or some other motive) of the postmaster at that place, is allowed to be given to the stage driver and taken over to him several times a week.

Next comes Edgar W. Jones, of Ashland, Mass.

He was arrested Nov. 2, 1877, under the same law. He used to run a one-horse post-office; or, in other words, his mail was more than all the rest of the town put together. In each of these cases the law-abiding citizens of the town had to give way and wait till these men were served. Jones plead guilty in Boston, in the U. S. court, and was sentenced.

His aliases were:

**Union Purchasing Agency; Union Publishing Agency; Union Publishing**

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**Co.; Littleton & Co.; H. J. Littleton; Atlas Co.; Magnetic Watch Co. All of Ashland.**

Also:

**Atlas Manufacturing Co., So. Framingham, Mass.**

This fellow, after pleading guilty, desired to be sworn in his own behalf, to testify for a mitigation of sentence. After he had told his story, to the satisfaction of himself and counsel, the District Attorney asked him a few questions at my request, and developed the following facts: That he sent out circulars under his different aliases, as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| In May, 1874, he sent out, . . . | 50,000 | circulars. |
| From Sept., 1874, to May, 1875, he sent out, | 200,000 | " |
| " May, 1875, to May, 1876, " " " | 300,000 | " |
| " Sept., 1876 to May, 1877, " " " | 800,000 | " |
| Making a total of..... | 1,350,000 | " |

We also proved, from the P. O. records in this case, that he received registered letters in reply to these circulars so sent out, as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Rec'd from Jan. 1 to July 1, 1877..... | 5,930 |
| " " July 1 to Dec. 1, 1877 ..... | 4,373 |
| Total receipts in 11 months ..... | 10,303 |

and 825 registered letters were sent back to the writers during 25 days in Dec., 1877, by order of the Postmaster-General, under Postal Laws and Regulations.

Such is the fearful extent of these schemes through the mails.

At the time of arrest I discovered letters from young ladies, on official paper of the Seminary where they were as students, away from home; and also from young men in colleges in our own State, ordering his obscene books.

Does it pay to enforce these laws? Is it a crime to do it, and thus protect the community? Let my critics answer.



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### MY ASSASSIN.

Next comes the ex-convict who stabbed me, as I was taking him to jail, on a commitment on a second arrest. He had been once convicted, and sentenced in the Courts in New York under State laws. He then spread himself over three judicial districts in the United States Courts, to wit, "the Southern District" and "the Eastern District" of New York, and "the District of New Jersey."

His plan was to advertise under several of these aliases at one time. His method of operation, in order to complicate matters, was like this: To the writer of a letter coming to one of his New Jersey aliases, he would send a circular, advertising what purported to be "fancy," or obscene books, the orders to be sent to one of his Staten Island addresses (Eastern District), and then he would mail his reply in New York (Southern District).

It became necessary for the officer who should capture him, to be just a little sharper than he was, and after being several times thwarted, at last, Oct. 31, 1874, I arrested CHARLES CONROY.

This man resided at 318 South 4th st., Williamsburgh, and was at Newark, N. J., at the time of this last arrest. The day of his arrest I had been waiting for him nearly all day, as it was one of the days when he came to that office for his mail.

I had given him up and gone to the depot, when I saw him dodging to keep out of my sight. It was necessary to see if he had got his mail. It was essential that I should know that fact before I should arrest him. I therefore took a hack and drove to the post office to ascertain if he had been there. I found that he had. I drove back to the depot. He was not to be seen. The train for New York came in. I boarded the same, well assured that, if I took the train, this man would not. I walked through the car I had entered, and stepped off quickly at the other end and hid myself from view, and let the train move off. After it had gone I came out, and at the farther end of the depot I saw my man. He was taken in a carriage and driven to the post office, where the U. S. Commissioner came, opened

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court, and fully committed the prisoner. In the absence of any other officer, I was given the commitment, and ordered to take that man to jail.

When first spoken to by me down at the depot, he pretended to cry and feel very bad; he caught my hand and tried to put it up to his lips to kiss; he kissed my sleeve, and whined and begged to be let off. On the way to the jail the same thing was repeated, and just at the jail door he began to beg that I would go and see his wife and tell her he had been arrested, and and carry a message from him. I told him I would do so personally, although it would be late when I reached New York, and was much out of my course. This was only a sharp trick. While he was talking, in most pathetic tones, he plunged his dirk into my face, severing four arteries. I sprang from the carriage. Just here everybody asks: Did he get away? Did you shoot him? Neither. My orders were to take that man to jail. To jail he must go. No, I did not shoot. I drew my revolver, and then I knew I need not fear. It is true and reliable. He could neither get away nor do me more harm. His assault upon me was a matter for the law to punish. I had no right to take the law in my own hands. *Of all men, an officer of the law should respect and obey it.* I took him to jail, and when he was safely behind the bars, my duty was done, and then I sought a physician; and though a long way from home for a man thus wounded, yet the same One who has ever kept me, conducted me safely to my home, and restored me to health and strength. I suffered; my family suffered; my brave heroic devoted wife suffered. But it was God's way of working. Herein was a blessing in disguise.

At this time the Society was about $3,000 in debt. The way appeared hedged up, and it seemed as though the work must be abandoned. Men were indifferent. A few had done and given, but what they could spare was not equivalent to the demand. I had prayed God to open the way, to send deliverance, to provide for this cause. As I lay on my bed of suffering, it seemed as though I was laid one side so that I should have no part or lot in the

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work that was to be accomplished for this cause; as though the Master said, now you step one side and let me work. He did work, and answered for us the prayers of our heart. The very next day, my beloved pastor, and most faithful friend, at the close of the Sabbath morning service, invited the men of his congregation to remain. They did, and in the lecture room of the Clinton avenue Congregational Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., commenced a wave of enthusiasm and interest that did not cease to roll, till our debt was paid; and when, after two weeks of suffering, I came out of doors again to resume my work, there were funds to work with, and by the grace of God, we have been enabled to continue on till this present. Surely, it is better to trust God than put confidence in men.

Conroy was sentenced to two years in Trenton State Prison, for the assault, and one year each on two separate indictments in the U. S. Court at Trenton, at the expiration of the first sentence on the original charge on which he had been arrested.

His aliases were:

Lewis Lubin, Greenpoint, N. Y.; L. M. Burt, Long Island City, N. Y.; W. Colby, Stapleton, N. Y.; Mathew C. Hart, Newtown, N. Y.; R. Carleton, Port Richmond, N. Y.; R. Carleton & Co., Port Richmond, N. Y.; Gregory Darphy, New Brighton, N. Y.; C. D. Cook, Morrisania, N. Y.; V. Scribner, Flushing, N. Y.; C. L. Taylor, Brooklyn, N. Y.; C. L. Dexter, N. Y. City, N. Y.; M. Dupau, Hoboken, N. J.; G. Marsh, Jersey City, N. J.; G. Marsh & Co., Jersey City, N. J.; N. F. Kirke, Newark, N. J.; John R. Scott, Hudson City, N. J.; J. K. Appleton, Bergen Point, N. J.; P. Manning, Elizabeth, N. J.; W. J. Evans, Trenton and N. Y. City.

To James Bryan, 147 E. 15th street, N. Y. City, we shall again pay our respects. We therefore have nothing to say but to append to this list of "numerous" frauds his aliases, which were:

Dr. J. Bryan, 91 E. 13th street; J. Bryan, M. D., 147 E. 15th street; Edgar Tremaine, M. D., Station D. Lucille Demarre & Co.; Mad. Lucille Demarre, Station D; Robt. E. Bell, M. D.; John Harvey, M. D.; Prof. W. Draper, M. D.; R. Welles, M. D.; G. Humphries, M. D.; E. Worthington, M. D.; Martin Dutton, M. D.; all of 147 E. 15th street. Martin Dutton & Co., 704, 736 and 767 Broadway, and also in Nassau street; Dr. Benoni, 767 Broadway; Mary Moore; Clinton Medical and Surgical Institute; W. T. Mason & Co., 185 Fulton street; Dr. Benoni, 637 Broadway; Dr. Stephen Hamlin, 637 Broadway.

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I ought to add, that since his exposure he has advertised himself as a "cancer" doctor, and specialist for several other diseases. It seems an outrage that the sick and suffering must thus be gulled by such a fraud.

*The very latest.*—While the above chapter was in the hands of the printer, a postmaster in an eastern city sends me a vile 16 page pamphlet, addressed to "Young Men." We give the last page of this pamphlet, and call special attention to the fact that Edgar Tremaine is one of the celebrated board of managers, that Bryan in his testimony, swore he did not know where he was, and could not describe him.

He has been resurrected, however, and this time drops his title of M.D., and authorizes J. Lamb & Co. to sell his wonderful prescriptions, "all three at one time for $6.00." His circular says:

## TO MY FRIENDS.

I have now made permanent arrangements to have my prescriptions prepared by some reliable parties in this city, who will make use of the best materials, and in whom I have entire confidence. All orders, correspondence, registered letters, and express packages should therefore be addressed to

J. LAMB & CO.,

**205 EAST 14th STREET, NEW YORK,**

And all Money Orders, Checks and Drafts made payable to their order.

Those who desire a **CONSULTATION BY LETTER**, may address the same under cover to them and prompt attention will be given.

**ALL CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**, and destroyed as soon as done with.

---

At the request of Messrs. Lamb & Co., and to meet the demand of those whose means are limited, I have given them permission to put up three of my prescriptions in smaller packages, as follows:

No. 1. Half size, $3.00
No. 2. " 3.00
No. 3. " 1.00

} Or all three at one time $6.00, being sufficient to last one month, and to cure many cases.

EDGAR TREMAINE.

Puzzle: Can any reader make the letters B. R. Y. A. N. spell Lamb?

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# CHAPTER XVI.

## SEWING MACHINES AND GUNS.

### SEWING MACHINES.

The candle burns low, as the midnight hour approaches, while the housewife stitch by stitch makes apparel for her family, all the while picturing to herself what she could or would do if she but had a sewing machine.

Again, many mothers cannot find time to sew for their children. It becomes necessary to hire it done, and this, often when the father is scarcely able to supply food and clothes. Aside from the above considerations, there are many reasons why families throughout the country, desire to possess what has become almost a necessity in every household, one of those wonderful inventions of our modern civilization, a family sewing machine.

How to get one? is the query in many families, and the possession of one is a means of livelihood to many a destitute woman. It will thus be seen the field is open to the sharper, and ripe for his harvest. There are in the community rogues to take advantage of all classes, and sharpers in all trades.

Every thing of value has its counterfeit. The following concern is one from which I have collected claims for a large number of persons, whom they had defrauded out of their money, under the pretence of selling them a sewing machine.

I purpose to present a brief outline of this particular fraud as a warning to others.

They send out by mail a 16 page circular. Eight pages contain cuts of their different styles of machines. As would be expected, the circular commences "A new and *strictly first-class* machine, with the Latest and Most Valuable Improvements."

They then describe how the machine is made, and say, "every part of each machine is made by a system of gauges and inspected before the parts are put together, so that every machine must be

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up to the standard in every particular. This department is in charge of one who has had a large experience in making tools for the manufacturing of Bank Notes and Bonds, and under his system of inspection, accuracy, nearly to perfection, is attained."

If this Bank note blacksmith inspected the machines I saw in the office of this concern when I called to recover back the moneys of the victims of his circular, it must have been at midnight without a light, and while blindfolded, with his hands tied behind him, for the "nice adjustment" was remarkable for absence of perfection.

But without stopping to describe the circular further, let me quote a little from the last page, showing how they oil up these machines with printers' ink. It says:

"Great width of Arm, and large capacity for work.

Adopted to all the wants of family sewing without restriction.

Simplicity and Perfection of Mechanism.

Positive Motion, guaranteeing Certainty of Work.

More readily comprehended than any other Machine.

An easy working Treadle. No exertion needed.

Is always ready, and never out of order.

Is an easy and pleasant machine to operate, requires the least care, produces every variety of work, and will last until the next century begins.

STRONG, SIMPLE, RAPID AND EFFICIENT."

I purpose to let the victim in each case tell his own story, by a verbatim et literatim copy of his letter to me. And where he cannot do it without the aid of the firm, I shall produce their letters to the victim.

It will be some satisfaction to the reader to know that these victims each recovered their money back again.

The first one is evidently an ignorant Quaker. He says:

R. S., N. C., feb 4 1880.

Deare friend I sent to thy ofis on the 9 day of Janry 1879 one redyerated letter for Cately & Co of your Citty & your rect came to offis whear it was maild on the 19 of same & on the 31 of same I went to the depot & fond no

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mashine as thy had promest to Send if I would send the money by Redyersted letter thy would send the mashine on rect of the money & thy have faild to send the mashine I wont you to ples look after the partys & tell them to send the mashine or my money as I dont lake to be humbudyed in this way I send you their letter So you can find them by their on hand wrigh ples do this for me and ablige your friend E. P. C.

Wright me at R., N. C.

P S if thy wont send the mashine acordin to their letter nor the money put the law in force aganst them for such men aught to be fond out & made to suffer truly yours E. P. C.

It will be observed the money ($15) was sent January 9, 1879. The following letter, dated Nov. 24, 1879, was all he could secure for the same. As you will see, this letter offers to "ship the goods desired," but makes no mention whatever of the $15, which this man held their return registered letter receipt for. He was evidently a poor man far away in North Carolina, and what had they to fear? Just witness the "cheek" of this fellow. He says:

Refer to date of this in your reply.

## THE NEW "FAMILY" SHUTTLE SEWING MACHINE.

Double Thread, Lock Stitch, same on both sides.

Lowest Priced in the World.

Sewing Machine Atachments, and Materials of Every Description.

Agents for the New Patent Tuckers, Ruffiers, and Binders.

Medals, Premiums, Diplomas.

NEW YORK, Nov. 24th, 1879.

E. P. C., Esq.:

*Dear Sir*—Your favor of 21 received and contents noted. We will ship you the goods desired and allow you the privilege of examination at the freight depot before the payment of bill, providing a sufficient amount to cover the freight charges both ways is deposited with the freight agent of your place, and his receipt for the same is sent to us to ensure against all loss should circumstances prevent you paying our bill.

This precaution we are obliged to take because of our extremely low prices and it is one to which you cannot possibly object.

Awaiting your order accompanied by your freight agents receipt

We remain,

Yours Respect.

A. CATELY & Co.

L.

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A Virginian writes:

GREEN SULPHUR SPRINGS, SUMMERS COUNTY, WEST VA., Feb. 6th, 1880.

To the Post Master at 737 Broadway, N. Y.:

*Dear Sir*—I have been corresponding with a man at your office calling himself Alfred Cately, claiming to be of a company called the New and improved family Sewing Mashene Co. I contracted with him for a mashene, and sent him the money according to his price lest and directions, he made evrything fair, and even sent me the bill of shipment, dated Dec. 29. I have never received the mashen, he directed me to give him notice if the mashen was delayed damaged &c. which I have done, but have receved no answer. I think strange of the proceeding, and feel as I have been imposed upon, and that Mr. C. is not the man I took him to be. Mr. Post Master if you know Mr. Cately you would certainly do me the greatest favor if you would tell me what for character Mr. C. is, and whether he is responsible for his contracts or not. Very Respectfully Yours,

N. A. D.

---

Another North Carolinian says:

CHERRYVILLE, N. C., Febuary 14, 1880.

*Dear Sir*—Pleas inform me if you if there is any such thing as the family Sewing. I saw an advertisement in the Charlotte Observer for that machine wanting agents. they said to address Family Sewing Machine Company 755 Broadway & I did so & they sent me their self-addressed envelop to Cately & Co 737 Broadway N. Y. (to avoid mistakes they said) I accepted an agency & sent the money for one Machine in regestered letter the 14 of January the 5 of Feb. they wrote me & sent me a receipt for the amount Signed Cately & Co. and said goods would be shiped from Philadelphia Pa no goods has come yet nor no bill of shipment it seems to be a swindle any information about them will be thankfully received Cately & Co Claims that they are the Proprietors in New York & that the manufactry is in Philadelphia Pa hoping to hear from you by return mail I am yours &c.

Address W. R. P.

Gaston Co., Cherryville, N. C.

---

A Virginian has queer ideas of collecting money by threats.

LYNCHBURG, VA., Jany 7th, 1880.

MR. ANTHONY COMSTOCK, 150 Nassau street:

*D Sir*—I Enclose You a corispondence that one of my friend *got tooken in on*. The Comercial agency thinks a Mr. Cately got the *money* perhaps a threat of arrest might bring the money—act as you think and advise me.

Respectfully ROB S.

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In this case, his friend had sent $50, and a receipted bill had been sent him, and a notification that his goods had been shipped had also been forwarded. No goods were received, however. This transaction was Sept. 29, 1879. He wrote in October, that no machines had been received, when this "Bank note" blacksmith sewing machine man, acknowledges the receipt of the postal, and then under date of Oct. 29, 1879, says:

We had imagined your goods were already shipped. We will, however, write to the factory, enquire and send you advice.

Trusting that you have received goods ere this, we remain

Yours &c.

STANDARD M. CO.

They knew full well no machine had been shipped, and when I called on C. & Co., which is only another name for above, with these letters in hand, to secure the return of the money in March, 1880, the machine had not been shipped, nor the money returned.

I could present many more cases like the above, but I simply desire to present the facts so as to warn the public. There are many similar devices; so look out.

I had the pleasure of returning the money to each of the above parties.

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### ANOTHER DODGE.

While writing upon this class of frauds who operate on the basis of respectable articles of trade and commerce, I desire to state a few facts concerning a scheme to deceive the public on the basis of

### GUNS AND REVOLVERS.

The reputable gun trade has suffered much by persons taking inferior, cheap, and often worthless guns, and describing them by flaming circulars and advertisements, in most glowing terms, as "A 1," and "highest grade" or "first quality in every respect" goods; and then on these representations getting more than the regular trade price for these inferior goods, and shipping the

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same as being the best goods. This practice has assumed large dimensions, and to-day certain parties east and west scour the markets for second and third quality goods, anything they can buy cheap, and then run them off after the above form. It is a two-edged fraud. It defrauds the buyer and is an outrage on respectable dealers. Suppose a man comes into one of these reputable establishments to buy a gun. He has read the advertisement of the fraud, and his mind is full of purchasing a "$200 gun for $50," etc.

The merchant shows him a regular $200 gun and names the trade price. O pshaw! he says, I can go to —— (Defraud & Skinem's) and buy one of that very kind and make, (for these advertisers do not scruple to use the name of noted manufacturers in Europe in their printed circulars) for fifty dollars. He will produce the circular, and show the name of the maker and the "A 1," best gun described at the very low figure named. It is useless for the merchant to say it is a fraud as the buyer right away says, O yes, I understand! this is a rival concern. Of course you will run him down. A man who knows anything about a gun discovers his mistake after going over to Defraud & Skinem's place; while one who has more money than brains purchases the cheap gun, at a high price for it, and goes off chuckling over how sharp he was, not to let the Honest Dealer fool him. We have already voted that "The fools are not all dead yet," and so we pass on for a living example of what paper and ink can do with a cheap second quality gun.

I purpose to be somewhat like the chap who went out gunning, and climbed a tree, resting his gun on a limb near a squirrel in order to shoot him, and when asked for his reasons for such a strange proceeding, replied, he "did not propose to strain his gun by a long shot." So I purpose, instead of going over the whole circular, which I have from a Boston firm, notorious for this contemptible practice, to give a photo-lithograph of a part of a page of a 26 page pamphlet, which will fully illustrate all I desire here to present. [See page 268.]

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# THE AMERICAN SPORTSMAN'S FAVORITE—THE "EMPRESS" EXTRA, NO. 5.

## A $200 SHOT GUN FOR $50.

### Price of this Popular Gun again Reduced.

HAVING EVERY KNOWN IMPROVEMENT AND ADDITION TO THE FIRST-CLASS MODERN SHOT GUN.



**LAR PRICE OF $50,** and it is the biggest bargain ever

THE EMPRESS EXTRA, No. 5, is probably the most popular high-grade Gun ever offered in the United States, and we have always sold more than we could import; every one *invariably* selling another, and owing to the large orders we have given, we have been able to reduce the price every season, from $130 in 1878 to our last season's price, only $58, at which price we sold more than one manufacturer could supply. We have been trying for the past year to get the price *still further* reduced, and **we now take pleasure in offering our justly celebrated Empress, Extra, No. 5 at the POPU-** known in the country. This is the highest grade of a first quality Bonehill or Tolley Gun. We first imported this style in the Spring of '78, at a cost of $110 to us, and sold the entire importation at $130 inside a week. We ordered largely in the Summer of 1878, and obtained such a reduction as to enable us to offer this Gun during the Fall, at $85 apiece, and at that price it was considered by both sportsmen and the trade as the BIGGEST BARGAIN ever seen in this country. In placing our Spring order 1879 we were enabled, owing to the largeness of the order and the unprecedented hard times in England, to procure this Gun at a figure *far* below our expectations, and we were enabled to quote the then extremely low figure of **$65,** at which price we sold, on an average, **9 Guns a day** during the three Spring months. Our Fall order for this Gun exceeded **three-fold all our former orders combined,** showing that we have the utmost confidence in our **Empress Extra, No. 5,** and from letters already received WE KNOW that nearly every one we sold this Spring will bring us future orders this Fall. We have secured a *still lower* figure from the manufacturer, and in accordance with our invariable custom we shall give our customers the benefit of the ENTIRE REDUCTION. We guarantee it the match in every respect of any $200 Gun in the country. It is made after American models, and especially adapted and intended for American shooting, and it is the only *bolted extension rib Gun in America for less than* **$150.** The Empress Extra, No. 5, is a first-class, A No. 1 Gun in every *imaginable particular*, and has finest selected English walnut stock, finest **possible** checking and engraving, and embodies the results of finest workmanship throughout. It has best quality **Damascus steel barrels,** patent cam direct bolt top-snap, **rebounding bar locks, pistol grip** (*with hard rubber Pistol-butt plate*), **patent fore-end, steel-tipped checkered butt-plate, double bolt** and **BOLTED EXTENSION RIB, solid steel** through lump, **treble wedge.** It has **block strikers** (or plungers) no plunger springs to break, and also a handsome percussion scroll fence. The picture hardly does justice to this superb Gun. It is more elegant in design and finish, and the picture simply gives an idea of the block strikers and the bolted extension rib. There is not a $300 Gun in this country that has any more improvements than our Empress Extra, No. 5, or is handsomer, or better made, and the person who owns this Gun is on a par, *in every respect*, with any sportsman in the universe. Mr. GEO. W. SMITH, Carson City, Nevada, says of one of these Guns, which he bought at a much higher figure: "***** *The Gun came to hand all right* I AM PERFECTLY SATISFIED *with it. I have bought many Guns lately, but yours is the only one that has* COME FULLY UP TO REPRESENTATION. *They came along in good time and good order, &c., &c.*

These Guns will be furnished in 30 and 32 inch barrels, weights, 12 bore, 7¾ to 9 pounds; 10 bore, 8¾ to 10 pounds. PRICE, either 12 or 10 bore, as ordered, **only FIFTY DOLLARS.** On receipt of **cash with order,** *we will give* **free** *with this Gun an* **extra fine Victoria Gun-case** and a full set of **fine Reloading Tools.** We will **not** give them free when the Gun is sent C. O. D. N. B.—The price of this Gun was reduced by telegraph, from our London Agent; up to the last moment before going to press we expected to be obliged to sell this Gun at last year's price, ($58).



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The victim in this case, if you please to call him so, is the writer. I sent, for the purpose of investigation, $50 for this "$200 gun," and I received a gun marked "Henry Tolly," but not the well-known gun maker of London, who is known as the manufacturer of the J. & W. Tolley guns.

I took this gun to an importer and large dealer in guns, and he appraised it as selling in the trade at about $35, and says, it is the lowest grade that has all the improvements, but that in his opinion it is a low grade Bonehill gun, marked Henry Tolly, and that he never heard of any gun manufacturer by this name. Now this does not matter so much to me, as I do not have time to hunt, although very fond of it. I shall therefore keep this gun as an exhibit, in evidence of this fraud, and put it in a safe place, for home defence. In the meantime, I vouch for the unreliability of the above circular, for this gun is not in any way "the highest grade of a first quality Bonehill or Tolley gun." The gun expert to whom I showed it says it is not "Damascus steel barrels," but iron. It is "not the match in every respect of any $200 gun in the country," and is not as described in the above circular. Instead of its being a $200 shot gun for $50, it is rather a $35 gun for $50.

Some may say, O well, this is only fleecing sports. Not so fast. Even sporting men, and those who find pleasure in hunting in the woods and on the lakes for recreation, have rights that even the fraud should respect. The fraud in all these cases is like a hungry shark, all flesh is fish to his maw, and no matter how gross the lie, only so the fraud has means to cut a big splurge in society, as does the above in Boston.

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## CHAPTER XVII.

### THE WONDERFUL CALVIN AND HIS DIVINING ROD.

The belief in the potency of the divining rod is as old as human credulity; its history has formed a subject of the curious research of antiquarians and students of social development. During the Middle Ages,* when this "rabdomancy," or divination with the rod, rose to its height, the willow wand was employed to discover hid treasure and to detect theft, and even murder.

In many sections of our own country, to-day, the willow wand is used to find water beneath the ground, and it is no unusual thing for the credulous Western "prospector" to employ the same medium in his gold seeking.

While the magic rod is properly a thing of the Middle Ages, sufficient superstition concerning it lingers to make it a very profitable instrument for the tricks of the sharper, who is generally successful with the rod to the extent, at least, of finding treasure in the pocket of his victim.

One afternoon, not many months ago, there came into my office a forlorn and consumptive looking individual, who announced himself as hailing from New England, and now in search of the great "Calvin;" also of $213, which had been forwarded to that gentleman.

This Calvin was a nineteenth century scamp practicing the roguery which has been the stock-in-trade of his craft for thousands of years. Following our custom, we shall let his story be told by the letters and circulars in the case, as they were furnished to us by our New England friend.

Calvin had introduced himself and his "profession" by the following circular:

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* The interested reader is referred to a chapter on the subject in Baring-Gould's "Myths of the Middle Ages."

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# CALVIN,

THE WELL KNOWN

# ASTROLOGER AND CLAIRVOYANT.




## Thirty-One Years Practice

### READING HUMAN EVENTS.

**Seventh son of a seventh daughter. Has the gift of foresight. Reveals from the cradle to the grave. *Past, Present, and Future.* Gives advice on Business, Money Matters, Love, Courtship, Marriage, Sickness, Lawsuits, Traveling. Will interpret dreams; bring together those long separated; cause speedy marriages, etc., etc.**

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### WHAT IS ASTROLOGY?

The Study of the Stars. Reading your life history from the position and aspects of the planets at the time of your birth; from that position will be given an ample statement of the disposition and qualities, good or bad; with counsel how to modify evil traits of character; with a statement of the disease each one is by nature predisposed to; with advice how to avoid such results. Full particulars about money matters will be given, and by what means wealth will be gained. How to prevent losses by being forewarned and using caution.

### YOUR FUTURE DESTINY CAN BE CLEARLY REVEALED

with as much certainty as the solving of the mathematical problem. It can also foretell with perfect certainty the result of all commercial and business transactions and speculations.

### WHAT IS BEFORE ME?

Is the question which, at least in regard to the temporal affairs of life, every person asks themself. Whether to be successful or not to be, in a vocation, profession or business; whether to occupy a high or a low position, socially and financially, is the query which every person makes to themself. It has been said that "every man makes *his own* castle—builds himself." But is it invariably so? Is it not the fact, on the contrary, that a large portion of the human race really find it *impossible to succeed*, no matter how desirous for success, or how energetic and untiring they may be in their efforts, or how sound, apparently, may be their judgment?

Men, after years of unrequited toil, or unforseen reverses, after wearing away the best years of their life in a fruitless struggle for wealth, after trying every means for gain and advancement which may have offered seeming inducements to them, find themselves in the evening of life with wasted energies and in poverty. Why? Simply because they, in their self-reliance, neglected to avail themselves of the advice and instruction which may be had.

In LOVE, COURTSHIP, and MARRIAGE, Calvin will prove very ample in his judgment, whether happy or contrary, and date of marriage will be given, with full description of the husband or wife, as the case may be, their disposition, etc. If rich or poor. If to marry more than once. If it would be wise for any two to marry. If they are by nature suited. Of children, the number, sex, etc., and whether they will live or die.

All parents should have the nativities of their children written, for they will then see what they are by nature suited for, and have a guide to direct them.

### OF DISEASE.

It is known to all who have studied stellar influences, that the numerous diseases afflicting mankind can be cured by observing the different significators in a *nativity;* the nature of the disorders to which the constitution is

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predisposed may be ascertained; and this fact once known, the cure is half effected.

It is evident, upon a little reflection, that a knowledge of these times (dates of good and evil) must be of very great advantage to all who are wise enough to have their nativity written. Accidents may be prevented, often illness and even death, by being forewarned by a competent professor; if evil threatens, we can be prepared to ward it off; on the other hand, if good fortune awaits us, we can be prepared to take the fullest advantage of it.

A person can select a fortunate day for any important matter, such as marriage, beginning business, removals, journeys, signing papers of importance, &c., &c. How often you will hear the remark passed, "Everything seems to go wrong to-day!" This is when bad aspects are in force, known only to the astrologer. According to the position of the planets at birth each one is adapted to a certain sphere of action—out of that a person will not prosper.

Calvin is the only astrologer in this country who thoroughly understands the legitimate study of the science, and the sublime mysteries and secrets of Egyptian philosophers, and who accomplishes the most wonderful phenomena and results which have never before been attempted nor attained by any other astrologer in America.

TESTIMONIALS.

TORONTO, Canada.—Chas. Clifford, writing Feb. 20, 1871, says: No language which I am capable of using can express the unbounded satisfaction I have received from a horoscope made out by Calvin: not an incident of my life has escaped him. I merely enclosed to him my place of birth, date, and hour of the day, and sex, with his fee. His prompt reply delineated every joy and sorrow of my past life exactly as I knew it to have been; at the same time pointed out the events of each coming year until death. He also suggested the best latitude to locate, and gave me advice by which I could have the fullest benefit of the accident of life. I have often marked out a different course, but have been invariably compelled to realize exactly what he has predicted; therefore, not a single proof is lacking to establish in my mind the certainty of *astral* influence over this life upon earth.

We were always skeptics to the science of astrology until the following facts came to our notice. A lady of our acquaintance was advised by Calvin not to take passage upon a steamer for Europe, as it would be lost. She followed his advice. The steamer was lost.—*New York Daily Standard*, *March*, 1872.

A young lady of this city had been deceived by her lover. He refused to marry her, and suddenly disappeared. She wrote to Calvin. She is now married and happy, by following his advice. We also knew a married lady who had a cruel, dissipated husband, who took no interest in his wife or family. In despair she wrote to Calvin. She pursued the course he advised. The husband became a sober, industrious man, and affectionate partner.

Another single young man had been trifled with and promised a young lady's hand and heart, but was put off and flirted with for over two years



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and almost gave her up. In his distress he wrote to Calvin, followed his advice, and is now happily married to the lady, and finds her a most devoted wife.—*Brooklyn Sunday Times.*

It was Calvin that told where stolen bonds and money could be found, from which information the detectives discovered them, and also traced the robbers, who were arrested and convicted.

And so on for three more pages, proffering, among other things, advice upon the following subjects:

Will it be better to change; what is the condition of an absent person—dead or alive; if alive, will they return; if dead, manner of death; what place would be the most prosperous to locate in; would a voyage be safe and prudent; will a ticket in a lottery be a blank or a prize; of lucky numbers; shall I obtain money due me; will I be left property; if well to make a purchase—will it be a bargain; will I make money by a trade; if will gain the love desired; if will marry the present lover; has he or she another lover; if will gain wealth by marriage; if will agree after marriage; will the absconded wife or husband return; judgment upon things lost or stolen; upon disease—nature of disease; if can be cured; length of life; manner of death; will I get over present troubles; can I prevent trouble in future; will I gain or lose in law; have I any private enemies; shall I prosper in my business; shall I obtain the situation desired; will I be restored to a lost situation; is the person worthy of my confidence; if well to enter co-partnership; if debts will be paid; of the success of an undertaking; and many other subjects too numerous to mention.

HISTORY OF ASTROLOGY.

In Adam the knowledge of Astrology appears to have existed by inspiration, and to him his posterity were indebted for the foreshadowing of those events by its aid which would otherwise have been locked up; nor can we doubt that they were instructed by him in its mysteries.

Abraham, the father of the Jewish nation, having acquired the science among the Chaldeans, when sent by the command of Jehovah into Canaan, and subsequently into Egypt, instructed the Egyptians in its elements, among whom it was regarded with popular veneration and cherished with care for many centuries.

Among the more abstruse sciences, for a knowledge of which the Oriental nations were remarkable, no science was cultivated with greater care—we might add, intense solicitude—than the science of Astrology. The destinies of men and of nations have alike been determined in those countries by the planetary aspects and positions. If, under the iron hand of despotism, the science of Astrology has been diverted from its just and legitimate object, the error furnishes no argument against its truth.

Astrology is truly an inductive science, founded on an assemblage of facts, collected together by men of learning and science in all nations and in every age, from the first dawnings of Jewish history to the present day; deduced as

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a problem in mathematics, according to a certain chain of causes, which, from the ages since the flood, have been found invariably to produce a correspondent train of consequences. When the sun is obscured and the darkened clouds gather in the heavens, we predict that descending showers are near at hand. Upon what data is our prediction founded? Upon the time-established fact, that such appearances are always accompanied by such effects.

A corresponding train of reasoning establishes the truth of Astrology.

A CHART OF DESTINY

of general events, PAST, PRESENT and FUTURE. Of coming events near at hand, marriage, affairs of the heart, business, trouble, luck, etc., etc. Written and sent by mail for $3.00.

SPECIAL NATIVITY

on important business, or other matters, written for $5.00.

State the *sex*, time of birth, hour of day, if possible. If not, state age and place of birth, color of eyes, and send small lock of hair.

The utmost secrecy is observed in all cases, so that parties may correspond with the fullest confidence. ☞ Address W. CALVIN.

Calvin, for $3, furnished a "Chart of Destiny," and for $5 a Chart on important business, or other matters. He required from each applicant for his clairvoyant advice and counsel a statement of their "sex, time of birth, giving hour of day, if possible; if not, time and place, color of eyes;" and further called for "a small lock of hair." The address was "W. Calvin, P. O. Box 5027, New York City." We do not hesitate to give this rascal the benefit of this free advertising, for he has long since been "closed up," so far as his address is concerned.

We may add that the name of this particular class of frauds is Legion, and that their advertisements are every now and then appearing in country papers.

Well, our New England consumptive friend had been inveigled into trusting to this fellow $100, sent on for Calvin with his supernatural sagacity to speculate with, the thought appearing to have been that the great astrologer would so foresee the fluctuations of the market as to insure from the $100 a speedy and magnificent fortune. It will be observed, however, that Calvin loses his powers of vision exactly in proportion to the amount of cash placed in his hands for investment.

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This $100, Calvin wrote, was deposited in an old, safe banking house, to draw 8 per cent. interest until invested in stocks; then he says that he has a trusted friend, a clerk in one of the largest brokers' offices in Wall street, who is to keep him posted, and is to specially post him at noon each day. The astrologer adds:

With his and my daily observation will keep a sharp look. He tells me there is no chance this week. I could invest any day by taking a great risk of making a large stake, or losing all.

Then he goes on to say, that out of deference to the wishes of his correspondent, he shall not invest until he is sure of a great victory. He becomes exceedingly solicitous for the interest of his new friend: He can find "no sure thing; but, if his correspondent says go ahead, he will do so with the very best house in Wall Street." He then promises that positively next week there will be something very grand, as he is going over to spend Sunday with his friend, and intends to talk all day with him upon this subject. After giving his victim a long letter upon the risks of Wall Street, he advises him to try nothing at the present time, but assures him that he is perfectly right in his view and about lots of money being made there.

In about a week after this first letter he writes another one:

FRIEND B.:

Wall Street is in an uproar. I was about trying a call on Rock Island last Monday at noon, when my friend told me Dan'l Drew had failed and I had better hold on. * * * I am trying my best, with the assistance of my friend, to watch for sure things, which you must know are not as plenty as risks. Trusting a chance will be open next week, I remain, yours in confidence,

W. CALVIN.

The next week he commenced his letter:

*Dear Sir*—I have invested in Wabash at call in twelve days in such a way that, if I don't make anything, will not lose. Wall Street has partly recovered from the last week shock, but my friend says keep quiet.

In reply to this letter the victim wanted him to borrow some more money and invest on his account, if stocks were to go up. This learned seer and astrologer writes back:

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Now as to borrowing in New York City, I state, without good security it is impossible, entirely out of the question. You must know that no person, much less a broker, will lend money without security in real estate or some merchandise goods.

In this letter comes in the divining rod scheme. Calvin has learned from a gentleman that the next Cunard steamship from London will bring a divining or money rod. He says:

It has been used in the Australia gold fields, and was the only one to be had in London. It is a foot and a half long, composed of gold and silver of elegant engraved workmanship, and contains quicksilver, etc., mercury and composition for discovering buried gold and silver or treasure. He values it at $800; they have been sold for $1,000; but as he wants money bad at present, he will sell it if taken in two weeks at $300, and not a cent less.

Our New England friend, Mr. B., had written Calvin that he must raise a certain amount of money by a given time, as he had some notes coming due that he must meet.

Calvin in this same letter says:

Now as you want to raise the amount so soon, and cannot depend on stocks in time, and as I am just as anxious to make money, and have faith in this rod, if you will agree and say pay $200 towards it, I will raise the other hundred and by th rod as soon as it arives and send it immediatly to you by Express. Answer as soon as possible as we may lose the chance. If you decide to do so I will of course call the $200 of the broker and get the other hundred. Yours, W. CALVIN.

"Dear B." replies at once, asking if the astrologer had given up the stock business. He also advises Calvin that he must have the money by the 20th of that month, and that he must get it out of the stocks and return it to him. This letter evidently made Calvin feel that his man was getting a little anxious. Now in all these schemes, in order to make them successful, the fraud must keep his victims in good humor, and not let them become impatient.

Calvin writes back the next day that he has not given up the stock business, but he only made the suggestion about the rod as he supposed B. wanted the money by a certain date, which now looked almost impossible.

That is why I proposed about the divining Rod. You must by some way get

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an extension and get it as long as you possibly can. You have a curious ideas of stock one can often make more than $700 in a few days, but this is by chance. No man can do it at a given or set time.

After explaining the difficulties of operating within any set time in Wall Street, he tells him again, in this same letter, that three things are open for him to do:

Either, you must get an extension, or get the divining rod at once, or take the risk in stocks. I may get a little money to secure the rod; that is, so he will not sell it to another, but I could no way raise the $300. You say, get it and send to you. You must have a strange impression of New York people. Why they would not trust you or me with three cents.

This last expression is undoubtedly so near the truth as to have surprised Calvin if he had realized it. I have no doubt that he unconsciously and unwittingly told the truth when he said, "No one in New York would trust him with three cents." He then goes on to say:

I have no man to go $300, only $100. I would have to borrow that of a poor sister that has no more. I never have more than $10 to $15 at once myself. Merely live from hand to mouth.

This letter he signs, "Yours in confidence."

B. writes back directing him to collect the first $100 and return to him.

Calvin at once replies that he has called the first hundred dollars, which has made twelve per cent. profit, but this, he says, was invested on a sure thing with no risk. But, that if he had taken a little risk, he might have made $500. He then says that he was going to send the $12 to B., only that he did not understand his last letter. B., in this last letter, wanted to know about his being a professional astrologer, and if that business did not help him; saying he supposed of course he possessed peculiar advantages on that account, for investing money. Calvin writes:

But you must remember I have some of the sharpest men, that ever lived, in Wall Street to deal with. Some the very Satan themselves, and it would need all the power of mortal man to compete with them.

He then comes back to his favorite theme, and says:

I have borrowed all the money I could get $20, as times are very dull here,

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and paid it on the Divining Rod. It will be here to-morrow, Saturday. He will keep it for us until the first of May, but I fear no longer, but the money will be returned if he sells it to another. He says others are after it.

It also appears from this letter that our consumptive friend had been investing in the Industrial Exposition Company's bonds and also with Pendleton & Co., and had lost money by each.

Calvin also finds it necessary to professionally discipline him, and tells him:

You are governed by a power of not following good advice at all times, and taking others you should not. You have not done as I have told you in everything, there are others who have influence over you. The Centennial year is not altogether favorable to you, if you once get through this year, all will be different. You do not have the strong faith you should have, to make the charm work. It would be better for you in another locality further East, say in Maine.

It was evidently growing uncomfortably warm for Calvin. The old excuses that he had made from time to time did not seem to satisfy his customer; he therefore recommends a change of air and scene, and a more remote distance from New York City for his customer. In the next letter that B. writes, he demands $100 by the following Thursday.

Calvin writes back that he supposed he had arranged for an extension, and that everything was fixed, and tells him that he cannot raise the $100 except by losing a large amount. But a happy thought comes to Calvin:

The Dividing Rod is here, arrived last Monday.

It is a fine piece of work. He wished to know for certain if I would take it by the 1st, as there was a sure sale for it, and he could get $500 at Philadelphia to use at the Centennial. I told him I was certain, and thought I could pay him some more money to-morrow, or Monday. I feel now sure, if I had not paid the $32 on it, he would have backed out.

It seems from B.'s letter to Calvin, that he had a debtor who was pressing him for a claim; and that was why he must positively have some of his money back by a given date.

Calvin sympathizes with B. and tells him

I really feel sorry for your situation. I have tried the best I can. As I told you before, New York has some of the sharpest men in the world. I have been

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in London and all parts of the old country, and have seen much of men, but I tell you, with all my experience, and knowledge of human nature, this New York, particularly Wall Street, beats them all. Why if you closed your eyes for a moment, some one is ready to take advantage of you. A person with money, they appear to smell it, and all go for you like sharks; but I have got along pretty safe so far and expect to get through yet. I place dependence upon the Divining Rod. It looks valuable and wonderful.

Mr. B. writes back an urgent letter for his money, which draws forth a very prompt reply from the Astrologer. He commences:

DEAR SIR: The worst week yet in New York, no one will talk business, all are wondering what are to become of things. Wall Street in the same boat. Men who have been dealing there for twenty-five years, say they never seen anything like it, so awful dull.

Then Calvin is forced into a position, that he would have B. feel is exceedingly unpleasant to him, and yet he is compelled to take it. He says:

I shall have to take some of the money by next week Monday to pay on the Rod, as the man is getting uneasy, he don't seem to have much faith that you will take it, and is anxious to go on to Philadelphia. I will try my best to get $40 or $50 by Monday. If not will have to take some to keep him quiet for a few days. It is now getting most time to look for a buried treasure, as they will soon begin to dig or plow up the ground, and some one else might discover it. I think if I was to offer $250 right down next Monday, that I could get the Rod; but am sure not after that.

Sincerely hoping for some thing to change next week,

I remain yours,

W. CALVIN.

The next week he writes to B. telling him that he has closed one of the contracts; but would lose if he closed the other before to-morrow. That he has paid $50 more on the Rod, and thinks he will be able to forward it Friday by express.

The next day he sent a postal card informing B. "that it would not be ready to-day for express, expects to to-morrow, Saturday, making all the haste possible." It then runs along four or five days, and the rod is not shipped.

B. is getting exceedingly nervous, so he sends a postal, and Calvin answers informing him "that the Rod will positively be sent within two days."

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On the date mentioned the great load of responsibility is rolled off the shoulders of the astrologer; the Rod is secured; he "did not sell it to the Philadelphia party; but it was packed in a wooden box, and shipped by Adams Express." This letter contains cautions about giving this Rod tender care, as it was easy to get out of order.

Calvin having wound up these affairs, and thinking that he now has the $213 secured, thus writes,

I do sincerely hope and trust you will have better luck with it than we have—in stock business. If there is any gold or buried treasure, you can certainly find it, with this Rod.

He then informs him, that stock business never was so dead as during the past six months, that very few people were dealing in them, and that there would be no chance until after the Presidential election, for any profitable business in stocks. He therefore gives B. advice, and as he is an astrologer and foretells future events, it is fair to suppose, that he knew what he was talking about.

The astrologer writes:

Now you must stick to the Rod, don't make a confident of any living soul at Marion. Go moonlight nights, and early every morning, before any one is up and around. You must try different localities, burying grounds, and also particularly near the salt water. Persevere, don't give up too easy, as you do with some things. If at any time you wish to sell the Rod, I have the address of two parties, one in Pennsylvania and one in Ohio, who will buy it; *but don't give it up.* I have spent considerable time, and wish to make something, as well as you. Our only hope at present is the Rod. *You must not let one person see or handle it if possible. If any one by accident, should see it, you should not tell them what it is for, make up a story of some kind.* If any part gets broke or gets out of order, it should be attended to at once. There are four rings fastened to it. Do not know what they are for; but they come with it, and is best to let them stay on. Hope to hear of the safe arrival of it, and best of luck. I remain your friend,

W. CALVIN.

The directions are as follows:

DIRECTIONS FOR USING THE ROD.

Must use it with great care, keep the quicksilver ball at bottom of Rod, always covered, except when testing. The ground should be soft; if not,

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make a hole with a stick, about the size of the Rod about a foot deep, then put the Rod down about half, holding your thumb over the open cut near the top of Rod when testing. Allow it to remain in the ground from ten to twenty minutes; then pull it up, removing the thumb from the open cut near top.

If there is gold, silver, or any metal, within three feet, the ball at bottom of Rod will be nearly, if not covered by small sand or earth. Also a red marker will show in the glass indicator in the open cut, near the top.

If the gold, silver, &c., is considerably deep, not over twelve feet, there only will be a few particles on the bottom of the ball. If to one side, the same will show the side or direction, then you must test in that direction. If none sticks to the ball, then there is no gold, silver, or metals buried, and you must try the going about in another place.

Where the ground is very soft, merely rest the ball of the Rod, on top of the ground. In marshy, swamp, or water not over the top of the Rod. You can test by having a narrow rubber bag over the Rod. If treasure is beneath, it will affect the quicksilver through the water, and will show by the indicator at the top of the Rod. The ball at bottom of Rod is glass and contains quicksilver, and other compositions. Must be careful not to break it, as would be difficult to repair.

In seeking, or testing for buried treasures, you may discover some soon, or may occupy considerable time to do so. You must prepare not to be too easily discouraged. If this was the case might as well not look. You must stick to it, and if you make a strike, keep it entirely to yourself. If there is any gold, silver, or metals buried, with this rod you must surely find it. It may be done immediately, it may take months, but will be sure in end.

The rings on the Rod; I don't know much about, only that they was on it, and the string that holds them on it sealed, so they must be meant to remain there.

Clean the whole Rod after testing. Keep it in a dry place, when not using.

Yours,

W. CALVIN.

This rod, which is now in my possession, is evidently made out of a round brass or gilt stair rod, about eighteen inches long, with a little bulb at one end, and a little open cut, about an inch and a half long on one side, and about three inches from the upper end. Inside of the rod, there is a glass tube fitted under this opening, and the contrivance resembles somewhat the tube and opening in a carpenter's level. On the other end is another little bulb fastened in, sealing the end of the rod. Upon this are fastened four brass rings, such as are usually sold in country stores, for about 25 cents apiece.

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The poor consumptive was as badly chagrined on the receipt of this rod, as is the party who gets a box of sawdust in return for his money. Nevertheless, he tries this rod, but without success. His correspondence, however, does not disclose whether he went by moonlight, or of a very early morning. He also omits to say whether he went in the "swamp, or the sea shore," or in a "graveyard, or among the rocks of Massachusetts." Suffice it to say that the rod did not work.

He consulted the astrologer again. He must have been very expeditious about it, inasmuch as the reply we quote was written within six days after the rod was shipped. The astrologer evidently saw something in the future. His correspondent was anxious to come to New York and consult him personally. That would never do, for the astrologer; he could readily foresee that his fat would be thrown into the fire. Therefore he writes:

The man I bought it of, is very willing to go down, and work it, most too willing. I dont like the idea of letting another into the secret, would rather come down myself, if I could stand the journey. I am very sickly, and cant stand much traveling. Have had one Paralytic stroke and two more would finish. I am consulting the Doctor about it. Business is very poor with me, cannot advertise any more in the weekly paper, and things have run down very bad with me.

The astrologer then mourns his condition. He tells B. that he is very poor; very few friends in the great "hard harted city."

With all his poverty and bodily infirmities, the astrologer has suffered another very severe blow, that has caused him much anxiety. The cause of all this additional trouble he explains in the same letter:

The man that owned that Rod once by accident saw one of your letters, I carelessly left on his table some three weeks ago, but whether he saw your address or not, I am not sure. I remember he asked me if that letter was from the person that wanted the Rod. I told him no. Now he may come down to your place without me knowing it. If he should, should he beat to have nothing to do with him. He offers to work the Rod, and go shares, but he knowing it so much better than us might take advantage.

He then discourses upon his feeble condition, but expresses his ready willingness to come if he is able; but he fears—

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Being out at night, or before the Sun is up, might not work with me. Will see my Doctor, in the mean time.

After this letter, the next that poor B. learns of the astrologer is told in a letter, written evidently in the same handwriting as all the others, giving the sad intelligence that

The Astrologer has finally succumbed to an attack of Pneumonia, and is at the present time at St. John's Hospital not expected to recover.

The writer concluding:

I am a friend of his, but know nothing of his business. If he gets well, he will go to his former home, Pulaski, Ky. Yours truly,

IZA G. BAKER.

The next tidings, however, that B. gets, comes in the shape of a postal card about three months after it, informing him that the astrologer had left the "hard harted city," and had gone no one knew where, but—probably up Salt Lake, or some other place not far from New York City.

B. discovers at last that he has been outrageously swindled out of his money, and then writes to Baker, demanding a settlement.

Baker, alias the astrologer, informs him, that Calvin is a bankrupt, that his business is closed up, that his debts amount to over $300 to different parties, besides $400 of borrowed money; that he, Baker, has been made the Assignee, and is trying very hard to get something out of the business, but sees very poor prospects. That Calvin is somewhere out West, but where he knows not. This was in August.

The following October, B., being determined to discover something, again makes a demand upon Mr. Baker (alias the Astrologer) for return of his money. He is then informed:

That Mr. Calvin is traveling in Illinois lecturing on Spiritualism and Test Mediums. I forwarded your last letter, and he wrote me he would answer early in October. I will write to-day and see that he does so at once. You may expect a letter, from some part of the West, from him in a week or ten days.

About a week after this letter, the last communication from the great Astrologer was received.

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His genius has departed in his weak and feeble state. He had traversed the State of Ohio, to find the man who would buy the mining Rod, but he failed to find any trace of him either dead or alive, although some of his cousins informed him that they thought he was in Canada. He also appealed to the person at Philadelphia, but received no answer. He then is forced to admit:

Everything works against me this year 1876. I would willingly do any thing I could for you, as God is my Judge, but the evil spirits have the best of me at present; but still I don't give up hope some day of mastering him, and be what I once was. If I had means I would come and see you, and try and remedy the past. I must keep away from New York, as my creditors would seize body and soul, if they could.

* * * * * * * * *

I hope and pray, that some future time, I may be able to resume the old relation with you, of confidence, honor and trust.

* * * * * * * * *

What ever has come over me? At times I fail to see the future prospects that even the most common placed person could do. But this must change for the worse, or better. I cannot go on in this manner, as death will end it. Even my memory fails me, as I cannot at this time recall what I told you.

Perspiration must have poured from the brow of the great Astrologer, as he further continued in the agonizing strains following:

Great God that it would come to this—a mind that has been complimented during the past as mine has been, by some of the best people of America! But so it seems. Friend B., it is useless for me to promise, but my intentions are, to do you justice if in my power. I am powerless now. All I can say. Yours truly,

W. CALVIN.

The prime object of Calvin's circular was—evidently to get the $3 or $5 which he charged for his chart, or for his advice upon business matters, and then when he should be consulted upon the investments of money by some poor ignorant countryman who had more money than wits, he would by such representations as he made in the letters in the above case, prevail upon the victim to send his money to him for investment. It is presumed that this wrecked Astrologer, this great mind, this towering

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intellect is still wandering over the Western Prairie, or else that he has changed his name, and is still operating upon the credulous ones.

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As a sequel to the above, we append the following, which has come to our notice since writing the above. This letter was sent to a young lady, who, despite the endearing style of the familiar address "Dear Friend," did not invest in his wares. Accompanying this were several gaudy circulars, setting forth the merits of "The Wizard's Wonderful Cabinet," price 50c., and "The Great Book of the Age," price likewise 50c.

We should say that Calvin had recovered, with a vengeance!

DEAR FRIEND—The brightest link of your life, hope, happiness, ambition, present and future prosperity has been marred and nearly broken not by fate alone but by your want of astrol knowledge, you have been vainly pursuing a fleeting bubble off the beaten track. It is for me to reveal the realities of your whole destiny. How to gain the greatest wish of your life—To succeed—To triumph over your enemies. To obtain that which most rightfully belongs to you, money or property. To prevent disappointments—To avoid loss and difficulty—To find lost or stolen things, to reveal coming events, concerning yourself, of love or marriage, trouble, sickness, &c. &c. Your *Chart of Destiny* written for 50 cents. Special Nativity $1.

Yours Truly

W. CALVIN.

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## CHAPTER XVIII.

### THE CLINTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL INSTITUTE.

On the 22d of July, 1873, there was filed in the County Clerk's office, New York City, what purported to be an Act of Incorporation of the "Clinton Medical and Surgical Institute."

Any person who will take the trouble to examine the original copy on file, will find the names in the body of the Act, and as signed by each individual to be, save in one or two instances, in the same handwriting as that of James Bryan, and the signatures, aside from H. M. Bryan (supposed to be his wife), are his *aliases*. Indeed, notwithstanding that Bryan was examined under oath, as to his knowledge of the existence of his associates, and fellow directors, yet with his help, we have been unable, up to the present time, to find a single one of these celebrated M.Ds.

And the Notary, who thus certifies to the execution of this instrument before him, by these parties "known to him," was not able a short time after they were supposed to have been in his presence, to describe or identify a single individual.

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION OF THE CLINTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL INSTITUTE.

**To all to whom these presents shall come or may concern.**

**Be it known, that we the undersigned Robt. E. Bell, M.D., W. Draper, M.D., John Harvey, M.D., Martin Dutton, H. M. Bryan, Edgar Tremaine, M.D., J. Bryan, M.D., E. Woods, M.D., E. H. Worthington, M.D., B. Welles, M.D., E. Welles, M.D., and G. Humphries, M.D., have this day associated ourselves together and have formed an association or society in pursuance of the provisions of an Act of the Legislature of the State of New York passed April 12, 1848, entitled An Act for the Incorporation of Benevolent, Charitable, Scientific, and Missionary Societies, and the Acts amending the same and applicable thereto and for that purpose, have made, signed, and acknowledged this certificate in duplicate as follows:**

*First.* **The name or title by which this society shall be known in law is, "The Clinton Medical and Surgical Institute."**

*Second.* **The particular business and object of such society is the scientific and medical treatment of the poor and needy for all chronic diseases by able and skilled physicians, upon the plan pursued in institutions of a similar**

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character in Europe and the advancement of the study and treatment of such diseases.

*Third.* The number of the trustees to manage the affairs of the said society shall be twelve, and the names of the persons who shall be such trustees during the first year of its existence are Robt. E. Bell, M.D., W. Draper, M.D., John Harvey, M.D., Martin Dutton, H. M. Bryan, Edgar Tremaine, M.D., J. Bryan, M.D., E. Wood, M.D., E. H. Worthington, M.D., B. Welles, M.D., E. Welles, M.D., and G. Humphries, M.D.

*Fourth.* The principal place of business of said society shall be the city of New York.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals this twenty-fifth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ROBERT E. BELL, M.D. | [SEAL.] | J. BRYAN, M.D. | [SEAL.] |
| W. DRAPER, | [SEAL.] | E. WOOD, M.D. | [SEAL.] |
| JOHN HARVEY, M.D. | [SEAL.] | E. H. WORTHINGTON, M.D. | [SEAL.] |
| H. M. BRYAN, | [SEAL.] | B. WELLES, M.D. | [SEAL.] |
| EDGAR TREMAINE, M.D. | [SEAL.] | E. WELLES, M.D. | [SEAL.] |
| MARTIN DUTTON. | [SEAL.] | G. HUMPHRIES, M.D. | [SEAL.] |

Sealed and delivered in presence of
HENRY PURDY.

STATE OF NEW YORK, } ss.
City of New York, }

On this twenty-fifth of October, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, before me, James L. Dayton, a Notary Public in and for the State of New York, duly commissioned and sworn, dwelling in the city of New York, personally came and appeared, Robert E. Bell, M.D., W. Draper, M.D., John Harvey, M D., Martin Dutton, H. M. Bryan, Edgar Tremaine, M.D., J. Bryan, M.D., E. Wood, M.D., E. H. Worthington, M.D., B. Welles, M.D., E. Welles, M.D., and G. Humphries, M.D., all of whom are to me personally known, and known to me to be the persons described in, and who executed the foregoing certificate, and they severally acknowledge the foregoing certificate to be their act and deed.

In witness whereof, I have herewith subscribed my name and affixed my seal of office the day and year last above written.

JAS. L. DAYTON,
Notary Public, N. Y. Co.

I approve of the above certificate, and consent that the same be filed in the proper office.

New York, Oct. 26, 1871. GEORGE E. BARNARD.

While some lotteries start under the pretence of furthering the educational interests of the State in which they are conducted, this Institute proposes to make it its "particular business and

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object to scientifically and medically treat the poor and needy of all chronic diseases," and names the "twelve trustees" (Bryan's *aliases*) to manage its affairs. Each fraud proposes some charity as its apology and defence. It is a great help to their Counsel in case of an arrest, to be able to say to the Jury: It's an outrage to interfere with educational interests, or the charities of the poor and needy, by arresting the philanthropists who manage these institutions. Let the reader keep in mind the interests of "the poor and needy" as they consider how this institution was run by James Bryan and his "Trustee" Aliases.

It may be supposed that the first duty of this Board of Trustees, was to provide an asylum or hospital for the "poor and needy." What was actually done, was to take possession of the dwelling, No. 147 East 15th street, New York, and to hang out a sign of "The Clinton Medical and Surgical Institute," upon the front.

The next move was to advertise. This was done on an extensive scale—through newspapers, by circulars, and books.

It will be observed that Bryan aped the names of celebrated physicians, trading on the known reputation of such men as John Harvey, deceased, of England, Dr. Bell, of this city, etc.

In order to advertise successfully, he aped the name also of the very reputable publishing house of E. P. Dutton & Co. on Broadway, issuing a flaming circular, advertising an obscene book called "Things You Ought to Know." Price $1.00. Trade supplied by Martin Dutton & Co. To further impose on the public and this reputable firm, he secured an office near by, and it was the constant annoyance to E. P. Dutton & Co. that led first to the arrest of his agent for selling this obscene book, advertising the bogus Institute.

This book contained about 400 pages, edited by "Prof. W. Draper, M.D.," and before the Introduction had one page of advertisements devoted to "The Clinton Medical and Surgical Institute," of which is said:

**There is no disease or condition known to the medical profession but that can be overcome and cured at this Institution. No consultation fee required**



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in the General Department. The suffering of either sex are freely invited. The *physicians* employed are all *gentlemen* of acknowledged experience and ability * *

Dr. A. J. Parks, now of Trenton State Prison, sentenced for conspiracy in the Lewis Will Case of New Jersey, was formerly one of these "gentlemen of experience."

This book was subdivided, and represented the different departments of this Institute. One chapter was a lecture to men, and represented the department for males, "Robert E. Bell, M.D., Consulting Physician." The next chapter represents the Department for females, and a lecture by "Dr. John Harvey, member of the Royal College of Surgeons, England, and Medical College, New York, and for forty years *accoucheur* and Consulting Physician."

At the end of each of the above chapters were certain articles of an unlawful character advertised for sale, and an invitation to address either Drs. Bell or Harvey in whichever department they appeared.

Another chapter on "Love" was presided over by Madame Lucille Demarre. Here again were numerous articles advertised for a devilish purpose, and the purchaser must address "Mad. Lucille Demarre," or "Lucille Demarre & Co., Station D, Bible House, New York."

We give one of the newspaper advertisements of Bryan's *alias* as Mad. Demarre:

LOVE AND MATRIMONY.

The affections may be gained by following simple rules, and all may marry happily without regard to wealth, age or beauty. Address with Stamp.

MADAME LUCILLE DEMARRE,
Bible House Station, N. Y.

In the Female Department, Hours for Consultation were from 10 A. M. to 4 P. M., and all correspondence must be addressed Dr. John Harvey, 147 E. 15th street.

Agencies for this wonderful book, the product of this Board of Trustees, could be obtained upon application to "Martin Dutton & Co., Station D, New York." The book could be had of Martin Dutton & Co., 737 Broadway, New York.

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Now, let a lady call at this institute for treatment, and inquire for Dr. John Harvey, and Bryan, or one of his tools, would appear as Dr. Harvey. If a man called for Dr. R. E. Bell, usually Bryan or Parks would respond. But if any person should send a registered letter for any of the infamous articles of crime, that this Institute advertised, these letters would be received by Bryan, and a receipt signed; he signing himself one day John Harvey, the next time Robert E. Bell, M.D., Lucille Demarre & Co., Martin Dutton, or any of the other names under which he largely advertised, to wit, "Edgar Tremain," Dr. Benoni, etc. This "Board of Trustees" used to receive quite a large mail at one time, and there are a large number of these letters on the records of the Post Office Department in which he has represented himself to be the different individuals named. Bryan was at last himself arrested and indicted in the U. S. Court for sending this obscene book through the mails. At the time of his arrest the Institute was in full blast. He had a book about 18 inches long, and corresponding width, of about one thousand pages. This book had a clasp which would lock so that it could not be opened without his key, and in this book he kept a list of the cases that were brought by his advertisements to his Institute for treatment. If his clerks are to be believed, the majority of these cases were young men; "and when once a statement of their case had been made, their names were entered in this book, and then a certain sum each month exacted of them for treatment. They were in many cases also warned that their case was very desperate, or threatened with exposure to their friends." This book I personally examined, and there were hundreds of cases there where the fees varied from $5 to $50 per month.

One employee told me that one day this celebrated Board of Trustees (J. Bryan) was putting up a prescription for a patient. There were two bottles—one for external and the other internal use. He said he spoke to the Doctor (!) not to get them mixed, and he laughingly replied: "That would make no difference, as they were both alike."

On searching the house, we found many varieties of circulars,

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used by Bryan in his former schemes, as he was forced to testify to on a certain suit he brought against the author, which is referred to further on.

After Bryan's arrest, he set himself to work to crush the one who arrested him. There was one thing that he and the other frauds and smut dealers have long sought for, and most zealously plotted and conspired to accomplish, to wit, revoke my commission as a Special Agent of the Post Office Department, and to blacken my character so that I would not be believed. In this attempt Bryan found many ready tools, so long as his money lasted.

A PLOT

was well planned and quietly carried out to a certain extent toward effecting the desired end. One move was to prefer charges against me to the Postmaster-General. Accordingly, the following paper was prepared by Bryan, and by being taken around by a person known to most of these gentlemen (a man named Brinckerhoff, who had himself been secretly carrying on through the mails an unlawful business, and who had been arrested and indicted therefor), and another an advertising agent, Geo. E. Perry, the signatures were obtained, signed, as most petitions are, without being read, but signed on the word of the party who brings them.

CHARGES TO POSTMASTER-GENERAL CRESSWELL.

[COPY.]

NEW YORK, Feb. 9th, 1874.

TO THE HONORABLE JOHN A. J. CRESSWELL,
Postmaster-General, Washington, D. C.:

*Sir*—We, the undersigned business men and merchants doing business in New York, beg to call your attention to a most shameless and flagrant abuse of power delegated to one Anthony Comstock who is acting in the capacity of a Post Office Detective in intercepting letters in transit, mailing letters with forged postmarks, sending bogus registered letters, and in other respects by unwarrantable proceedings bringing discredit upon the Postal Service and distrust in the integrity of Post Office Officials.

This officious intermeddler, whose antecedents are very questionable, claims to derive his power and authority from the Postmaster-General at Washington.

We doubt the fact of his having any such authority. We believe that he

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has shamefully and, in many instances, maliciously, and for personal gain, far transcended any supervisory power that may have been given him in Washington for legitimate purposes.

We do not believe that it was the design of the P. M. G. that this man, Comstock, should convert his quasi authority, if such he has, into a means of black-mail, of terrorism, and immense profit to himself.

We regard the course of Anthony Comstock in meddling with the mails as set forth, as an outrage, without warrant of law, and unparalleled in the history of the Postal Service.

The tampering with the correspondence of business firms has driven a great many from the mails to the Express Companies, who have been compelled to order all moneys hitherto sent by P. O. order and registered letters by Express, greatly to the detriment and loss of the service.

We, therefore, most respectfully remonstrate against a continuance of such interference and meddling with private correspondence, which in all countries is held to be sacred and inviolable.

(Signed) SARGENT, STUDLEY & Co., 28 Park Place.
SEWARD & Co., 18 Dey street.
SHEPARD & DUDLEY, 150 Nassau street.
A. G. SHATTUCK, 86 Nassau street.
McKISSON & ROBBINS.
HALL & RUCKEL, 218 Greenwich street.
WM. F. KIDDER & Co., 83 John street.
F. PATUREL & Co.
CHAS. H. CRITTENTON.
CASWELL, HAZARD & Co.

An envelope was annexed, containing cards, and addressed:

Cards of the Business Firms whose Signatures are attached to remonstance.

Some of these gentlemen told me afterwards that they were deceived as to the contents of the paper, understanding it was but a petition to modify the laws; that they took the word of the party who brought it for it, and did not read it. It was represented at that time that the law prohibiting the transmission of obscene matter through the mails, interfered with reputable druggists. This was one of the lies of the enemy to enlist respectable men on their side.

This document was annexed to the affidavits of Bryan and two or three of his tools, and taken to Washington by Bryan personally.

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But this was only part of the plot. There was another part that had been held back for about a month by the connivance of some one in the Sheriff's office. About a month previous a warrant had been issued for my arrest on a suit by Bryan for $50,000 damages for false arrest. This warrant was held back till the other arrangements could be perfected, when, as soon as everything was in order and Bryan ready to start for Washington with his charges against me, I was to be arrested and locked up. But he counted without his host. Kind Providence had the cause in its keeping, and had raised up warm and true friends to stand by me, and at once, as soon as I could send them word, they furnished bail for me.

The next day the Associated Press sent out from Washington that I had been arrested and that the above charges had been preferred against me to the Postmaster-General. A loyal friend at Washington sent me a copy of the papers. I shall ever cherish the memory of the kindness shown me by this true friend. Never once did he doubt me, nor turn from me, and while life lasts, his name (C. Cochran, jr.) will be one, the mention of which, will ever strike a tender chord in my heart.

The following extract from the *Sunday Mercury* of March 8, 1874, will disclose how matters appeared before the public:

THE DOWNFALL OF COMSTOCK.

**Serious charges were submitted to the Postmaster-General to-day against Anthony Comstock, who, acting as a special agent of the Post-Office, has been operating under the obscene literature Act. The leading drug merchants of New York City present a memorial, signed by Caswell, Hazard & Co., the Goodyear Rubber Co., C. L. Shepard & Co., and other equally prominent firms, reciting that their mails and business are interfered with by this man Comstock, that their letters are detained by him, and that they are constantly annoyed by decoy letters and other tricks to entrap them into a violation of that law, and their trial and imprisonment for offences manufactured for them, and that the oppression practiced upon them has finally become so infamous that they appeal to the Department to be protected in their rights as citizens and merchants under the laws of their country. Several affidavits accompany the petition from various parts of the country. One druggist in Baltimore says, this agent is constantly endeavoring to make him commit a heinous offence by mailing him bogus and decoy letters. A Postmaster in New Jersey swears that one of these decoy**

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letters, purporting to have been mailed and registered in his office, was never there at all, and that the indorsements upon it are misleading. Comstock has already been arrested and held to bail in New York, and will probably be dismissed from the service as soon as the Postmaster-General can examine the documents. The Postmaster-General is justly indignant at the conduct of Comstock, whom he appointed at the request of the Young Men's Christian Association, and says, that an officer of the Government has no right to detain any letter duly directed and stamped. The Department has been heretofore greatly embarrassed by Comstock and his law.

With this copy in hand, I visited the reputable ones on the list, and was at once furnished with the following, which was duly published in the daily papers at the time:

RETRACTION.

NEW YORK, March 12th, 1874.

MR. ANTHONY COMSTOCK:

*Dear Sir*—Our attention having been drawn to certain articles in the Washington telegraphic correspondence of the *Sunday Mercury* and *Sunday World* of the 8th inst., hereto annexed (here the said articles were annexed), it gives us pleasure to say that the charges made in these articles are absolutely false, so far as we are concerned; and the paper signed by us was not as represented in the above articles, and was done upon a misrepresentation as to its import and use. And we distinctly desire you to understand that we have no part or lot with James Bryan (or any of his agents) in whose interest it appears the petition signed by us was used. And the petition, when presented to us, was not accompanied by the affidavits annexed, as when sent to the Postmaster-General. And we assure you of our hearty sympathy in the good work in which you are engaged, and shall favor every legal measure used to crush this nefarious business and bring the offenders to justice.

| | |
|---|---|
| CASWELL, HAZARD & CO., | SEWARD & CO., |
| SHEPARD & DUDLEY, | MCKISSON & ROBBINS, |
| WM. F. KIDDER & CO., | HALL & RUCKEL, |
| | And others. |

When it was discovered that I had not been incarcerated, these men interested in crushing me were almost beside themselves with rage. My bondsmen were each served with letters containing charges too gross to print here, in order that they should be influenced to surrender my bond.

When they learned that their trick was about to be exposed by the retraction of these reputable firms, and the repudiating of

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the man Bryan and his crew, then they were very fierce, and the following letter was sent to the Postmaster-General by Bryan's counsel:

OFFICE OF ANDREW H. H. DAWSON, COUNSELLOR AT LAW,
(Room 18) 231 Broadway,

NEW YORK, March 14, 1874.

*My Dear Sir*—Anthony Comstock will present you with a retraction, signed by several firms, whose signatures you will find affixed to the petition or memorial sent you requesting his removal. How do you suppose he got those retractions? I will tell you: By bullying cowards, wheedling fools, misrepresenting facts, and threatening men made timid by avarice with law suits.

These facts, I am informed, will be established before you by affidavits. He would go to one man and tell him another had retracted, and still another intended to retract and that if he would not, he would institute no suit against him for libel, and in that way got retractions when it is not true that the retractions he said had been made or promised, were made or promised or could be obtained under any circumstances. * * * * * * He writes a letter to a druggist for a fomale syringe. It is sent per mail. He then prosecutes this druggist, as he has done in twenty instances, for sending through the mails, etc. * * * * * * *

That any man could lend himself to write a letter so full of open malicious falsehoods as this, seems incredible. Yet this man did. He was doubtless well paid. But that does not justify such a monstrous attack upon any man's character. *There is not one word of his charges true.* These lies are made out of whole cloth, and he knew them to be false. But he was defending a medical monstrosity—a whole Medical Institute and board of trustees, concentrated, boiled down and distilled into one individual, and that person a dealer in obscene and unlawful matter. Although this lawyer has since repudiated Bryan in my own presence, still that does not justify him or any person, in making such gross assaults upon a man's reputation and good name, in an underhanded and secret manner. The man who will falsely attack a man's reputation and endeavor thus to rob another of his good name, I consider worse than a highwayman.

In order to counteract the effect of this tissue of falsehoods, I copied this letter and sent it to some of the gentlemen in question,

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and received back in reply a number of letters, denouncing the statements as untrue.

One firm writes:

We can say this without any reservation, that if any man charges that we have been bullied or threatened into any course by any person, such *charge is a falsehood.* * * *

Another says:

Your 2nd with quotations from the Perry & Bryan party at hand. We simply have to say there is not one word of truth in them as far as we are concerned. We signed the first paper presented by Mr. Perry because of representations made by him, which we understood to be that you intercepted letters in transit, and acted as a Post Office spy. Upon investigation we found they were not substantiated by the facts, and that we had unintentionally done you an injustice, and were only too glad to correct it by unconditionally retracting the first paper. The lawyer on Perry's side, whom, we think, represented himself as a cousin of the Postmaster-General, called on us and made statements which we knew to be untrue, and talked in such a manner, that we declined to hold any conversation whatever with him, which we presume is the reason of his using the *gentlemanly language* you quoted.

We came to the conclusion and told him so, that we considered him and his whole party engaged in a business that we did not consider reputable.

We remain,

Yours respectfully,

C. H. & Co.

These letters proved a quietus on this particular conspiracy to crush the one who dared assail in a legal manner the unlawful business of this Institute.

One of Bryan's confidential clerks informed the writer that Bryan's receipts for one year were more than $30,000. That he used his money to some purpose is proved from the fact that he never was tried; and it has been more than intimated by one of his counsel, that he paid $1,500 to one individual to effect this escape from the meshes of the law.

### ANOTHER PLOT.

But he had too much money to yield the point. He and his friends were not to rest without another effort. This was to be a National movement.

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The following account of the story is gathered from the letters of one of Bryan's agents—a poor man with a large family, who much needed employment, and yet who would not do a mean or dishonorable thing. The story as told by this man is as follows:

Circulars were sent out, and blank petitions to be signed, in which Congress was asked to repeal the Act which requires a proprietary stamp on manufactured articles. It was supposed, that almost every manufacturer and merchant would sign such a petition: and in this way it was hoped that many thousands of names might be collected, without exciting any suspicion. These names, once collected, were to be annexed together and attached to the following petition:

PETITION.

BALTIMORE, 20th March, 1874.

TO THE HON. JOHN A. J. CRESSWELL,
Postmaster-General, Washington, D. C.

*Sir*—We, the undersigned, business men and merchants, doing business in this city, beg to call your attention to one ANTHONY COMSTOCK, who is acting as special detective in the Postoffice.

We respectfully remonstrate against the power given this man, who is writing or causing to be written letters, as decoys to entrap the unwary into the violation of a law but few have any knowledge of, and by his unwarranted proceedings, bringing discredit upon the postal service.

We do not believe that it was the design of the Postmaster-General, that this man should convert his authority into a system of terrorism, and immense profit to himself.

We believe such supervisory matters as is entrusted to said COMSTOCK should be left *wholly to the police, where it properly belongs*, and not to any irresponsible special agent, whose highest ambition is to effect the greatest number of arrests, *the incentive being profit*, while he is shielded and protected by the Government, in his lawless and predatory incursions throughout the country; and we respectfully remonstrate against its continuance, for we regard the course pursued by this man *as an outrage*, and unparalleled in the history of the postal service.

Efforts were made in other cities, and this scheme was designed to be made so sweeping and extensive, as to leave no chance for escape.

Accompanying this petition was also sent the following circular, for distribution, to create public sentiment against me:

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[CIRCULAR.]

FROM THE ACT PASSED BY CONGRESS, IN 1873, FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF OBSCENE LITERATURE.

SECTION 148.—That no obscene, lewd, or lascivious book, pamphlet, picture, paper, print, or other publication, [open or covert, of a vulgar or] (of an) indecent character, or any article or thing designed or intended for the prevention of conception, or procuring of abortion, nor any article or thing *intended or adapted* for any indecent or immoral use or nature, [nor representation tending to the corruption of youth,] *nor any written or printed card, circular, book, pamphlet, advertisement, or notice of any kind giving information, directly or indirectly, where, or how, or of whom, or by what means either of the things above mentioned may be obtained or made*, nor any letter upon the envelope of which, or postal-card upon which, scurrilous epithets may [have been] (be) written or printed, [or disloyal devices printed or engraved,] shall be carried in the mail; and any person who shall knowingly deposit or cause to be deposited, for mailing or delivery, any of the herein-before-mentioned articles or things, or any notice, or paper containing any [open or covert] advertisement relating to the aforesaid articles or things, or any person who, in pursuance of any plan or scheme for disposing of any of the herein-before-mentioned articles or things, shall take or cause to be taken from the mail, any letter or package, shall be deemed guilty of a [high] misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall, for every offence, BE FINED NOT LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS NOR MORE THAN FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS, [WITH THE COSTS OF COURT,] OR IMPRISONED AT HARD LABOR NOT LESS THAN ONE YEAR NOR MORE THAN TEN YEARS, OR BOTH, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE JUDGE.*

---

*Sir*—Your attention is called to the above law, passed ostensively for the purpose of SUPPRESSING THE DIFFUSION OF OBSCENE LITERATURE, *but in fact, it is a blow at the vitals of Publishers, Physicians, Druggists and other Merchants throughout the country.*

Under this law, there is not a Physician or Druggist in the United States, who cannot be arrested, convicted, and sent to State Prison.

Read it carefully, and judge for yourself. Under it, one of the most respectable Druggists of Massachusetts has been convicted for selling a box of Female Pills, of the merits of which he knew nothing. Also a respectable and worthy young man, a clerk only, for selling a female syringe, and this man was in jail eight months previous to trial.

[This Massachusetts man was sending Dr. Harvey's pills for abortion through the mails.]

* * * * * * * * * * * *

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* The parts marked [ ] they added for effect. They are not in the law, but it was, and is, an *infamous fraud.*

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There is not one Druggist in one thousand, not one Physician in ten thousand, and not one Merchant in fifty thousand, who has ever read this infamous law; and when it is remembered that this law was framed and passed by Congress in order to give ANTHONY COMSTOCK a fat berth, the indignation of the people throughout the Union cannot be restrained.

Over *one hundred* prosecutions have already been commenced in various parts of the country by COMSTOCK, who probably has been months in ensnaring his victims by decoy letters, and when the case goes to trial, his testimony alone convicts; the accused party not being allowed to testify. *Conviction is sure to follow arrest*, because the evidence is *ex parte*—only one side is heard. The decoy letters and the syringe, or even a circular or price list sent by mail, is all that is necessary to send the victim to State Prison.

The Postmaster-General has given this Detective, COMSTOCK, a roving commission, and his territory is co-extensive with the Republic.

The Druggists,* Medicine Dealers, Physicians, and others are everywhere aroused to a just appreciation of the rank and palpable injustice of this law, and are forwarding to their respective Senators and Members of Congress, as well as to the Postmaster-General, copies similar to each other, embracing a remonstrance and petition asking for the dismissal of COMSTOCK, and for an amendment to the law which shall read, in substance, as follows:

"And be it further enacted, That any person who shall purchase, or cause to be purchased, or offer to purchase any article designed or intended, or adapted to prevent conception, etc., or who shall write or cause letters to be written and sent by mail, asking for such articles as are embraced in the inhibitory clauses of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor," etc. (*Section* 148.)

Let every man who feels the full measure of outrage and oppression sought to be inflicted upon innocent, unsuspecting men, throw every energy and every power, and all of his influence in crushing out any puling parasite, moral excrescence, or sneaking spy, who can through his infernal decoy-letter-method, SEND TO STATE PRISON MEN INNOCENT OF ANY INTENT TO VIOLATE THE LAW.

One of Bryan's agents and tools sent the following letter to a prominent gentleman in Minnesota:

[COPY.]

*Sir*—It is especially expected and requested that parties in Minn. will promptly forward a strong document to Senator Windom who is alone responsible for the appointment of Comstock, whom he never saw and never heard of.

Make the noble Senator feel the keen edge of public sentiment in your State. Resp., W. E. STARR.

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* No respectable druggist or physician has ever complained, or had cause to complain, down to the present moment.

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In one instance, this man, who was employed to secure signatures and other assistance, writes:

**For this work, I am to be well paid by the representatives of this city of the Clinton Medical College of New York. [There was a branch of this Institute, both in Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and other cities, whose founder Dr. Bryan you are said to know.]**

**I do not like the work, nor anything of the kind, but I am poor, I have a wife and four children, and they are now and have been sick for nearly the whole winter. I have been out of employment for nearly two years, and while I have seemingly consented to do this work, (for money to buy bread and medicine with,) I feel it my honest duty to notify you, at once, of efforts being made to injure and remove you.**

This man was immediately employed by me to secure all the facts of this last plot. He did his work well; so well, that, notwithstanding all the efforts of the enemy, they most signally failed.

One letter from this man discloses the fact that Bryan had been on to see him, and had told him of his "interviews with Postmaster-General Cresswell and Senator Windom (who repudiated him), and others," and of the employment of lobbyists in Washington, who were to be hired for a certain amount of money to serve the vile purposes of this "alias" board of trustees. From this same source, we learned that high officials in Congress and in the Departments at Washington and officials in New York City, were Bryan's friends, and wonderful and positive results were to be expected.

Here again, man proposes, but God disposes. The One who speaks to the wind and wave, and stays their course with the words of His mouth, was able and did say, "So far, and no farther!" and beyond that point, neither man nor devil could pass.

These charges being basely false and untrue—the venom of the slanderer—I had nothing to do but go straight forward in duty's path. I found that path safe and secure then, as well as many times since, and to young people I say, do not be moved by what men may say or do; neither the curl of the lip, the contracting of the brow, the sneer, the secret stab, nor the open slander, can harm any person who, being in the right, trusts in God and goes

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straight forward. Let the slanderer alone; there will be a reaction if you perform your duty.

Have you enemies? Go straight forward and mind them not. If they intercept and obstruct your pathway, walk around them, and do your duty to God regardless of their spite. Have a character and principle so firm, that every person cannot mould you to their own will and liking. I remember reading somewhere of one who, being surrounded by enemies, said: "They are sparks which, if you do not blow, will go out of themselves." If you stop to dispute, you add fuel to the fire, and encourage those who pursue you; for nothing pleases the slanderer so well as to feel that what he says has touched or affected his victim.

There is somewhere a beautiful poem, entitled,

"WHAT MAKES A MAN."

A truthful soul, a loving mind,
Full of affection for its kind;
A spirit firm, erect, and free,
That never basely bends the knee;
That will not bear a feather's weight
Of slavery for small or great;
That truly speaks from God within;
That never makes a league with sin;
That snaps the fetter despots make,
And loves the truth for its own sake;
That worships God, and Him alone,
And bows no more than at His throne,
And trembles at no tyrant's nod;
A soul that fears no one but God,
And thus can smile at curse or ban—
This is the soul that makes a man.

After the failure of their first plot, there was another trumped-up charge in the Supreme Court of New York, and I was again arrested on a suit, by one Crempian, for $25,000 damages, on a similar charge to that made by Bryan, for false arrest. This suit was promptly dismissed, and I had the pleasure of hearing the Court say that a warrant ought never to have issued.

In the Bryan case it was different. Counsel desired to make a similar motion, but first we examined Mr. Bryan before trial. Here we proved, out of his own mouth, sufficient, so that, on his

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own examination and showing, on the 14th day of October, 1874, the Court gave judgment as follows:

Judge Donohue says:

JUDGMENT OF COURT.

It seems to me a fair result to reach, from the facts presented by the proofs, that the so-called Clinton Medical and Surgical Institute is a myth, and that the persons whose names are used by it as "Doctors" are also myths. None are produced, nor the whereabouts of either exposed. Under such circumstances and the nature of the publications emanating from the supposititious parties named, it seems to furnish probable grounds, for the defendant and those acting with him, to make all reasonable attempts to break up the system those names covered, and by means of which names the business sought to be prevented could be carried on; and it seems to me that nothing was done for which there was not probable cause. The motion to vacate the order of arrest is therefore granted, with costs.

This is all the vindication any man needs.

An amusing examination it was! Yet it was painful to see the manner in which this man squirmed and writhed under the questioning of my counsel. He seemed to have a terrible attack of forgetfulness, but a homeopathic dose of his circulars, as issued by him under his various aliases, imparted enough of vigor to his memory to enable us to fix each of his vile advertisements upon him, and prove his various infamous schemes.

He testified that he was then about 56 or 57 years of age, that he was born in England, coming to America when he was about 30 years old. After a short residence in this city he went to Utica, where he resided about two years; thence to Rochester in 1849, where he believed he resided ten or twelve years.

While there he undertook to counterfeit Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, and was brought up with a sharp turn by the original proprietors. A reference to this case will be of interest here. The facts are taken from the reported case in Barber's State Trial Reports, as follows: "Curtis *vs.* Bryan."

Bryan had imitated the trade-mark of "Mrs. Winslow's soothing syrup," and had secured the same shaped bottles and similar labels to the original. Suit had been brought to restrain this infringement by Curtis Bros., and Bryan, to justify the use by

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him of the name "Winslow" in connection with the article, claimed that a variety of soothing syrup prior to 1843, called "Winslow's soothing syrup for children," was manufactured, prepared and sold by John M. Winslow, a druggist of the city of Rochester, and that printed circulars bearing the name of such medicine had been extensively circulated; that he purchased the formula of John M. Winslow, who was the original and first manufacturer.

The Court said:

"I am entirely satisfied that this claim of the defendant, under the proof in the case, is wholly *unfounded* and *is fraudulently* put forth. In support of his claim the defendant ("Bryan") distributed a circular signed by John M. Winslow, and purporting to be subscribed by the Mayor and City Attorney of Rochester, the County Judge and District Attorney of Monroe County, and by several druggists of the City of Rochester." * * *

The affidavits of these men were filed, and each swore that the use of their names was *unauthorized*, and *that it was a fraud* on the public. John M. Winslow, in his affidavit, repudiates this trickster, and the Court made the injunction permanent. Thus we have him branded officially as a fraud as far back as 1867, and to-day he lives and flourishes upon the revenue derived from the sick and suffering whom he deceives, by his pamphlets and circulars distributed on the street and otherwise.

The reader can imagine his position when he was asked to describe the appearance, and whereabouts of these different "M. D.'s," who composed the Board of Trustees of his Institute:

As a specimen chip we give a part of Bryan's examination, taken from the stenographer's notes, concerning his own standing as an M. D.:

Q. Did you ever graduate at any medical college? A. I have. Q. Where? A. I decline to tell now; it is not pertinent. Q. I ask you where? A. I do not think it is necessary to ask anything of the kind. Q. Where did you graduate? A. I do not think I need answer that. Q. Why do you decline to answer? A. I do not think it is anything in this case. Q. That is not for you to judge, you can refuse to answer on another ground. A. My first diploma that I had was from a Birmingham College in England. Q. Where was that college? A. In Birmingham, England. Q. What was the name of the college? A. That I forget now. Q. Where is your diploma? A. It has been destroyed. Q. Who were the faculty of the college? A. I do not recol-

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lect now. I was a student of one of the parties connected with it. Q. Did you ever graduate from any other institution? A. I have been examined and have my diploma. Q. For what? A. I have been examined for a College in Havana, Cuba. Q. Do you speak Spanish? A. No, I do not. Q. Did you go through any course of studies at this College in Havana? A. I did not. Q. How did you obtain this diploma? A. By examination. Q. Who examined you? A. Dr. E. Gonzales. Q. What was the name of the college? A. I do not know its exact name; it is a Spanish name. Q. What year were you in Havana? A. I have never been in Havana at all.

This man Gonzales was in Bryan's employ, and run the Philadelphia branch, and had but a short time before absconded, as Bryan testified, with his money.

But Bryan was not to be put down so. He had a fertile mind for schemes, and an elastic conscience for swearing, if his own testimony is to be believed.

ELECTIC COLLEGE.

Q. That is the only college you ever graduated from? A. Yes, I have another from the Pennsylvania College. Q. What college is that? A. The Electic College. Q. Who were the preceptors there? A. I cannot call to mind. Q. Did you pursue a course of studies there? A. I did not. Q. How did you obtain your diploma? A. By examination. Q. By whom? A. By two college graduates. Q. Give me the names? A. Dr. Park is one and Dr. Saunders; an honorary diploma.

Andrew J. Parks was the full name of Dr. Parks, and he was then in Bryan's employ at the Institute, while Saunders had been sent from here to take charge of the Philadelphia Branch, at 249 South 13th street, after Dr. Gonzales had absconded.

This examination covered over one hundred pages of legal cap, and is a sworn medical curiosity. But what must the world expect when a 12mo Board of Trustees and whole Medical Institute undertakes to swear himself through at all hazards.

But this was not done to answer the slanders he had uttered, nor punish his plots and conspiracies. It was a blow necessary to show up this scoundrel, and protect the sick and afflicted from the impositions practiced upon them, and secure evidence sufficient to break up this Institute.

In face of their opposition, we began another suit in the Supreme Court at Albany, through the Attorney-General, which



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resulted, on the 25th day of January, 1877, in the following judgment:

Supreme Court of the State of New York, by Judge T. R. Westbrook. * *

"It is ordered, adjudged and decreed that the paper writings purporting to be certificates of incorporation of the defendants (Clinton Medical and Surgical Institute), filed in the office of the Clerk of the City and County of New York, on the 17th day of July, 1873, and in the office of the Secretary of State * * * are and each of them is *fraudulent* and void, and that they and each of them be cancelled, annulled and discharged in each of said offices."

"And it is further ordered and adjudged, that James Bryan, one of the individuals whose name is affixed to said certificate, his agents, servants, and all persons acting for or with him, be and he and they are perpetually enjoined and restrained from further exercising, or assuming to exercise the powers or franchise of a body corporate under said certificate, and from publishing in the State of New York, any notice, circulars or advertisements, under the name of the Clinton Medical and Surgical Institute, or in any manner holding himself or themselves out to the public, or representing himself or themselves to be the said body corporate described in said certificate, or the agents thereof, and from using or causing to be used said name, 'Clinton Medical and Surgical Institute,' in any manner whatsoever as a body corporate."

It was worth all it cost of time, money and personal feeling to accomplish such victories for the suffering and sick.

Let it not be supposed that this is the only concern of like character in the land. They exist everywhere—not always incorporated with a "board of twelve trustees;" but an office, a sign and a title "M. D.," and the name of some reputable physician, backed by the flaming advertisement, the little nasty pamphlet, or the more imposing looking book, to laud the quack—these dens to aggravate the suffering, to rob the sick, to extort from the timid ones, are in every city almost, and their advertisements flood the country.

Read on page 321 what the Illinois State Medical Convention says of the advertising Doctor, at their last meeting at Chicago.

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## CHAPTER XIX.

### THE QUACK.

*Health.*—Of all the blessings of this life, none exceed in value good health. Without it, the capacity to enjoy life is imperfect. Wealth, position or friends, without good health, cannot be enjoyed to the full measure that one in perfect health realizes. Pain, disease, or the weaknesses that follow in their wake, detract from the enjoyments of life, and the luxuries of the rich only serve to ease and comfort the afflicted. A robust frame, a strong constitution free from hereditary disease, is a fortune that enables us to extract to the full the pleasures of earth, and is a strong help to a cheerful, useful, Christian life. The mathematician cannot compute its value, neither can you collect treasures enough to purchase it. *It is invaluable.* A young man may realize his fondest dream of a successful business future, and yet hereditary disease or the results of wrong living may, either of them, embitter his life so that he would gladly exchange all his possessions to be freed from pain, or restored to health.

Thousands of people, scattered throughout the land, are to-day suffering from ill health. No city, town or hamlet in this broad country can say, "sickness and pain are unknown here." Not only this, but it is almost equally true that everywhere those who are chronically ill may be found. There are also many, *many* young people who, because of a lack of proper training in childhood and youth by their parents, or, more properly, from lack of any training, have been led into practices that have enervated their bodies and brought weaknesses and disease. Of these ills the youth dares not speak to his nearest friends. He shrinks from allowing his most intimate friend to know or suspect his trouble. Oftentimes these are simple troubles to which, if the right remedy were applied, speedy restoration to health would follow; but, neglected, soon run into

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a chronic disorder that causes the victim to become more and more loath to consult any one, even his family physician.

There is a vast army of invalids that are moving to and fro throughout the land in search of health. Boiling, sulphur and mineral springs are visited, sanitariums are crowded, the most skillful physicians in all parts of the world are consulted, millions are spent annually in search of health. "O! to be well again!" is the plaintive cry of the sick and afflicted in all lands.

What man can engage in business and expect to compete with the active men in trade with a broken-down constitution? Who will plan for the future with the despondency that comes from a diseased and weakened body? A body racked with pain, or distorted with inflammation, is no help to business or pleasure.

As the shark swims about among the smaller fishes in the sea, only to seize and devour them; as the panther lies low upon the limb of the tree awaiting the approach of his victim to crush the life out of him; so

THE QUACK,

by his lying advertisements and worthless nostrums, traversing the legitimate channels of trade—the newspapers and mails—comes upon these suffering and afflicted ones, not only to deceive and heartlessly rob them, but to add to their sufferings. What would be thought of the man or woman who should invite a starving and famished person into some luxurious home and spread a table before him, and when the dishes were uncovered they should be filled with bits of coal or stones? or when a man was drowning, should throw a rope to him while struggling in the water for life, and then, when he had seized the rope and was nearly saved, should let go the rope and stand coldly by and see him drown? Or again, where a house was on fire, and the women and children were rushing down stairs for their lives, and some wretch should close the door of exit and prevent their escaping? And so we might go on imagining heartless and cruel things to the end of the chapter, and we could picture nothing more heartless, more relentlessly cruel, than these ghouls and vampires who prey upon and rob the sick and afflicted. By

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lying advertisements, worded in most deceptive manner, containing most flattering "references" (of cases that never existed), and printed often in respectable newspapers, these creatures deceive and curse the sick. *Curse* is just the word, it is none too strong. To deprive a sick person of proper medical care by false promises and inducements, to give them nostrums that aggravate disease rather than relieve, or to have an ignoramus occupying the place of the learned physician by the side of the patient, is more than a curse in my judgment.

The question comes here very properly, Is a newspaper justified in publishing advertisements of this character, that enable these unprincipled scoundrels to increase and aggravate the sufferings of the afflicted? When a gentleman engages in a newspaper enterprise for the sake of a livelihood for his family, does he enter some mystic circle, where he is justified in lending his position of influence, and his medium of communication with the world, to aiding and abetting the thief, the gambler, the quack, or indeed any law-breaker? But the argument is, Well, it pays. We run a newspaper to make money. If we don't take this some other paper will, and this kind of advertising pays the best, and so we take them? The question then comes, if people are deceived and robbed by the advertisement in reputable papers, and the thief pays for the advertisement out of money so obtained by him, are the publishers *participes criminis*, and do not these respectable gentlemen at the head of newspapers so advertising for the lawless plunderer, share with him in the spoils?

What would be said of the man who should go ahead of an advancing army, and burn houses, pillage property, and assault women and children, rendering them houseless and homeless, and should argue in his defence, Well, if I did not some one else might? Have not the credulous—those who are honest at heart, who think no guile, some rights that even the publisher of a newspaper are bound to respect?

Surely, such a mighty medium, power, and agency as the enlightened press of the nineteenth century in free America, ought not to become the tool of the villain, the vampire nor the ghoul,

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to rob the simple-minded, honest laborer; or oppress, curse, and destroy the sick and afflicted.

What I have said above, are general remarks, applying to the large army of "quacks" who advertise as "M. D's," often under assumed names, and who send their high-priced nostrums, to the great detriment of the suffering.

### THE QUACK.

The bogus "broker" calculates upon the speculating proclivities of his intended victim, the lottery dealer upon the disposition to gamble, and the watch and jewelry fraud on the lust for gain. The quack counts on the desperation or the eager hope of recovery of those who are afflicted with disease.

He is perfectly heartless. He devours the substance of his victim, as the hawk, pouncing upon the dove, devours its defenceless prey. The quack lives upon the deceit and lying he can practice upon those who are seeking relief from suffering, cure for disease and restoration to health. Upon such he palms off his worthless and high-priced drugs.

The medical quack lures his victim into his clutches by means of advertisements, which are often so skilfully worded as to deceive the very wisest. He sometimes employs the name of a reputable and distinguished physician, who is perhaps dead, and he often goes so far as to assume this name himself. He has a "specific for every ill human flesh is heir to," a remedy which is always successful, even where the most skilled practitioners have signally failed to effect a cure. As has been seen, the quack has a broad field for the prosecution of his unholy work—a field as broad as the weakness and suffering of the human race. He preys on the victims of incurable diseases, and levies his taxes on the weak and broken. All is fish that comes to his net. He is infallible in his treatment, and bottles up magic cure for everything, from pimples to cancer, from corns to consumption.

With the advertisements of these peculiar frauds every reader of these pages is only too familiar. They confront us in our newspaper; they are thrust upon us in the street; the mail brings

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them, and the fences, rocks and bill boards are eloquent with them. We had not thought to reproduce here a quack medicine advertisement, but the other day we came across a circular which is so unique even as a medical pamphlet, that we publish a portion of it. It is a Massachusetts production, and sings the praise of a pill:

A SHORT HISTORY OF DR. M——'S FATHER. ALSO SHOWING HOW THIS WONDERFUL MEDICINE WAS BROUGHT INTO USE.



The old gentleman, who is on a visit, having a Bible in his hand, as you see in the above plate, is a perfect likeness of the father of the celebrated Dr. M. You would not take him to be over sixty or sixty-five years old. But you will be surprised, when told that this fine-looking old gentleman was ninety-five years old the 29th of November, 1847. On the 19th of the same month, he rode, and drove himself, thirty-five miles, in order to spend the birth-day of his ninety-fifth year with the doctor and his interesting family. He is an extremely rich man, with an income of about five hundred thousand dollars, annually, and the owner of a number of fine, elegant ships, which sail in different directions to every part of the world.

A number of years ago this good man was very sick. He had eight of the most celebrated doctors to attend him both night and day. With all their

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[illegible] and [illegible] and finally they [illegible] it was impossible to cure him, and he would soon die. The next day about the middle of the morning he called his wife to his bedside, and [illegible] to be without seeing her son, his only child. [illegible] large amounts of money to have him educated as a doctor, after which to have him [illegible] the way to cure diseases. I persuaded him to travel in the distant lands among the savages and Indians to see if there he could learn their successful manner of curing diseases in hopes that from [illegible] he might learn the secrets of the engaging him to go as I am about to die, grieves me much. But tell my son when he returns never to [illegible] the wants of the poor.

Here he stopped, being in great distress, but in a few minutes his pains ceased, after which he took a short nap, being the first of any moment for several days. In the afternoon he was taken with shortness of breath, and supposed to be dying. The neighbors were sent for, the room was soon filled, and many prayers were offered up from the very heart by these dear Christian people, that some relief might be obtained for this good and pious man. While these prayers were ascending like sweet incense to the Throne above, and every eye was turned in tears, a rumbling noise was heard in the distance, like a mighty chariot coming on its way hither. When all at once a fine span of horses before a beautiful coach, stood before the door, out of which alighted a noble and elegant looking man. In a moment's time he entered the room, and embraced the hand of his dear father and mother. She clasped her arms around his neck and fainted away. The Doctor, surprised to see his father so nearly gone, immediately went to his coach, taking therefrom various plants and roots which he had learned from the Red Men of the forest as being good for all diseases, and immediately compounded them together, and gave them to his father, and in about two hours afterward he was very much relieved. He gave him small doses every three or four hours, just to keep his bowels regular, and have them cleanse and purify his blood. Two days after he was much better, and the third day he could walk about the room. He has occasionally taken them ever since, and now we behold him a strong, active man, and in the bloom of health, and at the age of ninety-five, able to ride in one day thirty-five miles, in order to spend his birth-day with this celebrated Doctor, his son.

The above astonishing cure was sounded in every ear, and re-echoed throughout the land as a most wonderful cure. Many persons afflicted with various diseases immediately applied for the Pills. So powerful in strengthening, and so wonderfully did they cure them of all their diseases, and so great was the call for the Pills, both far and near, that it was impossible for the Doctor alone to make them fast enough, as there was not a moment through the day, but there were, to say the least, eight or ten, sometimes upwards of thirty, to the office at a time, to get these Pills. So sure were they to relieve the sick, and with so much success did they cure all manner of diseases, that he entirely laid aside his former way of practicing, and prescribed them for every complaint.

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All this happened some years ago. It would not be hard to imagine a sequel to this preposterous story, something as follows: how the manufacturer of these pills has long since annexed the West Indies to his factory, utilizing the entire annual sugar crop in the preparation of his sugar coating; how he has won the gratitude of the whole nation, having practically solved the Indian question by setting the savages to work gathering the "various roots and plants," and how the good old gentlemen still lives, hale and hearty (he will be 128 years old next November), and still sends out his "elegant ships" freighted with cargoes of the priceless pills, "in different directions to every part of the world."

But no member of this fraternity of rogues is so flourishing, and none is so merciless and so infamous, as the quack, playing upon the hopes and fears, the confidence and the despair of those who are the victims of their own unwitting errors, of inherited evils, or of the fruits of an immoral life.

Modern society is not wholly pure; and the results of private and social impurities are everywhere present. Those who suffer, whether from ills they are morally responsible for or not, unwisely hesitate to seek the counsel of trusted friends, or even to put themselves into the hands of reputable physicians. Such individuals the quack marks for his prey. They read his advertisement, invest in his worthless wares, subject themselves to his blackmailing, and in the end are in a worse condition than before.

I have known instances where young men have thus been blackmailed out of hundreds of dollars by these parties. One young man from the South was mulcted to the sum of $1,500, when, if he had gone to his own Doctor, he would have been cured for as many cents.

### "FREE DODGE."

One or two instances will illustrate the methods of those who advertise *to treat young men free.*

This notice is constantly appearing in the rural press in different parts of the country:

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MANHOOD RESTORED.

A victim of early imprudence, causing nervous debility, premature decay, etc., having tried in vain every known remedy, has discovered a simple means of self-cure, which he will send FREE to his fellow-sufferers. Address J. H. REEVES, 43 Chatham St., New York.

It will be observed what this fellow says of himself. Is it once to be supposed that any decent man will have so little self-respect as to thus proclaim his own shame? No. Who is J. H. Reeves? A man named T—— is the person who stands back of this advertisement, claims all mail matter, and receives the proceeds. If you have marked what he says of himself and pays the newspapers to say to all the world, we will look a little further into his practice of medicine. In reply to a letter sent for this "free" prescription, what comes? The person who answers this advertisement receives a circular headed, "Startling Disclosures—50,000 Young Men Going to Premature Graves Annually in the United States," and setting forth the merits of an infallible pill. It concludes: "If you have been robbed by quacks, let it not deter you, before it is too late, to send three dollars at once, and get Prof. D.'s Mechanical Cure and Life Pills."

Thousands of people bite at this advertisement, and in return are doubtless badly bitten.

The following is the bait which accompanies a descriptive circular:

OFFICE OF J. H. REEVES,
P. O. Box 3290. 43 Chatham Street.

NEW YORK, July 26th, 1880.

*Dear Friend*—Yours is at hand. In reply would say I spent $1,500 with various quacks and imposters, and am determined to break up their swindling, and provide nervous sufferers with a simple means of cure. I send a descriptive circular of your disease. Read it carefully, and if afflicted enclose me the price of Prof. Dupont's Mechanical Cure and Life Pills. I paid the following named quacks from $3 to $50 each, viz.: Ogden, Inman, Mayfair, Brugman, and Jacques & Co. They all failed to give me the least relief. I was advised by a former sufferer to try the Cure and Pills. I paid $3 for them, and after using them a few days, I began to recover rapidly, and gained in weight about 50 pounds in three months.

Being desirous of aiding my fellow-sufferers, I have made arrangements

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with Prof. Dupont to furnish his Cure and Pills at cost Price. The knowledge of doing good will be ample reward for my time and trouble.

Now, my afflicted friend, do not despair. You can be cured. Try this remedy I beg of you, and you will ever give thanks to the Mechanical Cure and Life Pills.

Very truly yours,

J. H. Reeves.

Poor sufferer, he was in a deplorable condition, if what he tells of himself be all true. I should prefer the reader to believe what he says of himself, sooner than think for a moment that his pills are safe for a brute, if sick, to take.

If the three dollars, however, is not forthcoming, a letter is sent as follows:

Office of J. H. Reeves,
43 Chatham Street.

P. O. Box 3290. New York, April 26, 1880.

*Dear Sir*—Not hearing from you since sending descriptive circular of Prof. Dupont's Cure and Pills, I fear you thought the price $3 too much or that they would not cure. You have my deepest sympathy and I am so positive they will cure you, I offer now to send them on the receipt of $2, you send balance when cured. If not cured after a fair trial I will refund the $2. I can offer nothing fairer and sincerely trust you will accept. There is nothing to lose and all to gain as a cure is certain. Neglect it and all may be lost.

Your Friend,

J. H. Reeves.

"Your friend;" that's rather taking, isn't it? and note the deep interest this poor victim of self-abuse takes in those to whom he sends his circulars and who do not bite quite quick enough to satisfy his thirst for gain; and so he reduces the price one third. Just imagine a doctor calling voluntarily on a sick person, and saying, "Now you take this prescription, and I will reduce my charges one third as an inducement; I want to make something, and if I cannot get three dollars, why I will take two."

Leaving this case, let us now look to another specimen of these parasites. Many of these quacks assume to be returned missionaries, who have discovered potent remedies in foreign lands, and thus clothing themselves in the garb of an universally revered class of men, these miserable creatures practice their nefarious wickednesses. Rank specimens of this class are the men who advertise under the name of

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REV. JOSEPH T. INMAN, BIBLE HOUSE.

There is no such person as "Rev. Joseph T. Inman;" no trace of him can be found. A man named Allison runs the business. His advertisement is familiar:

A CARD.

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, &c. I will send a recipe that will cure you FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South Africa. Send a self-addressed envelope to the Rev. JOSEPH T. INMAN, *Station D, New York City.*

An application for this "free of charge" remedy is answered by a circular, prescribing the following compound, called Corrassa Compound:

RECIPE.

| | |
|---|---|
| Extract of Corrassa Apimis, - - - | Eight Drachms. |
| Extract of Selarmo Umbelifera, - - - | Four Drachms. |
| Powdered Alkermes Latifolia, - - | Three Drachms. |
| Extract of Carsadoc Herbalis, - - - | Six Drachms. |

Mix well together in a mortar, then put the mixture in a box and keep it covered, or wrap it in paper and cover with tin foil to exclude the air. For a dose, take about half a teaspoonful of the mixture, and moisten it with a little cold water in a glass or cup, then add about two tablespoonfuls more of cold water, or just enough to enable you to take it down easily. Take the medicine at night before going to bed, and in the morning before eating. If you wish to sweeten it, you may add as much sugar or syrup to each dose as may suit your taste.

REMARKS.—The above named herbs, so remarkable for their healing qualities, are found in the great valley of the Amazon, and through most of the valleys of the South American mountains. Their wonderful medicinal properties are known to the Indian Medicine Men, and also to some of the learned Missionaries from Europe, who reside in South America.

This particular combination of remedies is called the CORRASSA COMPOUND, taking its name from the first of the four medicines which compose the recipe when it is ready for use.

Then follows the

CIRCULAR,

Giving an account of How I Discovered the Corrassa Compound.

The great number of inquiries addressed to me by the public and the medical profession for information about this great remedy, makes it necessary for me (in order to answer them all) to print a short account of its discovery, and

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the remarkable cure made by its use in my own case. When at college I contracted (through ignorance) the habit of Masturbation, or Self-Abuse, which well-nigh ruined my health, and doubtless would have brought me to an early grave, if it had not been for the providential discovery of this medicine. Before I left college, a friend, who suspected the cause of my feeble health, warned me of the danger of this secret vice. By great effort of will and resolution I was enabled to give up the degrading habit, but I still suffered from its evil effects. After finishing my studies I was admitted to the ministry, and became pastor of a church in the town of Jamaica, Long Island, but my health was so poor I had to resign my charge, greatly to my regret and sorrow. My grief was more deep, as I had formed an attachment for an accomplished and amiable young lady, who returned my affection; but marriage was not to be thought of by me, as the state of my health would make me but a miserable companion for a gentle and loving woman. I sought the aid of the ablest physicians and surgeons of New York City, but I received no benefit from their treatment. I tried the nostrums advertised for such complaints, but they did me no good. I then proceeded to Europe, with a view to consult the best medical men of London and Paris, but I was so little improved by their treatment that I began to despair of ever attaining to manhood's vigor. I resided over two years in Europe, devoting nearly all the time my health would permit to the study of medicine, but I was unable to discover any remedy that would cure my case.

Through the kindness of some Christian friends in London, I was offered the position of a Missionary to Para, South America, where a station was established by the London Missionary Society, for the diffusion of the Gospel throughout the great valley of the Amazon and its tributaries. I gladly accepted this offer as I had read in the books of learned travelers that this part of South America abounds in all kinds of healing herbs and medicines, and I hoped I would discover a remedy that would restore me to health and strength. Accordingly, I sailed from Liverpool in the ship Reindeer, Captain R. I. Marsh, for Para. When I arrived, I commenced to perform my missionary duties as well as the feeble state of my health would permit. While traveling through different parts of the country, I devoted my spare time to the study of the medical plants and herbs in which this region so wonderfully abounds. While engaged in these studies, I first learned the virtues of the CORRASSA COMPOUND, for which I will always return my heartfelt thanks to kind providence. This medicine was recommended to me by a learned and venerable physician, named Fernandez Colina, a native of Spain, who had studied medicine in Paris, and had traveled extensively through South America.

To enable my readers to understand the full value of that combination of remedies called the CORRASSA COMPOUND, I will state the symptoms of my complaint when I began to use it.

Here follows a description too foul and indecent to reprint.

When I felt completely cured, I became convinced it was my sacred duty to

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make known the discovery of this remedy for the benefit of suffering humanity. I sent an account of my cure, and also some packages of the medicine, to Physicians in London, Paris, and New York. They wrote back to me the most cheering accounts of the cures they had made among their patients by its use, and earnestly urged me to forward more of the medicine, and to make arrangements for a regular and full supply. I immediately made arrangements for obtaining the remedy in its purity, and engaged with parties in South America to have it forwarded to New York, to which city I have now returned, and where I have made my permanent home. I adopted this course, in order that I might be able to supply the remedy to any one who wished to send to me for it, and also to enable me, with greater facility, to publish to the world a full account of this great discovery.

Now what is the object of all this philanthropic effort, this exchange of a South American mission field for the large mission of curing ailing humanity?

It is simply $3.50 from each victim.

The recipe is sent free. Baits are always free. The recipe is a bait.

The "free" circular adds:

I will here offer a word of caution about getting the recipe compounded or put up at the drug stores. You must be careful that you do not get inferior or adulterated ingredients.

HOW TO OBTAIN THE CORRASSA COMPOUND.

As the drug stores cannot be relied upon to procure new remedies of pure quality, I can forward the Corrassa Compound in packages, ready for use, (put up safe from observation,) to those who need it, at the price which it costs me. My means make me independent. I seek no other reward for sending the remedy than the satisfaction of doing good, and the blessing of an approving conscience.

The cost of each package (including the government stamp), is Three Dollars and Thirty Cents ($3.30). The postage is twenty-one cents. The price then, of one package, sent by mail to any address, is three dollars and fifty cents ($3 50). If sent by express, three dollars and thirty cents ($3.30), the party sending for the medicine to pay express charges. Directions for using the medicine, and also some excellent advice to those who are taking it, will be enclosed inside the wrapper of each package. Nothing is put on the outside of the wrapper but the address of the party to whom it is sent. On the receipt, then, of three Dollars and fifty cents ($3.50), I can send you a package of the Corrassa Compound by mail, all ready for use, or on receipt of three dollars and thirty cents, ($3.30), I can send you a package by express.

And the recipient, who goes to the drug store with this recipe

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for the *Corrassa Compound*, finds that he can neither get it there impure nor pure; nothing is left for him, provided he be not too wise to do it, but to send his $3.50.

No druggist that I can find recognizes either of these ingredients as existing in the Pharmacopœia or in botany.

When an invalid writes this "missionary fraud" complaining about not being able to get the recipe of his druggist, a letter similar to the one below will be sent. It is one sent me, by a party complaining, that he thinks Rev. Joseph T. Inman is a fraud. (So say we all of us.) This non-commital letter is rather cold comfort to an invalid, eager for restoration to health, and who thinks $3.50 rather a high price to pay for a single prescription.

OFFICE OF ALLISON & HEARN,
737 BROADWAY,

NEW YORK, Oct. 19th, 1880.

*Dear Sir*—Your favor of 16th inst. has been received, and contents noted. We only reiterate our caution in regard to getting the medicine compounded at small drug stores—our patients use their own discretion in the matter.

Respt'y yours,
ALLISON & HEARN.

Not long ago, the New York *San* newspaper published a statement that it had taken the Inman recipe to Hudnut's, Rushton's, Hegeman's, and other equally prominent drug stores, and there the most experienced druggists agreed that these articles were unknown to the trade. Clearly the dupe who reposes confidence in the healing qualities of the Corrassa Compound, has nothing to do but to forward his money to the benevolent missionary who benevolently pockets it and returns therefor a nostrum—let us trust as harmless as it is worthless. Inquiries at Jamaica among its oldest inhabitants fail to disclose a single person who ever knew Rev. Joseph T. Inman as a resident, or ever heard of him.

The same newspaper, in describing the rascals who are at the head of this business, tells us, that "the office in St. Mark's place is run by two young fellows calling themselves Allison & Hearne. They dress nobbily, wear fine diamonds, and look more like sporting men than doctors."

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As far back as November, 1864, the *Agriculturist*, which always has a corner for rogues, and has done the public valiant service, exposed Joseph, and during the past sixteen years this scheme has been now and again exposed by the press. But still they thrive.

*And religious and other reputable newspapers continue to advertise for them.* Are they not *particeps criminis?* I say, yes; for they *cannot plead ignorance.*

The Bible House drove them out of there, and they were recently at 129 Second avenue, and now are at 737 Broadway.

In this same circular, he says: "My means make me independent;" then the miserable fraud says, "I am trying to perform what I consider a sacred duty to suffering humanity, by sending the medicine to those who need it without any reward but the consciousness of doing good." Pity he has to lie so about it.

Lest some one should think I had made a mistake about the condition of this young man, let me give his precise words:

> I have thus made known my own case, from a sincere desire to benefit others. No other motive would induce me to publish this confession, and I have no doubt but it will be received by the victims of youthful errors in the same spirit of sincerity and candor which prompts me to write it.

His candor is refreshing indeed. We believe all that you say of yourself, but the trouble is, as there were two of you at one time, we would like to know if you were both affected in the same way, guilty of the same loathsome practice, and if both were missionaries? It would be well for the community if you would make your circulars more explicit, or—suppress them entirely, which is the best move you can make. I can assure these poor missionary lads that the public sympathize with them, that they were led into the practices they describe, and doubtless some may be found, who admire their "candor" in so publicly proclaiming their disgusting practices. I do not.

Before dismissing these gentry, the M. D.'s who advertise by pamphlets and circulars, it may be profitable to consider how they are regarded by the regular medical profession.

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At a recent meeting of the Illinois State Board of Health, a body made up of the highest medical talent in that great Commonwealth, and entrusted by the Legislature with the exclusive control of the practice of medicine in that State, Dr. R. W. McAfee, the agent of the Western Society for the Suppression of Vice, submitted the following question in writing:

Is it professional for a physician to advertise, or promiscuously to distribute or circulate, "Marriage Guides," "Secret Monitors," pamphlets or circulars, *describing* or illustrating, by means of pictures, venereal diseases; or to advertise directly or indirectly, or even impliedly, nostrums or medicines for preventing conception or procuring abortion?

This they answered in the form of a resolution, rehearsing the question in full, and declared that each and all of said acts are *grossly unprofessional.* The resolution read as follows:

Any fraudulent or deceptive professional transaction shall be deemed in the sense of this Board unprofessional and dishonorable conduct.

Any medical man who practices medicine under two names, or any other name than his true name, shall be considered guilty of unprofessional and dishonorable conduct.

Any advertisement, handbill, or means of attracting public attention or securing patronage, which shall be deceptive or convey to the public any fraudulent information, shall be considered unprofessional and dishonorable.

At the same session the Board instituted proceedings against a large number of these pretended "doctors," and have since prosecuted them under the State laws, revoking their certificates to practice.

The sentiment of this Board can be better expressed in the letter of thanks sent to the President of the Chicago Branch of the Society, which is as follows:

Sir—In behalf of the Illinois State Board of Health I desire to acknowledge the active and hearty co-operation of your Society in furnishing facts, thus assisting the Board in coming to a more thorough appreciation of the vile and criminal practices of a number of so-called "Doctors" who have infested this city.

These parasites have thriven upon the weakness and vices of humanity, and have not alone corrupted the young and innocent, but have encouraged and abetted vice and crime. So far, the victims of these unprincipled scoundrels have been in their toils completely at their mercy, fearing to



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expose them, lest their own infirmities should become known. The method adopted by your Society is the only practical one by which the whole truth can be brought out. Very respectfully yours,

JOHN H. RAUCH, *Secretary.*

But the mails are still flooded with the advertisements of these bogus medical works, recipes, and magic cures.

We add a word of caution, and advice, the moral of what has been told in this chapter.

*First.—Never send money to any one who advertises cures, by mail, as an "M.D."*

*Second.—Never send money to any man who advertises cures and styles himself "Rev."*

*Third.—Never put yourself into the power of these men by any correspondence with them whatever. They are heartless, cruel, and unrelenting, as a class.*

*Fourth.—If necessary, consult a reputable physician with whom you can talk face to face, and none others.*

The sick and afflicted might take courage if all they see in print were true. But, alas! all is not gold that glitters, neither are all doctors who profess to be; but a quack is a quack the world around.

### STILL ANOTHER.

A person reading J. H. Reeves's circular, would naturally mark him as possessing a wonderful remedy; and still more striking is the philanthropic letter, "so sure is he of effecting a cure." But he does not possess all the remedies in existence, and he will be obliged to divide the honors of a philanthropist with the following concern if their letter is to be believed. It is not Dr. Dupont's, but Dr. Churchill's remedy this time. Read; then pay your money, and take your choice!

This concern's advertisement and circulars are after the same form as those of Reeves. Compare this with Reeves's letter.

DAVIDSON & CO.,
86 Nassau street.

NEW YORK, Jan. 19th, 1878.

*Dear Sir*—Not hearing from you since sending Dr. Churchill's recipe, we fear you thought the price $3 too much, or that they would not cure. You

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have our deepest sympathy; and we are so sure of curing you, we offer to send remedies on receipt of $2, and you send Bal when cured; or, if not cured after a fair trial, we will refund the $2. We can offer nothing fairer, and trust you will accept. There is nothing to lose, and all to gain, as a cure is certain. Neglect it, and all may be lost.

Your friends,

DAVIDSON & Co.

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## CHAPTER XX.

### THE LOTTERIES.

This evil is possible because of the weakness of human nature. The gambler bases his calculations upon his hopes rather than upon his chances; for in this traffic judgment is allowed no place to assert its sway. The purchaser of lottery tickets is a gambler; in his ventures he displays the same lack of judgment; he is actuated by the same blind hope. Mental and moral demoralization is immediate and proportioned to the amount of the investment. No sooner has a man secured a lottery ticket than he begins to speculate as to the probability of his holding the lucky number; he fancies the "grand capital prize" in his possession, and begins to day-dream and build air castles. Neglecting in his infatuation all consideration of the wisdom of his venture, he multiplies his chances, as he thinks, by repeated investments; while, in reality, after purchasing a large number of tickets, he is as far from winning a fortune as he was before he had a single one of these deceptive slips. The lottery mania has all the fatal passion of the worst form of gambling. A striking and melancholy illustration of this is afforded in a case recently before the courts, where a New York City bank cashier, having defaulted to the amount of more than $35,000, confessed that he had been driven to this by his dealings with the lottery men, and that he had spent between $400 and $500 daily in a lottery and policy shop on Broadway. For the $35,000 thus expended he had received in return in prizes $2,500. To his lottery mania he sacrificed the stolen money, his honor, position, and friends; he destroyed the peace and happiness of his family, and as his grand prize secured the name and infamy of the thief and the felon's cell. To-day there are thousands of the infatuated victims of these monstrous schemes, who are staking their name and position at the same frightful hazard.

In his estimate of mathematical probabilities, too, the purchaser

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of lottery tickets forgets to take into account the unknown factor of *fraud on the part of the managers.* If we consider the methods of these men and the character of those who vend tickets, we shall at once see the ruinous folly of all lottery ventures; and in the present chapter it is the writer's purpose to show enough of the inside workings of these schemes to warn those who shall read, and to prevent them from losing their money by dealing with these swindlers.

Every lottery scheme is the device of heartless men, invented to delude the people with vain hopes, which only aggravate their misery and distress, in order to speedily and without work enrich the managers.

It has been observed in the Neapolitan provinces that on the days when lottery tickets are vended, there regularly occurs a marked diminution in the sale of bread, and a greatly increased attendance at the pawnbrokers' shops. I have no question that, if the facts were known, this would be found equally the case in our own city; for during the last few days before the monthly drawings of the different lotteries, the dens where tickets are sold are constantly crowded with a throng of young men, sewing girls, servants, and hundreds of men and women from all the lowly and toiling classes of the laboring poor.

"In Italy," says a shrewd observer, "it appears that during the past eight years, notwithstanding the widespread destitution and suffering experienced, the population has expended, on an average, in the purchase of lottery tickets, not less than $14,000,000 annually. In that period the aggregate sum, drawn for the most part from the scanty earnings of the poorest classes, exceeded $110,000,000, on which the State has derived a gross profit of $46,000,000. There are, of course, certain deductions to be made for the cost of management, but the residue is so considerable that no ministry has as yet had the courage to suppress the institution."

The same writer, in making a comparison of deposits in savings banks and lotteries in the same country, says:

"If now we examine the gambling propensities of these districts, we find that in the year 1872, each hundred persons in Piedmont invested $3 in lotteries and $175 in savings banks, while in Lombardy the lotteries got $31 against $1,424 deposited in savings institutions. In Campana, on the other

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hand, there were for each hundred individuals $147 wasted on lotteries, against only $65 stored up in savings banks. In Pouille, the lottery swallowed up $57, while the savings banks got less than $2; and in the Abruzzi, the Calabrias, and other Neapolitan provinces, the disproportion of economies to the sum squandered upon lotteries was equally astounding.

If we turn our attention to the examination of facts in our own country, we will find among the poor and ignorant class, instances of squandering equally startling. And it must also be borne in mind, that in this connection, there is a twin sister of the lottery, that is more avaricious and heartless, if possible, than the lottery itself. I speak of

POLICY.

In the city of New York alone, it is estimated that there are at least 600 policy shops.

Formerly in Piedmont, lotteries were managed in such a way as to lessen the scourge among the poor, by the fraction of the smallest subdivision of a ticket being placed at 20 cents, so that the most destitute classes were unable to gamble in this way. Similar efforts have been made in Germany, where it is said the lottery brings in about a million dollars annually. There the price of a ticket has been fixed at such a rate, that it is beyond the reach of the poor, the minimum price being 20 marks, or $5.

But in this country, lottery tickets may be purchased for 50 cents and upward; and as if this was not a sufficient curse to the poor, the policy dens have been established where persons may gamble in this way for 5 cents a "chance" and upward. These policy drawings again are made twice a day, instead of once a month, so that the poor deluded mortal, who indulges in this vice, may not only try his luck in the lottery once a month; but also in the policy shop twice each day; and as though this barbarity was not sufficient, unprincipled scoundrels have resorted to other devices, and have invented what is called the "ENVELOPE GAME," in which chances are purchased for from two cents to five cents each, with drawings every *five minutes*.

This last infamous enterprise is the handiwork of some of the basest, meanest, and most unscrupulous men that inhabit the

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earth. In one of these dens which I recently caused to be broken up, was found the proprietor, and five writers, who night and day swindled the poor men and women. Yes, more, whose place was frequently thronged with boys and girls, spending their money, only to be robbed.*

While visiting this place with one of the officials of our city, who had asked me to accompany him, I heard one poor man, who had played his last penny, in most beseeching tones beg to be permitted to have just one more chance on credit, saying, "you have all I have got in the world; let me have just one more chance, (5 cts.) so as to get a little something to keep me over night. In reply, the proprietor with foul oaths, told his clerk to whom this poor victim was pleading, to "thump that fellow in the nose, and throw him down the stairs, if he did not shut up."

This is the kind of monster, that stands behind the counter and takes the very heart-blood out of his victim, taking the money from the father, and at the same time the food and clothes from the innocent wife and children.

*It is in such dens as these that the lottery manager places his tickets for sale.*

A casual observer standing at the entrance of one of these places would be amazed at the condition of those who throng into it.

Starving men and women with pinched features and ragged clothing, enter, in the vain hope of increasing their scanty store, only to lose the little they have.

There is an infatuation about this work, that seems to exert a power and influence over the minds of these deluded creatures,

*While writing this, a wife and mother calls and shows me her pocketbook filled with pawn tickets, which meant that her household goods and other necessities had been sacrificed to supply bread for her children, while her husband was spending his all in this gambling den. And when she applied to the proprietor for sufficient to eke out her rent, he promptly retorted to her to "Go to H- -." And since then, I have learned from one of the employees, that this same deluded wretch one day came in without money, and became so crazed that he went out, pawned his coat, and came back in his shirt sleeves, played, and lost all.

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almost equal in its power and force to the appetite for strong drink.

I desire just here to emphasize in strongest terms, the fact, that *it is against the Constitution and laws of the State of New York, for a lottery, policy, or gambling hell to exist.*

It is against the law, to sell a ticket, to issue a circular, or to publish an advertisement in the newspapers; or send letters and circulars concerning lotteries through the mail.

It is also against the laws of *all* the States (but one) in the Union; and also against the laws of the United States of America, to send any circular, or letters concerning these things through the mails; and it is equally a fact, that openly, boldly, and seemingly with the protection, and sanction of the police and the prosecuting officers, these laws are defied, are set aside, and brought into contempt.

The practice of the lottery is infamous and demoralizing. The large profits accruing to those who are interested in it, give them the means to wield a powerful influence in political circles, and over many men who fill offices of trust, and whose duty it is to see that these laws are executed.

I am informed by a Grand Juror in this State, that a recent attempt on the part of the Grand Jury to indict certain newspapers for publishing these advertisements, was met by the specious argument, that it was useless to attempt to do anything with these advertisements, because no effort had been made to enforce laws, equally as binding, against the Roman Catholic and Seventh Regiment raffle and chance schemes; and this in the face of the fact, that for more than three years, these laws have been openly defied, flagrantly violated, and brought into public contempt, by men who while under indictment continue their nefarious business publicly; while these indictments remain untried before the courts.

I do not hesitate to say here, emphatically, that any official who shall thus permit and encourage such lawlessness, is responsible, and ought to be held accountable to law by every decent citizen for violation of his oath of office. *He is a foe to humanity, a traitor to the best interests of his country.*

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Philanthropists pour out their wealth each year to support thousands of the poor of the city of New York alone, and many of these families suffer because the legitimate means of support go into the coffers of the men who run these schemes.

For proof of this curse to the poor, and poverty and affliction to hundreds of families, go to the noble charitable institutions of the city, especially Rev. Mr. Kramer, Master of St. John's Guild, who has had a large experience in caring for the destitute.

These swindlers roll in wealth. They make a pretentious display at home, and with their magnificent liveries create a sensation in society abroad. They have ample wealth, which enables them to employ the first counsel in the land to defend their nefarious practices, and to interfere with legislation; and yet the families of thousands who contribute to this magnificent display, starve for lack of money so squandered by them.

Let us look at some of these different schemes that pretend to be respectable, and that are constantly advertised in all the papers of the land as "old, reliable concerns."

## THE KENTUCKY LOTTERIES.

### THE KENTUCKY STATE LOTTERY—THE COMMONWEALTH DISTRIBUTION OF LOUISVILLE, FRANKFORT AND COVINGTON, KY., ETC.

The managers and proprietors of the former of these are Simmons & Dickinson; Murray, France & Co., and Morris J. Richmond; of the latter, Thomas J. Cummerford, Geo. Wiley Barrows, *et al.*

N.B.—THE KENTUCKY LOTTERY AND COMMONWEALTH CASH DISTRIBUTION CO. OF KENTUCKY, ARE NO LONGER LEGAL, BUT ARE FRAUDS.

By an Act approved February 1st, 1838, the General Assembly of Kentucky conferred on the Trustees of the City of Frankfort, Ky., the right "to raise by a lottery, in one or more classes as to them might seem expedient, any sum NOT EXCEEDING *one hundred thousand dollars*," to be appropriated for the use and benefit of city schools, and for the construction of water works for the city of Frankfort aforesaid; and in the case of "The Commonwealth

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*vs.* The City of Frankfort (Simmons & Dickinson, E. S. Stewart, etc.), 1877, it was held by the Court of Appeals of Kentucky, "that the presumption from lapse of time, etc., was that the $100,000 had long since been raised."

In this case, Simmons & Dickinson show by their answer that in 1841 the managers of this lottery sold out to one Gregory a scheme and certain classes devised by them, and that in 1861 they sold another scheme and classes thereof to Wood, Eddy & Murray; and that they, Simmons & Dickinson, were then the sole owners of all the undrawn classes of the schemes so sold these two parties.

Says the Court of Appeals in the same case:

But whether, according to their own statements, their asserted right to draw 288 undrawn classes has any legal existence, must depend on the true construction of the lottery grant, and the conclusions to be deduced from certain facts not only admitted, but set up and relied on by them as constituting a defense to the action.

* * * * * * * * *

The question now is not how many of the classes agreed on remain undrawn, but what sum of money in the way of actual net profits has been raised by the drawings held before the institution of this action?

On this material question Simmons and Dickinson make no disclosure.

* * * * * * * * *

The circumstances of this case are altogether extraordinary. The lottery grant was more than thirty-five years old when this proceeding was commenced. The Legislature evidently contemplated it should be made available for the purposes of the Act within a reasonable period of time. It is not to be supposed the intention was that a business or vocation which the law-making department had theretofore denounced as injurious to the good citizens of the Commonwealth, and productive of extensive evils (Act of 1816, vol. 2, p. 1150, Stat. Laws,) should be carried on for an indefinite time, for the benefit, in the main, of the private person or persons to whom the rights, privileges and immunities incident to the grant might be sold.

* * * * * * * * *

Appellees (Simmons and Dickinson) also make it appear that the representatives of the city of Frankfort have long since received from them, and the persons through whom they claim, $100,000, or its equivalent.

The lottery has been in active operation since 1840, and since the 22d of May, 1861, there have been drawn 7,898 classes * * * (so say Simmons and Dickinson in their answer).

The unauthorized and mistaken construction of the grants under which the sales were made by the managers, the great length of time the lottery has

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been in active operation, and the large sums of money paid over by the purchasers, immediate and remote, authorize the presumption that the full sum of one hundred thousand dollars has been long since realized by the numerous drawings admitted to have been held.

The facts necessary to rebut this presumption are peculiarly within the knowledge of the parties who have been exercising the lottery franchise, and they are necessarily out of the reach of the Commonwealth.

Now read with care the conclusion of this case by this highest Court in the State of Kentucky. It says:

For these reasons it is incumbent on these appellees (Simmons and Dickinson) to rebut this presumption, and to show that for sufficient legal reasons the grant has not yet been exhausted; and if they fail to do so, they will be prohibited from the further exercise of a privilege *which tends to foster and encourage the spirit of gaming, is productive of injury to the people of the Commonwealth, and is against common right.*

They then recite that the charter of the city of Frankfort, approved March 16, 1869, cannot affect the law in this case.

The statutes of Kentucky provide against the sale or maintaining of any lottery tickets or any lottery except by authority of law (Act of 1816). The Acts of Feb. 1, 1838, Feb. 16, 1839, and Feb. 23, 1854, conferring lottery privileges for the benefit of the city schools, etc., provide that the *grant shall determine so soon as there is raised by lottery* $100,000.

Is any one so simple as to suppose that with 7,898 classes exhausted there has not been ten times $100,000 raised. More than $100,000 would have been raised if but $12.67 had been realized each drawing.

By an Act approved March 16, 1869, the General Assembly of Kentucky afterwards conferred on the Board of Commissioners of the City of Frankfort, Ky., the same franchise, powers, and authority, as that conferred on the managers in the Act approved Feb. 1, 1838—*the remnant of the grant of* 1838, and *nothing new or additional.*

In a letter received in our office Sept. 23, 1880, from Hon. P. W. Hardin, Attorney General for the State of Kentucky, he says in reply to a letter which I wrote him:

In response to the first question as to whether the so-called Kentucky Lottery and the Commonwealth Distribution Co. are legally chartered, and have

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they any legal standing? I answer emphatically *no!* The only pretext for operating any of those demoralizing gambling schemes, that has even the semblance of legal sanction, is that in 1838 the Legislature of Kentucky, in an Act entitled "An Act for the benefit of the city school in the town of Frankfort and for other purposes," granted certain Lottery privileges. In 1869, more than thirty years afterwards, and long after this grant was exhausted, defunct, and forgotten, the Legislature was imposed upon by an Act, wearing the fair and unsuspicious title of "An Act to amend, and reduce into one, the several Acts in relation to the City of Frankfort." By the 18th sec. of this Act, it is provided that the Board of Councilmen of the City of Frankfort, "Shall have the same franchises, power, and authority, as are conferred on the managers in an Act entitled 'An Act for the benefit of the City School in the Town of Frankfort, and for other purposes,' approved Feb. 1838."

You will observe the careful concealment of the Lottery feature of this Act neatly stored away in the body of the 18th sec., when not another section, directly or remotely, refers to it.

Three years passed away, and another Act, entitled "An Act amendatory to the Laws in relation to the City of Frankfort," is presented and passed by an unsuspecting body of Law-makers, and was approved March 28th, 1872.

By this Act it was provided "That the Board of Councilmen of the City of Frankfort, be, and are hereby authorized and empowered to grant, bargain, sell, and convey, to rent, or lease, any and all property or any part thereof, belonging to said City of Frankfort, be the same, land, tenements, goods, chattels, or franchises, or immunities, on such terms, and for such sums, and, at such times, as said Board of Councilmen shall deem for the best interests of said City of Frankfort." The object of this Act was to enable the Board of Councilmen of the City of Frankfort to effectively put in operation the Lottery privilege they claimed under the former Acts, by selling and transferring the franchise, and on the 31st day of Dec., 1875, they did enter into a contract with E. S. Stewart, and sold to him said franchise, at the agreed sum of one hundred thousand dollars, to be paid in installments. The scheme authorized by the Act of 1838 and 1869 was incorporated into, and made a part of the contract. On the 19th of April, 1876, Stewart sold twenty of the thirty thousand nine hundred classes which composed the scheme, to one Pepper, and transferred certain other interests to Hensley, Lawrence, Holman, Morrill, Meredith, and Owen Stewart.

He then transferred his remaining interests to John P. Jones, who in turn, sold to Simmons & Dickinson. Pepper had one drawing Dec. 6, 1876, and on the 16th of Dec., 1876, conveyed his remaining 19 classes to George P. Miller. Subsequent to the sale to Miller, Pepper, upon his own petition, was adjudged a bankrupt.

On Feb. 5th, 1877, Miller sold one interest, amounting to sixty-six and two-thirds per cent. in five classes, to G. W. Barrow. Shortly after this sale from Miller, G. W. Barrow and J. E. Barrow, under the firm name of G. W.

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Barrow & Co., commenced to draw a lottery, called the Commonwealth Distribution Company.

On the 11th day of Dec., 1877, Dudley, who was the assignee in bankruptcy of Pepper, sued Miller to recover the classes transferred to him by Pepper, alleging the contract of Dec. 16, 1866, was fraudulent and void. While this suit was pending, and before Miller had answered, Dudley, by contract of Oct. 3d, 1878, attempted a transfer of fourteen of the classes formerly owned by Pepper, to G. W. Barrow and Co. On Oct. 8th, 1878, Miller filed his answer, disclaiming any interest under his contract with Pepper, but in the mean time, namely July 30th, 1877, the City of Frankfort, in the exercise of the discretion reserved in the contract with Stewart, had declared the contract with him cancelled, and had on Aug. 2d, 1877, resold said grant to Murray, Miller & Co.

This is substantially the history of the legislation, the sales and transfers under which they claim the legal right to set up, and run an indefinite number of lotteries, under different names, schemes, and plans, which it is claimed may continue until the 30,000 classed are exhausted, which will take, upon a calculation of one drawing per day, Sundays excepted, a little over ninety-nine years to finish up.

All of those parties claiming to act under this so-called grant, have been indicted, and there is now pending, in the Court of Appeals, about sixty cases, against the different operators of Lotteries in this State.

It is true that on Feb. 27, 1878, our Court of Appeals affirmed a decision of the lower Court, deciding that the act of 1869 did grant to the City of Frankfort, the Lottery Privileges granted in the act of 1868, but this affirmance was by an equally divided court, Chief Justice Lindsey and Judge Cofer dissenting.

The Chief Justice said in his dissenting opinion, "Such grants are against common right, are against the general policies of our laws, and are never to be presumed. When made in express terms, the courts must submit to the will of the Legislature, and can neither refuse to protect the grantees in the enjoyment of their extraordinary privileges, nor abridge, trammel, or destroy them by construction; but the grant is never to be implied from equivocal, or doubtful language. In the construction of a charter, to be in doubt is to be resolved, and every resolution which springs from doubt, is against the corporation."

This iniquitous business in our State is limited to two or three places. Under the guise of a charity, and the pretext of a legal sanction, *it robs the poor, and allures with false hopes, and leads to ruin both young and old. It is against public policy and public morals*, and I trust that it will not be long before the Law, supported by a proper public sentiment, will assert itself, and put them down.

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed) P. W. HARDIN, Atty. Genl.

Such are the brave words of this heroic law officer. Would

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that every law and prosecuting office were filled with such men.

They, by the Act of 1869, received no greater immunities and privileges than were received and could be enjoyed under the original grant.

By Act of March 28, 1872, this Board of Commissioners were authorized to sell or dispose of any property or franchise belonging to the city. This selling of a lottery interest, even if there had been one, would seem almost a farce, in the light of the above facts. The thoughtful reader will also say, that, for one Legislature to legalize what another body had as far back as 1816 condemned and denounced as "injurious to the good citizens, and productive of extensive evils," is equally absurd.

As has been seen, on December 31st, 1875, the city of Frankfort devised a scheme of drawing a lottery, consisting of 30,900 classes, and sold it to one E. S. Stewart, *et al.*, and which seems to have passed into the hands of Simmons & Dickinson, except twenty-one classes which were procured by James E. Pepper, and one of which was drawn by him in Frankfort, Ky., under the title of the "Kentucky Cash Distribution Co.," and the remaining nineteen classes were, December 16, 1876, conveyed to George C. Miller, etc., and afterwards fell into the hands of George and John Barrow.

Later the city of Frankfort attempted to cancel the contract with Stewart, and entered into a contract of sale of the same scheme to Murray and Miller, and afterward in 1878 entered into a supplemental contract with the same parties.

By an Act approved April 30, 1878, the General Assembly of Kentucky *repealed all lottery grants existing in the State of Kentucky.* It says:

**CHAPTER 689.—An Act to repeal all laws granting lottery privileges or franchises to any person or corporation.**

***Be it enacted*, by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:**

**Section 1. That all acts and parts of acts of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth containing any grant of a lottery privilege or franchise, be and the same are hereby repealed so far as they relate to such grants.**

**Section 2. This act shall be in force from its passage.**

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The Court of Appeals of Kentucky, in the case of Gregory *vs.* Trustees of Shelby College, held that a similar statute enacted 1852, to take effect 1856, was unconstitutional as to prior lottery grants, the Legislature having no power to divest vested rights.

### DECISION OF THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

The Supreme Court of the United States, May 10th, 1880, rendered a decision which overrules all this. The decision was as follows, and *sustains both these acts as constitutional:*

No. 181. John B. Stone, *et al.*, plaintiffs in error, *vs.* The State of Mississippi—In error to the Supreme Court of Mississippi.—This was a suit brought by the State for the purpose of suppressing a lottery company known as "The Mississippi Educational and Manufacturing Aid Society." This corporation was duly chartered by an act passed by the Legislature of Mississippi on the 16th of January, 1867. On the 9th of July, 1870, an act was passed to give effect to article 12, section 15, of the State Constitution of 1868, which prohibited the authorization of lotteries by the State and the further sale of tickets by companies already authorized. The Circuit Court, upon information filed by the Attorney-General, and in view of this prohibiting act, entered a judgment of ouster against the respondents, which upon appeal was affirmed by the Supreme Court. The case is now brought here for review, upon the ground that the Act of the State Legislature of July 9, 1870, making it unlawful to conduct a lottery in the State of Mississippi, is unconstitutional and invalid, because it impairs the obligation of the contract entered into by the State when it granted the plaintiffs in error their charter.

### THE DECISION.

This Court holds—first, that a contract which a State enters into when it grants a charter to a private corporation is undoubtedly under the protection of the federal constitution.

*Second*—That the Legislature of Mississippi did undoubtedly enter into a contract with this corporation, the condition of which was the payment to the State by the lottery company of a certain percentage of the latter's receipts.

*Third*—That, although the lottery company was duly chartered, the Legislature which granted that charter had *no authority* to bargain away the police power of the State in the regulation of *all matters affecting the public health and the public morals.* The supervision of both these subjects of governmental power is continuing in its nature, and they are to be dealt with as the special exigencies of the moment may require. Government is organized with a view to their preservation and cannot divest itself of the power to provide for them. That lotteries are demoralizing in their effects,

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no matter how carefully regulated, cannot, in the opinion of this Court, be doubted. There is now scarcely a State in the Union where they are tolerated, and Congress has enacted a special statute, the object of which is to close the mails against them. This being the case there can be no question that lotteries are proper subjects of the exercise of the State's governmental or police power.

BAD EFFECT OF LOTTERIES.

The contracts which the federal constitution protects are those which relate to property rights, not to government rights. Lotteries belong to the latter class. They are a species of gambling and wrong in their influences. They disturb the checks and balances of a well ordered community. Society built on such a foundation would almost of necessity bring forth a population of speculators and gamblers living on the expectation of what chance might award them from the accumulations of others. Certainly, the right to stop them is governmental, and to be exercised at all times by those in power, at their discretion. Any one, therefore, who accepts a lottery charter does so with the implied understanding that the people, in their sovereign capacity and through their properly constituted authorities, may take it back at any time when the public good shall require, and this whether it be paid for or not. He gets, in legal effect, nothing more than a license to continue on the terms named for the specified time, unless sooner abrogated by the sovereign power of the State. It is a permit, good as against existing laws, but subject to future legislation or constitutional control or withdrawal. Decree affirmed, with costs. Opinion by Chief Justice Waite.

In addition to all the above, also an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Kentucky, approved April 27th, 1880, prohibits all lotteries which are conducted without express authority of law, and by the decision of the United States Supreme Court, already quoted, these very laws which could give this authority *have been repealed.*

To further show the true character of these Kentucky lotteries, as determined by the action of the State Courts and prosecuting officers, we append a copy of an

INDICTMENT OF SIMMONS AND DICKINSON.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY,
*against*
Z. E. SIMMONS and S. T. DICKINSON.

JEFFERSON CIRCUIT COURT,
February Term, A. D. 1879.

The Grand Jurors of the County of Jefferson, in the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, accuse Z. E. Simmons and S.

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T. Dickinson of the offence of managing and promoting a lottery for money, committed in manner and form as follows, to wit:

The said Simmons and Dickinson, in the County of Jefferson, on the 1st day of January, A. D. 1879, and within one year before the finding of this indictment, unlawfully did manage and promote a lottery for money; by then and there employing clerks and agents to carry on the business of a lottery called the Frankfort Lottery of Kentucky, by then and there keeping offices and employing others to keep offices for the transaction of the business of said lottery; by then and there keeping and procuring others to keep books of accounts of the business of said lottery; by then and there advertising and giving public notice of said lottery, and by then and there selling and procuring others to sell tickets in said lottery, and by then and there managing and carrying on and procuring others to manage and carry on the business of said lottery. A further description of which said lottery is to the Grand Jurors aforesaid unknown.

Contrary to the form of the statute in such case made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

——— ———, *Commonwealth's Attorney.*

*Witnesses:*

JOHN JOYCE,
W. SCOTT GLOVER,
J. T. MERCER,
H. O. MERCER,
LEWIS KLAN.

*A Copy—Att.:*
JNO. S. CAIN,
*C. J. C. C.*

Another instance will add interest and force here, as the expression of the Chief Justice of the high Court of Appeals for Kentucky. Oct. 12, 1877, the following case was carried to the Court of Appeals and decided there against the plaintiff. In the case of

MILLER *vs.* COMMONWEALTH,

Miller had been convicted under an indictment "for promoting and aiding in the promotion" of the Kentucky State Lottery, and had an office at Lexington, for the sale of tickets. He appealed his case, and Chief Justice Lindsay delivered the opinion of the Court, affirming the action of the lower Court. He says:

The Court instructed the jurors that

If they should believe beyond a reasonable doubt that during the month of Nov., 1875, drawings were made by the Kentucky State Lottery, or by any person or persons managing or controlling a scheme or schemes under that name for the distribution of prizes or money, by chance * * * and that the



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defendant, Henry Miller, was interested, or was agent &c., they should find him guilty. * * *

And they so found him, and this highest Court affirmed the judgment.

THE COMMONWEALTH CASH DISTRIBUTION CO.

One word about the "Commonwealth Cash Distribution Co." It is very manifest from what has already been presented that if this concern ever had any legal standing, it was only for nineteen classes or drawings. It is now positively clear from their own showing that twenty drawings have already expired, and that consequently the lottery has no standing legally, morally, nor, it is safe to say, in any other way. The following notice taken from a paper of June 16th, 1880, announces the *twenty-first* drawing:

# —21st—

POPULAR MONTHLY DRAWING OF THE

## COMMONWEALTH DISTRIBUTION COMPANY,

in public at Macauley's Theatre, in the city of Louisville, on

**Wednesday, June 30, 1880.**

These drawings, authorized by act of the Legislature of 1869, and sustained by all the courts of Kentucky, occur regularly on the last day of every month (Sundays and Fridays excepted), and are supervised by prominent citizens of the State.

In connection with this advertisement, we call special attention to the fact that, in common with all the so-called Kentucky lotteries, this scheme places no limit to the number of tickets sold. They announce no such limit in their advertisement. They issue all they can sell. This is in itself a fraud on the purchaser.

The State of Kentucky has, through its Courts, presented by the Grand Jury, in and for Jefferson County, the following against the managers of that concern.

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INDICTMENT OF G. WILEY BARROW, *et al.*

THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY,
*against*
G. W. BARROW, AND J. E. BARROW JUNR. AND
W. M. BARROW.

JEFFERSON CIRCUIT COURT,
February Term, A. D. 1879.

The Grand Jurors of the County of Jefferson, in the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, accuse G. W. Barrow, J. E. Barrow Jr. and W. M. Barrow of the offense of drawing, setting up, and managing and promoting a lottery for money, committed in manner and form as follows, to wit:

[Then followed averments similar to the case of Simmons & Dickinson.]

Contrary to the form of the statute in such cases made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

————, *Commonwealth's Attorney.*

*Witnesses:*
T. J COMMERFORD,
CLAY VAN ARSDALE.

*A Copy—Att.:*
JNO. S. CAIN,
*C. J. C. C.*

But if all the acts of the legislature above cited, with the decision of the Courts, do not avail to convince the reader that ALL THE SINGLE NUMBER LOTTERIES OF KENTUCKY ARE GROSS FRAUDS AND ILLEGAL, read the recent decision of the Court of Appeals, made during June, 1880.

State of Kentucky, Court of Appeals.

ROBERT W. MERDITH, *et al.*, *Appellants*,
*vs.*
G. W. BARROW, *et al.*, *Appellees.*

*Appeal from Campbell Chy. Ct.*

The Court being sufficiently advised, delivered the following opinion herein, to wit:

* * * * * *

The Statutes empowered the City Council to devise a scheme and to sell the scheme so devised. The scheme was devised and as devised was to be drawn on the *ternary* plan, and holders of any of these classes have no more right to draw a single number lottery than if no lottery franchise had been granted, and consequently the alleged drawings by Barrow of single number lotteries were illegal. * * *

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### STILL ANOTHER FRAUD.

Again, it is claimed that there is another lottery grant for the benefit of the University of Paducah. The acts relied on as establishing the grant of lottery privileges to that institution are those of Feb. 8, 1839, March 11, 1851, Jan. 25, 1858, Feb. 9, 1866, and Feb. 7, 1867.

The first act authorized certain persons to raise by way of lottery $100,000, to be appropriated one-fourth for the improvement of Paducah wharf, one-fourth to the Paducah Female Seminary, the balance to the benefit of the Male Seminary of Paducah.

The only interests the University had under the act of 1851, so far as the lottery privilege was concerned, was the right to receive from the original managers one-half of the sum of money to be thereafter raised; so says the Court of Appeals of Kentucky.

The act of 1858 recites, that doubts had arisen whether the Revised Statutes had not repealed the act of 1837, (doubtless meaning the act of 1839,) and then declares that the acts in relation to the Seminaries of Paducah, passed prior to the adoption of the Revised Statutes, should be revived, re-enacted, and continued in full force.

The act of 1866 ignores the University of Paducah, and any rights its President and Board of Directors may have acquired under the act of March, 1851, and then provides for the repairing of school buildings and the conveying and selling of their property, franchises, etc.

The Court of Appeals in and for the State of Kentucky, in case of "Commonwealth *vs.* Bull," says:

**It cannot be maintained, under any reasonable construction of these acts, that the University of Paducah has the right, through its President, etc., to draw, or cause to be drawn, a lottery for its own exclusive benefit.**

**There being no statute, public or private, authorizing a lottery to be drawn for the sole benefit of the said University, it is evident the indictment contains no statement of facts, warranting the assumption that the Commonwealth has pleaded, on the part of the accused, *even if it be conceded that the Kentucky State Lottery was operated under authority from and for the benefit* of that institution.**

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It will be seen in this case as well as all others, that this highest court does not recognize these lottery grants, as any barrier to a criminal prosecution for selling or vending lottery tickets in Kentucky; and that they presume in each and every case that the $100,000 has been realized long ago, and that the burden of proof is on the defendant in each case to so establish in their defence. And it is a *remarkable fact*, so far as I can discover, that *not one of these swindlers has presumed to attempt in any of the courts to establish this vital point for themselves.*

It is a current rumor in New York, and has been admitted by one of the lottery men of this city, that all three of the Kentucky lotteries are operated under one charter or grant, and that they have all combined, pooling receipts and dividing profits.

Reader, is not a man a fool to send his money to such men as these, or to invest in such abominable schemes?

Simmons resides in New York City, and Dickinson in Cincinnati, while Messrs. Murray, France and Co. are in St. Louis, Mo. The latter are the managers of the lottery.

In the circulars sent out through the mail, as well as in the advertisements of this lottery, the public are informed, "that holders of prizes are secured by ample bonds, deposited with the State, by the lottery managers."

The following correspondence between the Post Office Department and the Kentucky State officials demonstrates the falsity of this statement.

This correspondence is taken from a Report made by the Postmaster-General in reply to a resolution of the House of Representatives, calling for information regarding the use of mails for lottery purposes. The first letter is from the State Treasurer of Kentucky:

STATE OF KENTUCKY,
OFFICE OF TREASURY DEPARTMENT OF COMMONWEALTH,

FRANKFORT, November 7th, 1879.

SIR—Yours of the 14th inst., making inquiries concerning deposits claimed to have been made by the Kentucky State Lottery, is to hand, and in reply will state, that the Kentucky State Lottery has never deposited with me any

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bonds to secure the holders of prizes in their Lottery, nor has any other Lottery, of this, or any other State made such deposit with me.

Very respectfully,

JAMES W. TATE,
*Treasurer.*

HON. D. M. KEY, *Postmaster-General*,
Washington, D. C.

Now let the reader stop a moment and reflect, that the very advertisement issued by these men is on the face of it a fraud and a lie! Certainly no one needs to be told, that the concern which starts out with falsehoods is not a safe place to sent money for investment.

It would seem as if the Legislature of the State of Kentucky, on various occasions had allowed certain persons to get up a device, by which thousands of dollars were to be gathered in, from all over the Union, for the benefit of a few men, provided $100,000 be paid for this privilege.

We do not propose at this time to show the flattering inducements that are offered by these men. We desire simply in this book to show sufficient to warn the poor, thoughtless, and credulous ones, so that they shall not be swindled or robbed of their money by the different schemes, that are being continually foisted upon the people by shrewd, unscrupulous men.

In November last, there were some thirty or forty different persons who openly defied the laws of the State of New York, by publicly advertising lotteries in the daily press. Of this number many had the sale of tickets in these particular lotteries.

The so-called

GEORGIA STATE LOTTERY

of Simmons & Dickinson, the name of which is used by them in New York city, is well known to be Bogus, for the State of Georgia has no lottery grants.

Now, are the "single-number" lotteries of the city of Covington, conducted by Simmons & Dickinson, fair and honest in the details of their management? Read the following extracts from a Covington, Ky., letter to the *Cincinnati Commercial*, and the

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Report of the Postmaster-General to the House of Representatives, 1880, and then answer the question.

QUEER LOTTERY MANŒUVERS.

An incident has come to our knowledge, which is likely to give rise to inquiry on the part of State authorities; to say nothing of numerous ticket-holders, that may prove annoying, if not worse, to the parties engaged.

It is not generally known here, that Simmons & Dickinson advertise and sell in New York, and perhaps other eastern cities, for a single-number lottery to be drawn here on the 1st and 15th of every month. Such is the fact, however, for we have before us the New York Herald with such an advertisement, headed "Old Reliable Kentucky State Lottery," &c., and fixing the drawing for the 15th of this month. On that day (early in the morning) a ticket-holder, suspecting something wrong, went to the room on the southwest corner of Madison and Fifth streets, this city, where Simmons, Dickinson & Co.'s drawings take place, and was informed by one of the commissioners that the drawing of the single-number lottery for that day would take place at 10 o'clock. Every fifteen or twenty minutes either the ticket-holder or a friend went to the door of the room, which had been locked, and looking through the key-hole, saw the wheel, with the ballots in it, standing in a line between the point of view and a front window. It was clearly not disturbed during the morning up to 10.10, for it takes from one and a half to two hours to make a single-number drawing, and the wheel was seen every fifteen or twenty minutes as stated. At 10.10 a. m. the ticket-holder again went to the room, when he found entrance and was told that the drawing had already taken place. He respectfully doubted the report, and justified his doubt by pointing to the wheel, with the ballots still in it and the dust on it, as it had been in the early morning, but he could get no other answer. He was promised a copy of the drawing at 1 p. m., but on applying at that time was told that instructions had been given not to let him see it.

On the 18th the list of drawn numbers appeared in the New York Herald. Affidavits were made to these facts and filed with the attorney-general of the State.

Now there are several points worth noting in this "o'er true tale." It would be easy to put only a certain number of the tickets on the market, and only the reserved numbers in the wheel. We can't suspect anything of the kind, however, for these lottery Brutuses "are honorable men." The lottery grant under which Messrs. Simmons, Dickinson & Co. are operating gives no authority for a single-number lottery, and any such lottery drawn under it is in violation of the law, and subjects them to the penalties of the statute against gaming. Is that the reason why the drawing is not advertised, nor the tickets sold inside of the State?

If the lottery was not drawn here as advertised, fairly and openly, then the New York ticket-holders were duped. If it was so drawn, then Simmons,

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Dickinson & Co. are liable to prosecution. The list of numbers said to have been drawn in the lottery which took place here on the 15th instant, under the circumstances related, was advertised in the New York Herald of the 18th, with the names of the two commissioners attached. Perhaps they will rise and explain a little.

In the United States Circuit Court, District of Kentucky.

SIMMONS & DICKINSON,
*vs.*
MURRAY, MILLER & Co.

Extracts from the deposition of R. H. Ramsey, Simmons & Dickinson's sworn commissioner, taken at Louisville, Ky.:

*Question.* State your name, place of residence, and occupation.—*Answer.* R. H. Ramsey, Covington, Ky.; occupation, lottery commissioner.

*Q.* How many years have you been connected with Simmons & Dickinson?—*A.* Ever since that firm has been in existence I have been in the employ of that firm.

*Q.* What are your duties as commissioner?—*A.* My duties as commissioner are to see that the drawing is properly conducted; to put the numbers in, to keep a record of the numbers as they are drawn, and certify to the drawing.

*Q.* Is it not a fact that you are sworn to see that the drawing is fairly conducted as commissioner?—*A.* To see that the drawing is faithfully conducted, faithfully and impartially drawn.

*Q.* Is it not true that, as commissioner of the drawings, you are supposed to and ought to know for whose benefit and what the drawing is; don't you certify to that effect?—*A.* No, sir; I do not.

*Q.* Then you draw the lottery without knowing what it is for?—*A.* It is not my business to know.

*Q.* You are commissioner for these lotteries, one grant specifying you could draw a certain lottery, and the other that you could not, and you were drawing the lotteries and did not know what grant you were drawing under?—*A.* As I said before, it was none of my business.

*Q.* At what place did you meet the gentleman, and under what circumstances?—*A.* I met him at the office of Simmons & Dickinson, on the southwest corner of Fifth and Madison streets, in Covington; about the time described, a gentleman came into the office, I think it was about seven and a half o'clock in the morning, very early in the morning, not later than seven and a half o'clock, and made some inquiries in regard to the single-number drawing reported to take place that day. He asked me if the drawing would take place at that place, and at what hour. I stated to him that it would, and at ten o'clock.

*Q.* State under what circumstances you first saw the gentleman.—*A.* I stated that already.

*Q.* State it again.—*A.* Well, I did not know the gentleman, when he came in, by name. As I said, there was a gentleman came in and made some in-

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quiries in regard to the single-number drawing. I went off and hunted Mr. Dickinson and presented the gentleman to him. We immediately made preparation to draw the single-number lottery between the time I told the gentleman and ten o'clock.

*Q.* Between what hours?—*A.* Between eight and half-past nine o'clock.

*Q.* You told the gentleman it would be at ten o'clock?—*A.* As I say, we were suspicious, and we changed the time.

*Q.* How do you know there are a hundred thousand numbers in the wheel?—*A.* Because I put them in.

*Q.* Do you put them in every drawing?—*A.* No, sir.

*Q.* How long since you counted those one hundred thousand numbers?—*A.* I have counted them myself but the once.

*Q.* Did you put them in?—*A.* Yes, sir.

*Q.* Have you counted them since you put them in?—*A.* No, sir.

*Q.* What time is it since you counted them and put them in?—*A.* I don't know; perhaps a year or a year and a half ago since the numbers were placed in the lottery.

*Q.* What time in the day do these single-number drawings take place?—*A.* Well, when we do not expect any trouble, the usual time is half-past twelve—commencing at half-past twelve; that is the usual hour.

*Q.* Who assists you in supervising these drawings?—*A.* Mr. Croninger is the other commissioner.

*Q.* You were both present during this drawing spoken of?—*A.* Yes, sir; sometimes Mr. Croninger is not there all the time of the drawing. He is a printer, also, and prints the drawings.

*Q.* Did any other person witness the drawing on the day on which you drew between half-past eight and nine besides yourself and Mr. Croninger?—*A.* No one at all.

*Q.* The doors were locked?—*A.* Yes, sir.

*Q.* No one could get in?—*A.* No one could get in.

*Q.* What lottery were you drawing at that time?—*A.* We were drawing the Kentucky State Lottery. We are furnished the schemes by the managers, and we draw the lotteries under these schemes. I do not know what grant.

*Q.* You have not known, then, for several years under what grants they were drawing their single-number lotteries?—*A.* No, sir.

Are Simmons & Dickinson's combination lotteries honestly conducted and worthy of public patronage?

READ! READ! READ!

Extracts from letters written by Z. E. Simmons, of the firm of Simmons & Dickinson, to one of his former associates:

"DEAR BILL: Make it 32, 35, 47.

"Yours truly,

"Z. E. S."

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"Please change 21 and 70 to something else.

"Yours truly,

"Z. E. S."

Copy from drawings issued by Simmons & Dickinson August 25, 1879:

The subscribers, commissioners appointed to superintend the drawing of the Kentucky State Lottery, for the benefit of Henry Academy and Henry Female College, do hereby certify that the following are the numbers which were this day drawn from the 78 placed in the wheel, viz: Class No. 501, for 1879, 45, 30, 59, 42, 37, 34, 3, 18, 27, 31, 19, 61, 44, and that the said numbers were drawn in the order in which they stand above.

Witness our hands at Covington, Ky., this Monday, August 25, 1879.

R. H. RAMSEY,
L. D. CRONINGER,
*Sworn Commissioners.*
SIMMONS & DICKINSON,
*Managers.*

And again:

The subscribers, commissioners appointed to superintend the drawing of the Frankfort Lottery of Kentucky, for the support of the public school of the city of Frankfort, class No. 501, for 1879, hereby certify that the following are the numbers which were this day drawn from the 78 placed in the wheel, viz., 45, 30, 59, 42, 37, 34, 3, 18, 27, 31, 19, 61, 44, and the said numbers were drawn in the order in which they stand above.

Witness our hands at Covington, Ky., this Monday, August 25, 1879.

R. H. RAMSEY,
L. D. CRONINGER,
*Sworn Commissioners.*
SIMMONS & DICKINSON.
*Managers.*

Is there any person who is possessed of any intelligence but what can plainly see that it is simply an impossibility for Simmons & Dickinson to draw two lotteries at the same time, in the same place, in the same class, and have the drawn numbers *identically* the same in each drawing, and in the *exact order drawn!* Is not this a palpable fraud?

Ticket buyers in Simmons & Dickinson's "*lotteries*," carefully digest what is above written, and govern yourselves accordingly.

The undersigned own exclusively every lottery grant in the State of Kentucky, and every drawing, circular, notice, or advertisement not signed with our firm name relates to a lottery not drawn at all, or, if drawn, it is done unlawfully and in violation of the law of the State and the decisions of the courts.

MURRAY, FRANCE & CO.,
*Managers and Owners of all Legalized Kentucky State Lotteries.*

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NOTICE.

As Simmons & Dickinson are advertising and drawing a lottery under a certain contract from the city of Frankfort, dated December 31, 1875, and claiming the sole ownership of same, this is to notify all whom it may concern, that said contract is owned solely by the undersigned, as the records of the city of Frankfort will show, and I am in no manner connected with Simmons & Dickinson, and they are operating said lottery without authority from me and in violation of law.

E. S. STEWART.

LOUISVILLE, KY., November 21, 1879.

I presume that every intelligent reader will be surprised to learn that the headquarters of the Kentucky Lottery for the North is within rifle shot of Police Headquarters in the city of New York! It is permitted to exist with open doors on Broadway, with advertisements in the newspapers, and to be thronged with deluded ones, who go in there to deposit their money to fill the pockets of these criminals.

The above facts as presented to Congress would apparently be sufficient to array every honest man against this outrage; and, in addition to all this, we must regard another circumstance equally startling, *that it not only exists, but thrives in a State where even the Constitution is against it*, to say nothing of the Statutes, which make it a penal offence.

Shame on the Police and Courts of New York! Just here, take notice:

*First.* Every advertisement in a newspaper is a direct violation of the law.

*Second.* These advertisements are an open public directory, informing the Police *just where these dens are*, and where this unlawful business is carried on.

*Third.* It is the duty of the police to suppress all lotteries.

*Fourth.* Every party advertising in New York papers is under arrest and indictment, and some of these indictments are three years old; and yet these men, some of them, have since been repeatedly arrested both in United States and State Courts, and yet are permitted to remain untried and continue their nefarious traffic.

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This business breeds crime as well as pauperism, and tax-payers are obliged each year to provide prison accommodation for thousands who are led astray, through *these* and *kindred* demoralizing influences.

Take the single month of November last. John P. Hawes, Cashier of the Manufacturers and Mechanics' Bank, proclaimed himself in a written confession, which was published in one of the daily papers, a defaulter to $35.400, spent in lottery offices, principally.

John Sheridan, a young man, went into a gambling place on Fourth avenue, and lost $550, of which $400 did not belong to him.

A leading firm in the city of Charleston, S. C., sued a gambler there for $79,000 as a total of money lost by young men in whom they were interested.

A young man named Solomon lost in one of these dens $600, most of which was a trust fund, and then went to a hotel and shot himself dead.

One O'Brien was earning from $20 to $25 per week prior to November 22d. He drew a small prize in some concern, which one I know not. He became crazed by it, abandoned his employment, and on November 22d was sentenced to six months on Blackwell's Island, while his wife and family were left to starve, his wife appearing in Court against him for failing to provide for his family.

A short time previous to this, a poor woman wrote me, imploring me to suppress certain places where her husband spent all his earnings. On investigating her story, I found what she had said to be true; and this in addition: in a small room, neat, tidy, and tasteful, we found an emaciated woman gradually dying for want of proper food, simply because the husband contributed all his earnings to enrich the proprietor of one of these gambling hells.

A mother called upon me, desiring me to save her son, telling me that he was receiving a very fair income in one of our leading business houses of New York, yet failed to provide the

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necessaries of life for his young wife and baby. He was a purchaser of lottery tickets.

A lawyer called to see me, and informed me of a young lad in his employ whom he detected selling postage stamps in order that he might obtain the wherewith to buy lottery tickets.

Another gentleman, a prominent merchant, discovered one of his young men stealing from him that he might obtain money by the proceeds of his plunder to play policy. Thus I might continue, and, from my personal experience, fill pages to come with just such sad instances as these, and yet this business, this heartless, infamous traffic, is tolerated, encouraged, and protected, in open and flagrant violation of law.

Our young men are drawn into the vortex of crime, suicide, and murder, while this hideous monster is permitted to stretch itself boldly and defiantly over the States of our Union.

But some reader asks, why do you not stop these things? I have done my part, and thereby incurred the ill will of this class of swindlers, because I have insisted that the laws shall be enforced and this fraudulent business legally stopped. Moreover, I have again and again arrested nearly every man who has presumed to advertise these illegal schemes. There are indictments now pending in the courts against them. These indictments now pending will doubtless remain untried until the decent men of this city shall rise up, and assert their rights, and demand that these outrages cease, and that the laws of the land be enforced.

In order to assist the ordinary reader to a clear understanding of all lotteries emanating or purporting to spring from the State of Kentucky, we recapitulate as follows:

All such lotteries of *every name* and *nature* (in Kentucky) are *unlawful* and *fraudulent*, because:

*First.* The charters under which they profess to operate were exhausted years ago—so says *Court of Appeals* for Kentucky.

*Second.* Even if each and every grant made by the Legislature of Kentucky had not been long since exhausted by the raising of the amount named, yet they are now defunct, by reason of the *absolute repeal of all lottery grants* by the act of April 30, 1578.

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*Third.* All *single* number lotteries are frauds, and unlawful, as they never had a grant for a single number lottery at any time. The original grant was on the *Ternary* plan. (So says *Court of Appeals, June*, 1880.)

*Fourth.* The United States Supreme Court has affirmed the right of a legislature to repeal lottery grants; therefore the acts of 1856 and 1878, repealing these grants, are both in full force.

*The Kentucky lotteries are therefore unlawful and fraudulent*, and it is worse than pouring water into a sieve with expectation of catching the same, to invest money in their tickets with hope of fairness or profit.

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## CHAPTER XXI.

### THE LOUISIANA STATE LOTTERY.

We now come to deal with a concern that makes pretentious claims to *respectability* and *fair dealing* as justification of its existence.

It is too late in the history of this country and of the world to regard lotteries as respectable or honest. Their record has been made; their history is written. It is a record and history of fraud on the part of the promoters, and of speculation and ruin on the part of the victim. Thousands have gone down into this whirlpool, sacrificing in its vortex their honor, their character, and their position in society. To attempt at this time, to shield the lottery system from public execration, is a folly second only to that of the credulous simpleton who spends his money for the tickets with the expectation of ever getting any return.

It is argued that Washington at one time lent the use of his great name to sanction the drawing of a lottery; and to-day two men, made prominent by their official rank and position in "the late unpleasantness," sell the use of *their* names to add an alleged respectability to one of the most monstrous of the lottery schemes of the day.

There are many things that salt will not save.

Respectability cannot be injected in sufficient quantities, into the lottery enterprises of the present, to shield them from the public condemnation they so richly merit; and while two men are content to sell at a round figure their personal reputation as sponsors for the Louisiana State Lottery, let it be remembered that there are thousands of other gentlemen equally well known, who, were the salary offered them ten times $15,000 a year, would scorn to hold a position whereby they would be aiding and abetting an incalculable injury to their country, by corrupting the morals of the youth, beggaring hundreds of families, and sending sorrow into thousands of households.

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I say, and say without fear of contradiction, that these two ex-Confederate generals, G. T. Beauregard and Jubal A. Early, by bolstering up this nefarious gambling scheme, are doing far more harm to our country than they ever did in battle, openly fighting against the forces who were contending for the grand institutions left us by our forefathers.

We are told that many of the public buildings, and charitable and educational institutions in different States, have been erected through the agency of the lottery; and the Roman Catholic Church, not content with the millions of revenue collected from rich and poor by an unrelenting system of tax and tithe, has sanctioned and fostered this method of raising money. The first lottery drawn in London was removed from a jewelry shop to a church, in order to give to its drawing an air of sanctity. But in the United States, to-day, the sanction of the Roman Catholic Church is regarded neither as evidence of absolute right nor of morality, in such matters.

This plan of bolstering up frauds with the support of figure-heads, did not originate with the Louisiana State Lottery.

A few years ago, the whole country was covered with advertisements of a Public Library scheme, which was inaugurated at Louisville, Ky., and the honorable name of Gov. Bramlette was given as an assurance to the public of its faithful and honest administration. The object, as set forth, was the establishment of a library that should, in magnificence, vie with any other institution of the kind. It was to be like the ocean, boundless and free to all; where all might come and read without money and without price.

What has been the result? who have been enriched? The records inform us that there were five "gift concerts," where was realized a gross profit of $2,683,103.68. Less than five years after its inauguration, the "library" had but $2.67 to its credit; but magnificent palaces and dwellings have been reared by the managers, and stand to-day as finger-boards, pointing the way where thousands lost their money for the benefit of a select and *respectable* few.

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One of ancient days built a monument to his military achievements with the skulls of his victims.

When an enlightened public sentiment applauds that deed, it will be time to salute with approving honors these few respectable men of to-day, who rear their palatial homes and dwellings out of the scanty earnings of the laborer—monuments of the blighted hopes of many a poor infatuated lottery victim.

Let us see how lotteries are regarded by law makers. In October, 1826, lotteries ceased to be lawful in England. The Encyclopedia Britannica says:

**Lotteries, which had proved unaccountably prejudicial to public morals, by fostering among the people a propensity for gambling, and which, in a financial point of view, had yielded but a trifling amount of revenue to the State, were put an end to by a Treasury minute, which provided that, from and after that date (Oct., 1826), they should cease and determine.**

The historian tells us that, as early as 1699, they were denounced in that country as a "cheat," and their agents as "pillagers of the people." In 1836, in France, a law was passed abolishing all lotteries, and confiscating the property offered by any lottery company, and punishing by fine and imprisonment those engaged in conducting them. A few years ago it became common, in Scotland, to dispose of merchandise by means of lotteries; but this was subsequently condemned by their statutes. Attempts were made to evade the laws, and especially to make the transaction resemble a legal sale, by affixing a prize of some value to every ticket; but this was punished as a fraud, even where it could be proved, that the prize equaled in value the price of the ticket.

The Congress of the United States has declared that no letters or circulars concerning a lottery shall be carried in the mails, thus closing this great thoroughfare of communication to these schemes.

In May, 1880, the Supreme Court of the United States declared as follows:

**That lotteries are demoralizing in their effects, no matter how carefully regulated, cannot, in the opinion of this Court, be doubted. There is now scarcely a State in the Union where they are tolerated, and Congress has enacted a special statute, the object of which is to close the mails against them.**



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They are a species of gambling and wrong in their influences. They disturb the checks and balances of a well-ordered community. Society built on such foundation would, almost of necessity, bring forth a population of speculators and gamblers, living on the expectation of what chance might award them from the accumulations of others.

Many of the States have, by constitutional enactments, prohibited lotteries.

In New York and Pennsylvania, they are specially declared to be public nuisances; and we not only have a constitutional enactment, but stringent laws besides.

It is said, and I believe it is correct, that there is but one State in the Union in which a lottery is legal. Yet the demoralization, to-day existing from the lotteries that are spread broadcast over the country through the newspaper advertisements, and with their agents scattered throughout the United States, offering their tickets in open defiance of laws to the contrary, is so great, and the power and influence of the sources of profit from these enterprises is so potent, that our laws are defied, our courts prostituted, and political party leaders secretly and strongly pronounced in favor of the men who are spreading, broadcast, demoralization over our land.

But let us devote a moment to the opinion of one of our most eminent judges, of whom it has been truly said, "His decision remains an enduring monument to his indefatigable industry, his untiring zeal; and, above all, to his high sense of honor and integrity. His opinions delivered both from the Supreme Court of his State, and from that of the nation, will ever* be regarded as of highest authority;" and this great judge spoke not only for his own day, but his prophecies are more than fulfilled at this present time.

In the case of the State of Tennessee against Smith & Lane, (2 Yer. Tenn. R.), Judge Catron says:

Whenever money or other valuable thing is hazarded, and may be lost, or

*Remarks of Hon. A. A. Freeman, Asst. Atty-Genl. P. O. Dept., in Supreme Court for the District of Columbia, in case of M. A. Dauphin vs. D. M. Key, P. M. Gen'l.

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more than the value obtained by chance, it is gaming within the statute, nor will any *name* or *device* take it out of *their operations.*

What he further says as a political reason, appeals with great force to every patriot of to-day. Are there not men of moral courage sufficient, to come forth and join hands, and strike down this evil that is warring against the best interests of this country?

Read carefully what Judge Catron says:

The presumption of law is that every man has acquired his property honestly; and it is the *policy of every well regulated Government that he shall not be deprived of it without a fair equivalent.* This is particularly the case in Republics, where all should be independent in the means of subsistence. Reduce a man to want, by gaming or otherwise, and he is no longer free to exercise the elective franchise, but dependent upon the hand that furnishes himself and family with bread. Not only ruin and beggary, but drunkenness is almost uniformly the effect of gaming. The two vices combined, are more likely to sap the foundations of our institutions than all others put together. Destroy freedom of thought and independence of action in voting at primary elections of the people, and the idea of governing by majorities is a farce, the popular will a delusion bowing to the dictation of the wealthy minority.

The patriot, anxious for the prosperity of his country, and the durability of her institutions, repines at the thought of seeing the haggard, hungry and naked gambler, or the besotted drunkard, dragged to the polls and forced to vote at the beck of his, I might almost say, master, and he a champion of the loo table or faro bank. In pecuniary means a political power, knavery rises upon the ruins of honesty and independence. Wheresoever, in these Republics, gaming is in any shape tolerated, pauperism supported by the Government is, in nine instances in ten, the consequence of it and its kindred vice, drunkenness.

These are a few of the political considerations going to influence legislation wholly to suppress every species of gaming. Let us look to some other reasons, partly moral, and still more conclusive of the correctness of the policy.

There is implanted in the nature of man an inclination to gamble, which of all others is most difficult to bring within the restraints of law. The Indian will stake his wife, and the ancient German would stake himself, to gratify the passion (Facitus, ch. x: 24). From these Sir William Blackstone (4 Com. 171) supposes our ancestors, the English, must have inherited it, and entailed it upon their descendants.

The Judge paints a picture that can be found to-day in real life, without the necessity of probing very deep to discover it. This evil has stricken its deadly fangs into the body politic, and

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paralyzes the arm of justice, so that the laws are no longer enforced. He says:

Like other passions, which agitate the great mass of the community, it lies dormant until once aroused, and then, with the contagion and fury of a pestilence, it sweeps morals, motives to honest pursuits and industry, into the vortex of vice; unhinges the principles of religion and common honesty; the mind becomes ungovernable, and is destroyed to all useful purposes; chances to successful gambling alone are looked to for prosperity in life, even for the daily means of sustenance; trembling anxiety for success in lotteries, at the faro bank, or loo table, exclude all other thoughts. Expectation is disappointed; more losses are sustained; the highly excited and desperate feelings are kindled by drunkenness, from which arises a wretch with a recklessness and desolation of feeling that the genius of a Shakespeare, or a Milton, could not, nor can any man, describe.

Swindling, forgery, theft, *every crime that extreme necessity and outcast desperation can suggest to man lost to all the moral ties, though guarded against*, are likely shortly to follow in the train.

We ask him who has known the world and ways of men as they are, not as they should be, are these not truths?

Have you seen the poisoned arrow pierce the devoted victim? Have you seen him driven to desperation, and end his misery in self-destruction? Have you yourself felt the sting of this deadly passion? If you have known and felt these, you can, and do, understand us.

Then referring to the individual and the effects upon the mind and habits, he says:

Gaming in any and every shape lays itself at the root of industrious habits.

Where is the man, or the woman, who will labor at home or abroad patiently to earn a few shillings by the day, when excited by the hope of winning $10,000 or $100,000 in a lottery? All rest in anxious expectation of the highest, or a very high, prize.

Where is the professional man or mechanic who will toil at his vocation, and acquire by shillings, when his mind is diseased by similar hopes?

We know he abandons his calling, and relies upon gambling chance for his own, and his family's support; the *man is a vagrant in mind and conduct, and must beg, swindle, steal or starve.*

Gaming is a general evil, leads to vicious inclinations, destruction of morals, abandonment of industry and honest employments, a loss of self-control and respect.

Frauds, forgeries, theft, make up the black catalogue of crime, the closing scene of which generally ends in highway robbery, or murder. The American and European journals are full of cases of the most distressing nature; of bankers, merchants, clerks of banking institutions, men in almost every de-

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scription of trust, public and private, becoming bankrupts and thieves to the ruin of themselves and others.

Look for the source of their misfortune; you find it in *lotteries*, loo, faro, thimble, dice, and the like.

Judge Catron then defines the different gambling games, and compares the lottery with them. He clearly shows how the interest in property obtained by purchase in common is clearly within the description of gaming as laid down and explained by him, and especially in raffling, cards, faro, and other gambling games.

He then adds:

Lotteries are more extensive in their consequences, and at least equally pernicious with gaming at cards, in corrupting the morals, prostrating the industrious and steady habits, and wasting the property, and that, too, of a credulous portion of the community, little inclined to gamble otherwise; hence the additional penalties.

It was stated in argument as a notorious fact, in the two counties from which these cases come up, young and old, male and female, black and white, had been and now were gambling together in lotteries.

*Lotteries are gambling, and odious gambling.*

The master and mistress from the parlor, the cook from the kitchen, the ostler from the stable, the boarding-school miss, the boy at his grammar, the apprentice boy; every age, color, and condition of men, women, and children, are found gambling together.

It draws in the young and unwary, associates them with idle and vicious vagabonds, degrades them inevitably. It may be, and no doubt generally is, attended with the *grossest cheats, practiced upon the giddy and helpless ticket holders.* The seller of the lottery ticket may give them something or nothing, at pleasure, keep everything worth having himself, or award it to friends. *To talk of honesty and fair dealings in such transactions would be worse than idle.*

Hon. A. A. Freeman, Assistant Attorney-General for the Post-Office Department, in his able argument before the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, in the suit of "M. A. Dauphin *vs.* the Postmaster-General," most admirably answers one of the arguments used by these men. He says:

We are told, however, that all governments have, at one time or another, not only authorized, but encouraged lotteries. We have seen, however, that this policy was resorted to as a means of raising revenue. Were it otherwise, however, the argument would be entitled to but little weight. There are but

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few practices, however monstrous, that have not, at some age of the world, received recognition.

It is to be remarked, however, that the promoters of this system, conscious of their inability to challenge criticism of an enlightened public sentiment, have almost invariably endeavored to purchase the absolution of the Church, and the commendation of the State, by sharing their plunder with a public charity, or devoting a portion to some public improvement.

Recurring now to the Louisiana State Lottery, we consider the oft-harped-on string, the legality of the enterprise. Yes, the Louisiana Legislature did legalize this Lottery, and, in the very words of the Act itself, not only branded the lottery system a fraud, but stated, in so many words of plain English, that the citizens of the State having been robbed by others, the State sanction was now given to a scheme whereby others might in turn be robbed by the citizens of Louisiana. Here are some extracts from the Act of Aug. 11th, 1868, establishing the Louisiana State Lottery:

Section I.—*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened:* That, whereas many millions of dollars have been withdrawn from, and lost to this State by the sale of Havana, Kentucky, and Madrid, and other lottery tickets, policies, combinations, and devices, and fractional parts thereof, it shall hereafter be unlawful to sell, offer, or expose for sale any of them, or any other lottery, policy, or combination, ticket or tickets, devices or certificates, or fractional parts thereof, except in such manner, and by such persons, their heirs, executors, assigns, as shall be hereinafter authorized. * * *

Section II. Article II.—The objects and purposes of this corporation are,

*First*, The protection of the State against the great losses heretofore incurred by sending large amounts of money to other States and foreign countries for the purchase of lottery tickets, and devices, thereby impoverishing our own people.

It will be seen by this, that the Legislature of this State pronounces against every other lottery except one of their own choice; and the price that the people of the State of Louisiana are to receive is, $40,000 a year, for twenty-five years, or so long as this lottery exists.

Nothing can exceed this bold and bare record of one State officially proposing to legalize a system of wholesale plunder upon its sister States; but of the same species of effrontery is the

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brazen demand of the managers of this wholesale pillaging scheme, that the United States government make its postal service an aid in carrying out the fraud, even to disseminating throughout the various States the very things against which these States have legislated; that is, that the Louisiana State lottery tickets must be carried through the mails and thrust upon the community in defiance of public and private morality, and the law of the land.

*One* State says to *all the other States*, lotteries are frauds, and none of you shall sell any tickets of any lotteries in your States within the bounds of this State, but we will defy *your* laws, and send *our* tickets into every State in the Union regardless of your laws. We believe in State rights, we do!

But halt! stand, and answer! Is the Louisiana Lottery illegal and fraudulent? Read the following, and then answer the question intelligently. They illegally advertise in New York, in the newspapers. They say:

THE LOUISIANA STATE LOTTERY

**Is the Only Legalized Lottery in this Country.**

**It was voted on by the people of Louisiana and became a part of the Constitution of that State, and has been approved by the Government of the United States.**

This is a fraud on its face, if the following act of THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY of THE STATE OF LOUISIANA means anything. This was approved March 28, 1879, and reads:

AN ACT.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened*, That the following acts, to wit: "An act entitled an act to increase the revenues of the State and to authorize the incorporation and establishment of the Louisiana State Lottery Company, and to repeal certain acts now in force," being act No. 25 passed at the first session of the First Legislature begun and held on the 29th day of June, 1868; also an act entitled "An act relative to the unlicensed sale of lottery tickets in the city of New Orleans, and conferring on the police courts the power to suppress the same," being act No. 9 of the second session of the Third Legislature, begun and held on the 5th day of January, 1874; and an act entitled "An act relative to crimes and offences, to declare the sale of illegal lottery tickets, or the drawing of any illegal lottery, a misdemeanor, and to provide

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for the punishment of the same, and to regulate the evidence to be received upon the trial of such offences;" and any and all other laws upon the same subject matter passed in the interest of the Louisiana State Lottery Company, be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That the Louisiana State Lottery Company be and the same is hereby abolished, and prohibited from drawing any and all lotteries, or selling lottery tickets either in its corporate capacity or through its officers, directors, stockholders, members, or agents, directly or indirectly.

SECTION 6. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That this act shall take effect from and after the thirty-first day of March, A. D. (1879) eighteen hundred and seventy-nine.

Note the further provisions of same act, to wit:

Section 3 provides a penalty of both fine and imprisonment, for selling, bartering, exchanging, giving or otherwise disposing of lottery tickets.

Section 4 provides the same penalty for setting up or promoting any lottery in the State of Louisiana.

But it is claimed that the Constitutional Convention that met July 23, 1879, at the city of New Orleans, passed upon this lottery, and that "It was voted upon by the people of Louisiana, Dec., 1879, and became part of the constitution of that State."

Let us see what the facts are. Article 157 of the Constitution of 1879 says:

Art. 157. No power of suspending the laws of this State shall be exercised unless by the General Assembly or its authority.

The logical conclusion then is, that the General Assembly is the only law making and law suspending power. We must look to the General Assembly then for authority of law, for a reinstating of this charter and power to *revive* and resurrect this "lost cause."

Another article provides as follows:

Art. 172. Gambling is declared to be a vice, and the General Assembly shall enact laws for its suppression.

All lotteries are gambling. See decision of the United States Supreme Court already quoted, also Judge Catron's opinions in this chapter, where he says, "Lotteries are gambling, and odious gambling." We have then, a duty defined, and an obligation laid upon the General Assembly to enact laws for the suppression

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of gambling. It does not say "Faro," "Black and red," "Policy," or "Lottery;" it is fair to suppose then, that it means *all gambling* of every kind and grade.

Then follows an authorization to the General Assembly, to "grant lottery charters" or privileges; *provided* $40,000 per year be paid annually into the treasury of the State. It further provides for the disposition of the $40,000, and then says, "and the charter of said Company is recognized as a contract binding on the State for the period therein specified except its monopoly clause, which is hereby abrogated."

We print below the entire section, but before coming to it, I want the reader to pause one moment and see if *this Lottery Co. had such a charter* at that time; or if the General Assembly had deputed power to any one to grant a charter. *Clearly no.*

The Louisiana Lottery Co. had no charter at this time. Proof —The act of March 28, 1879, passed and approved *four months* previous to the Convention, and *nine months* prior to the vote of the people on the adoption of this constitutional question, *had positively repealed their charter.*

Their right to thus repeal this charter, and the constitutionality of this act of the General Assembly is affirmed in most positive terms by the United States Supreme Court, May, 1880. What follows? Why if the act of the General Assembly of March 28, 1879, was constitutional, this *Company had no charter according to law.*

Again, Sec. 157 says, *No power of suspending the laws of this State shall be exercised unless by the General Assembly or its authority.* Clearly then it requires an act of the General Assembly to suspend the act of March 28, 1879, and until that is done this pretentious Company has no charter. I do not pretend to be wise in law, but have common sense enough to understand that a mule cannot draw a load that he is not hitched to.

Now we are ready to read the section above referred to, that they claim reinstates them. At this time, *in law*, there was no such thing as the Louisiana Lottery Company. But there were stringent laws against any and all lotteries.

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Art. 167. The General Assembly shall have authority to grant lottery charters or privileges; *provided*, each charter or privilege shall pay not less than forty thousand dollars per annum in money into the treasury of the State; and *provided further*, that all charters shall cease and expire on the first of January, 1895, from which time all lotteries are prohibited in the State.

The forty thousand dollars per annum now provided by law to be paid by the Louisiana State Lottery Company, according to the provisions of its charter, granted in the year 1868, shall belong to the Charity Hospital of New Orleans, and the charter of said Company is recognized as a contract binding on the State for the period therein specified, except its monopoly clause, which is hereby abrogated, and all laws contrary to the provisions of this article are hereby declared null and void; *provided*, said Company shall file a written renunciation of all its monopoly features in the office of the Secretary of State within sixty days after the ratification of this constitution.

Please refer back to this section a moment where it says, "The forty thousand dollars per annum *now provided by law.*" They evidently ignore the act of March 28, 1879, but I submit, reader, that this repealing act, backed by the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court, is better law than the absurdities of this constitutional enactment.

I have examined this new constitutional enactment with care, and I cannot discover a single other reference to this subject. I submit that in *law* and in *fact this gambling scheme is unlawful* in every State in the Union but one, and especially *unlawful in the State that first gave it birth.*

A business branded by the Legislature of every State but one, by the Congress of the United States, and the decisions of the highest courts in the land, requires something more than the respectability of two ex-confederate Generals, to commend it to any sensible man or woman. And as it derives all its respectability from these two gentlemen, I submit it is time for them to withdraw in the interest of the thousands of poor deluded wretches in all parts of our land who are yearly ruined by the seductive and lying advertisements when it says, "only legalized lottery in this country," and "approved by the government of the United States." Rather a peculiar kind of legality in act of March 28, 1879, and a very questionable approval in the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court, already quoted on page 353.

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Is not the newspaper a mighty power for evil, when it sells itself for money to become the agent for such devices to rob and oppress the poor?

During the month of October, 1880, a representative of a very reputable firm in New York city came to my office with a young man, a former employee who for years had held a trusty and honorable position. This young man was the victim of this and the twin evil, policy. His story was as follows. Last Thanksgiving he got drunk and lost thirty dollars belonging to his employers. In a moment of despair, he visited one of these gambling hells where policy is run and lottery tickets are sold. He invested and was almost beside himself because he made a small "hit." He then entered that seeming delectable state where his fortune was sure. He made $15 and had enough to repay half of his loss. But he must have all, and so he staked his money and lost. So sure was he of gaining that he again helped himself to a small sum from his employers, in the vain hope of replacing all. He lost, and at last he confessed to having stolen $1,300 cash, every dollar of which he had lost and $500 besides.

This is the fruit of this cursed seed-sowing. This is lighting the gambling torch that quickly fires the imagination of our youth, burning out self-respect, self-control, honesty, disposition to honest labor, affection for friends and that love or respect for God, which holds a man back from evil. *These schemes curse our youth.*

But to return to our new constitution. Read what the U. S. Supreme Court says about grants or charters to lotteries, coming under the head of "Police power," etc.; then read the following section of the Constitution of Louisiana:

ART. 235. The exercise of the police power of the State shall *never be abridged*, nor so construed as to permit corporations to conduct their business in such manner as to infringe the equal rights of individuals or *the general well-being of the State.*"

What say you, reader? Is "the only legalized lottery in the country" legal?

Is it not a good deal like a stubborn Irishman, who was driving a mule attached to a loaded truck, and when some one came along

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and unhitched his mule, he sat down and stoutly maintained that his mule should "be afther drawing the load any way," at the same time failing to hitch his mule to his truck? It certainly looks as though this lottery mule had been knocked out of the traces by the law-making power, and now the managers purpose to make it draw just the same as before, notwithstanding it is not legally hitched up. The Irishman, mule, and cart were all present, but so long as he did not harness his mule to his truck it was no go. So, here, the Act of the General Assembly and the Constitution both mention this lottery, still they do not jibe. The repealing Act is about like hitching the mule to the wrong end of the truck.

And now what have we? THE LOUISIANA LOTTERY is said to be respectable; and the following certificate has been repeatedly published in connection with their advertisements, as their character.

EXTRAORDINARY DRAWINGS,
Under the personal supervision of
Generals G. T. BEAUREGARD, AND JUBAL A. EARLY.

Now the ordinary reader of this advertisement supposes that these two gentlemen supervise all these drawings. Not so, however; only the two "Extraordinary" ones. There is *no sponsor*, *no security*, *no references* for the other ten where the poor man, from the low price of tickets, is most tempted to deposit his dollar.

Before going farther, let us consider the receipts and disbursements of the Louisiana Lottery Company, basing our estimates upon the figures they themselves furnish, and supposing that they fulfill their published business programme.

According to the advertised plan of the Louisiana Lottery Company, they claim to sell in each month, for ten months of the year, 100,000 tickets at $2 apiece, or, $2,000,000 per year; and for two months (extraordinary drawings) 100,000 tickets each month at $10 each, or, a total of $2,000,000. The total receipts for the twelve months are therefore $4,000,000.

One per cent. of this, or $40,000 is paid to the State of Louisiana, as provided by the Legislature in the Company's charter.

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The offices are at New Orleans and New York. Supposing the rent of the home office to be $20,000 per year, and of the New York office to be $5,000, a very large estimate in each case, the total paid for rent is $25,000.

Then allow $500 a day for advertising, or $187,500 per year, and allow 20 per cent. of the entire receipts, as agents' commission, clerk hire, office expenses, etc., another total of $800,000.

The Company claims to pay an average of about $100,000 in each of their ordinary drawings, and $562,000 each in the two extraordinary drawings, a total of $2,124,000. The whole is as follows:

| RECEIPTS. | | DISBURSEMENTS. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1,000,000 tickets *a* $2 | $2,000,000 | One per cent. of receipts | $ 40,000 |
| 200,000 tickets *a* $10 | 2,000,000 | Office rent | 25,000 |
| | | Advertising | 187,500 |
| | | Commissions and incidentals | 800,000 |
| | | Prizes paid | 2,124,000 |
| Total | $4,000,000 | Total | $3,176,500 |
| | | Balance | 823,500 |
| | | | $4,000,000 |

Thus allowing these men everything that they claim, the profit would be $823,500 per year, or $2,623.11 per day, a very fair reward for systematically robbing the public.

Query. Who furnishes the money for expenses and prizes? Ticket buyers.

But no sane man of intelligence believes this concern conducts its affairs as it claims to conduct them. Remember, there are each month to be counted 100,000 tickets, each individual one of which must be in the wheel at the time of the drawing.

Who insures that this is done? Do Messrs. Beauregard and Early? Who certifies for them? Educated by the Government of the United States at West Point, did not these men take the solemn oath of allegiance to their country? And what became of these oaths when the Civil War came? Can they be trusted with the poor man's earnings and the widow's mite, who thus

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violated their high oaths of office? In all sincerity I repeat, who vouches for them?

Let it be remembered we are considering the security, the references, the bonds, if you please, of this company. In all mercantile business, if bonds or security are offered, the investor has a right to examine as to their face value; and upon this basis alone we ask the reader, and especially the purchaser of lottery tickets, to consider the worth of these securities, as above. The oath administered to the graduate of West Point is binding through life.

While preparing this a friend says, "You will be charged with waving the 'bloody shirt!'" If so, let it wave. Let the shouter examine it carefully, and he will find it is a garment made out of finest and most costly fabric; the warp is principles more grand and glorious than the everlasting hills—principles that our forefathers sacrificed home, friends, and life itself to secure; and our fathers and brothers fought, bled, and died to perpetuate and defend. There is not one syllable to hint, or pretence made, that this garment is not spotless, save the crimson stain. Look again, shouter, and you will find the bloody stain trickles down from over the heart, which was pierced by the bullet of rebellion. These institutions thus created, perpetuated, and defended, mean the concentration of principles that exalt a nation and insure peace and harmony, freedom of thought, freedom of speech, freedom of press, freedom to vote according to the dictate of our consciences, and then the right to have our votes counted as cast; and over all, freedom to worship God. I am not ashamed of these principles or this position. I cannot say wrong is right, even for the sake of being considered popular.

But it will require more respectability to make lottery gambling fair, honest, or desirable as an investment, than can be produced or guaranteed from the broken oath of allegiance to their country, by these two Confederate generals—god-fathers to this heartless monster. Before they lay claims to high-toned respectability, let them first show that they respect the laws of the land by obeying them, and cease to defy the laws by allowing their

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agents to openly violate them. Let these gentlemen at least protest against their agents sending their circulars through the mails in violation of United States laws, or selling tickets, or advertising in newspapers, contrary to the laws of every State in the Union but one.

Respectability that does not honor the laws of the land sufficient to obey them, is a poor guarantee or recommendation for this kind of robbery, that deprives widows and children of their natural protection and support; breeds gamblers, and unsettles the welfare of a community by turning honest trade and occupation into gaming and unhealthy speculation.

Lotteries are no more respectable than Faro, Banco, Red and Black, or Policy. Yet the potent influence and power of this cruel system is so great that politicians bend their necks to carry the yoke, and officials violate their solemn oaths of office, and thereby consent to place themselves on the level of the perjurers in order to aid, abet and protect this outlawed and illegal traffic.

The official who thus violates his oath of office, and screens and protects those who openly defy the laws, is more to be censured than the managers of these schemes. No; let the man who swears to do a certain thing do it, or else let him step down and out of office, and cease to fill a position he has already dishonored.

Laws should be enforced in the interest of the people and not the party. The politician in office is there not to line his own pockets, or secure future position for himself, but is there to serve the *People* during his entire term of office.

It is not pretended, even by those who claim to know, that the ex-Confederate Generals Beauregard and Early certify to other than the two "Extraordinary Drawings." Who then looks after the large interests of the dupes in the ten other drawings? Twenty-six hundred dollars is a very large profit to come daily into the hands of a concern like this. Men with such an income seldom bother about the dollar of the poor. Just try to imagine these men every month counting over and checking off each of the 100,000 tickets! It is absurd. No sensible man for a moment believes it.

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Where then are the interests of the ticket holders secured? Who is to look after the rights of the tens of thousands of deluded individuals throughout the North and the East, who invest their savings in this gambling scheme?

Verily, the fools are not all dead yet; and so long as their hosts increase so long will these lottery schemers fatten upon their credulity. Is it not time that wise men took the fools into their keeping, and protect them by stamping out these infamous, outrageous frauds, all lotteries?

We have now given them just what they lay claim to in their printed circulars and advertisements, to wit: that every ticket is sold, and that all the prizes are drawn each time.

The way they get over this matter of selling every ticket is this. Every agent, and every gambling hell, of which some fifty places sell or formerly sold their tickets in the city of New York, is obliged to pay for these tickets when they are taken from the office of the Northern manager; but all tickets that remain in the hands of the agent on the day of drawing may be returned to the manager, and the price that he paid for them is returned to him, so that these tickets come back into the possession of the manager, and he, or his employers, has the benefit of these numbers, and the prizes that they draw.

Now for argument sake we say, there are 75,000 tickets sold; that is $150,000 worth disposed of. About 60 per cent. of these tickets are sold at the North, perhaps more.

In the city of New York, a careful estimate showed that more than fifty different places sold these tickets, many of which run a Policy shop, or Gambling Hell. 25,000 tickets remain unsold, the 100,000 numbers are put in the wheel. The managers of the Louisiana Co. have 25,000 chances to every one ticket held by the poor man or poor woman. Where is the fairness or justice in this?

"But," some one says, "there are some prizes paid. I know some one who drew a prize." Yes. Of course there must be some showing or the business would die out. It is the best kind of an advertisement, and while one man gets a prize, hundreds

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lose all they invest. Thoughtless men read over the list of prizes they see published each month, and see a number opposite each prize, and thoughtless and ignorant ones say, "Why that is all square, every prize is drawn." Just stop and answer this one question. How many numbers of those published belong to the managers?

One of the principal men in this concern in the North said to me when I asked him as man to man, what chance a poor man had of drawing a prize in this Lottery, "Not one in a thousand."

It is notorious, and has frequently been reported to me, that Policemen in uniform have been seen frequently guarding the line of men entering the office of this Company on Broadway, keeping the line of ticket buyers in order while these men violated the law directly under their nose; and thronging these dens will be mechanic, apprentice, clerk, servant, seamstress, working girl, wife, mother, all classes, all grades, depositing their monthly contribution towards enriching a few men, who manage by this monstrous enterprise to rob the people, to breed gambling—and enrich themselves.

Men are either afraid to publish these facts, or else it pays better to keep quiet.

It is enough for me to know that these institutions are not only conducted in bold and open defiance of law, but at the same time they are demoralizing the community.

Let our Legislatures in State and Congress look to it, that every weak place in laws now existing is strengthened to govern and punish the sworn officer of the law, who dares to permit outrages like this to exist, to eat out and destroy the moral life and purity of our young men.

While heathen countries are becoming aroused to the enormous evil, let not enlightened America be in the background. Let tax payers and philanthropists see to it, that the laws are rigidly enforced, and these black spots blotted out of existence, and it will be money in their pockets, as against the large sums necessary now to provide prison accommodation for those who are ruined, and food and clothing for those who are made paupers.



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STARTLING FACTS.

The very latest! After this chapter had been put in type, and the week following the above incident of a youth stealing $1,300 to gamble with, a mother came into my office, and bursting into tears, asked if I would not help her? I assured her I would if in my power. She then drew from a paper a picture of an only son, her "baby" boy about 17 years of age, saying he was missing and begged me to find him. Then with breaking heart she told of robberies committed in different places; then of his running away and consorting with thieves; closing with an agonizing prayer that I would hunt up and return her boy.

And this, is another name added to the steadily growing list of those in honest pursuits, of respectable parentage, who become crazed by these infernal gambling games. I wonder sometimes that lightning does not descend from heaven and destroy these worse than vampires, who fatten themselves on innocent youth. The parent's anguish, the employer's interests, the youth's welfare, the peace and happiness of home, the livelihood of wives and children, the best interests of society, and the future prosperity of the community, all are disregarded by those who run the gambling dens of the city of New York. Why are not these dens closed? Ask the Governor of this State, whose high office it is to see these laws enforced! Ask the Prosecuting Attorneys, who permit indictment after indictment to be filed in the courts and remain untried, while the criminal year after year openly continues to violate the law!

Ask the 2,500 "best police in the world" who daily walk by the 600 dens (or thereabouts), with doors open for any one to walk in, and yet who fail to make an average of one arrest a day out of all the *six hundred* open violations of law!

Ask the Mayor of this city, why it is, that places that he personally knew to be gambling hells and lottery shops, more than one year and a half ago, still continue on unchecked, and that the great battalion of policemen under him persist in not enforcing these laws?

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Ask the merchant, lawyer, minister and layman,—business men of all grades,—who, bound up in their business or calling, sit criminally indifferent while these laws are violated and put in contempt, thus leading tender youth to ruin!

Yes, ask the citizens of this great commonwealth, at whose hands the blood of the hundreds of youth who perish each year must be required in the last great judgment day, why it is, that something is not done *at once* to check the evils that are crowding our jails with criminals from the better walks in life.

We hear the stereotype excuse of the Courts for not trying the vender of obscenity, the gambler, lottery and policy man, "We must try prison cases first." "The city prison is full of those awaiting trial."

What are the prison cases? The advancing army of young criminals in the main. The recruits enlisted into crime in the gambling hell, rum-shop, concert saloons and open dens of infamy in this city, and those cursed by *Evil Reading!*

WHO ARE THEY?

Fathers, mothers, Christian and law-abiding citizens, hear the answer. *In many instances young men from the counting room, the store, the bank and the school room, seduced, crazed and led to swift destruction by the above influences.*

WHY IS THIS PERMITTED?

That a few men may roll in wealth by the moneys secured. That a few politicians may find favor with the criminal class. What do politicians care for the community, so long as they are helped into position and affluence by the votes of the votaries of these dens!

*It is possible to close these dens. It is official corruption alone that protects and makes them possible.*

The evil of obscene publication has been suppressed in the main; and what remains is driven into dark corners and narrow limits. How has this been done? *By the rigid enforcement of law.*

Let the police do their duty, and not a place would be open twenty-four hours. Take for example the pool rooms in Barclay

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street. Here, within a stone's throw of Broadway, are large rooms open in broad daylight, *free to all*, where the police can walk in at their sweet will; and these dens are thronged constantly with *young men* and *clerks*, beardless youth and boys. I know it from personal knowledge. Who is to blame? The captain of that precinct. Then the Police Board who do not remove him for neglect of duty. Then the Mayor of this city, who fails to see the laws properly enforced. Next the Governor of the State, and then the people. I shall be abused for writing the above. But it is true; and this is also true: *our young men under twenty-one years of age, like autumn leaves, are falling on every side*, and the man who keeps silent is worse than a coward.

See what a low state of public morals makes possible.

The following is a record of gamblers and lottery men who have been arrested, and who remain untried; also some who were sentenced in Sept. and Oct., 1880. *Let thinking men stop and ponder.*

B. Frank Moore, alias H. L. Plum, alias M. A. Dauphin, the agent and manager of one lottery, was arrested in the United States court Nov. 26, 1878, Nov. 11, 1879, and Oct. 8, 1880. He or his clerks have been several times arrested in the State courts besides, and yet he has *never been tried* in either court. Proof of his guilt positive.

W. K. Porter was arrested Nov. 26, 1878, Nov. 10, 1879, in the United States court. Notwithstanding repeated raids on his office and arrests of his clerks since, in the State courts, his advertisements in newspapers appeared continually, his office was, and is, constantly open, and he has wilfully defied the law all these years. *He has never been tried* on either of these charges.

G. Upington, the manager or cat's-paw of Simmons & Dickinson at their main office, was arrested Nov. 11, 1879, and Oct., 1880, and yet continues his unlawful business on Broadway, within rifle shot of police headquarters. This office has frequently been raided in the State courts. *He has never been tried.*

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John Duff, a constant advertiser and open violator of law, was arrested in the State courts March 9, 1877, Feb. 13, 1880, and in the United States courts March 9, 1877, Nov. 27, 1878, and Nov. 10, 1879, *but never tried.*

Max Borger was arrested Nov. 11, 1879, in the United States court, and March 9, 1877, in the State court, but *never tried* in either court. Continues in the business.

Thos. J. Taylor, arrested March 9, 1877, in State court, was never tried. Has a den, open daily within a stone's throw of the Court of General Sessions, and in full view of City Hall police station, where he runs a gambling hell.

O. A. Jackson was arrested and convicted in United States court and received the full penalty of the law, $500 fine and costs, in 1877. Since then he has been arrested as follows: Dec. 10, 1878, U. S. court; Nov. 10, 1879, State court; Jan. 23, 1880, State court; and although he has advertised almost daily, and kept his place open in bold defiance of law, yet he has never been tried for any of these offences, not even indicted on the last; nor have I been permitted to go before the Grand Jury. The den is still open where he has been all these years. He is father-in-law of one of the managers of the Kentucky lottery fraud. And so I might add on a long list of such outrages upon the people.

I present a list of persons who have been sentenced since September 17, 1880. Judge Cowing tried the first cases while on the bench in September, and set a grand example by sending the two first men to the penitentiary. If this had been followed up no lottery would dare run in this city. He sentenced N. Sherman Read to 90 days and J. Emerson to 60 days imprisonment. Then the plea was set up that these were "old indictments," "first offence," "that the laws had not been enforced," and other specious arguments. The following cases were disposed of in September by fine: Peter Miller, $25; Jas. H. Sturges and Charles Tunis, each $15; William Armatage, James Brown and Daniel Murphy, each $10.

John Barrows was arrested in the State court March 13, 1877, also U. S. court Dec. 13, 1879, Oct, 9, 1880, and yet never tried

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on either charge, but Oct., 1880, was allowed to plead guilty and *was fined* $5 in General Sessions Court. This is not what a boy clerk would steal at one time from his employer after he had been crazed with the idea of drawing a prize by this lottery fraud. A stock clerk would carry out in his pocket more than this in value at one time of stolen goods from the notion, lace, hosiery, ribbon or white goods department of his employer's store, in order that he might invest in this gambling device. They pretend to sell 100,000 tickets a month in this scheme. This is $100,000. Barrows and his brother William were principals. His brother was also fined $5. Here, we have two men engaging in a business which makes thieves of young men, fined $5 each, while if the clerk who robbed his employer, under the pressure of temptation to risk his chance for a prize, this judge would send this poor victim of lottery mania to State's prison for a term of years.

I clip the following from the Commercial Advertiser, October 29, 1880.

MORE LOTTERY DEALERS FINED.

Henry Abbott, Wm. Gill, and Thos. Case, of Philadelphia, were arrested on the 7th of August last at No. 319 Broadway, on the complaint of George R. Clarke, of No. 134 East One Hundred and Nineteenth street, for selling lottery tickets to him. They pleaded guilty to the charge to-day before Recorder Smyth in the Court of General Sessions, and were fined $5 each.

This place (319) was and is the office of B. Frank Moore, and these men are agents of the Louisiana Lottery whose managers receive $4,000,000 per year. The manager pays the fines of the clerk or agent *whenever they accumulate an amount large enough to make it an object for the agent to make out an account of them. Five dollars is too insignificant an amount to put in a claim for.* The Judge encourages the unlawful traffic, and protects the poor manager with this paltry income of $4,000,000 per year, by a merciful sentence of $5. But the mercy is all for the criminal, and none for the people.

The following persons were sentenced in October, 1880, for violation of Lottery and gambling laws, in General Sessions Court:

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| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Oct. | 1—Jose Frederick.... | $12 50 | Oct. | 19—Conrad Casper.... | $10 00 |
| " | 1—Louis Norman..... | 10 00 | " | 19—Robert Bauber..... | 10 00 |
| " | 2—John Farley..... | 10 00 | " | 22—Henry Williams... | 10 00 |
| " | 2—Charles Carlton... | 5 00 | " | 22—Alexander Jones... | 10 00 |
| " | 4—John Barry..... | 10 00 | " | 27—Peter J. Conlan.... | 10 00 |
| " | 6—Chas. B. Barrows.. | 5 00 | " | 27—John Trich..... | 5 00 |
| " | 6—Wm. M. Barrows.. | 5 00 | " | 29—Charles W. Davis.. | 5 00 |
| " | 11—Theo. Zschoch..... | 25 00 | " | 29—Henry Abbott..... | 5 00 |
| " | 13—Edmund T. Zschoch | 15 00 | " | 29—William Gile..... | 5 00 |
| " | 14—Annie O'Neil..... | 5 00 | " | 29—Louis Carl..... | 5 00 |
| " | 18—William Jellorris.. | 5 00 | | | |
| " | 19—John Edwards..... | 10 00 | | | $202 50 |
| " | 19—John Davis..... | 10 00 | | | |

A teacher punishing a disorderly boy with a rattan, after the boy has placed a sheet-iron shield under his jacket, is no more ludicrous to the rest of the scholars who are in the secret, than it is for any magistrate to sentence a man with a $4,000,000 income back of him to a fine of $5, and then call that punishment under the law.

The high duty of a judge on the bench, is, to mete out such a sentence to criminals as shall punish the offender sufficiently to deter him from future violations of the law, be a warning to others tempted to or violating the same laws, and protect the interests of the community.

I do not hesitate to say that, when a judge enforces the laws against the sale of liquor, obscene publications, disorderly houses, gambling hells, or lottery gambling—indeed, any offence that leads young men to commit crime or seduces them from paths of virtue—so as to protect these offenders, encourage their work of destruction and breeding criminals, or allows them to escape the penalty of the law by a technical dodge, to continue right on in their unlawful traffic, such a judge is no longer worthy to hold the scales of justice, nor the office of judge. Such conduct defiles the ermine of Justice; such acts, persisted in, must impeach the character and integrity of the one guilty of these outrages.

Another evil is growing steadily in this connection I condemn it as jeopardizing the highest interests of the community, and as subversive of individual rights and personal interest; to

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wit, that a magistrate should permit, before trial, a prisoner or his friends to approach him in private, and talk over his case and arrange matters beforehand. My ideal of a magistrate in this respect was the late eminent United States judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, John Cadwallader. He sat to hear and try the case according to law and evidence, and he held that the only proper place to secure even-handed justice, for people and accused alike, was in open court, with both present, the facts being produced and weighed according to law and the rules of evidence.

What hope for justice is there outside of this? I have had over 450 cases in court, and I speak from personal experience. When a criminal lawyer, who scruples at nothing to win his case, can have access to the ear of the Court and try his case in private, without the presence of complainant and prosecution, there is little hope of justice. This is a growing evil, and a danger that menaces the future jurisprudence of this State.

It will therefore be seen that the business man's interests are at the mercy of the wild, frantic, desperate condition, that is awakened by these schemes and dens, in the minds of his young employees. They become infatuated, then step by step demoralized. Their limited salary, or funds are soon exhausted, and then they turn to the employer's stock, or the parent's purse, for funds to buy tickets, gamble, and visit the low gilded palace of lust and shame.

Honesty is not a thing that lasts long in the character of the mind crazed with drawing a prize. The argument is, I will just borrow this from my employer or parent, and return it before it is missed, out of my winnings.

If merchants along the business thoroughfares of this city but knew the throngs of young men in the gambling hells in their vicinity; if they could watch the clerk slip out and run to some policy or gambling hell, or lottery office, there are few merchants but would require bonds of every employee from stock clerk and office boy to salesman and confidential secretary.

Then in this connection take the worst of these Hells that exist, where young maidens, with the rosy flush of youth yet fresh

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on their faces, may be seen in the midst of scenes of lewdness and shame; where beardless youth, who under pretence of "working at the store to-night," or "going to call on some friend up-town," slip out of their homes, with a lie on their lips, to deceive their devoted parents, only to frequent these stepping stones down to a speedy life of shame and disgrace. If Satan should visit the earth in person and seek to secure a place to open an entrance, or avenue direct to the infernal regions, no more appropriate place could be found than in some of the dens I have had to visit in my official capacity, during the present week. I have seen halls crowded with young girls smoking cigars, drinking wine and beer with up-town rich men's sons. Minors of both sexes, sat in the midst of scenes that made my blood boil. Satan must get a new name for his province, as he has many rivals in this city, and "*hell*" seems very tame when applied to these places.

Let respectable men cease finding fault with Rev. Dr. Talmage for giving vent to his righteous indignation, and his earnest effort to touch the manhood of his hearers, and cause them to do something against this rapidly growing evil. *The bottomless pit can vomit forth nothing fouler than some of these dens!* And yet our young men are *fascinated.* Some young men sneak into these places from curiosity, some from a love of it, and others talk it over as something smart, because they frequent such places. Rich men, and their sons; support these places in the main.

A short time ago, a lady high in society came to me, praying me to save her daughters from disgrace by stopping her husband visiting these places, saying, her husband would go to these resorts, and would spend $200 to $300 a day treating the gangs that gathered there. And *three times* she had gone to a den of infamy after midnight and dragged her husband out and took him home, for her daughters' sake. This "beast" once stood high officially, and even now is accepted in society as a representative man of wealth. Heaven save the mark!

These are startling facts. But they are facts. I cannot

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withhold them, even though I lose public favor. I could not wash my hands of, or free my conscience from the blood of our beloved youth if I remained silent. This inanimate pen would cry out against me as an arrant coward, if it were possible, it seems to me, were I for personal consideration to remain silent. No. Let critics assail me, and doubt my word. Let the newspaper reporter or editor write his sarcastic article, and ridicule and deride. Yes, let the father of lies himself howl and roar. *These are facts*, and, being *facts*, I am more than justified in recording, what from personal experience I know to be true. I am sick, tired and disgusted with this namby-pamby sickly sentiment, that sits down and does nothing to resist and check these evils. What are we spared to grow up to be men for, if not to *be men—to act* manly, and do a man's work in a straightforward and heroic manner? Out upon those who say there is no danger, and whine, "Well, these places will always exist; there's no use trying; public sentiment is against you," etc. Public sentiment cannot buy a *man*. It is not rich enough to buy a true man, and ought not to be ever thought big or important enough to frighten a man from the path of duty. Public sentiment for the right is a mighty power, and is a grand and noble thing; but arrayed on the side of wrong, it is a thing so contemptible, that the man who bows the knee to it soon loses his self-respect.

An honest, true man, has just one thing that makes him richer, braver, and in every way superior to a popular clamor for the wrong, or a public favor that he must needs truckle and crawl to secure—*a clear conscience.*

O! that our young men could sit at their home tables as they gather at the family meal, and, looking into their mother's or pure sister's faces, say, "I am clean and pure, worthy of such a home, such a mother, such a sister!" But many cannot. Their lives are hollow. Their faces are made out of the brass of deceit; and within there is no peace, because they are leading unclean lives; they are the votaries of the gambling hell and dive of iniquity.

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# CHAPTER XXII.

## LAWS CONCERNING LOTTERIES AND GAMING.

We give in this connection the laws of the State of New York. Many people are ignorant of the laws, and cannot be made to feel that there are strict laws now in force against these crimes.

The publication of these laws we deem very important, as they show the people where the fault lies. Nearly all, if not every one of the persons openly advertising in the daily papers are, and have for more than a year been under indictment under these statutes.

The following is taken from Article Third of the

### REVISED STATUTES, 1875.

*Of Betting and Gaming.*

§ 40. Penalty for keeping a place for gambling.

§ 41. Penalty for keeping gambling apparatus, &c.

§ 42 On complaint, magistrate may issue a search warrant.

§ 43. Officer may issue warrant authorizing a forcible entrance to seize gambling apparatus, &c.

§ 44. Persons inviting others to gambling houses liable for money lost, and fine and imprisonment.

§ 45. Officers whose duty it is to inform against and prosecute offenders; penalty for omission.

§ 46. Penalty for permitting gambling on a boat.

Penalty for keeping place for gambling.

§ 40. If any person shall keep a room, building, arbor, booth, shed, tenement, boat or float, to be used or occupied for gambling, or shall knowingly permit the same to be used or occupied for gambling; or if the owner, superintendent or agent of any room, building, arbor, booth, shed, tenement, boat or float, shall rent the same to be used or occupied for gambling, he shall, on conviction thereof, be fined in any sum not less than fifty nor more than five hundred dollars.[1]

Penalty for keeping gambling devices.

§ 41. If any person, for gambling purposes, shall keep or exhibit any gambling table, establishment, device or apparatus, or if any person or persons shall be guilty of dealing "faro," or banking for others to deal "faro," or acting as "look-out" or game-keeper for the game of

[1] "An act more effectually to suppress gambling," passed July 10, 1851, p. 963, as amended by Laws 1851, ch. 504, § 1.

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"faro" or any other banking game, where money or property is dependent on the result, or if any person shall sell or vend what are commonly known as or are called lottery policies, or any writing, card, paper, or document in the nature of a bet, wager, or insurance upon the drawing or drawn numbers of any public or private lottery, or if any person shall indorse a book or any other document for the purpose of enabling others to sell or vend lottery policies, he shall be taken and held as a common gambler, and upon conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to not less than ten days' hard labor in the penitentiary, or not more than two years' hard labor in the state prison, and be fined in any sum not more than one thousand dollars, to be paid into the county treasury where such conviction shall take place, for the use of the common schools therein, to be divided among the school districts in that county, in the same manner as the school money of the state is divided among said districts, and in default thereof shall remain imprisoned until such fine be remitted or paid.[4]

For selling lottery tickets.

§ 42. If an affidavit shall be filed with the magistrate or police justice of any town or city, before whom complaint shall have been made of an offense against any provision of this act stating that the affiant has reason to believe, and does believe, that the person so charged in such complaint has upon his person or at any other place named in such affidavit any specified articles of personal property, or any gambling table, device or apparatus, or any lottery policies public or private, the discovery of which might lead to establish the truth of such charge, the said magistrate or justice may in his discretion by warrant, command the officer, who is authorized to arrest the person so charged, to make diligent search for such property and table, device, or apparatus, and if found to bring the same before such magistrate or justice; and the officers so seizing shall deliver the same to the magistrate or justice, before whom he takes the same, who shall retain possession of said property, and be responsible therefor until the discharge, or commitment, or letting to bail, of the person so charged, and in case of such commitment or letting to bail of the person so charged such officer shall retain such property, subject to the order of the court before which such offender may be required to appear, until his discharge or conviction. And in case of the conviction of such person the gambling table, device, or apparatus shall be destroyed, and the household property and other fixtures belonging to such gambling place shall be held liable to be sold to pay any judgment and costs which may be rendered against such person; and after the payment of such judgment and costs, the surplus, if any, shall be paid into the treasury of the county where such prosecution shall take place, to be divided as provided for in the preceding section; and in case of the discharge of such person by the magistrate or court, the officer having such property in his custody, shall, on demand, deliver it to such person.[1]

Duty of magistrate upon complaint made.

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[4] Laws 1851, ch. 504, § 2, as amended by Laws 1855, ch. 214.

[1] Laws 1851, ch. 504, § 3.

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Warrants, by whom and how issued.

§ 43. It shall be lawful for any justice of the peace, police justice, chief magistrate of any municipal corporation, or judge of any court of record, upon complaint upon oath that any gambling tables, apparatus, establishment or device is kept by any person for the purpose of being used to win or gain money or other property, or by any other person, or any lottery policies of any lotteries, to issue his warrant commanding any sheriff or constable to whom the same shall be directed within the proper jurisdiction after demanding entrance to break open and enter any house or place wherein such gambling table, establishment, apparatus or device shall be kept, and to seize and deliver the same to the mayor of the city, president of the village, supervisor of the town, or clerk of the county where such seizure shall be made, who shall keep the same until the term of the court at which the case shall be tried; and the court shall then, if there be no necessity of keeping the property to be produced on the trial of an offender against this act, have a jury sworn to try the fact whether the property taken was or is used for gambling, and if the finding shall be that the property was used for gambling, the court shall order such property to be broken up and sold by the sheriff of the county and the proceeds shall after the payment of costs go into the treasury of the county, for the use of the common schools therein in the same manner as is provided in the second section of this act.[1]

Penalty for inveigling persons to gambling houses.

§ 44. If any person shall, through invitation or device, persuade or prevail on any person to visit any room, building, arbor, booth, shed, tenement, boat or float, kept for the purpose of gambling, he shall upon conviction thereof, and upon proof that the person so invited has gambled therein, be held responsible for the money or property lost by such person so invited or persuaded by reason of such invitation or device, and in addition thereto he shall be fined and imprisoned according to the provisions of the second section of this act.[2]

Duties of sheriffs and other officers.

§ 45. It shall be the duty of all sheriffs, police officers, constables and prosecuting or district attorneys, to inform against and prosecute all persons whom they shall have credible reason to believe are offenders against this act, and for refusal so to do, they shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars.[3]

Penalty for permitting gambling

§ 46. If any commander, owner or lessee of any boat or float shall knowingly permit any gambling for money or property on such boat or float, and shall not upon his knowledge of the fact immediately prevent the same, he shall upon conviction thereof be held responsible for the money or property so lost, and fined in any sum not more than five hundred dollars.[4]

For the benefit of church festivals, armory and cathedral fairs, we give the following Article of the Revised Statutes entire.

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[1] Laws 1851, ch. 504, § 4. [2] Id., § 5. [3] Id. § 6. [4] Id. § 7.

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While these laws remain intact on the statute books of the State, Christian people—members of our churches, at least, ought to respect and obey them.

To violate them is to breed a spirit of gaming in our children, and awaken the latent fires of speculation in our youth—to initiate in our youth within the sacred precincts of God's house, a spirit of gambling, the first steppings to dishonesty. Beware of such seed sowing!

### ARTICLE FOURTH.

*Of Raffling and Lotteries.*

§ 47. Penalty for setting up money or property to be raffled for.
§ 48. Raffling prohibited.
§ 49. Contracts made and securities given on account of raffling, void.
§ 50. Money paid for any interest in a raffle may be recovered back.
§ 51. Unauthorized lotteries declared unlawful, and common nuisances.
§ 52. Penalty for setting up, drawing, &c., unauthorized lotteries.
§ 53. Penalty for printing, publishing, &c., notices of illegal lotteries.
§ 54. Penalty for selling, procuring, &c., tickets in illegal lotteries.
§ 55. Penalty for offering for sale any property, dependent on drawing of any lottery.
§ 56. Property so offered for sale, forfeited; how recovered and applied.
§ 57. Purchasers of tickets, &c., in illegal lotteries, may recover double the sum paid.
§ 58. Prizes drawn in illegal lotteries, forfeited; how collected and applied.
§ 59. Offices for registering numbers of tickets in illegal lotteries, prohibited.
§ 60. Selling of chances in illegal lotteries, and insurances respecting their drawing, prohibited.
§ 61. Insuring tickets in any lottery, and publishing notice thereof, prohibited.
§ 62. Penalty for violating either of last three sections.
§ 63. Transfers of property pursuant to an illegal lottery, &c., void.
§ 64. Certain evidence not necessary in prosecutions under this article.
§ 65. Forgery of lottery tickets, &c., how punished.
§ 66. Grand juries to be charged to inquire into violations of this article.

665 vol. 1. Penalty for setting up money, &c., to be raffled for. 11 N. Y., 438. 7 N. Y., 228, 241. 13 Barb., 577. 65 Barb., 432.

§ 47. (Sec. 22.) No person shall set up or propose any money, goods, chattels or things in action, to be raffled for, or to be distributed by lot or chance, to any person who shall have paid or contracted to pay, any valuable consideration for the chance of obtaining such money, goods or things in action. Any person offending against this provision shall forfeit three times the sum of money, or value of the articles so set up, together with the sum

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of ten dollars, to be recovered by and in the name of the overseers of the poor of the town where the offense was committed.[1]

Raffling prohibited.

§ 48. (Sec. 23.) No person shall raffle for any sum of money, goods or things in action, or become interested in the distribution of any money, goods or things in action, by lot or chance. Whoever offends against this provision shall forfeit ten dollars, to be recovered as directed in the preceding section.[1]

Contracts, &c., on account of raffling, void.

§ 49. (Sec. 24.) All contracts, agreements and securities given, made or executed, for or on account of any raffle or distribution of money, goods or things in action, for the payment of any money, or other valuable thing, in consideration of a chance in such raffle or distribution, or for the delivery of any money, goods or things in action, so raffled for or agreed to be distributed as aforesaid, shall be utterly void.[1]

Money paid for chances &c., may be recovered back.

§ 50. (Sec. 25.) Any person who shall have paid any money or valuable thing for a chance or interest in any such raffle or distribution as is prohibited by the preceding sections may sue for and recover the same of the person to whom such payment or delivery was made.[1]

Lotteries unlawful, &c. 56 N.Y. 424.

§ 51. (Sec. 26.) Every lottery, game or device of chance in the nature of a lottery, by whatever name it may be called other than such as have been authorized by law, shall be deemed unlawful and a common and public nuisance.[2]

Penalty for setting up, drawing, &c., unauthorized lotteries. 5 J. R., 327. 23 Wend., 419. 3 Denio, 88. 3 Denio, 91. 4 Barb., 314. 7 N. Y., 341.

§ 52. (Sec. 27.) No person unauthorized by special laws for that purpose shall within this state open, set on foot, carry on, promote or draw, publicly or privately, any lottery, game or device of chance of any nature or kind whatsoever, or by whatever name it may be called for the purpose of exposing, setting to sale or disposing of any houses, lands, tenements or real estate, or any money, goods, or things in action. Whoever offends against this provision shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be subject to a fine equal to the amount of the whole sum or value for which such lottery, game or device was made; and if such amount cannot be ascertained then to a fine of two thousand five hundred dollars or to imprisonment not exceeding two years, or to both in the discretion of the court.[3] [4]

Penalty for printing, publishing, &c., notices of illegal lotteries. 666, vol. 1. 3 Denio, 212, 213. 1 N. Y., 184.

§ 53. (Sec. 28.) No person shall, by printing, writing or in any other way publish an account of any such illegal lottery, game or device, stating when or where the same is to be drawn, or the prizes therein or any of them, or the price of a ticket or share therein, or where any ticket may be obtained therein, or in any way aiding or assisting in the same. Whoever offends against this pro-

[1] 1 R. L., 222, § 7. [2] Laws of 1819, p. 258, § 1. [3] Ib. p. 259, §§ 2 and 3.

[4] The Constitution, art. 1, § 10, prohibiting any lottery, or the sale of any lottery tickets, to be allowed within this State, the qualification, "unauthorized by special laws for the purpose," is now an impossible one, and the section has become absolute in its provisions.

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vision shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction be subject to a fine not exceeding one hundred and fifty dollars or to imprisonment not exceeding three calendar months.[1]

Penalty for selling, procuring, &c., tickets, &c., in illegal lotteries. 3 Denio, 101. 4 Barb., 314. 1 N. Y., 180.

§ 54. (Sec. 29.) No person within this state shall vend, sell or barter, furnish, supply, procure, or cause to be furnished or procured, or offer to vend, sell, barter, furnish, supply, procure, or cause to be furnished or procured, to or for any person or persons, any ticket or part or share of a ticket, or any paper or instrument purporting to be a ticket or part of a ticket, or to be a share or interest in any ticket, or any certificate of any share or interest in any ticket or in any paper purporting to be a ticket of any such lottery, device or game of chance not expressly authorized by law; nor shall any person be aiding, abetting or assisting in the commission of either of the said offenses. Whoever shall offend against either of these provisions shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment not exceeding one year, or to both in the discretion of the court.[2]

Penalty for offering for sale any property dependent on drawing of any lottery. 7 N. Y., 240, 241.

§ 55. (Sec. 30.) No person unauthorized by special law for that purpose now existing shall offer for sale, distribution or disposition in any way any real estate, or any money, goods, articles or things in action, or any interest therein, to be determined by lot or chance that shall be dependent upon the drawing of any authorized or unauthorized lottery within or out of this state; nor shall any person sell, furnish or procure, or cause to be sold, furnished or procured in any manner whatsoever, any chance, share or portion or any interest of any kind whatsoever, in any property so illegally offered for sale, distribution or disposition as aforesaid, or any ticket or other evidence of any chance or interest in such property, to be determined by any drawing as aforesaid, or any instrument purporting to be such ticket or evidence. Whoever offends against either of these provisions shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment not exceeding one year.[2]

Property so offered for sale forfeited; how recovered and applied. 7 N. Y., 240, 241. 5 Sand., 635. 667, vol. 1.

§ 56. (Sec. 31.) All property so offered for sale, distribution or disposition, against the provisions of law, shall be forfeited to the people of this state, as well before as after the determination of the chance on which the same was dependent; and it shall be the duty of the respective district attorneys, to demand, sue for and recover, in behalf of this State, all property so forfeited, and to maintain the proper actions for the same after demand made, and to pay the proceeds of the sale of such property, and any moneys that may be collected in any such suit, into the county treasury, for the benefit of the poor.[2]

Purchasers of tickets, &c., to re-

§ 57. (Sec. 32.) Any person who shall purchase any share, interest, ticket, certificate of any share or interest, or part of a ticket,

[1] Laws of 1819, p. 259, §§ 2 and 3.

[2] Laws of 1827, p. 329, §§ 6 and 12.

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Recover double the sum paid. 14 Ab. Pr. R. N. S., 236.

or any paper or instrument purporting to be a ticket or share or interest in any ticket, or purporting to be a certificate of any share or interest in any ticket, or in any portion of any illegal lottery, may sue for and recover double the sum of money and double the value of any goods or things in action, which he may have paid or delivered in consideration of such purchase, with double costs of suit.[1]

Prizes in illegal lotteries forfeited.

§ 58. (Sec. 33.) Any prize that shall be drawn in any lottery forbidden by law, shall be forfeited to the use of the poor; and it shall be the duty of the overseers of the poor of the town where the person or persons drawing such prize, or any of them, shall reside, to sue for the same in their names; and they shall recover the same in an action for money had and received, founded upon this statute.[1]

Registering offices prohibited.

§ 59. (Sec. 34.) No person shall open, set up, exercise or keep by himself, or by any other person or persons, any office or other place for registering the numbers of any ticket in any lottery not authorized by the laws of this state; nor shall any person by printing, writing or otherwise, publish the setting up, opening or using of any such office or other place.[2]

Selling chances, insuring, &c.

§ 60. (Sec. 35.) No person shall sell the chance or chances of any ticket in any lottery not authorized by the laws of this state; nor shall any person insure for or against the drawing of any such lottery.[2]

Prohibition against insuring tickets in any lottery, and against publishing notice thereof, &c.

§ 61. (Sec. 36.) No person shall insure or receive any consideration for insuring for or against the drawing of any ticket or tickets in any lottery whatever, whether authorized by law or not; nor shall any person receive any money or goods, or thing in action in consideration of any agreement to repay any sum or sums, or to deliver the same or any other goods or thing in action, if any ticket or tickets in any lottery whatever shall prove fortunate or unfortunate, or shall be drawn or not drawn on any particular day, or in any particular order, or otherwise howsoever; nor shall any person promise or agree to pay any sum of money, or to deliver any goods or thing in action, or to do or forbear to do any thing for the benefit of any other person or persons, with or without consideration, upon any event or contingency dependent on the drawing of any ticket or tickets, or the number or numbers of any tickets in any lottery whatever; nor shall any person publish any notice or proposal for any of the purposes aforesaid.[2]

Penalty for violating three last sections, 6th, vol. 1.

§ 62. (Sec. 37.) Whoever shall offend against any of the provisions contained in the three preceding sections, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor; and on conviction, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or to imprisonment not exceeding one year.[2]

Certain transfers of property void 26 N. Y., 498.

§ 63. (Sec. 38.) Every grant, bargain, sale, conveyance, or transfer of any real estate, or of any goods, chattels, things in action, or any personal property which shall hereafter be made in pur-

[1] 2 R. L., p. 188, § 4. [2] Laws of 1819, p. 280, § 6. [3] Ib., § 7



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65 Barb. 482. 1 N. Y. S. C. R. (T. & C.), 18.

suance of any lottery not authorized by the laws of this state, or for the purpose of aiding and assisting in such lottery, game or other device to be determined by lot or chance, are hereby declared void and of no effect.[a][b]

Evidence in prosecutions under this article.

§ 64. (Sec. 52.) It shall not be necessary in the trial of any suit or prosecution under the provisions of this article, to prove the existence of any lottery in which any ticket, share or part of a ticket purports to have been issued, or the actual signing of any such ticket or share, or of any pretended ticket or share, of any pretended lottery; nor that any ticket, share or interest was signed or issued by the authority of any manager, or of any person assuming to have authority as manager; but in all cases, proof of the sale, furnishing, bartering, or procuring of any ticket, share or interest therein, or of any instrument purporting to be a ticket or part or share of any ticket, shall be conclusive evidence that such ticket, share or interest was signed and issued according to the purport thereof.

Forgery of lottery tickets, &c. 672, vol. 1.

§ 65. (Sec. 53.) If any person shall falsely make, alter, forge or counterfeit, or cause or procure to be falsely made, altered, forged or counterfeited, or willingly act or assist in the false making, altering, forging, or counterfeiting any ticket of any lottery, or other game or device of chance, or any share or interest, or any certificate of any share or interest in any ticket of any lottery, or other game or device of chance, with intent to defraud any person or body coporate whatsoever, or shall utter or publish as true, or shall sell or exchange, or offer for sale or exchange any false, altered, forged or counterfeited ticket of any lottery or other game or device of chance, or of any share or interest, or of any certificate of any share or interest in any ticket of any lottery, with intention to defraud any person or body politic or corporate whatsoever, knowing the same to be false, altered.

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[a] Ib., p. 259, § 4.

[b] As the sections from 39 to 51, both inclusive, relate exclusively to licenses to sell tickets in lotteries authorized by the laws of this state, and as all such lotteries have ceased, and none can hereafter be drawn within this state, (Constitution, art i., §10, and Laws of 1833, ch. 306, p. 484,) these sections have in effect been repealed by the legislature, and are therefore omitted. The following is ch. 306, "An act fixing the period for closing all the lotteries authorized to be drawn within this state," passed April 30, 1833:

Whereas John B. Yates and Archibald McIntyre, assignees of all the unsatisfied lottery grants made by this state, have executed to the people thereof an agreement, bearing date the twenty-fifth day of January last, that all lottery grants heretofore made by this state, shall cease and determine from and after the close of the present year, and releasing and acquitting the people of this state from all right, title and claim to continue or draw any lottery within this state, after the last day of December next, providing the legislature will pass an act declaring that the lotteries authorized by this state, may be continued until the close of the present year; Therefore,

*The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

§ 1. The lotteries authorized by law to be drawn within this state may be continued until the close of the present year: after the end of which period, it shall not be lawful to continue or draw any lottery within this state; but all and every lottery heretofore granted or authorized within this state, shall absolutely cease and determine.

§ 2. That the said agreement and release of the said John B. Yates and Archibald McIntyre, shall be filed and recorded in the office of the secretary of state.

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forged or counterfeited, then any such person being thereof convicted, shall be subject to imprisonment as prescribed by law.[1]

Grand juries to be charged respecting this article.

§ 66. (Sec. 54.) It shall be the duty of the presiding judge of every court of oyer and terminer, and of every court of sessions,[2] specially to charge every grand jury to inquire into all violations of the laws against lotteries, and against the unlawful selling of tickets in lotteries.

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[1] Act concerning Revised Statutes of Dec. 10, 1828, §13; see chapter 1, 4th part, R. S., title 3

[2] "General sessions of the peace," in the original.

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## CHAPTER XXIII.

### THE FIGHT AGAINST OBSCENE LITERATURE.

#### THE "LIBERAL" FRAUD.

At some time prior to 1840, there landed in this country a man named Haines, who was an Irish surgeon of marked ability and skill, and a graduate of one of the English universities. This man, it was said, was obliged to leave England after his marriage to a certain nobleman's daughter, because of having been untrue to his marriage vows. He came to this country, and prostituting his powers for good, engaged shortly afterwards in the publication and sale of the most obscene and indecent books. He was a most foul-minded and licentious man, and a ready writer. He is said to have himself written most of the books he published. Account books seized from his widow after his death, disclosed his business as far back as 1842, or two years before the writer's birth. This man was publishing at the time of his death, in 1873, some twenty-five different books.

Another man, named George Ackerman, had published for over twenty-two years prior to his death in 1874, some twenty different books, besides making most beastly transparent cards.

Still another man, named Farrell, published about 109 different books. He had been at it about sixteen years, at the time of his death in 1873.

Then there were some four thousand dealers scattered throughout the country, who not only sold the books published by these men, but also sold the thousands of other vile things which make up a part and parcel of this nefarious business, which was, and is, *the greatest curse to the youth of this country.* It is a deadly poison, cast into the fountain of moral purity. This business and intemperance are twins; but they are twin-devils. Intemperance strikes down the flower of the land, openly and publicly. The bleared eye, the bloated face, and the reeling step, mark the

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drunkard's downfall. This cursed business of obscene literature works beneath the surface, and like a canker worm, secretly eats out the moral life and purity of our youth, and they droop and fade before their parents' eyes.

This subject is one that none of us like to contemplate, and yet it is of most momentous consequence. When we stop and consider that the men and women of the next generation are to come from the boys and girls of to-day, we will find an unanswerable argument for keeping pure and good the youth and children of the present.

In 1872, when I undertook the great and all-important work of suppressing by legal process this hydra-headed monster, what did I find? I found a business systemized and systematically carried on. I found newspapers teeming with the advertisements of these bold and shameless criminals. I found laws inadequate, and public sentiment worse than dead, because of an appetite that had been formed for salacious reading; and especially because decent people could not be made to see or understand the necessity of doing anything in this line. In 1868 Congress had passed a law prohibiting the transmission of obscene books and pictures through the mails. But when in 1872, an effort was made to enforce this law, it was found inadequate. The Legislature of the State of New York had also passed a law, but like the United States law, it only covered a small part of this accursed traffic in human souls.

What was the animus of these men, you ask? I reply, money. Books that sold for $2.50 to $5, cost about 25 cents to make. "But what a business! Who could enjoy money procured in such a manner!" you exclaim. Not so fast, reader. I have arrested over *four hundred* of these creatures, and every one nearly makes large pretensions to respectability, and say they "must live."

We can acknowledge the daring of the midnight burglar, who creeps into the window of some beautiful home and robs it, or of some highwayman, who, presenting his revolver at the head of his victim, demands "Your money or your life." We can even

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admit the cunning of the sneak thief, who, watching the threshold of the house, creeps in and gathers up his spoil; but how can we find any single saving trait of character in the wretched scoundrel who *secretly poisons*, *debauches* and *curses* the *minds* of our *boys* and *girls!*

It was because of the fatal character and far-reaching extent of this monstrous traffic, and the destruction of young men within my own circle of acquaintances, that I was led, under Providence, in 1872, to undertake the thankless task, so far as it lay in my power, of suppressing this many-sided evil.

I desire to dwell particularly a moment on the history of the Act of Congress of March 3d, 1873, or what the "Liberals" call the "Comstock Law."

This is important on account of the constant cry of the "Liberal" press, that this most important law is "unconstitutional" and "was rushed through without any consideration by the Forty-second Congress."

As the "Liberals" and the writer, in this chapter, are to come directly face to face, we might as well be candid at the start, and talk plainly, and therefore I am very emphatic when I pronounce this claim *maliciously false.*

*First.* It is malicious, because the United States Supreme Court has, in the case of O. A. Jackson, declared, "that Congress has the right to legislate as to what shall and shall not be carried in the mails," and these men who printed these accusations knew of that decision at the time.

*Second.* It is false, because there is not a word of truth in it. The facts are, that in the fall or winter of 1872, Hon. Clinton L. Merriam had introduced a bill upon this very subject in the House of Representatives, where he was then a member; again, Hon. Benj. F. Butler of Mass., had introduced another bill on the regulation of commerce between the States; and certain gentleman in Washington had still another bill in the House, all bearing on this very subject.

These measures had all been before the House, and were before the Committees of the House, when I went there in January,

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1873. As I have said, the law of 1868 did not meet the requirements of the case. I had prepared a bill, the provisions of which were designed to meet the systemized business which I had found flooding the land through the mails.

*The mail of the United States is the great thoroughfare of communication leading up into all our homes, schools and colleges. It is the most powerful agent, to assist this nefarious business*, because it *goes everywhere* and is *secret*. It surely needs no argument here to convince the most exacting of all decent men, that no department of Government should be prostituted to serve this infamous traffic, nor become party to it, by continuing to serve these loathsome creatures after the character of their hellish business, with our youth, is known.

When we came to consider the bills that were then before the House of Representatives we found that none of them as drafted, comprehended the wants of the case. Each of the gentlemen and committees were consulted, and all agreed to allow these measures to remain at rest, and give their support to another bill, which was prepared from my rough draft, and which was introduced in the Senate, and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Then came such an opposition as few bills ever met. "Freedom of the Press is endangered," was the newspaper cry, and they rung the changes on this warning note. One quack in New York, through his clerks, sent to nearly every member of Congress a letter signed by different parties, but all evidently in the same handwriting, calling especial attention to the law, and that it was peculiarly objectionable and ought never to pass; and this letter contained the most infamous libels against myself. I was immediately sent for, and confronted with these base attacks. But when it was found that members of each House had received the same letter from different sources, members examined the bill more carefully. I was called repeatedly before the Committee. I went before large gatherings of Congressmen, and I am positive I personally presented the full facts to a large majority, both in the Senate and House; and after more than a

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month's consideration, this bill passed the Senate twice unanimously; first on its original passage: then, after going over to, and passing the House by a minority of but 30, it was sent back with an amendment, and again voted on without a single dissenting voice.

I repeat, this law was *fully* and *carefully examined*, and passed after a *full statement of facts* had been presented.

Down to December, 1877, there had been about three hundred and fifty persons arrested. Many of them had been convicted and sentenced. The quack who sent these base and cowardly letters, had been convicted and sentenced under this law; and something must be done by those whose nefarious business was being so surely broken up. I have been particular about the passage of the law and its uses, because it plays a most interesting and important part in one of the most diabolical schemes to repeal a righteous statute, and ruin a man's good name and reputation by fraud and deception, that has ever come under the writer's attention.

It was really a conspiracy of "smut-dealers;" but as it was operated by a leading so-called "Liberal," and as one hundred and forty out of one hundred and sixty-four Liberal Leagues have arrayed themselves against this work, espousing the cause of the smut-dealer and abortionist, we propose to gratify them by calling the whole movement a

LIBERAL FRAUD,

and explaining how the "Liberals" manage, when opposing the legal enforcement of righteous laws, and how they endeavored by lying conspiracies, deceit, and fraud, to repeal these laws. At the same time it will illustrate the absolute worthlessness as legislators, of those who advocate no God, no law, no restraining of the libertine and renegade, but a licensing of each individual to follow out his own base designs and purposes.

Surely the blasphemer has found his level; and the adage that "birds of a feather flock together" is proved true.

It is a *noted fact*, that *no sect nor class*, as a sect or class, has

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ever publicly sided with the smut-dealer, and defended this nefarious business, except the Infidels, the Liberals,* and the Free-Lovers. The latter are of course in their natural element, and I make no exception for them; but I would be doing violence to the truth and to the golden rule if I did not make some exception to the first two. There are many infidels who abhor this cursed traffic, and several of their papers which for a time were deceived, afterwards came out and openly condemned in strongest terms the acts of these conspirators, and expressed their utter abhorrence of the vile traffic they sought to aid and defend. The same is equally true of many Liberals.

In 1878, the Liberal League while in Convention at Syracuse split on this very subject. The strong, pure, and clean men, those who were honest, and brave enough to stand for moral purity and common decency, under the leadership of Francis E. Abbot, placed themselves emphatically outside the circle of the venders of obscene publications and their sympathizers, by seceding and forming The National Liberal League of America, or what is now known as anti-repealers of obscene publication laws. There were 24 leagues of the strongest men of this fraternity, who left the howling, ranting, blaspheming mob of repealers. For their convictions these men have been ridiculed and maligned by the leaders of these friends of nastiness.

But to return to the fraud.

The basis and motive of this fraud consists, as will be seen, in revenge, avarice, and innate depravity. It possesses not only all the lying and deceit that characterizes these other frauds, but as will also be learned, the conspirators who operated this scheme,

* Just here I desire to explain who I mean as "Liberals." It is those members of the Liberal League, who at Syracuse in 1878 and at Cincinnati in 1879, advocated the repeal of obscenity laws, and became sympathizers and defenders of dealers in obscene publications—the blatant infidel, the free lover, the erratic free thinker, the quack, the smut-dealer, and the criminals, who train with these leagues, all of whom call themselves Liberals. I do not include that large class known as liberals, which includes the Unitarian, the Universalist, or the decent infidel, etc.; these latter all are opposed, with few exceptions, to this kind of infamy.

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sunk to the level of the slanderer and the blackguard, while defending one of the most infamous crimes known to civilization.

While it can hardly be said that this scheme was gotten up for the purpose of enriching these parties who originated it, yet their publications and figures show that they took good care of their own personal interests. Under the thin guise of defending "Freedom of Press," "Free speech," "Free thought," and "Personal Liberty," they entered into a most diabolical conspiracy to repeal the Act of Congress of March 3, 1873, which prohibits obscene publications and articles for indecent and immoral use passing through the mails: and at the same time they sought to crush and ruin the officer who had dared to enforce those laws. In other words, their own nefarious business was endangered because of these righteous laws, and in order to give a decent showing to an indecent and foul business, they sailed under false colors: and plotted to capture that large class who, believing in no God, are ready to array themselves against anything good and pure. Liberty means license with them, and freedom of press and speech, means that they may, without let or hindrance, blaspheme and deride the holiest things, while any one opposed to their views is to be held to strict accountability. They pay no respect to that very considerable majority, who bow to a Supreme Being, and respect sacred things. These conspirators further sought to show that the proper enforcement of these laws was religious persecution. Here is what the ringleader said in his weekly paper:

The Christian Church has greatly increased in America within the century that has passed over the life of this nation and has become rich, powerful, intolerant. And now one Anthony Comstock has come upon the stage and has constituted himself a knight-errant to champion and defend the imperious system of religion said to have been handed down from the meek and lowly Jesus; to fight her battles, to defend her interests and crush her enemies to the earth. So long as he was clerk in a dry-goods store he conceived the idea of making a great man of himself and becoming the valorous defender of the dominant church. He became a member of the powerful but Jesuitical organization known as the Young Men's Christian Association, which contains many men of wealth and influence, many who are designing and cunning. He has organized "The Society for the Suppression of Vice"

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and become its active agent and motive power. It cannot be denied that his motives in part were good and that he has performed work that was commendable, but he has greatly overstepped the bounds of propriety and has become the persecutor and prosecutor of men as much above him in everything that is noble, honorable and honest, as the sun is above the earth.

Comstock became ambitious. He wished more power that he might be able to bring certain parties more entirely under his control, and wished the laws to be changed so as to increase the facility with which he could compel offenders to trial and punishment. As a representative of the Young Men's Christian Association and the agent of the "Society for the Suppression of Vice" he visited Washington many times and had numerous interviews with members of the Post-office Committee, Representatives, and Senators, until by persistent intrigue and finesse, in 1873, he procured the passage of a law making it an offense punishable with a fine of from $100 to $5,000 and with imprisonment at hard labor from one year to ten years, to send through the mails any book, print, or publication of any kind of an obscene or indecent character, the obscenity and indecency to be decided by the U. S. Courts and jury before whom the offender might be tried; and Anthony Comstock was appointed, with a salary, by our postal department, as special agent to watch the mails.

The Society for the Suppression of Vice had not been thought of at this time. I never received one penny salary from the Post Office Department. Again he says:

It is proper to state that besides getting this unjust law passed by Congress (which was done in spite of the protests of Messrs. Hoar* of Mass., Chittenden of New York, Conger of Mich., and Gen. Garfield of Ohio, who opposed the bill and saw in it a covert blow at the personal liberties of the people—Congress hurriedly passing it at the instigation of the religious societies, represented by their agent, Comstock, many of the members afterwards confessing that they were really unacquainted with the tenor of the bill), the irrepressible obscenity hunter went to Albany, the capital of this State, and had similar laws enacted by the legislature. So by the intriguing, wire-working industry of this bad man the statutes of the United States and the great State of New York are disgraced by unconstitutional laws that really would be a blot upon the escutcheon of Turkey or Patagonia.

Again he says:

It would doubtless be a lively fight between Christianity and intolerance on the one hand and Rationalism and personal rights on the other, and if in the contest we had lain in prison a few months more or less, it is not at all unlikely that Christianity, our intolerant foe and oppressor, would have been

* Messrs. Hoar and Garfield were some of the warmest friends of this bill in 1873, and Chittenden was not a member of Congress at the time.

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greatly injured in the contest, and the cause of Liberalism and freedom of thought and speech would have gained a decided victory.

The expense of this effort they sought to, and did secure out of the pockets of those they set about to deceive. They seemed to reason, that if they would only make martyrs of the venders of obscene matter, and disguise their business and make it apparent that the parties were arrested on account of some peculiar religious belief, or more properly because of a lack of any religion, or religious belief, that, then it would be an easy matter to capture the so-called Liberals and Infidels of the country.

The ringleader in this fraud had been arrested a short time previously, for sending obscene matter through the mails. He immediately began, a poor-mouth cry, and to make himself a martyr to the cause of blaspheming obscenity (as his publications consisted of blasphemy and obscenity commingled), and appealed for money and pledges to conduct his defence. He published a weekly paper, and this paper was the mouthpiece of these moral cancer planters. When pledges, etc., were received, he would acknowledge them as follows:

PLEDGES AND DONATIONS

To assist in defraying the expenses of the Comstock-Bennett trial.

PLEDGES.

| | |
|---|---|
| Henderson & Brown | $25.00 |
| W. P. Slensby | 25.00 |
| Crocker & Colyer | 25.00 |
| George C. Cowart | 25.00 |
| Dr. E. B. Foote | 15.00 |
| H. J. Woodhouse | 10.00 |
| John Flint | 5.00 |
| Margaret Flint | 5.00 |
| James Methven | 5.00 |
| L. O. Bass | 5.00 |

PAID.

| | |
|---|---|
| Joseph Sedgebeer | $10.00 |
| Milo and Sallie Miner | 5.00 |
| E. M. Davis | 5.00 |
| S. Berendsohn | 5.00 |
| A Friend | 5.00 |
| Julius Samson | 3.00 |

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| | |
|---|---|
| M. D. Cohn | $2.00 |
| A. J. | 2.00 |
| J. B. Fenerty | 1.00 |
| F. J. Freese | 1.00 |
| Theodore Berendsohn | 1.00 |
| A. Folck | 1.00 |
| Z. T. French | 1.00 |
| Thomas W. James | 1.00 |
| A. A. Lewis | 1.00 |
| James Quinn | 1.00 |
| Joel Stokes | 1.00 |
| Lester B. Reading | 1.00 |
| C. W. Sylvester | 1.00 |
| Benjamin Griffin | 1.00 |

We return our most sincere thanks to the kind friends who have so promptly come to our relief and who have shown so much sympathy in our favor and for the liberality evinced in our behalf. It is a great consolation to know that we have warm friends in all parts of the country and it gives us the assurance that despite the failings we doubtless have, on the main issue we are correct, and that we are sustained by men and women as upright and honorable, as can be found in this or any other country. We can give in this issue but a part of the sympathetic letters we have received. We again thank all our kind friends. The publication of pledges and donations will be continued in our next.

Crocker & Colyer printed the paper and circulars of the fraud, and Foote had been convicted under this law.

They published, almost weekly, appeals for contributions to repeal laws, which they represented as being unconstitutional.

Most infamous and libelous statements were made concerning the law, and the officers who executed it; and by these base misrepresentations, hundreds of dollars were collected, to be expended in paying these men for books and papers, which they issued in their own name and, I have no doubt, to their personal profit.

There were five men especially engaged and interested in this conspiracy. Three of these men had made attempts upon the life of the writer, and had failed. Each of the five had been arrested, and four out of the five have served sentences of imprisonment, or been fined.

To come down to the story: the Congress of 1868 had passed a law declaring it unlawful to mail obscene publications.

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In 1872, an effort was made to enforce these laws, in order to protect the children and youth in the schools and seminaries, throughout the country, from being debauched by the miscreants who made a living by sending out secretly through the mails, the most degrading and debasing publications.

The alarming extent of this nefarious business, which was, as we have said elsewhere, systematized and systematically carried on, led to the enactment in 1873 by Congress, of a more stringent law, regarding the transmission of this matter through the mail.

Under these laws a large number of persons had been arrested, tried, convicted, and sentenced; and the disposition of all decent men to crush out a business that was sowing broadcast, seeds of moral and spiritual death among our youth, was so pronounced, that this devilish business was in jeopardy.

The Liberal League in its convention, at Philadelphia in 1876, had espoused the cause of nastiness, and had considered means, to aid and help the venders of obscene publications. And *this movement*, was started directly in the line of the favor shown this subject at that *convention*, and was *backed by the would-be leaders in that organization.*

These five conspirators conceived the plan of capturing that large class in the community, who, believing in no God, seemed lost to all sense of decency and morality. They well knew the proclivity to believe whatever might be said against religion, moral purity, or any object that makes men wiser, purer, and better.

But this scheme was to be a national affair. It was intended to reach all the editors, publishers, booksellers, etc., in the country.

The first move was to capture the press. Then the press would manufacture public sentiment for them.

To this end they prepared a document manufactured from lies made out of whole cloth.

This document we print as they issued it.

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DOCUMENT.

*To the Publishers, Booksellers, Editors, Importers, Druggists, Artists, Physicians, and the Lovers of Liberty and Justice in the United States:*

FRIENDS AND COUNTRYMEN: Enclosed is handed you one or more copies of a carefully worded, well considered PETITION of which it is urgently desired that not less than ten thousand copies be signed by fully one million of the freemen of America, with a view of laying the same before Congress early in its present regular session.

During the years 1872 and 1873, certain acts and statutes were, by hasty and ill-considered legislation urged on by narrow-minded persons and influences, passed by Congress, and thus became laws of the United States and were placed on the statute books of our country. The statutes are found to bear with great injustice upon certain interests and avocations, as will soon appear; they are subversive of the grand principles of personal and universal liberty upon which our government was founded. For one hundred years our country got along prosperously and happily without the laws here complained of, and whose existence is found inimical to the rights and liberties of many law-abiding and well-disposed citizens of the United States.

(1) In this connection the unconstitutional statutes alluded to, as taken from the Revised Statutes of the United States, are given. It will be seen that they are capable of being easily construed so as to bear with excessive severity upon many of the best and most loyal citizens of the country. In proof of this it is only necessary to state that under the provisions of these statutes, Publishers for sending strictly scientific and physiological works through the mail, have been arrested, their reputation and good name blackened as senders of obscene literature, have been subjected to excessive inconvenience, heavily fined and sometimes imprisoned for committing no offense at all against justice or morality; that Physicians and Authors, for imparting in their publications such scientific and legitimate information as the people ought to have placed before them, have been arrested, placed under heavy bail, forced as criminals, at a very heavy expense, to defend themselves before the Courts of the United States, and some have been heavily fined, their business greatly interfered with or entirely broken up.

(2) One unfortunate individual was arrested, put in prison, subjected to a criminal trial in the U. S. District Court of this city, found guilty of sending obscene matter through the mail and sentenced to two years' imprisonment at hard labor, and yet his only offense was sending by mail a print of *Power's Greek Slave*, whose original had been viewed with enlightened pleasure by hundreds of thousands of the best people of Europe and America.

(3) One well-meaning dealer in this city was arrested, tried, condemned and imprisoned two years for simply selling, with the best intention in the world, a *female syringe* of hard rubber. It was proved in court that the instrument was an excellent one, that it was useful, etc., but because, under the letter of the law, it was adapted to, or capable of being used for, an

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immoral purpose, the poor man had to suffer two years' imprisonment, his business destroyed and his reputation blackened for life.

(4) A publisher of a paper in this city (neither immoral nor indecent, and far less obscene than much that is published in the papers of the country every day,) was arrested, placed in prison, and under the strict construction of the law, was found guilty, torn from his wife and little children, sentenced to hard labor in the Albany Penitentiary for eighteen months and fined $500! A greater injustice has been rarely perpetrated, for the man had really committed no offense. His name is John A. Lant.

(5) Artists in this city and elsewhere have been raided upon and their stock in trade taken by force when it consisted merely of negatives and prints of classical and unobjectionable statuary.

(6) A man by the name of Simpson is now serving out a sentence under these statutes, of ten years' imprisonment at hard labor for simply sending through the mail a semi-humorous, semi-suggestive card, not immoral nor indecent, but rather instructive, conveying a salutary warning to young people.

(7) Several persons in this city, Boston, and elsewhere, are now under arrest and awaiting trial for sending through the mail strictly moral, scientific and physiological works, some of them containing the anatomical plates, etc., usually used in medical works. These arrests are chiefly made by an officious individual who acts in the capacity of detective or special mail agent, who gets a salary of several thousand dollars per year, with $2,500 for mileage, *besides several thousands made by* BLACKMAIL, but who seems to lack the judgment to know what scientific and physiological works are and should be, who calls every book obscene which contains regular anatomical plates, and who seems incapable of judging what is obscene and what not. It is a great misfortune to the country when the administration of its laws is placed in the hands of a fanatic or a bigoted member of a religious sect.

A learned jurist has said that no legislative body in making laws should use language that has to be defined and construed by others. Every crime should be so clearly defined that there can be no mistaking it. Murder, homicide, arson, larceny, burglary, forgery, etc., are so defined that they cannot be misunderstood. It is not so with obscenity; the term is left to be construed by judges, lawyers, juries and whoever chooses to decide what *is* obscene and what is *not*. If obscenity is a crime punishable by fine and imprisonment, it at least ought to be correctly defined so that it may be known in what it consists, and so, that an accused person shall not be at the mercy of a man or a number of men who construe what is obscene, what is indecent and immoral by their own particular opinion or notion of morality and immorality. What is obscene to one man may be as pure as the mountain snow to another, and one man ought not to be empowered to decide for other men.

Here follow some of the sections of the statutes alluded to:

TITLE XIX.—PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO SEVERAL CLASSES OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1785. Whoever, being an officer, agent, or employé of the Government of the United States, shall knowingly aid or abet any person engaged in

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any violation of any of the provisions of law, prohibiting importing, advertising, dealing in, exhibiting, or sending or receiving by mail, obscene or indecent publications, or representations, or means for preventing conception or procuring abortion, or other articles of indecent or immoral use or tendency, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall for every offense be punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars, and not more than five thousand, or by imprisonment at hard labor for not less than one year nor more than ten, or both.

TITLE XXXIII.—DUTIES UPON IMPORTS.

SEC. 2491. All persons are prohibited from importing into the United States, from any foreign country, any obscene book, pamphlet, paper, writing, advertisement, circular, print, picture, drawing, or other representation, figure, or image on or of paper or other material, or any cast, instrument, or other article of an immoral nature, or any drug or medicine, or any article whatever for the prevention of conception, or for causing unlawful abortion. No invoice or package whatever, or any part of one, in which any such articles are contained, shall be admitted to entry, and all invoices and packages whereof any such articles shall compose a part, are liable to be proceeded against, seized, and forfeited by due course of law. All such prohibited articles in the course of importation, shall be detained by the officer of customs, and proceedings taken against the same as prescribed in the following section: *Provided*, That the drugs hereinbefore mentioned, when imported in bulk and not put up for any of the purposes hereinbefore specified, are excepted from the operation of this section.

TITLE XLVI.—THE POSTAL SERVICE.

SEC. 3893. No obscene, lewd, or lascivious book, pamphlet, picture, paper, print, or other publication of an indecent character, or any article or thing designed or intended for the prevention of conception or procuring of abortion, nor any article or thing intended or adapted for any indecent or immoral use or nature, nor any written or printed card, circular, book, pamphlet, advertisement, or notice of any kind giving information directly or indirectly, where or how, or of whom, or by what means either of the things before mentioned may be obtained or made, nor any letter upon the envelope of which, or postal card upon which indecent or scurrilous epithets may be written or printed, shall be carried in the mail; and any person who shall knowingly deposit or cause to be deposited, for mailing or delivery, any of the herein before-mentioned articles or things, or any notice or paper containing any advertisement relating to the aforesaid articles or things, and any person who, in pursuance of any plan or scheme for disposing of any of the herein before-mentioned articles or things, shall take or cause to be taken, from the mail any such letter or package, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, for every offense, be fined not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than five thousand dollars, or imprisoned at hard labor not less than one year nor more than ten years, or both.



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TITLE LXX.—CRIMES.—CHAPTER THREE.—CRIMES ARISING WITHIN THE MARITIME AND TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

SEC. 5389. Every person who, within the District of Columbia, or any of the Territories of the United States, or other place within the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States, sells, or lends, or gives away, or in any manner exhibits or offers to sell, or to lend, or to give away, or in any manner to exhibit, or otherwise publishes or offers to publish in any manner, or has in his possession, for any such purpose, any obscene book, pamphlet, paper, writing, advertisement, circular, print, picture, drawing, or other representation, figure, or image on or of paper or other material, or any cast, instrument, or other article of an immoral nature, or any drug or medicine, or any article whatever for the prevention of conception, or for causing unlawful abortion, or who advertises the same for sale, or writes or prints, or causes to be written or printed, any card, circular, book, pamphlet, advertisement, or notice of any kind, stating when, where, how, or of whom, or by what means, any of the articles in this section hereinbefore mentioned can be procured or obtained, or manufactures, draws or prints, or in anywise makes any of such articles, shall be imprisoned at hard labor in the penitentiary for not less than six months nor more than five years for each offense, or fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than two thousand dollars, with costs of court.

There are features in the foregoing sections that are positively a disgrace to the laws of this free country and transcend in their severity anything of the kind that can be found on the statute books of any nation in Europe. They are diametrically opposed to the fundamental provisions of the American Constitution and subversive of the personal liberties to which every citizen is entitled. When crimes and offenses are described or defined in such indefinite or ambiguous terms that they can be subverted to the uses of religious or class persecution, no person is safe. Penal laws should not be so worded that they can be twisted to the oppressive uses that a designing prosecutor sees fit to give them.

The provisions of the foregoing statutes will be found to be specially oppressive to Publishers, because much that they put forth, and which is perfectly legitimate to be published, can be forced to come within their scope; to Authors, because they place an embargo upon their scientific, physiological and anatomical productions; to Booksellers, because they prohibit them from sending to a customer through the mail any books that he may sell over his counter with impunity; to Druggists and medicine dealers, because they make it punishable with heavy fines and imprisonment to sell or prescribe or give the slightest intimation where any remedy can be obtained that will prevent conception or an undue increase of population [by its provisions a Druggist may be fined $5,000 and imprisoned ten years for selling and sending through the mails a female syringe, an ounce of alum and many other articles of a similar character]; to newspaper men, because they make them punishable to the same extent for publishing advertisements for a class of medicines

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that are as essential to the public, and as much demanded as any other class [who shall say that a wife or mother shall not have the right to use a proper and scientific remedy to prevent an undue accession to her family, and shall not buy or read a book giving her the necessary information upon the subject?]; to artists who simply wish to make pictures of classic and beautiful statuary; to every citizen of the United States, because they deprive him of using the mail for such purposes as originally designed by the founders of our government. The mail is an institution for the people and belonging to the people and should by no means be controlled or dominated by any sect, creed or church. No censorship of the mail should be tolerated in this country. It is far better that some objectionable matter should be carried by it than that the greater evil of the destruction of the personal liberties of the people should be perpetrated. The people can send such letters through the mail as they please, whether plotting treason, incendiarism, robbery or murder, and even this is better, as the New York *Methodist* justly observed, than that the people should be deprived of their legal mail facilities. Who shall say that third class mail matter shall not go as freely as the first class? Why has not an American the same right to send a small parcel or a book by mail as by express or otherwise? Who shall insist that the mail is more sacred than all other modes of conveyance, and that it does not belong equally to the people individually as well as collectively?

It is not desired by any good citizen that lewd and lascivious books should be tolerated in the country, but in discriminating against them special care should be exercised that the rights of the people are not destroyed. If in the foregoing statute, the personal liberties of the people are infringed upon, the RIGHT OF PETITION is still left us, and this right let us exercise like freemen.

It is earnestly requested that each person to whom this petition is sent will interest himself or herself in obtaining all the signatures possible to it both of ladies and gentlemen. Let none neglect his duty in this instance.

Very respectfully,

Wood & Holbrook, Publishers and Booksellers.
Murray Hill Publishing Company.
McKesson & Robbins, Wholesale Druggists.
R. S. Newton, M.D., Professor in the New York Eclectic Medical College.
Charles Winterburn, M.D. Wm. McLaury, M.D.
John P. Jewett, Publisher, [who originally brought out "Uncle Tom's Cabin."]
New York News Company.
A. L. Rawson, D.D. LL.D., Author and Artist.
Warren, Barnes & Co., Paper Dealers.
Crocker & Colyer, Printers. A. G. W. Carter, Ex-Judge.
J. W. Nicholls, Photographer. E. M. Macdonald, Printer.
J. W. Bouton, Publisher and Bookseller.
D. M. Bennett, Publisher and Bookseller. [All of New York.]

When the Petitions are fully signed they may be forwarded to D. M.

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B., —— Eighth street, New York, who will see that they are sent, in bulk, to the proper parties in Washington, and that additional efforts are made for the repeal of the obnoxious statutes. He pledges himself to present to the party obtaining the largest number of signatures to any one petition, books of his publication to the amount of $25.00; to the one obtaining the second largest number, $15.00; to the third, $10.00. Let each Petition returned be marked with the number of signatures upon it. Applications for blank Petitions, or inquiries pertaining to the business, may be addressed to the same.

This circular was gotten up and sent out to the number of 15,000, if one of these ex-convict's papers is to be believed.

It will be noticed that the note at the bottom, while it does not exactly offer a chromo, does offer as a prize to the party obtaining the largest number of signatures, that which was much more obnoxious, to wit: some of the infidel books of this person's publication.

These circulars were accompanied by a petition demanding the repeal of the righteous laws quoted therein.

The reputable names signed to this circular, were placed there without authority, in order to give weight and influence with those to whom it should be sent, and were intended to endorse the lies, misrepresentations, and libels in the circular.

For the sake of convenience, we have placed numbers opposite the articles which we purpose to explain.

No. 1. Is an absolute falsehood.

No. 2. If possible, is more false than No. 1, and is made up of whole cloth.

No. 3. In this case there was a man arrested for sending a substitute for an immoral article through the mail. This substitute was for an immoral and indecent purpose, and was condemned by physicians of highest standing in New York and Brooklyn. It is presumed that this case is the one referred to, as it is the only one that has any semblance to it. But in this case, the man was fined $750, so that No. 3 is also without foundation of truth.

No. 4. A man named Lant was indicted, for sending out a grossly indecent and obscene paper, doing it after he had been once convicted in Toledo, Ohio, warned a second time from an-

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other place, in Ohio, and then coming to New York, had openly defied the law, by announcing that his paper had been suppressed by the U. S. Court in Toledo, Ohio; and then he republished the same matter in this city. He was warned here, but persisted in violating the law, and was arrested.

No. 5. Is an absolute falsehood, and no such case has ever occurred.

No. 6. Is an absolute, and malicious falsehood, because Simpson was notoriously one of the worst dealers in obscene publications that ever lived in this country.

A word in reference to his case, will show how monstrous the statements these (now) ex-convicts presumed to make in their defence, of the grossest and most infamous business known to any civilized country.

Simpson had been once arrested and convicted, and sentenced to pay a fine. He paid his fine, returned to his place, and continued the same business, was again arrested, and hundreds of obscene books and pictures found in his possession. After much delay he was again convicted and sentenced to one year's imprisonment on Blackwell's Island, and $1,000 fine.

While serving this sentence, his business was carried on by his wife and a clerk. His clerk was arrested and indicted for selling these same obscene and filthy things.

Simpson served his time, came out of jail, got up a hundred varieties of wood cuts and photographs of the most indecent and infamous character, and began to advertise and send them out through the mail. He was arrested, and held in $5,000 bail, but continued the same nefarious traffic, and before trial was arrested again; again indicted, and at last for the third time convicted and sentenced to the full extent of the law. And yet this is the innocent man "sentenced to ten years' imprisonment at hard labor, for simply sending through the mail, a semi-humorous, semi-suggestive card, not immoral nor indecent; but rather instructive, conveying a salutary warning to young people," while his family starved on $20,000 which he had made in this business, and left behind him.

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The circular then charges blackmail, that I received $2,500 for mileage, and recites gross outrages done; all of which are basely false, and known to these men to be false.

If standing between the hellish business carried on by these men, with its debauching and corrupting influences, and the innocent children and youth of this country be a crime, then am I guilty.

But when I am charged with any offence in connection with my work, unbecoming a faithful officer and a Christian gentleman, I plead *not guilty*, and I challenge every black-hearted wretch that says to the contrary, and I brand him as wilfully falsifying.

I go further, and say, that not a single case has been prosecuted in seven years, either under the United States or State Laws, where the *facts* do not *more than warrant any action* that has been taken.

The second move was to secure an enormous list of names to the petition that these conspirators sent out. We give some of the appeals as made from week to week.

Comstock, in the power he commands, is insidious, ambitious and exacting. Let him crush out the free works of medicine, physiology and theology, let him succeed in crushing this paper, and other Free Thought publications must follow suit. When these are once suppressed, such houses as the Appletons', who dare to publish the writings of Darwin, Spencer, Huxley, Tyndall, Proctor, Haeckel, Draper, Fiske and others will be summarily squelched, and no literature will be tolerated save that which bows down to all the old myths and fables of the dark past. When the principle of American liberty is destroyed, we cannot expect that any modification of free and untrammeled thought and utterance will be allowed to remain.

Friends of Liberty, we have here hurriedly held up to your view some of the traits of Anthony Comstock and some of the workings of the odious laws which he caused to be placed upon our statute books. There is much more connected with the subject which we would like to say but time and space forbid. We will recur to them again from time to time as necessity dictates. We have not aimed to say a word that is not strictly true, and only a part has been told you. You know not the oppressive evils that are hanging over and bearing down upon the people of this country. But let us not supinely sit with fetters upon our limbs and become willing and suppliant slaves. Let us arise as one man, from Maine to California, from Michigan to Texas and throw off the bondage that is crushing out the personal liberties for which our fathers fought and to preserve which our government was established.

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In a few days we will draft or cause to be drafted a suitable petition to Congress for the repeal or modification of the odious and oppressive laws we have spoken of. We will print five thousand or ten thousand of them, or whatever number may be necessary, and send them into every state, every county, every town and every hamlet throughout the land, not omitting Squan Village. Let the same be signed by every liberty-loving person in the country and let them pour into Congress at Washington during the ensuing winter, and let every possible influence upon members of Congress, the Post-office Committee, etc., be exerted, and before the ides of March are upon us the detestible Comstock and these odious Comstock*isms* will be wiped from the statute books of our fair country. Let those petitions be forwarded to us and we will see that the same are placed where they will do the most good.

Let all who feel disposed to exert themselves to obtain signatures to petitions calling for this greatly needed reform write us and we will forward them blank petitions for the purpose. Let us give a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether, and in a few short months we will no longer be troubled with the officiousness of the pitiable Anthony Comstock in our post-offices, and he will be allowed to exercise his choice whether to return to the sale of dry goods, or to spend his time in Association Hall in saying his prayers and chanting his own praises for his valorous zeal in suppressing obscenity.

Again:

We hope friends will not slacken their diligence in obtaining signatures to the petition to Congress for the repeal of the odious Comstock laws. It is necessary to make a formidable impression upon Congress early in January when it reassembles. Those wishing copies of the petition will please notify us and they shall be forwarded at once. The petitions when signed should be forwarded to us immediately after New Years. Let us, friends, show that some things can be done as well as others.

If the following extracts are true, some of the "Liberals" were badly frightened. They have my full sympathy.

Hundreds of people are afraid to sign the petition to Congress, fearing that Comstock might not like it and might get after them, perhaps after they had gone to bed. Even some of our Liberal papers, and especially those of the Spiritualistic persuasion, are troubled with the same fear and trembling, or else they are afflicted with an over amount of respectability. Although nearly six weeks have elapsed since we were arrested in a high-handed manner, they have not yet found courage enough to mention the fact in their columns, nor to denounce this outrage upon Freethought and the freedom of the press.

Again he says:

An appalling fact that has struck us [wonder if it hurt him!] with more and

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more force as this case has developed is the fear of Comstock under which almost everybody appears to be laboring.

In our intercourse with various parties in connection with the efforts we are making to have these odious laws repealed or greatly modified, we find that a general fear or apprehension of Comstock's power seems to hang like a terrible nightmare over the entire community. Publishers are afraid of him, and dare hardly have their names used in connection with the movement for the repeal of the laws. Druggists are afraid of him, and almost tremble lest he pounce down upon them. The publishers of the daily papers seem to be in fear of him, and dare not open their columns to a word of criticism on his rascality. We have tried some of them and know whereof we speak. They were ready enough to traduce us as a "Freelover," and to say to their readers that we had been arrested for sending out obscene and indecent books, but they were not willing to make the proper correction, or to print a word in opposition to Comstock.

He then counts his chickens before his eggs are hatched, and at the same time he outlines what he has in store for the "Agent."

With thousands of these petitions laid before Congress, backed by the efforts that will be made by persons of influence, with an exhibit of the dastardly and villainous conduct of special agent and representative of the Y. M. C. A. Anthony Comstock, we have reason to believe that he will not only be not suffered to continue his high-handed reign of terror, but that he will be allowed to step down and out to private life, so far as the public mails of this country are concerned. If we are able to help bring about this state of things and can live to see it accomplished, we shall feel that we have not lived in vain.

Each week appeals were made for help, and especial zeal was manifested to get the "Liberals" to subscribe for his paper, he representing that the whole and prime effort in the arresting him for sending obscene matter through the mail was to suppress him and his paper. *A falser statement could not be made.*

Nothing was more untrue. I accord to every man the fullest scope for his views and convictions. He may shout them from the housetop, or print them over the face of every fence and building for all I care. But the common law and statutes both declare he must do it in a decent and lawful manner or not at all. I am sworn to enforce these laws—this and nothing more. In the same manner a man may buy poison, but he may not feed it to his neighbor's cattle or fowls, much less to his children. So a man may think, write, and speak as he pleases by himself, but

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he must put his public utterances into decent language. The law says no *obscene book shall be published;* therefore if he writes a book he must not make it obscene, as it is unlawful, and if he does so make it, he must take the consequences of his own acts.

Common Law decisions are clear on this subject, and declare that

**The courts are guardians of the public morals.**

Again:

**An indictment at common law may be maintained for any offence which is against public morals or decency.**

**Under this head may be comprehended every species of representation, whether by writing, by printing, or by any manner of sign or substitute, which is indecent and contrary to public order. 2 Archibald Cr. Pr. and Pl., p. 217.**

**Peace includes good order and government, and that peace may be broken in many instances without an actual force, to wit:**

**I. If it be an act against the constitution or civil government.**

**II. If it be against religion.**

**III. If it be against morality. Rex vs. Curl; 2 Strange Reports, p. 788.**

**The question of obscenity of publication is for the jury.**

**To justify publication, it must be made for a legitimate and useful purpose, and not from any motive of mere gain, or with a corrupt desire to debauch society.**

**A mistaken view of the prisoner, as to the character and tendency of the publication, if the latter be itself obscene, will not excuse his violation of the law. Commonwealth vs. Landis; 8 Phila. Reports, p. 453.**

Then again the test of obscenity, as laid down by the highest courts in England, and approved of by every court in America, when the question has come up under common law, is as follows:

**Whether the tendency of the matter charged as obscenity, is to deprave and corrupt those whose minds are open to such immoral influences, and into whose hands a publication of this sort may fall.**

We find then that even if there were no statute, the common law prohibits obscene publications, and settles all the mooted questions of these defenders of obscenity.

The following taken from one of his papers, shows the dupli-

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city of this scamp. One day he is so poor that he must needs have help from the liberals to defend himself in U. S. Court on the charge of sending his obscene things through the mails; and next we find him doubling the size of his paper at just "half the cost of the present eight."

THE END OF THE VOLUME.

One more number of the ——* closes 1877 and volume IV. After that time the paper, as has been announced, will be enlarged to twice its present size, containing sixteen pages in place of eight. As the additional eight pages will be furnished for half the price of the present eight, it will be seen at a glance that the enlarged paper will be furnished twenty-five per cent cheaper than now.

We trust it is the purpose of all our patrons to continue on with us, and we earnestly hope to have still many new ones. The enlargement will double our expenses, and we need also to double the number of our patrons. We wish every friend of the paper and every friend of the cause of truth and mental freedom to exert himself or herself to send us the names of new subscribers. Does not almost every reader know some person who does not take this paper, but ought to, and can be induced to subscribe? Oh, that every one would make a determined effort in this direction! Much can be accomplished if the effort is generally made.

Another paper says:

We have great reason to be pleased that the names of trial subscribers continue to come in freely. We still hope the inward flow will not cease. Let our list grow to magnificent proportions. If the trial of the United States *versus* Bennett comes off, it is hoped that the services of Col. Robert G. Ingersoll can be secured to defend him, in which case lively times and a full report in these columns may be expected. It is better for us to receive yearly subscribers than merely for two months, at 20 cents, and we trust those who have hearts and pockets big enough to afford the paper for a year will not be bashful about doing so. The names, however, are welcome, whether for two months or twelve.

Again this poor begging obscenity dealer says:

We wish to send out thousands of copies of the initial number of the new volume. Will not friends send us the names of such persons as they think will like such a paper? If they feel like sending five cents, or so, for each party to whom the paper is to be sent, it will help us to bear the expense and pay the postage. Is not a word to the wise sufficient? and may we not expect a good response from our numerous friends?

* Name of his paper, which we purposely omit.

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How urgent is the case! "Oh, that every one would make a determined effort," &c.

After the petition began to circulate, then the plot gradually developed. Now for the agent's good name and character. "We must silence him. We must prevent the facts within his knowledge from being made public. We must head off these facts by foulest slanders and lies." Well, they planned and plotted. I was called the "great Inquisitor of the Nineteenth Century"—the courts "Inquisitions." I give one chapter of their attack upon me, in full, as follows:

INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE AND PUBLIC ACTS OF ANTHONY COMSTOCK.
BY ONE WHO KNOWS HIM.

This infamous person—fit representative of the Y. M. C. A., Secretary and agent for the N. Y. Society for the Suppression of Vice, and special mail agent of the United States Government, who is now imitating the career which brought the notorious Jonathan Wild to the gallows more than a century ago, is supposed by the majority of people to be a religious fanatic, but he is in reality a hypocritical fraud, as will be clearly shown in the following brief statement of facts.

Comstock was born and raised in New Britain, Connecticut, where his father, who was postmaster of that place many years ago, came to grief, it is said, for helping himself to other people's money by pilfering from letters intrusted to his care. If this is true, the hopeful son of a worthy father seems to have come honestly by his disposition to interfere with and intercept other people's mail matter. The worthy son was always known in boyhood as a sneak and an informer, and one who, under the pretence of piety, would do the meanest actions for the sake of a few pennies; and this trait is now the most prominent one in his character.

During the late war between the Northern and Southern States, Comstock was acting as butler's clerk to a Connecticut regiment, from which position he was ignominiously expelled in consequence of being caught cheating the soldiers and robbing his employers. At the close of the war he earned a precarious living by peddling various articles whose quality and value he could misrepresent to his unwary customers; and in the year 1872 we find him in the employ of Messrs. Cochran & McLean, dry goods merchants, 464 Broadway. This firm, who at first were not aware of the character of Comstock, got rid of him as soon as they discovered what kind of a man he was.

While in the employ of this firm, Comstock conceived the brilliant idea of distinguishing himself and making fine sums of money by breaking up the trade in obscene literature and possibly monopolizing the business all to himself. This he readily accomplished through the aid of the Young Men's Christian Association, who indorsed all his propositions and sent him on to

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Washington, where, through the instrumentality of the pious hypocrite, Schuyler Colfax, Vice-President, a very stringent law was passed by Congress, making it criminal to use the U. S. mails for any purpose that might be construed to be immoral or indecent.

Grant, who then occupied the White House, gave his word never to pardon any individual convicted by Comstock, and he never did, although it is well known that any Government thief could get pardoned for stealing by approaching Grant in the right way. [He nevertheless did pardon John A. Lant on the last day of his official term.—ED. T. S.]

Having had this law passed, without publicity, by Congress, Comstock set to work laying traps for his victims, who were all ignorant of the passage of any such law until they found themselves behind the prison bars. Comstock boasted in print, through the column of the *New York Times*, that he had seized over sixty tons of "immorality," in the shape of type, plates, prints, books, pictures, etc., and had captured over one hundred persons engaged in the obscene publication business, "several of whom," says this pious man, "have since died, and their friends call me their murderer; but be that as it may, I glory in it, for the world is better off without them." Truly a nice sentiment for a professed Christian to utter, and this is but a mild expression in comparison with some that this profane hypocrite has given utterance to since he began to run his religious muck through the States of this Union; for although he can pray like a saint when in church, he can curse like a sailor when he is out on a carousal.

Comstock's sole object in this world is to make money. At the present time he owns property at 354 Grand avenue, Brooklyn, and at Squan Beach, New Jersey. He is, or was, in receipt of twenty-five hundred yearly, as post office agent, and liberal donations from the Y. M. C. A., $4,000 for acting as Secretary to the Society for the Suppression of Vice, besides picking up a large amount of money annually in the way of blackmail, and by his share of the profits from his partners who are in the obscene literature business with his connivance. By these nefarious means Comstock has succeeded in realizing a handsome little fortune in five years, for he was as poor as Job's turkey in 1872.

I shall now endeavor to give a faithful account of several cases which came under my notice since the advent of this hypocritical upstart.

### DAVID MASSEY'S CASE.

Mr. Massey was a St. Louis merchant, who, having failed in business, came to New York and accepted a clerkship with the firm of Rogers & Co., 737 Broadway, New York, in 1872. Comstock sent a decoy letter containing money to the firm, requesting them to send him some obscene pictures. Mr. Massey sent a letter containing some pictures that were not in the least degree obscene, but Comstock having a stock on hand, substituted vulgar pictures for those which Massey had sent, and then arrested and convicted him of violating the mail laws. Massey was sent to Ludlow street jail for one year with a fine of five hundred dollars.

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In this case Comstock had to perjure himself in order to convict Massey. Rogers & Co., knowing that no mercy or justice would be shown them by Judge Benedict, wisely kept out of the way and gave a power of attorney to Dr. S——, who endeavored to get the mail matter belonging to them, but could not succeed, as the Superintendent at Station D told him that the letters (some seven or eight hundred in number, and containing as many dollars) had been sent down to the general Post Office. There the Dr. was informed that the letters had been sent to the dead letter office at Washington, but this was denied by Postmaster-General Cresswell. The letters were never recovered, and there is no doubt whatever that they were opened and destroyed, after their contents had been stolen, by Comstock and his thieving associates.

Poor Massey made an effort to obtain a pardon by the intercession of his sister with Mrs. Grant, with whom she was a school girl companion in St. Louis, some thirty years ago, but her entreaties were disregarded, and she died from the effects of the cruel disgrace which had been cast upon her brother by the mercenary and perjured Comstock.

There are large numbers of other cases which we will relate in the chapters to follow.

[*To be continued.*]

This is written by a scoundrel, whom I caught in the act of performing an abortion upon a young woman 17 years of age, and caused to be arrested. He swore at the time he would kill me, and afterwards made an attempt on my life, by coming behind me, as I came out of the Court room, spitting in my face, and then as I turned attempting to split my head open with his cane. As the result he dropped the cane and laid down, and was handed over to an officer. I have almost a duplicate of the above article, in this scoundrel's handwriting, which he personally took to an editor to have printed, and hence I say I know who wrote it. This editor brought the matter to me and made affidavit that this man had brought the same to him to get him to publish it. This document I still have in my possession as proof of what I say.

This article to me is very amusing, and I never read it over without laughing at the terrible strait to which these criminals are driven, in order to attack me, and the absurdity of attempting to crush an innocent man in the path of duty, by such base and monstrous lies. Now I was not born in New Britain. My father never was connected with any post office in his life, and never lived in New Britain.

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I will cheerfully pay $1,000 to any charity that any person can name, who will show I have ever received one dollar outside of my salary from the Society I represent. I have paid over to our treasury more than $6,000, personal fees, moieties, gifts, etc., during the past seven years. And I surrendered a good business prospect to do this work, and I have earnestly tried to be true and faithful, to God and man.

I was neither a sutler's clerk in a Connecticut, nor any other regiment at any time, *and no truer.*

I was never a peddler, and the *remainder of the story is just as true as what I have already referred to.*

One issue of this man's paper contained some forty or fifty cases of dealers and ex-convicts, where these worst dealers in that which was vilest and most infamous, were lauded and made to appear as martyrs illegally torn from their families, while their families were left to suffer, etc. There was much printer's ink expended in creating sympathy for these bereaved families; and the law was characterized as cruel and the prosecution heartless, because these miscreants, these moral cancer planters, these worse than ghouls, were legally stopped from scattering their venom among the youth of our land. In order to illustrate the method adopted in each of the convict's cases, which these parties defended as so very correct, and where gross outrages were charged in the enforcement of the laws, I beg the indulgence of the reader while I give the facts in the Massey case above described.

At the time referred to, there appeared a very broad advertisement over the name of Silas Rogers & Co., 737 Broadway. As it was my duty (and pleasure), I investigated this case to discover that, once or twice a day, some unknown person would sneak into the building aforesaid, and creeping up stairs to the top floor, would watch around till no person was looking, and then dart into a vacant room, furnished with—just a tin letter-box on the inside of the door. The door to this room was always locked, and the carrier would drop the letters into the box through a little hole cut in the door.

In investigating this case I did it, as I do in all cases through

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the mails, by correspondence. I received their circular advertising obscene things, and I sent money for what they advertised in precisely the manner they invited the public to send. I did business with them exactly as they desired: and in reply to letters I received the most foul and obscene matter from them. A warrant was issued in due form, and accompanied by a marshal I visited this place. We found it as described above. We waited, concealed, until he had gone in and had received his letters, and then we arrested this man Massey. It was the going afterwards to the den of this scoundrel above referred to, whom we were satisfied was the real proprietor of this business, to seize the obscene matter that Rogers & Co. were sending out, that we caught him, committing the heinous offense attributed to the author of this base libel. He is one of the leaders of the "liberals" in this crusade against decency and morality. His imprint is seen in various ways. He was a frequenter of the office of and friend to the ringleader, and from his hand came many of these grossest attacks upon me.

And what did they defend? A business that, from its character, was worthy of such base and infamous schemes in its behalf. The men, the scheme, and the nefarious business were well matched. There was a striking affinity, and an appropriateness of the union, that helped to make a complete whole.

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## CHAPTER XXIV.

### OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS.

#### CONSPIRACY CONTINUED.

The effect of this cursed business on our youth and society, no pen can describe. It breeds lust. Lust defiles the body, debauches the imagination, corrupts the mind, deadens the will, destroys the memory, sears the conscience, hardens the heart, and damns the soul. It unnerves the arm, and steals away the elastic step. It robs the soul of manly virtues, and imprints upon the mind of the youth, visions that throughout life curse the man or woman. Like a panorama, the imagination seems to keep this hated thing before the mind, until it wears its way deeper and deeper, plunging the victim into practices that he loathes.

This traffic has made rakes and libertines in society—skeletons in many a household. The family is polluted, home desecrated, and each generation born into the world is more and more cursed by the inherited weaknesses, the harvest of this seed-sowing of the Evil one.

And these monsters—these devil-men, or men-devils—caught in this cursed traffic, and prosecuted legally, and legally placed where they cannot longer strike their deadly fangs into the vitals of the youth, are made martyrs of, and the so-called "liberals" of this land rally to their defence! and, at the beck and call of this band of ex-convicts and co-conspirators, a combined effort is made to repeal these laws!

There is a mawkish sympathy for criminals, among even good men, that is all for the prisoner, and nothing for the victim. The burglar who enters the house at night and terrifies helpless women and children, or cripples for life the master of the household, if arrested, is an object of special sympathy. Poor fellow! to be shut up behind the bars and deprived of his liberty! The vender of obscene publications, or the keeper of the gambling hell and

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the rum shop—these fellows *who make criminals*, who bring disgrace on the family and suffering on helpless women and children — are especial objects of sympathy; while not a thought is bestowed upon the youth cursed for life, the wife widowed, the child orphaned, the family disgraced, pauperized, and destroyed. My sympathy is for the family of the prisoner, but not to that extent that I am blinded to the lasting curse the prisoner is daily inflicting on other families in the community.

Let the artist paint a picture, if he can, that shall fully describe the anguish of the parent who wakes up to the knowledge that the beloved child is debauched.

For instance, what pen or brush can picture the awful suffering of the father of that once beautiful girl, who recently died in one of the infernal dens in the upper part of our city? On a bright day she left her home and the quiet village on the eastern end of Long Island, where she lived, ostensibly to visit friends in New York. Never a word of suspicion had been raised against her moral character. It is said that she was a favorite in the home, church, and society. As she left her home, she was to her beloved parents a pure, spotless child. Imagine, then, the anguish of the father when, a few days afterward, having been summoned by telegraph, he starts with his wife to go to his daughter's sick-bed, and on the cars, when the New York papers are brought in, the first thing to catch his eyes is the death by malpractice of his beautiful child. He has presence of mind sufficient to throw the paper out of the window, as though he had lost it, so that his wife may not know of it, till he learns if it indeed be true. He then goes up to this abortion den, and there finds all that is left of his lovely child lying in a filthy hall-bedroom, taken there by the son of a respectable family, whose mind had been debauched, and who, after ruining this maiden, failed to marry her, but took her to this place of human butchery. And what a death! Helpless, alone in a cold, cheerless room, without friends, neglected, brutally murdered by a worse than murderess; for, after inflicting the deadly stab, the victim is tortured by neglect, and left to die in a condition of which the details are too loathsome for publica-



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tion. Is it any wonder that this helpless maiden, in her last agonies, threw her fair arms about the neck of a godless coroner, and besought him to pray for her?

And there is more mawkish sympathy for the young man who led this fair maiden to her ruin, and for the wretch who tortured her to death, to save them from the just punishment the law inflicts for these crimes, than for the large circle of friends made to hang their heads in shame; or for the home worse than desolate by this terrible event.

You ask for my sympathy, and talk of mercy for these men, who sow the seeds of such ruin! First, put these foul creatures legally out of the community, where they can do no more harm to tender youth, and let them repent and turn from their cursed traffic, and give evidences of sorrow and repentance.

My sympathy is with the children and youth, who are liable to be thus debauched and cursed for life. Away with this sympathy for criminals! Talk of judgment and justice first. We can better afford to support by public charity every friend of each criminal, than allow a single person to go unpunished who offends against these laws.

Up to the time of this "Liberal" struggle in 1877–'78 there had been more than 250 persons arrested, and 20 tons weight of matter had been seized and destroyed. Yet the imperative demand of these so-called "Liberals" was, *these laws must be repealed.* The campaign was well planned by these enemies to moral purity. The conflict was to be a determined one. It was to be bitter and relentless. It was to be a Gettysburg. Having distributed their 15,000 circulars and blank petitions, the conspirators were all exultation at the ready response of money, and signatures to their petitions, by the infidel and lawless class. These moneys enabled the shrewd editor to enlarge his paper, and send specimen copies of it to persons whom he sought to secure as subscribers. The following will show the progress of their scheme printed in one of the liberal papers, published by the leading conspirators.

Again we want to assure our many kind friends that we feel very grateful

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for their renewed proofs of trust and sympathy, and we hope we may ever prove worthy of the confidence so kindly bestowed. We have been using the funds that have been sent us in making the best defense that our judgment dictates—the sending out of thousands of blank petitions for signatures in all parts of the country. As before remarked, we shall send out nearly 20,000, the postage alone on which will be almost $200. If these are generally signed and are presented to Congress in bulk, they will have a marked effect upon that body. We hope our friends will all sign and persuade as many others of their friends to do the same as possible. Let us make a strong and united attack upon the enemy's works.

Friends, again we thank you, and please be not offended because we cannot take the time to write separately to all, acknowledging your kindness.

In another issue he publishes the following lie:

When Dr. Foote was in trouble, it pleased the good Comstock to occasionally insert a notice in our dailies beginning "An Abortionist Thwarted," etc. It is hardly presumable that a really good and honorable man would stoop to the mean and villainous conduct of basely traducing an unfortunate man he had already grossly injured.

Neither in this or any other case, has such a thing been done. But the bigger the lie the better it pleased this slanderer. He then continues:

Advertising us as a free lover was contemptably mean. From the time Comstock was a small boy we have lived faithfully with the wife of our bosom, and we have never, either in public or in private, advocated the doctrines of free love. But Mr. Comstock, after pouncing upon his victim, goes to work to blacken his good name so that the public will condemn him even before he has a trial, and that a conviction may be easy.

The correspondence of this man which was afterwards printed by a so-called "Liberal" paper shows, beyond a question, that he was corrupted and led from his boasted path of virtue, by the book he afterwards was sentenced to 13 months imprisonment for sending through the mails. He attempted to put in practice the very theories, doctrines and precepts of this book, and that, too, in letters so gross, sent to a young lady, who was strong, pure and brave enough to repel his bestial advances, that they could not be printed even in an infidel paper.

Query: If this blatant infidel and blasphemer of all that is pure and holy, could be corrupted and made disloyal to the one to whom he professed to have been true up to 1877, what shall

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be said when it is known that the author of this nastiness, before he was sent to State's Prison for sending it through the mails, advertised for "boy and girl" agents to sell this book, proclaiming that "women were most successful."

The one-thousandth part of the facts have never been published of the tricks and devices to deceive the public, and create prejudice against the officer who enforced these laws. No stronger argument can be presented against the book, or in defence of my acts, than the fact that this book was so gross and insidious as to corrupt and debauch (if possible) the mind of this individual, and to lead him to attempt the ruin of a fair young woman. Heaven save our children and youth from such hellish influences. Though I stand alone, let me stand for the moral purity of our children—but let no man stand in his own strength, but alone in the strength and by the grace of that Infinite one, this man and his followers revile and blaspheme. I have trusted in and prayed thus far to Him, and for seven years He has never once deserted me; but in the very midst and presence of these most monstrous slanders, and in the face of the blackest revilings of the basest men, my reputation has been preserved, and friends have continued to be raised up for the cause and for myself. Conscious of my integrity, I will not down for the venom of the scoffer or slanderer.

In addition to the above, several books and pamphlets were also published, all of the most libelous character, wherein every act was distorted and misrepresented; statements made that were utterly false; incidents reported as occurring that never occurred; words quoted as having been spoken that were never uttered; indeed every possible thing done, to break down the word, character, and standing of the man who had dared stand for the moral purity of the young against the operation of those these conspirators defended.

THE REPEAL OF THESE LAWS WAS SOUGHT IN THE INTEREST OF THE DEALERS IN OBSCENE MATTER.

The foul business was defended for itself and nothing else. *As there never had been a man arrested under these laws, except for*

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*sending obscene and immoral articles or advertisements of the same through the mails, there was but one reason why these laws should be repealed, and that was, because it interfered with their infamous traffic, and prevented these scoundrels from using the mails of the United States for their base purposes.*

But they were cunning and shrewd. They well knew that no decent person would defend them if the facts were known. They therefore dealt in falsehood and misrepresentation. Facts were suppressed.

THE PETITION OF 70,000 NAMES.

By thus each week, printing and circulating their gross statements, they succeeded in securing as they claimed 70,000 names to the petition to Congress to repeal the laws. This petition was arranged on an immense reel, and the different papers pasted together. It was conveyed to Washington, and in February, 1878, introduced by General Butler, to the House of Representatives, and referred to the Committee on the Revision of Laws.

AN ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH

was sent over the country announcing "that 70,000 Freemen, headed by Col. Robt. G. Ingersoll, had petitioned Congress to repeal the laws known as the 'Comstock' Law, on account of its unconstitutionality and the outrages committed under it by Anthony Comstock."

A National Defence Society was started with an ex-convict president, to defend dealers in obscene publications; and subscriptions were solicited.

New appeals were made for funds to work with, which was in fact to publish Infidel works by the co-conspirators, and, in addition, print attacks upon the agent who enforced these laws.

While this petition was slumbering before the committee, the most diabolical thing was done by these conspirators (and the contributors may be able to see where some of their money went). A foul book, called

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"ANTHONY COMSTOCK: HIS CAREER OF CRUELTY AND CRIMES," was published. This matter first appeared in the Infidel paper, and was distributed free, and afterward was bound up in book form, and advertised, a sample chapter of which we have already given.

Query: Were these publications and advertisements legitimate expenses in Bennett's defence before the Court, and did the "Liberal" contributors pay for the same? Were their contributions expended in this manner? Who got the profit on the books and papers sold?

At last after six weeks of lobbying, the matter was brought up before the committee in the House of Representatives. The infidel, the free-lover, the smut-dealer, and the friends of nastiness were out in full force.

The first warning I received, was from the following Press Dispatch, the last week in March, 1879.

[N. Y. Times.]

J. B. Wolff, of New York, appeared before the Committee on Revision of the Laws to-day on behalf of the 50,000 signers to the petition presented a few days ago by Representative Butler, protesting against what is known as the Comstock law. He held that all such laws are unconstitutional, an invasion of personal and State rights, dangerous and subversive of society itself; that Congress has no power over the moral quality of mail matter; that all questions of common morality and crime belong to the States, except those expressly prohibited in express terms; that the law itself is ambiguous, and dangerous in the hands of such men as Comstock; and that the whole nation is responsible for every falsehood told and injustice done under this law; and thus, by the infamous methods of Comstock and his confreres, wholesale crime is committed to punish a few harmless enthusiasts, or a few hardened criminals. He massed all the facts bearing on the subject, State and National, to show the progress already made towards a censorship of the press, and a practical union of Church and State, and the danger of placing it in the power of any man, or set of men, to say what is indecent or immoral in mail matter.

The following day I visited Washington, to discover that the committee met each Wednesday, and that the next week this matter would then come up again. These repealers knew well I would be present. They had secured the assistance of the Press, and had found many representatives of respectable papers ready to do their bidding.

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The most important thing for them, in order to insure the success of their cause, was to so blacken "Comstock," that he would not be believed.

It would never do to have the facts, which he would doubtless present, brought before the committee. Therefore, as he was bound to appear and oppose their efforts, he must be made infamous. So they reasoned and planned, so they attempted to execute. But "man proposes and God disposes." The God they blasphemed I prayed to; the Sovereign they cursed I revered and sought to honor; the Almighty one they distrusted was the centre of my hope, my trust, my all. Their efforts had the effect of temporarily making lukewarm and distant many whom I had counted as friends. Many who were friendly to the cause had not moral courage to stand by or for the reviled agent. No, the things in public print were too infamous. The 70,000 petitions, the movement at Washington, and the tone of the Press all were against me.

These obscenity-mongers and repealers, now brought out their heaviest artillery—their Columbiads. Heretofore they had used small field pieces compared to what was in waiting when once the matter was publicly before

A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE.

As I have said, knowing that unless prevented I would surely go before that Committee with facts, these repealers had their plans laid; and knowing (some of them at least) that plots to put me out of the way had failed, as I had, but a short time previous, taken one of the men who was to assault, and run a knife into me, while alone with me in my office,

A PRISONER WITH MY REVOLVER,

and had locked him up: and that I had been on to Washington and ascertained when the matter was to come up again, they then disclosed the balance of their plot, and fired the heaviest gun they had. This, their "swamp angel," was expected to effectually demolish me, and blow me to atoms by the prejudices it would

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arouse against me, and the infamy it would attach to my good name and reputation.

This consisted in the following dispatch, sent all over the country by Associate Press, and published by the *Washington Post:*

ANTHONY COMSTOCK IN TROUBLE.

**Anthony Comstock, who claims to be Special Agent of the Post Office Department for the Suppression of Vice, etc., is being made a martyr of in five cities to the tune of eleven indictments by the Grand Juries, one United States District Attorney alone having fifteen separate and distinct counts in one indictment for violation of the Postal Laws and Acts of Congress. It is alleged that Comstock opened too many letters for the good of the public service, and got caught in his own trap set for others. Only think of Madame Restell of New York and Anthony in the same Sing Sing at the same time.**

It seems folly for me to say that the whole thing is without a scintilla of truth. Yet, the record would be incomplete without it. *There never has been an indictment against me in any Court.*

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE.

In the face of all this, by the grace of God, I visited Washington, and went before the Committee the next Wednesday. Everything looked black. I was alone. As I strolled through the vestibule and rotunda of the Capitol, the Senate Chamber, and Representatives Hall, I found on each Congressman's desk a copy of the vile paper, of which eight pages were devoted to a pretended account of the "Life and Crimes of Anthony Comstock." These papers were scattered everywhere. The Committee room was filled with them. As I entered the Committee room, I found it crowded with the long-haired men and short-haired women, there to defend, obscene publications, abortion implements, and other incentives to crime, by repealing the laws. I heard their hiss and curse as I passed through them. I saw their sneers and their looks of derision and contempt. But one man, he a member of this Committee, in all that audience, had the moral courage to rise up and in the face of this tremendous opposition speak to me, and greet me pleasantly. It was a brave act, and I shall always honor the memory of Hon. Rush Clark of

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Iowa, for daring to speak a kind word to me in the darkest hour of my experience.

It was not the blackening of my reputation that weighed me down, so much as the possibility that one of the most righteous laws ever enacted should be repealed or changed. This law is a barrier between the youth and moral death, between the home circle and shame, between the best institutions of learning in the land and disgrace, between the souls of our children and the most subtle enemy we have to deal with. I knew of the horrors that had been scattered broadcast over the land, through the mails, and that would again flood the country, if this law was repealed.

Whatever all the world besides might do, there was but one thing for me to do, as a man and a Christian. I must stand firm. There was but one safe path for me, and that was the path of duty. In that supreme moment of trial, one thought comforted me, "He is able, He is willing." "My grace is sufficient." These blessed thoughts cheered me. They strengthened my faith. In the midst of it all I was comforted and sustained.

One of the Repealers announced to the Committee that I was present, and that as he supposed I would have something to say, he would like to have me speak before he did. I submitted, the fairness of their side being allowed to close first, as I was the only one to speak on behalf of the law, especially as they had already occupied one day, and besides there were several speakers on their side.

The Committee decided in my favor, and Alfred Giles, who had informed me that one Heywood, the leading free-lover, and an ex-convict (of sending obscene matter through the mails), had telegraphed for him while he was South, and that he came there to represent him, took the floor first. He therefore attempted to defend this ex-convict's book.

I replied to him, when I spoke, by reading extracts from this book, until one of the Committee stopped me, and asked him if that was the book he referred to in his remarks? and when Giles, evidently supposing he had a point in his favor, exultingly

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answered in the affirmative, I was informed that they had heard enough, with more than an intimation that the sentence was just in this man's client's case. Giles's whole plea may be summed up, as is the character of the book, *free lust.*

But next came a

PHYSIOLOGICAL STUDENT

named E. B. Foote, jr., from the city of New York, the son of a man convicted under these very laws. He was a young man, and if he lives long enough and improves his opportunities, he may learn wisdom. He showed sadly a lack, and also an utter disregard for the truth in what he said before the Committee. He said in substance as follows:

I am a physiological student. I am here to represent the physiological side of this subject. This law is no good, there has never been any good accomplished under it. There have been great outrages committed. I know of a reputable physician in the city of New York, who was convicted for sending a purely medical work through the mail. I know the men who are back of this business and who back this man Comstock; they are fanatics and bigots. I am a graduate of one of the medical colleges, and I know these men well. I have seen their names to papers presented to the Legislature of our State, where I have had occasion to go to have the laws changed that they helped pass.

Others spoke besides these two, and all dealt in the most bitter personalities against me, feeling, doubtless, assured that no person would listen to me after what had been said and done.

At last the suspense is over, the time came for me to speak. I had but one simple duty. Every interest paled before that, *i. e. To show the Committee reasons why the law should not be changed.*

I commenced by calling upon the "physiological student" to witness that what he had said "about no good being done," was untrue; that the first thing accomplished after the signing of the law in 1873 by President Grant, was to oblige his father, Mr. E. B. Foote, of Lexington ave., to suppress several thousands of circulars, advertisements, and books that he was sending through the mails. That the reputable physician who he said had been

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unjustly convicted for sending "a purely medical work," etc., was his own father, who was convicted not for sending a medical work, but advertisements of an infamous article—an incentive to crime to young girls and women, and that his own clerks testified that the nefarious business was conducted in connection with certain other things they advertised—that the contraband goods were in violation of the laws of the State of New York as well, and that consequently they stored the goods at South Norwalk, Conn., where twice a month a confidential clerk went and filled orders by express; that E. B. Foote received $4.75 out of every $5.00 received through the mails for this infernal article.

The bigots and fanatics he referred to, I showed to be the most eminent physicians in New York city and Brooklyn, who had protested against any change in our laws in the interest of this crew. I then showed from the advertisements I there had, the physiological side of the question, which this "physiological student" said he was there to represent, to be articles for malpractice, and other infamous things sold in connection with obscene publications, leading the youth to speedy and positive ruin.

I then presented facts why the laws should not be changed. I showed how catalogues of schools are collected for the sake of children's names and addresses; how different devices are resorted to, to collect the names of our youth in order to send secretly by mail to them, the most demoralizing articles, giving details and sad instances coming within my own knowledge, where many youth of both sexes have been ruined.

I then came to the exposure of the great fraud which had been perpetrated in the collecting of the names to this "Liberal" petition. I took out a copy of the circular printed in this chapter, and gave a synopsis of its contents, reading the names of the signers thereto. I then read the endorsements which had been placed on the back of one of these circulars, samples of which we print below, as showing the forgery resorted to in order to have the benefit of reputable names to their disreputable scheme. Some of the names signed were of persons whom I had arrested.

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I have not been to such. I would not have their recantation. Mr. Jewett I did not visit at all, as he was then employed by E. B. Foote, and as Mr. Foote has arrayed himself with his brother ex-convicts to repeal these laws, I felt it beneath me to go to him or any of his employees.

Before I had called upon the first named they had published the following:

UNAUTHORIZED, AND A FORGERY.

[New York Tribune, Dec. 29th, 1877.]

The public are respectfully informed that the use of our name in connection with a circular petition, issued by one D. M. Bennett, is wholly unauthorized. It is a matter of regret that our laws provide no suitable penalty for offences of this kind. (Signed) McKesson & Robbins,
Wholesale Druggists, 91 Fulton st., New York City.

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Dec. 17th, 1877.

The use of the name of the New York News Co. on this circular is entirely unauthorized, and we pronounce same a forgery.

The New York News Company,
(Signed) J. W. Rhoudes, Treasurer.

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Dec. 21st, 1877.

The use of the name of Crocker & Colyer was used in this circular unauthorized by us. (Signed) Crocker & Colyer.

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We, the undersigned, never read the above until printed. Mr. Bennett said to us he was getting up a circular, and would we sign it? We answered we would sign anything reasonable, and that is all that ever passed between us on the subject. The matter in it is quite different from what we expected, and we disclaim any part or participation in it.

(Signed) Wood & Holbrook.

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We, the undersigned, never gave our permission to Mr. Bennett to use our name in connection with this petition. (Signed)

Warren Barnes & Co., 69 Duane st.

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Jan. 3d, 1878.

Mr. Bennett used my name without consulting me, saying to me afterward, that he presumed I would not be offended. (Signed)

A. L. RAWSON, 34 Bond st.

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Jan. 3d.

The use of my name at the bottom of the accompanying circular is entirely unauthorized by me. (Signed) J. W. BOUTON.

I then said to the Committee as I say to the world, "I have sought faithfully to do my duty. I have been zealous and earnest, and expect to be in the future, to keep a legal barrier between this cursed business which debauches and destroys the youth, and the children in our schools, colleges, and homes. *I challenge the closest scrutiny into all my official acts.* I am ready to meet any charge, from any person, of any act unbecoming a faithful officer; and if any member of this Committee has a suspicion that I have done any improper act, I ask them to make a most searching investigation, and do it in the most public manner."

The above in substance, was my reply to the slanders of these repeal conspirators.

When I was through, several of these men wanted to speak again.

One venerable member of this Committee moved that "the debate now close."

This was one whom I thought was seriously opposed to me, as during all my speech never once did he look up into my face, but sat there perfectly stolid.

As these repealers urged to be allowed to speak, this old Judge says, "We've heard enough; I move the debate close and the room be cleared." It was so ordered.

Then came the complete rout of the enemy; then came the answer to prayer; then came vindication; then came light and joy; then came a perfect victory; then came positive proof that it is better to trust God, than put confidence in men—better to walk alone with Him than go with the multitude; and as I

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went out of the door, the last to go out, I heard the following unanimously carried:

"I move you that we report unanimously against any repeal or change whatever."

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

The following is the report of this Committee to the House of Representatives, May 1, 1878:

REPORT.

The Committee on the Revision of the Laws, to whom was referred the petition of Robert G. Ingersoll and others, praying for the repeal or modification of sections 1785, 3878, 3893, 5389, and 2491 of the Revised Statutes, have had the same under consideration, and have heard the petitioners at length.

In the opinion of your Committee, the post-office was not established to carry instruments of vice, or obscene writings, indecent pictures, or lewd books.

Your Committee believe that the statutes in question do not violate the Constitution of the United States, and ought not to be changed; they recommend, therefore, that the prayer of the said petition be denied.

No other person appeared before this Committee in behalf of this law save Mr. Samuel Colgate, of New York. He went on at his own expense, and voluntarily went before this Committee.

After this report had been made by the Committee and printed in the records of the House, the following dispatch was sent out by the associated press, and published in many of the daily papers. Could anything be more unfair or unjust?

[Tribune, June 1, 1878.]

IMMORAL LITERATURE IN THE MAILS.

The House Committee on the Revision of the Laws, in response to the petition of Robert G. Ingersoll and others, has reported favorably a bill to repeal that section of the Revised Statutes which relates to the sending of obscene literature through the mails. This is the law commonly known as the Anthony Comstock Law, and the section under which alone he obtains the exceptional powers which he exercises. The Committee have been induced to favor the repeal of this bill on the grounds that it is unconstitutional, and that in many instances it has been executed in a tyrannical and unjust manner.

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[Commercial Advertiser.]

The House Committee on the Revision of the Laws has favorably reported the bill to repeal that section of the Revised Statutes which gives Mr. Anthony Comstock the extraordinary powers he has over the mails. It is supposed that this action will be the signal for an attack on the Committee. It cannot be denied, however, that Mr. Comstock's privileges should be abridged.

Pray, what are his privileges? To enforce these laws according to law, and in a legal manner—simply this and nothing more.

[N. H. Herald, June 4, 1878.]

The United States Supreme Court has recently rendered a decision which will effectually check Mr. Anthony Comstock from searching the United States mail hereafter, unless he is able to swear to the objects to be seized. Mr. Comstock has certainly done most commendable work in the past, but the power he assumed over the United States mail was as unwarranted as it was extraordinary.

The above is a fair comment on the charges that had been made by the defenders of obscenity, but as no power ever existed to search the mails as above implied, and as I never have assumed any such right or power, it makes this article harsh and unfair. I have never known a single instance in seven years' connection with the P. O. Dept. where a letter not belonging strictly to myself has ever been interfered with—all other charges and insinuations to the contrary.

So strong was the feeling created by these conspirators against me, that some papers would not correct this error, even when so requested.

This law still stands, and is in full force, notwithstanding that after this, Col. Rob. G. Ingersoll made efforts in the Senate to revive the matter there, and repeal or change it. This has been denied.

But this is true. A petition demanding the repeal or change of this law, bearing the names of Robert G. Ingersoll and others, was presented to the U. S. Senate, and referred to the Judiciary Committee. I personally went before this Committee, and both the chairman and clerk informed me that Col. Robert G. Ingersoll had been or sent personally, to have a time fixed when he could be heard on behalf of the petitioners, and it was arranged

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the very day of this grand triumph in the House Committee, that I should be notified when Ingersoll was to be before the Senate Committee, so I could be present also. But the defeat in the House was so complete, that the matter was not brought up afterwards, and no action was taken.

### THE LAW.

One word about the law. It prohibits obscene matter and articles of indecent and immoral use, from going through the mails, and punishes the person who deposits any of these things for mailing and delivery.

The question of obscenity, is one that has been defined, and a legal rule established under the common law, by the highest courts in the United States and England, and was so laid down and established long before this law was passed. The United States Supreme Court has declared the absolute right of Congress to pass these laws.

Now nothing remains but to legally enforce them, and because that has been done, these men are mad.

As one grand result of enforcing these and the laws against swindling, more than 24 tons of unlawful and contraband matter has been seized, and nearly 450 persons have been arrested; and these are the reasons why these friends of nastiness are not happy. They refuse to be comforted so long as I insist upon discharging my duty according to the dictates of my conscience, under my oath of office, and persist in enforcing these laws in a legal manner.

Here, however, the loss and gain have changed, and what is their loss, is the infinite gain of the community.

One thing it is safe to count on. By the grace of God, these laws are more than an unknown factor,—they are an active, known element and force against the reeking nastiness of the men, who delight to violate them, and who joy in thus defending their nefarious traffic, and assailing these righteous laws. *They must and shall be enforced. It is a crime not to make them effective for good, and defend them when assailed.*

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The lot of the man who shall thus enforce them, or prevent their repeal, is to be vilified, maligned, assaulted, misrepresented, and lied about.

His reputation shall be torn into shreds; his footsteps dogged by the skulking assassin; his office and home poisoned by the virus of disease thrust upon him; and his life put in jeopardy.

These are trifles, if a faithful doing of each day's duty secures pure men and women for the future generation by keeping clean and sweet the youth of to-day; or if, on the other side of the dark river, some soul shall be found who was saved from the foul debauchery of this devil seed-sowing, there will be ample reward for all it costs to keep this barrier raised between this nefarious business and the minds, bodies and souls of our youth.

Each week brings new complaints from some parent or teacher where the footprints of this curse have been discovered. *Eternal vigilance is the price of moral purity.* Parents and teachers need to watch and sacredly guard the young; ministers of the Gospel should more earnestly preach the Word of light and life; while all good citizens should see that perfect laws are enacted in every State, and then rigidly enforced. No man can compute the harm one obscene book will do a community. Who then will declare the force for evil in 24 tons, or hundreds of thousands of these debauching influences!

There are those who cry, "there is no danger," but I am not of that number. *There is great danger. This evil is found everywhere.* Like the plagues of Egypt it has crept up into our homes; the mails were formerly literally loaded down with these devil-traps for the young.

Without any boasting we can say that much has been done. But much remains to do. We want a healthy public sentiment. Shop-windows and news-stands need purifying, so that our children can pass them without having their minds defiled by what the eye rests upon, in the rakings of the news scavenger who sweeps the sinks of crime, to get a subject for a sensational article. Some of the weekly papers seem to run a muck rake through the



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slums of crime, in order to fill their columns with foul stories, and illustrations of sickening details of scenes, that should be kept from the knowledge of every boy and girl in the land.

We ought, in this enlightened country, to have enough of decency and moral courage to protect our youth from these contaminating influences, and enough Christianity to protect and sustain any organization engaging in such a noble crusade against the powers of darkness as has been waged by the officers and members of the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice. There ought to be enough honesty and fairness to protect a man, engaged in suppressing this monster evil, from being branded as a criminal, and maligned by insinuations and base charges, in reputable papers. No man outside of a very limited circle knows of the faithful and heroic conduct of the officers of the Society that has dared to confront this evil. Leave me entirely out of the question, but bestow all praise upon the business men who year after year have stood firmly by this work, in the midst of obloquy, slurs and abuse. The list of officers that have served since the charter of this Society was granted in 1873, is a list of names of brave, noble men; and with great deference I pay a grateful tribute to their fidelity, their uniform kind and patient treatment, and their wise counsel.

There are others who have shared none of the official duties, but who, from the earliest inception of this work, have been ever kind and true to me—men who have *trusted me*, and I would cut off my right hand before I would knowingly do a single act to abuse the uniform trust and confidence which they have always shown me. I may be pardoned, if in this connection I present the names of the present officers of the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice.

*President*—SAMUEL COLGATE, Esq.

*Vice Pres'ts*—ALFRED S. BARNES, Esq., WILLIAM E. DODGE, Jr., JOHN PATON.

*Treasurer*—KILIAN VAN RENSSALAER.

*Executive Committee*—J. M. CORNELL (Chairman), WILLIAM F. LEE, Z. STYLES ELY, GEORGE BROWN, THOMAS DENNY, KILIAN VAN RENSSALAER, SIDNEY E. MORSE.

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What have these gentlemen braved the odium of misrepresentation and public abuse, to accomplish?

Let the following answer this interrogative:

TABULAR VIEW OF RESULTS.

| DESCRIPTION. | TOTAL TO 1880. |
|---|---|
| Persons arrested in U. S. Courts | 205 |
| " " " State Courts | 203 |
| Discharged by Committing Magistrates | 20 |
| " " Juries | 8 |
| Convicted or plead guilty | 200 |
| Sentenced | 180 |
| Prisoners absconded | 9 |
| " re-arrested | 16 |
| Disagreement by Juries | 12 |
| Convicted on second trial | 5 |
| Bail bonds forfeited | $38,000 |
| | yrs. mos. days. |
| Years of imprisonment imposed | 146 0 23 |
| Amount of fines imposed | $51,300 |
| Convicts pardoned | 17 |
| **STOCK CONFISCATED.** | |
| Books and sheet stock seized and destroyed | 24,925 lbs. |
| Obscene Pictures and Photo's | 202,679 |
| Microscopic Pictures for Charms, Knives, etc | 7,400 |
| Negative Plates for making Obscene Photographs | 1,700 |
| Engraved Steel and Copper Plates | 352 |
| Wood Cuts and Electro-plates | 536 |
| Stereotype Plates for printing Books, etc | 14,420 lbs. |
| Number of different Books | 165 |
| Lithographic Stones destroyed | 50 |
| Articles for immoral use, of rubber, etc | 64,094 |
| Lead Moulds for making Obscene Matter | 700 lbs. |
| Establishments for making same closed | 5 |
| Indecent Playing Cards destroyed | 6,072 |
| Boxes of Pills, Powders, etc., used by Abortionists | 4,185 |
| Circulars, Catalogues, Songs, Poems, etc | 1,316,088 |
| Newspapers containing unlawful Advertisements or Obscene Matter | 22,354 |
| Open letters seized in possession of persons arrested | 70,280 |
| Names of Dealers, as revealed by Account Books of Publishers | 6,000 |
| Obscene Pictures, framed on walls of Saloons | 26 |
| Figures and Images seized and destroyed | 565 |
| Letters, Packages, etc., seized in hands of Dealers, ready for mailing at the time of arrest | 3,421 |
| Names and P. O. addresses to whom Circulars, etc., may be sent, that are sold as matters of Merchandise, seized in hands of persons arrested | 901,125 |
| Obscene Plays stopped, or places of Amusement closed | 4 |
| Miles travelled by Agent outside N. Y. City | 139,675 |

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To the above may be added, the suppression of a great number of advertisements that formerly filled the columns of a large class of newspapers. The streets of New York have been cleared of venders of indecent images, and sellers of pamphlet obscenity. Shop windows have been purged until it is partly possible to pass down Nassau and Ann streets, and up the Bowery without being outraged in mind by lewd pictures that formerly flaunted themselves to public gaze.

Confectionery stores have paid respect to an aroused public sentiment, and indecencies that once stared the children in the face now no longer exist. Where 165 grossly obscene books were published, plates for printing and illustrating 163 of these books have been seized, and the other two voluntarily suppressed by the owner thereof. We call especial attention to the following extracts from their

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT.

In presenting their Sixth Annual Report to this Society, the Board of Managers would first make grateful acknowledgment to Almighty God for the blessings of the past year. His favor has followed the efforts of this Society in a marked degree; and new fields of usefulness and broader opportunities for good have continued to open before us, while each new effort has been crowned with success.

Public sentiment has changed wonderfully in the interests of our work. Publications that were sold openly, especially certain books and papers for boys and girls, have had to retreat before public indignation, while indecent shows with their foul posters in various cities have been suppressed by the arousing and quickening of public conscience.

This Society has, during the past year, sought, through its Secretary, to reach centres of influence throughout the land. Public meetings have been held, and facts presented which have effected great good in repressing the wide spread evil of criminal and indecent publications. Regarding clergymen especially, as centres of influence, every opportunity was seized to place facts before them. Our Agent addressed a large and representative meeting at Saratoga of the delegates to the "General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church" May 17, at which the following resolution was passed:

"That we recognize the great importance of the work of the Society for the Suppression of Vice, in its efforts, through the faithful execution of existing laws, to suppress publications designed to corrupt and degrade the youth; and that we rejoice in the successes thereby accomplished by Agencies of this Society."

He also addressed the Conference of the Methodist Church at Swanton, Vt.

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Each of these meetings was marked by a most profound interest, and resolutions of thanks to the speaker were unanimously passed.

Public addresses on "Evil Reading, a source of Vice and Crime" have also been made during the year at Middleboro and Boston, Mass; Providence, R. I.; Clear Lake Camp Meetings, Iowa; Thousand Island Park, in the St. Lawrence; Rochester, Syracuse, Keeseville, Buffalo, Brooklyn, and Ellensville, N. Y.; St. Louis, Mo.; Cincinnati and Toledo, O.; Detroit, Mich., and other places. As results of these meetings, new laws have been passed in Massachusetts and Connecticut by their Legislatures; also City ordinances in Rock Island, Cleveland and Warren, O., and efforts have been made in favor of ordinances in other places.

### BOYS' PAPERS.

The Board are deeply impressed with the importance of guarding the youthful mind from the debasing influence of what are called Boys' Papers. Facts that have come to our knowledge force us to do all that lies within our power to check this growing evil.

We call special attention to a few illustrations of the influence of the Boys' and Girls' papers of to-day. We dwell upon this subject because of the little care paid to it by parent or teacher, and because of their demoralizing influence upon the young mind.

These papers are sold everywhere, and at a price that brings them within the reach of any child. They are stories of criminal life. The leading characters are youthful criminals, who revel in the haunts of iniquity. Many of these stories are written with a vein of licentiousness throughout, debasing the mind of youth as totally as the baser sort of books and pictures. Read before the intellect is quickened or judgment matured sufficient to show the harm of dwelling on these things, they educate our youth in all the odious features of crime. These publications are the offspring of some of the weekly journals, that seem to run a muck-rake through the haunts of sin, and from the Police Court and slums of society gather weekly the sickening details of crimes that never should be put before the eyes of adults, much less children. What is the result? The knife, the dagger and the bludgeon used in the sinks of iniquity, and by hardened criminals, are also found in the school-room, the house and the playground of tender youth. Our Court rooms are thronged with infant criminals—with baby felons.

The following are a few facts that have been brought to the attention of the Society:

Our Agent arrested a young man 19 years of age, for advertising and [illegible] ing through the mails, under about a dozen aliases, the most obscene m[illegible]. While searching for this vile trash in his sleeping room in his father's ho[illegible] the Agent found a mass of these Boys' Papers piled up in one corner. No sooner had they been discovered than the prisoner started back, exclaiming with great force, "There, there's the cause of my ruin—that has [illegible] and brought me to this!"

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Another case:

A young lad had been for months employed by a gentleman in Brooklyn, who had reposed all confidence in him, and showed him every kindness. After a while he began to miss sums of money varying from 10 cents to 15 dollars. When questioned he assumed the role of innocence as pictured in the story when the thief is caught and accused of his crime. Then he threatened, then defied, then wept—injured innocence—and at last *confessed* (unlike the story). When asked what papers he had been reading, he named two, and said he never thought of doing wrong till he read these stories.

Another:

A lad about 16 years of age in Buffalo, from reading these stories, as he afterwards confessed, conceived the idea of robbing his employer's safe. In accordance with the description of the story, he makes an impression of the safe key, takes the same to a locksmith, orders it made. The locksmith knowing the lad, informed his employer. He then makes the key, leaving it imperfect. The lad takes it, tries it, and coolly brings it back to be altered. He tries again and is arrested. Then, defiantly informs them that it is lucky they caught him as they did, or he would have had his fortune and been off.

Another:

Two boys were recently arrested in this city trying to steal a ride West on the railroad. One had robbed his employer of some 15 dollars. They had armed themselves, one with an old rusty revolver, and another with a dirk, or knife, and were starting West to seek their fortunes.

Again:

A boy 10 years of age was arrested and convicted for burglary. He was sent to a reformatory institution, and pardoned out by Gov. Robinson on account of his age. He had been out but a few days when he and two other boys about his own age, were arrested in the act of another burglary.

Repeated instances have occurred within the last few years where boys have become brigands, and have banded themselves together with an oath of secrecy, to plunder and pillage, having a rendezvous in some cave, or deserted house, or some underground saloon.

The principal of a large boys' school in this State noticed a manifest disorder in his school, and upon a thorough investigation he discovered that the boys had these story papers; and the coarse joke and the slang expression, the low trick and the spirit of deceit and disobedience, characterizing the story, was acted out in every day life. He called the best of the boys together, asking them what they thought of these papers. They were unanimous, saying, "they are not fit for anybody to read, and they are full of slang and coarse language."

In Paterson, N. J., last fall, three young lads under 20 years of age killed an old man in the public streets. They first assaulted him with their fists, knocking him down, then one of them shot him.

The same day, in one of our large business houses, two young employees engaged in a dispute, when one drew a knife and stabbed the other.

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In Syracuse, a young man 22 years of age, maddened by lust and jealousy, shot and killed a young lady.

November 27th, in this City, a young lad 16 years of age stabbed another young man, because of a fancied insult to his sister.

In November last a bright, handsome boy ran away from a good, respectable home and became a thief.

### HOPEFUL RESULTS.

What the law does not reach, under the present administration, we have sought to reach and crush, by creating public sentiment against lawbreakers. Several of these vile papers have been stopped within the past year, and are no longer published. As a result, largely from the Thousand Island Park meetings, the Canadians have sent a solemn protest to our Post Office Department against sending the vile *Police Gazette* through the mails across their lines. Western cities are legislating in their councils against it, and will not permit it to be sold in their limits.

Another result: Many colleges and institutions of learning have been persuaded not to publish catalogues with the students' names. We sent out during the year about 2,500 Annual Reports, with a letter of warning to as many institutions of learning. This has made those in charge watchful to mark the existence of the most corrupt influences sent secretly to their schools.

One lady principal, from a Western seminary, sends a foul circular, advertising most infamous articles, sent her girls, and says, "not only has this scoundrel sent to the girls of the present term, but also to the names of those who were here last term," showing he must have both catalogues.

The same circular was also sent young ladies in another seminary, one falling into the hands of the daughter of the President. Another President of a female seminary sends vile circulars sent his students, and saying, "these scoundrels must either think I have a harem, or else are trying to make one of my school." He is very earnest to have the parties sending them arrested.

The President of one of the New England universities writes, "that he is daily forced to see and realize the demoralizing effect of these vile publications on the minds of the young," and most cordially endorses every legal effort to suppress the same.

A Professor over a female college in New England called at our office in April last, and informed us of three young ladies he knew of, in one of our most celebrated female colleges, who were ruined by the vile things found in their possession. *This is a common story and all too true.* But the teachers are becoming more and more watchful.

A Professor in charge of a leading high school told, in one of our meetings in the West, of an incident occurring in his own school, where a colored man in livery was driven in an elegant carriage to the door of his school, who alighted and entered bearing a tray with some 15 or 20 handsomely addressed envelopes, purporting to be wedding cards, and for the same number of the young ladies, daughters of some of the first families in that city. After the man had

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gone, he opened one of these envelopes and found most obscene and seductive matter, to poison their minds and ruin them body and soul.

In the Spring, we assisted in bringing to justice a scoundrel in Brooklyn, who was sent to prison for six months for an indecent assault on a little girl 13 years of age. He kept a news stand, and would go around to the public school with the advance sheets of the story papers and pass the same through the pickets of the fence to little girls to induce them to visit his stand, where in open day he assaulted them.

A President of a Western college says: "I do not dare to publish a catalogue on account of these scamps, and one Professor at Salt Lake does not want any list of pupils published, the pupils being already overrun with documents they ought not to have."

A sabbath school superintendent writes of Boys' Story Papers, "I believe that this kind of literature does as much, if not more, damage than the baser sort, * * and I believe it is read to an alarming extent."

Another college president, from our own State, writes, after stating that he has followed the suggestion in our letter of warning:

"Our most serious problem has been to anticipate by an ounce of prevention, if possible, the pernicious effect of trashy literature. Eight years ago dime novels were an unsufferable nuisance. We have practically put a stop to it by opening a reading room, well supplied with interesting periodical literature, and by keeping college library open during hours of vacation."

In another city, not far away, a school commissioner for many years, told a few gentlemen gathered to discuss this subject, "that formerly they had great trouble in their schools; that the children in some cases had the worst books and read the same secretly, and often in school hours; but that for the past two years they had not been discovered, that the action of this Society had abated this great evil.

Many more cases could be cited. It will suffice to say, that there have been received of all kinds more than 300 complaints during the past year.

These complaints impose an immense amount of labor upon the agents of this Society. To capture one of these vile creatures requires much more time, labor and ability than ever before. We rejoice to say, that never in twenty years has there been as little done by those dealing in obscene publications.

That there is vastly less of this basest sort at the present time, is a matter of profound gratitude to God.

The effect of these publications is thus spoken of by professors in colleges and others. One writes:

"The corrupting literature which you are so sedulously seeking to suppress, is a great curse in producing the ruinous habit of self-abuse among the youth of our country. From such meagre statistics as I have been able to gather, I am forced to the conviction that not less than 75 per cent. of our youths from 12 to 13 years of age, are more or less the victims of this soul, mind and body destroying vice."

A prominent citizen of Cincinnati, speaking of the effects of these books and pictures on the mind of the youth, says:

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"Self-abuse is a thousand times worse where it is occasioned by obscene plates." * * "When the excitement is made on the mind by obscene plates, it is indelible, and the images remain through life. * * I cannot write out my feelings of disgust on those damnable creatures in human shape who vend or deal in obscene literature. Their infernal trade destroys the manhood and womanhood of millions of our race, annually, over the earth."

The result of this literary poison, cast into the very fountains of social life, is found everywhere. It is infecting the pure life and heart of our youth. They are becoming weak-minded, vapid, sentimental, lustful, criminal. Parents are mourning over the distaste of their children for all that is sensible and useful. The teacher finds study to be irksome to them; romantic tales, narratives of love, lust, hate, revenge and murder are to their taste. They assimilate what they read, and so down, down our youth go, weaker and weaker in all the *mental* and *moral* elements of true manhood and womanhood.

Corrupt thoughts, desires and aims supplant native innocence. Virtue flies out of the window; vice flies in and takes full possession. We condemn the man who deals out liquid poison to the unhappy drunkard. He stands a nobleman far above the miserable miscreant who supplies the youth with the demoralizing venom contained in many dime novels, flashy periodicals, sporting newspapers and other obscene publications. Let fathers, mothers and teachers watch closely over the pockets, desks and rooms of their children. Be sure that the imagery and seeds of moral death are not in your houses and schools.

Again I may be pardoned if I refer to one other gentleman, who first sought me out and promptly furnished the means to work with—giving the first $650 to this work—Morris K. Jesup, Esq. I owe him a debt of gratitude I never can repay. Never for one moment since, has his interest waned or his zeal faltered.

Still another: Henry R. Jones, of Brooklyn, the first year by personal effort raised $2,500 to carry on this work. And though sickness prostrated him so that he had to give up his business, his interest in this work has never ceased. I owe, him too, a weighty debt of gratitude I never can repay.

But, of all that ever helped, cheered, and comforted me, none excelled the faithfulness of my beloved pastor, Rev. William Ives Badington, D.D., deceased.

The sacred memory of that revered friend is an inspiration in trials, a comfort in affliction, and an incentive to perseverance in doing faithfully the will of Him, whom he, by kindest counsel and a sweet, pure life, taught me to love and serve. To do a misdeed in presence of such a friend, and the host of others still

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living, is to outrage every feeling of trust and gratitude that they have shown and inspired in me. With all the kindness, sympathy, and assistance rendered me by these more than friends, I would indeed be a base wretch if I would turn aside from the Master's work, or intentionally stoop to do a mean thing. Above all, I owe it to God to be faithful. He it is who has faithfully performed all His promises in His holy word; who has brought light out of darkness; who has raised up these staunch friends; who has provided means to work with; who has protected me from the assaults of the enemy; who has said to the assassin's knife and bludgeon, "So far and no farther!" and beyond that point none have been permitted to reach; who has never left me to go alone; who has preserved my life, my good name, and reputation; and I rejoice to say, One who is able to keep all we may commit to His hands. This kind Heavenly Father has a right to require of me, in all the future, that same faithful service that I have earnestly sought to give in the past. Misrepresentations or lies against my methods and acts I cannot prevent, while the father of lies lives and his horde of followers inhabit the earth. Ignorance of facts breeds prejudice, and the latter prepares the minds of even good men, to receive as true, everything that a foul and gossiping tongue chooses to hurl against the one they seek to malign.

For the encouragement of the youth, let me here add: Dare to do right. Let no enemy or army of foes drive you from the path of duty. It is not pleasing men, but doing God's will, that brings peace, joy, courage, and at last, through Jesus Christ, eternal rest. From out my seven years of conflict with the emissaries of the Evil one, I witness that God is faithful; His promises are sure; He never deserts one who puts his trust in Him.

The peace that God gives in return to those who earnestly seek to serve Him, more than compensates for all the trials that man may inflict. And though you stand alone in the world, He can turn the hearts of His servants to befriend and shield you.

Such has been my experience.

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# CHAPTER XXV.

## INFIDELITY WEDDED TO OBSCENITY.

### THE SPOUSE OF THE NATIONAL LIBERAL LEAGUE.

Is the National Liberal League the defender and sympathizer of those who deal in obscene matter and articles of indecent and immoral use?

Did Robert G. Ingersoll advocate and favor the repeal of the laws known as the laws against obscene literature?

Has he since denied it?

Has the National Liberal League publicly endorsed the efforts to repeal these laws, or expressed sympathy with convicted dealers in obscene matter?

Do infidelity and obscenity occupy the same bed?

Are they appropriately wedded?

Is the National Liberal League opposed to those principles and doctrines that make men better and that keep the community pure?

To all of the above I answer *emphatically* in the *affirmative*.

That infidelity is no guarantee of good citizenship needs no proof. Yet incidentally this will be proven in this article.

The infidel of to-day, as represented by the National Liberal League, is opposed

To the Lord God Almighty, maker of us all;

To Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, the Saviour of mankind, the sinner's best friend, and the way of eternal life;

To the Word of God, and all the precious promises therein contained, and to the ordinances and commandments of God, made for the elevation of mankind, and designed to advance the highest interest of the human soul;

To laws and their proper enforcement;

To moral purity;

To the Christian Sabbath;

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To the sinner's using common sense and being on the safe side, repenting of sin, believing in Christ Jesus, and *thus* making sure of his eternal salvation; and

To principles that restrain corrupt appetites and passions.

They favor what?

Blasphemy of the name of the Most High, and the ridiculing of the most sacred things;

That license which allows appetites and passions to have full sway, which throws off all moral restraint, and says to the criminal, "It is right for you to do as you please, only don't get found out;"

The traffic in obscene publications as organized and systematically carried on by some of the basest men of the 19th century;

The repeal of laws made to suppress this cursed business; and they sympathize with and lionize the men convicted of sending obscene matter through the mails.

The above are the several counts of the indictment upon which the Infidel and Liberal are arraigned, to all of which they will plead "not guilty;" therefore, we enter their plea on this record and produce the evidence to make good this indictment.

We shall call their representative men, and those who once were of their number, to the witness stand. This league, as a body, and their leader, Col. Robert G. Ingersoll, must testify. Those who were once with them will be important witnesses, as they are prejudiced against the prosecution, and therefore unwilling witnesses, and hence, whatever they say in favor of the cause, will add peculiar weight. Col. Ingersoll has made contradictory statements out of court, and has denied advocating or favoring the repeal of the obscenity laws in Washington. The jury (the public) will be justified in taking his utterances, *outside of court*, with many grains of allowance. They must not remark, if, when he comes before them on the lecture platform, his face colors and he shows symptoms of feeling bad, since the evidence is so abundant and damning of his sympathy with these scoundrels, and his efforts for the repeal of the law in their interest; all of which he has since denied. And when he stands before an audience of citizens, and for the sake of policy denies these facts,

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he is guilty of perpetrating—if not a fraud—a scheme to deceive the people very like one.

His great boast is that his home is so pure and his family so clean! And he is adored and lauded by his followers, because of these things. I would not detract one single iota from the beauty and glory of his home. I extend most cordial congratulations, and sincerely hope no one of his pure ones may ever fall under the baneful influence of impure thoughts, especially, as awakened by the foul things he and his followers defend. No man in this country has suffered more trials than I have to keep the homes of the land pure. It is absurd for him or any one else to boast of the purity and safety of his own home and say, "Oh, yes, I believe in this," and then, turn the hell-hounds of obscene literature loose upon the thousands of other homes than his own, or break down the barriers that the Congress of the United States of America, has raised between the innocent thousands in these homes and this hydra-headed monster. With *twenty-four tons* of contraband and corrupting matter, seized in less than seven years, as evidence of its existence over the land, it is too late in the day, for any decent man to defend this hellish trade in human souls, or publicly sympathize with those who spread the contagion.

In presenting the following evidences of what I have outlined above, I shall tell the simple story, and produce the proofs in my possession, without regard to the order of my questions.

### INFIDELITY IS PROPERLY WEDDED.

The infidel expects to extract from this world the full enjoyment of every lust of his nature; he seeks and expects nothing in the future; he dies as dies the beast—he stops breathing—and that is the end of him. We find him, then, in his natural element, when he defends the unbridled sway of his desires and opposes all legal restraint. He has no respect for the views of others, but utters the most shocking things to outrage the finer, holier, and most sacred feelings of the Christian community. There are no rights that the very large and highly respectable majority of

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Christian people possess, in their reverence for God and their worship of holy things, that the very small minority of Leaguers feel bound to respect. It is not a strange thing, then, that *of all the different religious or irreligious bodies, as a class, the only ones that shield and defend the smut dealers, and oppose the laws for their suppression and punishment, are the National Liberal League, its auxiliaries, and the Free-lovers.* The latter, of course, are in their proper place; we would look for them nowhere else. For instance, on one occasion I went to arrest a Massachusetts obscenity dealer, and I found him presiding over a convention of Free-lovers, and arrested him there.

The National Liberal League held a convention July 1 to 4, 1876, in Philadelphia, and there proclaimed the bans between Infidelity and Obscenity, in the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That this League, while it recognizes the great importance and the absolute necessity of guarding by proper legislation against obscene and indecent publications, whatever sect, party, order, or class such publications claim to favor, disapproves and protests against all laws which by reason of indefiniteness or ambiguity, shall permit the prosecution and punishment of honest and conscientious men for presenting to the public what they deem essential to the public welfare, when the views thus presented do not violate in thought or language the acknowledged rules of decency; and that we demand that all laws against obscenity and indecency shall be so clear and explicit that none but actual offenders against the recognized principles of purity shall be liable to suffer therefrom.

*Resolved*, That we cannot but regard the appointment and authorization by the government of a single individual to inspect our mails with power to exclude therefrom whatever he deems objectionable, as a delegation of authority dangerous to public and personal liberty, and utterly inconsistent with the genius of free Institutions.

These resolutions were the deliberate action of the more prudent men—the first beginning of what afterwards culminated at Syracuse.

☞ *Be it understood, and especially noted, that up to this time, there had been no arrest or conviction of any person, under the law protested against, excepting such as were guilty of flagrant crimes against decency and morality, and where their crimes were clearly within the purview of these laws.*

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*Neither was there any just ground for the assault thus made upon these laws.*

*Nor anything, in all that had been done, to warrant the insinuations of this second resolution.*

*Again, as has been already shown by the laws themselves, and further by facts concerning them in the preceding chapter, there is no such delegation of power as that complained of.*

*Therefore it must follow, and I charge, that they defended obscenity for the love of it.*

In 1878, the following invitation to the wedding was issued. We give only such portions as bear upon this question, and as showing how this matter was first introduced to this body.

CALL.

BOSTON, Sept. 13, 1878.

The second Annual Congress of the National Liberal League, organized at the Centennial Congress of Liberals, Philadelphia, July 1–4, 1876, will be held at Syracuse, N. Y., on Saturday and Sunday, October 26 and 27, 1878.

* * * * * * * * * * *

In addition to the hearing of reports, election of officers for the ensuing year, and other ordinary business, questions of the utmost practical importance to the liberal cause will come up for decision at this Congress. Among them the following may be specified:

* * * * * * * * * * *

4. How can the rights of free mails and a free press be most effectively defended, and how can the wrongs of persons unjustly punished under the so-called Comstock laws be most effectively righted?

5. Shall the National Liberal League abandon the stand it originally took on the "obscene literature" question at Philadelphia, July 4, 1876, or shall it continue to defend equally the cause of public morality and the cause of free mails and a free press? Shall it now demand the *total repeal* of the existing laws on this subject, and thereby practically protect and foster the circulation of obscene literature? Or should it continue to demand the radical reform of those laws, in such manner as shall protect freedom of thought to the uttermost without protecting obscenity in the least?

The last two of these questions are peculiarly important at this time, and will inevitably come up for settlement by the Congress. * * * * * *

In order, therefore, that these vital questions may be fairly and wisely decided, it is recommended that all Local Leagues elect their delegates with special reference to it. The Congress will not be an irresponsible mass meeting, but a convention composed of delegates and members duly accredited, and seats for them will be reserved.

Liberals are urged everywhere to organize themselves into Local Auxiliary

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Liberal Leagues and elect good delegates, in order to send to this Congress a large local constituency and an influential delegation, and thereby to increase the weight of its decisions with the general public. * * * * * * *

By order of the Directors,

FRANCIS E. ABBOTT,
*President.*

WILLIAM H. HAMLEN,
*Secretary.*

This was the cautious call of their wiser and more judicious leaders.

That there was a secret plotting to capture this convention their president knew, and he sought by every means at his command to prevent it. In the same paper in which this call was printed, we find him quoting from a private letter as follows:

And the danger is, that, from New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, in all of which cities, as I think, the Free-love doctrine has obtained among Liberals a considerable foothold, the convention may be overborne and swamped. Then there is more or less of an infusion of this virus all through the country.

The editor then calls especial attention to the "Call" and its principles, and also to a platform of principles in "A Card," in which the then directors offered themselves for re-election.

A CARD.

We, the undersigned, Directors of the National Liberal League, offer ourselves as Candidates for re-election at the Second Annual Congress of the League, on the following platform of principles:

1. The right of absolute individual freedom of thought, of speech, and of the press, on all political, religious, social, or other questions, and the right of being wholly uninterfered with by the courts, no matter what opinions as such may be advocated or promulgated.

2. The right and duty of Congress and State Legislatures to pass, and the right and duty of the National and State Courts to enforce, laws to suppress the circulation of obscene literature, including the exclusion of such literature from the United States mails; provided, that the offence known as "Obscenity" shall be so strictly defined in the Statutes as to render impossible the prosecution or punishment of any one for the expression of his honest opinion on any subject.

3. The flagrant wrong of intrusting the execution of the laws for the suppression of obscene literature to any official or officials who shall not scrupulously confine their action within the limits here clearly defined.

4. And we decline to be candidates for re-election if the principles of the

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above platform shall fail to be approved by the National Liberal League at this Congress.

FRANCIS E. ABBOTT, *President.*
WILLIAM H. HAMLEN, *Secretary.*
J. A. J. WILCOX, *Treasurer.*
D. G. CRANDON, *Chairman Fin. Com.*

There had been a rumbling of a discordant strain among the more respectable portion of the then members of this League. [I desire just here to emphasize again what I say of "Liberals" and "Liberal Leagues." It applies only to the National Liberal League of to-day, after it was purged of its most decent and orderly element at Syracuse, and in contradistinction to the then "The National Liberal League of America," that seceded, or what is now known as "*The New* National Liberal League," as represented by the anti-repeal Liberals. I desire to do no person an injustice, and therefore I am very particular to define my position. That there are clean men, and honest in their views, among the latter, I cannot doubt, and I accord to every man the broadest scope of difference of opinion. All I ask is the same liberty of speech and representation for the *truth*, that is claimed, demanded, and exercised for the scoffer's lie or the blasphemer's reviling.]

The war of conquest, commenced shortly after the adjournment of the League at Philadelphia, headed by the man who claimed to be a leader, who certainly was considered a leading spirit, and who published a paper in New York claiming the largest circulation as a "Liberal" paper, by the first

CONSPIRACY TO REPEAL THE LAWS.

The story of this "Liberal" movement is told elsewhere, and we shall only refer to that record in the trial of this case; *but it is to be considered in evidence in this connection.*

That the resolutions adopted at Philadelphia, July 4, 1876, were covert and designed to deceive the public, and throw dust in the eyes of the people, and, while pretending to be opposed to obscenity, meant rather, that it was a cover under which they might resort to most unscrupulous measures to repeal these laws in the interests of it, the story of the conspiracy clearly proves.



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October 26 and 27, 1878, was the date of the ceremony at Syracuse. When the Convention came together, there were found some leading, honorable spirits there, who had not a proper wedding apparel—*i.e., they were neither base nor nasty enough;* therefore they must become as the majority or else leave. They chose the latter. As they, nor their Leagues, are referred to in these chapters as defending obscenity, we bid them a final farewell, with a hope that, ere death o'ertakes them, they may see how much wiser it would be, to be *sure of being on the safe side for eternity*, by that sincere repentance and faith, necessary for their soul's salvation. Take the Bible and read it carefully on bended knee, by the help of earnest prayer to God, for Jesus' sake, to give you the grace necessary to make the blind to see and the deaf to hear, and then tell me, doubting ones, whether or no, one who differs from you in religious matters, is far wrong, in thus expressing what he believes to be for your highest interest and happiness.

REPEAL WAS THE WAR CRY. NO COMPROMISE. *The black flag of obscenity was hung out.* One Free-love paper published at the head of its editorial columns, as

OUR PRESENT PLATFORM,

***Immediate, unconditional, and permanent repeal of all laws against obscenity, whether Municipal, State or National.***

August 1, 1878, at a meeting of Liberals at Faneuil Hall, Boston, a lawyer, named T. B. Wakeman, arraigned the Supreme Court of the United States, because they had declared that Congress has the right to say what shall and what shall not be carried in the mails, thus affirming the constitutionality of the law. This decision was a severe blow to the "Liberals," and this man thought to bolster them up by his silly talk.

He argued, [so says *The Index*, September 26, 1878,] that the Constitution simply confers on Congress the power to establish "post-offices and post-roads" together with the incidental powers "necessary and proper" to execute this purpose; that rightly construed, this grant only empowers Congress to make such regulations as are necessary for the mere safety, efficiency, and convenience of the postal system, but no such regulations as establish distinctions between mailable and non-mailable matter on any other grounds;

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that to prohibit the mailing of obscene publications as such, or to exclude anything else from the mails "for non-postal purposes and reasons" is a "sheer usurpation on the part of Congress." * * * * * On these grounds Mr. Wakeman *demands the total repeal* of the Comstock laws." * * * * *

He voiced the feeling of this Convention, and they endorsed his views.

Mr. Wakeman, addressed a letter to the editor of the paper which published the above, in which he says: "I ask you to insert the enclosed letter from a historian and liberal, whom I believe we all love and honor, James Parton."

LETTER.

NEWBURYPORT, MASS., Sept. 29, 1878.

*My dear Friend*,—I think those Comstock laws, as they are properly called, ought to be totally repealed, * * *

Yes, I go for immediate and unconditional repeal. And this has been my feeling ever since reading your masterly speech delivered in Faneuil Hall last summer.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) JAMES PARTON.

In The Index, Nov. 20, 1879, appears the following, from the President of the National Liberal League (Pres. of Repealers), objecting to his name longer standing upon the list of non-repealers.

BOSTON, Nov. 13, 1879.

MR. F. E. ABBOTT,

*Pres. Nat. Lib. League of Am.:*

*Dear Sir*—I notice that my name still appears in *The Index* as one of the Vice-Presidents of the "National Liberal League of America," though it is pretty well known that I am in favor of the *total repeal of the unconstitutional postal* (or "Comstock") *law*, and consider the secession at Syracuse uncalled for and foolish. * * * * Please have my name erased from your list of Vice-Presidents, as soon as convenient, and oblige,

Yours truly,

ELIZUR WRIGHT.

Says Mr. Wakeman, in a letter to the Third Liberal League of New York, dated Aug. 8, 1878:

We are told that if you dare to oppose these laws you will "fall into the trap" of allying yourselves and all liberalism with "obscenity." But suppose you do not oppose them? Do you not then ally Liberalism with bigotry

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and fatal betrayal of Liberty? Is not the latter "trap" the worst of the two?

And so Mr. Wakeman pronounces for obscenity under cover of this thin and specious argument of "liberty."

What will this obscenity defender do about the State laws, and, going back of them, with the *Common Law*, which prohibits obscene publications? Is not he lawyer enough to know that the *Common Law decisions are all against obscenity*, and *that the "Test of obscenity" was established long before either of the present statutes became law, by the highest court in England;* and further, *that that decision has been universally adopted and sustained in America, in every one of the* 400 *and more cases arrested under our laws.* Our books are full of Common Law decisions on this point, and this man ignores them and assumes a false position, or else he is ignorant. I never saw him defend but one case in court in my life, and that was of a vender of obscenity, and his client was convicted.

In speaking of the efforts of the "repealers" prior to the Syracuse convention, President Abbot, of the Non-repeal League, says, Nov. 20, 1879:

For some time they (the repeal element) had looked with longing eyes at the National Liberal League, whose growing size and importance began to make it a prize in their estimation.

The cunning demand for "repeal" of the postal law, originally inspired by Wakeman, and industriously echoed by Bennett and his free-love associates, was exactly what they needed to carry their point. By a *year of such unscrupulous falsification as we never saw equalled*, and such as can be appreciated only by those who have waded through it, the vicious and sensual type of liberalism contrived most absurdly to identify itself in myriad credulous minds with the love of liberty; the higher type of liberalism remained apathetic and indifferent to clear and repeated warnings; and the consequence was that the National Liberal League, with all its splendid possibilities of service to the liberal cause, was suffered to fall into the hands of the free-love ring by the mere abstention of those who ought to have been present. *From that day it sank lower, until now it threatens to render its name of "liberal" a hissing and a by-word for years.*

The conclusion at the close is about right; no sane man will dispute the truth of this assertion.

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This action of the "Liberals," developed the readiness of those tending to liberalize all things, to fall into their wake. They found defenders and apologists, among those to whom we looked for better things, those claiming great respectability. We give a single illustration, where an editor prostituted his position to attack our efforts to protect the young, and at the same time afforded comfort and encouragement to the side of free lust.

Mr. Oliver Johnson concludes one of several articles opposing us, in the Heywood case (he belongs to the class that, without a knowledge of facts, plunge ahead to criticise and raise obstacles to a just and holy cause, instead of first getting the story in full and then deducting their conclusions), by saying in his paper Orange Journal (N. J.), Aug. 24, 1878:

**The tares of error must be left to grow in the same field with the wheat of truth, "until the harvest"—that is until they bear their natural fruits, and their true character reveals itself in actual deeds,—when they may be rooted up, in the persons of those who illustrate them, and cast into the fiery furnace of the law!**

If these words mean anything, spoken in the connection and defence of a smut convict, then they mean in this case, "let these men sow their vileness among the young, and give them unrestrained liberty to do it under the law (repeal the laws); but if, after they have scattered their moral poison among the young, you shall find any of them, who, through weakness or peculiar temptation, yield to their base, corrupting, and degrading influences, then punish all such. Give every man a right to corrupt and debauch the minds of the young, but if the young are debauched and led to practice these vices, then punish the young."

In the same article he says:

**Having read Mr. Heywood's pamphlet, we are prepared to say that, while its doctrine of "free-love" is unspeakable revolting, and while there are in it phrases of an indelicate and vulgar character, it does not, in our humble judgment, properly come within the true definition of obscenity.**

If the reader will consult "Webster" or "Worcester," he will find the true meaning of obscenity to fall within the measure

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of Mr. Johnson's expressions of "unspeakable revolting," "indelicate," and "vulgar."

Two courts, at least, had declared the book he defended legally obscene, and that, too, after an appeal to the highest U. S. court in New England—the U. S. Circuit Court, sitting at Boston, with a full bench, Hon. Justice Clifford, the senior member of the U. S. Supreme Court, presiding.

If he (Johnson) defends his position and arrays himself as an advocate of this kind of nastiness, simply behind his "humble judgment," I can say to him that, in my humble judgment, he has a very weak defence, and poor excuse for taking a position so decidedly against, the protecting of the morals of the young, from these degrading influences.

The groaning, howling, and frantic raving of that convention at Syracuse, over this question, if the "Liberal" papers are to be believed, was most remarkable. The intense excitement that existed is vividly described by some of them.

Let it be remembered that this pitting of the Leagues in favor of obscenity, this hugging of the vile creature to their hearts, the rolling of this putrid mass under their tongues like a sweet morsel, *was after the defeat of their conspiracy to repeal the laws.* They had had time to gain the facts. The leader of the seceders had faithfully and bravely told them of some of the lies put forward by the conspirators to deceive and capture the Liberals of the land. But they would have none of it. They cared not. Lie or no lie, they wanted repeal, and repeal they would have.

We give a synopsis of a report, of what occurred at Syracuse, as taken from the principal "Liberal" papers.

As this question is one of historic and intrinsic value, in order that it may be clearly established, we give, in the following chapter, a very full report, written by the presiding officer of the League, and published in The Index, Nov. 7, 1878.

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# CHAPTER XXVI.

## THE SYRACUSE CONGRESS.

**The Second Annual Congress of the National Liberal League convened at Syracuse, N. Y., Saturday, Oct. 25, 1873, at 10 o'clock, A. M. According to the report of the Committee on Membership, it was composed of twelve charter-members, one life-member, two annual members, and one hundred and twenty-three delegates representing thirty-two Local Auxiliary Liberal Leagues, making one hundred and thirty-eight members in all.**

### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

The President made brief introductory remarks, welcoming the delegates, and expressing a hope that harmony and courtesy would prevail throughout their deliberations. He stated that the Directors had endeavored, in all their arrangements, to secure perfect fairness and justice to all; and with this object in view he submitted to the consideration and free action of the Congress, on behalf of the Board, the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That the proceeding of this Congress shall be governed by the general rules of parliamentary law.
2. *Resolved*, That the Committee on Membership are hereby instructed to report a complete list of the members of this Congress, classified respectively as delegates, charter-members, life-members, and annual members; and to add to the name of each delegate the name of the Local League which he or she represents.
3. *Resolved*, That, in order to secure the prompt and orderly transaction of the important business of this Congress, all resolutions, after being read, shall be referred to the Committee on Resolutions without debate.
4. *Resolved*, That the general order of business for the several sessions of this Congress shall be as follows:

### SATURDAY, OCT. 25. BUSINESS SESSION, AT 10 A. M.

1. Reading of Records of last Congress by the Secretary (if required).
2. Appointment of Committee on Membership.
3. Address by T. B. Wakeman, Esq., of New York; being his speech on Constitutionality of the Comstock laws, delivered at Faneuil Hall, Boston, Aug. 1, 1873.
4. Address by Hon. E. P. Hurlbut, of Albany, on "The Liberty of Printing."
5. Report of the Committee on Membership.
6. Appointment of Committees on Resolutions, on Nominations, and on Finance.
7. Report of the Directors.
8. Report of the Treasurer.
9. Temporary Adjournment.

### BUSINESS SESSION, 3 P. M.

1. Report of Committee on Resolutions.
2. Debate and Vote on the Resolutions concerning Freedom of the Press and Obscene Literature.
3. Temporary Adjournment.

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PUBLIC SESSION, 8 P. M.

1. Addresses by Invited Speakers.
2. Temporary Adjournment.

SUNDAY, OCT. 27. BUSINESS SESSION, 10 A. M.

1. Debate and Vote on the remainder of the Report of the Committee on Resolutions.
2. Temporary Adjournment.

BUSINESS SESSION, 3 P. M.

1. Report of the Committee on Nominations, and Election of Officers for the ensuing year.
2. Report of the Finance Committee.
3. Miscellaneous Business.
4. Free Conference; short speeches, etc.
5. Temporary Adjournment.

PUBLIC SESSION, 8 P. M.

1. Addresses by Invited Speakers.
2. Final Adjournment.

The spirit of the "repeal" party immediately revealed itself in the objections made to the above order of business. Nobody could find any fault with the order itself, or even attempted to do so; it was on its very face too fair, systematic, and in every way proper, for any reasonable objection. But it was declared to be an "undemocratic" attempt to tyrannize over the Congress, to prevent it from managing its own affairs, etc., regardless of the fact that it was simply submitted for approval, and could be amended or changed in any manner the Congress saw fit. A fair, orderly, and expeditious course of proceedings was evidently not desired. After long and profitless wrangling, the first three of the resolutions were adopted; on motion of Mr. H. L. Green, the fourth was amended as follows, and then adopted:

*Resolved*, That a committee on order of business be appointed by the Congress, and that such committee nominate the members of the standing committees and officers of the League, subject to the approval of the Congress.

On motion of Mr. T. B. Wakeman, it was then

*Resolved*, That this committee consist of one member to be appointed by each Local League represented, and one by the life and one by the charter-members, with power to appoint sub-committees.

The entire remainder of the morning session was wasted in the election of this committee, which had only to do over again in a bungling and loose manner what had already been well done by the Directors beforehand, with a self-evident purpose to save time and trouble for the Congress and facilitate its business. Great confusion of course followed the destruction of this well-laid plan; and the sincere efforts of the President to reduce it to a minimum, and to help the Congress out of the snarl in which the mere perversity of the majority had entangled it, were necessarily to a considerable extent neutral-

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ized by the want of support. The Directors had proposed an Order of Business; the majority preferred a Disorder of Business; and the latter had their way.

During the interval between the morning and afternoon sessions, the general committee elected the following sub-committees:

*On Resolutions*, Messrs. E. P. Hurlbut, C. D. B. Mills, B. F. Underwood, T. B. Wakeman, J. E. Oliver, T. C. Leland, F. Rivers—four for "reform," and three for "repeal."

*On Nominations*, Messrs. J. H. W. Toohey, J. McArthur, G. E. Gordon, D. H. Clark, T. L. Brown—three for "reform," and two for "repeal."

*On Membership*, Messrs. D. G. Crandon, J. H. W. Toohey, H. L. Green, Mrs. Amy Post, Mrs. L. N. Colman—one for "reform," three for "repeal," and one doubtful.

Some changes appear to have been subsequently made. These sub-committees, however, were not even reported to the Congress for "approval," as required by the vote—much less elected. Nothing could be conceived more "undemocratic" than the mode in which these committees were appointed; but, nevertheless, a majority in each of the two leading committees was opposed to "repeal."

### SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Pending the report of the Committee on Resolutions, the general committee reported through Mr. Rivers, the chairman, as the order of business for the afternoon, the addresses by Mr. Wakeman and Judge Hurlbut, with a subsequent discussion of fifteen-minute speeches on the main question. This report was adopted, with an amendment limiting the speeches to ten minutes. If the original order of business submitted by the Directors had been adopted, these addresses would have been made in the forenoon, thus giving opportunity for a full and fair debate in the afternoon. As it was, many hours had been squandered in getting the convention started, and nothing remained but to repair the blunder as well as might be, by crowding into the afternoon the forenoon's work.

Mr. Wakeman then read his Faneuil Hall Speech on "The Comstock Law considered as to its Constitutionality." It was an ingenious, plausible, but narrow and sophistical plea for "repeal," ignoring distinctions which exist, and inventing others which do not, and raising a cloud of empty technicalities which a small circle of personal followers mistake for solid and substantial arguments.

Judge Hurlbut next delivered his address on "The Liberty of Printing," which we shall next week be permitted to lay before our readers in full. His venerable and dignified appearance, his impressive and deliberate manner, his wit, brilliancy, and epigrammatic pungency, lending to his resistless logic a popular effectiveness which we never saw surpassed by any other public speaker, carried the audience by storm, and fairly convulsed them with alternate laughter and applause. The address, though not at all controversial, left not an inch of standing-room for Mr. Wakeman's specious argument; it was de-

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monstration, impregnable and complete, and convinced every close reasoner in the hall that the cry of "unconstitutionality" is mere whistling against the wind. If "repeal" had not been a foregone conclusion with the majority, resting on grounds with which reason has nothing to do, the debate would have ended then and there with a unanimous vote against it. More than thirty years ago, Judge Hurlbut published in Edinburgh and London his *Essays on Human Rights and their Political Guaranties*, with a preface and notes by the famous George Combe—a work which gave its author the highest reputation as a philosophical jurist and a champion of human liberty in its noblest sense; while his little treatise of 1870 on *Religion and the State* is one of the noblest and most powerful contributions to the literature of political secularism ever made. When such a mind as this ponders, digests, and deliberately rejects the legal theory to which "repeal" is now clinging with desperate determination—when it delivers its calm, judicial decision in favor of the constitutionality of the so-called Comstock law—those who know the ultimate invincibility of reason will know what fate awaits the pert unscrupulousness of "repeal."

Judge Hurlbut closed his magnificently victorious paper with a draft of such a statute as the United States may constitutionally enforce for the exclusion of obscene literature from the mails, without infringing in the slightest degree upon the freedom of the press:

*A Law to prevent the forwarding and distribution of obscene literature by the mails.**

SECT. I. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That there shall not be forwarded by the mails, nor distributed by any deputy postmaster, any obscene print, picture, drawing, or printed composition, manifestly designed, or mainly tending, to corrupt the morals of youth.

SECT. II. If any person shall deliver at any post office, with intent to have forwarded, or distributed, any obscene print, picture, drawing, or printed composition, mentioned in the preceding section, he shall be fined, for the first offence, not exceeding —— dollars, and for the second or any subsequent offence shall be imprisoned not exceeding —— months.

*Provided, however*, that no printed book, argument, essay, treatise, or disquisition, put forth in sincerity and good faith, and in which no obscene words, phrases, or pictures shall be employed, although its doctrines or sentiments, if carried into practice, would have a bad influence on society or government, shall be deemed obscene within the meaning of the law.

In connection with this draft of a statute submitted by Judge Hurlbut to the Congress itself, we add here the draft of some resolutions on the same subject which we personally wrote and submitted to the Committee on Resolutions, in order that the public may understand how earnestly and practically the "reform" party at this Congress strove to protect liberty to the uttermost, yet without denying the nation's indubitable right to refuse to be made an involuntary accomplice in the crime of circulating obscene literature:

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* The amazing absurdity of these proposed laws needs no comment. Postmasters, carriers, and other postal clerks may deliver these things, but deputy postmasters are prohibited. What absurdity! In the light of facts, what criminality!

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*On Freedom of the Press and Obscene Literature.*

1. *Resolved*, That the freedom of the press which is guaranteed by the United States Constitution includes freedom to publish, and freedom to circulate by all customary channels, all theoretical opinions on all literary, scientific, political, social, moral, religious, or other subjects; that no indecencies of a merely incidental or occasional character, however reprehensible and deserving of public censure on moral or literary grounds, cause a forfeiture of this freedom, or constitute a just reason for legal prosecution or punishment; and that any narrower rules of judgment on this subject must compel legal condemnation of many of the most precious works of human genius, including the Bible.

2. *Resolved*, That by "obscene literature" we understand such writings or publications as do not appeal to or seek to elevate either the intellectual, moral, or æsthetic condition of their readers, but show on their face that they were composed with unmistakably base motives, in order to poison the imagination, inflame and pervert the passions, and incite to vicious practices; that it is justly made a crime at common law to circulate such literature in any manner; and that it is an outrage on common decency to claim for such literature the freedom of the press.

3. *Resolved*, That, while we recognize the supreme importance of extinguishing as far as possible the *demand* for obscene literature by educational and moral means, we also recognize the practical necessity of legislation against the crime of circulating it; and we maintain the right and duty of both Congress and State Legislatures, each in its appropriate province, to enact laws for the punishment of this crime.

4. *Resolved*, That, owing to the absence of definition in the United States statutes on this subject, and the abuse of power by the officers appointed to execute it, great wrong has been done to individuals, and dangerous violations of the freedom of the press have been consummated; and we seriously and earnestly protest against these wrongs and violations.

5. *Resolved*, That, in order to prevent these evils for the future, the following safeguards should be secured: (1) the amendment of the United States laws concerning obscene literature, in accordance with the principles enunciated in the foregoing resolutions; (2) the right of appeal and writs of error from the circuit courts to the Supreme Court of the United States in all criminal cases under these laws; and (3) a new legislative provision requiring that the entire publication alleged to be obscene, for circulating which through the mails any person shall be hereafter prosecuted in the United States courts, shall be set forth in the indictment.

6. *Resolved*, That a commission should be appointed, composed of able and influential citizens of the highest character, who shall be charged with the duty of devising, adopting, and carrying into execution such measures, as in their judgment, shall be best calculated to obtain from Congress the above-mentioned safeguards; and the Directors of this League are hereby empowered and instructed to select and appoint the members of said commission, and to co-operate with them in all possible ways.

7. *Resolved*, That, in order to enable the Directors to discharge the duty imposed upon them by the preceding resolution, we hereby appeal to all citizens who love equity and prize the freedom of the press to contribute liberal donations towards a fund of five thousand dollars, said fund to be paid to the Treasurer of this League, and appropriated by the Directors to the sole purpose of defraying the expenses of the said commission.

These were the practical measures for the protection of liberty which the "reform" party were desirous to carry into execution. The advocacy of these principles and measures was the avowed reason, and the only reason, why the old Board of Directors was dismissed with an evident but impotent purpose to make the dismissal disgraceful. The inference was forced upon

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the minority at Syracuse, and is now forced upon the public, that the "repeal" party are seeking something more than the effectual protection of liberty; and the question is most pertinent—*What is that more?* Let thoughtful minds answer that question for themselves.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION.

During the afternoon, it had leaked out that the majority of the Committee on Resolutions were in favor of "reform," not "repeal." This was a most vexatious circumstance to the majority. In order to overcome this almost insuperable obstacle to the success of the "repeal" programme, Mr. Courtlandt Palmer very unexpectedly moved the adoption of two resolutions, as follows:

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Resolutions be instructed to report a resolution in favor of the repeal of the Comstock postal laws.
*Resolved*, That they be also instructed to report a resolution in favor of the practical enforcement of constitutional and State laws against obscenity.

After a necessary suspension of the order of business by vote, these resolutions were declared in order.

Mr. R. P. Hallowell, of Boston, moved to amend them by substituting the following:

*Resolved*, That total separation of Church and State is the sole purpose of National Liberal League.
*Resolved*, That the platform adopted at our last annual convention, whereby this League merged into an equal civil, political, and religious rights association, is hereby repealed.

Dr. John Winslow, of Ithaca, moved to amend Mr. Hallowell's amendment, by substituting the following:

*Resolved*, That, however its members may differ as to questions of constitutionality, the National Liberal League fully recognizes the necessity of suppressing obscene literature by such legislation as shall be proper and constitutional, and shall also protect absolute freedom of discussion upon all subjects.

The evening was consumed in debating these amendments and others, and in getting out of the parliamentary snarls in which the Congress entangled itself. The "reform" side were accused of "filibustering" by their opponents; but, if that epithet was deserved, the "repeal" side earned their share of it. Neither side intended to filibuster; the amendments offered were finally disposed of by substituting Dr. Winslow's for Mr. Hallowell's, and then appending it to Mr. Palmer's as a third resolution. At this point, when a vote might have been reached, Dr. E. B. Foote, Jr., of New York, moved to amend the series of three resolutions then before the Congress, by substituting therefor some new ones of his own, as follows:

*Resolved*, That we believe the United States postal law concerning obscenity to have been enacted without due deliberation; that there are high precedents and good reasons for doubting the constitutionality of such legislation; that it is certain that unjust prosecutions have been made under this law, and, as it stands, it should be repealed.

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*Resolved*, That the present laws for the suppression of obscenity in the various States are so construed as to be dangerous to the liberties of the people and the press by their failure properly to define obscenity, and must be so modified as to render them sufficient for the total suppression of obscenity without endangering the liberty of the press.

Motions to adjourn (it was nearly eleven o'clock) had been several times made and lost. But Dr. Foote's amendment was too much for the patience of the Congress. It was moved and voted to refer this new amendment to the Committee on Resolutions; the President ruled that the amendment necessarily carried with itself the resolutions it was to amend, and that thus the entire batch of resolutions was removed from the Congress to the Committee. This result, though apparently exasperating to those who wanted to force through a vote for "repeal" that evening, was a mistake of the "repeal" party itself, and had to be digested. The adjournment was then effected.

We frankly confess we regretted that amendment after amendment should have been made to Mr. Palmer's resolutions instead of meeting squarely the issue forced on the Congress, and debating the merits of the question. The majority was clearly on the "repeal" side; they hungered and thirsted for a decisive vote; but, with all their eagerness and their evident collusions to carry their point, they were wretched tacticians, and did not know how to do it. It was a blunder to spring Mr. Palmer's resolutions on the Congress that evening, contrary to their own order of business; if these resolutions had passed, no committee would obey such instructions against their own self-respect. The "repeal" party, moreover, should have respected their own order of business, which permitted discussion, but not action, on the main question that night; and they only betrayed a reckless disregard of fair play, in attempting to overrule in advance the report of their own committee on resolutions. Notwithstanding all this, we regretted the failure to meet the issue on its merits.

### SUNDAY MORNING SESSION.

The Syracuse *Standard* of Monday morning said:

The Sunday morning session was in some respects a quiet one and in others rather troublesome to the New York party. During the recess the majority, who had sought to force the Congress to express an opinion in favor of the repeal of the law, had become frightened. Rivers, of Boston, now resting under indictment for the sale of obscene literature, urged a square expression of the Congress in favor of his views. He wanted the United States authorities rebuked for what they had done. Wakeman, of New York, a supporter of Rivers, was more politic, and hesitated about giving the Abbot party such open cause for disruption. He, and others who stood with him, feared the odium which would fall upon them if the Abbot party should secede, on the ground that they could not live with those who sustained and fostered the sale of obscene literature and sought to repeal the laws making the sale a crime. Wakeman believed the majority had better make concession rather than be compelled to stand alone before the public; and hence the Committee on Resolutions fixed up a compromise that the Comstock postal law question should not be touched by either party.

At the opening of the morning session, J. H. Adamson, of Passaic City,

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N. J., alleged that he would show up the New York party in its true light: he had facts to back him.

Cries from the New York faction—"Give us the facts!"

Adamson—"I'll give 'em to you fast enough!" Mr. Adamson fixed his papers, and was proceeding to tell how Bennett, of the ——, by letter had offered his League a bribe of ten dollars to vote with the New Yorkers.

That made the New York party frantic, and Bennett called for the letter he had written; he didn't want his letter produced in a garbled manner.

Adamson went on to read that his League had refused to be bribed, when he was called to order, and the Chair was asked to rule that Adamson must produce the letter.

Adamson said he had not the letter with him, but he would willingly send for it and have it published; and then he averred he had some more bottom facts which he could give, but the New York party cried him down, and the President finally ruled him out of order unless he produced the letter.

Mr. Courtlandt Palmer, of New York, on behalf of the Committee on Resolutions, submitted the following partial report as a measure of conciliation and honorable compromise:

*Resolved*, That this Congress does not, at the present session, express any judgment in regard to the Comstock postal law question, but that it hereby recommends that the members of the League and all liberals inform themselves, as far as possible, as to its constitutionality, with a view to decisive action at the next Congress.

*Resolved*, That the freedom of the press, which is guaranteed by the United States Constitution, includes freedom to publish and freedom to circulate by the customary channels all opinions on literary, scientific, political, social, moral, religious, or other subjects.

*Resolved*, That while we recognize the supreme importance of extinguishing, as far as possible, the demand for obscene literature by educational and moral means, we also recognize the practical necessity of legislation by the proper and constitutional authority against the crime of publishing it, and laws for the punishment of the same.

The first of these resolutions was urged upon the Congress by Mr. Wakeman as an act of extraordinary "magnanimity" on the part of the majority. According to the *Standard*, he "said he appreciated the position of Mr. Palmer, who did not wish to force a conscience not prepared for conviction, referring to the Abbot party. He regretted, however, to be obliged to go home while two League members lay under arrest, and the arrest instigated by church authorities. He believed the arrested parties were guilty of no wrong whatever; and yet he thought, before generally asking the Congress to favor the repeal of the Comstock postal laws, they had better take another year to fully think the matter over. He had yielded this much to save heart-burnings."

Rev. Mr. Gordon emphatically opposed any proposition to leave the League a whole year under the disgrace of not knowing its own mind on this subject. This was not a constitutional question; it was a moral question, and could not be too soon decided.

The President asked and received permission to express his opinion on the resolutions. He stated distinctly that he understood this to be a proposition to leave the League for another year exactly as it was left at Philadelphia; that that position was in favor of "reform," and against "repeal"; that he

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himself, with all the rest of the League, had been perfectly satisfied to hold that position for two years, and desired simply that it should not be changed at all now; that he could not oppose these resolutions, since they proposed to leave that position wholly unchanged; that he appreciated the "magnanimity" of the majority in not exercising their evident power to force a vote for "repeal," and was in favor of the resolutions, not as a compromise—which it was not—but a complete postponement of the whole question for a year.

And thus the "reform" party fell into the trap. The resolutions passed, as did also the following, presented by Mr. Underwood on behalf of the Committee on Resolutions:

*Resolved*, That it is inexpedient at this time to nominate candidates for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of the United States, and that it must remain inexpedient to take this step until the local constituency of the National Liberal League is vastly increased.

*Resolved*, That the sinister and ruinous bearings of the Edmunds' constitutional amendment upon the cause of State secularization are dangerously misunderstood and disregarded by nearly the whole people, and especially by liberals; that notwithstanding the excellence of the major part of this amendment, the proviso that it shall not have the effect to exclude the Bible from the public schools would indirectly but completely Christianize the now secular Constitution, by recognizing the Bible as having a divine right to be read in public schools, which is superior to the right of Congress and of the people, and would thus plant the nation unawares on the foundation principle of orthodoxy; while the further proviso that this amendment shall not have the effect to impair the rights of property already vested is designed to secure the perpetual exemption of church property from taxation, with all the growing evils of that mountainous injustice.

*Resolved*, That we earnestly counsel all Local Leagues to hold frequent public meetings for the purpose of enlightening the people as to the unspeakable importance involved in this still pending attempt to Christianize the Constitution by stealth, and as to the paramount necessity of defeating the proviso now attached to this proposed amendment.

### SUNDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

The report of the Committee on Nominations was the first business in order on Sunday afternoon. It was divided; the majority report of three proposing the re-election of the old list of officers without change, while the minority report of two proposed that "the chief officers of the past year be dropped, and men known to be for the repeal of the Comstock postal law be elected in their stead." As finally made up and elected, this latter list was as follows:

*President*, Hon. Elizur Wright.

*Vice-Presidents*, as before, but dropping the names of Hon. E. P. Hurlbut, R. P. Hallowell, and B. F. Underwood, and adding the names of Mrs. James Parton, Miss Jane P. Titcomb, Francis W. Titus, Mrs. A. C. Bristol, J. H. W. Toohey, Dr. J. R. Monroe, Prof. J. E. Oliver, Mrs. C. Neymann, Henry Damon, and Hon. S. Brewer.

*Secretary*, A. L. Rawson.

*Assistant-Secretary*, Mrs. A. C. Bristol.

*Treasurer*, Courtlandt Palmer.

*Executive Committee*, H. L. Green, chairman, and the rest as before.

*Finance Committee*, Mrs. L. N. Colman, Frank Rivers, J. S. Verity.

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The Board of Directors was thus composed exclusively of persons known or believed to be strongly in favor of "repeal," as opposed to "reform," of the postal law of 1873. If the new Board had been constituted of persons in favor of "reform," so that the attitude of the League might remain unchanged on this question, there would probably have been no withdrawal; certainly we should not have withdrawn. But the mutual agreement of the two parties to "express no judgment" on the question at this session, and to postpone for a year "decisive action" upon it, was flagrantly violated by this total sweep of the chief offices and the election of a new administration unanimously pledged to "repeal." The minority saw, as the outside world sees, that the League can "express its judgment," and take "decisive action," just as effectively by a change of administration as by a mere formal resolution; they saw that the agreement had been broken and that they themselves had been treacherously deceived.

The two reports of the committee were received, and the Congress proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year. We called Vice-President Brown to the chair, which we vacated for that purpose. A motion was made by Asa K. Butts, one of the leading spirits of the "repeal" party, to cut off all debate on the subject of candidates; but it was voted to allow half an hour of debate, limiting the speeches to five minutes. The speeches made showed unmistakably the animus and purpose of the proposed change; it was meant to punish the old Board for their position of "reform," and to make a new Board whose position should be for "repeal."

The vote for President was taken by ballot. Hon. Elizur Wright had 76 votes, and F. E. Abbot 51; and Mr. Wright was declared elected. Let us say here that Mr. Wright is one of our best and most honored personal friends, who, if he had been present, would have been disgusted at the spirit, tactics, and proceedings of those who used his name without authority. As to his real position on the Comstock postal law, it is not for us to speak; he was claimed to be in favor of "repeal," and as such elected. It was not till after we had taken our seat in the body of the house that Rev. G. E. Gordon rose, and said: "I wish to say, that as the minority are out of sympathy with this League, I invite them to meet me in the parlors of the Syracuse House, in order that we may advise together as to what course we shall take TO DEFEND OURSELVES."

That was the purpose of the withdrawal—to "defend ourselves" from the treacherous action of the majority in pledging the League to "repeal" after they had agreed to "express no judgment" and take no "decisive action" for another year; and to save the liberal cause from public shame. The withdrawal was neither suggested nor headed by us; we simply followed Mr. Gordon with the rest. If a new Board had been elected which, like the old one, stood four to one in favor of "reform" and against "repeal," we should have refused to withdraw and remained with the old League, a contented and satisfied member.

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THE PHŒNIX RISING OUT OF THE ASHES.

While the Congress remained to conclude its session, the minority assembled at 4 P. M. in the parlors of the Syracuse House. Rev. Mr. Gordon called the meeting to order, and suggested the election of a Chairman and Secretary. Hon. E. P. Hurlbut was elected Chairman, and Mr. R. P. Hallowell Secretary. It was voted to appoint a committee of five to draw up a statement of reasons for the withdrawal, and to report one hour hence. This committee was elected as follows: Rev. G. E. Gordon, Mr. C. D. B. Mills, Mr. B. F. Underwood, Hon. E. P. Hurlbut, Mr. R. P. Hallowell.

At 5.15 P. M., the meeting was again called to order, and the committee made the following report:

*Whereas*, The Congress of the National Liberal League, assembled at Syracuse, October 26 and 27, 1878, to which we were delegates, was radically divided into two parties, one favoring total repeal, and the other opposed to such repeal, of certain laws of the United States relating to the circulation of obscene literature; and

*Whereas*, The whole question was, by the proposition of the majority and the consent of the minority, dropped from the consideration of the present Congress; and

*Whereas*, The subsequent nomination and election of the chief executive officers for the ensuing year, including the President, were made by the majority dependent upon their expressed opinion on the question which had been thus disposed of, to the surprise and deep disappointment of the minority; and

*Whereas*, The minority cannot but regard this action of the majority as a breach of faith and an unjust act toward the minority; therefore,

*Resolved*, That we, the undersigned, protest against the animus, aims, and results of such proceedings, and hereby withdraw from the session of the Congress to take such action as we may in the future deem advisable.

*Resolved*, That we believe that the existing United States laws against obscenity need to be reformed and amended, being now in several particulars oppressive in the modes of administration and in the penalties; yet we are in favor of proper laws, by State and National Governments, against the publication and circulation of obscene literature, tending to corrupt the morals of youth.

The Syracuse *Daily Standard* of October 28 had these plain-spoken words to say on the events of the two preceding days:

The Congress of Radical Thinkers, held at Wieting Opera House, Saturday and yesterday, must have furnished much food for thought to those who have any regard for the decency of society and the purity of mankind. But one question arose for consideration, and that related exclusively to obscene literature. By persistent as well as quiet effort, a majority of the League was composed of Free Lovers and dirty literature defenders, and from first to last they were determined upon making a point in favor of its free circulation. Their remarks sometimes almost polluted the atmosphere of the opera house, and one who said that "if they should be left alone, they would stink themselves to death," was not so far out of the way as he might have been.

The decent element was compelled to leave; it had no other refuge than in the organization of a new association. The League in Syracuse represented by Messrs. C. D. B. Mills and John W. Truesdell repudiated the petitioners and joined the new association. The one represented by Mrs. Colman remained.

The seceders are entitled to the commendation of all defenders of morality for the course they took. Such a spectacle was never presented in Syracuse



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before, as that when men and women rose in their places and openly advocated the uprooting of principles of morality. The *Journal* was severely criticised by them for calling things by their right names. In place of "socialistic privileges," it said "free love"; instead of "radical publications," it said "obscene literature." The adherents of immorality should thank the *Journal* rather than blame it for not speaking yet more plainly, and sinking not a few members of the disgraceful combination to a level beneath that of brothels.

It were well if the League had never met here. It were better if only the conservative portion of it had come. While the minority did not hold to Orthodox ideas, its defence of the principles of morality was able and earnest. It would make no compromise with debasing influences, and therein showed an honesty and sincerity of purpose which will be respected by all decent-minded people.

That the gentlemen who seceded as above described, were honest in their convictions no man can doubt. And if any of them had unwittingly been on the other side, it was doubtless because of the impositions, deceits, and falsehoods, practiced upon them by the leaders in this movement. But with the great majority it was different. They had combined and conspired, after the convention of 1876, to repeal the laws; had plotted, and in most unscrupulous manner sought to overthrow these safeguards to our youth, and had been most ingloriously defeated. A new dodge was necessary, and was at once resorted to.

The champion of obscenity, Bennett, and his co-conspirators had not been idle. This would-be-a-martyr, found it paid well to be charged with sending obscene matter through the mail. In order to defend what had been most fully defined in two courts *as obscene*, and to positively secure his arrest, this leading "liberal" had openly and most flagrantly defied the laws. He commenced the advertisement of a grossly obscene book.

In September, 1877, at Watkins, he and three others had been arrested, and indicted by the Grand Jury of Schuyler County, for selling this same obscene book. But, this did not satisfy. This arrest had been done by the local authorities under the State law. The N. Y. Society for the Suppression of Vice, nor its agent, had had anything to do with it. It gave him no new ground for attacking them. He would force an issue. He must be a martyr now, as the "liberals" would all make his their honored name, and place him on a lofty pinnacle, and he could make a larger amount of money. So he evidently planned and

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reasoned. He came to New York, and immediately commenced to advertise as follows, in his own paper.

Under date of Sept. 7, 1878, he says:

**We will hand them to the purchaser, or send them by mail, or express as desired, Anthony Comstock, Fred Davis (District Attorney), Warren Hurd, Oliver P. Hurd (County Judge, Schuyler Co.), and all the citizens of Watkins and Schuyler Co. to the contrary notwithstanding.**

* * * * * *

**Let those who wish copies of ——* send in the sum of fifteen cents and they shall be supplied.**

Again Sept. 14, 1878, he said:

THE TRINITY.

**While we were in Watkins some one facetiously styled Miss Tilton, U. S. Bell, and ourselves "The Trinity," "Father, Son, and Holy Ghost," and suggested that we have photographs of the three on one card. We acted upon the suggestion, and had a quantity made with the trinity. Those who wish copies of the same can be supplied at 15 cents each. Either of the trinity singly on a card, 10 cents. If a copy of the trinity and ——* are ordered, a pamphlet of sixty pages, containing T. B. Wakeman's great speech at the Faneuil Hall Heywood meeting, and his arguments against the Comstock Postal Law will be added gratis, and sent by mail, all for 30 cents.**

The following will show how the seceders regarded his tricks. This is taken from *The Index*, edited by one of the most honorable of the "Free Religionists" of the day. He is one of my prejudiced witnesses. His testimony therefore will be valued. The great burden on his mind up to this time was that "outrages had been committed," an abuse of power existed as he understood it. *If he had known the facts*, he would have known just to the contrary in each case.

Read carefully what these unwilling witnesses testify to, as to the character and acts of this ex-convict; and bear it in mind as you consider the further action of Liberals in his behalf, the resolutions of sympathy offered at Cincinnati by Robert G. Ingersoll, and the speeches of the leading Liberals, who accorded him a public reception on his release from State's Prison, where he had been sent for sending obscene matter through the mails.

* The title of his obscene book.

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He says in his paper, Nov. 20, 1879:

WHY DID BENNETT CRY "PERSECUTION?"

No candid person, who has made himself familiar with Bennett's trial, can for a moment admit that any effort was made to try him or to punish him for his *heresy*.

As the writer has already shown in an article on Bennett's "Pretence of Persecution," the prosecution did not seem to care what Bennett had been, what he then was, or what he believed, disbelieved, or practised. The judge carefully cautioned the jury not to allow the prisoner's beliefs, opinions, practices, or *un*beliefs to have any influence upon their minds; that they were there only to answer as to his conduct in sending (title of book which we omit) through the mails. Hence, Bennett was *not* prosecuted for his anti-theological opinions, whatever they may have been.

Why, then, did he seek to convey the idea that he is imprisoned on account of his heresy in theological matters? Because he has been playing a game of fraud all along, and did not dare to allow his readers and patrons to know the truth. How much money would he ever have received by way of donations to his "Defence Fund," if the truth had been known in regard to his motives subsequent to his Watkins arrest? Not one dollar where he did receive a hundred.

His first arrest, in 1877, was a surprise to him, and he was badly scared for a time. But his appeal for help brought in so much money, that when that case was settled, he said,—and we have the statement of two reliable persons to whom he spoke in his own office,—"This martyr business pays. We must get up something else in that line." In a short time came the second arrest, at Watkins, and then the more frantic appeal for money. He came from Watkins with a matured plan of action, as his subsequent course clearly shows. He announced that he had not hitherto sold many copies of ———, but that henceforth he should sell all he could to everybody who wanted it, and he would send it through the mails.

If, now, he had no object in view other than to announce that he would keep this pamphlet for sale, he would have said nothing about sending it by mail. For, certainly, it would have been the part of prudence to have kept silent upon that point. That he did not do so shows that he had a "peculiar" motive.

What was it? To tempt, taunt, defy, and aggravate Comstock into arresting him as he had done Heywood. To this end he defies the law, as in his paper of Sept. 7 and 14, 1878. At length he succeeds in inducing Comstock to attack him. If Bennett has been sincere, why does he not now try to draw on himself a prosecution for publishing *heresy* instead of mailing a dirty work which he is continually saying he does not like? Because he knows that he cannot coax, taunt, or drive Comstock to attack him on a question of heresy; and hence, while he has been publishing and mailing matter very offensive to believers in Christian theology, he is obliged to ignore his own previous pub-

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lications, and hitch his fortunes to this Limburger pamphlet, the production of an individual who is his rival for fame and public charity. He was obscene enough himself, but he did not possess sufficient ability to get his vulgarity into salable shape, and so had to handle Heywood's stock-in-trade on commission.

Having got himself arrested and the way prepared for a trial in a United States Court, he turns with wailing and lamentation, not only to his patrons, but to all who love freedom of conscience and American liberty, constitutional government, etc., etc., to come immediately forward and help *him* to make the fight, *not* between obscenity and protective laws, which was the real case, *but*, as he fraudulently put it, between the bigotry of the Church in the person of Comstock, and the right of all to think, believe, and worship according to conscience, in his person. He said:—

"I have sacrificed much in my reputation and my means to make this fight, for it seemed to fall upon me to make it; but I pray you not to let me make it without your reasonable aid and approval."

Having deliberately and designedly drawn the prosecution upon himself, he has been enabled thereby to get his plan of attack upon the public purse into successful operation, without ever being suspected, generally speaking, of his design. It was not a "deep" game, but it was a successful one. It succeeded so easily because it was played upon many people widely scattered, and people, too, for the most part, very credulous and ready to be imposed upon by anything or anybody, that appealed to their prejudice against the Church. But it was, from the first, a game, a plot, a fraud, and a humbug. Bennett never once supposed that he would or could be prosecuted as a heretic. If that, or something like that, had been tried in the matter of the "Open Letter to Jesus Christ," which was offensive, not on account of its heresy, but its blackguardism, the quashing of that case left him no room to hope, that he could get up any notoriety on anything that he could publish against theology. He knew also that, if the people once supposed that he was simply using obscenity as a means of exciting the agents of the law against him, so that he could have a groundwork for his claim of persecution, he never could have obtained their sympathy or, what was his real object, their money. Hence Bennett must have been conscious all the time of playing the part of a hypocrite and an impostor. He knew that he could not obtain public sympathy honestly in the prosecution that he had succeeded in bringing upon himself; he knew that without that sympathy he could get no money. But money was his object. For that he left his former occupation and became a "Reformer" (Heaven save the mark!); and money he must have, or go back to the old business of selling quack medicine, perhaps. And he went into Ludlow Street Jail as happy as a school-boy going fishing, because he knew that he had secured his hold on the sympathy of his deceived public, and believed that the President would not dare to refuse him a pardon. If any one doubts this, let him read Bennett's editorial announcing his conviction. And behold his joy over every letter that came to him containing pecuniary proofs of the success of his plan:—

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"My spirit is cheered by the reception of numerous sympathetic . . . . letters: . . . many of them contain remittances of greater or less magnitude . . . I feel very grateful to such friends, and cheerfully acknowledge such receipts . . . If I get out of prison, I will *publish the entire list.*"

"How doth the great big busy B
Improve each shining hour,
And gather money every day
From every gull-i-flower"

of credulity! Send in your cash, dear sympathizers, and get your names printed in the immortal list of those who would buy fame by honoring fraud under the fair guise of martyrdom.

Put yourself in his place. Conceive that you have written and published very low, vulgar, and vile attacks on popular theology; that you have failed to get the Church to prosecute you on the ground of your *heresy;* that you have taken up another man's publications which a United States Court has pronounced "obscene;" that you have succeeded in getting yourself arrested, prosecuted, convicted, and advertised; and that you want to make money out of the operation through an appeal to public sympathy,—what would you do? Would you dare to tell the truth? No! There is but one chord upon which you could strike with any hope of success, and that is the prejudice of the unchurched people against clergy, Church, and theology.

That is just what Bennett did! He had published more or less stuff against these, and so had prepared the "Liberal" ear for his note of "persecution for heresy." There is no other note which he can strike; and he rings that out loud and clear, with the bold, brazen, unhesitating voice of one who seems to have learned by a long practice that, to make a humbug successful, conscience must be throttled, and falsehood pushed forward with all the coolness and assurance of self-reliant truth.

Once more he was successful. His mock terror at the prison that yawned before him, his hypocritical whine about a long life of purity, honesty, and devotion to humanity and the dear wife of his happy home,—whom he was even then driving by his abuse away from her home, so that he could bring in a younger mistress,—took root in the credulity of his admirers; their hearts were touched, their pocketbooks were opened, and from then until now the money has continually flowed in to fill his coffers. Had it not been for the thorough exposure of Bennett's real character, conduct, and motive in running a public paper, he would have come out of the Penitentiary a rich man,—rich with money, every dollar of which would have been obtained under false pretences, and been a premium upon vice and a monument to libertinism and falsehood! Never in the history of the human race has there been made an exposure of dishonesty where the offender deserves less charity at the hands of the public than does D. M. Bennett; and, in putting an end to his success as an IMPOSTOR, we are doing a work which should receive the commendation of every honest man and woman in the world. THE EXPOSER.

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[It is absolutely necessary, however disagreeable the means, to open the eyes of those deluded liberals who have been deceived and fleeced by this cunning cry of "persecution." We therefore append here the article above referred to, which we quote from the Chicago *Religio-Philosophical Journal* of November 1. We cannot do this without saying that Col. Bundy, its editor, has earned the lasting gratitude of all true liberals by his fearless exposure of iniquity that has cloaked itself under the name of liberalism, and brought incalculable damage and disgrace to its cause.—ED.]

## Col. Bundy says:

### THE PRETENCE OF PERSECUTION.

As Mr. Bennett has ever since his conviction been harping on this string of persecution for his opinion's sake, doubtless we shall be added to the number of those who are said to be joined with his Christian enemies, and who are down in his black list for future punishment, *i. e.*, when he comes home again. And as we do not propose to do anything for which we cannot give good reason, so, in our relation to this would-be martyr, we will not trespass one inch upon the ground of uncertainty. We believe that he has not been persecuted for his anti-theological opinions, and shall so maintain, notwithstanding Bennett himself has said:

"The fight is not one of obscenity, but one of liberty of opinion. It has always been the fate of advanced opinions to be under the ban of the majority." (For specimens of his "advanced opinions," see his love-letters recently published in the *Journal*.)

"It matters not what we have done or what we have not done, we were an infidel, . . . and that was sufficient."

"It availed us nothing that we showed an unblemished character."

"The charge of obscenity was a mere pretext upon which to send to prison an objectionable, outspoken heretic and infidel to the current system of theology. The case was prejudged before the trial. It was a foregone conclusion that the prisoner must be condemned, and the judge acted the part of prosecutor rather than of a fair, impartial, and just judge."

Placing this language in the light of Bennett's real character as shown in his exposure, it is seen to be only buncombe, with a design in it. Bennett is like the apostle Paul, "crafty," and so seeks to catch his unsuspecting gudgeons with "guile." It is the desperate effort of a man who is intriguing for one last grand opportunity to wheedle or swindle the public before his final exposure comes, for he must have known that it was coming sooner or later. It is a well-matured plan to deceive, through a fraudulently obtained sympathy, that dear humanity which he has been coddling so tenderly in his beneficent arms and cramming so generously with his reformatory pap of promiscuous promises of health, wealth, wisdom, freedom from superstition, and all the ills that poor human souls and bodies have become heirs unto through the blighting influence of all religion save the new religion of his own new dispensation. From his quiet country home on a western prairie, where he seems to have matured his plan of action, he goes to New York,—

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humbug-like, making a bold stroke at the start,—and, under the imperial ægis of ———,* essays to become the supposed God's-tongue of a new revelation unto mankind. He defiantly attacks everything that is held sacred among the religions and religious worshippers of the present day, and advances to his work of demolition and destruction, with the language and in the spirit of an outlawed border ruffian. And people who have been long hoping for some divine prophet of "Liberalism" to arise, begin to suspect that there is something wrong with this man, that the *afflatus* which floats him to battle is anything but divine. Soon the more keen-sighted among them have measured their man and taken their position. They look on aghast and disgusted to see this mountebank, who has stolen their good name, go tearing into society like an infuriated bull in a china shop, as a "Reformer," tossing, tearing, trampling everything in his way, and are not at all surprised when society rallies in self-defence, and, instead of following the reformer, drives him into "pound."

Hereafter the cry that he is persecuted because he is an unbeliever in the Christian or any other religion, can only be the wail of a defeated impostor. Bennett has never been and never will be persecuted, or even prosecuted because he does not believe in the Orthodox Trinity or the vicarious atonement! When he was brought to trial for sending obscene matter through the mails, his counsel took every precaution to guard against the possibility of his client's suffering from the bigotry and prejudice of the jury. To every man drawn as juror the following questions were propounded by Mr. Abram Wakeman.

"Assuming the doctrines or principles of the pamphlet in question to be, in your opinion, erroneous, are you under the influence of any social or religious views or opinions which will tend to prevent your acting impartially as a juror in the trial of this case?"

"Assuming the defendant to be a *Free Thinker and an unbeliever in the Christian religion*, are you under the influence of any religious views or prejudices which will tend to prevent your acting impartially as a juror in the trial of this case?"

No man sat in that jury who did not, under oath, answer these questions unequivocally in the negative.

Then they heard the evidence. The prosecution introduced his paper for Sept. 7th and 14th, and Dec. 21, 1878, and Feb. 22, 1879, to prove—what? That Bennett was an infidel or even a free-lover? No! Simply to prove that he had declared that he *would sell and send* ———* *through the mails* to anybody who would send the money to pay for it, and that he *did* so sell and send it. That was all. In the ———† of Feb. 15, 1879, is matter that would make a stronger case of obscenity than can ever be based upon ———* and the prosecution knew it; but they had no other case, sought no other issue, with D. M. Bennett than that of sending ———* through the mails. Twice or three times when Bennett's witnesses were swearing that they had known him for

* His obscene book. † His newspaper.

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thirty and forty years, and that he had always borne an "unblemished character," had always lived most happily and devotedly with the one wife of his early and only love, the prosecution, in cross-examination, asked, "Do you know Mr. Bennett to be the author of 'An Open Letter to Jesus Christ?'" He did not ask any witness, "Do you know Mr. Bennett to be a free-thinker, an infidel, or a free-lover?" He did not once attempt to introduce any evidence even tending to prove that Bennett was *anything* either good, bad, or indifferent. The prosecution cared so little about Bennett and his beliefs, unbeliefs, and opinions and practices, that it did not even attempt to investigate the defendant's claim of life-long good character. Prosecutor and court both admitted without question Bennett's claim to good character, which shows two things unmistakably: first, that the prosecution knew nothing about the evidence which we have since produced against Bennett, proving him to have been one of the vilest impostors of modern times; and, second, that they did not care to know anything about him, either as to his character or his opinions; and, therefore, it was antecedently improbable that they should, would, or could do the first thing towards a prosecution or persecution of him on the ground of his being an infidel and a free-lover.

Furthermore, the judge, in his charge to the jury, who had sworn to give an impartial verdict, said:—

"This is not a question of religion, nor a question of the freedom of the press. . . . This defendant may entertain peculiar views on the subject of religion; he may be an infidel; he may have peculiar and improper notions on the marriage relation; he may be a free thinker; he may be whatever he pleases; that should have no effect upon your deliberations. . . . If you should find a verdict against this man *because you do not like his doctrines* in respect to religion, . . . you would do an injustice to the man. . . . All men in this country, so far as this statute is concerned, have a right to their opinions. They may publish them. This man may entertain the opinions expressed in this book, or he may not. Free lovers and free thinkers have a right to their views, and they may express them, and they may publish them, but they cannot publish them in connection with obscene matter, and send that matter through the mails."

We defy anybody, even Bennett himself, or his most enthusiastic apologist, to pick out of this language anything that can be even tortured into an attempt on the part of either prosecution, judge, or jury to try Bennett for his unbelief in the popular Christian theology.

And, therefore, we maintain, that the cry of "persecution" for opinions' sake, that has been raised hitherto, is only one of the "artful dodges" by which Bennett seeks to retain his hold upon the public purse through misplaced sympathy. We disclaim all personal feeling in the matter, and write only in defence of truth and decency, both of which he has so egregiously offended. And the evidence compels us to say that Bennett is an obscene man whose opinions, while they have not, as we have shown, drawn any "persecution" upon him thus far, and are not likely to do so, yet cannot be expected to command the respect of decent people.—*R. P. Journal.*

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If any person is so simple as to believe this man was convicted because of infidel views, let him read the judge's charge to the jury, as quoted by Col. Bundy. It was *unqualified obscenity* that he was convicted on, and the "*Liberals*" may twist and *turn as they please, it is this they defend.* My reply to Mr. Abbot's criticisms is that, when it was found that both the State and United States laws were thus most outrageously defied, and brought into contempt, we did what our oath of office required us to do, we legally arrested this man Bennett.

I see no argument against the proper enforcement of laws, in that it is said the prisoner wants notoriety. The question for the officer, under his oath of office, is: Are the laws defied and violated? Is this scoundrel sowing broadcast seeds of moral destruction? Shall he sit quietly by and see all these outrages and do nothing, because he may be unfavorably criticised if he does his *duty?* I do not so apprehend duty.

After his arrest he began new appeals for money. The "Liberals" responded magnificently. It required nearly two columns of his paper to acknowledge the receipts of money. He was cheered on by letters of endorsement from all parts. He even printed letters "from the Devil," and he so proclaimed them. These letters of support and sympathy often filled two and three pages (four columns each) of his paper, from week to week. Where one letter was received from decent men sustaining, cheering, and helping on the prosecution, or sympathizing with the Agent (doing his duty faithfully) on account of the persecutions of the enemy, this scoundrel received hundreds of letters and thousands of dollars. I do not complain of this, but I affirm its truth.

About this time they organized the National Defence Association.

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## CHAPTER XXVII.

### THE NATIONAL DEFENCE ASSOCIATION.

The prime object of this association or combination of "Liberals" and ex-convicts was, to defend persons arrested, and create adverse public sentiment against our Society, and especially against the Agent. As I have already stated, funds were called for and liberally received by this new organization. A man named A. L. Rawson, an ex-convict thief, and bigamist, was made president. He was also the secretary of the National Liberal League. As he is a representative man, and, after his full exposure, was re-elected the secretary of the National Liberal League, we give a few extracts from Mr. Abbot (my unwilling witness) in evidence of his true character.

Mr. Abbot had made charges against this man. Elizur Wright, president of the National Liberal League, had taken him to task for thus exposing the crookedness of his pet secretary. Mr. Wright is reported by Mr. Abbot, in his paper, as writing to him:

> As your friend, I am exceedingly pained at your position with Rawson. His card fairly throws the burden of proof upon you, and I think your best friends will hold you bound in honor, either to show who the previous wife was, that is referred to in the decree, or make him an apology.

Just here, I desire to stop and say one word as to my reasons for perpetuating the names of Wright, Bennett, Rawson, Ingersoll, etc., in this book. All are convinced that they are utterly unworthy of favorable notice, because of their true character. Ah! reader, that is just the point, "true character." That is just what I desire and aim to establish, in contradistinction to what they and their cohorts would have the public believe. These men are put forward as *leaders* in a great "Liberal" movement against the restraints of law and religion, promising grand results in the future, and immediate deliverance to their followers! Deliverance from what? The sweet influences of religion; the peace that comes from a sense of sins forgiven; the health that

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follows from appetites and passions restrained; the protection that flows to the community from a proper enforcement of laws against the criminal class; the comfort to the afflicted that the Bible furnishes; the strength to the fainting soul that the promises of God afford; the sweet rest and meditations of the Sabbath of rest; the light and hope to the soul that the future home inspires; the reverence for God and holy things; the moral purity of our youth and children; the bonds that unite the family circle, and dot our beautiful land with still more beautiful homes. And so we might go on, till we make this life on this beautiful earth one unrestrained license to appetite and passion, the turning loose of all the baser elements of human nature to grovel among the worms, without a single upward tendency to noble living for principle, or to sacrifices or labors of love for others. It is because their lives are hollow and rotten at the core, because they offer themselves to the world as such manly fellows, so self-exalted and clean, and to-be-patterned-after, that I give them a place sufficient to show to the world they have *nothing in them to be coveted, nothing to be desired.*

If I were writing a litany, I would add a prayer—from all such "deliver us."

Mr. Abbot apologizes as follows:

AN OPEN LETTER TO MR. WRIGHT.

HON. ELIZUR WRIGHT, *President of the National Liberal League:*

* * * * * * * * * * * *

So be it: I accept the "burden of proof" which you put upon me. I will now proceed to lay before you and the public the essential evidence on which the Referee made his Report and the Court its decree. In turn, I am constrained to say that I think *your* best friends will hold *you* bound in honor either to prove this evidence false, or else to confess its conclusiveness publicly, cease your defence of a now proven rogue, and indignantly repudiate all further connection with him.

The fact that A. L. Rawson is Secretary of the National Liberal League, and also Secretary of the "National Liberal Party" which was organized at Cincinnati, Sept. 13 and 14, with the avowed intention of acting as an independent party in the Presidential campaign of 1880, renders his record a matter of public concern, in view of the inevitable scrutiny to which it will be subjected by political journals of all parties. It is above all important to the

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liberals, if they desire to be represented by men who can pass unscathed through that merciless ordeal, and not to see the liberal flag trailed in the dust. I am opposed to any such political movement next year, but still more opposed to the folly of upholding such representatives as Rawson this year.

The decree of the Supreme Court of New York, held at Syracuse, May 31, 1864, Hon. W. J. Bacon being the presiding judge, was as follows (we republish it from THE INDEX of October 2, in order to correct a slight clerical error of the copyist, the copy of which we now make use being certified by Mr. Thos. H. Scott, Clerk of the Court):

THE DECREE OF THE COURT.

MARY D. RAWSON *vs.* ALBERT L. RAWSON. } SEDGWICK, ANDREWS & KENNEDY (*Attys*). June 1, 1864.

The cause having been brought on to a hearing, upon the complaint filed herein taken as confessed, and the report of Levi W. Hall, the referee herein at a special term of this court held at the Court House in Syracuse, the 31st day of May, 1864, whereupon said Court made and filed its decision whereby judgment was ordered for the plaintiff, declaring the marriage between her and the said defendant void, on the ground that the said defendant at the time of said marriage between him and the said plaintiff had a wife then living, and also on the ground that said marriage between the plaintiff, Mary D. Rawson, and the defendant, Albert L. Rawson, was procured to be solemnized by the fraud of the said defendant, and also that the said marriage between the plaintiff and defendant was entered into by the said plaintiff in good faith, and in the belief on her part that the first wife of the said defendant was dead:

Now, on motion of Sedgwick, Andrews, and Kennedy, Attys. for said plaintiff, it is adjudged and decreed, and the Court, by virtue of the power and authority therein vested, and pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided, doth adjudge that the marriage between the said plaintiff, Mary D. Rawson, and the said defendant, Albert L. Rawson, is null and void, and that the same be dissolved on the ground that at the time of said marriage the said defendant had a wife by a former marriage then living, and from whom he had not been in any manner divorced, and also on the ground that said marriage between said plaintiff and defendant was induced by the fraud of the said defendant, etc. [In the closing portion of the decree, the two children born from this marriage of A. L. Rawson and Mary D. Rawson are adjudged to the custody of the plaintiff.]

In THE INDEX of Oct. 16 we promptly published the "Card" of A. L. Rawson, with such comments as were proper in our ignorance of the detailed evidence on which the decree was based. We now republish it here, that he may have the full benefit of it (if there is any benefit in it), and that the public may compare it with the testimony laid before the Court.

A. L. RAWSON'S DEFENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ——:

SIR,—Mr. Abbot, editor of THE INDEX, of Boston, gives space, in the issue of Oct. 2, to a part of the decree of divorce of my wife from me in Syracuse, N. Y., in 1864. He evidently does not know the whole story, for he gives less

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than half. I will tell the rest. I was then made the victim of religious bigotry, intolerance, and hate, and my wife and children taken from me by those who persuaded her that I was totally unfit to be the protector and teacher of her children, because I was "an infidel," and "going rapidly down the road to hell." She and her family were members of the Episcopal Church (Rev. Mr. Hill, High Church). She was influenced to and did bring a suit for separation against me on a totally false charge, which I denied by proper answer. Thus the suit hung for several months over my head, the newspapers being employed meanwhile to "write me up," so as to make public opinion against me on the charge of having cruelly treated my wife. Having too many friends, and living, as I always do, without concealment, that charge was known to be false and had to be abandoned. But by it, the work of alienation had been effected. Finding there was no hope of a reconciliation, on the advice of my counsel and of friends who had known me from childhood, I agreed to withdraw my defence and allow my wife to get an absolute divorce. Even then no divorce could have been obtained, for want of facts; for there was no adultery nor cruelty. In order to get the divorce, the friends of my wife had an amended complaint filed to the effect that I had a wife living when married. To this complaint, in order to enable my wife to get the decree she desired, I never put in an answer, and so let the matter go by default, or be "taken as confessed," as the law-term is. I never by word or deed said or confessed that there was any truth in that charge. In fact, there was not a single word of truth in it. It was simply a fraud out of whole cloth.

I had not been married before. Somebody, probably, committed a perjury, and a fraud was perpetrated on the court; for a decree of divorce was obtained and published. After that, I continued to live there for months. Everybody who knew me or my wife knew that the charge was false. Then was the time to test the matter. If I had been in fact the bigamist charged, then would have been the time to have arrested and sent me to prison. If I was the bigamist Mr. Abbot seems to think I was, it is because the fraud on the court in Syracuse really did not undo the marriage with that wife. That question is one I leave for Mr. Abbot and his church party to settle.

I cannot see how my private affairs affect the principles of the platform of the National Liberal League. The League in re-electing me as its Secretary did not endorse my private opinions, nor my past conduct, nor anything beside my official record. If Mr. Abbot has anything to say about my official conduct as Secretary of the League, I will cheerfully answer any charges that may be brought against me.

The motives of a "Liberal" (?) who digs up an old record of this kind and publishes it without first asking if there is no explanation, I leave for the reader to appreciate.

A. L. RAWSON.

From the officially certified copy of the Judgment Roll now on file in the Clerk's Office at Syracuse, we proceed to condense the essential evidence on which the Court made its decision, omitting the legal forms and repetitions and some collateral statements which are superfluous here.

### THE PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT.

The complaint of Mrs. Mary D. Rawson, a copy of which was personally delivered to A. L. Rawson by Deputy Sheriff E. Hurd on Feb. 11, 1864, and to answer which the usual twenty days were granted him, states that she was married to the defendant on June 30, 1860, at Syracuse; that she separated from him about Oct. 5, 1863; that she is informed and believes that at the time of said marriage he was a married man and had a wife then living in

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Massachusetts or some other of the New England States; that she is informed and believes that this previous wife is named Sarah J. Rawson and is still living, and that A. L. Rawson was never divorced from her; that a child named Arthur Rawson was born of this first marriage, and is still living. The complaint further states that the plaintiff, Mary D. Rawson, at the time of her own marriage with A. L. Rawson, had no knowledge of this previous marriage; that she has not lived with him since she learned of it; and that she married him in good faith and in ignorance of any impediment to the union.

The complaint states that, prior to this second marriage, "the said defendant represented himself to the plaintiff as a man of good moral character and respectability"; that she was induced to marry him by reason of her faith in these representations; that she now believes that he had previously been arrested and indicted for larceny, had pleaded guilty, had been sentenced to the New Jersey State Prison, and had served out his sentence, or nearly so; that this conviction and sentence were had in New Jersey on or about Sept. 18, 1851; that she is informed and believes that "the character of the said defendant after his discharge from the State Prison aforesaid was very bad in a moral point of view"; that from 1853 to 1858 he lived in the vicinity of Boston; that he had concealed from her these facts (and some similar ones which we forbear to state, since they are not covered by the testimony taken), and thereby had induced her to marry him; and that, "had she known or had information of the previous criminal acts and moral depravity of the said defendant, she would not have entered into said marriage." Wherefore she demands judgment that the said marriage be declared null and void on the ground of the previous marriage and of the defendant's fraud in her own marriage, and that her own children be entitled to the legal advantages of legitimacy and given to her own custody at all times.

THE DEFENDANT'S SILENCE.

MARY D. RAWSON, *agt.* ALBERT L. RAWSON.

It appearing by affidavit of Charles Andrews, one of the attorneys for the plaintiff, that this action is for an absolute divorce, and that more than twenty days has expired since the service of the summons and complaint herein, and that there is no appearance, and no answer or demurrer on the part of the defendant herein, it is, on motion of Sedgwick, Andrews & Kennedy for the plaintiff herein, ordered that it be referred to Levi W. Hall, Esq., to take the proof of the material facts stated in the complaint, and report the same and the evidence to the Court.

Copy.

E. S. PAYNE, *Clerk*

THE REFEREE'S REPORT.

On May 31, 1864, Levi W. Hall, Esq., the Referee, reports that he has taken proof of all the material facts in the case and submits them to the court as part of his report, and adds:

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And I do further certify and report, as required by said order, that in my opinion all the material facts charged in the complainant's bill in this cause are proven and true, and that the said defendant has been guilty of the several frauds charged in the said [*sic*] bill of complaint. All of which is respectfully submitted.

L. W. HALL, *Referee.*

Dated May 31st, 1864.

THE PROOFS OF RAWSON'S BIGAMY.

Appended to the Referee's report were several sworn depositions. The first three of these were depositions by the mother and two sisters of the plaintiff, whose names we leave unmentioned in order to spare these injured and unfortunate ladies all unnecessary publicity.

The plaintiff's mother testified that her first acquaintance with A. L. Rawson was in the summer or autumn of 1859; that his attentions to her daughter continued from that time until their marriage on June 30, 1860; that she "had never heard that he, the defendant, had been convicted of felony," until the first (Monday?) of October, 1863. She further deposed:

During the period of his addresses to my daughter he represented himself as a man of good moral character. During the time of his addresses to my daughter and previous to his marriage and up to that time from the first, he represented himself as a single man and a widower. He said he had had a wife who was dead; that her maiden name was Sarah Lord. He said he had one child by said marriage, a son who was living with his grandparents on the mother's side. I had no knowledge that the Sarah Lord whom he called his wife was living at the time of the marriage of my daughter with the defendant. . . .

An elder sister of the plaintiff deposed that she first became acquainted with A. L. Rawson in the fall of 1859, at her mother's house, and that she frequently met him there. She further deposed:

During this period he represented himself as a widower. He stated the maiden name of his former wife as Sarah Lord, a relative of Dr. Lord, of Buffalo. He made no other different representations up to the time of the marriage. . . . While defendant was paying his attentions to my sister, and before their marriage, he stated to me that his first wife was dead, and gave me the particulars of her death. Up to the time of the marriage of the plaintiff and defendant, I supposed the defendant to be a widower and first wife to be dead. Prior to the separation of the plaintiff and defendant, I had no information that the defendant was a convicted felon. He passed himself off always up to the time of his marriage as a man of the highest moral character, and claimed to be a religious man.

Another elder sister deposed to the same effect, as follows:

I frequently met Mr. Rawson at my mother's house during his attentions to my sister. He represented himself as a single man, a widower. He said the maiden name of his first wife was Sarah Lord. He stated to me the particulars of her death; that his wife died of consumption about three years previous to that time. He said he had a son living with the father and mother of his said wife at Medford, Mass.; that his name was Arthur Rawson. I knew of the time of the separation of the plaintiff and defendant. She has resided in her mother's house ever since. During the time of my acquaintance with defendant and up to the time of his marriage, he represented himself to

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be highly moral and upright in his character. I never heard during my acquaintance with defendant, and up to the time of his separation, that he had been convicted of felony, nor did I ever know that his first wife was living.

By virtue of a commission issued by the New York Supreme Court, depositions were taken as made at Cambridge, Massachusetts, May 9 and 11, 1864, by William H. Titcomb, of Cambridge, and James H. Lord, of Dorchester; and these depositions also were included by the Referee as part of his report.

William H. Titcomb deposed as follows, in answer to interrogatories which may be omitted:

I reside in Cambridge, Massachusetts. My age is forty years. My occupation is artist. I know the defendant, Albert L. Rawson. I have known him for about thirteen years. I do not know the plaintiff. I know Sarah J. Rawson. I first made her acquaintance about ten years ago in Cambridge. She was introduced to me by Albert L. Rawson as his wife. The said Albert L. Rawson and Sarah J. Rawson lived together as man and wife when I first made her acquaintance. They continued to live together in that relation for some four or five years. They had one male child. I do not know its name. He did not at any time rent a house of me. I did not at any time live in the same house with them. During the time of my acquaintance with the said Sarah J. and Albert L. Rawson, the said Albert L. Rawson did introduce the said Sarah J. Rawson into society as his wife, and she was received and treated as such by her neighbors and acquaintances. I do not know where she now resides. They removed from Cambridge to Medford, and resided at Medford the last that I knew of her residence. I first became acquainted with Albert L. Rawson about the year 1850. He was then a single man, boarding with a Mr. Beebee in Cambridge. In the fall of 1850 he went to Chelsea, and was married in the spring of 1851 to Sarah J. Rawson. Soon after that he went to the West, and returned to Cambridge about the year 1853. I am acquainted with the handwriting of Albert L. Rawson, and have seen him write. I have examined the several schedules annexed and the commissions herein, marked respectively schedule "A," "B," "C," "D," "E," and "F," and I think them all to be in the handwriting of Albert L. Rawson.

WM. H. TITCOMB.

Examination taken, reduced to writing, subscribed by the witness, and sworn to by him, this 9th day of May, 1864.

JOHN A. GOODWIN, *Commissioner.*

James H. Lord deposed as follows, in answer to similar interrogatories not necessary to be published:

I now reside in Dorchester. I am aged thirty-two. I am conductor on a city railway in Boston and Dorchester. I am the brother of Sarah J. Rawson. I understand that she resides in Lawrence, in Massachusetts. I last saw her in September, 1863. I know Albert L. Rawson. I have known him about thirteen years. The said Albert L. Rawson and Sarah J. Rawson did live together as man and wife. They so commenced to live together about the month of May, 1851, at my father's house in South Reading, Massachusetts. My sister Sarah J. was previously residing at Chelsea; they came to my father's house, and passed as man and wife, and were received in the family and treated as man and wife. They resided in my father's family in this manner for about three months, and left and went to New York. They returned from New York, and commenced keeping house in Medford, where they remained two or three years. I last saw Albert L. Rawson at Medford



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about 1857. During all this period he always treated Sarah J. Rawson as his wife, and she was received and recognized by our family and their neighbors as his wife. The said Albert L. and Sarah J. Rawson lived together in my father's family and at Medford, and I understand at Cambridgeport. I visited them at Medford. I have no recollection of ever hearing Albert L. Rawson say he was married to Sarah J. Rawson. There was one male child born to the said Sarah J. and Albert L. Rawson, I think in Rochester, New York; he now lives in Lawrence with his mother. His name is Arthur Rawson. I am familiar with the handwriting of Albert L. Rawson. I have examined schedule "C" annexed to the commission herein, and have no doubt it is the handwriting of said Albert L. Rawson. Sarah J. Rawson, a few days before she and Albert L. Rawson came to my father's house to live, told me that they were married. This was about April or May, 1851.

J. H. LORD.

Examination taken, reduced to wriring, subscribed by the witness, and sworn to by him this eleventh day of May, 1864.

JOHN A. GOODWIN, *Commissioner.*

The schedules referred to included two original letters written by Albert L. Rawson,—one dated "Pittsford, Vt., June 2d, 1856," beginning "Dear Sarah," and addressed at the close to "Sarah Jane Rawson,"—the other dated "New York, April 2d, 1857," beginning "Dear Sarah," and addressed at the close to "S. J. Rawson, Medford." Can any reasonable being believe that A. L. Rawson had not another wife, still living and not divorced, when he married Mary D. Rawson at Syracuse, June 30, 1860?

### PROOFS OF RAWSON'S LARCENY.

The Referee, after the depositions of the mother and two sisters of the plaintiff, states in his report:

Plaintiff here puts in evidence an exemplified copy of a Record of Conviction of Albert L. Rawson for a felony, as follows: "At a Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Delivery, held at Hudson City in and for the County of Hudson, State of New Jersey, on the 15th day of Sept., 1851," which is hereto annexed and marked Schedule A. The plaintiff also reads in evidence the deposition of William Titcomb and James H. Lord, taken under and by virtue of a commission issued in this case out of the Supreme Court, by John A. Goodwin, Commissioner, which said Commission and depositions are hereto annexed and marked schedule B. All of which is respectfully submitted.

L. W. HALL, *Referee.*

The substance of "Schedule B" has been already given above. "Schedule A" is as follows:—

THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:—

Know ye that we, having searched the records of our Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery, holden at Hudson City in and for the County of Hudson in the State of New Jersey, do find a record in the words and figures following, to wit:

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COURT OF OYER AND TERMINER AND GENERAL GAOL DELIVERY,
Monday, September 15, 1851.

The Court met at ten o'clock, pursuant to adjournment. Present—

THE HON. HENRY W. GREEN, *Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey.*
CORNELIUS VAN WINKLE, JOHN GRIFFITH, STEPHEN GAUSTRON, and GEORGE THOMAS, *Judges of the Common Pleas and Justices of this Court.*

THE STATE *agt.* ALBERT RAWSON. *Indict for Larceny.*

The defendant's appearance to this indictment is entered by order of the Court, he the defendant being at the bar. The Court further order that he be charged on the Indct. and plead thereto. Therefore, being charged, he pleaded GUILTY, and was remanded for sentence.

September 18th, 1851.

Present—THE HON. HENRY W. GREEN, *Ch. Jus.*
CORNELIUS VAN WINKLE, STEPHEN GAUSTRON, JOHN GRIFFITH, *Judges of the Common Pleas.*

The Court order that all the defendants Tried and found Guilty, and also those who pleaded Guilty, be now set to the bar to receive sentence.

The following named persons were then put to the bar and were sentenced by the Court as follows, viz. :—

Albert Rawson, Indicted for Larceny.
Plea, Guilty.

*Sentence.*—One Year to the State Prison at hard labor, and to pay the costs of prosecution.

All which we have caused to be exemplified under the seal of said Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery.

In witness whereof we have caused these presents to be signed by Robert Gilchrist, Clerk of said Court, and the seal of said Court to be hereto affixed, this ninth day of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

L. S.

N. GILCHRIST, *Clk.*

Here follow documents of some length attesting the genuineness of the above copy of record, signed by B. Dayton Ogden, Presiding Judge of the Court of Oyer and Terminer, and Whitfield S. Johnson, Secretary of State of the State of New Jersey. There is no occasion to occupy our space with these merely formal matters.

In the light of the above crushing and annihilating evidence, read over again the tissue of falsehoods put forth by this precious "victim of religious bigotry, intolerance and hate," and judge for yourself whether it can be successfully palmed off upon the public as the truth. Judge for yourself whether any organization or party which tolerates in office such men as Bennett and Rawson, or any man who, in face of the revelations made in this number of THE INDEX, dares to lisp one syllable in their defence, can stand for an

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instant against the torrent of public wrath. If there is any lightning left in the conscience of mankind, it will flash forth now with consuming fires.

If the great liberal body, organized and unorganized, is already too far corrupted by the poison of free-love to care for these revelations,—if it feels no burning, immediate necessity of speech and action in defence of its own purity and good name,—if it lazily or stupidly consents any longer to be represented by the Bennetts and the Rawsons who have thrust themselves forward before the world as our saints and "martyrs" and "victims of religious bigotry,"—then its damnation is coming swiftly, and I care not how soon it comes.

You have expressed your disapproval of the division of the National Liberal League at Syracuse last year. It was time to divide. It was time to know whether self-respecting liberals would consent to serve under such leaders as A. L. Rawson, D. M. Bennett, and the others, no better than they, who plotted with them to capture the organization and prostitute it to the cause of free-love and total repeal of the postal laws against obscene literature. You were not present; I was, and know what I am saying.

Of all men, you can have least sympathy with such characters as Rawson and Bennett are now proved to have. You have spent a long and faithful life in battling with iniquity; and now that the veil of concealment has been withdrawn, you must be filled with indignation at the hideous hypocrisy. Surely the scales must now fall from your eyes. When you remember that these men have found their most potent means to deceive the simple and misguide the careless in your consent to stand officially at their head, it will need no hint of mine to convince you that, unless you can overthrow this mountain of proof, your only effective protest against their guilt must be *resignation of the Presidency of the National Liberal League.* If you continue to stand as the official head of such men, it will be useless to disclaim their deeds. No man can lift them up; they can and will drag any man down who hesitates to cut loose from them. But this you know as well as I: forgive me if, through you, I make appeal to all who honor and trust you as does

Your friend,

FRANCIS E. ABBOT.

Notwithstanding this manly, urgent appeal, Mr. Wright still is the Chieftain and President, and Rawson Secretary. Phew! what a mess!

Rawson, the sweet-scented representative of this National party, expended their money, as President of the National Defence Association (Bennett seems to have received much of it, as he did the publishing), in issuing tracts containing most infamous libels against the officers of our Society, the laws, and particularly myself. He amused us, by coming to our annual meetings, and giving out these tracts at the door as the audience was

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passing out, after our meetings. Thousands of them were also distributed free about the streets.

In the mean time, this man Bennett had been brought before his Honor Charles L. Benedict, Judge of U. S. Circuit Court, New York, and after a full and fair trial before a Jury of his own choice [as he did not exhaust all his peremptory challenges, so there was no excuse for having any person on the panel whom he objected to], he was convicted.

A stay of sentence was had, and his case was taken before the full Bench, the highest U. S. Court for this district, where his counsel made elaborate arguments against the law point questions of obscenity, and rules of evidence as laid down by the Court, etc., after which this full Bench sustained the proceedings of this learned Judge, and Bennett was sentenced, to 13 months imprisonment at hard labor in Albany penitentiary.

This was more than he bargained for. His counsel and friends boasted they would have him pardoned in 10 days, and had him detained in Ludlow street jail for nearly or quite a month, so sure were they of accomplishing this, to them, much desired end. The glory of the martyr seemed to fade, and the lustre dim as the prison door and garb drew near. Again, "Man proposed but God disposed."

Hearing the boast, I was forewarned, and forearmed. I went immediately to Washington and saw the President. I found him, as he is, a thoroughly upright man, and a most conscientious and faithful President, but, with many of the specious arguments and popular prejudices against our work before his mind. One thing impressed me, that he desired to know *facts:* and then, whatever was right and consistent he would do at all hazards. He sent for the pardon clerk, ex-Judge Gray, who, when asked if a petition for Bennett's pardon had been received, reluctantly admitted that "he believed some paper had been informally sent to the Attorney General's office to that effect."

The secret was this: the Massachusetts free-lover had been pardoned. The President told me, that it was represented to him that he had sent but one book, and that he had been induced to

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send this by my letter, and on that showing he had been pardoned. In this connection let me say I am simply recording facts.

I then informed the President, that this man, at the time of his arrest, was making a business of sending his vile books through the mails, of advertising for "boy and girl agents," and boasted of being on his twentieth edition; I also informed him that I had sent a full report in affidavit form, to the President through the Post Office Department, backed by a protest signed by our officers and some of the best men in the country. Judge Gray, denied that Heywood ever so advertised, and I took one of the books which I then had with me, and read the advertisement calling for "boy and girl agents" which appeared on every book, as well as his other advertisements.

Heywood had been arrested because he was making a business of sending obscene books through the mails, and especially, because he made unusual efforts to send the same to children and youth.

He was pardoned because facts were suppressed. This was not by the Post Office Department, for the papers were placed in Judge Gray's hands. I do not say he suppressed them, or even insinuate that he did. I have the President's word for it, however, that he never had seen our protest up to the time of my first interview.

I firmly believe Heywood never would have been pardoned, if the facts had not been suppressed and the President thereby deceived.

Upon the release of their Chief Free-lover, or more properly free-luster, what did the Liberals do? How did they receive the man they helped release from the penalties of the law?

Let the following report of the Paine Hall reception declare.

January 2d, 1879, in Paine Hall, Boston, the Free-thinkers, Free-lovers, and Liberals extended a reception to ex-convict Heywood. We quote from one of the leading Liberal papers, as showing the gist and sense of that gathering, the following remarks and resolutions:

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Mr. Hull read the following resolutions, which were *applauded during the reading*, and *unanimously passed* afterwards:

*Resolved*, That with joy in our hearts and praise on our lips, we, as friends of freedom, welcome back to freedom a sufferer for freedom's sake, and that we meet here to-night not only to *congratulate a friend*, but to celebrate the vindication of a principle.

*Resolved*, That this principle—the freedom of the press—was struck down on Tuesday, the 25th day of last June, when E. H. Heywood was sentenced, by a judge of a United States court, to pay a heavy fine and endure a long imprisonment, for having taken the liberty to express his thoughts in print; that the fortitude with which he has suffered for the cause so near our hearts entitles him to our profoundest gratitude; and that we hail his release from prison, even at this late day, as an evidence that those in authority have not lost all regard for the rights of the people.

*Resolved*, That this release, highly valued as it is, in no wise lessens the necessity for a jealous guardianship of our liberties; that the pending prosecutions of D. M. Bennett, Josephine S. Tilton, W. S. Bell,* and George Mosher, show how bitterly and persistently bigotry will continue the battle; *and that we renew with increased earnestness the demand for the entire repeal of the infamous obscenity postal law of 1873, and the ignominious removal from office of the equally infamous informer, Anthony Comstock, who is intrusted with its enforcement.*

*Resolved*, That to the National Defense Association of New York, for its timely inauguration of the movement for Mr. Heywood's pardon, and for paying the expenses of the same; to its embassador, Mrs. Laura Kendrick, for her services in presenting the claims for pardon upon the authorities at Washington; to Attorney-General Devens, for recommending pardon to the President; to President Hayes himself, for signing the pardon; and to the many others who in various ways have aided the good work, we tender, one and all, our heartiest thanks.

As expressing the views of another Liberal leader, we quote from a letter written by Parker Pillsbury, which was read at the above reception of this ex-convict dealer in filth:

CONCORD, N. H., Jan. 1st, 1879.

*Dear Friend*—I need no invitation to a meeting to welcome Ezra H. Heywood, with honor and thanksgiving, back to his family, his friends, and his work. In spirit, in sympathy, and in written utterance, I shall be with you on that occasion. The atrociously unjust arrest and imprisonment of our brave friend is but the beginning of a conflict for liberty of speech, press, and locomotion, mail transportation, right of suffrage, of conscience, and worship; indeed, of every civil, social, and religious right and privilege pretended to be constitutionally secured to every citizen. The statute under which that

* These all had been arrested at Watkins, N. Y., under the State laws, by the local authorities. I had nothing to do with it.

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outrage was perpetrated was designed to trample on every one of these sacred rights—every one of them. * * * * * * *
But this law was intended for no such purpose. It is a spawn of the Church, was instigated by the Church. It was intended as auxiliary to that daring conspiracy against civil and religious bigotry known as the "*God-in-the-Constitution Society.*" * * * *Talk of amending such a law as this!*
* * * * * * * * * * *
Rather tear it from the statute book it so disgraces, and let it be burned by the common hangman at the front of every court-house in the United States! And let all the people say Amen! * * * * * * *
And now, wishing our friend Heywood and his household a long, prosperous, and happy life, with just as much peace and persecution, joy, sorrow, and suffering, as inevitably attend a true, noble, and heroic warfare in the cause of man, woman, and child, I subscribe, dear friend, faithfully and fervently, yours and his, to the end that can never come. PARKER PILLSBURY.

"*The letter was loudly and earnestly applauded.*"

I tell you, reader, "blood will tell," "birds of a feather will flock together." "A man is known by the company he keeps."

Do the infidel and smut dealer occupy the same bed?

Do the Liberals sympathize with the venders of this cursed business of obscene publications?

Do they espouse this cause?

The Syracuse Convention and Bennett's conviction and sentence are things of the past.

Let this one thing not be forgotten. *The Liberals in* 1876–77 *had taken up, defended, and assisted the vilest men in this most hellish traffic.* They published some forty cases by name in Bennett's paper, and again in the books they disseminated.

What was in the then living present for the Liberals to do, in order to manifest their lively interest, and demonstrate to the world that they were true to their cause? Had not they entered into bonds in Syracuse, "till death do them part?" Certainly!

What then?

Release Bennett by all means. How? By "liberal" lies. By gross misrepresentations. By distortion of facts, and perversion of everything that stood for morality and decency.

The following petition was circulated among and by the Liberals for signatures. It is reported that 200,000 names were thus secured. Who secured these names? Liberals. How? Read

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the following, which was telegraphed from the Pacific coast as an item of news:

[N. Y. Tribune, July 23, 1879.]

SAN FRANCISCO, July 22.—The petition of Deboigne M. Bennett, convicted of sending obscene matter through the mails, ostensibly signed by 130,000 persons, is believed to be fraudulent as far as San Francisco is concerned. Nothing is known of such a petition having been circulated here. *The Bulletin* intimates that the petitioners utilized the City Directory.

PETITION.

*To His Excellency, Rutherford B. Hayes, President of the United States:*

*Sir*—We, the undersigned citizens of the United States, regard the conviction and sentence of D. M. Bennett, editor of the ——— ———, (for sending by mail the pamphlet called "——— ———" in the regular course of his book business to a decoy name used by Anthony Comstock,) as a grievous wrong upon him committed under the forms of law, and as an outrage against the freedom of the press and the constitutional right and privilege of every citizen.

We, therefore, respectfully petition that a pardon may be issued to him without delay. And as good citizens we will ever pray, &c., &c., &c., &c.

But what else?

The National Liberal League held another convention, the first annual celebration of the nuptials with filth, called by their president, Elizur Wright, and A. L. Rawson, secretary. This was accompanied, as published in their papers, by a card of invitation, signed by their chosen leaders.

The "call" said:

The question debated at the Syracuse session in 1878 and laid over for a year for further consideration, concerning the Comstock Postal Law of 1873, as to what action, if any, the National Liberal League should take in the matter, will come up in due order.

The card, as printed in the same paper, signed by ROBERT G. INGERSOLL, JAMES PARTON, PARKER PILLSBURY, was headed—

A CONVENTION FOR A FREE PEOPLE TO MAKE A FREE LAND.

FREE THOUGHT, FREE SPEECH, FREE BALLOT, AND FREE MAILS MUST BE SECURED BY A SECULAR REPUBLIC EMANCIPATED FROM CHURCH DOMINATION.

The Convention met in Cincinnati, September 13 and 14, 1879.

The opening address was a speech by Elizur Wright: and lest he shall deny having defended this smut-dealer-convict, whom he

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came from Boston to New York to support by his presence during his trial, let me produce what he said as printed by the Cincinnati Commercial:

"And yet to please this powerful religious persecutor, an obsequious Grand Jury, at the dictation of a zealous assistant District Attorney (well named Fiero), had declared the book 'so lewd, obscene and lascivious that the same would be offensive to the court and improper to be placed upon the records thereof.'* Thus the constituted authorities of the United States stand aside with averted eyes and allow a nineteenth century Star Chamber to usurp their sacred functions, and to do it under a veil of hypocrisy thinner than a cobweb. And when the Administration, waked up by the protest of a hundred thousand indignant citizens, is ashamed of this conviction of an innocent man on judicial rulings that would make half our literature, including the 'Holy Book' itself, unmailable, there comes upon it an avalanche of high ecclesiastical influence, and it backs down with the silly plea that to release Bennett would reflect on the Court."

Just here I call especial attention to the action of the courts on this particular book.

*Every court that it had been before had declared it obscene.*

The U. S. District Court in Boston had, as has already been shown, and the Circuit Court there, with full Bench, had maintained its rulings. The State court of Massachusetts had declared it obscene, and sentenced a vender of it to one year in Dedham jail.

The Grand Jury of Schuyler County, N. Y., at Watkins, had unanimously indicted this very Liberal-pet-martyr. He had also been indicted by the Grand Jury and convicted by the petit jury of the U. S. Circuit Court in New York, and the findings of this court, where the same questions were involved, were taken before the full bench of the U. S. Circuit Court here, and this high court *unanimously sustained the lower court.*

* The body thus so contemptuously referred to by this President of obscenity defenders was composed of twenty-four men, and in order to find a bill, sixteen of them must agree. We have it then that sixteen good men and true upon their oaths, say that this book was "so obscene" as not to be proper to be spread upon the records of the Court. How about spreading it before the community and placing it in the hands of the young? The Liberals say yes. *All decent people thunder no!*

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There can be no question but that the findings of these courts were correct, and therefore the duty of law-abiding citizens is to submit and obey. Neither can it be questioned that *the book was grossly obscene and demoralizing.*

In view of these facts, the action of this Convention will be read with interest.

The same paper reports further, as follows: "A speech from the hero of the occasion, Col. R. G. Ingersoll, was the leading feature of the session (the afternoon session of the first day)."

Col. Ingersoll said:

We have become what we are in spite of the Gods of the Bible and the affairs of Christendom; that we have an Infidel Government, and he gloried in it;

and several variations of this idea.

The speech elicited immense applause, and storms of approval greeted the slightest appearance or word of Col. Ingersoll.

Again Col. Ingersoll said:

The postal laws of the United States were an engine of oppression; * * * that he wanted to live in no relation to a God he held in contempt.

The same paper further reports:

The President of the Convention, Elizur Wright, spoke of the Bennett affair, and asserted that "Congress had no right to make that law regulating the dissemination of obscene literature."

THE SECOND DAY,

the first hour was to re-elect the infamous Rawson by a unanimous vote as their Secretary. Proof of this is the record of one of their own papers, which I do not choose to advertise by mentioning, which says:

The officers of last year were elected unanimously.

After a speech by Mr. Wright, the same paper says:

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY.

The following resolution was offered by COL. INGERSOLL:

*Resolved*, That we express the deepest sympathy with D. M. Bennett and his family, for the reason that he has been convicted by religious bigotry and

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ignorant zeal, and has been imprisoned, and is now languishing in the cell of a felon, when, in truth and in fact, he has committed no offence whatever against any law of this country.

The resolution was received with the utmost applause, and the audience broke into three enthusiastic cheers for "President" Ingersoll.

Query. Of what is Mr. Ingersoll "President"? Do the Liberals propose the name of Ingersoll as a future President of the United States?

But this was not all that was done, at this Convention, to show the tendency of their sympathies, and mark their efforts against moral purity. A National Liberal party had been called by the card above referred to.

THE LIBERAL PARTY CONVENTION.

The Delegates of the League and members of the audience assembled, without leaving their seats, immediately on adjournment of the League resolved themselves into a Liberal Party Convention.

As soon as the National Liberal League Congress had adjourned, the Secretary of the League, Mr. Rawson, called the assembly to order, in pursuance to the call for "A Convention for a Free People in a Free Land," issued by R. G. Ingersoll and others.

So says another Infidel paper.

The ex-convict thief and bigamist was elected Secretary.

Of this last Convention says the "Vineland Independent":

A new party, called the National Liberal, was born recently at Cincinnati, Col. Ingersoll and other radicals being the responsible authors of its existence. The party was organized principally because of the refusal of President Hayes to pardon D. M. Bennett, now imprisoned in the New York penitentiary for circulating "obscene" literature through the mails. Mr. Ingersoll was very much incensed because of this refusal to pardon Bennett, and, it is said, he swore vengeance on the administration for the refusal to heed the petition of the radical multitude.

The following report of this Committee on Resolutions, of which Robert G. Ingersoll was Chairman, was adopted first by the "League Congress" and afterwards by the "Liberal Party Convention":

*Resolved*, That we are in favor of such laws as will allow the free transportation through the mails of the United States of all books, pamphlets, and papers, irrespective of the religious, irreligious, political, and scientific views

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they may contain, so that the literature of science may be placed upon an equality with that of superstition.

Of this first resolution by Ingersoll, Rev. Joseph Cook, in one of his brave and masterly efforts against Infidelity, has likened this, to a letter formerly brought in a perfumed handkerchief to the Queen of Spain by a messenger. The silken scarf was loosely arranged about the letter, and behind it the assassin concealed his stiletto, which he drew as he took the letter out to present to the Queen. He said:

So Infidelity seeks, under universal suffrage, to use the sacredness of the mails as a stiletto-sheath, through which to destroy the youth of the land.

Mr. Cook has clearly grasped the essence and purport of this effort at concealment and deception.

*Resolved*, That we are utterly opposed to the dissemination through the mails, or by any other means, of obscene literature, whether "inspired" or "uninspired," and hold in measureless contempt its authors and disseminators.

*Resolved*, That we call upon the Christian world to expunge from the so-called sacred Bible every passage that cannot be read without covering the cheek of modesty with the blush of shame; and until such passages are expunged, we demand that the laws against the dissemination of obscene literature be impartially enforced.

It must be borne in mind, that the published utterances of the Liberals are no index for their acts. As proof, take the covert resolutions passed at Philadelphia, and then the monstrous conspiracy that followed.

The last plank of the platform of this Liberal party, as adopted, says:

4. The reform by which woman shall be politically and practically emancipated, and be given the control of herself and her destiny. * * * * *

9. That good morals and habits can be better fostered by education, persuasion, industry, and healthy amusements, than by force and governmental interference. In this view we favor the repeal of all Sabbath, sumptuary, and temperance laws, and demand that every phase of government and State education should be secular in spirit and practice, and emancipated from all ecclesiastical or clerical control and influence. That to this end this Convention adopt in substance the platform and principles of the National Liberal League.

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Speaking of the Book and the action of this League, The Cincinnati Commercial says:

If society were based upon the principles taught in Bennett's book, which the Liberals are so anxious to have placed on a par with the Bible, there would be a good-sized hell in every household and a very big hell in the community. This is a point Col. Ingersoll has probably overlooked in his fury about an Orthodox hell.

Again, it says:

The Liberal League, as we predicted on Saturday, has shown itself largely a Bennett aid league. It plants itself on the platform of unrestricted dissemination of obscene publications. Col. Ingersoll, who is so virtuously and violently indignant against all who charge him with favoring the obscene, proposed a resolution yesterday fully endorsing Bennett, which was of course adopted. The doughty Colonel attempts to prove his consistency by affirming that Bennett was illegally convicted. The United States Court thought differently.

Who, and what was the character, of the man thus sympathized with, befriended, and supported by this Liberal Congress?

Was there a principle at stake, or was he their Apostle of Nastiness? Was he one of their kind?

I desire to answer these questions with all sincerity, as its answer must have weight in the consideration of all decent men. Did this gathering of Free-Thinkers, Free-Lovers and Liberals have a clean brother to defend? Was their enthusiasm born of high-tone sentiment, or was it the foul, loud-mouth ravings of a horde of base men?

What did they defend?

Let it be remembered that this was a representative body, made up of delegates from other Leagues from all parts of the country. The leading and representative men were present. They represented a constituency of nearly 170 Leagues, and they defended,

First. A convicted vender of obscene books.

Second. A base crime committed by a still baser man.

This creature of their "own heart" had been for years publishing the most infamous and blasphemous articles, many of them in tract form. No man in this country had in a single instance, so far as I have been able to discover, presumed or dared to pub-

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lish the awful utterances of this man. He had mingled blasphemy and obscenity, associating the same with most sacred things. Aye! more! He had not only printed, but gloried in these base things. *If any one doubts this, I am ready, documents in hand, to prove and verify what I say.*

But as to his true character, further than this, I leave others to tell the story.

I leave it now for the reader to say whether, adding what is to follow to what has already been established, if, in all Christendom, a more despicable character can be found, or a better representative of that ranting mob, than this scoundrel Bennett!

The facts in the following story are fully established by letters, and, since the exposure, this man has openly admitted the authenticity of these letters.

I feel pained that in order to bring out the truth, and establish the true character of this liberal-obscenity-martyr, it becomes necessary to defile these pages with the following authenticated account of him. But this is the man whom the *Liberals support and defend*, the *infidels sympathize with*, and he is the *special pet of Ingersoll*. The Liberals combined to secure a pardon for him; the Cincinnati Convention of the National Liberal League endorsed and sympathized with him; while Ingersoll's New-Obscene-Liberal-Party sent back the echo by passing the same resolutions. And all combined to extend a public reception to this ex-convict-obscenity-vender on his release from prison. As a matter of history it is important; and in the interest of truth alone, I present what otherwise I would gladly omit, and what we all must turn from with disgust.

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## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### INFIDELITY AND OBSCENITY.—ANOTHER IMPOSTOR UNEARTHED.

The Religio-Philosophical Journal, Sept. 25, 1878, says, in an article headed

ANOTHER IMPOSTOR UNEARTHED.

THE WOULD-BE MARTYR A FOUL-MOUTHED LIBERTINE.
D. M. BENNETT, THE APOSTLE OF NASTINESS.

PROFESSING DEVOTION TO HIS WIFE, HE TEACHES FREE-LOVE.

*The true inwardness of a filthy concern, never before published, and now exposed only in the interest of truth and decency, by a special agent of the Religio-Philosophical Journal.*

The facts are, that while Bennett was laying claim to his right to be considered a public teacher of better morals than the Christian religion afforded, he was endeavoring, with a beastly persistence, to obtain control of the person of a young woman who had touched his fancy and who had been induced to accept a salaried situation in his office, evidently under the design, on his part, to obtain her consent to become his mistress.

But in spite of her repeated protestations against his course, she was made the object of attentions that assumed the character of a villainous persecution. He boldly proclaimed to her that his home and wife were distasteful to him, that his love there had long since died, and that she alone of women was the object of his undying love.

It only added to his unholy desires that she who refused to listen to him bore an unblemished reputation.

From a mass of letters written by Bennett to this young woman, abundant evidence may be obtained to prove that while he persecuted her under the vilest impulses of his lewd nature, he still knew her to be pure; and the testimony of friends who knew her before, during, and since her business association with him, is all strong in her commendation. But if it were not so, if she had been like himself, it would not in any way change the evidence against him, or lift the black cloud from his character.

Here followed a long list of letters too foul to reproduce here, which were vouched for as being verbatim copies; reference was also made to others that even that paper would not publish.

Then followed the following extracts:

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In one letter Bennett says: I have no reverence for the ceremony mouthed over by a priest, and because a man and woman join themselves together under a mistaken belief that they are fitted to each other, it does not follow that they are compelled to spend their days together. The ceremony makes no difference one way or the other.

After persecuting, insulting, threatening and seeking in most dastardly manner to coerce this pure young woman, and failing, he suddenly turns upon her like a jackal to rend her character in pieces. He goes cringing to her to get back his infamous letters, the evidences of his infamy. He fails.

* * * * * * * * *

He went in person and begged and whined and scolded, but got them not. He sent a lawyer, or one who pretended to be such, and he plead and threatened, but returned empty-handed. "Sam" (one of Bennett's pimps) forced himself unannounced into her room at night and begged, and when refused swore that he would take them. Two women were alone with an unprincipled desperado, Bennett's "heavy" artist, general plagiarist, and man of "many parts," who swore that he would have the letters by force, if they were refused. The room was dimly lighted by a lamp, and the woman was equal to the occasion. Seizing a broken water pipe faucet that lay on the mantel, she presented it at his head, boldly advancing upon him, and ordered him to leave the room or she would shoot him like a dog that he was. "Sam," seeing that the weapon had a large bore and must carry a terrible ball, saw nothing more, and with a bawl for mercy turned and fled. But the girl had been so harassed by Bennett's jackals that she left the city and sought refuge among friends in another State.

Bad men and bad women have been among his nearest friends and counsellors. He has been mixed up with a class of people calling themselves "Spiritualists" and "Materialists," who have stolen the names to hide their real practices, which have been those of free-lovers, prostitutes, and women who advertise as "mediums," to give "brain rest by magnetic treatment," etc. * * * * * When he found that this "little woman" had at last exposed him to some of his friends and held a weight of evidence that would pulverize him in the mortar of public opinion, and he could not by coaxing, crying, pleading, threatening, or theft, obtain possession of it, he showed himself to be a calculating villain through and through. He attempted to blacken and destroy the girl's character among those who had been her best friends and among whom she had been intimate all through her association with him. He wrote a letter in which he unmasked himself and laid bare his devotion to the work of improving the intellectual and moral condition of humanity in a language and with a design that can be found only among persons who have been secretly or openly blackguards for years. Such depravity is not possible on the spur of mere chagrin at the defeat of a darling project.

Remember that this letter was written and mailed by Bennett to this lady in care of the friends with whom she was living, unto whom she had fled for safety. He sent this letter open, *sealed and cut open at one end*, (and addressed



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in a disguised hand which any expert can detect as Bennett's) so that they, if so disposed—or so it seems—could read it before it reached her hands, and thereby so prejudice them against her that in their first shock of disgust they should turn her away from their doors. Once he had destroyed the girl's reputation among her friends, he would at the same time have destroyed credence in her story of his persecutions and diabolism. But his plan did not succeed. * * * * * * * *

To this young lady whom he has been besieging for many months he turns, with the suddenness of a weather-cock under the frowning blackness of a squally sky, and hisses his venom forth in *a vile and obscene letter* signed "Humpty Dumpty."

This letter is so low, vile and filthy, and so utterly shocking to all sense of decency and propriety, that it is unfit for publication in detail in this paper. It could be conceived and written only by a libertine of the lowest character and of the vilest propensities. It would not be possible for any person, not accustomed, both in thought and practice, to the lowest depths of lewdness to use the expressions with which this letter is filled.

The foregoing are the published evidences of this man's character. Various other papers have copied this same article from which the above extracts are taken.

Remember, Bennett has since openly acknowledged the authenticity of these letters.

With these facts before them, what do the liberals do? repudiate the wretch? No; they honor him with a public reception, on his release from jail, and thus fully endorse him and his acts. "Like father like child," holds good in this case. Any organization that could re-elect Rawson, can consistently fold this putrid moral monster to their bosoms.

Was Bennett pardoned? No, not even with the most extraordinary petition of 200,000 names. Why? We have a clean man for President. It needs no word of mine to sound his praise. But I say this, that a person of less character, less moral courage, would have been influenced by, not the petition simply, but the combined efforts of Liberals, aided by prominent men, congressmen, politicians, and others; men who, if they had known the facts, would have spurned this man and his friends; but being deceived, were found lending themselves to this cause.

There were counter petitions. Boston sent one of over 500 names of prominent and leading men. Norwich, Conn., under

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the leadership of (and originating with) Rev. Leonard W. Bacon, D.D., sent another. Clear Lake, Iowa, Sunday-School Convention, and Thousand Island Park Camp-Meeting, each sent their petitions of over 1,000 names each; and from different parts of the country came also these protests against the release of this prisoner; but these came after the great pressure had been felt and heroically resisted by one brave man (the President), who dared stand for the right in face of prejudice and a certain public sentiment that then existed in this convict's favor.

The Cincinnati Convention, then, had this poor blaspheming convict and would-be martyr and libertine, as the special object of its care and sympathy to rock in the cradle of obscenity. Faithfully they have performed their part!

Note what the more reputable seceders say. The Index, Nov. 20, 1879, says:

With the kind permission of Judge Hurlbut, we now publish the following extracts from a private letter received from him several weeks since:

"I would that I could never see, hear, or smell the "Liberal League" again. It has become an offensive corpse, and should be buried straightway. I cannot consent to any further connection with the name, though a hundred 'of Americas' were used to overcome the taint. . . . It is a pity that so fine a plan, so well begun, should have been overwhelmed in two days' dirty work at Syracuse; but the deed was done, and the victors have met their doom at Cincinnati, while Bennett is learning an honest trade in our penitentiary. . . . Ingersoll is a man of wonderful genius and unsurpassed eloquence, but far from being a politic leader; and he must by this time see that he made a great mistake in 'calling spirits from the *vasty* deep'—who were only too glad to come. So the Liberal League has been twice captured—once by the obscenists, and again by the mephitic subterranean or 'digger' radicals."

Says the same paper, in a subsequent letter Judge Hurlbut wrote:

"I consent to stand in the gutter of the 'Liberal League,' to be pelted with 'obscene' missiles, until time enough shall have elapsed to have a name adopted which shall remove us as far from the *same* of the Free-lovers and Communists as we are from their natures. No man has reputation enough to endure the weight of that millstone for an indefinite period."

Up to this time there were but eight Leagues known as non-

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repealers. What does this argue for infidelity? Only *eight* Leagues, out of nearly *two hundred*, for decency and moral purity! But this large majority pronounced for obscenity, and on the side against laws made to prevent its dissemination. Who would be a Liberal on such terms? Do you wonder that this venerable man, for more than half a century a "Liberal," spews them out of his mouth?

In the same paper from which the above letters are copied appears the following, from the pen of Mr. F. E. Abbot, of Boston. He says:

> How are the unconvinced and unpersuaded likely to regard Liberalism, as it now allows itself to be represented to the general public? . . . . The answer which will be given to that question *by the public at large* will determine the fortunes of the Liberal movement as a whole for many long years. What is that answer likely to be, when libertinism, shameless and proved, commands the open support of numerous "Liberal" organizations, journals, officials, lecturers, etc., and when the rest seems almost universally paralyzed by indifference, inappreciation, or fear? . . . ."

Now, let it be remembered that this convict was imprisoned for knowingly sending obscene books by mail; he had been fully exposed and justly repudiated by his former associates; and, with a full knowledge of these facts, this wretch is received with open arms by this fraternity, and extended a reception on his release from State prison, where he served his time.

And such a reception! such a crowd! such honors! every decent man would run from.

Perhaps it will be needless for me to say I was not there. I, therefore, offer as evidence on that subject the New York Times of May 3, 1880.

After announcing that Elizur Wright presided, and that Bennett had just been released from State prison, and that his appearance was warmly greeted, it says:

> There were on the stage, besides the president, Elizur Wright, and D. M. Bennett, and Heywood (ex-convict), the author of the pamphlet, a number of members of and sympathizers with an association called the Liberal League, and others, among them Stephen P. Andrews, Moses Hull, Amelia Colby, Mrs. D. M. Bennett, and Eugene McDonald. The meeting lasted for more than three hours, and during that time the speakers exhausted the deepest corners

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of the unabridged dictionary in throwing epithets at the Creator, the ministry, the Christian religion, and the Republican party.

In that brief time Chickering Hall made perhaps its first acquaintance with the indecent matter that is not sent through the mails, but comes out of men's mouths. Bennett, the hero of the evening, bore his honors modestly, and was comparatively moderate in his remarks, going no further than to boast of his infidelity; while Heywood, the author of the pamphlet called ————, said he was lately from Dedham jail, and proved his title to a full convict's suit by making as dirty a speech as ever a filthy-minded man was allowed to do before an audience of New York women.

Elizur Wright having been introduced, said: "We meet in the name of common sense and common humanity. We meet as friends of law, to protest against law perversion, and to express sympathy with a man, and to advocate free thought and free speech. . . . . Congress cannot abridge the freedom of the mails; this would murder freedom of thought, on which the happiness of the nation depends. Paper and ink have no moral character of their own, and can do no harm while in the hands of the Government, in the mails. Under what is known as the Comstock law, a man is in effect tried before an ecclesiastical court. It would be treachery to law itself not to stand by the victims of such injustice."

Did ever man stand before an audience and utter baser falsehood? Comment is needless! Yet the man that followed was more absurdly and senselessly false and infamous.

It then says:

Letters of regret were then read from Cortland Palmer, Charles Bradlaugh, and James Parton, and the quartet sang another song.

Thaddeus B. Wakeman was then introduced. "The danger," he said, "arises from Calvinism—an attempt of a few who imagine themselves elect to manage the morals of many. This is an effort to substitute Calvinism and an ecclesiastical vigilance committee in the place of the law. That would be an end of civil liberty.

"Comstock legislation is a confusion of the temporal and spiritual powers. It is the attempt of a few to control ordinary justice. We want to be responsible to proper tribunal, not to a church committee," etc. . . .

Mr. Bennett was then introduced, and three cheers and a bouquet were immediately given him. . . . . .

The following resolutions were then given.

I have read over these resolutions to shorten this, perhaps now, too long article; but they all seem important to the subject of this chapter, as showing the endorsement of this creature, and as the avowed sentiments of this organization, which lays such great claims to "liberty" and "freedom" of mails, thought, and speech.

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I call especial attention to the "third," to their "highest type of a true citizen."

These resolutions were received with cheers and unanimously adopted, Mr. Wright in the chair.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. *Resolved*, That in the assault upon D. M. Bennett the liberties of every citizen of the land have been assailed.

2. *Resolved*, That we do hereby protest against the corruption in office, the hypocrisy in the pulpit, and the dishonesty on the bench, which have combined to perpetrate this outrage upon Mr. Bennett.

3. *Resolved*, That in D. M. Bennett we recognize that highest and noblest type of a true citizen—a patriot; for, while the loyal obey, the patient endure, and tyrants execute bad laws, none but the patriot risks life and liberty to defy and break them. It was his defiance of unjust laws that made Washington a traitor to his King and Government and gave us liberty.

4. *Resolved*, That the principle of freedom is never so adequately and absolutely vindicated as when it is rigorously applied in a sense running counter to our own prejudices; as in a case, for example, where we do not sympathize with the act done, and where, even, we strenuously disapprove of it; but we intelligently and firmly stand for the equal rights of all others to judge for themselves, and for their civil right to do precisely that which we most vehemently disapprove and condemn—short of actual and obvious encroachment; that this idea of freedom for what we cannot approve, because we approve of freedom, is Americanism pure and simple, and the most difficult lesson which the devotees of arbitrary authority, ecclesiastical, political, or social, have ever to learn, but one which must be learned, and laboriously inculcated at all hazards

5. *Resolved*, That any other doctrine than this incurs the necessity, and entails the curse on our people of a censorship of the press; of an organized and perpetual body of Government spies, and of the whole machinery or religious, political, and social repression which we in the past have been happily rid of, and the reintroduction of which will be the rapid and complete subversion of the most advanced and benign system of institutions which the world has ever seen, and with the continuance of which the well-being of humanity is most closely united.

6. *Resolved*, That we deliberately denounce the Comstock legislation, as to its hidden and real animus, which is the suppression of free thought and the freedom of the press; and the rulings of Judge Benedict in the case of Bennett; and the refusal of President Hayes to interfere, as a legislative, a judicial, and administrative outrage, and that we pledge ourselves to continue to do whatsoever true men and true women may rightly do to reverse this whole current of procedure.

7. *Resolved*, That if it were not too melancholy and dangerous, it would be

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comically ludicrous to behold the gigantic machinery of the United States Government invoked to punish by 10 years' imprisonment, and $5,000 fine, some thoughtless or angry boy or man who has said a naughty word on paper, through the Post Office, to some one who, to protect himself, has only to decline to read what is sent him, or throw it into the waste-basket; and that this great country is now afflicted and disgraced, through the activity of a few over-zealous bigots, by a new edition of the Connecticut Blue-Laws, so ridiculous that the people almost refuse as yet to believe in their existence.

8. *Resolved*, That amending "God" into the Constitution openly urged, and the Comstock law secretly enacted, originate in one and the same source, and are parts of one and the same policy of the ecclesiastical party, namely, to re establish the union of Church and State, and to regain the priestly power so vigorously denounced by the fathers of the Revolution, and so determinedly rejected by the framers of the Constitution.

9. *Resolved*, That though, religiously, Anthony Comstock is the creature of the Church, politically he is the product of the Republican Party, and that his law is the work of a Republican Congress; and that as the "God-in-the-Constitution" proposition came within two votes of receiving a two-thirds majority of the Senate in a late Congress (1876), 28 votes, all Republican, being cast for it, and 16, all Democratic, against it, these measures and this action of the respective parties should be taken into careful consideration by every voting Liberal, and unless the party dismiss Comstock,

10. *Resolved*, That all other questions now agitated by the great political parties are not worth a moment's consideration in comparison with the new questions of human freedom lately and so suddenly sprung upon the people, and that all other questions should be adjourned till this one of freedom of the press and personal liberty be fought out over again, and finally settled so that it will stay settled.

Now, reader, have I proved each count in my indictment against this nest of reeking, ranting, blaspheming band of Liberal frauds?

Do infidelity and obscenity assimilate and form one perfect union?

Are they not well and truly wedded? *And there they must be, "till death doth them part."*

They will doubtless rant and howl, malign and curse me, and say "we are, and always have been opposed to obscenity." I for one know it is false, and it matters not what they say. I demand on this case, as clearly proven out of the mouths of unwilling and prejudiced witnesses, their former friends, the unanimous verdict of "Guilty on all the counts of the indictment" at the opening of this chapter; and I now move their just sentence

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from out the mouth of civilization, of banishment from civilized society, and forever barred from the communion of decent men, until they show signs of genuine repentance, and turning from their low, execrable, nasty, obscene and every way infamous views and living.

And it is further ordered that this sentence be executed at once by sending the whole mob up "Salt River," and but 30 seconds (instead of 30 days as in Bennett's case) will be allowed them to wait for a pardon.

The ravings of the Liberals against these laws are on a par with a fool who deliberately throws himself over a high precipice, and while in mid air howls and raves against the laws of gravitation, because they do not save him from the natural penalties of his voluntary violation of the same. The trouble is not in the law. *The law is good, and right, and proper.* So long as the fool stands on terra firma he is perfectly safe, and so long as the Liberals are decent and not obscene, they are safe from the penalties of the laws they so hate. If, however, they deliberately throw themselves over the precipice, they may as surely expect to have the penalties of the outraged law meted out to them, as does the fool when he intentionally and purposely violates the laws of gravitation. Neither of these laws will be set aside to please the Liberals of the day. Never.

### IN CONCLUSION.

It is constantly asserted that Col. R. G. Ingersoll is opposed to obscenity, and those who have spoken to the contrary have been severely taken to task for writing "false statements." Several clergymen have been publicly criticised, and roundly abused by him and his friends for charging that he favored obscenity. I assert, without fear of contradiction, that *R. G. Ingersoll* has favored obscenity, advocated the "repeal" of these laws, and sympathized with some of the vilest men convicted of the execrable crime of dealing in obscene publications.

I offer in proof:

*First.* The petition with his name attached, presented to the House of Representatives in 1878.

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*Second.* Duplicate of the same petition presented to the Senate, and his personal efforts before the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, as already referred to in this book.

*Third.* The following from the report of the Committee on the Revision of Laws, in the House of Representatives, May 31, 1878, showing that they officially recognized his efforts for "repeal."

**Mr. Bicknell, from the Committee on the Revision of the Laws, submitted the following**

**REPORT.**

**"The Committee on the Revision of the Laws, to whom was referred the petition of *Robt. G. Ingersoll*, and others, praying for the repeal or modification of sections 1785, 3873, 3893, 5389, and 2491, of the Revised Statutes, have had the same under consideration, and have heard the petitioners at length," etc.**

*Fourth.* The Card, calling the "Liberal Party Convention" in 1879, and the resolutions offered by him in the Liberal League Congress in this chapter, and adopted by both the Congress and the Convention at Cincinnati.

*Fifth.* The resolution of sympathy as offered by him at the same time for D. M. Bennett, the convicted smut dealer, and his endorsement of this creature.

*Sixth.* The fact that he continues as the leading spirit of the National Liberal League, and associate of such men as Rawson and Bennett.

*Seventh.* The fact that Bennett has in his paper for years, especially defended the vilest and most infamous of all the 400 persons arrested for dealing in the grossest kind of books and pictures. Bennett even going so far as to defend these men by name, after they had been convicted and sentenced for this nefarious traffic, and printing pages at a time in their defence.

At the time of this conspiracy of the liberals to repeal the laws, this *leading liberal paper*, claiming the largest circulation of any similar publication in America, had at *one time* a *score* and *more* of these convicts, with a history (as he claimed) of their cases. Not one of these men dealt in any "liberal" books, but out and out obscene ones, or articles of indecent and immoral use.

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And it is peculiarly significant that this same paper, which thus defended these worst criminals in their nefarious business, constantly lauded Ingersoll, reported and gloried in his scoffing lectures, advertised his books, and most zealously backed his petition to repeal these laws.

It was in the office of this paper, that the petition to repeal these laws was published and sent out to the number of 15,000; and where the conspiracy was organized and executed, which backed Ingersoll's petition. In other words, the records all prove that Ingersoll headed this movement—his name at the head of the petition—backed by the monstrous conspiracy already described in previous chapters.

I offer my apology to you, reader, for presenting the facts in these pages. But the good of the community and of the country demands that these pestilent fellows shall no longer be allowed to deceive the public, nor draw into their capacious maw the souls of our youth. They bait their traps with—respectability. That's their cry!

Can we expect anything but blasphemy, ridiculing of holy things, outraging all the most sacred feelings of the respectable and Christian community, from those who defend such *nastiness*?

Is it not a surprise that such men can have any influence upon others by what they say? Is not the fact that they say there is "no God" most positive proof of the text that says:

**The fool hath said in his heart, *There is no* God. They are corrupt; they have done abominable works: there is none that doeth good.**

And do not they, in all their lives, prove and confirm that WORD, which they delight to deride, distort, pervert, misrepresent, and blaspheme?

**As a dog turneth to his vomit, *so* a fool returneth to his folly.**

**.... But it is abomination to fools to depart from evil.**

**The way of a fool *is* right in his own eyes; but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.**

**Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work *be* pure, and whether *it be* right.**

**Surely the serpent will bite without enchantment; and a babbler is no better.**

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**A fool also is full of words; a man cannot tell what shall be; and what shall be after him who can tell him?**

Now, if my case is clearly proven, let me close by asking one more question of you personally, reader. Can decent and respectable people, to say nothing of professing Christians, consistently sit in the gatherings of these men, or listen to the lectures of these scoffers?

*Latest.* (After above was set up in type.)

Truly we live in a progressive age! The pen of the historian must be that of a ready writer! With the completion of the above chapter, another cycle of time has been measured off; another turn of the wheel been made; another year has rolled round since the Cincinnati Convention met, and another Convention of Liberals has been held in Chicago, Illinois. A slight knowledge of their efforts to defend obscenity has been brought before the public. Public speakers have called the attention of their hearers to the facts, while certain newspapers have shown up this action of the Liberals in unmeasured terms of contempt. There has been an odium attached to this "Liberal movement" in the recent past, which is exceedingly annoying to some of these men, and has caused a gradual thinning of their ranks among the more politic leaders. But, while here and there one secedes, the great mass of Liberals remain intact, and the league, as a body, is loyal to its spouse.

I intend to do injustice to no man, and especially do I desire to carry out the adage of "give the devil his due." But for absurdities and tricks, the saying of one thing and meaning another, the professional "liberal" of to-day stands pre-eminent. To talk about the National Liberal League's not favoring obscenity, and not conspiring to repeal laws against it, and their only contending for freedom of speech for the liberal party, and the protecting of their own literature, or to further contend that they only protect "honest, high, pure-minded" men, as Ingersoll said at Chicago, is ludicrous in the extreme.

It is downright hypocrisy and lying. Read Ingersoll's resolution of sympathy for Bennett, which he offered and the "Liber-

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als" adopted at Cincinnati, then consider Bennett's true character. Then read his flowery talk at Chicago about "honest, high, pure-minded" men.

The National Liberal League, held its fourth Annual Congress September 17, 18, and 19, 1880, at Chicago.

The first duty, the second day, was the appointing of a Defence Committee. I quote from a liberal paper, which certifies and says "the report is that of our official stenographer." This official report says:

Reports of Committees were called for, and Mr. Green proceeded to deliver that of the Committee on Nominations. The first recommendation was that Prof. A. L. Rawson, of New York, act as Chairman of a Defence Committee, whose duty, as defined by the Constitution of the League, is "to defend through the Courts, by the combined efforts and means of the Liberals of the country, any American citizen whose equal, religious or moral rights are denied, or who is oppressed on account of any opinions he may have held or expressed on the subject of religion or morals." The report was adopted.

Practically speaking it means, defend such men as Bennett, Heywood, and those whose cause they have so zealously espoused —those dear obscenity dealers who are named in the publications of Bennett and Rawson, in their efforts to change public sentiment in their favor—Simpson, Massey, and others.

This official Report then says:

The Committee on Resolutions then read their report, as follows:

I. We affirm and declare the main purpose of the National Liberal League to be the realization in the States, and general government, of the objects stated in the *standard platform*, to wit:

1. The total separation of Church and State, to be secured under present laws, and proper legislation, and finally to be guaranteed by amendment of the United States Constitution; including the equitable taxation of church property, secularization of the public schools, abrogation of Sabbatarian laws, abolition of chaplaincies, prohibition of public appropriations for religious purposes, and all other measures necessary to the same general end.

Then follows sections II. and III. of the old platform, followed by these additional resolutions, to wit:

II. We claim it to be the duty of every citizen, man or woman, to extend to all others every right and liberty that he claims for himself; that there should be, therefore, no legal, political, or social disabilities, discriminations, or

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ostracisms against any person on account of religious belief, or of any absence of such belief; that all laws of the States or general government making any so-called religious tests in order to qualify any person to vote, or to hold office, or to testify, or to sit on a jury, or to do any public or governmental act, should be repealed as relics of barbarism, and that all laws in regard to marriage, which should be a civil contract, and in regard to divorce, births, and burials, should be placed on a purely secular and scientific basis, and have their justification only in their use to society.

III. We deem it expedient for the Liberals in all portions of our country to act or to co-operate with others, as a political organization for the accomplishment of the objects of the above platform, and to nominate candidates for office for that purpose as soon as they have organized in sufficient numbers, and have developed sufficient political agreement to do so effectively; that such nomination should be first made in Assembly and Congressional districts, and that we hope and urge that four years from this time we shall have a Presidential ticket in the field. In the mean time we mutually pledge each other that we will cast our votes and use our political influence for such candidates for office as we honestly believe will most effectively further the objects of our League.

IV. In the spirit of our platform we also demand such State and United States laws as will securely guard the freedom of the press and of speech, and the inviolability of the mail, and will allow free circulation, by mail or otherwise, of all books, pamphlets, papers, and letters, irrespective of the religious or other views they may contain, so that the literature of science and general knowledge, and thought, and the expression of thought, may be placed in no restraint except to answer for any abuse or injury done by it before regular courts and juries of our people.

V. While we demand equal rights for all, and the consequent freedom of the press and of speech, and the inviolability of the mails, we do not do this to aid, abet, or encourage obscenity, lotteries, financial frauds, bogus medical diplomas, nor any form of immorality, crime or wrong-doing whatsoever; on the contrary, we are utterly opposed to the dissemination through the mails, or by any other means, of obscene literature, whether inspired or uninspired, and hold in measureless contempt and disgust its authors and disseminators, and we therefore call upon the so-called Christian world to expunge from the so-called sacred Bible every passage that cannot be read without covering the cheek of modesty with the blush of shame; and until such passages are expunged we demand that the law against the dissemination of obscene literature be impartially enforced. We are in favor of enforcing, and we guarantee our efforts and influence to enforce reasonable and effective laws in aid of the common law against obscenity, lotteries, bogus diplomas, financial and other frauds; but we believe that such offences should be and can be effectively punished and repressed in the same way that other offences are, that is, by the common criminal laws and the courts, aided by police and detective officers, who shall be responsible to the people or their elected officers, and not to churches or amateur theological or criminal societies.

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VI. Upon the grounds before stated we are unable to approve of the so-called "Comstock legislation," in either the States or general government, and we believe its results have proved it to be fraught with serious danger to the equal rights and liberties of the people.

1. The incorporation within the several States of amateur semi-criminal, semi-theological societies, and the employment of their agents in no way responsible to the people to make accusations and arrests under laws enacted at their instigation, is an exhibition of theological assumption and governmental interference hostile to the impartiality and equality of secular and popular government, which should be of the people, for the people, and by the people; that such laws and administration of criminal affairs practically deprive the citizen of his common law right of liberty until he injures another's person, or property, or is accused in the first instance by a grand jury of his peers.

2. The general government as the agent of the States and the people, in providing the postal service, holds in time of peace substantially the relation of a common carrier; that to admit its right to discriminate as to the meaning of matter which it would carry, would admit of a power that may be used arbitrarily for the suppression of particular classes of thought on political, religious, social, and moral subjects, and would, therefore, be inconsistent with the total separation of church and state, which is the prime demand of the National Liberal League.

We, therefore, urge the repeal of the present United States Postal laws, known as the Comstock laws, for these, among other reasons.

The difficulty in dealing with the National Liberal League, is that it constantly puts forth some new, or reaffirms some old, platform, or passes voluminous resolutions, which on their face appear, to say the least, to be plausible, while their acts are at variance with the highest interests of the people, which they would have the public understand by their platforms and utterances they are so zealous to guard. These resolutions are the battlements behind which they seek to operate most villainous schemes, and under cover of which monstrous outrages are to be perpetrated. It is a veil which they hold before the eyes of the public, and behind which diabolical attempts are made to overthrow all the benefits of religion and morality. A party without a high standard of morality is no safe guide for our youth, or safeguard to a community. A Government without morals and religion for a basis will soon go to pieces.

If any one doubts what I say about the published utterances

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of the Liberals, let them read the plausible resolutions of the Liberals passed at Philadelphia in 1876; and then, note the monstrous and most unscrupulous conspiracies to repeal the laws that immediately followed.

If they believe these men are sincere and honest, and doing all they can, as they would have the world believe, to elevate man, let them recall the blasphemy and scoffings of their favorite leader, Ingersoll, in his efforts to rob the community of the beneficial results, that come from following the teachings of God's Word, the observing of sacred things, or his frantic efforts to outrage the most holy and sacred thoughts and feelings of the Christian community. If they believe him sincere in his protestation against his ever having encouraged repeal, let them read the petition he signed for the repeal of the laws against obscenity, and in the same connection consider his personal efforts before the Committee of the Senate.

At this Convention (Chicago), if rumor is to be believed, Ingersoll resigned. Resigned from what? The Vice-Presidency of the League; *but not as a member.* The "official stenographer" reports Ingersoll as saying:

> Col. Ingersoll—Now I differ with the League on this one thing; in all other things I agree with the League; but this one thing is of so much importance to my mind that I can't act with the League. I do not wish them to be my enemies, and I do not wish it to be deemed as a threat, but I simply wish to resign as Vice-President to allow somebody else to be elected in my place.

That he did bravely contend against the passage of certain resolutions offered by repealers, I think, is established; *but that he remained a member of the League after they adopted those resolutions is equally true.* And these resolutions are a part of the "standard platform" of this League, as then adopted.

It is impossible to be on both sides of a fence at one time. The fence that Mr. Ingersoll is trying to stride is one made of a principle as high as the arch above our heads, and involves the best interests of the future of this country and the highest possible welfare of the youth of the land. To unloose the tongue of the libertine to befoul the air with his infamies;

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to permit the rake license to publish a history of his experiences; to defend the books put forth by Free-lovers to reduce society to their level; or to defile the home, and debauch the youth—is advocating and defending practices that must subject the nation to the level of the brothel, poisoning the moral atmosphere of the community, until the Nation shall be like Sodom and Gomorrah, and the people of America shall become a by-word and hissing to Heathen nations. The controlling of the baser passions, the restraining of the libertine and rake from poisoning the minds of our youth, *is not a crime.* The Common law, Statute laws, and Moral and Divine laws—all sustain the protecting of our youth from licentious and corrupting influences. The law says that "*no obscene book, picture, etc., shall be published.*" The liberal says: "Provided we are permitted to do exactly as we please. We claim the right, as liberals, to utter and publish that which corrupts and affects the morals of the young, no matter whose child is debauched, or whose home is rendered worse than desolate! We are liberals—we are! We believe in free speech, free press, and free crime—we do! What care we for the decisions of the courts? Of common laws in all civilized countries, or the U. S. Supreme Court, or any other courts in this country? The right and duty of the courts to protect the morals of the community we object to; and although that right is inherent in the law in all civilized lands, we are opposed to it!"

Deplorable indeed would be the condition of any community, if there be no higher standard of law to govern crime, or any other defence necessary under the law, than as laid down in the argument of Col. Ingersoll, when he says at this Convention:

"And the question, and the only question, as to whether they are amenable to the law, in my mind is, Were they honest? Was it their effort to benefit mankind? Was that their intention? And no man, no woman should be convicted of any offence that that man or woman did not intend to commit. Now then, suppose that some person is arrested, and it is claimed that a work written by him is immoral, is illegal. Then, I say, let our Committee of Defence examine that case, and if our enemies seek to trample out free thought under the name of immorality, and under the cover and shield of our criminal laws, then let us defend that man to the last dollar we have."

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It will thus be seen, that this great Liberal legal light would require no other defence under the law, on the part of the criminal, than for him to say, "I did this with some object other than violating the law." The thief may plead, "I took this coat from its owner in order to get food for my wife and children; I did not intend to have it larceny under the law." The burglar breaks into a private house at night and robs it, because winter was approaching and he needed a new suit of clothes. A highwayman knocks down and robs his victim, because he was a little "hard up" for money and wanted to go to a horse race; but he did not intend to commit a robbery under the law. And so, a low, foul-minded creature of some Free-love fraternity, may write a grossly obscene and indecent book, and a book which, if circulated among the young, would curse and ruin many of them; and yet, if the author only says he did not intend to harm the young, although it is manifest the harm is done by his book, he must not be stopped by the proper enforcement of laws designed to protect the morals of the community.

This blatant infidel and scoffer seems to be as ignorant of Common Law decisions on this point, as he is devoid of moral and religious principles. He is as eloquent against morals as he is against his Maker and religion. *There is not one word under this law, that worries this Liberal League and Col. Ingersoll so much, which permits of a construction that can be tortured into any interference* with so-called Liberal utterances. I go further, and say it cannot be construed *in any manner*, and *never has been either*, as affecting *any publication, however violent in blasphemy*, or *base in the attacking of holy and sacred things*, except it be "obscene, lewd, lascivious, or indecent."

It is exceeding absurd for any lawyer to plead as this man does. If they do not like obscenity, why do they wear it like pearls about their neck, and display it continually in public? Why do they sympathize with ex-convicted obscenity venders, or constantly oppose the legal enforcement of righteous laws? I present, for Mr. Ingersoll's information, some decisions and *universal principles* of law, as laid down by the highest court in



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Avoid of Hecklin decision



England, the Queen's Court, full bench, the Lord Chief Justice presiding, on this question of *intent*. I am ready to present him American authorities in support of these, if he desires.

The Liberals, and Col. Ingersoll, may as well understand that it is not a hard thing to prick the bubble of their dirty trick to deceive the public. Laws, decisions of courts under the Common Law, and morals are all against you. Your business of the defence of obscenity mongers is infamous, and your practice damnable.

INTENT.

"I hold that, when a man publishes a work manifestly obscene, he must be taken to have had the intention which is implied from the act; and that as soon as you have an illegal act thus established, '*quoad* the intention, and *quoad* the act,' it does not lie in the mouth of the man who does it to say: 'Well, I was breaking the law, but it was breaking it for some wholesome and salutary purpose.' The LAW does not allow that; you must abide by the LAW, and if you would accomplish your object, you must do it in a legal manner, or let it alone. You must not do it in a manner which is illegal."

The Queen *vs.* Hecklin. 3 Eng. Law Reports (Q. B.) p. 373. pr. Cockburn, Chief Justice.

Again in same case it says:

"I take the rule of LAW to be, as stated by Lord Ellenborough, in 'Rex *vs.* Dixon,' (3 M. & S. p. 15,) in the shortest and clearest manner. It is a universal principle that when a man is charged with doing an act of which the probable consequence may be highly injurious, the intention is an inference of law resulting from the doing the act.

"And although the appellant may have had another object in view, he must be taken to have intended that which is the natural consequence of the act. If he does an act which is illegal, it does not make it legal that he did it with some other object. That is not a legal excuse, unless the object was such as, under the circumstances, rendered the particular act lawful."

If this law is good enough for Great Britain and the United States of America, it ought to be good enough for a handful of mongrels calling themselves Liberals! It certainly defends and protects our youth from their indecencies, and whether they like it or not, these laws will be enforced. Every household has a right under the law to defend and keep pure its circle. There is no interest dearer, or more important to any man, than the

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moral purity and spiritual welfare of his children. The Liberals demand that the legal barriers, that protect and keep our children pure, be broken down. By the Grace of the Everliving God, and in the name of this great American people, their demand shall not be allowed. And "so say we all of us."

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# CHAPTER XXIX.

## OFFICIAL LIST OF FRAUDS.

The following is taken from *The United States Official Postal Guide of May*, 1880.

### FRAUDS.

List of persons conducting fraudulent lotteries and other schemes to defraud the public, to whom payment of money-orders and the delivery of registered letters has been prohibited by order of the Postmaster-General, under the authority conferred by sections 3929 and 4041 of the Revised Statutes (875 and 1043, Postal Laws and Regulations, edition of 1879). Postmasters at any office at which money-orders or registered letters arrive addressed to any person or company against whom orders have been issued by the Postmaster-General, under the provisions of sections 875 and 1043, Postal Laws and Regulations, the list of whom is published in the Guide from month to month, should refuse payment and delivery of the same, and treat them as provided in the sections referred to; and postmasters are hereby forbidden to pay money-orders or deliver registered letters addressed to any person who they are satisfied is acting for any of the persons or companies hereinafter named, until they have communicated the facts to, and received the instructions of, the Postmaster-General.

| NAME. | DATE OF ORDER. | PLACE OF BUSINESS. |
|---|---|---|
| Allen, H. D. P. | Dec. 11, 1878. | New York, N. Y. |
| American Coral Co. | July 6, 1877. | Pittsburgh, Pa. |
| Arizona Lottery | May 27, 1879. | Prescott, Ariz. |
| Bartelle, B. C. & Co | Oct. 16, 1877. | Gloucester, N. J. |
| Baxter & Co | Jan. 7, 1880. | 7 & 17 Wall St., New York, N. Y. |
| Benedict & Co | Jan. 9, 1880. | New York, N. Y. |
| Bennington, A. B. & Co., *alias* Jace Marks | July 19, 1877. | Lansing, Iowa. |
| Benton, D. V | June 29, 1876. | Laramie City, Wyo. |
| Bishop, L. D. S | July 2, 1875. | Cincinnati, Ohio. |
| Bogart, Moses.. / Borger, Max.... (*Alias* Waschmann & Co.) | Nov. 14, 1879. | 84 Nassau St., New York, N. Y. |
| Bornio & Bro | Feb. 18, 1880. | New Orleans, La. |
| Brain, John C.. (*Alias* Excelsior Mfg. Co. / Sheffield Fire-arms Agency..) | Dec. 11, 1878. | New York, N. Y. |
| Bristol Piano Co | June 11, 1879. | New Bedford, Mass. |
| Burrow, John | Aug. 11, 1876. | Bristol, Tenn. |
| Burtnett, H. A | April 22, 1879. | New York, N. Y. |
| Burton, B. H. & Co. | Jan. 10, 1880. | 123 Clark St., Chicago, Ill. |
| Carr, E. N. & Co.. (*Alias* E. J. Price & Co.. / Emery & Co.....) | April 12, 1880. | 31 Park Row, New York, N. Y. |
| Chase, A. & Co | Oct. 10, 1879. | New Haven, Conn. |
| Clark & Co., *alias* Silver Mining Co. | June 5, 1878. | New York, N. Y. |
| Clute, J. J. & Co.. / Clute, Jacob ..... / Clute, John..... | Dec. 1, 1879. | 200 B'way, New York, N. Y. |
| Cole, N. M. & Son | Nov. 3, 1879. | Detroit, Mich. |
| Conlon, J. P | Jan. 13, 1880. | 599 Broadway, New York, N. Y. |

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| NAME. | DATE OF ORDER. | PLACE OF BUSINESS. |
|---|---|---|
| Cosmopolitan Stamp Co. (*Alias* Philadelphia Stamp Co. / Giovanni Patroni) | Oct. 22, 1875 | Philadelphia, Pa. / Camden, N. J. |
| Creighton, W. C., *alias* B. H. Porter & Co | Nov. 13, 1879 | New York, N. Y. |
| Crest, John.. (*Alias* W. J. Hill / C. H. Walker / C. Wade) | Oct. 13, 1878 | Elkhart, Ind. / Augusta, Mich. / Battle Creek, Mich. |
| Dayton, John.. (*Alias* R. Field & Co / Field & Co) | Dec. 20, 1879 | 1212 B'way, New York, N. Y. |
| Doe, John. (*Alias* Arnould, Jas., 151 Eldridge St / Bell, James, 133 Division St. / Bolmet, David / Clark, M., 50 Delancey St / Clemens, M., 1681 1st Ave / Franks, Andreas 151 Eldridge St. / Hudson, Jas., 1681 1st Ave. / Kent, Thos / Lambert, A. 13 Suffolk St / Muller, James, 50 Delancey St. / Muller, L. / Rand, Thos 88 Allen St) | Feb. 16, 1880 | New York, N. Y. |
| Duff, J / Duff, J & Co | Nov. 14, 1879 | 42 Nassau St., New York, N. Y. |
| Duffree, Manning, *alias* Bell, C. & Co | Nov. 14, 1879 | 1215 Broadway New York, N. Y. |
| Eastern Manufacturing Co. | Aug. 21, 1878 | Boston, Mass., Rockland, Me., Chicago, Ill. |
| Edgerton & Co | March 12, 1875 | Camden, N. J. |
| Edmunds, J. F. & Co | Aug. 8, 1879 | Webster, Mass. |
| Eggleston, Edward A | May 28, 1879 | Rosita, Colo. |
| Exmer, Theodore, *alias* Waschmann & Co | Nov. 14, 1879 | 84 Nassau St., New York, N. Y. |
| Elias, Ellis H., *alias* Russell & Co | Dec. 1, 1877 | New York, N. Y. |
| Emerson, Joseph / Emerson & Goss | Nov. 14, 1879 | 180 Broadway, New York, N. Y. / 35 Fulton St., New York, N. Y. |
| Evarts, Barnes & Co | Jan. 9, 1880 | New York, N. Y. |
| Excelsior Mfg Co (*Alias* Sheffield Fire arms Agency / John C. Brain) | Nov. 27, 1878 | Chicago, Ill. |
| Florence Jewelry Co | July 6, 1877 | Pittsburgh, Pa. |
| Foxwell, Charles & Co. | Jan 9, 1880 | New York, N. Y. |
| Franklin, Geo. W. | April 28, 1878 | Louisville, Ky., and Glasgow, Ky. |
| Garcia, I. | April 12, 1880 | 187 Exchange Place, New Orleans, La. |
| George Jas W & Co. | April 17, 1875 | New York, N. Y. |
| Glore, W. Scott | Feb 17, 1880 | Louisville, Ky. |
| Goldwater, Michael | June 21, 1879 | Prescott, Ariz. |
| Grant S. A., *alias* Denver Land Co. | Nov. 3, 1879 | Denver, Colo. |
| Great Western Distribution Co. (*Alias* Mathews & Co / Kunnecke & Co.) | Sept. 20, 1879 / Nov. 18, 1879 | Cheyenne, Wyo. |
| Gustavus, E. & Co., *alias* F. E. G. Lindsay | Dec 9, 1875 | Holston, W. Va. |
| Hall, H. J. & Co | Jan. 31, 1876 | Baltimore, Md. |
| Hall, J. H. & Co | Jan 24, 1879 | New York, N. Y. |
| Hamilton, J. B. & Co | June 10, 1876 | New York, N. Y. |
| Heister, Charles E., *alias* U. S. Syndicate | Aug 12, 1879 | New York, N. Y. |
| Henly, A., *alias* Michael & Co. | Feb 2, 1880 | Atlanta, Ga. |
| Henry, J. C. & Co., *alias* Clarence W. Miller | April 13, 1876 | Glens Falls, N. Y., and Chester, Pa. |
| Herrick, D. P. & Co. | Feb. 19, 1880 | New York, N. Y. |
| Hetsch, J. J. & Co (*Alias* People's Literary Journal / Kentucky State Journal / Newport Paper and Printing Co) | Nov. 10, 1879 | Newport, Ky. |
| Hill, W. J., *alias* C. W. Whitney & Co. | Oct. 12, 1878 | Elkhart, Ind., Augusta, Mich., and Battle Creek, Mich. |
| Hull, H. H., *alias* United States Agency | Jan. 13, 1880 | Mount Winans, Md. |
| Hunt, Chas E. / Hunt, Nettie W. | Dec. 11, 1879 | Philadelphia, Pa. |

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| NAME. | DATE OF ORDER. | PLACE OF BUSINESS. |
|---|---|---|
| Hurlburt, Wm. H., *alias* Western Gun Co. | Sept. 8, 1877 | Chicago, Ill. |
| Jackson, A. Orlando.. / Jackson & Co. | Nov. 14, 1879 | 82 Nassau St., New York, N. Y. |
| Jones, A. & Son | July 30, 1878 | Hopkinton, Mass. |
| Jones, Edgar W. — *Alias*: Harry J. Littleton & Co.; Union Purchasing Agency; Union Publishing Co.; Magnetic Watch Co. | Dec. 3, 1878 | Ashland, Mass. / South Framingham, Mass. |
| Jorda & Puig | March 31, 1880 | New Orleans, La. |
| Joyce, John P. | Nov. 28, 1879 | Covington, Ky. |
| Kansas Land Co. | Dec. 15, 1879 | Topeka, Kans. |
| Kendall, L. A. — *Alias*: Ashman, L. A.; Bay State Organ Co.; Eastern Gun Works; Enterprise Publishing Co.; Home Delight Co.; Hub Manufacturing Co.; Hub Watch Co.; Inventors' and Manufacturers' Association; Japanese Curiosity Co.; New England Scientific Co.; New England Manufact'ng Co.; Paris Art Co.; Parisian Photograph Co.; People's Paper Publishing Co.; The Welcome Guest | Oct. 17, 1879 | Boston, Mass. |
| Kennucke, F. / Kennucke & Co. / Kennucke, The Messrs. | Nov. 23, 1879 | Cheyenne, Wyo. |
| Kentucky Land Co. | June 5, 1879 | Louisville, Ky. |
| Lawrence & Co.. — *Alias*: Adams, Brown & Co.; Allen, Jordan & Co.; Barnes, Garrison & Co.; Duff, Wm. D. | Dec. 30, 1879 | New York, N. Y. |
| Leavitt & Co.. — *Alias*: Russell & Co.; Sunbeam Publishing Co. | April 18, 1879 | New Bedford, Mass. |
| Lindauer, Chas. F. | Dec. 1, 1879 | 184 Mercer St., New York, N. Y. |
| Lindsey, F. E. G. | Dec. 9, 1875 | Holston, W. Va. |
| Lindsey, F. E. G. | June 1, 1876 | Abingdon, Va. |
| Littleton, Harry J. & Co. | Dec. 3, 1877 | Ashland, Mass., and South Framingham, Mass. |
| Long Island Shirt Co. | Aug. 7, 1879 | Brooklyn, N. Y. |
| McCall, W. P. | Dec. 11, 1878 | New York, N. Y. |
| McCaulay, S. A., 35 Broadway | Feb. 16, 1880 | New York, N. Y. |
| McKay, Hugh / McKay, Hugh & Co. of St. Stephen, New Brunswick | Nov. 25, 1879 | Calais, Me. |
| Magee, John W. | June 29, 1876 | Laramie City, Wyo. |
| Magnetic Watch Co. | Dec. 3, 1877 | Ashland, Mass. |
| Magnetic Watch Co. | Dec. 3, 1877 | South Framingham, Mass. |
| Marcotte & Co. | March 11, 1880 | 23 New Church St., New York, N. Y. |
| Marks, Jace | July 19, 1877 | La Crosse, Wis. |
| Martin, B. H. & Co. | Feb. 25, 1880 | 123 Clark Street, Chicago, Ill. |
| Massich & Cossulith | April 12, 1880 | 159 Common Street, New Orleans, La. |
| Miller, Clarence W. | April 13, 1876 | Chester, Pa. |
| Miller, Clarence W. | April 13, 1876 | Glens Falls, N. Y. |
| Murray, France & Co. | Nov. 21, 1879 | Louisville, Ky. |
| Nathan, B. | Nov. 13, 1879 | 179 & 838 Broadway, New York, N. Y. |
| National Art Co. | Aug. 26, 1878 | Cincinnati, Ohio. |
| National Banking Co. | Dec. 11, 1878 | New York, N. Y. |
| Noelke, Chas. D. J. | Nov. 14, 1879 | 238 Grand St., New York, N. Y. |
| Paris Novelty Co. | Aug. 21, 1879 | Boston, Mass., Rockland, Mass., Chicago, Ill. |
| Parsons, F. H. | March 24, 1880 | Westborough, Mass. |
| Patroni, Giovanni | Oct. 22, 1875 | Philadelphia, Pa. |
| Patroni, Giovanni | Oct. 22, 1875 | Camden, N. J. |

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| NAME. | DATE OF ORDER. | PLACE OF BUSINESS. |
|---|---|---|
| Pattee, J. M. manager | Oct. 3, 1876 | Cheyenne, Wyo. |
| Philadelphia Stamp Co. | Oct. 22, 1875 | Philadelphia, Pa. |
| Philadelphia Stamp Co. | Oct. 22, 1875 | Camden, N. J. |
| Pike, Marshall S. | Sept. 15, 1876 | Cheyenne, Wyo. |
| Pike, Marshall S. | Sept. 15, 1876 | Topeka, Kans. |
| Plassans, S. | April 12, 1880 | 153 Common Street, New Orleans, La. |
| Porter, W.<br>Porter, W. R.<br>Porter, B. H. & Co. *Alias* J. Tator | Nov. 13, 1879 | New York, N. Y. |
| Premium Art Co. | July 6, 1877 | Pittsburgh, Pa. |
| Reade & Co. | June 22, 1878 | New Haven, Conn. |
| Remis, I. G. & Co. | Oct. 29, 1879 | Chicago, Ill. |
| Roarty, John A. | Dec. 11, 1879 | Philadelphia, Pa. |
| Royal Manufacturing Co. | May 19, 1879 | Brooklyn, N. Y. |
| Royce, J. M. | June 12, 1876 | Grafton, W. Va. |
| Russell & Co. | Dec. 1, 1877 | New York, N. Y. |
| Russell & Co. | April 18, 1879 | New Bedford, Mass. |
| Russell, Hopping & Co. | June 1, 1877 | Riverside, N. J. |
| Sheffield Fire-arms Agency | May 27, 1878 | Chicago, Ill. |
| Sherman & Co. | Feb. 18, 1880 | Marshall, Mich. |
| Silver Mining Co. | June 5, 1878 | New York, N. Y. |
| Sipe, L. D., *alias* L. D. S. Bishop | July 2, 1875 | Cincinnati, Ohio. |
| Slocumb, E. Ellsworth. *Alias* Agents' Union | Aug. 21, 1879 | Boston, Mass. |
| *Alias* American Book Co. | Aug. 21, 1879 | Chicago, Ill. |
| *Alias* Cramco, E. G. | Sept. 3, 1879 | Rockland, Mass. |
| *Alias* Eastern Manufacturing Co. | Sept. 4, 1879 | Brockton, Mass. |
| *Alias* Eels & Co. | Sept. 4, 1879 | South Weymouth, Mass. |
| *Alias* Eels, D. P. & Co. | | |
| *Alias* Paris Novelty Co. | | |
| *Alias* Royal Piano Co. | | |
| *Alias* Solar Watch Co. | | |
| *Alias* Solagraph Watch Co. | | |
| *Alias* Star Manufactur'g Co. | | |
| *Alias* Suydam, D. P. | | |
| *Alias* Williams, P. W. & Co. | | |
| Smalley & Gale | Feb. 19, 1880 | 35 Broadway, New York, N. Y. |
| Smith, Geo. R. | Feb. 16, 1880 | Covington, Ky. |
| Stewart, Frank | Nov. 6, 1875 | Philadelphia, N. Y. |
| Sunbeam Publishing Co. | April 18, 1879 | New Bedford, Mass. |
| Taylor & Co. | Nov. 18, 1879 | New York, N. Y. |
| Texas Gift Concert Association | Sept. 21, 1875 | Dennison, Tex. |
| Thatcher, Belmont & Co. | Jan. 9, 1880 | New York, N. Y. |
| Tomlinson, James A. | June 10, 1876 | New York, N. Y. |
| Tully, J. F., *alias* Bell, C. & Co. | Nov. 18, 1879 | 1215 Broadway, New York, N. Y. |
| Tyner, J. C. & Co. *Alias* American Coral Co. | July 6, 1877 | Pittsburgh, Pa. |
| *Alias* Florence Jewelry Co. | | |
| *Alias* Freshman & Co. | | |
| *Alias* Premium Art Co. | | |
| Union Publishing Co. | Dec. 8, 1877 | Ashland, Mass. |
| Union Purchasing Agency | | So. Framingham, Mass. |
| Union Silver Plating Co. | Aug. 26, 1878 | Cincinnati, Ohio. |
| United States Syndicate | Aug. 12, 1879 | New York, N. Y. |
| Veadero, Cricaco *Alias* Martinez & Co. | Dec. 20, 1879 | 69, 71, 73 Broadway, New York, N. Y. |
| *Alias* Castino, Emilio M. | | |
| Wade, C., *alias* C. H. Walker | Oct. 12, 1874 | Elkhart, Ind., Augusta, Mich., Battle Creek, Mich. |
| Wagner, M. V., *alias* Sherman & Co. | Feb. 18, 1880 | Marshall, Mich. |
| Waterson, Henry G. | Nov. 25, 1879 | Calais, Me. |
| Waterson, F. G. | | |
| Webb, Samuel. *Alias* Wilson, Wm. S. | Nov. 14, 1879 | 126 Broadway, New York, N. Y. |
| *Alias* Wilson, Sam'l | | 267 Broadway, New York, N. Y. |
| *Alias* Luthy & Co. | | |
| Webber & Co. *Alias* National Art Co. | July 30, 1878 | Cincinnati, Ohio. |
| *Alias* Union Silver Plating Co. | | |
| Western Gun Co. | Sept. 8, 1877 | Chicago, Ill. |

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| NAME. | DATE OF ORDER. | PLACE OF BUSINESS. |
|---|---|---|
| Whitney, C. W. & Co. | April 13, 1876 | Glens Falls, N. Y., Chester, Pa. |
| Wight, T. Potter & Co. | Dec. 30, 1879 | New York, N. Y. |
| Wilcox & Co. | Dec. 21, 1875 | Windsor, Ohio. |
| Williamson & Co. | Nov. 13, 1879 | 559 Broadway, New York, N. Y. |
| Z choch, Theodore | Nov. 13, 1879 | 23 Park Row, New York, N. Y.<br>861 Broadway, New York, N. Y. |

The following parties have since been added to the above list, by the action of the Postmaster-General:

POSTAL GUIDE, AUGUST, 1880.

FRAUDS.

| NAMES. | DATE OF ORDER. | PLACE OF BUSINESS. |
|---|---|---|
| Ballard, P. | July 22, 1880 | 260 Greenwich St., New York, N. Y. |
| Benedict & Co. | Jan. 19, 1880 | New York, N. Y. |
| Brookes, Charles O. | May 27, 1880 | 128 West St., New York, N. Y. |
| Buchanan, Prof., John, M.D. (*Alias* National Eclectic Medical Association. Eclectic Medical College of Pennsylvania. American University of Philadel. University College of Pharmacy.) | June 14, 1880 | Philadelphia, Pa. |
| Chichester Rifle Co. | May 24, 1880 | Jersey City, N. J. |
| Fichett, W. N. | May 24, 1880 | Jersey City, N. J. |
| Harris, James. | May 27, 1880 | Care of Mr. Grampps, 252 E. Church St., New York, N. Y. |
| Kratzer, D. A. | July 22, 1880 | Burlington, Iowa. |
| Lee, Wm. | May 27, 1880 | Care of Mr. Stephens, 272 E. Third St., New York, N. Y. |
| Lee, Wm. | May 27, 1880 | Care of Mr. Huff, 127 Broome St., New York, N. Y. |
| Martin, Geo. | July 22, 1880 | 171 Franklin St., New York, N. Y. |
| Murray Rev. James, D.D. (*Alias.* The Livington University of America.) | June 14, 1880 | Haddenfield, N. Y. |
| Perkins, Howitt. | May 27, 1880 | 11 Park Row and 297 Greenwich St., New York, N. Y. |
| Rand B. | May 27, 1880 | 62 Harrison St., New York, N. Y. |
| Rand, S. | May 27, 1880 | Care of Mr. Warren, 78 Chrystie St., New York, N. Y. |
| Wilson, J. C., *alias* A. J. C. Wilson. | June 15, 1880 | Ladonia, Texas.<br>Austin, Texas. |

The act of Congress which authorizes the Postmaster-General to return money orders and registered letters to the sender, reads as follows:

Section 300. That the Postmaster-General may, upon evidence satisfactory to him, that any person, firm, or corporation is engaged in conducting any

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fraudulent lottery, gift enterprise, or scheme for the distribution of money, or of any real or personal property, by lot, chance, or drawing of any kind, or in conducting any other scheme or device for obtaining money through the mails, by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, forbid the payment by any postmaster to any such person, firm, or corporation of any postal money-order drawn to the order or in favor of him or of them, and may provide by regulations for the return to the remitters of the sums named in such money-orders. And the Postmaster-General may also, upon like evidence, instruct postmasters at any post offices at which registered letters shall arrive, directed to any such person, firm, or corporation, to return all such registered letters to the postmasters at the offices at which they were originally mailed, with the word "*fraudulent*," plainly written or stamped upon the outside of said letters; and all such letters so returned to such postmasters, shall be by them returned to the writers thereof, under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe: *Provided*, That nothing in this act contained shall be so construed as to authorize any postmaster or other person to open any letter not addressed to himself.

In the light of the facts exposed in this book, is this a wise provision of law? The Liberals (and especially the great legal mind that reviews the United States Supreme Court) say no. Every intelligent mind, and every honest man, says yes! Here we have an act, that this would-have-you-believe-me-smart lawyer Wakeman says is another of the "Comstock laws." Poor fellow, he has a hard time of it! He shows his ignorance of law and facts in all his arguments. But if any one thing is a recommendation for a leather medal, his pretended interpretation of these laws and citations of facts, as above illustrated, are conclusive. He says this is one of the "Comstock laws." It is about as near as he generally states facts on these subjects.

That law was in existence long before I ever dreamed of it. It was a long time after my appointment, as a special agent of the Post Office Department, before I knew of it at all.

But every one who has any knowledge of this law or the workings of the Post Office Department, knows that the frantic ravings against these laws are all in the interest of criminals and law breakers.

There are insinuations and charges constantly made of some wrong done, or some person interfered with unlawfully.

Who makes these charges? Is it the merchant, banker or

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business man engaged in an open, legal traffic? Is it in the interest of law and order? Is there any foundation for these base insinuations and charges?

I reply, *emphatically, no.* And I call upon every man in legitimate business, and every honest postmaster to contradict me with facts, if they can.

The postal service requires no defence from my hands. It is efficient, and, in the city of New York where, out of 50 of the largest offices nearly one-third of the entire quantity of mail matter is received or sent out, (as shown by a careful estimate recently made,) never for years has the service been more perfect or the workings in any office more complete.

The charges made in the papers, and by these Liberal croakers, are exaggerations, misrepresentations, and often lies made out of whole cloth.

Penal statutes have been enacted by Congress to guard the sanctity of the seal, and to punish tampering with the mails, or delaying correspondence. Every employee is required to take a solemn oath to obey and respect the laws.

No higher duty is imposed, than to guard sacredly and forward promptly all matter committed to their care. Every man is a scout, to watch for depredations, and it is a sacred duty, under their oaths of office to expose all violations of law. We have, then, a large army of honorable, intelligent, reliable men, who are zealous for the postal service, scattered throughout the land, under bonds, pecuniarily and otherwise, to a faithful performance of duty.

Every postmaster and postal clerk is bound to keep securely all mail matter. A letter received at one office is speedily forwarded to its destination at another. The postal service becomes the agent of the sender.

Just here I desire to say: I speak now on, from a moral standpoint. What I say about agents does not apply as in the light of legally being responsible to the sender if a letter is lost; but, while the law does not hold the postal service responsible, and while in law and fact the sender loses control over his letter when once properly in the mail, and it must go to the party ad-

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dressed, yet also, in fact, it is the sender's interest that is at stake; for if the money sent in an ordinary letter is lost, while the party addressed has the right and title to the letter, still the sender is the one upon whom the loss falls. Up to the enactment by Congress of the wise provisions of the above law, all letters had to be delivered to the party addressed, no matter how infamous a swindle he might have been known to have been operating through the mails.

If the letter contains money, and is stolen or lost, it is of so much moment that at once the country is searched from one end of the route over which it passed to the other to find it. The Mail Depredation Department, manned by experienced and shrewd men, at once take up the clue, and they will follow a trail from Maine to California, rather than fail to secure the lost package. So important are the letters committed to the care of the postal service!

Now, if all these laws are passed, to so sacredly guard mail matter, and if such severe penalties are inflicted, as heavy fines and imprisonment imposed for an unlawful conversion of matter in transit in the mails, and such time and expense gone to, to recover the lost, what *consistency* is there in the Post Office Department expending all the above in order to protect in safety a letter en route, and preserve the valuables enclosed for the sender thereof, and then delivering the same to a known thief, or swindler?

We are the agent of the sender of the letter; and when we know by *positive legal evidence* that some sharper is defrauding every man, woman and child that he can, by his lying circulars, induce to send money to him by mail, why in the name of all that is honest, right or just, should we be forced to pay over the sender's money!

I say nothing of ordinary letters. *No person is presumed to know or suspect the contents of a sealed letter sent in ordinary mail.*

But the registered letter is always presumed to contain valuables. The Post Office Department insures its safety for an additional

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fee of 10 cents. The writer of the letter sends by his agent, the mail service, his money, and pays extra fees for safety and security, and he is the one most interested in the money so entrusted to the care of the mails. It is *his money* that the above law sends back to him, under this law or through the Dead Letter Office, and prevents the thief from taking. Does he complain at this? No, no. It is the thief and his friend that complain. Why? Because their plan to swindle and rob is thwarted. The same may be said of the money order system. That branch of the Post Office Department receives money in trust to pay over; and when a known thief or swindler calls for it, and from a knowledge of his business we know the sender will lose every cent if placed in his hands, what is there in law and equity to prevent the sending of the money back to the party who entrusted the same to our safe keeping? Not to do this, is to make the postal service the agent and tool of the thief, swindler and smut dealer.

To take an extra fee for safety of valuables entrusted to this Department, and then to pass them over to a thief, is a mockery of all public policy and justice. As well may a clerk in a store pass over merchandise he is there to sell, to any vagabond who asks for it without paying for the same, or a bank pay out funds placed in their charge for safe keeping, to irresponsible and thieving applicants.

The postal service has a moral and legal responsibility. No department of government should become a tool or agent to assist a thief and swindler in deceiving, robbing or defrauding the honest and credulous ones.

Honest men have rights in the morals of their children, and the hard earnings of their daily toil, that government should respect.

If an official violates a law punish him severely. But let no *fears* that *some one may* do a wrong, prevent righteous laws from being enforced.

The howl about these *may-possibly-be* outrages, or "somebody might do a wrong by violating a law," are about on a par with a man who shall, on a severe winter's night, forbid his family having

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a fire in his house, because if he had a fire by which his family could be protected and made comfortable from the inclemency of the weather, somebody *might*, if they were so inclined, heat a poker and run it into a keg of powder, or take a live coal and run out to the barn and set it on fire; or a druggist should never be allowed to keep any poisoned drug, for fear some clerk *might*, by neglecting his duty, make a mistake and do up that which *might* endanger the life of another; or arsenic should not be sold by any person to poison rats with, for fear some neighbor's cat, on a midnight marauding expedition, *might* possibly get hold of a dead rat and be poisoned thereby.

There is as much reason and sense in the above, as there is in all this twaddle we read and hear against the legal enforcement of laws made in the highest interest of the people.

I know our Postmaster-General requires legal and positive evidence of a business being unlawful and fraudulent before he acts, and then, I am happy and glad to know, he dares do his duty under the law and his oath of office, regardless of public clamor, or political intriguing on behalf of the offenders. Legal evidence against these schemers is the first essential. The chapter on "How the laws are enforced" discloses how this is secured.

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## CHAPTER XXX.

### HOW THE LAWS ARE ENFORCED.

### "LYING," "DECEIT," "DECOY," "INDUCING MEN TO COMMIT CRIME," ETC.

We now come to deal with some of the specious arguments advanced in opposition to the enforcement of laws against the crimes outlined in this book.

I ask a careful consideration of this chapter, and feel sure that any thoughtful mind will see that the laws concerning the transmission of contraband matter through the mails can be, have been, and should be, (and by the grace of God will continue to be,) legally enforced.

The constant cry of "tampering with the mails," protests against "spies invading the mails," "opening other people's letters," "inducing men to commit crime," "decoying to ruin," etc., has been kept up until many honestly believe that all these slanders and misrepresentations must be true. At least, they say, there must be fire when there is so much smoke. These are the efforts of the evil one, against moral purity and truth. I have for more than seven years been obliged to enforce these laws, and I have never seen an *unlawful act done in this connection.* I maintain that a man can fight the devil and do good service to both God and man, in this line.

The question more often asked than any other perhaps, is How do you find out these crimes in the mail? and some are so foolish as to ask, How do you know which letters to suspect, or how do you find which letter has contraband matter in it? Another one will wonder how these criminals can be caught and not interfere with other people's letters; they say, "Why, with the best of motives, I should think you would sometimes get hold of the wrong letters, and thereby meddle with letters that belong to other persons than the criminal," etc., etc.

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All such simple ones are surprised to learn that we never fall into any such blunder, as no officer has occasion to do any of the things implied. No person could remain one day in the Post Office Department, or be retained in service one hour by the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice, who would be guilty of such tampering with the mails. How is it then? I will explain.

THE LAW

says all obscene publications, and articles for indecent and immoral purpose are non-mailable; also, that no letter or circular concerning lotteries or other schemes to defraud, etc., shall be carried in the mails; and provides a penalty against any one who shall deposit or cause to be deposited any of this non-mailable matter in the mails.

Other laws, equally binding, punish with equal severity *all persons* who tamper with the mails, and especially who shall intercept and open a letter belonging to another.

There is no one obligation more sacredly imposed, and binding on an employee of the Post Office Department, than to preserve unsullied the sanctity of the seal.

Absolute security, and rapid transit of all letters to the party addressed, are equally binding.

I have always held this, that notwithstanding that the law says "No obscene book shall be carried in the mail," and that I am sworn to see that law enforced, yet, if I shall stand by and see a man do up in a sealed package, and address and put the necessary letter postage on, a book that I see and know to be obscene, and see him after thus sealing it put it in the mails, neither have I, nor has any other officer or person, a right to interfere with that book after it is placed in the inside of a post office or mail receptacle.

There is but one thing to do. It is *sealed*, and no person is presumed to know its contents; it must go to the office of destination. A case like this, however, has never occurred in my experience; so I may say that, if such a thing were done, all that I as an officer could legally do, in my opinion, would be to go to the office of destination with a subpœna from a United States

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Court, and as soon as the book went from the custody of the Post Office Department into the hands of the party addressed, to subpœna the party and book into Court. This, however, is not practicable. How then have the hundreds of persons been arrested for violation of these laws? I reply.

By doing business with them, precisely as they invite the public to do by their printed advertisements and circulars. The newspaper and the mails are the most powerful agencies these men have, who make a business of debauching the minds, or robbing the public. The mails go *everywhere*; and many newspapers will print any advertisement for money, so long as it is not too gross. Altogether the most dangerous fraud, is the one that shuns the newspaper, and skulks behind the secrecy of the mail. The mails take all sealed packages that come properly addressed and stamped. The law does not contemplate meddling with sealed packages while in the mail in transit; but does intend punishing any person discovered sending any thing which Congress says shall not be deposited or carried in the mails, if detected, whether sent in sealed or unsealed wrappers.

Now the fraud or smut-dealer must advertise his schemes and wares in order to be successful; and it is by these circulars, etc., that the officer of the law gets his clue. A complaint comes from some parent or teacher, that the enclosed circular (which he sends) was received by some beloved child, and the earnest appeal is made, "cannot something be done to suppress this nefarious traffic?" Yes! but how? Are they willing to have their child brought into Court to testify? No. The very first sentence of this letter is oftentimes an appeal, not for any consideration to let the name of the child, or of the complainant be known. *And this we always respect.*

How then are the laws enforced? By correspondence.

Do just as the scoundrel invites you to do—send the amount set opposite the article he has for sale as he directs, and he says he will send the article in return. Now, we so send, following the rules of evidence as laid down by "Greenleaf in evidence," and "Russell on crimes," and what do we accomplish?

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*First.* If what is advertised is obscene, or unlawful, and the scoundrel does as he says he will, we secure legal evidence of his guilt, and then—we secure the scoundrel.

He is taken before a United States Commissioner, who examines to see if there is legal evidence to prove that a crime has been committed, and probable cause to believe the prisoner did it. If held, the matter goes before the Grand Jury, and then before a petit jury for trial.

On both the examination and the trial, these men can, themselves or by counsel, bring up and ask me anything to my discredit. Why are not these charges brought up then? If I am guilty of all these monstrous charges of "tampering with the mails," "inducing men to commit crime," of "blackmail," etc., why do not some of these criminals show it in open court, before a jury? Why is it left for a "New York Pastor" to insinuate, misrepresent, and distort facts, and do what a shyster lawyer dare not do in court? or for the infidel, the foe of religion and decency, to proclaim it without proof of facts? In a recent trial, one of the counsel for the prisoner asked the judge to charge the jury that, by writing to these men, I had induced these men to commit a crime. The judge declined, saying there was nothing in my letter to that effect.

Let me further illustrate and nail these lies about

"DECOYS," "INDUCING MEN TO COMMIT CRIME," ETC.

In Stamford, Conn., a few years ago, a man advertised a "Musical Album for 50 cents." I had reasons to suspect him, and so wrote for the album. In reply I received, not an album, but a circular of obscene books, on which was a slip saying the musical album was only a pretence to enable him to send a catalogue of his fancy books; that if I chose to order, I should deduct the 50 cents from the price of what I wanted and send the balance, and he would forward the book. Well, I chose to order, and then, after getting the book he advertised, which proved to be an obscene book, I chose to arrest him and send the scamp to jail. Is this inducing a man to commit a crime? Never!



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Now, suppose here was a party advertising a musical album, and actually doing no other business, and I had sent money to him, and asked him to please get me such-and-such a book and send by mail, and had sent more than the price of the book, so that he could have made a handsome profit and a bonus besides. This is inducing a man to commit a crime, and any person who would do such a thing and then arrest the party, should be sent to State prison in his place. It is like the absurd charges of "conspiracy," that the rum-seller raises against men who walk into his place, which he keeps open for the public, and buy what he keeps to sell in violation of law, and then prosecute him, in order to oblige him to desist from violating the law. The rum-seller, the smut dealer, the gambler, and the lottery men are ghouls who fatten on the weaknesses of their fellow-men. Surely, it cannot be a crime to prevent them from destroying fresh victims, by the legal enforcement of the laws they boldly set about to violate. And if a sworn officer of the law gives them an opportunity to carry on the business which they are daily and constantly engaged in, they must not complain. They have the stock on hand in violation of law; they know it is against the law; but they take their chances, and they sell every opportunity they get at a profit to themselves, and they take their risks of being sharp enough not to get caught.

The letter placed in the mails to test whether there is a thief along a certain route of carriers, or a dishonest railway postal clerk, or some outsider that is sending unlawful matter through the mails, is

NOT A DECOY.

It is a *test* letter. Any person has a right to put a hundred letters, or a million if he chooses, into the mails. He may take envelopes and fill with blank papers, or he may put in marked bills if he please, or he may write to every advertisement he sees in a particular paper if he take the notion; and if he addresses them and puts the necessary stamps on them, the carrier and postal clerk must forward. Now, the fact that the thief steals one of these letters is not a crime the party mailing the same can

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in any manner be responsible for; neither can it be held that he induced the thief to steal because he sent this letter. The letter was properly in the mails, but the thief improperly took it out. Now, the defenders of obscenity have not one word to say by way of "protesting" against children writing to the advertisements in newspapers, or circulars, thrust upon them by the venders of obscene publications. No! the child may write, and these scoundrels may advertise and set their traps for the feet of the unwary and the ruin of the morals of our youth, all along that great thoroughfare of communication, the mails, which lead up into all our homes and schools; but no sworn officer of the law shall be allowed to do what these brutes seek to seduce the child to do—write for what they have to sell—lest, perchance, evidence of their hellish business be secured, the scoundrel exposed, and his monstrous traffic legally stopped.

I repeat, there is but one practical method of enforcing these laws—*by correspondence*. Suppose, in the case of a parent sending a circular advertising obscene books, as above described, the officer could prove the handwriting on the envelope, and could further prove, by a clerk who put the letter in the mails, that the writer of the address actually gave the envelope to this boy to mail. Then, I hear some one say, you have a complete case. No, we have no case at all. There is no legal evidence to show that the circular, which is the gist of the offence, was in the envelope when it was mailed. The boy did not see it; all he knows is, that he identifies its envelope as one he mailed. To prove the case legally we must bring the child into court, to prove the circular was in the envelope when it was received. It will thus be seen you have no case without the child.. There are three reasons why the child should not be called into court.

*First.* It would be a gross hardship and outrage to oblige a pure, sweet girl to go into court to testify against a scoundrel who has most infamously insulted her by sending the vile circular to her.

*Secondly.* To do it would be to proclaim to the world that here is a girl who has seen obscene things, and many mean people would insinuate base things to her injury; as many would say,

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"Well, I never got such a thing while away at school, and I know no decent girl would have such a thing sent unless she ———." Yes, reader, keep right on and spin out this insinuation as long as you can, and then you will not catch up with the slanderer who would thus traduce the fair name of an innocent girl.

*Thirdly.* To do it would be to disgrace the child, bring shame on the family and scandal on the home and school.

By the system, that I feel sure every decent man will endorse, above outlined, it is possible to secure legal evidence to punish the worse-than-thief engaging in this cursed business, and at the same time, by a strictly honorable course, stand between the youth and disgrace, the family and shame, and shield the home and school from scandal.

In the trial of more than two hundred cases, evidence thus secured has resulted in the conviction of the miscreants so offending.

I repeat, then, with emphasis, that where an officer, in the discharge of his duty, and for the purpose of properly enforcing the laws, writes to the violators of these laws, he is *not a spy, does not induce men to commit a crime*, and these letters are not "decoy" but *test* letters. By this strictly legal method he tests and ascertains if the laws are violated and who the offender is. To twist, distort, pervert and insinuate mean things is the occupation of the shyster and slanderer, and beneath the position of an honorable person. From decent citizens the public servant looks for sympathy and support, especially after he has faithfully done his duty.

One difficulty, and one of the greatest too, in the prosecution of our work, is that we cannot publish the facts. If we could we could create not only sympathy, but more—an intense indignation that would drive the miscreants we arrest out of any civilized country. A father discovered, a few weeks ago, where his child had been outraged by one of these men. He came for assistance to our office, and in telling over the facts he said, "I dared not go home last night for fear I should see this monster and kill him." This is a feeling often awakened where the facts are known.

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Suppose some person should take the catalogue of one of the leading female seminaries in the land, and send by mail to each of the young lady students a box containing a scorpion, or a venomous serpent, which, when the box was opened, should spring out and sting or fasten its deadly fangs into the delicate flesh of these fair ones. Is there any one so senseless as to stop to split hairs as to about how the man should be caught, and after being caught, as to whether he be hung by a silk cord or a grass rope?

Suppose some person should go about some morning and drop a deadly poison into the milk cans at the houses in one of our large cities? Would there be much stopping to consider how the officer should arrest him, or fault found because the officer had cotton gloves on his hands instead of kids?

And yet, when we come to deal with the monsters that make it a business to collect the names and addresses of the fairest and purest in the land, and then send secretly, unknown to teacher, parent and "Pastor" alike, this that destroys all noble instincts, corrupts all that is pure, eats out the virtues of youth, the innocence of childhood, and blasts the future prospects of the man or woman, then the officer must not move to test this case or secure legal evidence to punish the vampire, lest some one say, "it is a decoy," or he "induces men to commit crime," etc. There is no middle ground here. There is but one name for such folly—ignorance.

But of late, we have a new gospel, another argument, used in the interest of the criminal and against the cause, to wit: That I should go to these vampires, and in a manner "childlike and bland" inform them that they are violating the laws, and give them a chance to reform. This is the latest school of ethics, and it has some few followers. This seems too ridiculous to one familiar with the facts.

In the first place, every man engaging in this business knows it is against the law and guards himself against its consequences.

One party formerly issued a circular in which he said: "It is against the law to send these things [that he advertised on this same circular] through the mails, and there is a certain man, named Comstock, who is after those in this business, and therefore

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we have to be very careful," etc. Another instance: A villain, sending infamous wares through the mail in Cleveland, O., informed me at an interview I had with him, that he could do a big business in his line only for a certain special agent who was after these things, and that therefore he had to be very careful how and to whom he sent; that he was formerly in Detroit, and while there that ——— ——— special agent (leaving off the adjectives) came near catching him, and would have caught him, only that he was a little too sharp for him; but that he never would get him, as he was posted. A moment later I called a marshal in and did get him, and he found himself better posted.

In Brooklyn I found a man selling obscene cards. He kindly volunteered the advice to me (he did not know me), that I had better look out, as there was a fellow named Comstock around after fellows dealing in this kind of matter, and that he would nab me if I did not look out. He then gave me the valuable information that he had been two years in this business and had never been caught, and never would be either, as he was too smart for that —— Comstock. He *was* caught in about one minute afterwards.

To go to such men as these, or even to such a one as was recently arrested in Nassau street, N. Y., where a large stock of the vilest things was on hand constantly for sale, and where rich men's sons could supply themselves, and attempt to reason with them and tell them they are wrong, is simply to afford them a good laugh at my expense after I am gone, cause them to add to their crime by lying and saying they never were in the business; and make them all the more careful and shy in the future, and render detection more difficult.

It is worse than casting "pearls before swine," and that we are not to do.

Suppose one of this new school of protectionists should go out some day on to a lawn where children were playing. They are having high glee over their games, all unconscious of danger. He sees a venomous serpent gliding noiselessly along toward them, or perchance, unseen by these dear ones, preparing to strike its

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deadly fangs into their tender limbs. What would be thought of this man if he should stop at a safe distance and address this serpent as follows: "Good morning, Mr. Serpent! you are a venomous reptile, and your bite is deadly. You are the one who yesterday bit a beautiful child in my neighbor's yard, causing her death after a few hours of most terrible anguish. Now, sir, won't you please crawl off into the next yard, and not bite any of these children?"

Or suppose again, he should say, "You are a very bad, venomous serpent, and I am justified in killing you, but that might hurt you, so I advise you to get out of this yard at once."

And yet is this any worse twaddle than what is proposed to do to men, especially when they are intelligent, who deliberately engage in a traffic that destroys the mind, body and soul of our youth?

Now suppose this man who finds the deadly serpent upon his lawn, among his children, says not one word for or to the children, but addresses himself to the snake: "Inasmuch as you are the serpent that destroyed my neighbor's beautiful child, and brought desolation and lasting grief and sorrow upon his family, I am going to kill you unless you crawl off and hide yourself from public view."

Is it any less preposterous to allow a man who for years has secretly defied the laws of the land, to be informed that he has been discovered, and that there are proofs of his infamy and instances of lasting injury he has done to tender youth, and then letting him go unwhipped of justice, and leave him in the community to adopt new methods to evade the laws, while he continues the awful curse upon the young?

It would be rather risky work for an officer to go to a man suspected of dealing in these matters, and warn him. He would be liable at once to the charge of an attempt at "blackmail." Without a full knowledge of facts an officer could not safely or consistently move; and with those facts, his duty is to move in the courts, according to law.

Another mistake these men (and many good men fall into this

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error), is of supposing that every officer is a pardoning bureau. This is not so. The officer's duty is to detect crime, and secure legal evidence to punish offenders.

Laws are made to punish criminals, and thus restraining crime, protect the community. The courts are guardians of the public morals. The Judge on the bench interprets the law, holds the scales of justice with closed eyes (or is supposed to, but sometimes the eye nearest the criminal or his party gets a "leetle" open), and imposes such sentence as the case merits, after all the facts have been laid before him.

The President of the United States, or the Governor of the State, is the pardoning power. This seems a wise arrangement, and I believe will best serve to secure a wholesome enforcement of law. I accept the situation, and shall not assume the functions of either of my superiors, however much I would like to gratify the criminal and his friends.

But imagine the man again addressing the snake, and saying, "I have made up my mind to kill you. Now you play around among the children, while I go and get a pillow for your head to rest upon, and some chloroform to make you insensible, and then when you are thus affected, I will cut your head off."

On a par with this is the proposition that the officer must introduce himself, or write under his own name to the criminal, especially if it be one of these "moral cancer planters" he is dealing with. The merchant who wants a clerk, the bank that wants a cashier, the lady who seeks a servant, all advertise as "A. B." or "John Smith, P. O. Box ——, Post Office," or any other name or initial they choose, in order to secure new help without thronging the place of business or home. There are wise reasons for this course, and no one objects. The merchant desires to prevent the change contemplated, till arrangements are made.

The post office laws and regulations sanction and provide for the delivery of letters to parties, even though the address be fictitious. Now, what commercial practice and custom sanctions, and the law permits, is not a heinous offence for an officer of the

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law to do, when he is after a new head of the hydra-headed monster—obscene publications.

In this connection, let me add some things I condemn and have never practiced nor permitted.

*First.* To send money to an innocent party, or one not in the business, for him to get unlawful matter. I send only for what a man advertises he has for sale, and as he has it.

*Second.* To ask the party to send by mail. I send for the matter he advertises, leaving him free to send by freight, by messenger, by express, or as he chooses. If he sends by mail he does so at his own option and risk. He does it knowing it is unlawful; but he thinks he is safe, therefore he takes the risk of being caught.

I have thus dwelt upon these offences, methods, objections, etc., because the cause is one that appeals to the best impulses of the human heart. Because of ignorance many are offended. It must needs be that offences come, unless people will put themselves in the way of getting facts. I bow with respectful deference to the person who honestly doubts, and who uses rational means to secure the facts. A mighty interest, a great and important cause has been, in a measure, committed to my hands. I have sought to execute and defend laws and measures necessary for the successful carrying forward of this great work. I have found my best efforts misrepresented, my good name traduced, the highest interests of this effort for good hindered, and the way almost hedged up, by the misrepresentations of the Press. I have seen the intrigues of the politician thwart the just and proper enforcement of laws. I have felt the keen edge of the assassin's knife, and the keener edge of the slanderer's tongue. I have seen the interests of this cause wax and wane. Through sunshine and cloud, through seasons of depression, and surrounded by an atmosphere filled with the horrors of disgusting things, worse than dead men's bones, I have pursued the work God gave me to do. I have been called "radical," "fanatic," "inquisitor," "spy," "blackmailer," "thief," "robber," everything almost that vile men could manufacture and hurl against

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me, and yet I have, by the grace of God, been sustained to this hour; and as I look back, I see these bubbles that burst at the touch of truth, and in them I behold the goodness of God, who through all has sustained me; and I now rejoice that at least some little good has been done in His name.

These trials seem hard as we pass through them. Once by, and they are trifles light as air, if we but bear them as we ought. It matters little what men say. I presume this book, written to warn, assist, protect, and help others, will share the same fate. If so, it will be only a type of the seven years' experience, but no argument why the book should not have been written, or the good work have been done and still continue.

I long to say one word to young men in closing. Throughout all the gloom, through all the trying scenes, in all the dark and lonely paths, the blessed promises of God have sustained, cheered, strengthened, and kept me. No brighter light shines on human pathway, than from out the promises of His Word. No surer guide to youth, no safer hand to lead than the hand of Jesus Christ. And no joy of earth can compare with the consciousness of having done the Master's will—whatever we find to do, doing all for God.

A safe and sure help is a prayer in the morning, that we may please Him to-day; and then going to work, "doing with our might whatsoever our hands find to do, as unto God, and not unto men."

I am not perfect; I am conscious of much that is weak and wrong in my own life; but I live and pray and struggle with the hope of some day overcoming and realizing the preciousness of the promises in the following texts:

REV. ii: 7.—"To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God."

REV. ii: 11.—"Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: * * * * be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

Also REV. iii: 5, 12, 21.

Not yielding to weakness, temptation, and sin, but fighting and praying to overcome and get the victory over our appetites, our

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passions—over temptation and sin—this is living, and doing, if all be done for Christ's sake.

The sentimental story paper, the dime novel, the boys and girls' papers, the sensual weekly journals, are each in their way warring against our youth, leading them to become vapid, sentimental, lustful, and criminal. The Infidel press is breeding blasphemers, and seeking by all in its power to turn men from God and holy things, against laws, against all that makes men wiser and better; and these all exist openly. Surely then, there ought no argument be necessary, to defend or advocate the enforcement of laws, designed for the protection of the morals of the young, and which are opposed to the crimes referred to in this book. Before censuring, ridiculing, or condemning, will not the public read the facts in this book, and then let their sympathies go with their judgment, toward the prompt and effectual enforcement of these laws!

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# CHAPTER XXXI.

## INSINUATIONS VERSUS REPUTATION.

### A LIE LOSES NOTHING ON ITS TRAVELS.

I feel constrained to insert this chapter, although it was not contemplated at the outset. I had purposed to deal only with the frauds, by which persons were deceived and defrauded of their money and valuables. But as there is nothing so dear to a man as his reputation, I feel justified in adding this chapter, in order to open the eyes of those who are disposed to believe every thing they see in print. As this book is made up from personal experience, I may be pardoned, if I present in this chapter, incidents that are personal and have occurred while this book has been in preparation. I cannot better illustrate and expose a growing evil. Because I have suffered in my good name is no reason why I should not save others, and help others bear the attacks of the slanderer. The meanest kind of a man is the person who, ignorant of any facts against a man's reputation, makes statements that insinuate and imply something wrong, and in that way takes an unfair advantage of the victim of his libels. An open charge one can meet. An insinuation always implies more than he who speaks it dares utter, and cannot be met without adding an unmerited dignity to the falsehood by noticing it.

There are different grades of slanderers, and some, from their position in society, require an answer, while others are not to be meddled with; just as about the farm there are certain animals which commit depredations, devour poultry, suck eggs, destroy growing crops, etc. Of these, the fox, the weasel, the mink, the farmer shoots on sight; but there is another kind he gives a wide berth. To meddle with it, is to make the air offensive, while, if let alone, it may destroy a brood of chickens or do some slight injury, and then quietly walk off without serious results.

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The slanderer delights in misrepresentations, and in anything that detracts from the good name and reputation of his victim.

The following simple statement of facts, precisely as they have recently occurred before the public, are carefully reproduced here in concise form, and will illustrate the following:

I. A lie never loses anything on its travels.

II. It is easy to have matter detrimental to a man's good name, published in respectable papers.

III. These false statements are read, and create injust prejudices against a person, in the minds of respectable people, and thus hinder the prosperity of a good cause.

In the New York *Tribune* of March 1st, 1880, there appeared the following card:

ANTHONY COMSTOCK'S WORK.

A BAPTIST DOCTOR OF DIVINITY PROTESTS AGAINST IT IN STRONG TERMS.

*To the Editor of the Tribune:*

*Sir*—As a citizen, a taxpayer and a clergyman, having a numerous parish, I wish to protest against the work of Anthony Comstock and his associates. I protest against his lottery raids, because they are heartless and persecuting. Clerks and buyers are locked up under oppressive laws, enacted because of a popular prejudice. I hold that the best cure for lottery gambling is to let buyers sicken of the business just as outsiders do of stock buying, by reaping a crop of disappointment. At any rate do not tell us that the United States mails are to be invaded by spies. There is neither morality nor honesty in seizing money in lottery offices. To give it to the poor savors of the methods of old-time English footpads who robbed from the rich and gained safety by subsidizing the poor.

I protest against the whole system of spies and the lying thereby enacted. It is a disgrace to try to commit the Church to these methods. If it be a crime to appeal to the cupidity of the wicked and cheat them under promise of gain in investing in lotteries, etc., is it not equally a crime to appeal to the cupidity of the wicked by pretending to be a bona fide buyer of a ticket only to lead the seller to ruin?

I protest against the pretentious and futile raids on disreputable houses which only disturb public morality by lifting the curtain and dropping it after the innocent have seen. Well might a fallen woman say, "They raid us or they tell us to leave our business. If we promise to reform, Christians pray over us, sing to us; out of meetings, shun us. We get only hymns, slights and hunger. Our associates in sin and death are our only true friends. To leave our present life is drudgery or hunger. There is no way for a fallen woman to get up and back."

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Why is not some method devised to stop the fall beforehand, and to recover the weak girl by offering her a home and work such as she could do, such as she did before the fall? She tries to reform, and nine cases out of ten she is asked to go to heavy domestic service to compete with the brawny Irish emigrant.

I protest against the law and the proceedings under them of Anthony Comstock, wherein he attempts to regulate and prohibit the sale of certain things hitherto commended by prudent physicians as harmless and yet invaluable to sickly and overburdened mothers. I am aware of the fact that some of those who have favored these prohibitions, buy and use what they denounce. Common sense is a jewel, and there ought to be laws, if we are going to invade the privacy of homes, to discourage the bringing into existence of weaklings; also to guard the mothers from burdens that prevent them from caring for the children they have.

Finally, I protest against the obscene, so-called, "exhibitions" given by the said Comstock. Hundreds of clergymen, deacons and other men have been invited to see the tools, pictures and such things that this man has forcibly taken from the owners. Not only have these degrading things been frequently shown to large gatherings of men, but scores have been invited to private views. These shows have been given frequently for years. "The elect" behold them! The pretence is that this will awaken public opinion against them. Very well. Let us hold to the line. If gathering men to look at them will make them hate them let us have them on sale for men everywhere. I deem the whole thing impertinent folly; as a remedy, shabby; in the light of justice, dishonesty and fraud; in the line of government, the setting up of a dangerous precedent and the establishing of principles that undermine our liberty and put us back toward despotism.

A NEW YORK PASTOR.

New York, February 12, 1880.

This was a cowardly onslaught on another man's reputation, and all the more infamous because, as will be seen in its author's own published apology, he intended to attack me not as a man open and frank, but he says: "It was intended to make the nom de plume 'so general and indefinite' as to point to no particular person, and yet indicate the *profession* of the writer."

Is that the calling of a "Pastor," or the right use of the position we all respect, of a Minister? It is because of this gentleman's position that his case is noticed; and further, and over all other reasons, because he is unjust and uncharitable, and persists in not knowing facts, that it has become necessary for the writer to so present them.

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I am unwilling to do this gentleman an injustice, and, therefore, as I am the one injured and misrepresented, I am also conscious of being right, and hence, I can afford to be liberal. I have no doubt that the "New York Pastor" thought at that time he was doing a right thing. He had been deceived, for if he had known the facts, and not the convict's side of the story, he would never have "protested against the work of Anthony Comstock and his Association." If he had responded to the following invitation, he could have learned the facts. I did two things to afford him an opportunity to inform himself.

First, I called upon Mr. Whitelaw Reid, of the *Tribune*, and asked for the Pastor's name. He politely informed me that to give it was against the rules of the office, and asked what I wanted it for. I replied that this gentleman was misinformed and some one had deceived him, and that I would be glad to furnish him an opportunity to investigate fully for himself.

Mr. Reid wrote the Pastor for permission to give me his name, and received the following reply.

**I want under the general rule of your office to continue unknown. There is an effort to make this personal, that does not argue the question. I do not know Mr. Comstock. I don't want to meet him. There is a wide-spread feeling among good people that the zeal of his organization is working on towards persecution. I think a dignified protest in order. I have tried to make it. I don't want to pursue the matter further. If you allow him to reply I hope you will keep him in the strict line of fairness and propriety.**

If such a "wide-spread feeling" exists it is because of falsehoods, base insinuations and misrepresentations that the slanderer has uttered, and not from actual facts or deeds done to our discredit.

Secondly, failing to secure the name of the author of the above libel, I addressed each of the Baptist clergymen of the city, a letter, copy of which I present in full.

NEW YORK, March 5th, 1880.

REV.

*Dear Sir*—I have the honor to ask if you will please inform me if you are the author of a letter published in the New York *Tribune* of the 1st inst., signed a "New York Pastor?" If so, will you kindly select three gentlemen

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who shall be fair-minded and unbiased, and allow me to go before these three gentlemen with you, and you submit any and every evidence you may have bearing upon any act of mine, to these gentlemen, for them to decide, after they shall hear both sides, whether I am right or wrong in the course I have pursued under my oath of office.

Further, I will cheerfully place at your disposal the Record containing the particulars of every case I have passed upon. If they shall find me wrong let them denounce me. If you are wrong, you to publicly apologize for the gross charges and insinuations in the card referred to.

Nothing in this letter is personal, but is sent to all alike in the name of truth, justice, and morality. Believe me,

Very truly yours,

ANTHONY COMSTOCK.

Receiving kind and cordial replies from nearly all, save the supposed "New York Pastor," I wrote him the following letter, which is presented in full, because of his subsequent action, and references to these two letters.

NEW YORK, March 24th, 1880.

REV.

*Dear Sir*—On the 5th inst. I addressed a letter to you in reference to an article published by a "New York Pastor" in the *Tribune*. In this letter I asked, if you were the author of that communication. This was a general letter addressed to all of the Baptist clergymen of this city. Failing to receive a reply from you and thinking perhaps that my letter may have miscarried, I would respectfully ask a reply to this, and also if you know who the author of the published letter in the *Tribune* is? If so, will you have the kindness to communicate the fact to me?

It has been intimated to me that you know the author of that letter. If so, will you extend to the gentleman in question, a most pressing invitation from me, to appear before the officers of this Society and make a statement of his grievances to them in my presence?

In simple justice to my cause first, and afterwards on my own personal behalf, I make this request.

Yours &c.,

ANTHONY COMSTOCK.

Instead of accepting the open and frank offer in my letters, or replying, as all the other gentlemen had done, on April 5th, 1880, after these false accusations and insinuations had stood against my good name for more than a month, the following was published in the *Tribune:*

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ANTHONY COMSTOCK'S WORK.

THE REV. DR. W., PASTOR OF THE —— CHURCH, REFERS TO HIS FIRST LETTER THAT RAISED A BREEZE AMONG HIS FELLOW-CLERGYMEN.

*To the Editor of The Tribune:*

SIR—Some time since there appeared in your paper an article signed "A New York Pastor." It was intended to make the nom de plume "so general and indefinite" as to point to no particular person, and yet indicate the profession of the writer. I am advised that an odious interpretation has been put on part of that article in some quarters, that its authorship has been attributed to different individuals, and further, that it has been construed to give aid and comfort to certain offenders who ought not to be permitted to claim for a day that they have an unknown religious teacher as their champion.

In view of these facts, and also because part of said communication, by somewhat mixed, sweeping conclusions, does injustice impliedly to some very worthy persons, I see no course left open to me but to say frankly I am responsible for that letter, having procured its publication.

I had supposed that at this time the Society for the Prevention of Vice was managed by a single individual, but I learn that it is backed and controlled by many very worthy men, whose character is a warrant for upright doing. I regret it if my article has injured them in any way. Of Mr. Comstock I claim to know nothing, except as concerns his public acts. I never saw him except once, and that was years ago. I have no personal issue with him. I have no reason to suppose that he does not act according to law and his oath of office. I judge that he acts conscientiously as he views his duty.

My intention was chiefly to criticise those laws under which he acts. I do not believe a "special officer" should be permitted by law to exercise judicial functions, and at will seize suspected letters in transit through the mails. This should be done rarely, and only for high causes on the particular order of a competent Court. I oppose the seizing of money in a lottery office to feed the poor. If it cannot be returned to the sender, let it alone. The law authorizes seizing it, but I do not believe Christian ethics do. I do not believe that the Church can consistently countenance the acting or telling an untruth to catch even a willing law-breaker. I do not believe Mr. Comstock's society ought to expect the Church to approve the paying of a bad man for his wares, thus inducing him to commit a crime in order to secure his conviction.

I see no profit nor propriety in displaying obscene trophies to anyone in order to stimulate public opinion against vice. This latter is largely a question of taste on which good men differ. I beg to waive the discussion of one other point, merely saying that fairness will not force an unintended construction on words meant to guard against a nameless crime fearfully increasing among the half-crazed and over-burdened.

Of the rest of my letter I would say it had no application to the society



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mentioned or its agents, except as to a part of the conclusion; and that was too sweeping. I believe the above society has accomplished much good. As the father of a growing family, I am interested deeply in every means for its protection, and must be heartily in accord with every proper effort to suppress vice.

Finally, in order that this communication may have its full force, I desire to say that no one asked, advised, nor procured it. No one except the editor of *The Tribune* had any sure means of determining the writer of the former article. Neither did the writer lay himself liable to any possible pressure other than his sense of justice. Regardless of consequences, I admit cheerfully, from a sense of perceived duty, the wrong done by some of my former hasty sentences, at the same time maintaining the opinions reaffirmed, unpopular though they be. I bow to the castigation in store for him that gets into print over his own signature on controverted subjects, and leave my plea to the judgment of my friends and all fair-minded men. A. S. W.*

NEW YORK, April 3, 1880.

Here, we have a minister of the gospel, dealing in the meanest kind of insinuations, which he must have known would reflect upon the reputation of a man he did not know. But if his victim is allowed to reply, he hopes "he will be kept in the strict line of fairness and propriety." This is good! He evidently did not intend me to follow his example. Take a few of his protests, charges, and insinuations, and examine them by themselves, and see how sharply and cunningly he has drafted them. "I protest against the work of Anthony Comstock and his associates." We do not complain at this. To protest is every man's right. Our work is the legal enforcement of laws that are designed to protect the morals of the youth in the community. He thus arrays himself against this work; but in whose interest? Not of youth and children debauched, but on the side and in the interest of their debauchers. He may not have designed this; but there he is. "I protest against his lottery raids, because they are heartless and persecuting." Here is a charge. But as I have been

* It will be observed that this person does not hesitate to use my name, and place it in print before the public. Conscious of my integrity, I do not seek to punish him, or revenge myself, but rather vindicate my good name. I therefore omit his name. Those who have seen the card and interviews know who is meant, and others shall not know it from me; neither will I perpetuate his name in connection with this offence by naming him here.

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present at each arrest or raid, I, from personal knowledge, say this is not true, as none but guilty men have been arrested, and they always legally. It is neither "heartless nor persecuting" to legally enforce laws against gambling hells; and all lotteries are gambling, and odious gambling.

"At any rate, do not tell us that the United States mails are to be invaded by spies." This is an insinuation. It implies something wrong. An officer who legally discharges his duty, and detects crimes in the post office department, is no more a spy than the Chief of Police or Sheriff. To correspond with the men who are violating the laws (to detect their crimes and bring them to justice), precisely as they invite the public to do, is not "invading the mails;" nor is it any more just, to charge that the officer who does his duty, under his oath of office, is a spy.

"If it be a crime to appeal to the cupidity of the wicked, and cheat them under promise of gain in investing in lotteries, etc., is it not equally a crime to appeal to the cupidity of the wicked by pretending to be a *bona fide* buyer of a ticket only to lead the seller to ruin?"

Another crazy insinuation, absurd! preposterous! The officer who secures legal evidence by which to enforce the laws, compared to the blackleg that runs one of these gambling hells, or the sharper that runs one of these lottery swindles! Pray, what of the wife and children of the victim of the gambler's deceit and robbery? Is there no law to shield them? Why not one single hint, or at least a protest, in the interests of families ruined and youth cursed?

He protests against the "pretentious and futile raids on disreputable houses." What makes these raids futile? From what class are these plague-spots recruited? City dens of infamy, which you are so tender of, "Pastor," are recruited largely from the homes of the country—by young girls—by somebody's daughters, some person's beloved sister and child; and these raids are futile because well-dressed and would-be reputable men support and protect these dens. Would you give them free license to exist and thrive? I say, crush them out by the iron heel of the law

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and by every legal measure, even though every "pastor" in the land protests. If there were no dens, *girls could not occupy them; neither could our young men throng them.*

"I protest against the laws and proceedings under them of Anthony Comstock, wherein he attempts to regulate and prohibit the sale of certain things hitherto commended by prudent physicians." * * "I am aware of the fact that some of those who have favored these prohibitions buy and use what they denounce." The laws he protests against prevent the abortionist selling, or sending his vile incentives to crime through the mails. The insinuation of what he "knows," printed in this connection, is beneath the contempt of the meanest man living.

I have a protest in this connection. I protest against any decent citizen, arraying himself on the side of the abortionist and against these laws, until we are able to accomplish what we have long fought for—the prevention of the smut dealer and abortionist from sending their incentives to crime to the youth in our schools and seminaries. In my judgment, based on my seven years' experience, these things indiscriminately circulated lead to the ruin of more young women, dragging them from the home circle to fill the dens of infamy this "pastor" does not want to see raided, than any other cause. Evidently this pastor is either crazy, stupidly ignorant, a very bad man at heart, or else he has a very poor way of expressing himself so as to make people understand his meaning.

Then his last sweeping protest against "obscene exhibitions." He was never in my office; he misrepresents and misstates the facts. Never has an exhibition such as he insinuates been made. There is a record kept of every case, and when the officers of this Society are present, or some person interested in some case calls, these records are consulted, but never from prurient curiosity, and not frequently. In his apology, he insinuates, that special officers seized letters in the mails that are suspected as being violation of laws. I never knew such a thing to be done. It would be a violation of law, and certainly it would not be safe for me or any other officer to do such a deed, as it would be sure to cost us our

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case before a jury in the trial of a prisoner, and our positions in the Post Office Department. There is not a better postal service in the world, nor one where a person's mail is more sacredly guarded from all meddling than our service. Look at the constant detection and punishment of dishonest employees of the Post Office Department! What does this argue? Watchfulness and zeal for the people—a perfect system.

I have specified these things, because of the persistent effort of this pastor to assail my acts and reputation in this underhand and malicious manner, and because he persists in not knowing the facts, and yet continues his base slanders. I cannot but feel that he is deceived by ex-convicts and smut dealers, whom he is so unfortunate as to know and associate with.

On the 29th of June, 1880, the following appeared in the New York Sun:

A PREACHER'S VIEW OF COMSTOCK.—THE BAPTIST MINISTERS REFUSE TO PASS A RESOLUTION ADVERSE TO THE AGENT.

The Baptist Ministers' Conference met yesterday in 9 Murray street, for the last time before the annual summer vacation of two months. The Essay of the day was by the Rev. J. J. Brower, of the North Baptist Church, in this city. The essay was on the early days of the Conference, from about 1830 to about 1840, when the ministers met with long pipes and "to the winds blue Monday sent." Before the Essay was read, the Rev. Dr. A. S. W., of the —— —— Church, in West —— street, asked permission to speak to a resolution which he held in his hand. Permission was unanimously given. Dr. W. has been known as the author of a letter in which he sharply criticised the methods of Anthony Comstock as agent for the Society for the Suppression of Vice. The letter was denounced in open session of the Conference, on the day after it appeared, as contrary to the views of the majority of the Baptist ministers in and near New York City. To give the ministers some notion of the nature of his work, Anthony Comstock was invited to read an essay before them, and an essay was read before the Conference on May 23d last. It was some weeks before it leaked out that Dr. W. was the author of the letter.

Dr. W. was pale when he stood before the ministers yesterday, but the paper in his hand did not tremble, nor did his voice waver. He said that since the publication of the letter, and the opposition that it had aroused among his brethren he had been too busily engaged in other affairs to come before the Conference and face Comstock's statements. Comstock had denounced the letter and said that its view of his work was like that taken by a criminal who had felt the hand of the Society for the Prevention of Vice.

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Dr. W. said that he did not look at Comstock's work through the eyes of a criminal. He looked at it through the eyes of Judge Gildersleeve. Comstock took some woman before Judge Gildersleeve, and it was shown in the trial, that Comstock had paid the women at a low haunt $14.50 to be indecent, and after viewing the sight for two hours had taken them before Judge Gildersleeve who held that Comstock was a participator in the crime. The speaker named private citizens who agreed with him as to the immorality of Comstock's work, and added in a sarcastic tone: "Oh yes, it's all right to go to young men and say, 'Buy obscene pictures and we will pay you for your trouble.'" You should write a new beatitude, "Blessed are ye when ye use all manner of deceit and turpitude to get others to do wrong, who when they get a chance will snatch you bald headed." Then Dr. W. read the following resolution, which he said he hoped to see voted on and passed:

*Resolved*, That the vote of thanks given by this Conference to Anthony Comstock for his Essay, be not understood as an approval of all of his work as an Agent of the Society for the Suppression of Vice, or as an approval of the gross and covert attack on one of the members of this body of Ministers.

The Rev. Amon G. Lawson, of the Greenwood Baptist Church, was on his feet in an instant. He hesitated to shut off debate on any subject before the Conference, he said, because this was not a Baptist custom, but he felt compelled to move an indefinite postponement of the resolution. Half a dozen Ministers seconded the motion, and Dr. W., who had begun to talk hurriedly to the Rev. Dr. Miller, of Greenpoint, turned toward the Rev. Mr. Lawson and said, "I consent, I can stand it as well as you can. I got my say, that was all that I wanted."

The motion to postpone was unanimously carried. Dr. W. immediately went from the room and the house.

He says, "I had my say, and that was all I wanted."

Here, then, we have a foul slander uttered publicly, as coming from a clergyman. He neither denies its authenticity, nor affords his victim a chance to show him that he is misinformed.

Now what are the facts? I stand by the facts in each of my cases, whether they are disagreeable or no. There are often exceedingly disagreeable duties for a man to perform. The breaking up of this den referred to was one of the most trying duties I ever had to discharge. The facts are as follows:

Numerous complaints came to our office against a most disgusting and obscene exhibition that was given by beastly women, to the ruin of hundreds of thoughtless young men. These exhibitions were given almost nightly. At first, I felt such a disgust and abhorrence at the descriptions I received in these complaints,

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that I was inclined to be cowardly and not act. My conscience, my whole being as a man cried out against this cowardice. I knew well what it would cost me. I humbly and earnestly prayed for grace to do my duty, and then I went forward. The first essential to a successful effort is legal evidence. The momentous question then arose how to get it? There was but one legal way. That was to get it legally. To do it, some one must see this exhibition in order to prove what it was, and identify the parties carrying it on. I could not send young men there; to do that would have been dastardly, after I had been informed of its character. I could not make a strong case without most positive proof, as it is difficult to conceive of anything more horrible. For two years this place had existed and thrived in the rear of the 15th Precinct Police Station, the yards adjoining. Consequently I could not go there for help. What then? I went to the Mayor's squad and selected six of the truest and best men I knew on the Police force—some of them Christian men. We visited this den, and I saw the party who kept the house, and so doubtful was I of the truth of what I had heard, before anything else I asked if ——— exhibitions were given there? This matron replied, "Oh yes. This has been the headquarters for more than two years. There are six exhibitors, and a regular programme, and the performance lasts about an hour." She further informed us, "that some of the exhibitors were absent, but that it would make no difference, as *the same programme* was always enacted." Here then I had official and reliable information from the mouth of the proprietress of this exhibition, that *it existed*, as it had done for *more than two years* previous, and with a *regular programme*. Here then is a pit-fall for the feet of young men! Shall I close it? Here is a hell-trap for the souls of our youth! Shall I allow it to exist? Here is an exhibition given by women that beggars description—so gross that even a reference to it brings a blush.—Shall it continue? No! no! By all that is in us as men, *no!* But, you will be maligned, and blackguarded in court, you will be attacked in a vile manner by the press, your enemies will say mean things of you.

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Yes, I knew all that. I have been through all that many times. But if it had been told me that a Minister of the Gospel would have assailed me, as has been done in the foregoing article, I would have declared, no, it is impossible! But I see "all things are possible."

After securing a corroboration of the truth of the complaint, would I be worthy of the confidence of good men if I had turned my back on this den and allowed it to exist? No! There was but one thing left. Close this hell-hole up at once, by all means! you say. Not so fast. The vilest have rights. Whatever an officer of the law does, he must do legally. First get the evidence, and *then* forward. After getting further light from this proprietress, we then did precisely as those frequenters of the vile exhibition formerly known as the "Black Crook," (that sent thousands of youthful souls to perdition,) did; we paid our admission fee, and went into the hall where the performance was nightly given. Here we, sworn officers of the law, remained sufficiently long to secure two things, *and no longer;* to wit:

*First.*—Legal evidence of an indecent exhibition.

*Second.*—Proofs that there was a regular programme regularly enacted.

Having obtained these, I immediately went out, and having secured the keeper of this den first (and one thing that delayed was, that she had gone over to one of her other dens of infamy, for she had two or three in this precinct), we arrested the occupants of this hell-hole. The principal was held for trial on a complaint for "keeping a disorderly house." The exhibitors, for an "indecent exhibition."

Not one cent was paid any person except the regular fee to enter this exhibition room, and this to the *owner* and *not* to the exhibitors; and we had no legal right to interfere until we had legal evidence, or right to enter till we had purchased admission.

Now what of the trial that Mr. W. says he takes his cue from.

There was no such action taken, or word uttered by Judge Gildersleeve, as Mr. W. is charged with saying. The exhibitors had been jointly indicted with the keeper of the house, "for

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keeping a disorderly house," instead of "for an indecent exhibition," as the complaint specified, upon which they had been arrested and held for trial.

Here let me add, that I had reliable information that one, at least, of these exhibitors had previously served a sentence of one year in the penitentiary for the same offence.

The Assistant District Attorney, of course, had to *nolle prosequi* the indictment against the exhibitors, and then, although the case had closed so far as the testimony went, he asked an adjournment in the case of the principal. He then came into court the next day, and stated he had been informed that it was a conspiracy to injure the Captain of Police of that precinct. I, in open court, declared such a statement false. I had, the previous day, asked him to call some of the officers of that precinct to prove that this was a disorderly house. He said no, that the case was fully made out, and yet the judge granted a motion the next day, made by this officer, to dismiss. The motion was granted, on the ground that the Assistant District Attorney had moved it, because, as he said in open court, if this woman is convicted, charges might be preferred against the captain of this precinct and he be dismissed. The court ruled it was the duty of the courts to protect the police, and the case was dismissed. These are facts within my own knowledge, as I was present; and all the records of our Society and witnesses prove the same thing.

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## CHAPTER XXXII.

### INSINUATIONS VERSUS REPUTATION.—*Continued.*

The following report shows what Mr. W. was troubled about:

[Examiner and Chronicle, March 25, 1880.]

Mr. Anthony Comstock occupied the hour at the Ministers' Conference on Monday, and his doing so was one of the fruits of the ridiculous attacks made on him and his work through the *Tribune*, by a reputed "Baptist Dr. of Divinity." Mr. Comstock vindicated both himself and his work, in a way that brought conviction and enthusiasm to the hearts of all present. They not only gave him the warmest demonstrations of satisfaction as he passed along, but gave him also, at the close of his statement, a hearty vote of thanks for the work he is doing. The meeting was very large and the vote was unanimous.

A few days later in another paper appeared the following:

ANTHONY'S WICKED WAYS.

THE ALLEGED MANNER IN WHICH HE ENTRAPPED MESSRS. SABIN & SON.

*Rev. A. S. W. describes Tony's various methods. His ignominious ejection from a jury room.*

* * * * * * *

A reporter called on the Rev. A. S. W. last evening, and interviewed him on several cases of persecution undertaken by Comstock.

"Will you first tell me what you know about the Sabin case?" the representative asked.

"Well, sir, that is a very delicate matter to handle indeed. Mr. Sabin is a very old and dear friend of mine, and a member of my congregation. By giving you all the particulars of the prosecution his case might be prejudiced. However, I don't suppose that there will be any harm in relating the outline of the case.

"In the first place, you must remember that Mr. Sabin was one of the witnesses in the Heywood trial. He went on the stand and testified that the book was not properly called obscene. Anthony Comstock never forgave him this, a fact the sequel has fully proved.

"Now Mr. Sabin himself is as honorable, upright and moral a man as ever trod on God's earth, and Anthony well knew that all the decoys in the world would never succeed in leading him astray. So what did the agent of the

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Society for the Suppression of Vice do? He detailed his man Britton to work upon Mr. Sabin's son, a young and comparatively inexperienced man, and to induce him to commit himself.

"Britton one day watched his opportunity while the elder Sabin was out, and entering the bookstore, engaged in conversation with Sabin's son. He told him that he (Britton) needed a few illustrated ribald books as curiosities, such as '——— ———,' for instance; merely to study the prints, he added. The young man assured the customer that no such books were in the store, upon which Britton begged him to procure them, promising to pay a good price. More to oblige the man than from any other motive, young Sabin promised to do his best in the matter, and without telling his father, who he knew would object, he obtained the obscene books from some third parties, and sent them to the address Britton had left. The following day Anthony Comstock, on the strength of Britton's affidavit, caused the elder Sabin's arrest. As you see, this prosecution is the outcome of an infernal conspiracy to ruin the reputation of an honorable firm. Poor Mr. Sabin was greatly broken down by it all, I assure you."

"Were no obscene books ever sold by that firm prior to this event?"

"No, sir, I can warrant that no obscene books ever left the hands of Mr. Sabin, or even of his son, before Britton's decoy letter."

"Could you now tell me why and by whom Anthony Comstock was ejected from a jury room some time ago?"

"You are referring to the Baxter case, sir. Mr. Baxter was a large furniture dealer, who for something or other had aroused Mr. Comstock's ire. This induced the latter to set Britton on the track looking for heads of indictment. In the meanwhile Baxter got into pecuniary difficulties, and was arrested for fraudulent bankruptcy. While the case was being tried, Anthony Comstock made his way in the jury room, and attempted to prejudice the jury

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* In this case Mr. Britton is mentioned. Who is this person thus libeled and outraged? He is a young man, I think not as old as either of the Sabin sons. The one of tender years, that Mr. W. would have it appear is young and unsophisticated, is about six feet tall, twenty-eight years of age and has been in business for years. He is older than Mr. Britton.

Mr. Britton is a young man of humble parentage, born and reared, under very unfavorable circumstances, in New York. He has been a special agent of this Society for more than five years, and in that time has never once shown the white feather. He is brave and fearless, sharp and shrewd, and because he cannot be bought, sold or frightened off, and has been loyal to this cause, he must needs share the fate of every faithful officer, be maligned, misrepresented and denounced. I have seen many unjust and infamous attacks made upon him, and he has been slandered and maligned, vilified, lied about, and called mean names, but he stands, to-day, above those who have traduced him. He has rendered valuable assistance, and is entitled to kind consideration, and his service to recognition, by the public he has so long served.

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against the prisoner, in order to be able to secure his subsequent conviction more easily. My trustee being the Foreman of the Jury, he summarily dismissed Comstock with a warning not to put in an appearance again on the spot."

"Who was that gentleman?"

"Well, I prefer concealing his name at present, as I do not know whether he would be willing to let it be published. He is not in New York city now, but in the country."

"Do you intend to continue your campaign against Comstock?"

"I certainly do, and will bring up enough evidence to crush him in the eyes of the Baptist community, before the Conference meets again."

With these words the Rev. gentleman, who is a middle-aged man, with a frank open countenance, put on his hat to go out on a visit.

He assured the reporter before leaving that he would always be ready to give all the particulars he might learn concerning Anthony Comstock.

Of all the obscene and infamous things I have ever seen in all the 24 tons of matter seized, and that has passed through my hands, I have never seen more beastly and infamous matter, than is contained in the first book purchased in Sabin's store, the same being parodies on "Rock of Ages" and the Long Meter Doxology.

Here are charges, insinuations, conclusion of facts by this pastor, with not one single line of truth in them. I have read and reread it several times, and I will challenge him, or any one else, to prove one single one of his accusations against me as true. Here are two criminals defended by a "New York Pastor" by the use of basest misstatements and falsehoods.

I hold myself ready to prove the absolute falsity of these statements in both cases in most positive manner. It is enough to say that when Sabin Sons were arrested, over 500 of the grossest books and pictures were found in their possession, were seized, and are now in the hands of the proper officer, as evidence. The book Mr. W. refers to was not purchased till the third lot of obscene stuff was purchased. Mr. W.'s "honorable" and "very old dear friend of mine" said to me, after he had positively denied that any such matter was ever in his store, that "you would be surprised at the standing and position of men who come in here and buy these things just for their own use." This was after I had seized the stock, which was

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after his solemn declarations, that there was no such article in the store.

I never knew that Baxter was ever tried for Fraudulent Bankruptcy, and was never near a jury room in his, or any other case of any name or nature, as above charged.

The officers of The New York Society for the Suppression of Vice invited Mr. W. to appear before the Executive Committee July 6, and make good his charges. He declined to do so unless permitted to come with his counsel, and failed even with his counsel to appear.

What a spectacle! a "New York Pastor," a "D.D." and "taxpayer," making statements affecting a man's reputation and good name, and afraid to meet that man face to face. If he is the good citizen he professes to be, his duty is to prove these charges; if an honorable man, he will make no charges publicly he cannot prove privately; if he has been falsely represented by these papers, he owes it to himself to set himself straight, and not to allow his position as a minister, to be used as a cloak for the slanders and libels contained in these published utterances. As a Minister of the Gospel, his proper position is on the side of decency, morality, and moral purity.

On the 7th day of July I sent him the following letter:

NEW YORK, July 7, 1880.

REV. A. S. W.:

*Sir*—Several months ago you took occasion, as a "New York Pastor," to attack my reputation and bring discredit on our work. In doing this you arrayed yourself (and the Baptist denomination as far as you could) against the work of this Society, and on the side of the abortionist, the vender of obscene matter, and the gambling hell.

The Baptist Denomination, through the Monday Ministers' meeting of March 22d, practically by a unanimous vote, refused to endorse your assaults, and did endorse the work of this Society and its agents.

About that time, I made an offer in the broadest manner to you, to furnish you every opportunity to ascertain the facts in any case in this office, and a further offer to have a Committee appointed to whom all the facts should be submitted—we to abide by their decision. Neither of these offers you accepted then or since; but you were obliged publicly, over your right name, to apologize in the *Tribune* of April 5, 1880.

The last Monday in June, you saw fit to again traduce my good name and

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reputation, by a most atrocious attack, and, as I am informed by the New York *Sun* report of what you said, you there made statements that are absolutely untrue, and insinuations that are as base as they are false.

Since then you have been interviewed by a paper, that from its start, has publicly defended criminals, and attacked the officers of this Society most grossly. If this interview is correctly reported, you again assail me with the grossest misstatements, and I now renew my offer to go before a committee of five prominent men, two to be chosen by you, two by myself, and they four to choose a fifth; or else before the Baptist ministers publicly; or else before the Executive Committee of this Society; and there you shall make good your charges and insinuations, or else you shall fully and publicly apologize.

A Christian minister is not justified in attacking any person in the uncharitable manner in which you have assailed my reputation, unless he has heard both sides and knows what he is saying to be true.

Now, sir, will you meet me like a man, and meet the issue flat and square, not behind my back and over an *alias*, but face to face, with *facts*, and not the slander of the convict or smut dealer?

At your service for the truth,

ANTHONY COMSTOCK.

On the 14th of July I received this answer:

N. Y., July 13, 1880.

Mr. ANTHONY COMSTOCK:

*Dear Sir*—Your abusive letter is at hand. As your address before the Conference and your former letters, it is characterized by misstatements. YOU KNEW, when you penned your last, that I was incorrectly reported in recent papers. If you wrote the last, as I believe you did the other two letters, in a round-about style, for purposes of decoy, permit me to say that you waste time pursuing that line with "your humble servant." You may think as you said before the ministers, that I "see your work through the eyes of a criminal." "must be a fool," "an ass," etc., etc. But I assure you you will live to find your generous opinions at fault. What I said is susceptible of being reproduced with CERTIFIED *exactitude*, and for the same I hold myself responsible. No more, no less. Now, sir, I *accept your challenge contained in your first letter.* Being backed by men better than either of us, I willingly meet the issue as you requested. While I am one willing to ask pardon of a sick mouse, if justice demanded it, I might as well suggest to you that I am not moved by bluff! Do not try it any more. Say also to those friends who with you decided that "something must be done to silence that minister at all hazards, and that swiftly," that that can be easily done, but not by the machinery applied to criminals, and which, from force of indiscriminating habit, you so naturally employ. I am glad you appreciate open, frank, "flat square" action when your own rights are involved. God help you to pursue such lines more while hounding out the erring! My record on the anti-vice matter is well known, and does not rest on your offensive statement of my position. I have

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spoken to thousands at Sea Cliff, on Fourth of July occasions, to my own congregation, and elsewhere, commending in highest terms the AIMS of your Society. When you were out, my voice was raised to denounce what I then believed to be an outrage. That I and multitudes of good men now detest the system of decoying pursued is not wonderful. YOU KNOW my position at present in regard to your work. You seem set to force a fight with me, I suppose for the sake of notoriety; I shall rejoice in being a martyr at your hands for so good a cause as I advocate. You can excel me in epithet, I agree; but, sir, you must in future use gentlemanly terms in writing to me, or else I'll "tell your executive committee" to appoint somebody else to write to me.

Now, sir, seeing through you and yours in this crusade, I subscribe myself,

Yours for the truth, in peace, or war, as you may elect,

A. S. W.

I then addressed the following letter in the hope of bringing this "Pastor" to his senses, and showing him how wrong and unjust he was, at the same time desiring to afford him the fullest opportunity to make good his accusations against me, to which he replies, by wanting to know, if I said something about him in a certain paper. With these letters we drop his correspondence, with a renewed offer for him to come to the *front with facts*, if he has any, and meet me face to face, as I have invited him to do so often.

NEW YORK, July 28th, 1880.

REV. A. S. W.:

*Sir*,—In reply to yours of the 14th inst., I would say that I do not care to go back of the apology of yours of the 5th of April. What I propose is this: you to come before either one of the following:

"The Baptist Conference,"

"Our Executive Committee," or

"The Committee of Five" (to be appointed as I suggested), and then meet me *face to face*, and *you to prove by legal evidence* any act of mine unbecoming a faithful officer and Christian gentlemen. I will cheerfully bring the Record of all cases arrested, and place it before this Committee. It is simple justice I am after. No fight; no. Life is too short, and my cause requires all my time and strength.

Now please lay aside all invectives, insinuations, conclusions, suspicions, and let us examine into the facts like Christian men. All I ask is that you prove the insinuations against me in your public apology of April 5th, in your statement before the Baptist Conference of June 28th, and in reported interviews with Reporters of the Press, especially The "———."

Which of these will you select? When and where will you meet? Now please let your reply be Christian and civil. Do not distort, insinuate, or

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quote from imagination. We do not want to "silence the minister." No, no. You are most cordially urged to prove by legal evidence (not the word of the slanderer), anything to my discredit. Now this surely is easy to understand. There is nothing covert, this letter means just what it says.

Yours, etc.,
ANTHONY COMSTOCK, *Sec.*

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NEW YORK, July 29th, 1880.

MR. ANTHONY COMSTOCK:

*Dear Sir,*—Before answering yours of 28th inst. fully I would be glad to hear from you concerning reported interview with a Representative of ———. Is what was published in said paper July 25th a correct statement of what you said concerning me? Especially these things: "*W.* favored obscenity, nastiness, gambling hells and abortions." Also, "*Were it not that 'W.' is the Pastor of a Church, and as such entitled to some consideration, I would pass him by as being utterly beneath contempt.*"

I am going West and can be addressed as above. If you cannot answer before 5th, address me as usual and the letter will reach me by middle of August.

Truly,
A. S. W.

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NEW YORK CITY, Aug. 17, 1880.

REV. A. S. W.:

*Sir*—My reply to yours of 1st inst. is, that I renew my offer of giving you a chance to be heard, and an opportunity to prove your base charges and insinuations against me. We do not want "to silence the minister," you see. No, no; we want you to come up in a frank and manly manner and make good these slanders. I am ready to try this issue as I have indicated. When and where shall it be?

Now, no more dodging or side issues. After you make good your charges, etc., and when you meet me face to face like a man, I will frankly answer all questions about the interview you refer to. Yours, etc.,
A. COMSTOCK, *Sec.*

Here then we have a man occupying a position of trust and confidence, assailing the reputation of another as earnest, true, and faithful in the work he believes the Master has given him to do, as though he was at the head of a church. Why I must sit quiet and allow these men to tear my reputation in shreds, to vilify, misrepresent, and malign me, I cannot see. I have personal rights which no man can take from me. When I make mistakes, no man shall be more ready to correct them than I am. But I have a trust committed to my care and keeping. The cause

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demands my highest and best powers and ability. It is my duty to be right, and I owe it also to the cause of moral purity to seem to be right, when I know I am right. These base insinuations and misrepresentations make me, no matter how true, how earnest, how wise, or however faithful I strive to be, to appear in such a light that good men, seeing these charges, cannot give their support and sympathy to my work, or their confidence in my integrity.

I have sought so to be governed by such circumstances and facts, that good men of all denominations, if they knew all the facts, would not be offended or turned from a cause, that is one of the most important known to this present day. The individual is nothing; the cause of moral purity among the young is everything.

To run is cowardly, to falter is sin, to give a vantage to the enemy, by allowing false charges to go on record in print uncontradicted, is a crime. Must I, because I have borne all the odium of this work, the open attack of the slanderer, the brutal assaults of assassins, the constant anxiety for seven years that follows such a prosecution as this work, be pursued and hounded down, and my good name blasted by corrupt men and the breath of malicious scandal? I ask no favors personally; I ask men to come forward like men and prove their charges face to face.

I have made statements of facts in this book; I make specific charges, and I have ample documents and other evidence to prove them. There is much difference between saying and proving a thing; between that knowledge which satisfies a mind and legal evidence in court. Nor can a person ignore facts and say, I don't believe what is presented from a reliable source, and take up the defence of a criminal just because he does not want to believe it, and is anxious to stand by his friends. This man persisted in making these utterances, after he had been assured that his views were incorrect.

His apology, in the Tribune of April 5, was accepted as sufficient, notwithstanding the insinuation about tampering with the mails, which I have already referred to. But the arrest of the



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son of his "very old and dear friend" was too much. He wrote the President of our Society and afterward called, and was informed of the facts in Sabin's case. His "old and dear friend" has not been arrested. Mr. W. insisted that the case should be dismissed. This could not be done. The next week I was called by a subpœna before the Grand Jury, and the two sons (the ones who sold the obscene books and pictures, and received the money therefor), were indicted. The week following Mr. W. made his onslaught upon me before the Baptist Conference.

### ANOTHER SLANDER RUN DOWN.

About the same time another circumstance occurred, that is proper to present in this connection. I have not one word to say against the two gentlemen below referred to. They have allowed themselves to be interviewed, and permitted their names and positions as public officers, to be used against me in newspapers, one of which has a large circulation. They certainly will not deny me the right to quote their interviews and state simple facts, even if by so doing, I shall show that they have done me a gross wrong and injury in the minds of good men. I have written both these gentlemen, offering to prove all I said as true, and neither have replied; neither have they denied or modified their published interviews, and as, in Mr. Jasper's case, one interview confirms the other, I am justified in supposing them correctly reported, and as intending to have what they are reported as saying stand against me. I have no doubt that both of these gentlemen fill their positions as public officers with fidelity; but they have made an unjust mistake, at least, in attacking me as they have.

A certain low sheet had, for months, unjustly and maliciously attacked me in the interest of the criminal class. Most monstrous lies had been published, and then editorial notices of these lies, denouncing me in consequence, had followed. A few days before, more than a column had been filled with an account, headed:

"*Tony Trading on 'Tick.'* Why several tradesmen in Brooklyn remember Comstock."

"Benevolent Butchers and Green Grocers who would like to have him step up and settle."

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And charging, that for years I had swindled certain butchers and grocers, going to first one and then another, and serving all alike, even going so far as to name parties, giving the street and number of their store.

In all these articles, there was not a scintilla of truth. It was base fabrication. The parties named I do not even know. But rather, for ten years nearly, I have dealt with one grocer, and for six years with one butcher, and they are my references, if any person desires to prove the truth of what I say.

Now let it be remembered that all these scandals, libels, etc., occurred about the same time. One dove-tailed into the other. The effect can be imagined. I have experienced what I am talking about, and therefore I know how it is. But I am not dead yet!

A representative of the paper that had so maligned me, called to interview me in order to publish a retraction. At this interview reference was made to our work; and for the purpose of showing this reporter (who was very polite and gentlemanly), the necessity of our work, I referred to some facts that were incentives for us to keep on, no matter what occurred in the shape of opposition; and also as showing the imperative need of the work being continued. While he did not correctly report what I said, yet what is quoted in the *Herald* article following, is substantially true. The following is as it appeared in the *New York Herald*, June 29, 1880:

MR. COMSTOCK CONTRADICTED.

HIS ALLEGED DISCOVERY OF OBSCENE LITERATURE AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN CHARACTERIZED AS "THE CREATION OF HIS OWN DISORDERED FANCY."

In an interview published yesterday, Mr. Anthony Comstock, Agent of the Society for the Suppression of Vice, is thus quoted:

"Why, sir, in one school up town, I found in the possession of fifteen boys, pictures and books that I would blush to show you. In another school I found a number of girls from ten to fifteen years old, whose minds had been debauched by these obscene books and pictures; and when I find such things, I go to their fathers and tell them about it, but even they refuse to believe it, until I show them the very books and pictures I have taken out of their chil-

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dren's hands; and when I make charges against these men, I cannot take the young boys and girls out of the schools and put them on the witness stand. No; I take their place and appear as the complainant."

These statements are of such an extraordinary nature that a reporter was instructed to show them to Mr. Jasper, City Superintendent of Schools, and obtain his answer to them. Mr. Jasper said:—"Let me see, Mr. Comstock says he found these things in the schools. Now, no person has any authority to visit a school and search the children, and he could not have found these books unless he had made such search, and I don't think that any Principal would permit such search. I know of no authority for any one to grant such permission. He said he showed the books to the fathers of the boys. If his statements are true, why did not Mr. Comstock make a verbal or written complaint to me, giving the number of the school? Why did he not complain to the Principals of the schools, if he found such a state of things existing? I don't believe a word of it."

"Would there be any impropriety in your officially calling upon Mr. Comstock to supply you with the number of the schools?" asked the reporter.

"I do not see that there would be, and I guess that is what I shall do. He ought to show authority for his statements. If he made a search of any school it is without authority, and if he has not made such a search, he states what is untrue, and I do not think any such state of affairs exists in any school. If any Principal allowed Mr. Comstock to make a search it was an insult to the children and their parents as well."

Commissioner Manierre was very indignant at the statements of Mr. Comstock. "You may state," said he, "that there is no truth in them, for neither Mr. Comstock nor any other person is permitted to go into a class-room unless in the company of a principal, a teacher, or a school officer, and when the children are in the play-ground, at recess, they are always accompanied by a sufficient number of teachers to preserve order and see that nothing improper is done. You can say, further, for me, that the Principals and teachers are always on the watch to see that nothing improper is introduced into the schools, that no books, pictures, or papers of an obscene character could by any possibility be in the hands of the children without it being discovered, and that the statements made by Mr. Comstock are simply the creation of his own disordered fancy. I will say more, there is no authority or right for any search of the children in our schools. If any Principal or teacher permitted it, I would at once vote for his or her dismissal. This is sufficiently explicit, is it not?"

The vile sheet that first published the quotations, again, June 30, 1880, said:

When Anthony Comstock told our reporter of the vast quantity of "evil reading" and pictures he had seized from little children in a School up town, we could not resist the impression that he was rather too serenely confident of our innocent credulity. Now the Superintendent of Schools says this remark

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of Comstock's was all "blow," and that he intends to call upon Mr. Comstock officially to designate the school. We imagine that the vice suppressor will find it harder to point to chapter and verse in this affair, than he does when he addresses Sunday Schools on his life work.

Again the same sheet says:

If the Rev. S. W. is correct in his estimation of Anthony Comstock's prosecution of the Sabin case, it is the most scoundrely piece of business Comstock ever undertook. The character of the books he bought of Sabin was such, that it seemed nothing could be said in defense of Mr. Sabin. It is due to Comstock that he be heard before opinion be formed, but if it shall finally appear that to revenge himself upon Mr. Sabin for once having been witness against him, he induced that gentleman's son, to buy him these books, on the plea that he was an amateur collector of prints, as the Baptist clergyman charges; no punishment known to the law would be too severe for this man who professes to be engaged in the work of purifying public morals.

The next day the following appeared in the same paper:

TONY'S LAST WHOPPER.

*His onslaught on little school children indignantly resented.*

*The Superintendent of the School Board challenges his statements and proposes to make him eat them.*

A few days ago Anthony Comstock stated in conversation with a ——— reporter that he had found in the hands of many school children books of the most obscene nature. He even went as far as to say, that he had taken some of these books away and shown them to the children's parents. These statements appearing in ———, aroused a veritable sensation, and since the commencement of the week the matter has been vehemently discussed by the daily papers.

In case of Comstock's charges being true, they would naturally reflect more on the management of the schools by the Board of Education, than on the children themselves. A ——— reporter then called on Mr. John Jasper, Jr., the City Superintendent of the Board yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Jasper was found in his office reading yesterday's copy of this paper, containing charges against the Special Agent of the Society for the Suppression of Vice made by the Rev. S. W.

"I should very much like to hear your opinion concerning Mr. Comstock's allegations about obscenity among school children," the reporter remarked after introducing himself.

"I shall be most happy to give you any information in my power," replied the Superintendent, politely tendering the visitor a seat, "and the more so because I admire the bold and independent manner in which ——— has exposed and denounced the very questionable methods Mr. Comstock indulges in. To give you my opinion of his manner of proceeding in this particular

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case, I think it looks rather queer, that when aware of the fact of school children possessing obscene books he should have informed —— reporter first. The right way to proceed it seems would have been to write me a letter of warning, a letter entering into details, and pointing out the particular schools in which the children were obscene. By first stating the fact, if fact it may well be called, to your reporter he allows the inference that he intended calumniating the Board, and the teachers."

"Do you think that a possibility exists of his statements being correct?"

"No, sir, I do not. How in all the world are children to find time for reading obscene literature while in school? The classes commence at 9 in the morning and finish at 3 in the afternoon. At 12 o'clock the scholars have one hour's recess, for their dinner, during which time by far the greater portion return home. In their absence they are naturally out of our control, but should they return to the school premises before the recess is over at one, they remain constantly under the eye of the teachers, and have positively no chance of reading anything obscene. During class-time, on the other hand, they have even less opportunities for this sort of thing. About thirty pupils are taught together in a room measuring 20 feet by 15, the teacher being placed in a prominent position from whence he can control all their movements. Under these circumstances it would be impossible for them to use any but their school books."

"Has Anthony Comstock been allowed to enter school-rooms and search the pupils?"

"No, sir; that is a privilege nobody has, not even I myself. Anthony Comstock may have hinted that he made such a search, but I declare this to be not the case. Why, sir, it would be direct insult to the parents of the children were they thus searched in public, and I do not believe any teacher would be guilty of allowing an outsider like Anthony Comstock to encroach upon the rights and lower the dignity of the scholars. If a teacher acted in this manner, and it came to my ears, he would be severely reprimanded, if not discharged."

"What would you do in case you suspected a scholar of carrying obscene literature about his person?"

"I should call him to my private room, and with closed doors would question him on the subject, but never would I institute a general search and insult the feelings of my wards."

"Do you think that when Anthony Comstock declared having taken away books from school children, that he did so in the open street?"

"I do not know; but if he acted thus, he made himself liable to be arrested, a fact he must know better than anybody else, considering he is always dabbling in the law courts."

"However, I do not mean to say that no school child ever read or perused obscene books, but I assert that there are no means for such books being read at school under the present system; and if Mr. Comstock has really come across one or two school children with such books about their persons, he is anything but justified in casting reflections on the scholars in general.

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"You must remember that, excluding the evening schools, there are 274 educational establishments under the supervision of the Board, and it is a very serious thing to throw mud on such a large body as this without more base to work on than has Mr. Comstock."

"Do you intend taking any steps in the way of refuting Comstock's arguments?"

"Well, sir, that gentleman has attacked us at a very busy time. To-morrow, as you know, the vacation begins, and should I call upon him to prove his statements and point out the schools where those abuses exist, there would be no means of investigating the matter. After the vacation in September, however, I shall certainly challenge Mr. Comstock to express himself thoroughly."

The Superintendent concluded by stating that many reporters had visited him to see whether ——— first statements were founded on fact. "They seem rather vexed at having been beaten on this point by your little one-cent sheet," he smilingly remarked.

The reporter thanked the Superintendent for his affability, and took his leave.

This illustrates that "a lie loses nothing on its travels." Here is a public officer, "happy to give any information," and "the more so because I admire the bold and independent manner in which ——— has exposed and denounced the very questionable methods Mr. Comstock indulges in." Here is a blackguard sheet, commended and endorsed by a public officer, who presides over more than 200 schools, because this paper attacks, by basest lies and insinuations, the very man that has done more than any other man in this city to protect these children, and by all that in him lies, to screen them from the most insidious of foes. Mr. Superintendent, the destruction of 24 tons of obscene matter, and the preventing of this terrible influence for evil from being disseminated among the youth and children of this city and land, entitles the one who has done it to at least fair play; and a decent consideration by parents and teachers alike. The mistake he made, was taking what he saw in print, as having been spoken by a public officer as untrue, and then attacking this man's reputation without first going to the man he slandered, and discovering if it was true or no.

It will be seen how easy it is to manufacture public sentiment against a man. There is not one word that mentions "*Public*"

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schools in what I said, as quoted by the *Herald*,—but "schools;" and Mr. Jasper makes the mistake of supposing there are no other schools, save those which he, no doubt, ably superintends. I would not say one word against either of these men. If it affords them pleasure to thus rush into print, against the word of a man they could at any time have found, and have discovered whether his statements were true or not, I can stand it. I know the following facts are true, and I am ready to prove them at any time. This Superintendent may now learn, that the officer who legally enforces the laws which protect the morals of our children in these cases, has "dabbled in the courts" to some purpose, if he will look a little into facts, before he again rushes into print in a scurrillous sheet. Vacation is past and I accept the "challenge to express myself thoroughly."

In one school in New York I found sixteen boys who had, or had had according to their own confession, most obscene pictures, and I seized a quantity of the same in their possession, and the President of the Board of Education can see them at any time by calling at our office.

In another case in New York I found a janitor of a school, who roomed in the school building, and I seized about 1,000 obscene pictures, and 100 negatives for making the same, in his room, and that janitor got three years at hard labor in State's prison, and the facts were published in all the papers at the time.

In another instance I arrested a French Professor who for months had debauched the boys of some of our best families, while teaching them in some of the most select schools, and that scoundrel is now serving a sentence of six years in State's prison.

The facts in his case were also published.

In another school (and a Public school, too), I found two boys, within the present year, who had stolen and robbed a satchel intrusted to another boy to convey down town; and going to the home of one of these boys I found where the satchel had been broken open and gutted of its contents; and these boys had found a lot of obscene and filthy matter, which, after having it

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around awhile, they at last sold to a junk dealer, and I there seized the same.

In another school referred to (outside of New York, as I told the reporter at the time), I found where more than one-third of a department of fifty girls under sixteen years of age, then had, or confessed to having had, the most debauching matter.

These are not "disordered fancies," but *awful facts*. With such facts as these, and hundreds of others, it is a fraud on the community to say, there is no danger to the young in our schools. There is terrible danger, and these men, instead of attacking me and attempting to belittle me before the public, ought to sound the note of warning. I can neither run nor crawl. I must stand up and fight when these issues are forced upon me.

No specious argument, by these gentlemen, can remove the *fact*, that many, many youth have been discovered with most demoralizing matter secreted in their pockets. They sit in school, at the family table, and in the parlor circle, with these vipers concealed from teachers and parents alike. And parents and teachers alike, have been horrified by the discovery of these corrupting influences, in the possession, oftentimes, of their most trusted children. In one school in Brooklyn, I found many bright noble boys, who had for weeks had a most obscene book, loaning it around among themselves.

Yesterday's mail (Nov. 19, 1880), a package of the *foulest* matter came to me that had been sent a lad sixteen years of age, in a private school. Am I to be denounced, or my good name traduced, because I shall legally bring this vampire who sent this matter to justice? If so, let it come. But save our boys, we must at all hazards. It is a cause worthy of our steel.

Our office is open, and I can at any time be found. Let men, instead of stabbing me in the back, come to the front and get the facts like men. No! the man who attacks me does not want the facts. If he has them he is disarmed, and cannot attack me. There is a great amount of malice covered by a thin veil of respectability and a showing of virtue, in these attacks.

And now, reader, am I justified in reproducing these attacks, in

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presenting the *truth beside the published lie*, and defending my good name and reputation, against the venomous tongue of the slanderer? If so, then learn in the future to apply a little charity to any person you see maligned, and until you hear both sides, condemn no man.

Must these charges stand in print, opposite my name, and I not be permitted to copy the same, and put the *Truth* beside them? When I go down to the grave, must I leave these unanswered lies as a heritage to my friends? or have I the right of self-defence?

This book is written with malice toward none, but with an earnest desire to save the credulous from being swindled, the poor from being robbed and oppressed, the youth from being debauched, and to help the weak ones.

There are grosser evils that must remain uncovered. We have attacked those evils that dread the light of day. The Fraud cannot bear the light. Inform the public of his schemes and his business suffers. This is wonderfully illustrated by a single attack published in the New York *Times*, last Fall, upon the bogus firm of Lawrence & Co., reducing their receipts in one month about $11,000, as was stated by the manager of that concern to me.

There are grosser evils that it is hard to refrain from denouncing, and yet these evils, if publicly attacked, thrive the best, and to disclose their secret methods or name them is to advertise them. The prudent way is to effectually suppress the evil *according to law*, and then warn the public. This I have tried to do.

But let it not be supposed that all the schemes have been disclosed by which men swindle the public. No, reader, we have only taken some of the most prominent ones. It is a good rule, never to send money to strangers, especially if they offer you gold dollars for ten cents, or in other words, propose to send you more than fair value for money sent them. Remember that no man can sell goods for less than cost, and pay for clerks, rent, advertising, living expenses, etc., out of what he is to receive, and do it honestly.

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Put your money in savings banks or government bonds until you can invest it safely in some legitimate business.

Above all, keep the minds of all our children pure, for "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." You cannot have a pure heart if the mind is impure.

THE END.

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## A CARD TO THE PUBLIC.

**The writing of this book has been like a side play. The importance of carrying on the work cannot be overestimated. To do this successfully, two things are requisite.**

***First.*** **We require a knowledge of the operations of the scoundrel, before we can secure legal evidence. Therefore we appeal to every reader to co-operate, by sending any knowledge or information in the shape of circulars, letters, or otherwise, of any scheme to rob or defraud the people, or debauch the youth, to the Author.**

***Second.*** **This work requires to be constantly maintained. It takes money. All money sent for this purpose, goes into the Treasury of our Society, and will be acknowledged by our Treasurer. All disbursements are made by order of our Executive Committee.**

**Address,**

**ANTHONY COMSTOCK, Sec'y,**
**150 Nassau St., N. Y.**

**The Executive Committee of the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice suggests to large-minded men who are planning for the wise use of their possessions after they are gone, that the permanent usefulness of this Society would be secured if such means were put at its disposal as should enable it to employ every needed agency in the prosecution of its work.**

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## FORM OF BEQUEST.

**I give and bequeath to THE NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF VICE, incorporated by the Legislature of New York, May 16, 1873, the sum of $—— ———— to be applied to the purpose for which it was instituted.**

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# APPENDIX.

Since this book has been in type, another turn of the wheel of justice has been made against the Kentucky Lotteries, that is of especial significance in considering that subject. The following decision speaks for itself. Its importance is great, not as showing the illegality of these lotteries: that is already proven; but as showing the infamy of those who boldly perpetrate and defend these villainous schemes to deceive the people and curse the poor. In the light of these damning proofs against the standing of these lotteries, consider the fact that 600 places, at least, in the city of New York alone, are open for the sale of these tickets and (the still worse curse to the poor)—Policy.

The following able decision rendered in the Court of Appeals of the State of Kentucky by Judge Edwards, December, 1880, in the cases entitled Simmons & Dickinson *vs.* Murray, France & Co., The same *vs.* Barrows and others, forever settles the standing of all Kentucky lotteries extant. It says:

**These actions are heard together on demurrer to the answer of E. S. Stewart in each case.**

**The demurrer raises the question whether the petition states facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action against E. S. and Owen Stewart; and if so, does their answer state facts sufficient to constitute a defense thereto?**

**It had already been held by Chancellor Bruce that the petition in each case is insufficient as against the defendants, other than said Stewart, who did not interpose any demurrer, but who have answered since the demurrer interposed, by their co-defendants, were sustained.**

**E. S. and Owen Stewart were made defendants by amended petition, and it is insisted that the judgment on the demurrer filed by their co-defendants does not bind them.**

**The action of Chancellor Bruce is the ruling of this Court, and I am not inclined to rule differently until a higher court holds his ruling to be erroneous; but as the Court of Appeals has delivered some opinions touching the**

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questions considered on the former demurrers, I will now consider the sufficiency of the petitions as against said Stewarts.

The General Assembly, by section 18 of an act approved March 16, 1869, authorized the Board of Councilmen of the City of Frankfort to raise by way of lottery $100,000, for the support of the city school of Frankfort.

By an act approved March 18, 1872, the city of Frankfort was authorized to sell and convey this lottery privilege. Pursuant to that authority, that city did, on December 31, 1875, attempt to sell and convey said privilege to E. S. Stewart as an entirety, and by the provisions of that contract authority was attempted to be conferred on or vested in him to operate a lottery.

If the act of March 18, 1872, was valid, and the said contract was made pursuant thereto, E. S. Stewart by the purchase became invested with the legal title to the franchise, and thus obtained the exclusive right to manage, operate, and conduct a lottery, strictly in conformity to the terms of the contract and the authority granted.

In the proceeding of the Commonwealth *vs.* E. S. Stewart and the City of Frankfort, in the nature of quo warranto, the Court of Appeals held the acts, *supra*, were valid, and that said city was thereby authorized to make sale of the franchise, and hence the sale to E. S. Stewart must be considered valid.

*It is the duty of the Court to construe all such power strictly, and therefore it is considered that when said city made the sale to Stewart, it exhausted the power of sale under the authority granted.*

Was the privilege thus vested in E. S. Stewart destroyed by the repealing act of March 30, 1878?

See Gregory *vs.* Trustees of Shelby College, 2 Met. p. 589.

Webb *vs.* Commonwealth, not reported.

Commissioner of the Sinking Fund *vs.* Green and Barren River Navigation Company, recently decided by the Court of Appeals.

If the law of Kentucky, as expounded in these cases, deprives the State of the power to repeal or destroy a franchise of the kind in question, after third parties have acquired vested rights under such power or franchise, it follows that E. S. Stewart's rights were not destroyed or impaired by the said act of 1878. The original petition in these actions alleges that E. S. Stewart at various times sold and assigned to different persons *fractional* parts or *undivided* interest in and to said franchise, and that plaintiffs, by purchase, were entitled to ninety-two one hundredths of these undivided parts of the whole, and that the remainder of the privilege had been assigned to defendants Holmon, Glore, and Pepper, and by Pepper assigned in bankruptcy to defendant Barrow.

The plaintiffs, in an amended petition, make E. S. and Owen Stewart defendants, and charge that they purchased the whole of said privilege, and that it was so conveyed to them.

*Chancellor Bruce held that the sales and assignments of interests in the lottery privilege were void, because forbidden by paragraph 5, chapter 23 of General Statutes.*

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In his language, "*There is no statute conferring upon Stewart authority to sell the privilege. The general law forbids it, and the Court cannot, by strained construction infer it, especially in view of the character of the franchise and the general legislative policy of the State in reference to such enterprises.*

*Then it follows that all the sales and assignments of interests in this lottery franchise made by E. S. Stewart are null and void,* and that E. S. Stewart is the sole owner of the franchise, with the exclusive right to manage and operate a lottery in strict accordance with the provisions of the original grant and in conformity with his said contract without any power of sale of the privilege, and hence all his efforts to make assignments thereof, either in parts or as a whole, or to make a lease thereof, or in any way to confer power or authority on any person or persons to conduct and operate a lottery, are null and void.

I will say, however, that I incline to the opinion that as the sole vendee and owner of the privilege obtained pursuant to the enabling act of 1872, *supra*, that he would have the right to sell the franchise as an individual whole, but certainly not in parts. *But, as hereinbefore indicated, I am inclined to follow the ruling of Chancellor Bruce.* Besides, the allegations of the original petition to the effect that plaintiffs only claim to own 92-100 of the privilege are wholly inconsistent with the allegations of the amended petition on that subject, and no sufficient explanation is given of that inconsistency.

Therefore, the demurrer to the answer must reach back to the petition in each action, and the petition is held to be insufficient. Counsel may prepare proper judgment.

(A true copy.) JOHN H. WALLER, *Clerk.*

(Attest) By John T. Sweeny, D. C.

I do not desire that anything in this book shall unjustly reflect upon any United States or other Court. While the cases named in the United States Courts have not been tried, yet there may be good and sufficient reasons therefor of which I do not know; but this is equally true, the United States Courts, by meting out the full penalties of the law ($500 fine and costs) to a few parties who have been convicted for sending circulars concerning lotteries through the mails, have driven out of the business a large number of persons who formerly advertised in the daily Press. This action of the Courts has narrowed the business through the mails, down to a very few of the leading men—the men who doubtless feel secure, because they have not been tried. It must be remembered, that the U. S. Courts only sit to try criminal cases at stated periods, and then generally but for a short term, and where any important case is taken up, the term is exhausted before the calendar is cleared. I have no apology to

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offer for the facts which I publish further than the above. It would seem as though the State Courts in the city of New York had given up the city to this class of lawbreakers. What I say about the judges is not personal, but is said because they are facts which I am discussing, and facts, too, that are presented in the highest interests of the community, and the future welfare of our State and Country. *The gambling hells of New York are training a race of gamblers and thieves, and the proper enforcement of laws against these schemes is all that is required to stop the great majority of them.*

Dec. 14, 1880, I was present at a raid which I caused to be made upon a gambling hell in West Broadway, when a little boy came in with sixteen cents in one hand and thirty cents in the other, with the policy slips he was to play for his mother. We sent for the mother, and then learned from her own lips that she had sent this child, *eight* years of age, to gamble for her. This place was in full blast with a policeman in charge; as were also two other places which we raided the same day. In one place we found the officer in the back room reading the newspaper, and the policy man, named Hulse, with his policy book secreted under the cushion of his chair in his front office. Afterward we found the book in his pocket, where he vainly endeavored to conceal it.

Nov. 22, 1880, the police pretended to raid 200 Broadway, the place where the defaulter Haws confessed to losing the bulk of his $35,400. They arrested one man, and before they could have reached the station house with their prisoner, this place was in full blast, and two of my assistants went in and played, and received policy slips. It is reported to me, on good authority, that the proprietor of this den within fifteen minutes afterward, was heard to say, "What do we care for the police? H'll! they don't do any hurt, but when that d—d Comstock comes he takes everything." That he said this, I have no doubt; for on the second day of December, 1880, I personally visited this place with police officers, and although policemen had been stationed in this place for weeks, to prevent gambling, we seized the policy books, for

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the entire month of November, and down to the hour in which the raid was made, Dec. 2. Who is responsible for these dens? My answer is, *those whose sworn duty it is to enforce the laws.*

In one precinct, some 25 arrests were made in one day, of parties found in offices fitted up for gambling purposes,—keeping and maintaining a room for the purpose of gambling,—and yet, although the books, blackboards and paraphernalia for gambling were seized, and the prisoners in many instances caught in the act, yet of the entire number but one man was held, and that, too, on his own confession. He gave $500 bail, to return, I have no doubt, to the same business.

Is it any wonder that the halls of justice are thronged with youthful criminals? that prison cells are filled with prisoners waiting trial? that reformatory after reformatory for the young springs into existence? while penitentaries and State prisons are crowded, until each year the State is taxed to make room for more? and still they come. Our youth! our youth! for them these facts are recorded, these appeals made. *These dangers are real.* Law-abiding citizens, what shall be done? Shall our laws be trodden under foot by the gambler and blackleg? Shall the poor be rendered poorer? innocent women and children subjected to additional privations? and our youth crazed, and driven in their mad infatuation to criminal deeds, in order that a very few sharp, shrewd, unprincipled scoundrels may grow rich in this accursed business?

What shall the harvest be of such seed sowing?

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