

AN ALIBI

It was a winter night. The wind was driving a tempest of snowflakes for the storm there was not a sound. No footfall could be heard on the snow, and there was no one abroad.

I had reached the town of M. a few minutes before by train and, finding no conveyance at the station, had started to walk to my hotel.

Suddenly, midway between street lamps, where it was dark, I ran against a man. I stood stock still. The snow on either side of us was deep, and I waited for the man to divide the way with me. Instead of that he began to talk to himself incoherently, seeming to be unconscious of my presence.

"Horrible," he muttered, "horrible!" Death—death that might be prevented by a little loose change he might have had in his pocket. He's a dog, a murderer. I hope I may see him burn with an everlasting fire.

"You seem in trouble," I said in a kindly tone.

"Trouble! Isn't it trouble that there's but one person in the world who can help and won't help? I told him mother was dying; that I had been sent to the drug store for a prescription and hadn't a cent to pay. He told me to get out."

I remembered that all my change had been spent, and I had only a ten dollar bill. I would go with the young man to a drug store, pay for the medicine he required and give him something besides.

"Come," I said, "lead the way to a drug store."

"I only fear they are all closed," he said. "It's very late."

He led me to one drug store after another. We found everyone closed and no one to answer a night bell. I had been with him nearly an hour. This I knew, for I had arrived at ten minutes after 11 and the town clock was now striking 12, and, having made a failure, I was obliged to let him go home without his medicine. As we were about to part I was fumbling in my trousers pocket with my keys and other articles, when I clasped a silver half dollar.

"Here," I said, "take this coin. It's a pocket piece of the year of my marriage, with my wife's and my initials scratched upon it. Take it. You'll need it and more."

He seized the piece eagerly, then turned and vanished in the darkness.

It was three months after this that I had occasion to go to M. again. I am a lawyer by profession and had a case there. It did not appear to me that some time to spare at the courthouse to come off in Court there. Having before my case would be called, I strolled into the criminal court room.

A man was being tried for the murder of his uncle. It seemed to be a very plain case against the accused. He was very poor and his uncle was very rich, and the accused was sole heir at law. The prosecuting attorney proved conclusively that the young man had every inducement to kill his uncle from the fact that the old man was making arrangements to leave all his property to endow certain institutions. It did not appear to me that the defense had any case at all. Indeed, the last person known to have been with the murdered man, and that only an hour before his death was the accused.

There were so many heads between me and the prisoner that I did not for some time get a good look at him. When I did, there was something about his face and figure that was familiar to me. The prosecuting attorney was summing up the jury.

"We have proved," he said, "that the prisoner was with the murdered man as late as 11 o'clock; how much later we cannot prove, but no one saw him leave. At half past 11 a cry was heard; a maid entered the old man's bedroom and found him dying. There was a convenient door for the murderer's escape without being seen. At half past 12 the prisoner was arrested on the street uttering maledictions against his uncle."

The last words brought back a picture that had appeared to me on that stormy night three months ago. I waited till the speaker had finished, then said to the judge.

"Your honor I am an attorney. I believe I can throw some light on this case and request your permission to examine the prisoner."

After much wrangling permission was granted.

"Have you ever seen me before?" I asked.

"Not that I remember."

"Did I not meet you one night three months ago when you were going for medicine for your mother?"

"I met a man. If I could find him I could prove my innocence."

"What did you do with the coin he gave you?"

"I gave it to my mother. It is now in the hands of my attorney."

"On that coin," I said, turning to the jury, "are my initials and those of my wife. It is a half dollar coined in 1891. I met this young man on the night of Jan. 20 last a few minutes after 11 and remained with him till shortly after 12."

Amid a sensation the coin was produced and found to be as I had stated. The jury found a verdict of not guilty without leaving their seats.

About to be convicted of killing his uncle, the accused in a twinkling found himself exonerated and heir to a fortune. I met him and his mother soon after the trial at their home and found her recovered from an illness that lasted until her son's acquittal.

They have since been among my best friends.

CHARLES P. THURBER.

(From the Chicago Tribune.)

"Don't trifle with a cold" is good advice for prudent men and women. It may be vital in the case of a child. Proper food, good ventilation, and dry, warm clothing are the proper safeguards against colds. If they are maintained through the changeable weather of autumn, winter and spring, the chances of a surprise from ordinary colds will be slight. But the ordinary light cold will become severe if neglected, and a well established ripe cold is to the germs of diphtheria what money is to the bee. The greatest menace to child life at this season of the year is the neglected cold. Whether it is a child or adult, the cold slight or severe, the very best treatment that can be adopted is to give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is safe and sure. The great popularity and immense sale of this preparation has been attained by its remarkable cures of this ailment. A cold never results in pneumonia when it is given. For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

MESSENGER BOYS UNION.

Grows Only Strikes By Montana Telephone Workers.

HELENA, Mont., Feb. 21.—Members of the Retail Merchants Association submitted a proposition to the striking telephone operators yesterday evening that if they would return to work, pending a settlement, the Association would pledge their active support looking toward a settlement of the matter, and if it was not settled by Thursday, then the girls to go out again. The girls rejected the proposition.

The telephone linemen are still out and no steps have been taken looking to an adjustment of the trouble.

Last night a union of the messenger boys was formed and demands will be made for an eight hour shift at the same scale of wages, \$20.

A STITCH IN TIME

will save nine. So will a bottle of Ballard's Horehound Syrup always kept on hand save many a spell of sickness. A sure cure for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, and Whooping Cough. Mrs. S., Hot Springs, Ark., writes: "I keep a bottle of Ballard's Horehound Syrup in my medicine chest and thank my forethought many times. It has prevented many severe spells of sickness." Sold by Hart's drug store.

SUNDAY TRAVEL TO PORTLAND

Increases and \$2.50 Round Trip Rate via A. & C. R. R. is Popular.

Travel from this city to Portland on Sunday at the low round trip rate of \$2.50 is on the increase and many enjoy that day in the metropolis each week. This rate will be continued throughout the winter and the volume of travel toward Portland every Sunday would indicate that the public appreciates it. 11-8-11

WORSHIP STOPS TRAINS.

PEKIN, Feb. 21.—All train service to and from the city was suspended yesterday because it was the Emperor's day for worshipping in the temple of Heaven.

Young married people, and old ones,

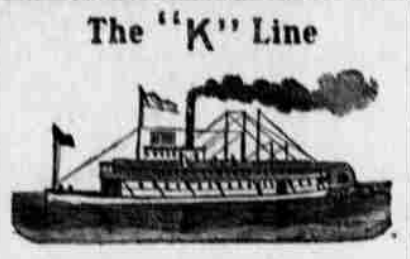
too,

That have no children to laugh and coo,

Find their troubles will "Little ones" be,

If they take Rocky Mountain Tea. For sale by Frank Hart.

Neglected Colds Threaten Life.



The "K" Line Steamer - Lurline

Night Boat for Portland and Way Landings.

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started in with way-up aspirations and instead of just "making good," its makers have ever tried to improve it and succeeded. So that now when you mention Pale Bohemian you mention as good as any and better than most.

On Draught and in Bottle.

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Unprecedented Success of DR. C. GEE WO THE GREAT CHINESE DOCTOR Who is known throughout the United States on account of his wonderful cures. No poisons nor drugs used. He guarantees to cure catarrh, asthma, lung and throat trouble, rheumatism, nervousness, stomach, liver, and kidney, female complaints and all chronic diseases. SUCCESSFUL HOME TREATMENT. If you cannot call writing for symptom blank and circular, inclosing 4 cents in stamps. THE C. GEE WO MEDICINE CO. 1023 First St., Corner Morrison, PORTLAND, OREGON. Please mention the Astorian.

THE CHINOOK BAR 416 BOND ST., ASTORIA, OREGON. Carries the Finest Line of Wines, Liquors and Cigars. CALL AND SEE US

First Class Meal 15c Coffee with Pie, Cake or Doughnuts 10 cents. U. S. RESTAURANT 434 Bond Street.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING.

"PHONE IT"

If you have a want that you wish to advertise step to your nearest phone and "Phone It" to The Astorian. No need of wasting your time walking blocks to do a thing that can be done in your immediate surroundings. Call up Main 661, ask for the want department which is at your service.

Day or Night

HELP WANTED.

WANTED—A GOOD QUIET GIRL TO work in a bindery. Apply Astorian office.

EXPERIENCED OR INEXPERIENCED salesladies. Address box 144, this office. Manager Goodyear Rain Coat Co. 2-20-11

WANTED—AN ELDERLY LADY for general housekeeping. Inquire at Astorian office. 2-20-11

WANTED—SALESMEN, MANY MAKE \$100 to \$150 per month. Some even more. Stock clean; grown on Reservation, far from old orchards. Cash advanced weekly. Choice of territory. Address: Washington Nursery Company, Toppenish, Washington. 9-25-11

WANTED—TWO GOOD SUBSCRIPTION solicitors to work. First class proposition, good pay. Apply Astorian office.

THREE SALESMEN FOR OUR NEW County, Township and Railroad Surveys of Oregon. These surveys are a splendid compilation of facts, figures and drawings and of wonderful value. Counties and towns are fully indexed and population of each given; railroads plainly shown and distances between all stations also shown; congressional districts outlined, numbered and populations given. Other features too numerous to mention. A splendid opportunity for energetic men. Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago, Ill. 2-8-11

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—3 UNFURNISHED House keeping rooms. Apply at Troy laundry office.

FOR RENT—SUITE OF HOUSE-keeping rooms. Apply 677 Exchange. 2-20-11

FOR RENT—MODERN HOUSE FOR rent. First and Bond. 2-16-11

FOUR FURNISHED ROOMS FOR rent for light housekeeping. Inquire of Fred Shemann, 26 Astor St.

FOR SALE.

GOOD LAUNCH FOR SALE!—FOR towing, seine, or general use. Is now in the passenger and general towing business. Union engine; good condition. Walter Howard, 216 Bond Street, City. 2-15-11

WHALE AMBER, MADE IN Norway, guaranteed finest shoe dressing out. Your dealer handles it. Alfred Andersen & Co., Minneapolis, Minn. 12-18-11

LOST AND FOUND.

FOUND—A DOUBLE-END DUCK boat. Owner call at 217 Astor street. 21

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

Notice is hereby given that the partnership heretofore existing between James Paulos, Daniel Mehalos, and Louj's Mehalos, has been dissolved, the said Louis Mehalos retiring and James Paulos and Daniel Mehalos continuing the business as co-partners. JAMES PAULOS. DANIEL MEHALOS. 2-19-11

Morning Astorian, 60 cents per month, delivered by carrier.

Business Chances.

\$1,500 cash will buy one of the leading drug stores in Astoria, well located and doing flourishing business. The present owner must leave Astoria on business, therefore must sell out. This is a chance to get an established drug business cheap. For further particulars address G. Astorian.

Cigar store and pool rooms for sale. This is a good paying business and takes small capital to conduct it. A chance for some one to get into a good paying business. Reason for selling, ill health. For further particulars address X, Astorian.

The F. N. Clark Co. has a list of good business chances. If you are contemplating going into business, come look over our list.

Real Estate.

\$3,500 will buy 100x100 corner, 3rd and Bond streets, with a large two story building on it. This piece of property will be worth much more in the near future.

\$3,000 for a new two-story rooming house on a corner lot 50x100, one block from Hume's mill; 20 rooms, all furnished. Building cost when built last year \$2,750. This property is easily worth \$4,000. Rents for \$30 a month. Terms.

\$5,500 for a fine business lot near Astoria Iron Works. A very valuable piece of ground and a good investment.

\$25,000 will buy one of the best pieces of water front to be had. Good location and plenty room for a good big enterprise.

\$3,850 for a new modern flat, 9 rooms, hot and cold water. Three lots, 50x150 on corner. Improved streets. Also small house on property. This property will net 10 per cent on the investment, besides is worth more than the price asked. Terms.

\$1,650, modern 3-room house near Hume's mill. Just built last year at a cost of \$1,900. Lot 50x100 on improved street. This is a bargain. The house will rent for \$20 month. Well worth \$2,000. Terms.

\$400 for a fine residence lot in Alderbrook on improved streets. Easy terms.

We have three shares in the Alaska Fishermen's Company for sale at less than par. Worth par value. This company is paying good dividends. Full particulars at our office.

\$3,500 modern residence on Eleventh street and Grand avenue, near Presbyterian church. Lots in and around Warrenton from \$75 up. If you want to make a small investment when it will bring you quick profits, come see us. We have several good things.

The F. N. Clark Co., 495 Commercial St., Near 11th. Phone Red 2241. ASTORIA, OREGON

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COLUMBIA ENGINEERING CO. Office Astor House. Surveying, Platting, Blueprinting and General Civil Engineering. Prompt Attention Guaranteed. A. S. TEE, Manager. Phone Main 214.

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THE LEYDE. Rooms with or without board; rates reasonable; good accommodation for transients, 14th and Commercial.

JAPANESE GOODS.

INEXPENSIVE JAPANESE FIXINGS, MADE OF BAMBOO, LIGHT, STRONG, HANDMADE, TABLES, STANDS, CHAIRS, WHAT-NOTS, BOOKCASES, SHELVING, ETC. Yokohama Bazaar 625 Commercial St., Astoria.

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FREDRICKSON BROS.—We make a specialty of house moving, carpenters, contractors, general jobbing; prompt attention to all orders. Corner Tenth and Duane.

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HOWARD M. BROWNELL, Attorney-at-Law. Office with Mr. J. A. Eakin, at No. 426 Commercial St., Astoria.

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DR. W. C. LOGAN DENTIST 78 Commercial St., Shanahan Building